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Department of Energy  
Albuquerque Operations Office  
Los Alamos Area Office  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

JUN 17 1997

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Benito Garcia  
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505



Dear Mr. Garcia:

Subject: "Soil With Heavy Metals" - Withdrawal of Request for Removal from Site Treatment Plan (STP)

The purpose of this letter is to formally withdraw our request for reclassification of 47 of the 59 items from the STP treatability group "soil with heavy metals," MWIR waste ID LA-W904 as nonhazardous waste (see enclosed certification). This reclassification request was originally submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) by the Department of Energy (DOE) and the University of California (UC) by letter dated October 18, 1996.

DOE and UC had requested reclassification of 47 (later changed to 46) of the 59 fifty-five gallon containers of soil currently being stored at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) as Low-Level Mixed Waste (LLMW). These 59 items are listed in the STP under Section 3.1.2 in the Compliance Plan Volume (CPV, Rev. 3.0, Exhibit A) and the Background Volume in the treatability group "soil with heavy metals," MWIR waste ID LA-W904. Since the original request was submitted, additional correspondence has been exchanged to clarify NMED's questions regarding this waste; the most recent of which was NMED's letter dated May 16, 1997.

Due to the pending September 30, 1997 compliance date for Activity 3.1.2B to complete treatment of these items, and our need to comply with this date, DOE and UC have decided to conservatively manage the 46 items in our original request as mixed waste according to the requirements of the STP, rather than to proceed further with the reclassification request. As discussed in our May 29, 1997 letter, DOE and UC are actively pursuing treatment and disposal of 50 of the 59 items at Envirocare, in accordance with Section 3.1.2 of the STP. Eight of the remaining nine items will be transferred to more appropriate treatability groups, and the one nonexistent item will be



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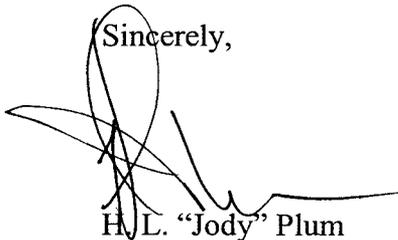
Mr. Benito Garcia

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requested to be deleted from the CPV, prior to the September 30, 1997 treatment date for this treatability group, as discussed in our May 29, 1997 letter.

Thank you for your technical reviews of our previous submittals. Please contact me at (505) 665-5042, or Ken Hargis at (505) 667-2347.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H.L. 'Jody' Plum". The signature is stylized with a large loop at the top and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

H.L. "Jody" Plum  
Office of Environment and Projects

LAAMEP:9JP-056

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

Ms. Janice Archuleta  
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

**CERTIFICATION**

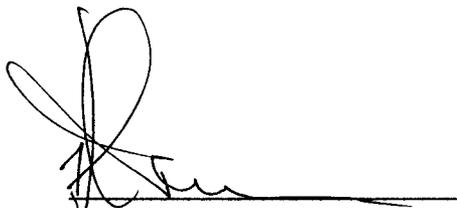
**"SOIL WITH HEAVY METALS" - WITHDRAWAL OF REQUEST FOR REMOVAL  
FROM SITE TREATMENT PLAN (STP)**

I certify that I am the project manager responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Site Treatment Plan for the Los Alamos National Laboratory. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information in this document is true, accurate, and complete.



Kenneth M. Hargis  
Manager of Operations  
Waste Management Program  
Environmental Management Programs  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Operator

June 12, 1997  
Date Signed



H. L. Plum  
Regulatory Permitting and Compliance Manager  
Los Alamos Area Office  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Albuquerque Operations  
Owner/Operator

June 16, 1997  
Date Signed