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Reference: LANL SWEIS Implementation Plan

Dear Stakeholder:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Implementation Plan for the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS).

This LANL SWEIS Implementation Plan has two primary purposes: 1) to report the results of the SWEIS scoping process, and 2) to provide guidance for preparing the LANL SWEIS.

The Implementation Plan also describes the purpose and need for Department of Energy action, presents the scope and content of the SWEIS, describes the SWEIS work plan, presents other anticipated environmental reviews and consultations, and illustrates public involvement throughout the SWEIS process.

Should you have any questions concerning this plan, please contact Mr. Corey Cruz at (505) 845-4282 or you may call the LANL SWEIS Hotline at 1-800-898-6623.

Sincerely,

Donna A. Bergman  
Manager  
EIS Projects Office

Enclosure

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General

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Los Alamos National Laboratory

Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement

(DOE/EIS-0238)

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

November 1995



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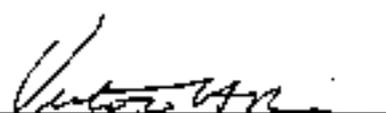
**LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY  
SITE-WIDE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN  
(DOE/EIS-0238)**

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**Los Alamos National Laboratory**  
**Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement**  
**(DOE/EIS-0238)**

# **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

November 1995

## Table of Contents

	Page
1.0 Introduction and Background .....	1
1.1 Background .....	1
1.2 NEPA Process for Developing the LANL SWEIS .....	1
1.2.1 Objectives of the SWEIS Approach .....	3
1.2.2 Specific Proposed Projects .....	3
1.2.3 Relationship to Other NEPA Actions .....	4
1.2.4 LANL SWEIS Process .....	7
2.0 Purpose and Need for Agency Action .....	7
3.0 Public Involvement Process .....	7
3.1 Description of the Scoping Process .....	9
3.2 Scoping Comment Summaries and Their Dispositions .....	10
3.2.1 Issue Category A: SWEIS Preparation .....	10
3.2.2 Issue Category B: Site Mission .....	10
3.2.3 Issue Category C: Effects on Current Operations .....	10
3.2.4 Issue Category D: Alternatives .....	12
3.2.5 Issue Category E: Impacts .....	12
3.2.6 Issue Category F: Waste .....	12
3.2.7 Issue Category G: Environmental Restoration .....	12
3.2.8 Issue Category H: DOE Management .....	12
3.2.9 Issue Category I: DOE Relationship to the Public .....	12
3.2.10 Issue Category J: DOE Relationship to Other Entities .....	12
3.2.11 Issue Category K: SWEIS Relationship to Other NEPA Documents .....	13
3.2.12 Issue Category L: Other .....	13
3.3 Alternatives to be Considered .....	13
3.3.1 No Action Alternative .....	13
3.3.2 Reduced Operations Alternative .....	14
3.3.3 Expanded Operations Alternative .....	15
3.3.4 Greener Alternative .....	15
3.4 Alternatives Eliminated from Further Consideration .....	26
4.0 Environmental Consequences .....	27
5.0 LANL SWEIS Work Plan .....	19
5.1 Scope of the SWEIS .....	19
5.2 Impact Assessment Approach .....	21
5.3 Information, Data Collection, and Validation .....	23
6.0 Environmental Reviews and Consultations .....	26

Appendix A	SWEIS Outline .....	A-1
Appendix B	Specific Projects Detailed Overview .....	B-1
Appendix C	NEPA Contractor Disclosure Statement .....	C-1
Appendix D	LANL SWEIS Notice of Intent .....	D-1
Appendix E	Scoping Comment Summaries .....	E-1

## List of Figures

Figure		Page
1	The Regional Location of LANL Showing the Geographical Relationship to Adjacent Communities and the State of New Mexico .....	2
2	Major LANL SWEIS Milestones .....	8
3	Comment Category Summary .....	11
4	Comment Source Summary .....	11
5	LANL SWEIS Impact/Risk Assessment Approach .....	22
6	Illustration of Exposure Pathways .....	24

## List of Tables

Table		Page
1	Scoping Meetings .....	9
2	Mathematical Models Proposed for Risk Assessment in the LANL SWEIS .....	25
3	Agency Consultations .....	26

## Acronyms

ALOHA	Area Locations of Hazardous Atmospheres
ANOI	Advance Notice of Intent
CAMP	Capital Assets Management Process
CAP88	Clean Air Act Assessment Package, 1988
CCNS	Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety
CDI	Chronic Daily Intake
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMR	Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Facility
DARHT	Dual Axis Radiographic Hydrodynamic Test Facility
DEGADIS	Dense Gas Atmospheric Dispersion
DOE	United States Department of Energy
DOE/AL	United States Department of Energy/Albuquerque Operations Office
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
FY	Fiscal Year
GIS	Geographic Information System
ISC	Industrial Source Complex
LACEF	Los Alamos Critical Experiments Facility
LANL	Los Alamos National Laboratory
MACCS	Melcore Accident Consequence Code System
MAP	Mitigation Action Plan
MIDAS	Meteorological Information Data Acquisition System
MWDF	Mixed Waste Disposal Facility
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NIF	National Ignition Facility
NOI	Notice of Intent
PEIS	Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
RADTRAN	Radioactive Transport
RTG	Radioisotopic Thermoelectric Generators
SWEIS	Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement
WIPP	Waste Isolation Pilot Plant



Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement  
(DOE/EIS-0238)

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

November 1995

## 1.0 Introduction and Background

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) has a policy [10 CFR 1021.330] of preparing a Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS) for certain large, multiple-facility sites, such as the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The purpose of a SWEIS is to provide DOE and its stakeholders with an analysis of the environmental impacts resulting from ongoing and reasonably foreseeable new operations and facilities and reasonable alternatives at the DOE site. A SWEIS provides a basis for site-wide decision making and improves and coordinates agency plans, functions, programs, and resource utilization. Accordingly, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and DOE's NEPA Implementation Procedures (10 CFR 1021), the DOE is preparing a SWEIS for LANL. This LANL SWEIS Implementation Plan has two primary purposes:

- Report the results of the SWEIS scoping process
- Provide guidance for preparing the LANL SWEIS

The Implementation Plan also:

- Describes the purpose and need for DOE action
- Presents the scope and content of the SWEIS
- Describes the SWEIS work plan
- Presents other anticipated environmental reviews and consultations
- Illustrates public involvement throughout the SWEIS process

### 1.1 Background

DOE coordinates and administers the energy functions of the federal government. Among other program activities, it is responsible for the nation's nuclear weapons program, research and development of energy technologies, and basic scientific research. LANL is one of the DOE's primary research and development laboratories.

LANL was established in 1943 to provide research, design, and testing for nuclear weapons and nuclear materials. It remains one of the three laboratories in DOE's nuclear weapons complex. Over the past 50 years, LANL's mission has evolved to include energy research, materials science, nuclear safeguards and security, biomedical research, computational science, environmental protection and cleanup, and other basic scientific research. In addition to work done in support of DOE programs, LANL provides research and scientific services for other federal agencies, universities, foreign countries, and private industry.

LANL is one of the largest multi-program research laboratories in the world with an annual budget of approximately one billion dollars and a work force of approximately 10,000 contractor and subcontractor employees. LANL covers 111 square kilometers (43 square miles) of federal land in north-central New Mexico. Figure 1 illustrates the location of LANL in relation to adjacent communities within the state of New Mexico.

### 1.2 NEPA Process for Developing the LANL SWEIS

NEPA requires the federal government to evaluate the effects of its proposed major actions (and alternatives) on the quality of the human environment in an environmental impact statement. Alternatives to be included in the LANL SWEIS will take into account potential expanded and reduced operations, changes emphasizing basic scientific operations as well as current and approved future

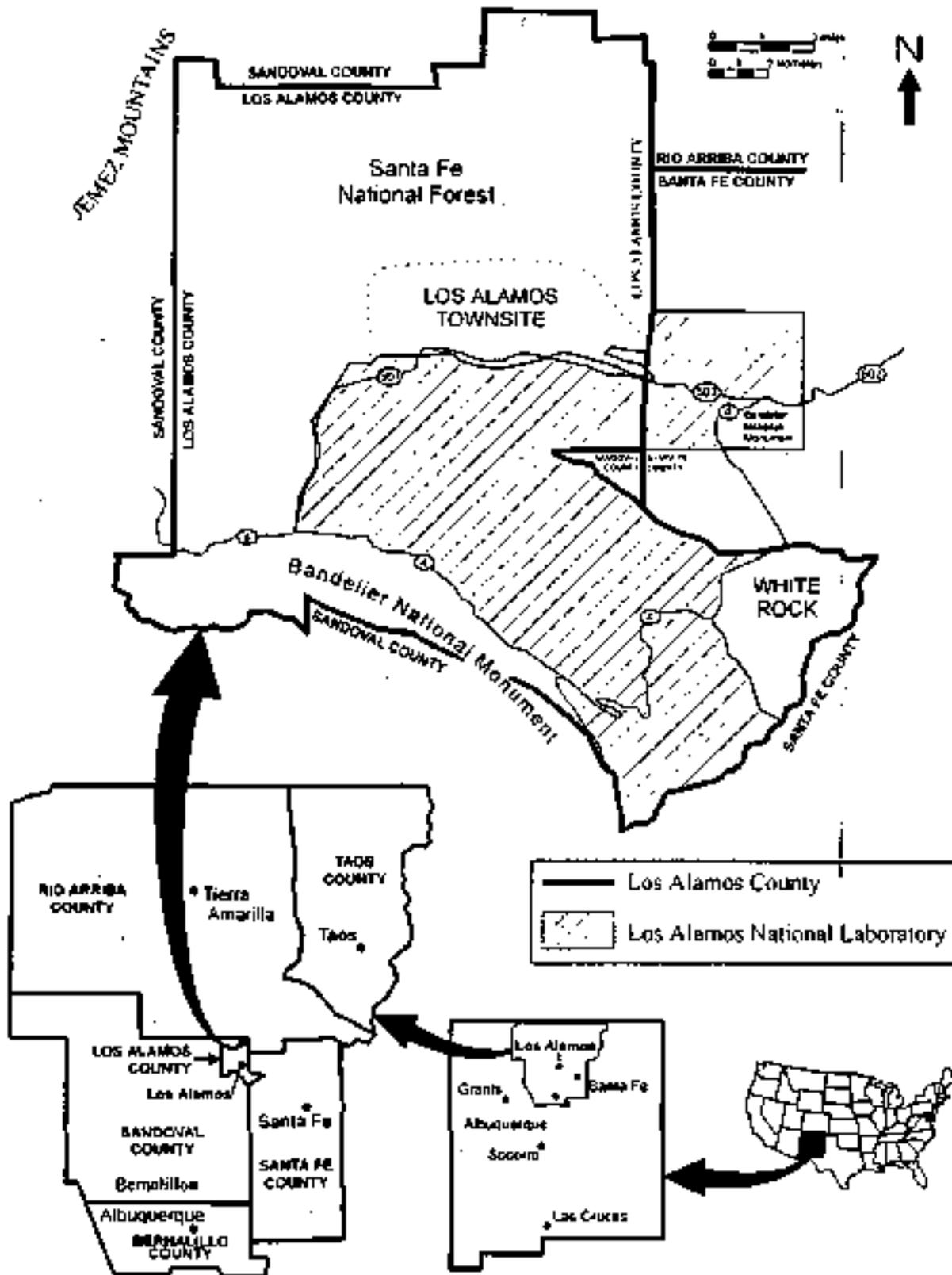


Figure 1. The Regional Location of LANL Showing the Geographical Relationship to Adjacent Communities and the State of New Mexico.

operations. The LANL SWEIS will consider impacts on human health, land, water, air, buildings, and social, cultural, and economic resources as well as the incremental impact of LANL operations when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. The LANL SWEIS will differ from a single project environmental impact statement because the analysis will consider ongoing and reasonably foreseeable activities throughout the ten-year time frame for the entire LANL site, including a selected set of projects.

### 1.2.1 Objectives of the SWEIS Approach

In the DOE NEPA strategy, a SWEIS is intended to encompass site operations and to address the individual and cumulative impacts of ongoing and proposed site activities. A SWEIS provides DOE and its stakeholders with an analysis of the environmental impacts caused by ongoing and reasonably foreseeable new operations and facilities and reasonable alternatives at the DOE site, provides a basis for site-wide decision-making, and improves and coordinates agency plans, functions, programs, and resource utilization. Additionally, a SWEIS provides an overall NEPA baseline that is useful for tiering or as a reference when project-specific NEPA documents are prepared.

A SWEIS (DOE/EIS-0018) prepared in 1979 has served as the basis for operations at LANL. Changes in the world political situation are altering the role and, potentially, the operations at LANL and the foreseeable actions that may be taken during the next ten years. DOE is preparing the LANL SWEIS to replace the 1979 SWEIS as the baseline environmental impact statement for LANL. The DOE is proposing to continue operating LANL in support of assigned DOE missions. The LANL SWEIS will also provide NEPA review for specific projects that DOE has proposed for implementation shortly after the Record of Decision for the LANL SWEIS is published. The DOE will also use the LANL SWEIS to develop mitigation opportunities for impacts of LANL operations; interim nuclear materials storage and management strategies for LANL; planning strategies to protect and conserve natural and cultural resources; and waste management strategies for LANL.

The objectives of the LANL SWEIS are to:

- Describe the current environment, current operations, and associated hazards
- Compare the environmental effects, including cumulative impacts, of projected LANL operations and reasonable alternatives to current operational plans, including those necessary to implement LANL's role in alternatives described in other DOE NEPA documents
- Provide the necessary project-level NEPA analyses for selected proposed projects and include them in the LANL SWEIS cumulative impact assessment
- Serve as a top-level tiering document for future NEPA reviews at LANL

### 1.2.2 Specific Proposed Projects

The SWEIS is intended to analyze the impacts of ongoing activities at LANL, as well as activities that are reasonably foreseeable. Many projects have been proposed for LANL recently, and DOE is reviewing each of these to determine appropriate analysis within the SWEIS. The projects reviewed include those addressed in the Capital Assets Management Process (CAMP) Report, the LANL Site Development Plan, LANL Strategic Plans, and other DOE NEPA documents. Potential LANL projects fall into four categories which will be handled as noted below:

- **Projects receiving a NEPA review prior to or in parallel with the SWEIS.** These projects will be included in the SWEIS no action alternative. These projects support ongoing program requirements. Suspension of these projects until completion of the SWEIS would result in

unacceptable program or health and safety risks. Any of these that are classified as major federal actions will be evaluated against the test for interim actions found in 40 CFR 1506.1(c).

- **Projects that will have their complete NEPA review contained in the SWEIS.** These projects are intimately related to the analyses in the SWEIS. These projects are "ripe for decision," and are on the same timeframe as the SWEIS and its Record of Decision. These projects will be associated with one or more alternatives. At this time, two projects fit this description. Brief descriptions of these two projects are provided in Appendix B.
- **Projects that are reasonably foreseeable, but which are not "ripe for decision," and are not on the same timeframe as the SWEIS.** These projects are reasonably foreseeable in the next five to ten years, but are not currently described in sufficient detail for the SWEIS to provide their entire project-specific NEPA review. Such projects will be described, to the extent possible, within one or more alternatives and will be included in the operations analyzed in the SWEIS. It is anticipated that these projects would require additional NEPA analysis prior to being undertaken. Such analyses would tier off of the SWEIS after it is completed and the Record of Decision is issued.
- **Projects that are not reasonably foreseeable in the next five to ten years and are not clearly connected to the alternatives analyzed in the SWEIS.** Such projects are considered speculative or are not considered viable by the DOE. If such projects were eventually pursued, it is anticipated that they would require additional NEPA analysis prior to being undertaken. Such analyses would tier off the SWEIS that is in effect at the time.

Any projects proposed after the completion of the SWEIS would undergo appropriate NEPA review prior to being undertaken. Such NEPA reviews would consist of comparison to and tiering from the SWEIS analysis, where necessary.

The list of 23 pending or anticipated NEPA reviews presented in the LANL SWEIS Advance Notice of Intent (Section 1.2.4) was presented only to enlist the assistance of the public in appropriately dispositioning those NEPA reviews. The final Notice of Intent reflects DOE's decision on the disposition of those NEPA reviews. The current status of these project NEPA reviews is included in Appendix B.

### **1.2.3 Relationship to Other NEPA Actions**

Currently, the DOE is analyzing several proposals for programmatic, site-specific, and project-specific actions that affect LANL either directly or indirectly. These analyses are being performed as NEPA reviews in several programmatic, site-wide, and project-specific environmental impact statements and environmental assessments.

**Waste Management Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) (DOE/EIS-0200).** This PEIS was made available to the public in draft form on September 22, 1995. Multiple Records of Decision are expected beginning in August 1996. The Waste Management PEIS explores the health, cost, and other impacts of a number of centralized, regionalized, and decentralized waste management configurations as well as the no action alternative. In certain configurations, LANL is a net importer of waste, but in most, it is an exporter.

In those instances in the Waste Management PEIS where LANL was identified as an importer, the SWEIS will review the impacts as part of an expanded operations alternative. In the instances where LANL was identified as the exporter of waste, the impacts will be identified as part of a reduced

operations alternative. Both the no action and the Greener alternatives will provide a review of LANL's program as it is currently defined.

LANL manages four basic waste types; low-level; mixed; transuranic; and hazardous. The following list describes how the management of these wastes would be impacted by the respective Waste Management PEIS alternatives/configurations.

- **No Action** – *status quo* would be pursued. Only existing or currently planned (i.e., funded) facilities would be operated or constructed at LANL. Waste currently shipped off-site would continue to be shipped off-site. No transuranic waste would be shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).
- **Decentralized** – On-site waste treatment, storage, and disposal would be pursued for all waste types with the following exceptions. 1) Transuranic waste would be shipped to WIPP for disposal, and 2) some hazardous waste would be shipped off-site for commercial treatment.
- **Regionalized** – Under selected alternatives, LANL would treat and/or dispose all types of waste from both LANL and other nearby DOE sites. Under other alternatives, LANL would pretreat its low-level waste on-site for volume reduction. It would then ship it along with all other waste types from LANL to other DOE sites for treatment and/or disposal.
- **Centralized** – Under selected alternatives, LANL would pretreat its low-level waste on-site for volume reduction. Under all alternatives, LANL would ship low-level, mixed, and transuranic waste from LANL to other DOE sites for treatment and/or disposal. Hazardous waste management was not analyzed.

**The Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS (DOE/EIS-0236).** The Notice of Intent for this PEIS was published in the *Federal Register* on June 14, 1995. This PEIS will analyze changes in the way the DOE complex supports weapons research and development, and management and production of weapons systems. This PEIS is considering stewardship activities, including construction and operation of the Atlas facility, a pulsed power project, and National Ignition Facility (NIF) facilities at LANL. This PEIS is also considering changes in LANL's role in nuclear component production and high-explosives production. The PEIS is not considering eliminating or removing any of LANL's existing stewardship or management responsibilities.

The range of alternatives in the LANL SWEIS will encompass the proposed mission changes being analyzed in the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS, and will consider operations that would implement these mission changes at LANL, as necessary. The PEIS and the LANL SWEIS are being closely coordinated due to the interdependencies of these analyses and the relationship between mission assignment and operations to support such assignments. While there was some initial speculation that this PEIS would consider LANL as an alternative to continued Savannah River tritium reservoir fill operations, this is not currently considered a reasonable alternative and will not be considered in either this PEIS or the LANL SWEIS.

**Tritium Supply and Recycling PEIS (DOE/EIS-0161).** This PEIS analyzes alternatives to provide for the long-term supply of tritium in support of the nuclear weapons program. This PEIS is not considering LANL for either a supply or recycling role in any of its alternatives. Due to the unique capabilities at LANL, DOE is considering LANL for performance of research on tritium production technologies. This research is conceptual at this time. If such an assignment were made to LANL, a separate NEPA analysis would be performed, if necessary. DOE has not identified any other potential relationship between this PEIS and the LANL SWEIS.

**Storage and Disposition of Weapons-Usable Fissile Materials PEIS (DOE/EIS-0229).** In order to minimize the risk of proliferation of nuclear weapons capability in the world, this PEIS will analyze

alternatives for the long-term storage and disposition of surplus nuclear materials, with the exception of surplus highly enriched uranium. On April 5, 1995, DOE published a Notice (65 FR 17344) amending the scope of this PEIS by removing the disposition of surplus highly enriched uranium. Instead, DOE will prepare a separate environmental impact statement titled Disposition of Surplus Highly Enriched Uranium. Since the SWEIS addresses approximately a ten-year period, it will analyze storage and handling of current and projected inventories of nuclear materials prior to implementation of the decisions from the Storage and Disposition PEIS.

The Storage and Disposition PEIS is being prepared to support a Record of Decision in which the strategy and site for storage, and the strategy and technologies for disposition will be determined. LANL is not being considered as a storage site in the Storage and Disposition PEIS. However, LANL is being considered as an interim disassembly site for surplus plutonium in the form of "pits" (fissile material weapon components) because pit disassembly is a front-end activity common to all disposition technologies. The LANL SWEIS will include analysis of interim pit disassembly operations, consistent with the analyses in the Storage and Disposition PEIS.

**NOTE:** The LANL SWEIS is currently scheduled for completion after the completion of the PEISs identified above. The LANL SWEIS alternatives encompass the range of alternatives being considered for LANL in these PEISs. However, the LANL SWEIS is expected to have substantial independent value to the DOE. Thus, if any of the PEISs are delayed, the DOE may consider pursuing completion of the LANL SWEIS in advance of those PEISs. If such an approach were pursued, the LANL SWEIS may have to be supplemented to reflect the determinations made as a result of the PEIS(s).

**Medical Isotope Production Project: Molybdenum 99 and Related Isotopes Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0249).** The DOE is preparing this environmental impact statement to analyze alternatives for DOE production of medical isotopes. Alternatives analyzed include fabrication of targets at LANL in support of off-site isotope production, as well as locating the entire isotope production effort at LANL (including target fabrication, target irradiation, isotope recovery, and waste storage, treatment, and disposal). Current LANL operations include target fabrication and isotope recovery activities. Under the Omega West Reactor Alternative in this environmental impact statement, target irradiation at LANL would take place at the Omega West Reactor, which is currently in a permanent shutdown mode. The decision based on this environmental impact statement is expected to precede the LANL Draft SWEIS, and will be addressed in the SWEIS no action alternative.

**Dust Axis Radiographic Hydrodynamic Test Facility (DARHT) (DOE/EIS-0229).** DOE has prepared an environmental impact statement for completing the construction and operating the DARHT Facility at LANL. The DARHT environmental impact statement examined the alternatives to support some of the stockpile stewardship missions currently assigned to LANL in the absence of nuclear testing. The Record of Decision, signed October 10, 1995, chose the Phased Containment Option of the Enhanced Containment Alternative. These operations will be covered under the no action alternative of the LANL SWEIS.

**Additional Projects.** DOE is currently pursuing environmental assessments for specific proposals at LANL in parallel with the SWEIS. It is expected that these projects will be included in the no action alternative and the analyses from the environmental assessments will be included in the no action analysis.

It is likely that additional projects will be proposed as the SWEIS process continues. Each proposal will be reviewed to determine whether its NEPA process should proceed separately, should be included in the SWEIS, or should be deferred until after the SWEIS.

