



Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico

SWMU ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR LTES SITE 1—CABLE DEBRIS May 2008



United States Department of Energy
Sandia Site Office

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

DOE	Department of Energy
KAFB.....	Kirtland Air Force Base
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
SAR.....	SWMU Assessment Report
SNL/NM.....	Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico
SWMU.....	Solid Waste Management Unit
TA	Technical Area
VCA.....	Voluntary Corrective Action

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document is the Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) Assessment Report (SAR) for the Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico (SNL/NM) Technical Area (TA) III Cable Debris Site, as required under Section V of the Compliance Order on Consent between the United States Department of Energy (DOE), Sandia Corporation (Sandia), and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The DOE and Sandia notified the NMED of this suspected SWMU on March 20, 2008. This SAR addresses all available information for the Cable Debris site, including its location, a general description, the operational dates, waste characteristics, and a summary of analytical data.

2.0 LOCATION AND SITE DESCRIPTION

The Cable Debris Site is located within the boundaries of Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) (Figure 2-1) in TA-III of SNL/NM on KAFB land permitted to the DOE. The current and future land use at the site is industrial. The Cable Debris Site consists of surface debris piles within a surge basin. A surge basin is part of a drainage system in the local vicinity that provides additional storage and retention of water during heavy rainfall or flood events. The surge basin is a circular depression approximately 1.3 acres in size (Figure 2-2).

Three of the debris piles are primarily comprised of metal cables with other metal debris, including rebar, steel pipe, tubes, weldments, welded steel fixtures, spent rocket motors and powder actuated cable cutter(s). The remaining two piles in the surge basin are comprised primarily of concrete rubble and rebar; one of these piles is located on the edge of the basin. In addition, there are five smaller debris piles directly east of the surge basin which are primarily comprised of small cobbles, fill dirt and some minor solid waste that includes paper, plastic, and small metal debris. Based upon visual inspection, there is no indication that these piles contain anything other than minor solid waste — no soil staining or other signs of contamination were observed.

The area surrounding the surge basin is generally flat with a gentle slope to the southwest. No major arroyo channels occur in the area. Precipitation is low in the region (approximately 8 inches per year) and surface runoff is minimal. Vegetation primarily consists of desert grasses, cacti, and tumbleweeds.

