

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : LaMar J. Johnson, H-8 Group Leader

DATE: April 1, 1974

FROM : Margaret Anne Rogers, H-8 *mar*

SUBJECT : LACK OF INFORMATION ON SITES INCLUDED IN "HISTORY OF LASL
NEAR-SURFACE LAND BURIAL FACILITIES FOR SOLID RADIOACTIVE
SYMBOL : H8-74-139 WASTES" (In preparation)

The waste disposal sites included in the "History of LASL Near-Surface Land Burial Facilities for Solid Radioactive Wastes" are Areas A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and T. There well may be other sites (designated or undesignated) which should be included in a future edition of the above document.

Areas G and T seem to have the best documentation. Area C is somewhat less documented. Information (not necessarily documentation) on Areas A and B is sketchy but not as wanting or contradictory as on Areas D, E, and F.

Areas A, B, D, E, and F are old disposal sites used during the war or shortly thereafter. The absence of information on them seems to be attributable to two things: (1) Security restrictions in force at the time and (2) lack of any recognized need for record keeping at the time. I know there are individuals at LASL who could provide information on these areas and perhaps even documentation in support of their statements. Locating these individuals has been extremely difficult. Some who were located seemed to have a lack of interest in and/or a reluctance to talk about waste disposal areas.

Certainly, I do not need to tell you of the importance the documentation for "History of LASL Near-Surface Land Burial Facilities for Solid Radioactive Wastes" has for on-going and future programs in H-8, Environmental Studies Group. However, I believe the importance of this document is not just restricted to H-8's programs. If LASL, in the near future, were faced with a court action similar to the one in which Hanford and NRTS are currently involved, our image would be sure to suffer if we were unable to provide firm documentation on all our burial sites and procedures.

I need help in finding people who can give me information and I need help in gaining their cooperation and support for the document now in preparation. If this document is to meet its publication date, July 1, 1974, and if it is to be as complete as possible, a way must be found to expedite the gathering of information.



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The information I am looking for on the various sites includes the following:

1. General history of usage
2. Type of waste
 - a. physical characteristics
 - b. radiochemical characteristics
3. Mode of disposal
 - a. pits
 - b. shafts
 - c. containers--slurry, metal, etc.
4. Subsequent activity at site
 - a. preliminary precautions--fencing, etc.
 - b. monitoring

MAR:mar