The exact relationship between specific proposed projects and the SWEIS alternatives will be detailed in the draft SWEIS.

#### 1.2.4 LANL SWEIS Process

The LANL SWEIS Advance Notice of Intent, published in the *Federal Register* on August 10, 1994 (59FR40889), identified possible issues and alternatives to be analyzed. Based on public input received during prescoping, DOE published the Notice of Intent to prepare the LANL SWEIS in the *Federal Register* on May 12, 1995 (60FR25697). DOE has held a series of public meetings during prescoping and scoping to provide opportunities for stakeholders to identify the issues, environmental concerns, and alternatives that should be analyzed in the SWEIS. This Implementation Plan summarizes the results of scoping, describes the scope of the SWEIS based on the scoping process, and presents an outline for the Draft SWEIS. A discussion of the issues and comments provided during the scoping phase is presented in Section 3.2.

Figure 2 identifies the major milestones for the LANL SWEIS. The Draft SWEIS will be distributed to interested stakeholders for comment in May 1996. Public hearings will be conducted by DOE within 45 days of the release date of the Draft SWEIS in order to obtain oral and written comments; after the comment period is completed, the SWEIS will be finalized. The Final SWEIS, which will include responses to comments received on the Draft SWEIS, will be published in December 1996. DOE will prepare a Record of Decision no sooner than 30 days after a notice is published in the *Federal Register* that the Final SWEIS is available. The Record of Decision will describe the rationale used for DOE's selection of an alternative or portions of the alternatives. Following the issuance of the Record of Decision, a Mitigation Action Plan may also be issued to describe any necessary mitigation measures.

## 2.0 Purpose and Need for Agency Action

The purpose of the action being considered is to establish (where necessary) and maintain the appropriate capabilities to support DOE's assigned missions regarding the United States' nuclear weapons program, research and development of energy technologies, basic scientific research, and other national programs. The SWEIS alternatives examine different types and levels of operations for DOE's continued management of LANL to accomplish those missions.

## 3.0 Public Involvement Process

The LANL SWEIS process will follow the guidance for implementing the public participation policy published July 29, 1994, by DOE Secretary Hazel O'Leary. In particular, the LANL SWEIS process recognizes that:

Public participation provides a means for the Department to gather the most diverse collection of opinions, perspectives, and values from the broadest spectrum of the public, enabling the Department to make better, more informed decisions.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Effective Public Participation Under the National Environmental Policy Act." United States Department of Energy, December 1994.

EIS Activities and Milestones	1995												1996												1997	
	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F				
Notice of Intent	◆																									
Public Scoping	■	■																								
Comment Response Analysis			■	■	■	■																				
Prepare Implementation Plan			■	■	■	■																				
Publish Implementation Plan							◆																			
Prepare Draft EIS							■	■	■	■	■	■	■													
Notice of Availability DEIS													◆													
Public Hearings and Comment Period													■	■												
Consult with Tribes and Other Agencies	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Prepare Final EIS (FEIS)															■	■	■	■	■	■						
Notice of Availability (FEIS)																					◆					
Record of Decision																						◆				
Prepare Mitigation Action Plan																						◆				

Figure 2. Major LANL SWEIS Milestones.

DOE is committed to providing stakeholders, including Native Americans, the public, regulators, workers, community organizations, the business community, elected officials, government agencies, and others impacted by LANL, with opportunities to participate in the environmental impact statement process. A Community Relations Plan has been developed for an enhanced public involvement program that goes beyond the NEPA requirements and the minimum required levels of public involvement. This program has provided and will continue to provide opportunities for interested stakeholders to participate in the development of a LANL SWEIS.

### 3.1 Description of the Scoping Process

Prescoping began when the Advance Notice of Intent was published in the *Federal Register* on August 10, 1994 (59 FR 40889), and ended with the publication of the Notice of Intent. The primary goals of the prescoping phase were to provide stakeholders with general information about LANL and the SWEIS process and to obtain preliminary feedback on issues and ideas regarding the SWEIS scope. In 1994, DOE conducted prescoping meetings with stakeholders on LANL issues identified by affected stakeholders. These included public information meetings, public comment meetings, and meetings with local, state, tribal, and federal government officials, as well as representatives of local community interest groups.

Prescoping comments received were considered in the preparation of the Notice of Intent published by the DOE.

The LANL SWEIS Notice of Intent (Appendix D), the formal notification of DOE's commitment to prepare a SWEIS, was published in the *Federal Register* on May 12, 1995 (60 FR 25697). The notice stated the dates, times, and locations for formal scoping meetings and provided a proposed scope for the SWEIS to serve as a basis for discussion during the scoping process. The formal scoping period, which began with the publication of the Notice of Intent, continued through June 30, 1995. The scoping meetings held during the formal scoping period for the LANL SWEIS are shown in Table 1.

The comments received during the scoping process were considered in the development of this Implementation Plan.

Table 1. Scoping Meetings.

City/Location	Date	Time
Los Alamos, Hilltop House Hotel	June 13, 1995	2 to 5 pm and 6 to 9 pm
Santa Fe, Sweeney Center	June 14, 1995	2 to 5 pm and 6 to 9 pm
Española, Northern New Mexico Community College	June 15, 1995	2 to 5 pm and 6 to 9 pm
Santa Fe (continuation of June 14 meeting), New Mexico Environment Department Harold Runnels Building Auditorium	June 16, 1995	6 to 9 pm

## **3.2 Scoping Comment Summaries and Their Dispositions**

A process was developed to effectively and efficiently handle all comments received during the scoping process. The goal was to document that every comment received was considered. The comments, regardless of method of receipt, were processed identically. Step one was to capture verbatim comments into a database. One-thousand two hundred ninety-one comments from two-hundred fifteen commentors were recorded into the database. Next, the comments were grouped by similar concern or opinion into 12 major issue categories. Forty-one issues were identified within the 12 major issue categories. The list representing this division is referred to as the Comment Taxonomy and is presented in Appendix E. Short, succinct issue statements were developed for each data set to represent the issue within that data set. These issue statements were distributed to and considered by the SWEIS Project Team including the DOE management team.

The verbatim comments were provided to the key members of the SWEIS Project Team who will be preparing the SWEIS. Each and every comment was reviewed and evaluated for incorporation in the SWEIS and a response was developed for each issue statement. These responses indicate how these comments influence the preparation of the LANL SWEIS. Appendix E, Response to Scoping Comments, includes the comment taxonomy, each issue statement, two representative verbatim comments for each issue from the public scoping process, and the response to each issue statement. Subsections 3.2.1 through 3.2.12 offer a brief summary of the issues received in each issue category. A graph of the Comment Category Summary is presented in Figure 3. The Comment Source Summary is presented as Figure 4.

### **3.2.1 Issue Category A: SWEIS Preparation**

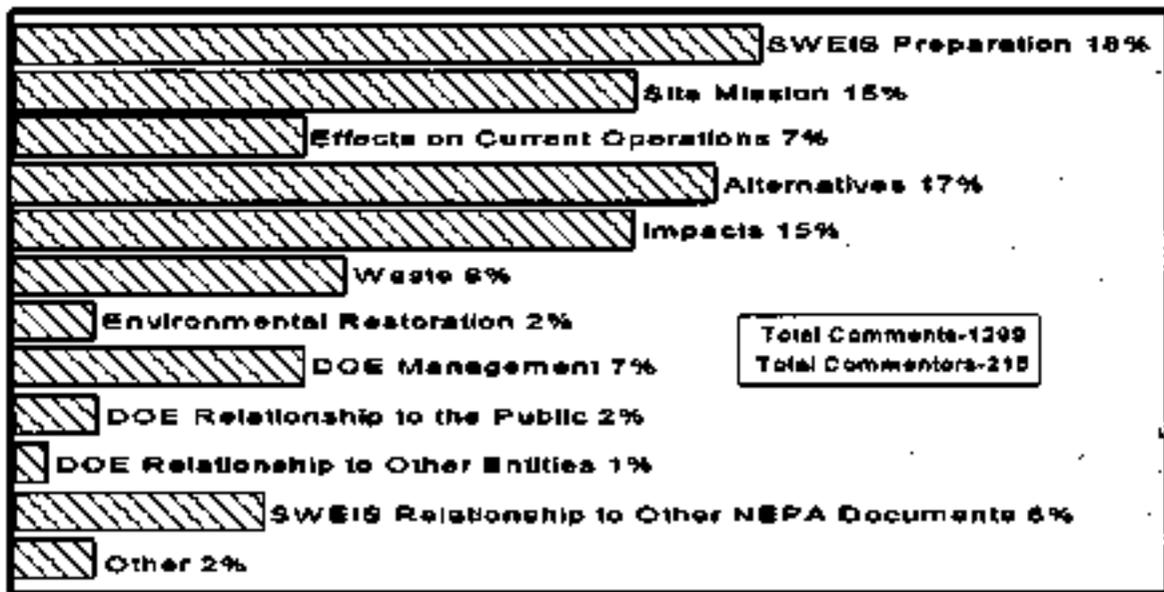
The comments in this category related to SWEIS preparation and included general and specific questions regarding the preparation process of the SWEIS. Commentors asked questions and gave opinions regarding the differences between environmental impact statements and environmental assessments. Commentors also asked how comments submitted on the Advance Notice of Intent were used. Comments in this category also include questions on how the public participation process for the SWEIS is conducted, how decisions are made using the analysis in the SWEIS, if mitigation action plans will be included in the SWEIS, and the general scope of the SWEIS.

### **3.2.2 Issue Category B: Site Mission**

Issues in this category pertained to LANL's current mission. Commentors offered suggestions for future missions and asked questions regarding the inclusion or exclusion of manufacturing activities in the SWEIS evaluation. Although some commentors in this category expressed support for the current LANL mission, most commentors in this category stated they would prefer a nonnuclear mission for LANL. Issues pertaining to the manufacturing mission focused on DOE's future intentions for manufacturing nuclear pits, triggers, and/or weapons.

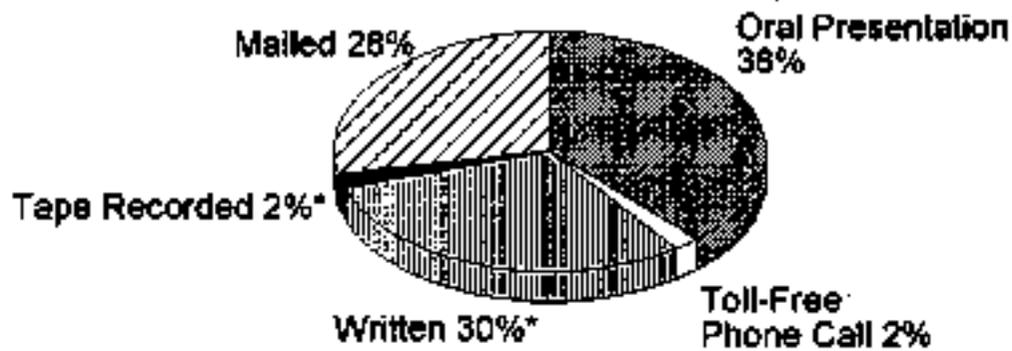
### **3.2.3 Issue Category C: Effects on Current Operations**

Comments in this category pertained to the relationship between ongoing and new activities that support the current mission and how they are incorporated in the SWEIS. Many commentors requested a moratorium on current or proposed projects until the SWEIS is completed. Specific comments addressed the DARHT Facility and its relationship to the SWEIS.



Percent of Total Comments

Figure 3. Comment Category Summary.



\* Received at Scoping Meetings

Figure 4. Comment Source Summary.

### **3.2.4 Issue Category D: Alternatives**

Comments in this category pertained to the scope of the alternatives and how they are developed. Specific questions asked about the inclusion of a Green alternative, the National Environmental Research Park program, and a decontamination and decommissioning or shutdown and cleanup alternative.

### **3.2.5 Issue Category E: Impacts**

Comments categorized in the impacts category consisted predominately of questions or recommendations as to the types of impacts the SWEIS should analyze, the methodology the SWEIS should or should not use, the epidemiological studies that should or should not be included, and the pathways of contamination that should be evaluated. Areas of concern specifically addressed in this category include health and safety, environment, air quality, water quality, flora/fauna, Bandelier National Monument, volcanic/seismic, transportation, socioeconomics, environmental justice, costs associated with alternatives, and land use transfer.

### **3.2.6 Issue Category F: Waste**

Comments in the waste category included concerns regarding waste management strategies, treatment and disposal options, and waste transportation-related issues. Some commentors asked that activities be evaluated in terms of how much waste they will produce. Others recommended that no new waste be generated or that LANL's mission focus on waste management issues.

### **3.2.7 Issue Category G: Environmental Restoration**

Comments in this category pertained to concerns regarding whether or not environmental restoration activities would be included in the SWEIS. Stakeholders expressed an interest in using environmental restoration information in the SWEIS as a baseline for the environmental impacts of LANL's activities.

### **3.2.8 Issue Category H: DOE Management**

The comments in this category pertained to how DOE's nuclear weapons-related mission relates to the nonproliferation goals of the United States and the world, and if the United States and LANL, specifically, have greater responsibility toward nonproliferation objectives. Other comments in this category are concerned with DOE's budget and with the relationship of DOE's budget and tax dollars. Several commentors stated their preference that tax dollars not be spent on anything nuclear-related. Other issues addressed DOE's general management and operation of the LANL facility.

### **3.2.9 Issue Category I: DOE Relationship to the Public**

Comments in this category addressed access to classified information and DOE's credibility in terms of its relationship with the public.

### **3.2.10 Issue Category J: DOE Relationship to Other Entities**

DOE received two specific requests from governmental entities requesting special status during the scoping process. One request was received from the Four Accord Tribes for a government-to-government relationship between DOE and the Accord Tribes and the other from the County of Los Alamos for Cooperating Agency Status.

### **3.2.11 Issue Category K: SWEIS Relationship to Other NEPA Documents**

Several commentors raised the question of the timing of the LANL SWEIS and the PEISs DOE is conducting. Some commentors requested that the SWEIS be put on hold until the completion of the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS and the Waste Management PEIS. Other issues were directed toward other DOE NEPA reviews currently underway.

### **3.2.12 Issue Category L: Other**

Comments in this category were outside the scope of the SWEIS. They were recorded as reviewed and no response was necessary or they were forwarded to the DOE Office of Public Affairs.

## **3.3 Alternatives to be Considered**

A preliminary set of alternatives and issues for evaluation in the SWEIS is identified below. DOE will continue to conduct operations at LANL as the SWEIS is being prepared. The SWEIS alternatives support the existing and potential mission assignments at LANL, as reflected in ongoing PEISs. The SWEIS is not proposing any new missions or the elimination of existing missions. Rather, the SWEIS alternatives address the facilities and activities in support of existing and potential missions across the LANL site, and address reasonably foreseeable activities which may be conducted at LANL over the next five to ten years. These alternatives are intended to support analyses which will provide DOE with a better understanding of the impacts of different levels of operation at LANL. In some cases, the alternatives reflect a range of operational levels for activities with recent NEPA coverage. This does not reflect a decision to revisit the recent decisions on these operations, but rather to provide DOE with a better understanding of the relationship between operational parameters and environmental impacts.

Alternatives will reflect operations at LANL across specific programs and facilities. Site support services (i.e., power, water) required for each alternative will be described and analyzed. The key facilities at LANL, in terms of most significant environmental impacts, importance to national programs, and greatest public interest, will be described and analyzed in the greatest detail. Other facilities will be described and analyzed in less detail. The descriptions and analyses will be presented in an appendix and will be "rolled up" to reflect the alternatives and their collective and cumulative impacts across the entire LANL site and surrounding area, where applicable.

### **3.3.1 No Action Alternative**

NEPA regulations require analysis of the no action alternative to provide a benchmark for comparison with the environmental effects of the other alternatives. The no action alternative for the LANL SWEIS reflects continuation of current facility operations and management plans in support of assigned missions. These assigned missions, which have been approved, may entail an increase in some site operations and activities. This would include ongoing and proposed activities for which separate NEPA reviews will be completed prior to the completion of the SWEIS.

The no action alternative includes

- Current nuclear weapons program activities, including competence in nuclear weapon production technologies
- Fabrication of small quantities of nuclear weapon components

- Production of nonnuclear components (detonators, nonnuclear pit components, et cetera., as addressed in the nonnuclear environmental assessments)<sup>2</sup>
- High-explosive work in support of research and stewardship efforts as well as production technology competence
- Nuclear materials processing (for technology competence, waste minimization, process development, and safe handling and storage of the nuclear materials inventory)
- Maintenance of the hydrodynamic test program at projected material throughputs
- Continued research regarding weapons materials
- Current waste management strategies

This alternative also reflects current activities not directly associated with the weapons program, including processing of excess neutron sources (from licensees who no longer need them), high-energy physics research, competence in production of radioisotopic thermoelectric generators (RTGs) for space and other programs, criticality research, research in materials science and manufacturing technologies, waste treatment technologies, health and medical research, and alternative energy research.

Some construction activities will be reflected in this alternative, as required to maintain operations. Such projects will not be intended to provide increased operational capabilities above those which already exist.

### 3.3.2 Reduced Operations Alternative

The reduced operations alternative for the LANL SWEIS reflects reduced (and in some cases, the minimal) operations in support of assigned missions. This does not reflect elimination of assigned missions, but it could reflect increased program or technological risk (e.g., not meeting program deliverables, reduced technology demonstration activities, and/or a decline in technological competence). Operations would not be reduced beyond those required to maintain safe and secure activities (DOE will not analyze a reduction in plutonium processing that could not support the safe, secure maintenance of the plutonium inventory).

The reduced operations alternative includes:

- Reduced operations in support of the nuclear weapons program, including competence in only critical nuclear weapon production technologies
- Fabrication of nuclear components only as necessary to support stockpile stewardship efforts
- Production of nonnuclear components
- Limitation of high-explosives work to research and stewardship efforts
- Nuclear materials processing (for technology competence and safe handling and storage of the nuclear materials inventory)
- Maintenance of the hydrodynamic test program at reduced material throughputs
- Reduced research regarding weapons materials
- Reduced on-site waste treatment, storage, and disposal (reflecting off-site regional treatment and disposal)

This alternative also reflects reduction of current activities not directly associated with the weapons program, including processing of excess neutron sources (from licensees who no longer need them) only to the extent of current commitments, reduced use of accelerators for high-energy physics research, reduced criticality research to that necessary to support safe operations at LANL, reduced operations in materials science and manufacturing technologies, work on critical RTG technologies (only as directive

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<sup>2</sup>

Nonnuclear Consolidation Environmental Assessment, June 1993 (DOE/EA-0792).

work requires), reduced support of waste treatment technologies for off-site issues, reduced health and medical research, and reduced alternative energy research.

Construction activities will be reflected in this alternative, as required to maintain capabilities, even at a reduced level. Some construction may be necessary to support consolidation of some operations to a reduced "footprint." Where consolidation of operations is appropriate, the cleanup of the excess facilities or space shall be reflected in the alternative description and analyses.

### 3.3.3 Expanded Operations Alternative

The expanded operations alternative for the LANL SWEIS reflects support of assigned missions with higher levels of operations. This does not reflect additional missions, except where they are included in other programmatic NEPA documents. Under this alternative, operations would increase to the highest reasonably foreseeable levels that can be supported by current facilities. New facilities and modifications to existing facilities would also be analyzed when necessary to support projected mission requirements.

The expanded operation alternative includes:

- Production of weapon components at the highest levels necessary to support both the stewardship and management of the stockpile at LANL (reflects LANL providing new pit production and intrusive pit reuse)
- Production of nonnuclear components (detonators, nonnuclear pit components, et cetera.) at highest foreseeable levels
- Production of high-explosive components for stewardship and maintenance efforts
- Nuclear materials processing (for technology competence, technology development, waste minimization, demonstration and limited processing of off-site residues, and safe handling and storage of the nuclear materials inventory)
- Maintenance of the hydrodynamic test program at increased material throughputs
- Destructive evaluation of increased quantities of weapon components
- Dismantlement of surplus pits from the stockpile
- Increased research regarding weapons materials
- Increased waste treatment, storage, and disposal (reflecting LANL as a regional waste treatment and disposal site)

This alternative also reflects expansion of current activities not directly associated with the weapons program, including increased processing of excess neutron sources (from licensees who no longer need them), increased accelerator operations, increased criticality research to support international issues, increased operations in materials science and manufacturing technologies, continued competence in RTG production technologies, plutonium-238 processing, blending and preparation in support of RTG production, increased research in waste treatment technologies for off-site issues, increased health and medical research, and increased alternative energy research.

Under this alternative, construction operations could be required to optimize facilities for increased levels of operations and to increase capabilities and capacities where necessary.

### 3.3.4 Greener Alternative

The name and general description for this alternative was provided by members of the public in the communities around LANL. The Greener alternative would utilize the capabilities and competencies at LANL with an emphasis on basic science, waste minimization and treatment, dismantlement, non-

proliferation, and other areas of national and international importance. This alternative neither adds nor eliminates missions from LANL. This alternative includes increased operations in areas of emphasis such as high-energy physics, health and nuclear medicines research, the fundamental nature of matter, waste minimization technologies, environmental restoration technologies, weapons dismantlement, international nuclear safety and nonproliferation. These increased operations are combined with operations under the reduced and no action alternatives for the weapons programs (such efforts would focus on the existing stockpile).

The Greener alternative includes:

- Increased superconductivity research
- Increased advanced materials research
- Increased accelerator operations (for high-energy physics, fundamental nature of materials research, and accelerator based transmutation of plutonium and waste)
- Increased development and demonstration of nuclear materials verification techniques
- Increased criticality experiments (to address international information gaps)
- Increased geothermal energy research
- Increased fuel cells research
- Increased hydrogen purification research
- Advanced materials and manufacturing development
- Increased target fabrication and isotope recovery for medical isotope production
- Increased processing of plutonium (for inventory management, waste minimization development, waste treatment research, and demonstration)
- Increased processing of excess neutron sources
- On-site dismantlement of weapon RTGs and pits
- Development and demonstration of disassembly and component "destruction" techniques
- Competence in nuclear weapons production technologies (this would not include production of nuclear components)
- Waste treatment and environmental restoration technology development and demonstration
- Uranium processing in specialized areas such as uranium contaminated with plutonium
- Nonnuclear weapon component production operations (as per the Nonnuclear Consolidation Environmental Assessment)

Construction activities will be reflected in this alternative, as required to support operations. Construction may be necessary to support consolidation of various operations to a reduced "footprint." Construction operations could also be required to optimize some facilities for increased levels of operations and to increase capabilities and capacities where necessary.

### 3.4 Alternatives Eliminated from Further Consideration

CEQ regulations implementing NEPA require that all reasonable alternatives be evaluated in an environmental impact statement (40 CFR 1502.14). The term "reasonable" has been interpreted by CEQ to include those alternatives that are practical or feasible from a common sense, technical, and economic standpoint.<sup>3</sup> The range of reasonable alternatives is determined by LANL's mission, which is established by Congress, and underlies the statement of purpose and need as set forth in Section 2.0 of this Implementation Plan. Comments received during prescoping and scoping were carefully considered, recognizing DOE's requirement to achieve LANL's assigned mission and recognizing that there is an essential near-term need to manage and maintain the safety and stability of the existing nuclear materials

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<sup>3</sup> Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's NEPA Regulations published at 46 CFR 14026 (March 23, 1981) as amended at 51 CFR 15618 (April 25, 1986).

inventory. Accordingly, the following alternatives were considered and eliminated from further consideration.

