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October 31, 1994

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Jorg Jansen, Program Manager
Environmental Restoration
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Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

RE: **Results of 10/20/94 AIP/LANL meeting on approach to site assessment of LANL firing sites**

Dear Sirs:

Members of the New Mexico Environment Department's Agreement in Principle (AIP) staff met with Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) staff on Thursday, October 20, and discussed the general technical approach to assessment of firing sites in the existing RFI workplans. The concerns expressed by AIP staff were as follows.

- 1) Given the quantity of high-explosives, uranium, lead and beryllium explosively dispersed at the sites it is clear that there had been a release which could deposit residual contaminants above RCRA action levels (for beryllium, lead, high explosives or other RCRA contaminants) and above DOE order action levels (for uranium or other radiological contaminants). The implication was that the assessment strategies outlined in the RFI workplans were unlikely to provide significant new information.
- 2) The sampling schemes should include a means of determining the distribution of contaminants at varying distances from the firing pads.
- 3) Phase 1 sampling should provide data which can be applied to determining the best methods of remediation of the sites.
- 4) The discrete surface samples which have already been collected at some firing sites cannot be said to be representative of the areas from which they were taken due to the uneven distribution of debris which would be expected to result from explosive dispersal.

Some concurrence was achieved regarding all the above items, but

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due to the fact that representatives for firing sites located in operable units 1086, 1100, 1130, 1132, 1082 and 1085 did not attend the meeting, and due to a lack of clarity in the technical positions presented by LANL staff during the meeting, I suggest we convene a group which can represent DOE/LANL's technical position regarding all firing sites at the Lab. Please provide a date which would be convenient for DOE/LANL staff to discuss the technical issues presented above to be held sometime during November, 1994.

If you have any questions regarding these matters please contact Dr. Bruce Swanton at (505) 672-0447.

Sincerely,



Benito J. Garcia, Chief
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

cc: Neil Weber, NMED Bureau Chief
Ronald Kern, NMED Program Manager
Barbara Hoditschek, NMED Program Manager
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