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EPA REGION 5
HAZARDOUS WASTE
COMPLIANCE DIVISION

P.O. Box 2262
Taos, NM 87571-2262
1 Sept., 1989

Letters to the Editor
c/o Sandi Doughton-Evans/Evelyn Vigil
LOS ALAMOS MONITOR
256 D.P. Road
Box 1268
Los Alamos, NM 87544

LANL WASTE MINIMIZATION
&
RECYCLING PROJECT

This is to express admiration and support for the new July 10, 1989 "Waste Minimization Plan" prepared by the LANL HSE-7 Waste Management Group; also, for the new August 1989 → LANL Solid Waste Recycling Project report.

The "Waste Minimization Plan" has many good ideas including: bar-coding chemicals, sending the waste nitric acid to Hanford, halogenated solvent substitutes, distillation recycling of mercury, and purchasing chemicals in smaller containers and increments. Non toxic materials substitutes are assigned the highest priority. We also understand waste 55 gallon drums will be cleaned and sold. Please put Taos on the bidders' list for use as recycling staging containers.

Recycling in Taos is gathering momentum. Scheduled pick-up of HDPE automotive plastic bottles and some hotel and restaurant glass bottles is in place. One of our two private recycling companies has started construction on a new purpose built recycling center using earth bermed rammed earth waste truck tire buildings.

Taos County provided their best condition dump truck for a demonstration trial cardboard pick up from businesses in Taos. We collected 6 tons of cardboard in 6 hours representing a savings of 17 trees per ton and 19,000 gallons of water savings per ton.

Also, Carson Forest headquarters here has started recycling all of their waste Xerox, white ledger and computer print out paper and a directive has been sent to every U.S. Forest Service station in the country ordering them to recycle their office paper to save the timber resource of the country.

Yours sincerely,

Michael R. Horan

Michael Horan
Taos, NM



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