- **Decontamination and Decommissioning** – the DOE has made several program assignments to LANL that LANL is uniquely capable of addressing. These include aspects of stockpile maintenance, stockpile dismantlement, safe and secure storage and maintenance of nuclear materials, research in nuclear criticality and safety, and waste management technologies. Decontamination and decommissioning, which means to cleanup and close down LANL, is not a reasonable alternative over the next five to ten years. Discussions with stakeholders to clarify interest in a decontamination and decommissioning alternative indicated that any change in the cleanup liabilities of an alternative should be identified and analyzed in terms of the current cleanup efforts. This is a reasonable concern and will be addressed in the LANL SWEIS.
- **Elimination of all weapons-related work (including Stockpile Stewardship and Management).** An alternative that would eliminate all weapons-related work is considered unreasonable. The management of the current and projected stockpile of weapons in the United States and of nuclear materials at LANL and world-wide remains a national responsibility under the purview of the DOE. Specific program missions have been assigned to LANL due to the unique capabilities at the site. It is essential that LANL support these missions during the next ten years. For these reasons, elimination of weapons-related work is not considered reasonable over the next ten years, and this alternative will not be evaluated.

This topic was discussed during a workshop with DOE, LANL, and community representatives in July 1995. The workshop discussions led to the Greener alternative, which is described in Subsection 3.3.4 and which will be considered in the SWEIS.

- **LANL Operating Exclusively as a National Environmental Research Park (NERP)** – In August 1977, LANL was dedicated as a National Environmental Research Park, a program managed by DOE in response to congressional legislation to set aside land for ecosystem preservation and study. In addition to LANL, six other National Environmental Research Parks are located at DOE facilities and associated with national laboratories. The ultimate goal of programs associated with this regional facility is to encourage environmental research that will contribute to understanding how people can best live in balance with nature while enjoying the benefits of technology. Recent research at the park emphasizes understanding the fundamental processes governing the interaction of ecosystems and the hydrologic cycle on the Pajarito Plateau. The National Environmental Research Park remains a LANL program in accordance with legislation, but it was not intended to eliminate or to add missions or operations at a site.

An alternative to operate LANL exclusively as a National Environmental Research Park will not be analyzed in the SWEIS. No specific projects were proposed by commentors as additional National Environmental Research Park projects for analysis in the SWEIS. The DOE intends to identify potential new National Environmental Research Park projects in concert with the SWEIS preparation. Some of these may be included in the mitigation action plan.

## 4.0 Environmental Consequences

The purpose of the SWEIS is to provide a comparative analysis of the environmental, health, and socioeconomic impacts of projected LANL operations and reasonable alternatives to current operational plans.

The overall technical approach to impact and risk assessments for the LANL SWEIS involves the steps necessary to collect the available site-specific data, screen and sort this data, conduct modeling for site alternatives, quantify impacts and compare them with regulations, and integrate these analyses to determine cumulative impacts.

The LANL SWEIS will follow the general topical outline presented in *Recommendations for the Preparation of Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements* (Office of NEPA Oversight, May 1993) and specifically will include the following topics identified during scoping for environmental consequences:

- **Surface Water and Ground Water Hydrology and Quality** – The effects on the quantity and quality of surface and ground water flows under each alternative will be identified. The differential direct and indirect impacts of each alternative on human health, biological resources,<sup>4</sup> and water supplies will be compared against the no action alternative.
- **Sediment and Soils** – The effects on soil quality under each alternative will be identified. Impacts among the alternatives will be compared to the no action alternative impact. Direct and indirect impacts to human health and biological resources will be assessed.
- **Air Quality** – The concentrations of radionuclides and chemicals of concern at various receptor locations will be modeled for each alternative. The concentrations will be compared to regulatory standards or the equivalent, as appropriate, and impacts to air quality will be assessed. The assessment will be used to analyze direct and indirect impacts on human health and biological resources. Impacts from each alternative will be compared to impacts from the no action alternative.
- **Human Health Effects** – Potential on-site and off-site health risks to the public and workers will be assessed for each alternative. Specific receptor populations will be investigated for impacts from both the ingestion and inhalation pathways. Health risks will be compared among the alternatives and cumulative risk assessed.
- **Biological Resources** – Potential changes in habitat quantity and quality associated with each alternative will be identified. The effect of these changes on species of concern and ecosystems will be assessed. Both direct and indirect effects from impacts to the environment (soil, water) on biological receptors will be compared among the alternatives and cumulative impacts assessed.
- **Cultural Resources** – Direct effects on prehistoric resources, traditional cultural properties and related resources, and historic resources will be identified for the site and impacts to these resources will be evaluated under each alternative. Indirect effects, such as changes in access and changes in appearance or other attributes that degrade the quality of the cultural resource, will be considered to the extent practical and appropriate. The significance of these effects will be analyzed for each alternative and comparison made among the no action and other alternatives.
- **Noise** – The level, duration, and propagation of noise associated with each alternative will be identified for each alternative, and the impacts on human health and biological resources will be assessed.

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In this document, the term biological resources refers to all living or biotic systems, excluding human or domestic animals, that are objects for analysis from either a desirability or regulatory standpoint, to the LANL SWEIS.

- **Transportation** – The volume of on-site and off-site traffic will be estimated for each alternative. Traffic volumes will be used as inputs to risk assessments and accident analyses as well as to assess impacts on traffic flow. The environmental consequences of transportation, including changes in waste transportation among the alternatives, will be analyzed. Indirect impacts to human health will be compared with the no action alternative.
- **Land Use and Recreation** – The amount and allocation of land to various type of uses, including DOE land available to the general public for recreation, will be analyzed for each alternative. Impacts will be assessed in terms of the land required to support each alternative as well as compatibility with on-site and off-site land uses.
- **Socioeconomics** – The social and economic impacts of each alternative will be identified and analyzed. The socioeconomic analysis will be based upon estimates of expenditures by LANL on salaries, contracts, et cetera, and will include demographic data, possible staffing changes and, to the degree possible, potential effects on local communities for alternatives analyzed.
- **Environmental Justice** – To the extent supported by available data, disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects of LANL operations on minority and low-income populations will be analyzed in accordance with Executive Order Number 12898.
- **Visual and Aesthetics** – The locations for potential construction or major modifications of LANL facilities associated with each alternative will be assessed for their potential visual and aesthetic impacts to the surrounding community including Bandelier National Monument.
- **Infrastructure** – Existing infrastructural characteristics at LANL will be examined and analyzed in terms of LANL's capacity to support current and future operations. Changes to the infrastructure required by the various alternatives also will be examined.

## 5.0 LANL SWEIS Work Plan

The LANL SWEIS will assess individual project-specific and cumulative environmental consequences of each alternative and present a comparative analysis of alternatives. This section of the Implementation Plan describes the conceptual basis for the methods that will be used in evaluating the environmental effects of each alternative, comparing the alternatives, and assessing cumulative impacts. This section also identifies the sources and validation of data, the overall schedule, and the anticipated page limits of the LANL SWEIS.

The LANL SWEIS text and figures will consist of approximately 300 pages in Volume I with an estimated three additional volumes required for appendices.

### 5.1 Scope of the SWEIS

The CEQ regulations seek to avoid unnecessary detail in DOE NEPA documents and mandate that the level of detail be commensurate with the importance of the potential impacts (40 CFR 1502.15). DOE uses a "sliding scale" technique that allows analyses to focus efforts on the significant environmental issues and alternatives and to discuss impacts in proportion to their significance. This results in the level of detail needed to properly address controversial issues but avoids unnecessary analysis for topics that have less potential for significant impact or are less controversial.

Another application of the sliding scale approach in the SWEIS is associated with the facility descriptions and analyses. The most detailed analyses will focus on the most critical facilities in terms of highest environmental impact (worker and public health risk, emissions, waste generation, et cetera), most public interest/concern, and most importance to mission support. Less critical facilities will be covered in less detail and, in some cases, will be covered as a category or group of facilities (e.g., office buildings, cafeterias). The impacts of facility operations will be presented in an appendix. The impacts of facility operations will be rolled up by technical area and by the total LANL site in order to support the objectives of the SWEIS (see Subsection 1.2.1). Where the SWEIS provides project-level NEPA review for specific potential actions, the detailed project-level analyses will be provided in appendices and described (in summary manner) in the SWEIS text. The project impacts will be rolled up into the cumulative impact analyses provided in the SWEIS.

The baseline conditions for development of the risk and impacts analyses will be taken primarily from operational and environmental data available for the years 1990 through 1994. Using a five-year data set will minimize the over- or underestimation of environmental impacts resulting from potential atypical operating conditions present in a single year's data set. A five-year data set also allows for an analysis of trends to help project future impacts of alternatives. Trend analyses not only can be predictive, but also can contribute to graphic depiction, which ultimately can be more understandable. Pre-1990 data may be used if needed to cover operations that could occur during the next ten years, to provide more complete analyses, or for other appropriate reasons. Although the collective impacts of past operations may be inherent in some environmental data for 1990-1994 (i.e., soil contamination from pre-1990 operations), the impacts of past operations on humans (i.e., dose reconstruction) will not be assessed in the SWEIS except as they relate to cumulative impacts.

Potential environmental, socioeconomic, and human health impacts will be described and analyzed from operations within the 111 square kilometers (43 square miles) of LANL and the 0.77 square km (0.3 square miles) of the Fenton Hill geothermal site located approximately 52 km (20 miles) west of Los Alamos. The Regions of Influence for impact analyses may vary with the impact analyzed, but most will extend beyond LANL boundaries.

The natural resources located within the 111 square km (43 square miles) that comprise LANL have been under federal jurisdiction for more than 50 years. Operations have been confined to a relatively small area, resulting in virtual preservation of the natural and cultural resources located on the remainder of the site. The SWEIS will address the general condition of these resources, describe existing cooperative management agreements with adjacent communities, Accord tribes, and federal landowners, describe current studies and management plans, and provide an overview of the Environmental Restoration Program.

The SWEIS will provide an overall description of the Environmental Restoration Program, including a general description of the processes, approaches, and alternatives likely to be considered in restoration activities. Specific actions that have been pursued to date will be used to illustrate these descriptions. The SWEIS will also provide a description of the environmental impacts that are typical of restoration actions and will provide projections of waste types and volumes and impacts that may be generated by anticipated environmental restoration actions over the next five to ten years. The treatment, storage, and disposal of these waste volumes will be addressed in the waste management strategies for each alternative.

The SWEIS will incorporate full analysis of the impacts of anticipated environmental restoration actions that are sufficiently well-defined to permit such review. The analyses of impacts from less well-defined environmental restoration actions will necessarily be more generalized. DOE will prepare project-

specific NEPA review for such actions after the SWEIS process, if necessary. That NEPA review will be tiered from the analysis in the SWEIS and will be integrated with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act process to the extent possible.

Various entities have expressed an interest in obtaining land from DOE that is currently part of LANL. The SWEIS will not provide NEPA documentation for such land transfers because the circumstances are not yet sufficiently defined to enable proper NEPA analyses. The LANL SWEIS will address the land requirements associated with each alternative.

Classified materials will be used in developing alternatives and analyzing impacts. DOE will avoid including classified material in the SWEIS, if feasible. If an analyses of classified material must be included in the SWEIS, DOE will make the information available to individuals representing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), state agencies, and the pueblos who possess the requisite clearance and a need to know.

## 5.2 Impact Assessment Approach

The SWEIS will analyze operational impacts, the impacts of accidents, and impacts from specific projects. The environmental impacts of the no-action alternative will serve as a basis of comparison with the environmental impact of each other alternative. Environmental impacts from the specific projects will be addressed in the appropriate SWEIS alternatives and will be included in the SWEIS cumulative impact analysis.

The SWEIS will assess diverse environmental and socioeconomic impacts and human health risks. Figure 5 depicts the relationship of these diverse assessments to one another. The evaluations of impacts on air, water, plants and animals, soils, and sediment from normal laboratory operations (baseline or alternatives) feed into the human health and ecological<sup>5</sup> risk assessments. The assessment of geologic (e.g., landslides, earthquakes) and weather-related influences upon the LANL site serves as input to accident analyses that are used to evaluate the effects of accidents on air, water, plants and animals, soil, and sediment. These environmental impacts from accident scenarios are used to further evaluate human health and ecological risk. Transportation activities also involve specific impacts and risks to human health and the environment. Impacts from noise are addressed independently as an effect on human and biological receptors. Impacts to cultural resources and socioeconomic from LANL operations are also addressed independently, as are environmental justice impacts.

Accident scenarios will be developed using LANL safety analysis reports (design basis accidents) and severe events that exceed the design basis from a variety of internal and external event initiators. Given the large number of buildings and diversity of critical activities ongoing at LANL, a broad spectrum of accident-initiators and subsequent failures will need to be screened to identify the accident scenarios appropriate for analysis in the SWEIS. This screening will identify the reasonably foreseeable accident contributors to human health and environmental risks. Human health and environmental impacts will be assessed in the SWEIS for maximum reasonably foreseeable accident scenarios selected for LANL.

Cumulative impacts on the environment result from the incremental impact of a proposed action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what entity undertakes the other actions. Cumulative impacts of each alternative can result from individually minor

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Ecology is the scientific study of the interactions between plants and animals and their environments that determines their distributions and abundances. In this document, ecological is the term used to emphasize the biological interactions addressed by the risk assessment.

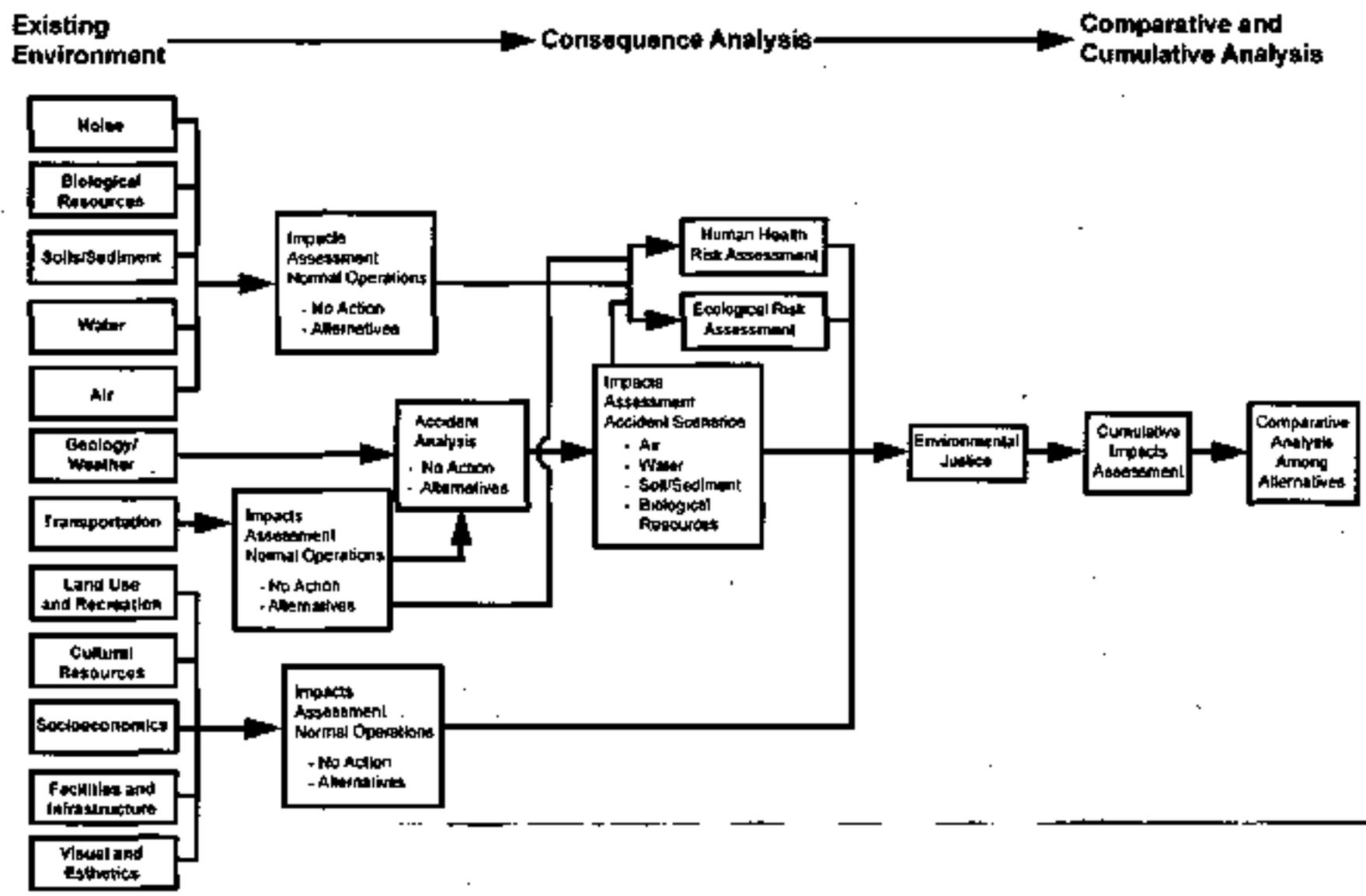


Figure 5. LANL SWEIS Impact/Risk Assessment Approach.

but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time (40 CFR 1508.7). The major off-site projects identified in consultation with EPA Region 6, the New Mexico Environment Department, and area landowners such as the pueblos, Los Alamos County, planning agencies, and other surrounding landowners that are reasonably foreseeable, will be identified and analyzed to the extent practical and appropriate.

Exposure pathways express how contaminants come in contact with people and the environment, and thus affect human health and biological resources. Figure 6 illustrates the exposure pathways that will be used to comprehensively consider the contaminants present, their routes of migration, and their potential routes of exposure to humans and biological resources. Potential exposure pathways and scenarios will be screened to assess their applicability and significance to specific on-site and off-site populations. The analyses will consider exposure pathways associated with the ceremonies and customs of the pueblos near LANL. Both direct (ingestion, inhalation) and indirect (food) pathways will be reviewed. Human populations to be evaluated for impacts from LANL operations include both on-site workers (involved and uninvolved) and the off-site public (maximally exposed individuals and populations in nearby towns within the regions of influence).

Table 2 lists the mathematical models that DOE expects to use in quantifying the exposures (dose) associated with the pathways that are selected to characterize the risks to human health and the environment from operations and accidents. The mathematical models described predict the release of contaminants from the site to the atmosphere, calculate the concentration of contaminants at various locations, predict how much enters human beings or migrates through ecosystem components, and assess the human health and ecological risks. The models will accommodate potential intake of contaminants by pueblos/populations through the cultural uses of plants and other natural resources, to the extent practical and appropriate.

Potential exposure to humans and biological receptors through potential pathways will be examined through a screening process. The screening process and its results will be presented in an appendix. Those pathways most likely to contribute to significant impacts will be analyzed in detail.

A geographical information system (GIS) will be used to store, analyze, retrieve, and display data collected for the SWEIS. The results of risk and impact assessments will be displayed to the extent practicable using GIS-generated maps, tables, and data summaries. The GIS software will be compatible with that currently in use at LANL to facilitate maintaining the data base developed for the SWEIS to better accommodate future NEPA reviews.

### **5.3 Information, Data Collection, and Validation**

DOE Headquarters, Defense Programs, has directed the DOE Albuquerque Operations Office (DOE/AL) to manage the preparation of the LANL SWEIS. DOE/AL is leading a DOE Management Team to provide oversight and direction regarding the preparation of the LANL SWEIS. Defense Programs is leading an Advisory Council that provides policy guidance to the SWEIS. This management approach provides for integration of all major program efforts at LANL in preparation of the SWEIS. DOE is responsible for the LANL SWEIS content, cost, and schedule, as well as the overall NEPA compliance throughout the process of preparing the SWEIS.

The GRAM Team is providing technical support services to DOE/AL in developing and preparing the LANL SWEIS. The GRAM Team is tasked with preparing the SWEIS with DOE, including collecting data for the SWEIS, validating the data to be used, and providing the impact analyses for the SWEIS.

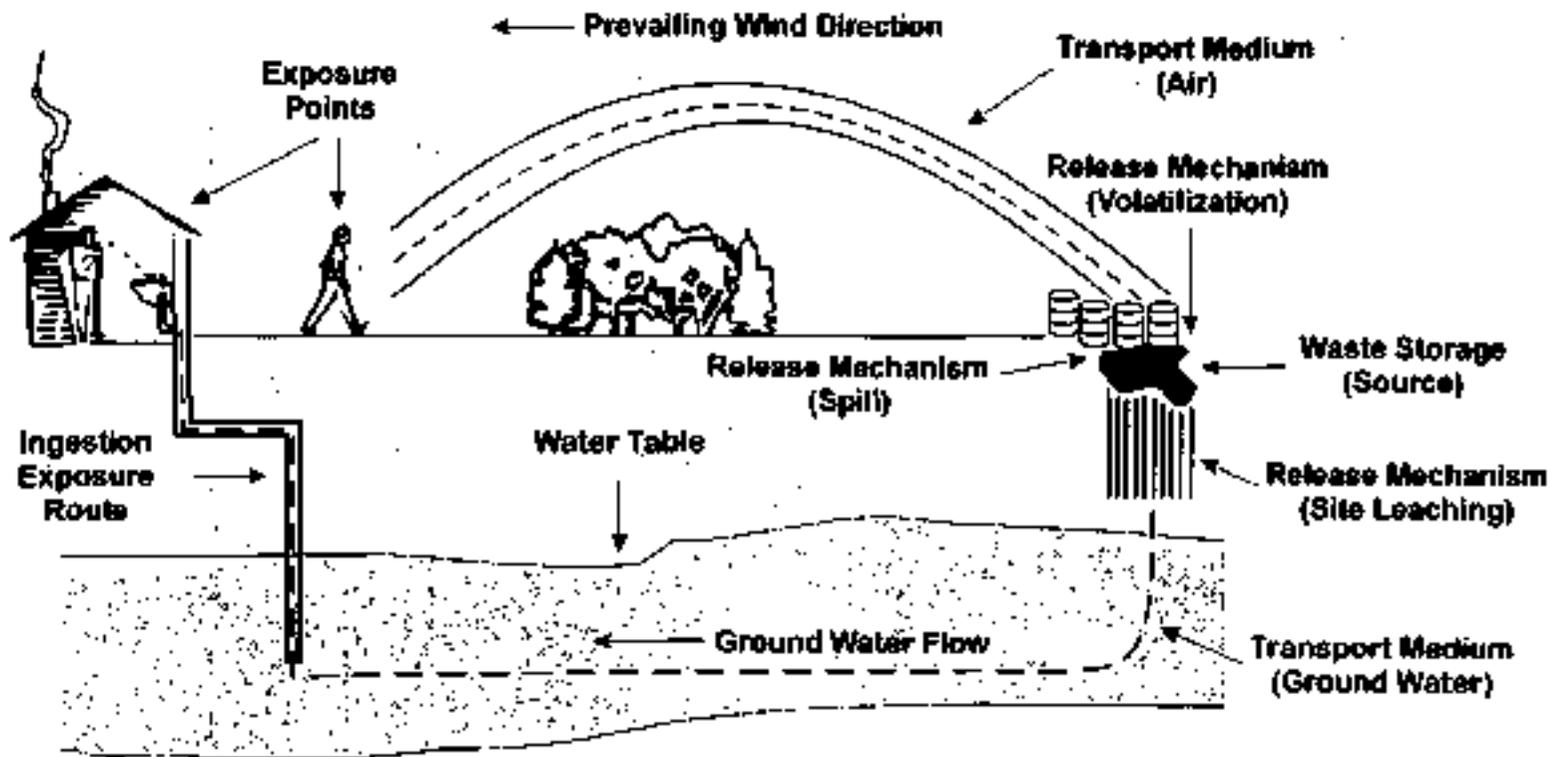


Figure 5. Illustration of Exposure Pathways.

