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March 10, 1994

OPEN LETTER TO
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORIES
NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Applications of scientific technology to community problems is a positive use of resources. Two projects under way in the Chemical and Laser Sciences Division of LANL are fine examples of work with a constructive perspective on the future. The Silent Discharge Plasma Reactor and the Hydrothermal Processing Unit projects have potential for not only cleaning up polluting substances that Los Alamos has generated, but for helping other communities improve their environments as well.

I commend these projects and the people involved who acknowledge accountability for more than an elegant scientific procedure: resources required on the front end to fuel the process, safety and efficiency factors, end products, and human as well as environmental impacts. It is easier to concentrate on electrons, but we know, finally, that it is the other factors that make a difference to quality of life.

Los Alamos National Laboratories has great potential for being a good neighbor and a national resource. Please keep up the good work of leaving the world cleaner than it has been and finding positive alternatives to radioactive waste generation.

Sincerely,

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