

Sandia National Laboratories

**PROPOSAL FOR ADMINISTRATIVE
NO FURTHER ACTION
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION
SITE 104, PCB SPILL, COMPUTER FACILITY
OPERABLE UNIT 1302**

August 1994

Environmental
Restoration
Project



United States Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office

**PROPOSAL FOR
ADMINISTRATIVE
NO FURTHER ACTION**

**SITE 104, PCB Spill, Computer Facility
OU 1302**

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES/NEW MEXICO

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico (SNL/NM) is proposing an administrative No Further Action (NFA) decision for Environmental Restoration (ER) Site 104, PCB Spill, Computer Facility, Operable Unit (OU) 1302.

ER Site 104 did not have a release that impacted the environment. The polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) oil spilled in the Computer Facility was totally contained within the room and the area was decontaminated. Therefore, no additional remediation is being considered and the site is being proposed for NFA.

2.0 HISTORY OF UNIT

The computer facility is located in Building 880. Engineering drawings of this building (SNL/NM 1962, SNL/NM 1983) identify a small room in the northwest corner as the "Equipment Room." It is assumed that this equipment room (attachment A; Figure 5.11-1) is the site of the PCB spill mentioned in the Comprehensive Environmental Assessment and Response Program (CEARP) Report (DOE 1987). Engineering drawings (SNL/NM 1962) describe this room as having a floor sloping to a sump in the northwest corner of the room. This sump and pump system is identified as being connected to the sanitary sewer.

3.0 EVALUATION OF RELEVANT EVIDENCE

According to the CEARP Phase 1 document (DOE 1987):

"The computer facility has some PCB-containing line filters. One of the filters failed and discharged PCB oil into the equipment room (Site 104). The spill was confined indoors and the area decontaminated (Interviews 1985).

CERCLA Finding -- Negative for Federal Facility Site Discovery and Identification Findings, Preliminary Assessment, and Preliminary Site Inspection; therefore, no Hazard Ranking System migration mode score was calculated.

Planned Future Action -- No further action is planned under CEARP."

Witnesses to the release incident have been recently interviewed for clarification of the events (Miller 1994). The release occurred September 1985 and has been described as several capacitors rupturing and spewing the oil in a mist within the room. Several pools of oil were visible on the floor of the room. IH personnel tested the oil and detected PCBs. The oil was cleaned up and the walls in the room were repainted. There was no direct release of PCBs to the atmosphere or soil directly outside of the building. There was no release of PCBs to the drains during the initial spill, but may have been a limited amount of the PCB containing oils flushed into the sanitary or storm drain system during the cleanup operation.

No hazardous releases to the environment could be substantiated at this site. No environmental sampling analytical data are available for this site, only air analytical data are

available for locations inside the building. Air samples were collected at two locations in the 880 Computer Annex equipment room on 9/9/85. Analytical results indicate that PCB air concentrations were either the same as ambient concentrations or were below the detection limit for the sampling procedure (Stocum 1985).

4.0 CONCLUSION

ER Site 104, the "PCB Spill at the Computer Facility," in OU 1302 is proposed for NFA based on the following three reasons. First, the original release was limited to inside a building and immediately contained. Second, there is no record of a release of hazardous or radioactive constituents to the environment. Based on these first two reasons it is suggested that this site was improperly designated as an ER Site. Third, any releases to the sanitary sewer system through the sump in the equipment room would be covered by the investigation of ER Site 187, "TA-I Sanitary Sewer Lines."

5.0 REFERENCES

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) 1987. "Draft Comprehensive Environmental Assessment and Response Program (CEARP), Phase I: Installation Assessment," September 1987.

SNL/NM Plant Engineering, May 1962. "Plumbing Plan, Building 880-I. Architectural Drawing Number 82783," Sheet 25 of 42.

Interviews. 1985. Interviews with current and retired Sandia Corporation personnel, conducted September and October 1985 by personnel from Los Alamos National Laboratory. As cited in "DOE 1987. Comprehensive Environmental Assessment and Response Program (CEARP), Phase I: Installation Assessment, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM. Draft. September 1987."

Miller, David. 1994. SNL/NM Memo to Mike Skelly. Subject: ER Site #104, PCB Spill. June 7, 1994.