**Table 2. Mathematical Models Proposed for Risk Assessment in the LANL SWEIS**

TOPIC	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	COMMENT
Air Quality	CAP 88	An atmospheric dispersion code for radionuclides that calculates concentrations at receptor locations from point sources.	Accepted by EPA and DOE for normal operations but is not used for accidents or other "off normal" events.
	ISC2	An atmospheric dispersion code for non-radiological emissions that calculates concentrations at receptors/locations from industrial source complexes.	EPA regulatory code.
Human Health	CAP 88	Calculates the total radiological dose from the air pathway for the maximum exposed individual and populations.  Calculates deposition of radionuclides so that doses to the general public from the consumption of affected plants and animals can be determined.	Results are expressed in annual dose which is converted using EPA dose conversion factors into a calculated individual cancer risk.  Results are expressed in annual dose which is converted using EPA dose conversion factors into a calculated individual cancer risk.
	Chronic Daily Intake (CDI)  Hazard Index Cancer Risk	Calculates intake of nonradiological chemicals for specific exposure routes (e.g. inhalation, ingestion).  Estimates potential risk of adverse health effects.	EPA exposure equations using intake rates, toxicity values, reference doses, and exposure parameters.  Potential carcinogenic and noncarcinogenic effects will be assessed.
Ecological	CRTR	Food chain model used to calculate the radiological and chemical contamination to representative species and characterize the likelihood that adverse ecological effects may result from the stress or disturbance.	The approach incorporates EPA and DOE guidance.
Accidents	MAGDS	Atmospheric dispersion code for radionuclides that calculates risks to the maximally exposed individual and populations for radiological releases caused by accidents.	Analyzes uncertainty based variable weather conditions and calculates long-term consequences.
	DEGADAS	Atmospheric dispersion code for nonradiological chemical releases under accident conditions.  Risk to the individual on or off site is calculated using EPA exposure equations.	EPA-approved code calculates air concentrations at receptors.
	RADTRAN	Computer code used to estimate the probability of transportation accidents and the subsequent dose from radiological materials to the public.	Code developed by Sandia National Laboratory. Used extensively by DOE.
	ALOHA	Computer code used to calculate the probability of transportation accidents and the subsequent atmospheric release of chemicals.  Concentration of chemical exposures to the public are estimated.	Code used by EPA for emergency response measures.

Additionally, DOE/AL assigns specific work tasks to LANL. These tasks are intended to ensure that the data available for the SWEIS are identified and that the data to be used for the SWEIS are provided to the GRAM Team as necessary to support the SWEIS preparation. The LANL SWEIS Project Office serves as the single point of contact within LANL regarding these efforts.

In addition to data collection from LANL sources, DOE and the GRAM Team have and will continue to pursue additional sources of data. An ethnographic study, involving input by Native Americans, is planned to identify potential impacts of LANL operations on Traditional Cultural Properties. This study is being conducted for DOE by the GRAM Team. Data from other sources (e.g., the United States Fish

and Wildlife Service, EPA, New Mexico Environment Department, New Mexico Game and Fish Department, and Los Alamos County) will also be obtained.

## 6.0 Environmental Reviews and Consultations

In accordance with 40 CFR 1502.25, federal agencies are required to prepare environmental impact statements concurrently with and integrated with other environmental review requirements and Executive Orders. Environmental impact statements must also include a listing of federal permits, licenses, and other approvals that must be obtained in implementing the proposal.

During preparation of the LANL SWEIS, the DOE will coordinate and request internal consultations with necessary federal, state, tribal, or local offices as appropriate. The consultations will focus on identifying the environmental and compliance considerations that would affect the selection and implementation of the LANL SWEIS alternatives. The LANL SWEIS will discuss the potential impacts of permits and approvals that would be required to implement the selected LANL SWEIS alternative. Table 3 lists potential federal, state, tribal, and local agencies that may be consulted during the preparation of the SWEIS. The DOE will provide the Draft LANL SWEIS for review and comment to agencies listed in this table.

**Table 3. Agency Consultations.**

SUBJECT AREA	AUTHORITY	AGENCY/ORGANIZATION
Endangered species	Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; state laws	United States Fish and Wildlife Service; State Agencies
Archaeological, historical, and cultural preservation	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966; Archaeological Resources Protection Act; Antiquities Act; American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978	State Historic Preservation Office; Native American Tribal Governments
Discharge of pollutants to water	Clean Water Act; Safe Drinking Water Act	United States Environmental Protection Agency; state agencies
Floodplain	Executive Order 11988	Corps of Engineers, United States Fish and Wildlife Service; state agencies
Wetlands	Executive Order 11990; Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act; Section 404 of Clean Water Act	Corps of Engineers, United States Fish and Wildlife Service; state agencies
Air pollution	Clean Air Act, New Mexico Air Quality Control Act	United States Environmental Protection Agency; New Mexico Environment Department
Water use and availability	Water Resources Planning Act of 1965; Safe Drinking Water Act; others	United States Environmental Protection Agency; New Mexico Environment Department
Noise	Noise Pollution and Abatement Act of 1972; Noise Control Act of 1972	Los Alamos County
Site and planning	State siting acts; county zoning regulations	County planning agencies
Waste management and transportation	Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984; Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act	United States Environmental Protection Agency; United States Department of Transportation; state agencies
Environmental Justice	Executive Order 12898	Native American government agencies; Hispanic agencies



Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement  
(DOE/EIS-0238)

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# APPENDIX A

## LANL SWEIS OUTLINE

## APPENDIX A - LANL SWEIS OUTLINE

Cover Sheet  
Summary  
Table of Contents  
List of Figures  
List of Tables  
List of Appendices  
List of Acronyms and Abbreviations  
Reader's Guide

- 1.0 Introduction
  - 1.1 Purpose and Need for Action
  - 1.2 Background of Los Alamos National Laboratory
  - 1.3 Overview
  - 1.4 Major Issues to be Addressed
  - 1.5 Relationship to Specific Projects Covered in the SWEIS
  - 1.6 Relationship to other NEPA Documents
  - 1.7 References
  
- 2.0 Alternatives
  - 2.1 Description of LANL Operations
  - 2.2 No Action Description and Waste Management Strategy
  - 2.3 Reduced Operations Description and Waste Management Strategy
  - 2.4 Expanded Operations Description and Waste Management Strategy
  - 2.5 Greener Alternative Description and Waste Management Strategy
  - 2.6 Alternatives Eliminated From Detailed Analysis
  - 2.7 Summary Comparison of Alternatives
  - 2.8 References
  
- 3.0 Affected Environment
  - 3.1 Geology, Soils, and Geologic Hazards
  - 3.2 Surface Water and Ground Water
  - 3.3 Climate and Meteorology
  - 3.4 Air Quality
  - 3.5 Noise
  - 3.6 Ecological Resources
  - 3.7 Visual and Aesthetics
  - 3.8 Cultural Resources
  - 3.9 Land Use, Ownership, and Recreation
  - 3.10 Socioeconomic Conditions
  - 3.11 Facilities and Infrastructure
  - 3.12 Waste Management
  - 3.13 Environmental Restoration
  - 3.14 Transportation
  - 3.15 Human Health
  - 3.16 Environmental Justice Baseline
  - 3.17 References

- 4.0 Environmental Consequences
  - 4.1 No Action
    - 4.1.1 Geology, Soils, and Geologic Hazards
    - 4.1.2 Surface Water and Ground Water
    - 4.1.3 Air Quality
    - 4.1.4 Noise
    - 4.1.5 Ecological Resources
    - 4.1.6 Visual and Aesthetics
    - 4.1.7 Cultural Resources
    - 4.1.8 Land Use, Ownership, and Recreation
    - 4.1.9 Socioeconomics
    - 4.1.10 Facilities and Infrastructure
    - 4.1.11 Transportation
    - 4.1.12 Accidents
    - 4.1.13 Human Health
    - 4.1.14 Cumulative Impacts
    - 4.1.15 Environmental Justice
  - 4.2 Reduced Operations
    - 4.2.1 Geology, Soils, and Geologic Hazards
    - 4.2.2 Surface Water and Ground Water
    - 4.2.3 Air Quality
    - 4.2.4 Noise
    - 4.2.5 Ecological Resources
    - 4.2.6 Visual and Aesthetics
    - 4.2.7 Cultural Resources
    - 4.2.8 Land Use, Ownership, and Recreation
    - 4.2.9 Socioeconomics
    - 4.2.10 Facilities and Infrastructure
    - 4.2.11 Transportation
    - 4.2.12 Accidents
    - 4.2.13 Human Health
    - 4.2.14 Cumulative Impacts
    - 4.2.15 Environmental Justice
  - 4.3 Expanded Operations
    - 4.3.1 Geology, Soils, and Geologic Hazards
    - 4.3.2 Surface Water and Ground Water
    - 4.3.3 Air Quality
    - 4.3.4 Noise
    - 4.3.5 Ecological Resources
    - 4.3.6 Visual and Aesthetics
    - 4.3.7 Cultural Resources
    - 4.3.8 Land Use, Ownership, and Recreation
    - 4.3.9 Socioeconomics
    - 4.3.10 Facilities and Infrastructure
    - 4.3.11 Transportation
    - 4.3.12 Accidents
    - 4.3.13 Human Health
    - 4.3.14 Cumulative Impacts

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- 4.3.15 Environmental Justice
- 4.4 Greener Alternative
  - 4.4.1 Geology, Soils, and Geologic Hazards
  - 4.4.2 Surface Water and Ground Water
  - 4.4.3 Air Quality
  - 4.4.4 Noise
  - 4.4.5 Ecological Resources
  - 4.4.6 Visual and Aesthetics
  - 4.4.7 Cultural Resources
  - 4.4.8 Land Use, Ownership, and Recreation
  - 4.4.9 Socioeconomics
  - 4.4.10 Facilities and Infrastructure
  - 4.4.11 Transportation
  - 4.4.12 Accidents
  - 4.4.13 Human Health
  - 4.4.14 Cumulative Impacts
  - 4.4.15 Environmental Justice
- 4.5 Comparison of Alternatives
- 4.6 Adverse Effects that Cannot Be Avoided
- 4.7 Relationships Between Short-Term Use of the Environment and Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-Term Productivity
- 4.8 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources
- 4.9 References
- 5.0 Mitigation Measures and Opportunities
- 6.0 Permits and Consultations

Glossary  
Index  
List of Preparers  
List of Agencies, Organizations, and Persons to Whom Copies of the Statement Are Sent  
Appendices



Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement  
(DOE/EIS-0238)

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**APPENDIX B**

**SPECIFIC PROJECTS**

**DETAILED OVERVIEW**

## **Project-Specific Reviews to be Incorporated into the LANL SWEIS**

### **Expansion of Area G, TA-54**

**Project Summary:** Routine activities at LANL generate solid low-level radioactive and other wastes that are disposed of or stored at Area G. The active disposal area at Area G is rapidly approaching capacity. Routine activities, planned decontamination and decommissioning activities, and the work of the Environmental Restoration program will generate waste volumes that are expected to exceed the current Area G capacity by 1997. DOE proposed to expand the area to allow it to continue to receive low-level radioactive waste materials generated at LANL. The current proposal is for a 30-acre expansion at Area G in an effort to enable disposal of LANL generated waste, pending any decisions resulting from the Waste Management PEIS.

The expansion of Area G, including alternative sites, will be evaluated in the SWEIS under the no action, the expanded, the reduced, and Greener alternatives.

### **Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment, TA-50**

**Project Summary:** Radioactive liquid waste currently generated at LANL is treated at the Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility, located at TA-50. The Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility is 30 years old. Therefore, to support ongoing research and development programs pertinent to its mission, LANL is in need of capabilities to efficiently treat radioactive liquid waste. The preferred option is to build a new facility. The Conceptual Design Report is only 65 percent complete as of October 1995. Discussions are continuing concerning the privatization of the new Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility.

The Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility, including alternative sites, will be evaluated in the SWEIS under the no action, the expanded, the reduced, and Greener alternatives.

## Status Update of the 23 Notice of Intent Projects

Project Name	Project Description	Project Status
Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility	Proposed facility would replace existing 30-year old wastewater treatment facility which has reached the end of its design life.	DOE plans to provide project-level NEPA review for this project in the SWEIS.
Chemistry and Metallurgy Research (CMR) Facility Upgrades	Part of a series of proposed infrastructure renovations to a 40-year old facility used for various research projects. CMR Facility supports activities in several other LANL facilities. The purpose of the upgrades is to reduce risk, enhance the safety margin, and provide for the continued safe, reliable, and effective use of the facility to support LANL missions for at least another 20 to 30 years. Some renovations were covered by prior NEPA review and are currently underway.	Phase I Upgrades were categorically excluded from further NEPA review. An environmental assessment is being prepared for Phase II Upgrades for safe, secure operations. No design work is being done on the Phase III Upgrades, which have been discussed at various times. Reasonably foreseeable additional upgrades will be described in the SWEIS alternatives and analyses, but there is no plan for the SWEIS to provide project-level NEPA review on such upgrades.
High-Explosives Materials Test Facility	Proposed construction and operation of a new 3,000 square foot building for mechanical and thermal tests on high-explosive materials and related assemblies in support of DOE's science-based stockpile stewardship program. The proposal would consolidate in one building the high-explosives work now done in several locations at LANL; the existing facilities have deteriorated substantially and are inadequate to reliably support current needs. LANL has an ongoing mission to evaluate aging weapons to ensure that the enduring nuclear weapons stockpile remains safe and reliable; therefore, LANL must maintain the capability to ensure the continuity and reliability of evaluation tests and the safety of workers performing those tests.	This project has been canceled and is no longer anticipated by DOE or LANL. No NEPA review is anticipated.
Isotope Separator Facility	Proposed 4,000 square foot laboratory facility to develop pure samples of isotopes to be used as standards for weapons and non-weapons research.	This project has been canceled and is no longer anticipated by DOE or LANL. No NEPA review is anticipated.
Low-Energy Accelerator Laboratory	Proposed 7,000-square foot laboratory to support development of proton accelerators for ongoing programs. The low-energy, high-current front end accelerator prototype would be housed and operated in the proposed building.	This project is proceeding on the basis of an environmental assessment and associated finding of no significant impact.

Project descriptions taken from Advance Notice of Intent

Project Name	Project Description	Project Status
Nuclear Materials Storage Facility Upgrade	The 1995 Environmental Assessment covers actions currently needed to correct identified design and construction deficiencies. The revised proposal is to increase the storage capacity of an existing nuclear materials storage vault from about 6.6 metric tons of plutonium to about 25 metric tons (LANL's current inventory is about 2.6 metric tons), with a corresponding increase in heat removal capability from 20 kilowatts to 75 kilowatts. The proposed upgrades would also allow storage of material that generates more heat due to radioactive decay.	Correction of design and construction deficiencies will proceed on the basis of the 1988 environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact. The capacity upgrades which have been discussed are no longer considered necessary to support any foreseeable activities at LANL. Thus, such upgrades will not be pursued at this time and will not be discussed in the SWEIS.
Safety Testing of Pits under Thermal Stress	Proposed experiments to ensure that the enduring nuclear weapons stockpile is safe and would not cause environmental or health problems in the event of a fire. The project would require minor modifications to one of the hot cells at the CMR Facility, but would not require construction of any new facilities. The tests would be on disarmed nuclear weapons devices (pits) to determine the potential for materials failure under fire conditions. LANL has an ongoing mission to evaluate weapons to ensure that the enduring nuclear weapons stockpile remains safe and reliable.	This project has been suspended. The CMR Facility hot-cell capabilities to support these types of experiments will be described and analyzed in the expanded operations alternative. However, a detailed project-specific analysis for this project will not be provided in the SWEIS.
Transuranic Waste Drum Staging Building	Proposal to convert an existing 1,000-square foot building within the Plutonium Facility to temporarily stage transuranic waste pending transportation to LANL's radioactive waste management area at TA-54.	An environmental assessment is being prepared for this project.
Weapons Components Test Facility Relocation	Proposal to relocate a test shop to a nearby 11,000-square foot area now used as a warehouse. The shop is used for materials tests on weapons components and for non-weapons structural tests. A new hydraulic load-test machine press would be installed, and a small addition built to house hydraulic pumps.	This project is proceeding on the basis of an environmental assessment and associated finding of no significant impact.
Decontaminate, Decommission, and Demolish (DD&D) Building (TA-33-88)	Proposed demolition of a 40-year old tritium-contaminated building after removing tritium-contaminated equipment. Tritium inventory and equipment removal were covered under a separate NEPA review and are currently underway. The building is being monitored to determine residual tritium levels. Future DD&D of the building would be done under the Environmental Management Program, but the facility currently remains under Defense Program management.	Issues regarding this project are not ripe for decision at this time. It is anticipated that this NEPA review will be delayed until after the SWEIS is completed. The estimated types and quantities of D&D waste anticipated will be addressed in the SWEIS.

Project descriptions taken from Advance Notice of Intent

Project Name	Project Description	Project Status
New Sanitary Landfill	Proposal to locate, construct, and operate a new sanitary landfill.	It is not anticipated that this project will be required until after the year 2007, which is beyond the ten-year time frame for analysis in the SVEIS.
Actinide Source Term Waste Test Program	Proposal to conduct tests to determine under controlled conditions how actinides (radioactive elements) behave when exposed to bone. The test will be used to provide information important to the decision on whether or not to operate the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, New Mexico. The test results are needed by 12/95 to complete the WIPP performance assessment. To meet this schedule, tests must begin in 1994.	This project is proceeding on the basis of an environmental assessment and associated finding of no significant impact.
Controlled Air Incinerator Operations	Proposal to use an existing incinerator to treat environmental restoration and operational waste generated at various areas of LANL. The incinerator has previously been permitted and has operated a total of 2,507 hours over 15 years as a research and development facility. Incinerating waste destroys toxic organic constituents and generally reduces waste volume dramatically. Incineration is a recommended best demonstrated available technology within environmental statutes. DOE has a milestone to complete a trial burn by 2/13/95 under its Federal Facility Compliance Agreement with the EPA. If the trial burn is successful, DOE and the EPA will develop a plan for additional milestones.	DOE no longer proposes to operate the Controlled Air Incinerator and this project has been canceled. No NEPA review is anticipated. The SVEIS will address incineration as a potential treatment technology in waste management.
Expansion of Low-Level Waste Disposal Area	Proposal to expand an existing 63-acre low-level radioactive waste management area that is anticipated to reach capacity in three to five years. The original proposal was to expand by an additional 70 acres to provide an additional 30 years of disposal capability; a smaller 30-acre area is also considered, as well as a 5-acre area that would provide disposal capability for up to eight years. There are no archaeological sites in the 5-acre area.	DOE plans to describe this project in at least one SVEIS alternative and analysis. DOE also plans to include project-level NEPA review for this project in the SVEIS.
Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility and Mixed Waste Receiving and Storage Facility	Proposal to construct and operate two waste management facilities to repackage, stage, and treat hazardous and mixed wastes that cannot be placed in land disposal areas. The two facilities would be connected actions because they would support each other. Therefore, the NEPA review has been combined. DOE has an initial milestone of 1/30/95 for completing the detailed design for the proposed Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility to comply with its Federal Facility Compliance Agreement with the EPA; the NEPA review must be complete prior to beginning the detailed design. The proposal includes using small-scale, self-contained portable "skids" to treat the waste.	An environmental assessment is being prepared for this project.

Project descriptions taken from Advance Notice of Intent

Project Name	Project Description	Project Status
High-Explosives Wastewater Treatment Facility	Proposal to construct and operate a wastewater treatment facility to treat wastewater containing trace amounts of high-explosive waste. The project would include constructing a delivery pipeline and decontamination and demolition of an existing treatment facility. The project would minimize wastewater generation by eliminating 99 percent of current wastewater flows through a combination of wastewater elimination, recycle, and reuse. It would reduce the number of industrial wastewater outfalls from the 17 currently in use to 1. On 8/15/94, the EPA issued an Administrative Order to LANL requiring compliance with Clean Water Act permitting requirements. DOE has a milestone of 10/97 to start construction under its Federal Facility Compliance Agreement with the EPA.	This project is proceeding on the basis of an environmental assessment and associated finding of no significant impact.
Mixed Waste Disposal Facility	Proposed facility to treat and dispose of mixed (radioactive and hazardous) waste generated at LANL. The entire project would consist of up to 11 waste disposal cells and would hold up to 475,000 cubic yards of waste generated by environmental restoration work at LANL.	This project and its anticipated NEPA review have been suspended. The SWEIS may address on-site mixed waste disposal as a potential approach in waste management strategies.
National Biomedical Tracer Facility	Proposal to locate, construct, and operate a facility at LANL to use accelerator technology to produce radioisotopes for medical research and applications. The facility would house a proton accelerator, laboratories, and office space.	There is no identified program need or sponsor for such a facility; therefore, this project is not considered reasonably foreseeable. DOE is not pursuing a NEPA review for such a project at this time, and does not plan to address this project in the SWEIS.
Laundry	DOE is considering proposing to locate, construct, and operate an on-site facility to launder anti-contamination clothing that may potentially be contaminated with radioactive materials from ongoing activities.	This project is not necessary to support LANL operations at this time. An application to renew the permit for this facility has been submitted to the state by the facility operator. Therefore, plans for NEPA review for this project are on hold pending a decision on this permit application.

