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October 30, 1996

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Office of Environments and Projects
Albuquerque Operations Office
Los Alamos Area Office
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Micheline Devaurs
STP Project Manager
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, NM 87445

RE: Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Federal Facility Compliance Order (FFCO),
Exhibit A, Mixed Waste Site Treatment Plan (STP) Compliance Plan Volume (CPV),
Request for Revision No. 2 and Amendment 1

Dear Mr. Plum and Ms. Devaurs:

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received from the Department of Energy (DOE) and University of California at Los Alamos National Laboratory (UC), a request, dated October 21, 1996, for a revision and an amendment to the FFCO STP/CPV (October 4, 1996) with respect to **Section 3.4.2 Sort, Survey, and Decontamination (SSD)**.

The purpose of the amendment language proposed in Enclosure B of the request was to extend the original compliance date ninety (90) days: from October 30, 1996 to January 28, 1997. From correspondence with DOE and UC, NMED Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB) has been aware of the ambitious effort of DOE and UC to meet the original compliance date. Due to the unforeseen problems that arose during the SSD project, the original compliance date could not be met, hence the extension request. HRMB concurs with the language and purpose of the proposed amendment. The amendment to **Section 3.4.2** of the STP/CPV as requested by DOE and UC is found in Enclosure 1.

For Amendment 1.0, language was added to the second paragraph under the heading **Treatment Technology**, to include the deposition for the new subgroups of the waste category, which is shipment off-site. Nothing else was added in the amendment language to explain or provide information on how the deposition of the waste category would be implemented. However, implicit to the language stated are the requirements for recharacterization of mixed waste, listed in **Section V.B, Other Matters Covered in This Order** of the FFCO, and the requirements for treatment of waste off-site included in **Section 2.1.4, Plans for Mixed Waste to Be Shipped Off-site for Treatment** found in the STP/CPV.

For the proposed revision, as stated in the FFCO under **Section X. Revisions**, certain descriptive

Recd LANL FFCO



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criteria must be addressed within the revision request by the Respondents (DOE and UC). DOE and UC have met these criteria in the revision request to NMED/HRMB. NMED/HRMB requests that two changes to the revision are submitted by DOE and UC before public noticing the revision request. The first change is that the Revision is actually number 3.0 due to NMED/HRMB requesting a revision, Revision 2.0, to allow public comment and review for the items listed under **Section 3.3** of the STP/CPV, Mixed Waste Requiring Further Characterization or for Which Technology Assessment Has Not Been Done (MWIR Treatment ID LA-S701). The second change refers to addition of language to make the off-site treatment option consistent with the other sections in the volume. The additional language is, "Any and all requirements imposed by the off-site (commercial or non-commercial) treatment facility and state regulatory, federal regulatory or other regulatory requirements applicable at the treatment site shall be met by DOE. DOE will notify the NMED Project Manager in writing as soon as possible and in any event within (45) working days of receipt of waste at the treatment facility." This paragraph should follow the last paragraph proposed by DOE and UC. The changes to the **Section 3.4.2** of the STP/CPV (as requested with HRMB revisions) for Revision 3.0 are found in Enclosure 2. Please provide your concurrence with these changes as soon as possible.

The revision process also requires a thirty day public comment period (see **Section X. Revisions, FFCO**). A public notice shall be placed in several local newspapers in a timely manner. DOE and UC will be notified after this public comment period has ended and whether or not substantive public comments received may impact the proposed revision. If no substantive comments are received the revision will be implemented with changes as stipulated above. If there are substantive comments NMED will notify Respondents of proposed changes prior to finalizing the revision.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter or any FFCO related issue, please contact me at (505)827-1558.

Sincerely,


Janice Archuleta

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enclosures

cc: Benito Garcia, Chief, Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
Susan McMichael, OGC
Jim Seubert, Acting Program Manager, Inspection/Enforcement Section
Stu Dinwiddie, Supervisor, DOE Team, RCRA Permits Management Section

**STP/CPV
 AMENDMENT TEXT**

[NOTE TO REVIEWERS: New language to be inserted is in italics; language to be deleted from current CPV is given in strikethrough text.]

3.4.2 Sorting, Surveying, and Decontamination (MWIR Treatment ID GJ-S804)

Treatability Group(s):

Treatability group	MWIR waste ID	Number of items	Net volume (m ³)
1. nonradioactive or suspect waste items to be surveyed	LA-W929	1049	10.58
2. nonradioactive or suspect waste items to receive RCRA and radiological characterization	LA-W929	162	3.25
3. nonradioactive or suspect waste items that cannot or should not be sampled	LA-W929	39	0.41
Totals		1250	14.24

Treatment Technology:

The waste items in part 1 of this treatability group will be surveyed using a This field operation that will survey waste suspect of radioactive contamination to determine whether it is radioactively contaminated. The work will be done on-site with equipment and staffing provided by LANL or another DOE site. Waste items in part 2 of this treatability group will be surveyed using complete RCRA and radiological sampling and characterization. Waste items in part 3 of this treatability group will be confirmed by visual inspection. If not amenable to sampling (e.g, lead-acid batteries, spray paint cans), they will be assigned to applicable treatability groups based on existing knowledge.

Waste determined not to be radioactively contaminated will be treated using commercial facilities permitted to treat hazardous waste; *waste determined to be radioactively contaminated will be assigned to applicable treatability groups and/or sent to off-site facilities for appropriate treatment.*

Activities for waste items in part 1 of this treatability group.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Compliance Dates</i>
<i>complete field survey</i>	<i>10/30/96</i>

Activities for waste items in part 2 of this treatability group.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Compliance Dates</i>
<i>complete RCRA and radiological sampling</i>	<i>1/28/97</i>

Activities for waste items in part 3 of this treatability group.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Compliance Dates</i>
<i>complete visual verification</i>	<i>1/28/97</i>