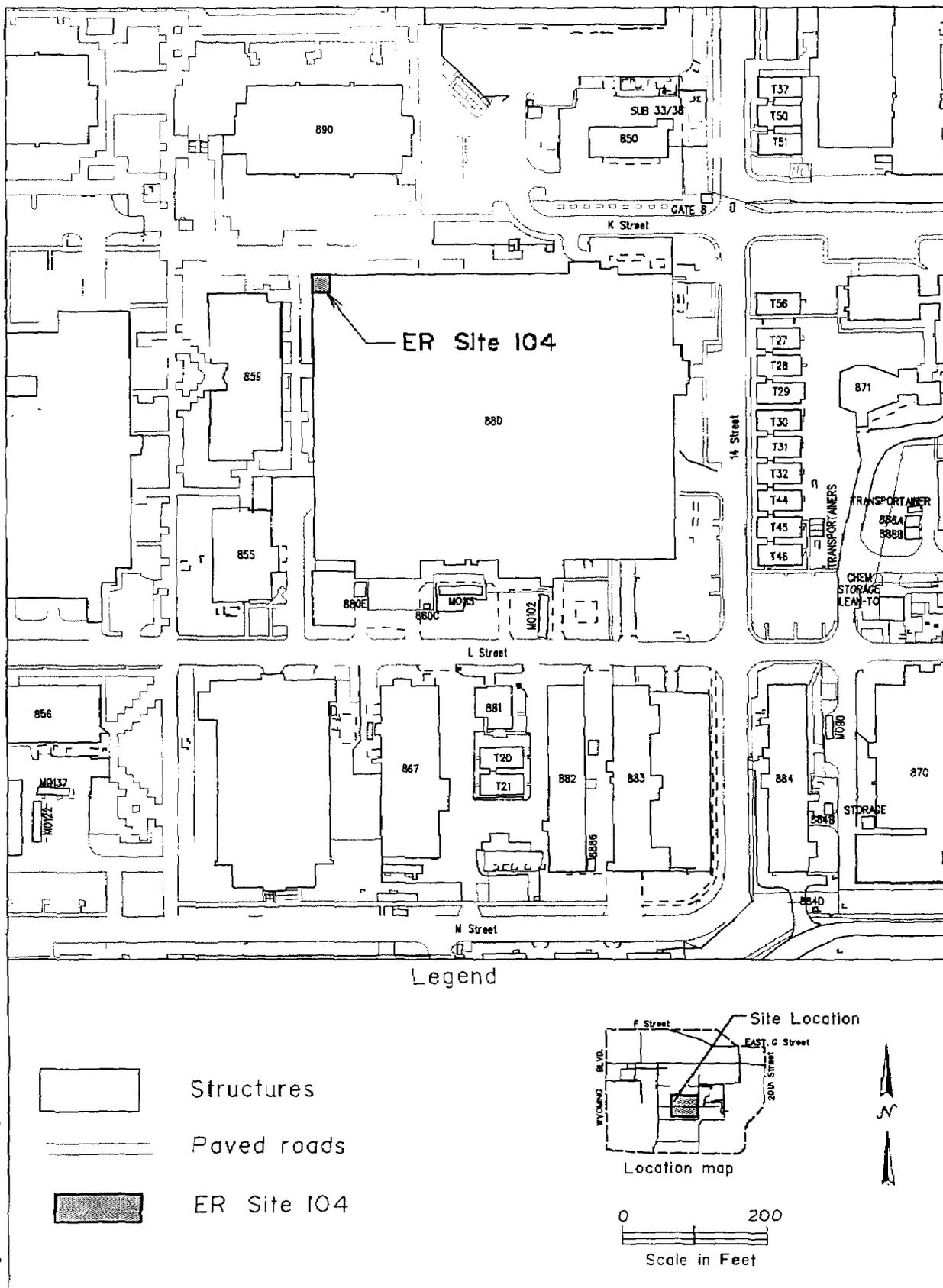
SNL/NM Plant Engineering, May 1983. "Modifications of Electronics Laboratory, Building 880-I. Architectural Drawing Number 91002," Sheet A-5.

Stocum, W. 1985. SNL/NM Industrial Hygiene Services Investigation Report for Air Sampling in Building 880 Computer Annex Equipment Room. October 3, 1985.

6.0 LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 -- Figure 5.11-1

Attachment 1



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Figure 5.II-1
Location of ER Site 104, PCB Spill, Computer Facility.