Project descriptions taken from Advance Notice of Intent

Project Name	Project Description	Project Status
Receipt and Storage of Nuclear Material for Criticality Experiment	DOE is considering proposing to ship nuclear material from various DOE sites to the Los Alamos Critical Experiments Facility (LACEF) and store the material at that facility until it is needed for criticality experiments or training exercises. The experiments or training exercises would be covered by separate NEPA review. DOE currently has about 3,000 unirradiated low-enriched uranium nuclear reactor fuel rods at its Hanford Plant, Richland, Washington; about 30 kilograms of unirradiated highly enriched uranium particle bed fuel at its Sandia National Laboratory, Albuquerque, New Mexico; and about 250 kilograms of highly enriched uranium reactor fuel from the critical mass assembly at its Health Physics Research Reactor, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The LACEF is the only remaining DOE facility where criticality experiments are routinely conducted. In response to the 1993 Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board recommendation regarding critical facilities infrastructure, DOE is considering consolidating unique critical mass assemblies at the LACEF in order to continue to reliably analyze the criticality of nuclear systems.	An environmental assessment is being prepared for this project.
Hazardous Low-Level Radioactive and Mixed Waste Treatment Skids	DOE uses portable, self-contained treatment units, or "skids," to treat hazardous, low-level radioactive, and mixed (radioactive and hazardous) waste. In addition to the skids specifically proposed as part of the Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility, DOE may require additional skids to treat waste at various locations at LANL.	This proposed project is being reexamined by DOE at this time. When specific actions are more clearly defined, appropriate NEPA review strategies will be developed. At this time, DOE does not plan any project-level reviews on this subject in the SWEIS.
Replacement Waste Compactor	DOE is considering proposing replacement of an existing 50-ton waste compactor at the low-level radioactive waste management area at Area G, TA-54, with a 200-ton compactor in a new building adjacent to the existing facility. Initially, DOE considered including the analysis of this proposal with the NEPA review for the proposal to expand Area G, TA-54, however, the NEPA determination for that proposal did not include the compactor. The existing compactor is not operating. The proposed replacement compactor would increase the operating life of the existing waste disposal area by increasing the efficiency of waste minimization practices, including reducing the volume of waste for disposal and eliminating void spaces between waste containers. This, in turn, would postpone the need to expand the existing waste site.	This proposed replacement has been categorically excluded from further NEPA review.
Radioisotope Heat Source Fabrication	Plutonium-238 is used as a long-term, reliable source of heat that is converted to electricity to power spacecraft. In 1991, DOE completed an Environmental Assessment for the Cassini mission and the Comet Rendezvous Asteroid Flyby (CRAF); CRAF was later canceled. The work at LANL to support the Cassini mission is ongoing. The project to build more units for other uses may be extended at LANL.	There is no specific requirement identified at this time; thus, DOE is not pursuing a project-specific NEPA review on such a project. LANL's capabilities and operations for such work will be described in the SWEIS alternative and analyses, but there is no plan for the SWEIS to provide project-level NEPA review on this subject.

Project descriptions taken from Advance Notice of Intent



Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement  
(DOE/EIS-0238)

**APPENDIX C**

**NEPA CONTRACTOR  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS**

QUALIFICATION CRITERION NO. 1NEPA DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR  
PREPARATION OF THE LANL SWEIS FOR DOE NUCLEAR  
WEAPONS COMPLEX MODERNIZATION

CEQ Regulations at 40 CFR 1506 5(c), which have been adopted by the DOE (10 CFR 1021), require contractors who will prepare an EIS to execute a disclosure specifying that they have no financial or other interest in the outcome of the project. The term "financial interest or other interest in the outcome of the project" for purposes of this disclosure is defined in the March 23, 1981, guidance "Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's National Environmental Policy Act Regulations", 46 FR 18026-18038 at Question 17a and b.

"Financial or other interest in the outcome of the project" includes "any financial benefit such as a promise of future construction or design work in the project as well as indirect benefits (the contractor is aware of (e.g., is the project would aid proposals sponsored by the firm's other clients)". 46 FR 18026-18031

In accordance with these requirements, the offeror and any proposed subcontractors hereby certify as follows (check either (a) or (b) and list financial or other interest if b is checked).

- (a)  Contractor has no financial or other interest in the outcome of the project.
- (b)  Offeror and any proposed subcontractor have the following financial or other interest in the outcome of the project and hereby agree to divest themselves of such interest prior to award of this contract.

Financial or Other Interest

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Certified by:

Krishan K. Wahi

SIGNATURE

Krishan K. Wahi

NAME

President

TITLE

October 10, 1995

DATE

QUALIFICATION CRITERION NO. 1NEPA DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR  
PREPARATION OF THE LANL SWEIS FOR DOE NUCLEAR  
WEAPONS COMPLEX MODERNIZATION

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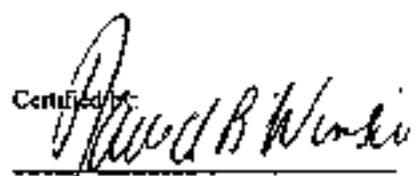
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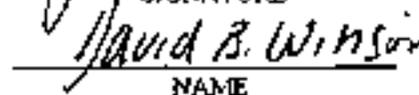
Financial or Other Interest

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

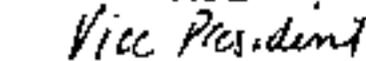
Certify



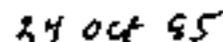
SIGNATURE



NAME



TITLE



DATE

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Financial or Other Interest

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Certified by:

  
SIGNATURE

Evaristo J. Bonano  
NAME

President and CEO  
TITLE

October 10, 1995  
DATE

QUALIFICATION CRITERION NO. 1NEPA DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR  
PREPARATION OF THE LANL SWEIS FOR DOE NUCLEAR  
WEAPONS COMPLEX MODERNIZATION

CEQ Regulations at 40 CFR 1506.5(c), which have been adopted by the DOE (10 CFR 1021), require contractors who will prepare an EIS to execute a disclosure specifying that they have no financial or other interest in the outcome of the project. The term "financial interest or other interest in the outcome of the project" for purposes of this disclosure is defined in the March 23, 1981, guidance "Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's National Environmental Policy Act Regulations", 46 FR 18026-18038 at Question 17a and b.

"Financial or other interest in the outcome of the project" includes "any financial benefit such as a promise of future construction or design work in the project, as well as indirect benefits the contractor is aware of (e.g., if the project would add proposals sponsored by the firm's other clients)". 46 FR 18026-18031.

In accordance with these requirements, the offeror and any proposed subcontractors hereby certify as follows (check either (a) or (b) and list financial or other interest if b is checked).

- (a)  Contractor has no financial or other interest in the outcome of the project.
- (b)  Offeror and any proposed subcontractor have the following financial or other interest in the outcome of the project and hereby agree to divest themselves of such interest prior to award of this contract.

Financial or Other Interest

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Certified by  
  
 SIGNATURE  
 P. LEE MORLAND  
 NAME  
 GENERAL MGR. DOE PROGRAMS  
 TITLE  
 10/11/95  
 DATE



Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement  
(DOE/EIS-0238)

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**APPENDIX D**

**LANL SWEIS**

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

associated with the construction and operation of those facilities and infrastructure necessary to support the CVN and preserve the existing capability to accommodate one transient CVN. Homeporting a CVN will require dredging of the berthing areas and the San Diego Bay channel, a new berthing wharf involving bay fill, construction of new propulsion plant and ship maintenance facilities, and expended utilities.

The EIS describes and evaluates potential homeport sites in San Diego Bay, three alternative berthing arrangements, dredge material disposal alternatives, and the "no action" alternative as required by NEPA. The EIS analyzes potential project specific impacts associated with a number of projects proposed for implementation during the next five years at Naval Air Station, North Island. No decision on the proposed action will be made until the NEPA process has been completed and the Navy releases a Record of Decision.

The EIS is available for review at the Coronado Public Library, 640 Orange Avenue, Coronado, California; San Diego Public Library, Science and Industry Section, 820 E Street, San Diego, California; Chula Vista Public Library, 365 F Street, Chula Vista, California; Imperial Beach Public Library, 810 Imperial Beach Boulevard, Imperial Beach, California; National City Public Library, 200 East 12th Street, National City, California; Encinitas Public Library, 540 Comashi Drive, Encinitas, California; and the OceanSide Public Library, 330 North Hill Street, OceanSide, California. All interested parties are invited to submit comments on the proposed action to the address listed at the end of this notice no later than June 26, 1995, to become part of the official record.

A public hearing to inform the public of the DEIS findings and to solicit comments will be held on Wednesday, June 7, 1995, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Coronado High School Auditorium, 650 D Avenue, Coronado, California.

Federal, state and local agencies, and interested parties are invited and urged to be present or be represented at the hearing. Oral statements will be heard and transcribed by a stenographer; however, to ensure accuracy of the record, all statements should be submitted in writing. All statements, both oral and written, will become part of the public record for the study. Equal weight will be given to both oral and written statements.

The EIS point of contact for receiving comments is: Contracting Officer, Southwest Division, Naval Facilities

Engineering Command (Attention: Mr. Bob Hexom, Code 232RH), 1220 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California 92132-5190.

Dated: May 9, 1995.

M.D. Schatzle.

*Lt. JAGC, USNR, Alternative Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[ER Doc. 95-11753 Filed 5-10-95; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 380-PP-H**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement Los Alamos National Laboratory

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy  
**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare a Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces its intent to prepare a Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS) for its Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Los Alamos, New Mexico, a DOE multiprogram research and development laboratory. The SWEIS will be prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 42 USC 4321 et seq., the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations [40 CFR Parts 1500-1508] and the DOE NEPA regulations [10 CFR Part 1021]. It will analyze as alternatives various levels of LANL operations, including reasonable foreseeable new operations and facilities.

DOE initiated a prescoping process with an Advance Notice of Intent published in the *Federal Register* on August 10, 1994 [59 FR 40889]. This Notice of Intent reflects the consideration of comments provided during the prescoping process, including comments regarding NEPA reviews initiated or anticipated at the time of the Advance Notice of Intent, and issues and alternatives for the SWEIS.

**DATES:** The DOE invites other Federal agencies, the State, Indian Tribes, local governments, and the general public to comment on the scope of this SWEIS. The public scoping period starts with the publication of this notice in the *Federal Register* and will continue until June 30, 1995. DOE will consider all comments received or postmarked by that date in defining the scope of this SWEIS. Comments received or postmarked after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

Public scoping meetings are scheduled to be held as follows:

June 13, 1995; Hilltop House Hotel, 400 Trinity Drive, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

June 14, 1995, Sweeney Center, 201 West Marey Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

June 15, 1995; Northern New Mexico Community College, 1002 North Onate Street Espanola, New Mexico 87532

The purpose of these meetings is to receive oral and written comments from the public. The meetings will use a workshop format to facilitate dialogue among DOE, LANL, and the public and will provide an opportunity for individuals to provide written or oral statements. The DOE will publish additional notices on the dates, times, and locations of the scoping meetings in local newspapers in advance of the scheduled meetings. Any necessary changes will be announced in the local media.

In addition to providing oral comments at the public scoping meetings, all interested parties are invited to record their comments, ask questions concerning the LANL SWEIS, request speaking times, request to be placed on the LANL SWEIS mailing or document distribution list, or request copies of the LANL SWEIS Implementation Plan (when available) by leaving a message on the LANL SWEIS Hotline at 1-800-898-6623. The Hotline will have instructions on how to record your comments and requests.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments or suggestions to assist the DOE in identifying the appropriate scope of the LANL SWEIS should be directed to: Mr. Corey A. Cruz, U.S. Department of Energy, Albuquerque Operations Office, P.O. Box 5400, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87185-5400, or by facsimile at (505) 845-6392. For express delivery services, the appropriate address is Pennsylvania and H Streets, Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, NM 87116.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information on the SWEIS and the public scoping process, contact Corey Cruz at the address and telephone number listed above.

For information on DOE's NEPA process, please contact: Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (E11-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585. Ms. Borgstrom can be reached at (202) 586-4600, by facsimile at (202) 586-7031, or by leaving a message at 1-800-472-2756.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Invitation to Comment**

The public is invited to participate in the scoping process and is encouraged to comment on the preliminary alternatives and issues identified for the LANL SWEIS. The results of the scoping process will be documented in an Implementation Plan which will be made available to the public and will reflect how comments provided during the scoping process were incorporated or addressed.

**Availability of Scoping Documents**

Copies of all written comments, transcripts of all oral comments, and copies of the SWEIS Implementation Plan will be available at the following locations:

- Los Alamos National Laboratory, Community Reading Room, Museum Park Office Complex, 1450 Central Avenue, Suite 101, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544, 505-665-2127 or 1-800-543-2342
- U.S. Department of Energy, National Atomic Museum Public Reading Room, Kirtland Air Force Base, Building 20358, Wyoming Boulevard, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185, 505-845-6870/4378.

A full set of comments on the Advance Notice of Intent is available at the Los Alamos Community Reading Room.

**LANL's Mission**

Among other missions, DOE is responsible for the Federal government's nuclear weapons program, research and development of energy technologies, and basic science research. LANL is one of DOE's primary research and development laboratories. It was established in 1943 to provide research, design, and testing for nuclear weapons and nuclear materials, and remains one of the three laboratories in DOE's nuclear weapons complex. Over the past 50 years, LANL's mission has expanded to include research in energy, materials science, nuclear safeguards and security, biomedical science, computational science, environmental protection and cleanup, and other basic and applied science research. LANL provides these research and science services for DOE and other Federal agencies, universities, foreign countries, and private industry. LANL is one of the largest multidisciplinary research laboratories in the world, with an annual budget of approximately \$1 billion and more than 10,000 contractor and subcontractor employees. LANL covers about 43 square miles of land held as a Federal reservation in north-

central New Mexico in Los Alamos, Sandoval, and Santa Fe Counties.

A report entitled "Alternative Futures for the DOE National Laboratories" (the "Galvin Report"), prepared for the Secretary of Energy by the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board, was completed in February 1995. This independent review provided recommendations on the future missions of all DOE National Laboratories. Although the DOE has not yet fully determined which of these recommendations will be adopted, the preliminary SWEIS alternatives are structured to allow for inclusion of the report's recommendations specific to LANL operations.

**The Role of the SWEIS in the DOE NEPA Compliance Strategy**

The DOE has a policy (10 CFR 1021.330) of preparing SWEISs for certain large, multiple-facility sites, such as LANL. The purpose of a SWEIS is to provide DOE and its stakeholders with an analysis of the environmental impacts caused by ongoing and reasonably foreseeable new operations and facilities and reasonable alternatives at a DOE site, to provide a basis for site-wide decision making, and to improve and coordinate agency plans, functions, programs, and resource utilization. Additionally, a SWEIS is to provide an overall NEPA baseline for a site that is useful for serving as a reference when project-specific NEPA documents are prepared. The NEPA process allows for Federal, state, tribal, county, municipal, and public participation in the environmental review process. A SWEIS was last prepared for LANL in 1979 (DOE/EIS-0018). The proposed SWEIS would replace that document as the baseline environmental impact statement regarding LANL operations.

A SWEIS is a useful aid for DOE management of its facilities and operations. It provides the DOE decision makers and the public with analyses of the cumulative environmental impacts of past, ongoing and reasonably foreseeable activities at a site and contrasts these with reasonable alternatives in order to inform decisions regarding the resources entrusted to DOE's care. A SWEIS can be used as a way to efficiently deal with multiple proposals and can help establish an efficient, environmentally sound and cost effective plan for operating the site and its facilities. In accordance with 10 CFR 1021.330(d), DOE will evaluate the SWEIS at least every five years after its completion to determine whether it remains adequate or should be supplemented or replaced with a new SWEIS.

**The LANL Site-Wide Analysis**

The SWEIS will address operations and activities that DOE foresees at LANL within approximately the next 10 years. The SWEIS will focus on operating practices and facility management, specifically with the intent to analyze the overall impacts of current and reasonably foreseeable operations at LANL. The DOE proposes for the SWEIS to include an analysis of land use requirements related to the operations at LANL, as well as DOE activities as the primary Natural Resources Trustee for LANL. The DOE proposes to use the SWEIS to analyze: mitigation measures for impacts of LANL operations, interim nuclear materials storage and management strategies for LANL; LANL environmental restoration strategies; and waste management strategies for LANL. Specific projects or facilities that are speculative and therefore not ready for analysis would not be addressed in the SWEIS. However, if such projects later become definite proposals for action they would be subject to subsequent project- or facility-specific NEPA reviews that would be tiered from the SWEIS.

The SWEIS is expected to facilitate and streamline subsequent NEPA reviews at LANL by allowing DOE to focus on project-specific issues and to narrow and simplify the scope of later reviews. This process is called "tiering" (40 CFR 1508.28). DOE believes that the SWEIS analysis will provide adequate NEPA review for those activities and projects designated and analyzed within the SWEIS.

**Preliminary Alternatives**

The scoping process is an opportunity for the public to assist the DOE in determining the alternatives and issues for analysis. A preliminary set of alternatives and issues for evaluation in the SWEIS is identified below, after consideration of comments received during the prescoping process. In response to prescoping comments, a discussion of the relationship between programs and specific LANL operations has been included in each preliminary alternative description. Future programs and activities will be determined based on such factors as national needs, scientific developments, budgets, environmental impacts, the results of NEPA reviews such as the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) discussed below, and other considerations. Thus, the program discussions provided below are not all-inclusive and are only examples for the

facility operational levels described in the alternatives. For each of the alternatives discussed, waste management/environmental restoration activities, interim activities for nuclear materials storage and handling, and land requirements will be analyzed. The environmental impacts of both facilities and operations and cumulative site-wide operations will be assessed. DOE will continue to conduct ongoing activities as the SWEIS is being prepared.

#### *No Action*

The No Action alternative would continue current facility operations throughout LANL in support of assigned missions. NEPA regulations require analysis of the No Action alternative to provide a benchmark for comparison with environmental effects of the other alternatives. This alternative would include ongoing and proposed activities for which the NEPA reviews will have been completed prior to completion of the SWEIS. The current Waste Management/Environmental Restoration program plans (i.e., actions for which NEPA review will have been completed) will be reflected in this alternative, including specific strategies to address anticipated waste generated by facility and restoration operations.

This alternative reflects the current nuclear weapons program missions at LANL. This includes support of competence in nuclear weapons component fabrication technologies; nuclear weapons material processing to support technology competence, process development and improvement, and safe, secure storage of the nuclear material inventory; acceptance and processing of neutron sources from off-site (from licensees such as universities and corporations that no longer need them); maintenance of the hydrodynamic test program at projected material throughputs; destructive evaluation of plutonium components; continued weapons and other research and development operations using accelerators; continued operations at the Los Alamos Critical Experiments Facility in support of existing missions; and transportation and storage of nuclear material at currently projected levels.

#### *Reduced Operation*

This alternative would reflect a reduction in facility operations from those currently ongoing and planned. For example, nuclear materials processing activities would be reduced and consolidated. Reduced shipments and receipts of nuclear materials would also be reflected under this alternative,

as would a reduced nuclear material inventory over the time period under analysis (as compared to inventory projections under the other alternatives). This alternative may include some construction projects to consolidate operations within existing facilities, maintain existing facilities, and replace existing facilities, if necessary. Specific waste management strategies would be developed to address the types and quantities of waste anticipated under this scenario. These strategies would consider off-site and on-site treatment and disposition options.

The programmatic context for this alternative is the maintenance of existing missions at a reduced scope. This alternative would be represented by one or more of the following: Maintenance of capability for fewer weapon production technologies; reduced nuclear materials processing (only to support safe, secure storage of the LANL inventory); support of only existing commitments regarding the processing of neutron sources from off-site; reduction in the materials throughput for hydrodynamic and other above ground weapon-related experiments; destructive evaluation of fewer plutonium components each year; reduction in weapons and other research and development use of accelerators; a reduced inventory and number of criticality experiments and training courses at the Los Alamos Critical Experiments Facility; and reduced transportation and storage of nuclear materials.

#### *Expanded Operation*

This alternative would reflect an increase in facility operations to the highest levels that can be supported by current facilities, and would evaluate those new facilities that are reasonably foreseeable. This could require construction projects to address safety, security and environmental compliance as well as to support reconfiguration of facility equipment and operations to optimize use of current facilities' capabilities. This could also require construction projects for reasonably foreseeable new facilities. Specific waste management strategies would be developed to address the increased types and quantities of waste anticipated under this scenario, considering off-site and on-site treatment and disposition options. These waste management strategies would include alternative approaches to accommodate the receipt of off-site waste for treatment and disposal consistent with the Waste Management PEIS discussed below.

The programmatic context for this alternative is the continued support of existing missions, and additional missions which may be supported with the capabilities and capacities inherent in the existing facilities or which may require new facilities. Such program activities could include: low-level production of weapon components; increased throughput for nuclear materials processing; increased support of processing for off-site neutron sources; increased materials throughput for hydrodynamic and other test activities; destructive analysis of additional plutonium components each year; increased use of accelerators in support of weapons and other research and development missions; additional numbers and types of experiments at the Los Alamos Critical Experiments Facility; and increased transportation and storage of nuclear materials.

#### *Other Alternatives Considered*

DOE had asked in the Advance Notice of Intent whether analysis of an alternative that would describe phasing out all LANL operations and eventually decommissioning all facilities would be useful for comparison to ongoing activities. In response, the DOE received seven comments from the public. Four of the comments supported analysis of decontamination and decommissioning for the entire site, two recommended analysis of decontamination and decommissioning for "nuclear" related activities and one comment indicated the decontamination and decommissioning alternative was not reasonable and should not be analyzed. Of those supporting inclusion of a decontamination and decommissioning alternative, three appeared to support it as a determinant of useful comparative information and three advocated actual shutdown and decommissioning of some or all of LANL. The seven responses were obtained both orally and in writing from a population of over 500 comments from over 250 commentators.

DOE carefully considered these comments. DOE also recognizes that LANL has unique capabilities, diverse roles supporting a variety of national programs, and that there is an essential near-term need to manage and maintain the safety and stability of the existing nuclear materials inventory. Accordingly, in view of the limited community interest and DOE's view at this time that a decision to shut down LANL operations within the 5-10 year timeframe of the SWEIS would be highly unlikely, DOE plans not to expend the time and money that would be needed to analyze an alternative involving an orderly shutdown during

this period. The public is welcome to comment further on this issue during the scoping period.

#### *Preliminary List of Issues To Be Addressed*

The SWEIS will describe the potential environmental impacts of the alternatives, using available data where possible and obtaining additional data where necessary. In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR 1500.4 and 1502.21), other documents, as appropriate, may be incorporated into the impacts analyses by reference, in whole or in part. The following preliminary list of issues was identified following the prescoping process. The DOE specifically invites suggestions for the addition or deletion of items on this list.

1. Water resources, particularly tritium in the groundwater and radioactive particles in streams and the Coeluti Reservoir.
2. Cultural resources, particularly regarding Native American access to land, flora of religious or medicinal significance, and protection of archeological and religious sites.
3. Air quality, particularly regarding compliance with Federal and state laws, and releases of radioactive and hazardous materials due to LANL operations.
4. Land use, particularly regarding use of DOE land by the public, radioactive contamination of the land, and burial of radioactive and hazardous materials.
5. Biota, particularly the effects of radioactive and hazardous releases on elk and the food chain, threatened and endangered species, and species of special concern.
6. Transportation, particularly regarding the risks of transporting nuclear material on and off the LANL site, and the need for integrating emergency plans with state, tribal, and local police and health organizations in case of a nuclear material release during transport.
7. Socioeconomics, particularly regarding the economic impact of LANL on the surrounding community.
8. Health affects, particularly regarding incidence of cancer in workers and the communities surrounding LANL, and other health effects on the public and workers.
9. Environmental justice, particularly whether or not activities at LANL disproportionately and adversely affect minority or low-income populations.
10. Noise/aesthetics, particularly regarding the visual, noise, and other aesthetic impacts of LANL facilities and operations on the surrounding

communities and potential uses of adjacent land.

