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**Department of Energy**  
Los Alamos Area Office  
Albuquerque Operations Office  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544  
**AUG 29 1995**

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NM ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Mr. Ed Kelly, Director  
Water and Waste Management Division  
New Mexico Environment Department  
1190 St. Francis Drive  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Mr. Kelly:

The purpose of this letter is to apprise you of the status of the proposed High Explosives Material Test Facility at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). On December 30, 1991, the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) determined that a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Environmental Assessment (EA) should be prepared for the proposed construction of a High Explosives Material Test Facility at LANL. The State of New Mexico as well as the Pueblos of San Ildefonso, Santa Clara, Cochiti, and Jemez were notified on December 8, 1993, of the determination to prepare NEPA documentation for this project. This facility was to be used for mechanical and thermal tests on materials and assemblies containing high explosives materials. Since that determination, there has been a reduction in project funding. It has become apparent that foreseeable requirements for high quality high explosives material properties testing will need to be met through upgrades to existing high explosives testing facilities. In addition, the LANL Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement Notice of Intent that was published in the Federal Register, dated May 12, 1995, states that the project has been cancelled.

Therefore, by way of this letter, I am officially notifying you of the change in need for this facility and the cancellation of all work on the preparation of the proposed project EA.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (505) 667-5105, or Elizabeth Withers, Acting NEPA Compliance Officer, at (505) 667-8690.

Sincerely,

Larry Kirkman, P.E.  
Acting Area Manager

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