Figure 2-1 Location of the Cable Debris Site within Technical Area III / IV

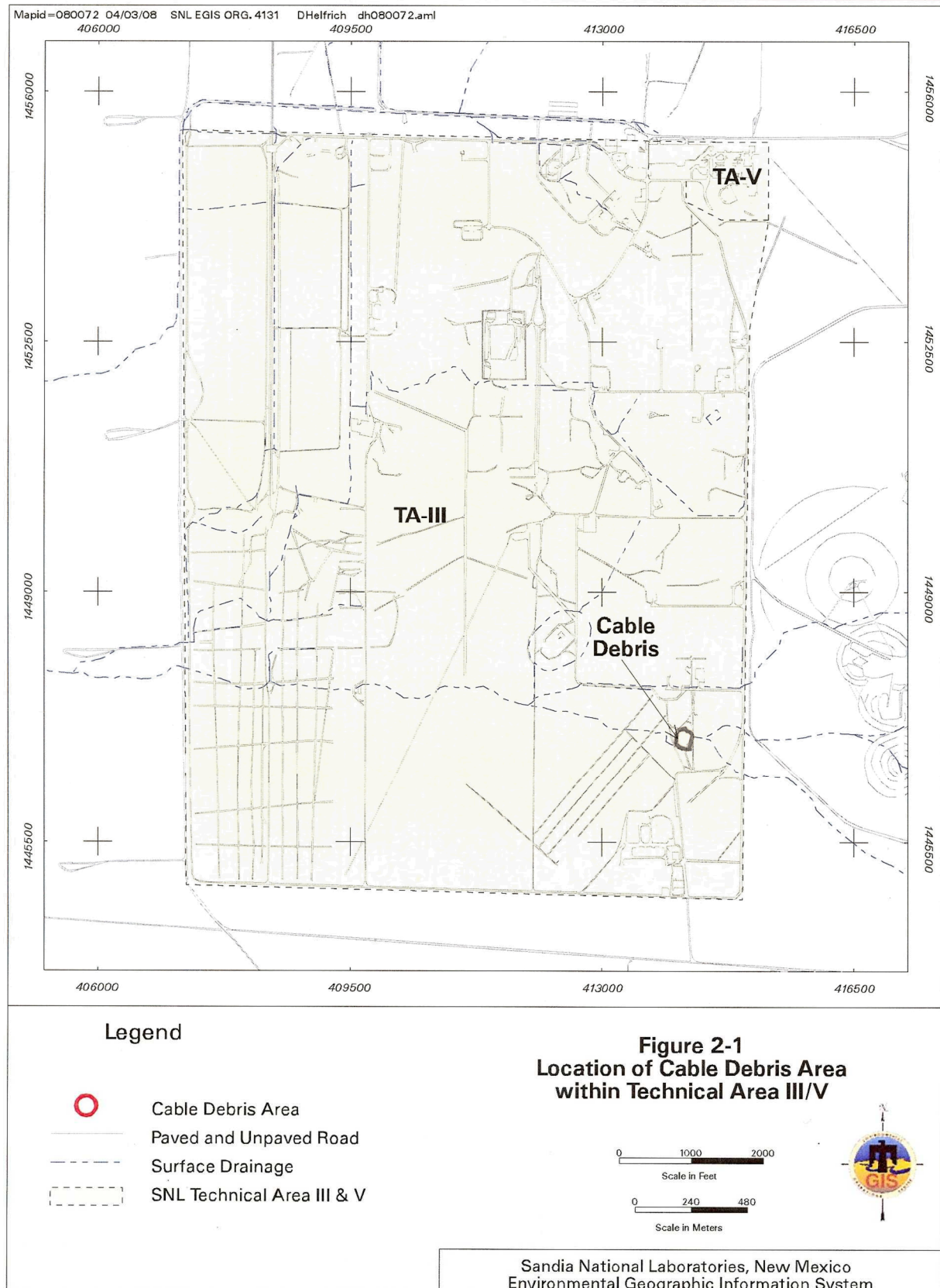
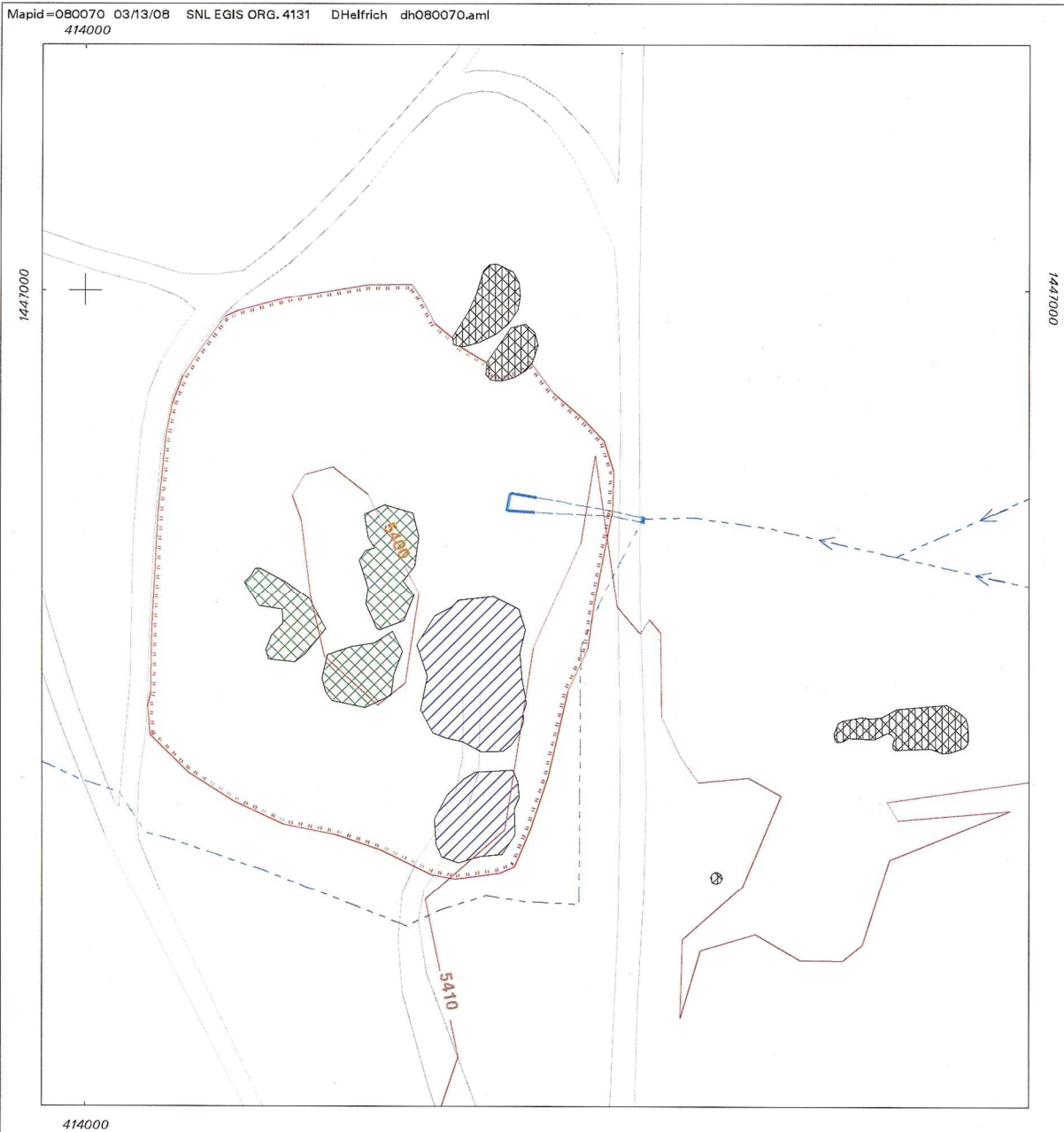