Additional issues raised by the public during the prescoping process include:

- National security policy (particularly the need for a nuclear stockpile, the need for stockpile stewardship, and the effect of LANL operations on international non-proliferation);
- The goals of, and funding for, environmental restoration;
- The transfer of land to Pueblos or to Los Alamos County;
- Laboratory management (particularly the responsiveness of LANL management to community concerns, the equity in LANL/DOE outreach programs, the equity of salary and hiring policies, encouragement of independent ideas, the management of LANL by the University of California, and the nonprofit status of LANL); and
- The credibility of the DOE and LANL (reliability of information provided by DOE and LANL, concerns regarding the actual effect of public input on DOE decisions, and a lack of trust in the DOE to prepare the SWEIS in accordance with the laws and regulations).

While DOE considers these issues to be outside the scope of the SWEIS, DOE will attempt to address these concerns in the process of interacting with the public on the SWEIS and on other issues, by answering questions posed during the SWEIS process, directing stakeholders to other reviews where appropriate, providing requested information (to the extent allowed by laws and regulations), and explaining how public comment and input is considered in each step of the LANL SWEIS process.

#### **Related NEPA Reviews**

Currently, the DOE is analyzing several proposals for programmatic, site-specific, and project-specific action that affect LANL either directly or indirectly. These analyses are being performed as NEPA reviews in several programmatic, site-wide, and project-specific EISs and environmental assessments. The summaries below are intended to familiarize the reader with the purpose of these other NEPA reviews and how LANL is being considered in them.

#### *Programmatic NEPA Reviews*

The Waste Management PEIS (Notice of Intent, 55 FR 42633, October 22, 1990; also see 60 FR 4607, January 24, 1995) (formerly called the Environmental Restoration and Waste Management PEIS) will analyze the DOE plan to formulate and implement a national integrated Waste Management

program. LANL is one of the alternative sites proposed to store and process transuranic radioactive waste and to store, process, and provide on-site disposal for low-level radioactive waste, which may include material generated at locations other than LANL. The waste management analyses in the SWEIS will address the facilities and operations necessary to implement a waste management strategy at LANL, consistent with the Waste Management PEIS.

The Nuclear Weapons Complex Reconfiguration PEIS (revised Notice of Intent, 59 FR 54175, October 28, 1994) was separated into the Tritium Supply and Recycling PEIS and the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS. LANL is not an alternative site for the Tritium Supply and Recycling PEIS. However, the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS will analyze changes in LANL's role in weapons research and development and may analyze aspects of a LANL weapon component production mission. Since public scoping for the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS has not yet been initiated, LANL's role in the alternatives for this PEIS cannot now be predicted. The SWEIS is intended to provide the site-specific analysis for various levels of facility operations that could support a variety of program missions. The SWEIS will address LANL facility operations that are expected to be of primary interest to the public and DOE in support of potential future programs. In this manner, DOE intends to integrate programmatic analyses for the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS with site-specific analyses of the SWEIS.

The Programmatic Spent Nuclear Fuel Management and Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Programs PEIS includes a programmatic analysis of transporting, processing, and storing spent nuclear reactor fuel (Notice of Availability, Final EIS, 60 FR 20992, April 28, 1995). LANL has generated spent fuel and continues to store this material pending the outcome of programmatic decisions following the spent fuel PEIS. The nuclear material storage and handling analyses in the SWEIS will address the continued storage and potential disposition of this fuel, consistent with this PEIS.

The DOE is preparing a Storage and Disposition of Weapons-Usable Fissile Materials PEIS (Notice of Intent, 59 FR 31985, June 21, 1994). This PEIS will analyze alternatives for the long-term storage and disposition of surplus nuclear materials, with the exception of surplus highly enriched uranium, in

order to minimize the risk of proliferation of nuclear weapons capability in the world. Phase I of the project would be to provide safe, controlled, inspectable interim storage of nuclear materials. Phase II would be long-term storage or disposition of surplus material. Among other things, this PEIS will analyze a new, consolidated long-term storage facility at five candidate sites (LANL is not a candidate site), as well as continued use of existing facilities for interim storage. On April 5, 1995, DOE published a Notice [65 FR 17344] amending the scope of this PEIS by removing the disposition of all surplus highly enriched uranium. Instead, DOE will prepare a separate EIS entitled *Disposition of Surplus Highly Enriched Uranium*. The scope of this EIS has not yet finally been determined, because the public scoping period only closed on May 1, 1995. LANL now stores some nuclear materials, since the SWEIS addresses approximately a 10-year period, it will analyze storage and handling of current and projected inventories prior to implementation of the decisions from *Weapons-Usable Fissile Materials PEIS*.

The DOE is preparing the Medical Isotope Production at Sandia National Laboratory/New Mexico and Los Alamos National Laboratory Environmental Assessment for the proposal to produce medical isotopes for medical applications such as diagnostics and chemotherapy (EA determination, November 15, 1994). The proposal involves irradiating targets in a nuclear reactor at Sandia National Laboratory, Albuquerque, processing the material, and disposing of waste. Alternatives involving LANL facilities would only include fabricating targets at the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building and disposing of waste from target fabrication at LANL waste management areas. Target fabrication and associated activities are ongoing at LANL and as such, would be analyzed in the SWEIS to provide environmental impacts at a variety of operational levels.

#### Ongoing UNIX, NEPA Reviews

The DOE is preparing an EIS for the construction and operation of an enhanced radiographic hydrodynamic test facility at LANL. This EIS examines the alternatives to support some of the stockpile stewardship missions currently assigned to LANL in the absence of nuclear testing. The preferred alternative is to complete and operate the partially constructed Dual Axis Radiographic Hydrodynamic Test Facility. DOE expects that all or portions of this EIS will be incorporated by reference into the LANL SWEIS and that the decisions from this EIS will be reflected in the LANL No Action alternative. The Record of Decision for this EIS is scheduled for September 1995.

DOE had initiated or considered several other environmental analyses for specific proposed projects at LANL. Those presented in the LANL SWEIS Advance Notice of Intent are identified in Table 3, with a summary of comments received on each project through the prescoping process and the DOE decision as to which project NEPA reviews will proceed immediately, which will be suspended for inclusion in the SWEIS, and those which will be deferred until after the SWEIS.

The results of the LANL project-level NEPA reviews that will precede completion of the SWEIS will be addressed in the No Action alternative. Projects for which NEPA reviews were suspended for inclusion in the SWEIS will be addressed in one or more alternatives and their impacts will be included in the cumulative impact analysis. It is also likely that additional projects will be proposed as the SWEIS process continues; each proposal will be reviewed to determine whether its NEPA process should proceed separately, should be included in the SWEIS, or should be deferred until after the SWEIS. The exact relationship between specific proposed projects and the SWEIS alternatives will be detailed in the Draft SWEIS.

#### The SWEIS Preparation Process

After the scoping period, DOE will prepare and publish the LANL SWEIS Implementation Plan, which will be placed in the Los Alamos National Laboratory Community Reading Room and the Atomic Museum Public Reading Room, and made available to members of the public upon request. This document will describe the DOE's plan for preparing the SWEIS based upon the results of the scoping process. The Implementation Plan will include the revised alternatives and environmental issues which were refined through the scoping process, and will describe how comments received in the scoping process were considered in its development.

The DOE intends to complete the Draft EIS in early 1996 and will announce its availability in the *Federal Register* and through local media. The DOE will hold public hearings to solicit comments on the Draft EIS from the public, organizations, and other agencies, and will consider all comments in the preparation of the Final EIS. The DOE intends to complete the Final EIS in December 1996.

DOE expects to issue the Record of Decision in early 1997, but at least 30 days after a Notice of Availability of the Final EIS is published in the *Federal Register*.

#### Classified Material

DOE will review classified material while preparing this SWEIS. Within the limits of classification, DOE will provide to the public as much information as possible. Any classified material DOE needs to use to explain the purpose and need for action, or the uses, materials, or impacts analyzed in this SWEIS, will be segregated into a classified appendix or supplement.

Signed in Washington, D.C. this 5th day of May 1995, for the United States Department of Energy:

Peter Brink.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary,  
Environmental Safety and Health

TABLE 1

Project	ANOC recommendation	Comments received	Proceed with independent NEPA review?
Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility.	Suspend the NEPA review for this project and address it in the SWEIS.	6 comments received. 4 concurred with the recommendation, 1 asserted that the existing treatment facility is thought to be leading; 1 questioned why this project has to be in the SWEIS.	No—as long as the existing system can operate safely, DOE intends to analyze this proposed replacement in the SWEIS.
Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building Upgrades.	Proceed immediately with the NEPA review for project actions for maintenance of the existing infrastructure, for improved safety of operations to workers and the public, for enhanced environmental management systems, and for improved security. Other upgrades should be suspended and addressed in the SWEIS.	16 comments received. 5 concurred with the recommendation; 6 indicated that additional information was required to develop a position on this subject; 3 indicated that DOE should pursue uses for this facility and funding which can better benefit society; and 3 opposed any upgrades prior to the completion of the SWEIS.	Yes—proceed with a review of the subset of proposed upgrades, as recommended in the ANOC. Additional upgrades will be analyzed in the SWEIS.
High Explosives Materials Test Facility.	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	2 comments received. 1 concurred with the recommendation, given limited information; 1 opposed this recommendation, proposing that it be covered in the SWEIS.	No—the project has been cancelled.
Isotope Separator Facility.	Defer the NEPA review for this project until after the SWEIS.	3 comments received. All 3 concurred with the recommendation.	No—defer until after SWEIS.
Low Energy Accelerator Laboratory.	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	3 comments received. All 3 opposed the recommendation.	Environment Assessment has been completed and a Finding of No Significant Impact has been issued.
Nuclear Materials Storage Facility Upgrades.	The NEPA review for upgrades that would increase capacity should be suspended and addressed in the SWEIS. Activities to correct design deficiencies should proceed based upon previous NEPA documentation.	8 comments received. 3 concurred with the recommendation; 3 indicated that additional information was necessary regarding nuclear material storage at LANL; 1 opposed storage of weapons usable fissile materials of any kind; 1 opposed even repairs to this facility pending completion of the SWEIS.	No—repair and operate up to 5.8 metric tons; proposed capacity changes will be addressed in the SWEIS.
Safety Testing of Pits under Thermal Stress.	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	4 comments received. 2 opposed the recommendation; 2 indicated that additional information was necessary regarding the benefits of this project.	No—this subject will be addressed in the SWEIS.
Transuranic Waste Drum Staging Building.	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	2 comments received. Both opposed the recommendation.	Yes—in order to support staging of waste drums generated by ongoing activities.
Weapons Components Test Facility Reoccupation.	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	3 comments received. 1 comment indicated concurrence with the recommendation; 1 comment indicated that additional information on this project was required; 1 comment indicated that public opinion on this subject was moot because the environmental assessment had since been completed.	Environmental assessment has been completed and a Finding of No Significant Impact has been issued.
Decontaminate, Decommission, and Demolish Building, TA-33-86.	Suspend the NEPA review for this project and address it in the SWEIS.	3 comments received. All 3 concurred with the recommendation.	No—the subject will be addressed in the SWEIS.
New Sanitary Landfill.	Suspend the NEPA review for this project and address it in the SWEIS.	4 comments received. 3 concurred with the recommendation; 1 requested that more emphasis be placed on minimization of sanitary waste.	No—this subject will be addressed in the SWEIS.
Actinide Source Term Waste Test Program.	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	3 comments received. 2 opposed the recommendation; 1 indicated that additional information was required to reach an opinion on this subject.	Environmental assessment has been completed and a Finding of No Significant Impact has been issued.

Table 1—Continued

Project	ANCI recommendation	Comments received	Proceed with independent NEPA review?
Controlled Air Incinerator Operations	Suspend the NEPA review for treatment operations and address that in the SWEIS; no recommendations were made regarding the NEPA review for the proposed trial burn.	17 comments received. 2 concurred with the recommendation, 1 indicated that no aspects of incinerator operations be included in the SWEIS; 2 indicated that additional information on this subject was required; 5 indicated concerns with the impacts of incineration; 2 indicated opposition to incineration of waste, 1 indicated that alternatives to incineration should be examined with the same rigor as applied to incineration; 1 indicated LANL needs to obey all laws enacted for public protection; 1 indicated the need to study the environmental impacts of the incinerator, and 2 indicated that all incinerator activities (including the trial burn) be suspended and included in the SWEIS.	No—this subject, including the trial burn, will be addressed in the SWEIS. This process is being placed on stand-by pending completion of the SWEIS.
Expansion of Area G Low-Level Waste Disposal Area.	Suspend the NEPA review for this project and address it in the SWEIS.	19 comments received. 5 concurred with the recommendation, 4 indicated that additional information was required on this subject; 1 indicated that alternatives to burial should be pursued, 3 indicated concern regarding the scope and impact of Area G expansion; 1 indicated that environmental restoration waste should be considered weapons-related waste, 1 indicated that LANL is not in full compliance with regulations; 4 indicated opposition to any expansion of Area G.	No—this subject will be addressed in the SWEIS.
Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility and Mixed Waste Receiving and Storage Facility:	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	3 comments received. 2 opposed the recommendation; 1 indicated no opinion on the recommendation.	Yes—to support near-term programmatic requirements.
High Explosives Wastewater Treatment Facility	No initial recommendation was made regarding the NEPA review for this project.	5 comments received. 1 comment requested that DOE proceed promptly with NEPA documentation for this project; 2 indicated that additional information was required on this subject; 2 requested that the NEPA documentation for this project be suspended and addressed in the SWEIS.	Yes—to support near-term objectives regarding waste minimization and management.
Mixed Waste Disposal Facility.	No initial recommendation was made regarding the NEPA review for this project. However, the DOE proposed to proceed with an environmental assessment for the environmental restoration waste only.	4 comments received. 1 concurred with the DOE proposal; 3 opposed any action proceeding for this project prior to completion of the SWEIS.	Yes—for support of the environmental restoration program only. The use of this facility for other waste sources will be determined in the SWEIS.
National Biomedical Tracer Facility.	Defer the NEPA review for this project until after the SWEIS is completed.	3 comments received. All 3 concurred with the recommendation.	No—defer until after the SWEIS.
Laundry .....	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	3 comments received. 2 opposed the recommendation; 1 indicated that this facility might benefit from analysis in the SWEIS, but noted insufficient information to reach a clear decision.	No—this subject will be addressed in the SWEIS.
Receipt and Storage of Nuclear Material for Criticality Experiment.	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	3 comments received. All 3 opposed the recommendation.	Yes—to support the programmatic need for this material.
Hazardous Low-Level Radioactive, and Mixed Waste Treatment Skids.	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	3 comments received. All 3 indicate support of the recommendation.	Yes—to support near term waste management program activities.
Replacement Waste Compactor	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	5 comments received. All 5 indicate support of the recommendation.	The proposed replacement has been categorically excluded from further NEPA review.
Radioisotope Heat Source Fabrication	Proceed with the NEPA review for this project immediately.	3 comments received. All 3 indicate opposition to the recommendation.	No—this subject will be addressed in the SWEIS.



Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement  
(DOE/EIS-0238)

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# APPENDIX E

## SCOPING COMMENT SUMMARIES

Table 3. Scoping Comments Taxonomy.

Issue Category	Issue
A. EIS Preparation	A-1 Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements
	A-2 Advance Notice of Intent
	A-3 Public Participation
	A-4 How Comments are Considered
	A-5 Decision-Making Process
	A-6 Mitigation Action Plan
	A-7 What Will be Included in the SWEIS
B. Site Mission	B-1 Support For or Against Nuclear Mission
	B-2 Manufacturing Mission
C. Affects on Current Operations	C-1 Moratorium on LANL Projects
	C-2 Dual Axis Radiographic Hydrodynamic Test Facility
D. Alternatives	D-1 Alternatives - General
	D-2 Greener Alternative
	D-3 National Environmental Research Park
	D-4 Decontamination and Decommissioning Shutdown Alternative
E. Impacts	E-1 Assessment Methodology for Impacts Assessment
	E-2 Health and Safety
	E-3 Environmental
	E-4 Air Quality
	E-5 Water Quality
	E-6 Flora/Fauna
	E-7 Bandelier National Monument
	E-8 Volcanic/Seismic
	E-9 Transportation
	E-10 Socioeconomic
	E-11 Environmental Justice
	E-12 Costs Associated with Alternatives
	E-13 Land Use/Transfer
F. Waste	F-1 Waste Generation
	F-2 Waste Storage/Disposal
	F-3 Waste-Treatment
G. Environmental Restoration	G-1 Environmental Restoration
H. DOE Management	H-1 Proliferation
	H-2 Taxes and Budget
	H-3 DOE Management
I. DOE Relationship with the Public	I-1 Release of Information
	I-2 Credibility
J. DOE Relationship with Other Entities	J-1 Relationships with Other Entities
K. SWEIS Relationship to Other NEPA	K-1 Moratorium on SWEIS
L. Other	L-1 Outside the Scope of the SWEIS
	L-2 No Response Required

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 1 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY A: SWEIS PREPARATION
<p><b>Issue A-1. Environmental Assessment versus Environmental Impact Statement</b></p> <p>What is the relationship between the LANL SWEIS and proposed and ongoing NEPA reviews at LANL?</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "The Pueblo agrees that the renovations necessary for protection of safety and the environment should be done on the basis of environmental assessment, and that all other changes should be considered in the SWEIS."</li><li>2. "It's very disturbing to me that DOE is not including all LANL activities in the SWEIS. In particular, the Dual Axis Radiographic Hydrodynamic Test Facility (DARHT), the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building (CMR), and the Mixed Waste Disposal Facility (MWDF), are being considered interim actions and have their own environmental impact statements going on. They should not be. They are components of LANL's planned activities and should be considered in the SWEIS. Their continued construction, prior to the completion of the SWEIS, prejudices the outcome of the SWEIS."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>The SWEIS will address current and reasonably foreseeable operations and projects at LANL. Some of these will receive project-level NEPA reviews in parallel with the SWEIS as necessary to support existing program requirements and will be incorporated into the no action alternative. Other proposed projects will receive project-level NEPA review within the SWEIS and will be associated with specific alternatives. It is considered imperative that DOE continue to support the national mission currently assigned to LANL while the SWEIS is being prepared. For a detailed discussion of NEPA reviews being prepared in parallel with the SWEIS see Subsections 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 of this Implementation Plan. For those projects specifically noted, the following brief update is provided:</p> <p><b>CMR Facility</b> – Upgrades considered necessary to support existing program requirements under any alternative selected are being considered under an ongoing environmental assessment. Any further upgrades would be associated with specific SWEIS alternatives and would be analyzed under the appropriate alternative(s).</p> <p><b>Nuclear Materials Storage Facility (NMSF)</b> – Facility construction and operation were addressed in the 1985 NMSF Environmental Assessment. DOE had considered modifying this facility to increase its capacity. However, DOE has determined that there are no current or reasonably foreseeable activities at LANL that would require such a modification. Therefore, an increased capacity for NMSF will not be considered in the SWEIS.</p> <p><b>DARHT</b> – See Issue C-2 of this appendix.</p> <p><b>MWDF</b> – The previously anticipated Environmental Assessment for this proposed project was canceled. The disposal of environmental restoration and operational mixed waste will be included in the SWEIS analyses. It is anticipated that the MWDF or a similar facility will be discussed and analyzed as a reasonable mixed waste disposal method.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 2 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY A: SWEIS PREPARATION
<p>Issue A-2: Advance Notice of Intent</p> <p>What is the status of the comments made during the Advance Notice of Intent phase of the scoping process and was any formal response made to those comments?</p> <p>Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "A comment on the Advance Notice of Intent urged that every possible scenario be examined in the Site-Wide environmental impact statement. Please avoid that at all costs."</li><li>2. "I am not sure if there has been a formal response made to the pueblos' comments submitted on the Advance Notice of Intent and if so, I am curious as to what those responses are."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>The LANL SWEIS prescoping activities were conducted to assist the DOE in developing the Notice of Intent. The information gathered was used to identify potential alternatives and environmental consequences for analysis in the SWEIS and to determine the appropriate disposition of the pending and anticipated NEPA reviews at LANL. All comments were reviewed by the SWEIS Project Manager. The DOE did not prepare formal responses to the prescoping comments received. An overview of the SWEIS preparation process is included in Subsection 1.3 and Section 3.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p> <p>This Implementation Plan also identifies the alternatives to be analyzed. As noted in <i>NEPA's 40 Most Asked Questions</i> (18)(46 Fed. Reg. 18026), alternatives are to represent the range of actions, as opposed to addressing every possible scenario. The alternatives identified for analysis in the SWEIS constitute representative points in the range of reasonable alternatives.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 3 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY A: SWEIS PREPARATION	
Issue A-3: Public Participation	
What is the public participation process for the SWEIS, particularly in regard to interactions with surrounding Native American communities and dissemination of information to the public?	
Representative Comments:	
1.	"Information that has been supplied to the Los Alamos Study Group by DOE has been soft, lacking technical detail, fails to address the important issues of a project or policy and is, without exception, biased and pro-project. The Los Alamos Study Group has never attended a DOE or LANL briefing in which any current or proposed action was presented in any but the most favorable light. This holds true not just at the level of policy and implementation strategy, but even at the most rudimentary level of project-specific cost/benefit analysis."
2.	"I believe there is a new and different attitude in DOE, and I address you now with respect, honesty, and heart."
Response:	
DOE's policy is to promote public participation in its proposed activities and DOE has made extensive efforts to involve the public in this SWEIS. Public participation activities to date are discussed in Section 3.0 of this Implementation Plan. DOE is also working directly with tribal representatives to facilitate their involvement in this SWEIS. No decisions have been made about proposed activities included in the scope of this SWEIS, and by law, none will be made until at least 30 days following publication of the final SWEIS. DOE is pleased to receive comments on what people liked and disliked about the public involvement process to date, as well as suggestions on how to improve the process. DOE will consider comments in this category and amend the public participation process as appropriate. For example, per a suggestion received during scoping, DOE will include in the SWEIS, by reference, an informational primer on the health effects of radiation. DOE has provided and continues to provide information to the public in response to direct requests.	

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 4 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY A: SWEIS PREPARATION	
Issue A-4. How Comments are Considered	
How will comments received during the scoping process be considered in the SWEIS?	
*Representative Comments:	
1.	"It concerns me that those kind of comments which are not particularly relevant to the environmental impact statement process will take up time from comments that are relevant to the environmental impact statement process, and to the extent that occurs, that impacts on the validity or the soundness of the process."
2.	"I question the usefulness of the environmental impact statement process (especially the scoping and public comment portions) in forming good public policy. The process appears to consume inordinate amounts of time and money to little effect except to give a forum for lots of opinions, which are subsequently ignored."
Response:	
	Public input gathered during the scoping process was used to assist DOE in developing and analyzing the alternatives and environmental consequences, as well as issues of public concern. Each of the comments received has been reviewed and considered by the SWEIS Project Team. The comments received have not been ignored and have influenced the scope of the SWEIS, as is evident in the Notice of Intent and the Implementation Plan.

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 5 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY A: SWEIS PREPARATION

Issue A.5: Decision-Making Process

How does DOE make decisions in relation to the SWEIS?

Representative Comments:

1. "With the environmental impact statement process, I've always like perceived a conflict of interest, because one agency sort of like — you know, all these people are here from one agency, and they pay people to write the — write the documents, and so those people are sort of like working for the one agency, and the one agency is feeding them the statistics and the data. So they try to realize — they're sort of fielding the public's comments, but the opinion I like outside the one agency, and they're being paid by—and the same agency makes the decision. The same agency is dependent on these programs for funding, to keep their — to keep their agency going. So I always — regardless whether it's this or the Forest Service doing a timber sale, I see this intrinsic conflict of interest. And I think it's sort of built into the NEPA process, and I wonder if there's any way to neutralize it at all."
2. "It is not appropriate for the Department to make any determinations that would foreclose or influence decisions to be made on the basis of the site-wide environmental impact statement. This does not mean only that the Department should not make any final determinations about issues and projects to be considered in the environmental analysis. It means much more broadly that the DOE should avoid taking any positions concerning those projects and issues since the taking of a position will make it difficult for the Department to consider an issue or project objectively during the environmental analysis."

Response:

The schedule and outline of the decision-making process resulting from the SWEIS are located in Subsection 1.2.4 of this Implementation Plan. Any decisions resulting from this SWEIS will be based on consideration of the analysis presented in the SWEIS, cost considerations, and the programmatic needs of DOE. DOE intends to implement a strategy for LANL that best serves the nation's overall needs as defined by Congress and the President. The NEPA reviews for future proposed actions that are not included in this SWEIS can use the information presented in the SWEIS. This process, known as tiering, can avoid or lessen repetitive analyses in future, project-specific NEPA documentation.

DOE recognizes the public concern regarding conflict of interest in the SWEIS process and has taken specific steps to address this concern. DOE has hired an independent contractor for preparation of the SWEIS and validation of data. DOE requires contractors to sign a disclosure statement (see Appendix C) that specifies any "financial or other interest in the outcome of the project" the contractors may have. Ultimately, NEPA implementing regulations require that DOE take responsibility for its NEPA review. DOE must ensure the professional integrity, including the scientific integrity, of the review and provide full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts of the reasonable range of alternatives.

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 6 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY A: SWEIS PREPARATION
<p>Issue A-6: Mitigation Action Plan</p> <p>How will mitigation measures for the LANL SWEIS be developed and communicated to the public?</p> <p>Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "Concrete commitments to mitigation to offset impacts should be included in the document. Information regarding LANL activities should be as concise as possible to allow adequate evaluation of activity impacts and mitigation strategies."</li><li>2. "I'm not saying mitigation measures should be evaluated for every operation as I understand the enormity of that task. But I just think to say to the public there is this thing, and it is so dirty or so clean, is not giving them the information they need to say, well, I like it cleaner, and I know it is going to cost X million dollars, and let me think about that. To just know those options exist, I think is valuable for the public."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>If needed, DOE will publish a Mitigation Action Plan in association with the Record of Decision for this SWEIS. The Mitigation Action Plan will discuss the planning and implementation of mitigation commitments expressed in the Record of Decision. The Mitigation Action Plan will be available to the public.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 7 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY A: SWEIS PREPARATION
<p>Issue A-Z: What will be Included in the SWEIS</p> <p>What is the Scope of the SWEIS?</p> <p>*Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "While broad general issues such as national nuclear policy are interesting, they are not germane to the SWEIS process."</li><li>2. "CCNS believes that major Laboratory facilities and programs need inclusion in the LANL SWEIS. Explicit affirmation of this by DOE is necessary. Major facilities proposed to be built within the next decade as listed in the 1993 LANL Strategic Plan and the Fiscal Year 1996 LANL CAMP should be included in the SWEIS."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>The SWEIS is intended to have a broad context that includes facilities and operations at LANL and cross-cut program activities. The SWEIS will reflect the impacts of key facility operations and construction activities, facility operations with lesser impacts and interest, total site impacts (inclusive of operations, projects, and facilities), and cumulative impacts for the various alternatives discussed. Broad strategic and programmatic documents (such as PEISs, Strategic Plans, and the Capital Asset Management Process [CAMP] Report) are being examined to determine which of the activities and projects mentioned are considered reasonably foreseeable in the context and time frame of the SWEIS. In this way, DOE expects to include analyses for reasonably foreseeable LANL projects and other activities over the next ten years in the SWEIS analysis.</p> <p>The SWEIS is not intended to provide direction or management of the Management and Operations contract, or other similar site management issues. The SWEIS may reference such programs and use data generated from the programs. It is also possible that the Mitigation Action Plan associated with the Record of Decision for the SWEIS will recommend additions to or changes in management plans or programs.</p> <p>This Implementation Plan includes a detailed discussion on the scope of the SWEIS, including Sections 1.2, NEPA Process for Developing the LANL SWEIS; 1.2.1, Objectives of the SWEIS; 1.2.2, Specific Proposed Projects; 2.0, Purpose and Need for Agency Action; 3.0, Public Involvement Process; 3.3, Alternatives to be Considered; and 4.0, Environmental Consequences</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 8 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY B: SITE MISSION
<p>Issue B-1: Support For or Against Nuclear Mission</p> <p>What is the scope of SWEIS with respect to LANL mission assignments?</p> <p>*Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "Maintaining capability and expertise in nuclear weapons technology, coupled with development of advanced diagnostic techniques to ensure safety and reliability are critical tasks for our nation. It is essential that the Laboratory maintain sufficient flexibility to respond to this new mission. Beyond this role, a number of important tasks lie ahead."</li><li>2. "Stop nuclear weapons work at LANL. It is absolute official global terrorism — the worst criminal insanity."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>LANL's existing mission assignments as established by Congress and the President are givens for the SWEIS. Future mission assignments will be evaluated in some of the PEISs currently under preparation. Site-specific impacts of ongoing work associated with past mission assignments and, to the extent they can be discerned, operations required for support of future assignments will be evaluated in the SWEIS.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 9 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY B: SITE MISSION
<p>Issue B-2: Manufacturing Mission</p> <p>Will the SWEIS include LANL's plans to manufacture plutonium bomb triggers, pits, or weapons?</p> <p><u>Representative Comments:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "You can't leave out analysis of the tremendous impact of manufacturing plutonium bomb triggers, which has already begun, and have an effective SWEIS. This could turn LANL, the production of these triggers, could turn LANL into another Rocky Flats. None of us wants that."</li><li>2. "Rocky Flats' closing makes LANL a primary contender for making plutonium bomb pits and ensures its future as a premier center for the design and manufacture of essential bomb parts and a virtual testing ground for nuclear weapons."</li></ol> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>The DOE has no existing plans to manufacture/assemble complete warheads at LANL, and this is not considered reasonably foreseeable within the next ten years.</p> <p>LANL has had the capability and the programmatic assignment to produce weapon components, including plutonium pits (bomb triggers) since its establishment 50 years ago. This assignment has included the production of small quantities of such components for the original early stockpile and for the weapons research, development, and test program. This manufacturing capability was included in the alternative descriptions in the Notice of Intent and is included in the alternatives to be analyzed in the SWEIS. The principal difference between the alternatives will be the capacity of this operation.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 10 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY C: EFFECTS ON CURRENT OPERATIONS
<p>Issue.C-1: Moratorium on LANL Projects</p> <p>Should the SWEIS be completed before any major LANL projects proceed (including construction of new facilities)?</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "All ongoing and pending projects at LANL should be allowed to proceed. Halting present activities during the generation of the SWEIS would have a detrimental effect on our national security and increase costs to the public treasury."</li><li>2. "I demand that LANL halt construction on projects until the completion of the SWEIS. I make this demand as a taxpayer, and as a human being interested in trust and honesty."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>DOE will continue to conduct operations at LANL as the SWEIS is being prepared. Any proposed major federal actions taken before the Record of Decision is issued must be justified independently of the SWEIS, must undergo separate NEPA review, and must not prejudice the ultimate decision based on the SWEIS (i.e., must not determine subsequent development or limit alternatives). Any such activities will be included in the SWEIS as part of the no action alternative.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 11 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY C: EFFECTS ON CURRENT OPERATIONS	
<b>Issue C.2: DARHT</b>	
What is the relationship between the DARHT Facility environmental impact statement and the LANL SWEIS?	
<b>*Representative Comments:</b>	
1.	"I demand that the DARHT environmental impact statement be imbedded in both the programmatic and Site-Wide review."
2.	"DARHT concretely illustrates the inverted pyramid of DOE NEPA compliance that presently exists where specific projects are driving programs. GCNS recommends that DOE pursue this logical hierarchy of programmatic review first, followed by site-wide and then project-specific review. Construction of DARHT is not an appropriate interim action before the completion of both the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS and the LANL SWEIS."
<b>Response:</b>	
An environmental impact statement on the DARHT project was completed in August 1995. The Record of Decision, signed October 10, 1995, chose the Phased Containment Option of the Enhanced Containment Alternative. The operations will be included in the no action alternative of the LANL SWEIS.	
The DARHT project is considered a permissible interim action under NEPA regulations pending completion of the LANL SWEIS. DOE's need for enhanced radiographic capability to conduct science-based stockpile stewardship as directed by the President and Congress provides the independent justification for the project. That capability can be provided by implementing any of the alternatives analyzed in the DARHT EIS without requiring additional new facilities or changes in operation for existing facilities at LANL, since radiographic hydrotesting is an ongoing mission for LANL. Thus, deciding whether and how to provide enhanced radiographic capability will not prejudice any decisions resulting from the LANL SWEIS.	

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 12 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY D: ALTERNATIVES
<p>Issue.D-1: Alternatives-General</p> <p>How are the alternatives to be considered in the SWEIS determined?</p> <p>*Representative Comments:</p> <p>1. "Could you discuss the alternatives that you have already sketched out?"</p> <p>"I would ask you what alternatives you have looked at on the questions that I raised in my other comment about bounding the down side. Do you have a reasonable control over the expanded alternative?"</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>CEQ regulations state that the comparative analysis of alternatives is the heart of an environmental impact statement (40 CFR 1502.14) and requires a rigorous exploration and objective evaluation. CEQ specifies that reasonable alternatives, including a no action alternative, be practical or feasible from common sense, technical, and economic standpoints. CEQ guidance also states that the reasonable alternatives considered should represent the full spectrum of alternatives for meeting the agency's purpose and need. Alternatives for activities outside the agency's purpose and need, which are not reasonable or are not within the ten-year time frame of the SWEIS, are outside the scope of evaluation in the SWEIS.</p> <p>Public input gathered during the scoping process was used to assist DOE in developing and analyzing alternatives to be considered in the LANL SWEIS. The alternatives under consideration in the SWEIS are no action, reduced operations, expanded operations, and the Greener alternative. These alternatives are discussed in more detail in Section 3.3 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1: Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 13 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY D: ALTERNATIVES	
<b>Issue D.2: Green Alternative</b>	
The SWEIS should include a Green alternative.	
<b>Representative Comments:</b>	
1. "OCNS has been informed that as a result of the SWEIS Notice of Intent hearings, the 'Green' Laboratory Alternative will be included in the SWEIS. We applaud this and look forward to working with DOE and other interested parties to form this alternative."	
2. "It is time for an elite Laboratory 'priesthood' protected from public scrutiny by the rubric of 'national security' to examine the critical ideas of the multitudes who favor converting LANL from weapons work to general science applicable to the nation's problems."	
<b>Response:</b>	
Many commentors requested a green alternative for the LANL SWEIS without further elaboration and others had conflicting ideas on what constituted a green alternative. The DOE met with representatives of several interested community organizations that advocate such an alternative to develop this idea further. The Greener alternative developed in this workshop, which will be included for detailed evaluation in the SWEIS, maintains support of current and projected missions but places the emphasis of LANL operations on basic science and research in areas that can alleviate significant international challenges such as waste treatment, medical isotope research and production, high-energy physics, and alternative energy sources. For a more detailed discussion of the Greener alternative, please see Subsection 3.3.4 of this Implementation Plan.	

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 14 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY D: ALTERNATIVES
<p>Issue.D-3: National Environmental Research Park (NERP)</p> <p>Will the LANL SWEIS include a National Environmental Research Park Alternative?</p> <p>*Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "I'm kind of in disbelief that people will be at all impressed by this environmental park thing. I mean, if there ever was a red herring—I mean a phony issue, that was it."</li><li>2. "CCNS believes that the National Environmental Research Park should be included in the SWEIS. One possibility is that the National Environmental Research Park should be included in the Green Alternative. However, in order for the public to make informed comments on this project, it is necessary to have additional information on what this designation means and to what extent LANL has served as a National Environmental Research Park in the past."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>In response to public interest in LANL's National Environmental Research Park activities, DOE will attempt to identify potential National Environmental Research Park activities throughout the SWEIS process, particularly in the development of mitigation actions. <i>Environmental Surveillance at Los Alamos During 1993</i> contains a summary of recent National Environmental Research Park accomplishments. For a more detailed discussion of the National Environmental Research Park program, please see Section 3.4 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 15 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY D: ALTERNATIVES	
<b>Issue D-4: Decontamination and Decommissioning Shutdown Alternative</b>	
Should the LANL SWEIS consider a decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) alternative?	
<b>Representative Comments:</b>	
1.	"I oppose the Shutdown/Cleanup of the Lab Alternative as it is not reasonable to expend significant time or resources evaluating such an option when the chances of it occurring are virtually nil. Consideration of a realistic scaled down Lab alternative is appropriate so long as it is grounded in some level of reality."
2.	"I want to see the SWEIS restore the shutdown and cleanup alternative as a baseline for measuring impacts."
<b>Response:</b>	
The DOE has made several program assignments to LANL that LANL is uniquely capable of addressing. These include aspects of stockpile maintenance, stockpile dismantlement, safe and secure storage and maintenance of nuclear materials, research in nuclear criticality and safety, and waste management technologies. The DOE does not believe that the elimination of these and other activities is reasonable over the next five to ten years. Thus, DOE does not consider that the decontamination and decommissioning or shutdown and cleanup alternative is a reasonable alternative in the planning horizon for the SWEIS. However, DOE has agreed with members of the community that the description of the affected environment should reflect estimates of existing contamination at LANL facilities and that the impact analyses for each of the alternatives should include incremental contamination estimates. This approach will provide a better understanding by DOE and the public regarding the eventual decontamination and decommissioning burden already incurred at LANL and the incremental changes in this burden associated with the SWEIS alternatives.	

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 16 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS
<p>Issue E-1: Assessment Methodology for Impacts Assessment</p> <p>What impacts will be evaluated, how will they be evaluated, and what methodologies and pathways will be used for evaluation?</p> <p>*Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "In looking at impacts, we have to look at who is going to benefit. The Earth, the nation, and the site will be secure when the effect is known on the water, the cultural resources, the air quality, the land use and the biota, the plants and animals. The benefits must be weighed, and considerable weight must be given to the impacts on our life."</li><li>2. "The SWEIS must look at the cumulative impacts of planned and current projects, rather than approaching the process piecemeal."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>In general, the SWEIS will conduct an assessment of human health impacts to on-site workers and the general public at off-site locations. Exposure pathways will be considered unless specific data and information can be substantiated to show that a particular pathway is not viable at LANL. Once impacts from each pathway and facility have been calculated, collective impacts will be determined for maximally exposed individuals and populations. Other impacts, such as economics, transportation, and socioeconomics, will be compared and the impacts considered collectively in the SWEIS. Comparison of measured or modeled contaminant concentrations will be compared directly to any pertinent regulatory levels and known background concentrations. A separate assessment will be conducted for potential impacts to the ecological environment of the LANL facility. Thus, the SWEIS will provide a baseline for future analysis and mitigation of LANL impacts, if necessary. For a more detailed discussion of the methodology for Impacts Assessments, refer to Section 5.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 17 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS	
<p data-bbox="228 327 824 359"><b>Issue E-2: Health and Safety Impacts Assessment</b></p> <p data-bbox="228 394 1386 516">What are the health and safety impact and evaluation methods that will be used in the SWEIS, especially for the cancer-related effects of LANL activities? What studies will be used to determine those effects, and how will safety concerns for surrounding communities and populations be evaluated?</p> <p data-bbox="228 554 561 585"><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol data-bbox="228 617 1419 835" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="228 617 1419 680">1. "The health effects must have a wider scope than just surrounding communities. DOE must examine downwind and down over health impacts from Lab activities."</li><li data-bbox="228 711 1419 835">2. "I feel that by working at the Lab, which I have worked there for about 20 years, I have seen the Lab do a lot of environmentally responsible actions and also bend over backwards in a lot of cases to do the right thing as far as the health and safety of the workers are concerned and also regarding the environment itself."</li></ol> <p data-bbox="228 873 354 905"><b>Response:</b></p> <p data-bbox="228 936 1403 1094">The SWEIS will consider primary impacts to human health resulting from potential exposure to LANL contaminants. Since radionuclides are considered potentially carcinogenic, assessment of cancer mortality will be the primary focus. Existing epidemiology studies will be included in the SWEIS analysis. For a more detailed discussion of the health and safety impacts assessment, please see Section 5.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>	

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public Scoping Process [Page 18 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS	
Issue E-3: Environmental	
What are the environmental impacts that will be looked at in the LANL SWEIS and how will they be analyzed?	
*Representative Comments.	
1	"The first priority for the SWEIS is a comprehensive assessment of the cumulative environmental degradation of the past fifty years."
2	"The SWEIS is the first step in long-term environmental planning and management and as such should address the entire ecosystem and at a minimum address the entire watershed. This approach will require close coordination with adjacent land managers including Indian Lands and the Bandelier National Monument."
Response:	
Regions of potential impact will be defined for each environmental pathway. Within these regions, key receptors, including at-risk human populations, species, and ecosystems, will be specified according to their potential for being impacted. For each receptor, baseline conditions from 1980 to 1994 will be described. This information will be augmented from other time periods, as required. The impact analyses, assuming an operational period continuing through the next ten years, will be conducted to compare the SWEIS alternatives.	
Evaluations of LANL contributions to global problems, such as climatic change and general atmospheric impacts, are beyond the scope of the SWEIS. However, current DOE policy states that waste minimization and pollution prevention "will be prime considerations in research activities, process design, facility upgrade or modernization, new facility design, facility operations, and facility decontamination and decommissioning." As such, DOE installations are instructed to "consider pollution prevention options as potential alternatives or mitigating measures in NEPA documents." This is supported by recent guidance from the EPA regarding the incorporation of pollution prevention strategies into environmental review processes. For a more detailed discussion of the environmental impacts analyses for the SWEIS see Section 5.0 of this Implementation Plan.	

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 19 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS
<p><b>Issue E-4: Air Quality</b></p> <p>How will the impacts on air quality resulting from LANL operations be evaluated in the SWEIS?</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "In order to fully characterize air quality impacts, diffuse and fugitive emissions which have resulted or are presently resulting from LANL operations should be included in any calculations of population dose."</li><li>2. "The effect of LANL's operations on the area's air quality should be included in the SWEIS. We think that the SWEIS should incorporate the projections of the DOE/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement establishing a schedule for LANL to come into compliance with the Clean Air Act"</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>Since radionuclides are considered potentially carcinogenic, the SWEIS will examine the impacts associated with airborne emissions from LANL operations. This will include a human health risk assessment evaluation and a comparison with applicable federal and state regulatory standards.</p> <p>The Federal Facility Compliance Agreement is a separate activity of LANL and the EPA and will be reviewed for compatibility with the SWEIS, as appropriate, to ensure that Clean Air Act compliance is maintained. Wind-borne contaminant dispersion will be examined in the course of this review and in conjunction with other SWEIS activities.</p> <p>A more detailed discussion of how impacts will be evaluated in the SWEIS is located in Section 4.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 20 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS	
<b>Issue E-5: Water Quality</b>	
How will the SWEIS evaluate the water quality and quantity impacts from LANL operation?	
<b>Representative Comments:</b>	
1.	"The SWEIS should evaluate how Laboratory operations may impact water quality and quantity, particularly any impacts to water quality that may occur from radioactive materials, sewage and solid waste disposal."
2.	"The environmental impact statement should include a commitment to prepare a water management plan that discusses conservation efforts, potential water import, or rationing plans. The preparation of this document should be closely coordinated with the State of New Mexico, the National Park Service, and other agencies or groups with interest in water use in north-central New Mexico."
<b>Response:</b>	
<p>The SWEIS will evaluate chemical and radiochemical data collected by LANL and others, as well as water use and water level data, and will assess potential impacts to surface water and ground water quality and quantity. The baseline quality of potentially affected water resources will be determined by reviewing monitoring data for recent years. Monitoring reports for effluent discharges will be examined for exceeding permit limits or requirements. The assessment of potential water quality impacts will include the rate of discharge and concentrations of chemicals of concern for each type of discharge for each operational alternative. Studies and data analyses by LANL and others will be used to determine where contamination of water resources by historic (pre-regulation or pre-permit) effluent releases has occurred. The potential effects of operational alternatives on water quality, water use, water levels, spring discharges, wetlands, and effluent discharge rate and quality will be evaluated and established in the SWEIS. The SWEIS will include analyses of the potential pathways for contaminants to various human and biological receptors. The SWEIS will also present potential impact mitigation by appropriate controls or designs of ongoing or future LANL facilities or operations. The SWEIS will evaluate the present state of water-resources planning and coordination with other area water users, and will address the need for further DOE planning, if appropriate. The SWEIS will include maps of ground water and surface water resources on LANL and vicinity showing recharge, flow, and discharge of ground water, intermittent and perennial stream reaches, and surface water reservoirs. A more detailed discussion of how impacts will be evaluated in the SWEIS is located in Section 4.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>	

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 21 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS
<p>Issue E-6: Flora/Fauna</p> <p>How will the SWEIS approach the management of biological and natural resources?</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "The SWEIS should contain a thorough evaluation of potential impacts to protected species, including direct, indirect and cumulative impacts."</li><li>2. "The SWEIS should contain a discussion regarding the present condition of each natural resource (e.g., wildlife habitat types) and locate any areas where heavy disturbance has created poor conditions, or where pristine conditions merit restricted activities. Where baseline data is lacking, we recommend the environmental impact statement contain commitments to gather LANL-wide baseline data especially for sensitive fish and wildlife habitat."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>The site-wide approach to environmental impact analyses suggests that a landscape or regional level of analysis is appropriate. Biological communities and ecological relationships at a variety of scales and locations will be evaluated according to their potential for being impacted by LANL operations. Emphasis will be placed on specific ecosystems, such as selected wetlands species, species that are federally designated as threatened or endangered, and those that are important for recreational and fish and game purposes. The current conditions of these species and biological communities and their ecological relationships will be addressed and described in the affected environment section of the SWEIS. Mitigation options and the need for environmental monitoring, if required, will be addressed in the Mitigation Action Plan. A more detailed discussion of how impacts will be evaluated in the SWEIS is located in Section 4.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public Scoping Process (Page 22 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS	
Issue E-7: Impacts on Bandelier National Monument	
<p>The SWEIS should consider the impact of LANL operations on nearby Bandelier National Monument, specifically in terms of impacts on visual resources, biological resources, land use, and the impacts of aircraft overflight and tourism.</p>	
*Representative Comments:	
1.	"The SWEIS should cover in detail the relationship, as it pertains to environmental impacts, between LANL and Bandelier National Monument. Particular emphasis should be placed on present and future activities at Technical Areas 33 and 49, which are immediately adjacent to Bandelier National Monument, but aspects of land uses at LANL that may affect Bandelier National Monument should be analyzed."
2.	"As we've watched many years the activities up there and the results of them—I know a lot of stories. When I was younger, some friends of mine went up to Los Alamos with a Geiger counter, and I have videos of hot spots near the water tower and hot spots near the entrance to Bandelier National Monument."
Response:	
<p>The impacts and potential for impacts to Bandelier National Monument will be evaluated as part of the SWEIS. These will include analyses of visual resources, land uses, biological resources, and other resource types. Detailed discussions will be limited to effects, such as those related to air quality, that have a credible potential for significantly impacting environments at the Bandelier National Monument. Other effects that have limited potential for significantly impacting environments will be discussed only briefly. Mitigation options for adverse impacts that are determined in the SWEIS to be significant will be addressed in the Mitigation Action Plan. A more detailed discussion of how impacts will be evaluated in the SWEIS is located in Section 4.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>	