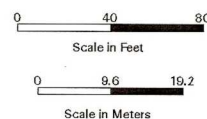
Figure 2-2 Cable Debris Site Map



Legend

- Unpaved Road
- 10-ft. Contour
- - - Surface Drainage
- - - Edge of Depression
- - - Outfall (buried portion dashed)
- ▨ Gravel / Fill Mix Debris Pile
- ▨ Metal Mix Debris Pile
- ▨ Concrete Rubble Debris Pile

**Figure 2-2
TA-III Cable Debris Area
Site Map**



Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico
Environmental Geographic Information System

3.0 OPERATIONAL HISTORY

The operational history at the Cable Debris Site is unknown, however, based on the available information, this location has never been an active site. The onsite contamination is limited to the surface debris (i.e., solid waste) that was probably transported to the location from various test areas. The surface debris dates back to at least the early 1990s, but may be considerably older. Prior to 1995, no information is available, and the origin of the debris is unknown. Photographs of the debris piles are provided in Attachment A.

4.0 WASTE CHARACTERISTICS

The primary type of waste at the site is solid waste consisting of surface debris, which contains the following estimated volumes:

- metals including rebar, steel pipe, tubes, weldments, welded steel fixtures, spent rocket motors and powder actuated cable cutters – 7,500 cubic feet,
- concrete rubble, rebar, and dirt – 25,000 cubic feet,
- small cobbles and fill dirt – 2,000 cubic feet.

Based on visual inspection of the Cable Debris Site, none of the onsite soils, surface or subsurface have been impacted.

5.0 SUMMARY OF EXISTING DATA/INFORMATION

There have been no formal investigations at the Cable Debris Site. The only existing information is recent radiological swipe and survey results for the debris, collected on November 21, 2007. Because of the configuration of the debris, terrain, and vegetation, only areas that were safely accessible were surveyed. Only the piles within the surge basin were screened. The results for this initial screening indicated that the metals were not radiologically contaminated.

ATTACHMENT A
Cable Debris Site Photographs



Cable Debris Site – Metals Debris Pile (1)



Cable Debris Site – Metals Debris Pile (2)



Cable Debris Site – Concrete Rubble Pile (1)



Cable Debris Site – Concrete Rubble Pile (2)



Cable Debris Site – Buried Drum



Cable Debris Site – Small Debris Pile