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 23 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS
<p>Issue E-8: Volcanic/Seismic Activity Impacts Assessment</p> <p>The SWEIS should evaluate the volcanic/seismic impacts on LANL's location and the potential risks associated with volcanic activity in the area.</p> <p>*Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "Recently there's been a front-page article about the caldera in this area being reactivated, or that only eighteen miles from here there's a hot spot. And the last two very short lines in this article states, despite the possibility that there may be relatively short warning time of a volcanic explosion in their backyard, Los Alamos Lab officials are apparently not overly concerned. Lab spokesperson, James Rickman said that 'Volcanic eruption ranks very low on our natural hazards list.' I would like to see it ranked higher on the natural hazards list."</li><li>2. "Due to the fact that LANL is on the Valle Caldera, this is not the best site to locate more plutonium and atomic bomb research and development facilities."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>The geologic framework provides the foundation on which LANL facilities are constructed and LANL operations are conducted. These facilities may be subject to geologic hazards such as earthquakes and vulcanism, and facilities in canyons may also be subject to rockfalls and landslides. The safety of the public, LANL employees, and the safe containment and control of hazardous substances and wastes is also subject to such hazards. Therefore, geologic hazards will be evaluated based on literature review of past data collection and studies and potential effects on LANL operations and the environment.</p> <p>Seismic (earthquakes) risks will be evaluated by examining existing literature and data for the following: fault-zone maps, fault offsets, historical and instrumental records of past earthquake magnitudes, intensities, probabilities for magnitudes of future earthquakes, potential for surface rupture, and recurrence intervals.</p> <p>Volcanic risks will be evaluated based on reviews of studies addressing locations and type of past vulcanism and anticipated locations, type, and timing of future vulcanism. Rockfall and landslide potentials for various geomorphologic settings common at LANL will be evaluated using geologic maps and available reports. A more detailed discussion of how impacts will be evaluated in the SWEIS is located in Section 4.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 24 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS
<p><b>Issue E.9: Transportation</b></p> <p>The impacts related to transportation of nuclear materials or nuclear waste in or through New Mexico should be included in the LANL SWEIS.</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "About the radioactive and chemically contaminated wastes: I am not a "NIMBY" — (not in my backyard). I believe we should immediately stop producing such wastes and store what we have produced already on site in above ground easily monitored facilities. Transporting such dangerous materials near my children's schools and through towns is so utterly absurd and stupid I can not believe it is still being discussed!"</li><li>2. "The Department should not make any decisions prior to preparation of the site-wide environmental impact statement that would involve transportation of radioactive or hazardous materials to or from LANL."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>The LANL SWEIS will discuss the impacts and risks associated with the transportation of radioactive and hazardous materials to and from the LANL site. This discussion will include shipments of materials/components from Pantex, and possible waste shipments to and from off-site locations. A more detailed discussion of how impacts will be evaluated in the SWEIS is located in Section 4.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 25 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS
<p><b>Issue E-10: Socioeconomic Impacts Assessment</b></p> <p>How will the socioeconomic impacts of LANL be assessed in the SWEIS?</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "Socioeconomic impacts of the Lab on surrounding areas is positive. LANL is the largest employer in Northern NM. Those who work at the Lab generally respect the cultural diversity of the region. Employment and economic benefits provided by the Lab actually help surrounding communities maintain their historic cultures."</li><li>2. "DOE should not eschew the use of economic multipliers in the SWEIS altogether. Providing information only on total expenditures is not the analysis of economic impacts that is required in the SWEIS. Rather we encourage the DOE to obtain respected economic expertise in order to properly perform this analysis. The SWEIS should analyze the likely effects on the northern New Mexico economy, including its tourism and land value components, of the transformation of LANL into a weapons manufacturing/re-manufacturing complex."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>The SWEIS will analyze the impacts of various operational alternatives to meet the missions assigned to or being considered for LANL. These analyses will not include a cost/benefit analysis, but will include socioeconomic impact analyses.</p> <p>The socioeconomic analysis will be based upon estimates of expenditures by LANL on salaries, contracts, et cetera, and will include demographic data, possible staffing changes (support, technical, professional), and to the degree possible, potential effects on local communities. These estimates will be reflected in the SWEIS text or appendices. A more detailed discussion of how impacts will be evaluated in the SWEIS is located in Section 4.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 28 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY E. IMPACTS
<p><b>Issue E-11. Environmental Justice</b></p> <p>How will the SWEIS identify and analyze environmental justice issues?</p> <p><b>*Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "LANL is built on land that originally belonged to the Pueblo. Therefore, the land includes many sites that are sacred to members of the Pueblo, and LANL's use and disposal of radioactive and other materials during the past 50 years has caused serious contamination of the Pueblo's air, soil, and water. The continued operation of LANL threatens the Pueblo with further contamination and with the destruction of more sites sacred to Pueblo members."</li><li>2. "LANL activities do not disproportionately affect the disadvantaged. We who live in Los Alamos would be most affected."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>The objective of Executive Order 12898 is to protect minority and low-income people from disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of federal programs, policies, and activities. The LANL SWEIS will identify the target populations addressed in the Executive Order using 1990 census information. The SWEIS will present an analysis of whether the impacts for each resource area at various levels of LANL operations disproportionately and adversely affect minority or low-income persons. A more detailed discussion of how impacts will be evaluated in the SWEIS is located in Section 4.D of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 27 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS
<p><b>Issue E-12: Costs Associated with Alternatives</b></p> <p>Will the SWEIS include the costs of the different alternatives and a cost/benefit analysis.</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "The SWEIS must assess the costs to give both DOE and the public a baseline from which to compare the other proposed alternatives. By costs, I mean health costs, environmental costs, cultural costs. These are the true costs of the arms race."</li><li>2. "I want costs of the various alternatives to be out in the open and on the table. The fiscal effects of LANL's projects and various mission alternatives must be considered."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>The SWEIS will analyze the impacts of various operational alternatives to meet the missions assigned to or being considered for LANL. These analyses will not include a cost/benefit analysis, but will include socioeconomic impact analyses.</p> <p>Increases or decreases in direct employment and changes in aggregated regional income levels resulting from the alternatives will be presented. Changes in secondary employment and regional business activity associated with various levels of LANL operations also will be discussed in the socioeconomic consequences section of the SWEIS. A more detailed discussion of how impacts will be evaluated in the SWEIS is located in Section 4.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 20 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY E: IMPACTS
<p>Issue_E_13: Land Use/Transfer</p> <p>Will land use or land use/transfer issues be analyzed in the SWEIS?</p> <p>Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "We support the removal of land transfer investigation from the SWEIS."</li><li>2. "Land use by the Lab is reasonable, considering its primary mission. Contaminated areas are relatively small, well-controlled and at considerable distance from public areas. There is no indication of significant migration of radioactive material. The Lab's radioactive and explosive activities warrant retaining control over most of its existing territory."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>The legal status and uses of land on and adjacent to the LANL site will be addressed in the SWEIS. Vegetation types, watershed areas, and other physical characteristics of the land also will be described. Areas contaminated by past or current LANL activities will be noted on appropriate maps and discussed. The impacts on land use of future LANL activities at various levels of operation will be discussed. Land use issues can be related to virtually every resource area (e.g., air, water, biological, and socioeconomic). Potential effects on these individual resource areas as a result of land uses will be addressed in the affected resource section of the SWEIS.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 29 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY F: WASTE	
<b>Issue F-1: Waste Generation</b>	
The SWEIS should evaluate how much waste different activities generate and identify waste minimization strategies.	
† <u>Representative Comments:</u>	
1.	"Estimated costs of waste disposal (including potential remediation) should be considered part of the lifetime costs of each program. As well, alternatives in the SWEIS should include waste minimization goals so that the problems associated with waste treatment or disposal are minimized."
2.	"Analyze long-term impacts from radioactive wastes produced by the proposed alternatives. Calculate how much waste (high-level waste, transuranic waste, low-level waste) the alternatives will produce, how much is to be stored, how long it will remain, and at what cost. What are baseline costs for cleanup of current radioactive waste, both in barrels and in soil, water, and air? Be realistic and include the possibility that waste will never leave LANL."
<b>Response:</b>	
Waste minimization goals are part of the LANL programs. Opportunities to reduce the volumes of wastes generated are identified and implemented on an ongoing priority basis. Since it is ongoing, it is assumed that volumes identified for purposes of the SWEIS may not include implementation of waste minimization activities. The SWEIS will include detailed discussions of waste generation, waste storage, and waste disposal issues. LANL's waste management strategies for the following waste categories will be discussed:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sanitary Waste</li><li>• Solid Low-Level Waste</li><li>• Mixed Waste</li><li>• Transuranic Waste</li><li>• Liquid Radioactive Waste</li><li>• Hazardous Waste</li><li>• High-Explosive Waste</li></ul>	
Waste generation is inevitable during day-to-day operations at LANL. Even in a complete shutdown condition, some operations will generate waste given the nature of operational safety measures necessary to ensure public and environmental safety and health.	
Although the SWEIS will analyze the impacts of various waste management alternatives being considered for LANL, these analyses will not include a cost/benefit analysis.	

† Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public Scoping Process (Page 30 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY F: WASTE
<p><b>Issue E-2: Waste Storage/Disposal</b></p> <p>How is the SWEIS evaluating waste storage and disposal issues?</p> <p><b>*Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "DOE's planning on bringing radioactivity and chemically contaminated waste from other sites to LANL, and this is not evaluated as part of the SWEIS? How can DOE plan to bring new waste to LANL when it has never completely assessed the impacts from past activities of the Lab, including evaluating the contents of these existing waste dumps? DOE has used more rigorous evaluation methods in recent years to assess new wastes, but historic waste is still a mystery."</li> <li>2. "The proposal to use LANL as a site for storage and processing of transuranic wastes, and storage, processing, and disposal of low-level wastes from other DOE facilities must be emphatically rejected until LANL is in full compliance with federal and state environmental laws and significant progress in environmental restoration is substantially demonstrated. For this proposal to be legitimately considered requires the completion of both the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS and EM PEIS."</li> </ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>Prudent management of LANL site operations includes the management of waste generated by those operations. Storage, treatment, and disposal options for the different categories of wastes generated at LANL will be discussed in detail in the SWEIS. These options will be evaluated for each SWEIS alternative. The focus of the analysis will be on management of LANL waste. However, the Waste Management PEIS is considering alternatives that reflect LANL as a regional waste site which would receive waste from off-site. The SWEIS will include analyses of LANL operations to implement these alternatives and will reflect the impacts of such operations on the collective impact analyses.</p> <p>Mixed waste will be included as a category of waste in each waste management strategy discussed in the SWEIS. Previous proposals to construct a Mixed Waste Disposal Facility have been suspended and the environmental assessment initiated on this subject has been canceled. It is possible that the waste management plan will discuss a disposal facility for mixed waste as a reasonable option, but DOE is not currently pursuing the construction and operation of such a site.</p> <p>The existence and location of historical waste sites will be reflected in the SWEIS Affected Environment description. The environmental impacts of such sites will be analyzed and included in the collective and cumulative impact analyses.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 31 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY F. WASTE
<p data-bbox="224 331 548 363"><b>Issue F-3: Waste Treatment</b></p> <p data-bbox="224 394 971 426">What waste treatment options are being considered in the SWEIS?</p> <p data-bbox="224 457 540 489"><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol data-bbox="224 520 1409 877" style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "I would add some discussion or addressing of waste treatment as it relates to economy of scale in the SWEIS. In other words, what is the most effective, efficient, cost effective way of treating waste. Investigate whether a series of small sites around the country are more efficient or whether there is two or three or four or maybe even only one that might be amenable to waste treatment."</li><li>2. "Why is the DOE wasting the public's time requesting input to waste treatment decisions when decision have been and continue to be made since the NOI for the SWEIS was published? The decision was made not to place the Controlled Air Incinerator (CAI) on standby but to moth-ball it before the NOI was published. Since the NOI was published, DOE is discussing with the New Mexico Environment Department full closure of the Controlled Air Incinerator. This would require removal and disposal of the incinerator; permanently eliminating the Controlled Air Incinerator as a treatment option for LANL legacy wastes."</li></ol> <p data-bbox="224 909 345 940"><b>Response:</b></p> <p data-bbox="224 972 1409 1213">The Waste Management PEIS was made available to the public on September 22, 1995. Multiple records of decision are expected beginning in August 1996. The Waste Management PEIS explores the health, cost, and other impacts of a number of centralized, regionalized, and decentralized waste management configurations. In certain configurations, LANL is a net importer of waste, but in most, it is an exporter. Subsection 1.3.3 of this Implementation Plan discusses some of the scenarios where LANL is an importer. It is important to note that DOE has already been constrained by the Federal Facility Compliance Act to make certain waste management decisions by October 1995. Other de-facto decisions were made as a result of funding shortfalls.</p> <p data-bbox="224 1245 1409 1602">For instance, an internal review of the Controlled Air Incinerator chartered by LANL recommended that DOE pursue other treatment alternatives that were expected to be more cost effective. Therefore, funding was discontinued for the Controlled Air Incinerator. In view of this funding reduction, DOE will not continue with project-specific analysis of the Controlled Air Incinerator in the SWEIS. DOE continues to view incineration as a potentially efficient and effective way to treat waste. As a result, the impacts of incineration as a waste treatment technology will be explored in the SWEIS. Depending on the impact being analyzed, DOE considers incineration representative or bounding of other treatment technologies. Should DOE decide to incinerate waste at LANL in the future (whether at the Controlled Air Incinerator or at another unit) project-specific NEPA documentation will be prepared. Because of other regulatory requirements, it may be necessary to assess alternatives for the Controlled Air Incinerator aside from treatment of waste at the Controlled Air Incinerator. However, such alternatives are still being developed by DOE, and are not expected to be ripe for analysis within the SWEIS.</p> <p data-bbox="224 1633 1409 1854">DOE continues to explore a number of other waste treatment alternatives, on-site, off-site, and within the commercial sector. However, DOE's primary effort for exploring mixed waste treatment alternatives resides with its Mixed Waste Focus Area. A report titled "Alternatives to Incineration Technical Area Status Report" (DE-950-15684), which is available from the National Technical Information Service, explores a number of treatment technologies, some of which may become valid incineration alternatives. Should one of these alternatives be appropriate for implementation at LANL, project-specific NEPA documentation will be prepared.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public Scoping Process (Page 32 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY G: ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION	
Issue G-1:	Environmental Restoration
<p>What environmental restoration activities will be included in the SWEIS and how will their impacts be evaluated?</p> <p>Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Continued hazardous waste output as well as failure to cleanup existing waste poses a grave threat to air, water, and the earth."</li> <li>2. "It is important for the SWEIS to consider, in general, the various possible environmental restoration program alternatives for LANL. This analysis, at a minimum, should consider the interrelation of program characteristics such as cost, time, and standards for cleanup."</li> </ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>The SWEIS will provide an overall description of the Environmental Restoration Project, including a general description of the processes, approaches, and alternatives considered in restoration activities. Specific actions pursued to date will be used to illustrate these descriptions. The SWEIS will also provide a description of the environmental impacts that are typical of restoration actions and will provide projections of waste types and volumes that will be generated by anticipated environmental restoration actions over the next five to ten years. These waste volumes will be addressed in the waste management strategies for each alternative.</p> <p>The SWEIS will incorporate full analyses of the impacts of anticipated environmental restoration actions that are sufficiently well-defined to permit such review. The analysis of impacts from less well-defined environmental restoration actions will necessarily be more generalized. DOE will prepare project-specific NEPA review for such actions after the SWEIS process, if necessary. That NEPA review will be tiered from the analysis in the SWEIS and will be integrated with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act process to the extent possible.</p>	

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Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 33 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY H: DOE MANAGEMENT	
<p data-bbox="224 331 503 363">Issue_H-1: Proliferation</p> <p data-bbox="224 394 974 426">Will the LANL SWEIS consider a proliferation impacts analysis?</p> <p data-bbox="224 457 560 489">*Representative Comments:</p> <ol data-bbox="224 520 1421 720" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="224 520 1421 657">1. "LANL has and will likely continue to make valuable contributions to non-proliferation efforts, specifically in materials accounting and verification technologies. To the extent that these types of programs produce little in the way of environmental impacts, the SWEIS should cast a favorable light on these activities."</li><li data-bbox="224 678 1421 720">2. "The SWEIS should include a proliferation impacts analysis of LANL's known future missions."</li></ol> <p data-bbox="224 751 349 783">Response:</p> <p data-bbox="224 814 1421 1003">The national security and nonproliferation policies of the United States are established by elected officials. These policies have resulted in mission assignments at LANL. The LANL SWEIS is not intended to analyze the impacts, political or other, of national policies and programs. The SWEIS will provide a comparative analysis of the environmental impacts of operational alternatives at LANL in support of missions assigned to or being considered for LANL. Therefore, the proliferation impacts of mission assignments are not in the purview of the LANL SWEIS.</p>	

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Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 34 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY H: DOE MANAGEMENT
<p>Issue H-2: Taxes/Budget</p> <p>Opposed to the use of tax dollars for nuclear weapons research and production.</p> <p>Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "Los Alamos should not be allowed to continue to build without first having permission from the taxpayers, which are us."</li><li>2. "The LANL SWEIS should consider deeply if LANL needs to spend billions of our tax dollars updating and upgrading nuclear weapons since the United States is deeply in the death grips of a national deficit accrued in the cold war by draining the life blood hard earned earnings into the military, creating a no win military economy and bolstering only the nuclear industry at the expense of every other aspect of civilian life."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>The allocation of tax dollars among national programs is the responsibility of elected United States government officials, not the DOE. The LANL SWEIS will not examine the allocation of tax dollars among national programs and policies.</p>

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Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 36 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY H: DOE MANAGEMENT	
Issue.H-3: DOE Management	
Why is further development and testing of nuclear weapons necessary?	
*Representative Comments:	
1	"I hope that the DOE may remain in effect as the federal agency overseeing these processes as these issues are far too important to be under the management of the Defense Department or the Pentagon, and I fear that if that is the case meaningful discussion and information exchange might become even harder to achieve."
2	"The job of DOE employees facilitating the SWEIS is not to make sure that the project gets through, which is probably what a lot of people have been told to do, but it's rather to make sure that the project is legal and safe."
Response:	
<p>These comments do not appear to have any bearing on the scope of the SWEIS. The national security policy, including the existence of a United States nuclear stockpile, is a matter of national policy that is not within the purview of the DOE. Similarly, the existence and mission of the DOE as well as the allocation of funds to DOE programs are set by national policy and are not within the purview of the LANL SWEIS. Access of individuals to classified areas and information is restricted by law and is also outside the purview of the LANL SWEIS.</p> <p>While the relationship between the United States government and the Native American Tribal Governments is also a national issue that does not appear to have any bearing on the scope of the SWEIS, this relationship can have a bearing on the process of developing the SWEIS. The DOE officials involved in this project have and will continue to relate to the Native American tribes in the LANL area as sovereign nations. The DOE encourages an active role in the SWEIS process by these tribes and will continue to work with tribal representatives to facilitate such a role.</p>	

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 36 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY I: DOE RELATIONSHIP TO THE PUBLIC
<p><b>Issue I-1: Release of Information</b></p> <p>What is DOE's policy on classification?</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "The Los Alamos Study Group finds it difficult to fully analyze projects and alternatives because information was removed from documents that were requested for classification purposes."</li><li>2. "The information that is available from the DOE seems to be very scarce. On other projects there are environmental assessments that you can look up, but for this particular project so far there doesn't seem to be that much information."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>The DOE is committed to providing information requested in conjunction with the SWEIS process to the extent practicable and allowed by law. Throughout prescoping and scoping, the DOE has acted on this commitment in good faith, without requiring that such requests be submitted through the Freedom of Information Act process. While DOE has generally provided requested information in a timely manner, some requests for extensive, detailed information are taking longer to assemble than originally anticipated. It is expected that information requested to-date will be addressed by December 1995. Substantial information regarding LANL and the SWEIS has already been placed in the Los Alamos Community Reading Room, including the annual <i>Environmental Surveillance Reports</i> published by LANL, information on permits and regulatory reviews, DOE and LANL Strategic Plans, project descriptions, and existing NEPA documents. The SWEIS will rely extensively on information already available to the public. Members of the public are encouraged to visit the Community Reading Room in Los Alamos and the DOE Reading Room in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and to review these documents.</p> <p>DOE will attempt to provide a completely unclassified SWEIS and appendices. However, it is possible that a classified appendix for the LANL SWEIS will be necessary. DOE will minimize the amount of data and analyses contained in such a document. If a classified appendix is necessary, DOE will pursue independent review of that document by appropriately cleared representatives from the EPA, the New Mexico Environment Department, and the Pueblo governments who possess the requisite clearance and a need to know.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 37 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY I: DOE RELATIONSHIP TO THE PUBLIC	
Issues I-2:	Credibility
Comments were critical of the DOE's lack of credibility.	
<u>Representative Comments:</u>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "Whole areas of policy-related information are considered off-limits to the public not because the information is classified, but because the Laboratory and DOE believe it would not serve their institutional interests to release it. This is dealing in bad faith."</li><li>2. We need to develop some format and means by which we have some give-and -take, from our perspective here at San Ildefonso we are willing to work with you, but you need to work with us also.</li></ol>	
<u>Response:</u>	
The DOE recognizes that these concerns exist and that they could have adverse effects on the SWEIS preparation process. The DOE has taken several specific steps to address such concerns, including hiring an independent contractor for preparation of the SWEIS (including validation of data), making requested information available to the public to the extent allowed by law, conducting a prescoping effort to provide early communication on the SWEIS, holding workshops on issues of concern to the public, making the SWEIS Project and Document Managers available to the public and community representatives; and making DOE and LANL technical experts available to the public to discuss issues and concerns. The LANL SWEIS Project Team will continue work to increase public participation in the SWEIS process and to build a more positive and trusting relationship between the DOE and the public.	

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Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 38 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY J: DOE RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ENTITIES
<p>Issue J-1: Relationship with Other Entities</p> <p>Los Alamos County and the Native American Pueblos requested special status from the DOE for the LANL SWEIS process.</p> <p>Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "Draft legislation that we have seen refers to a special cooperating agency status for Los Alamos County. I will support a request for this special role for our local government."</li><li>2. "The SWEIS must assess the costs to give both DOE and the public a baseline from which to compare the other proposed alternatives. By costs, I mean health costs, environmental costs, cultural costs. These are the true costs of the arms race."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>The DOE recognizes that local, state, federal, and tribal government officials have inherent responsibilities to their constituencies, particularly regarding the health and general welfare of those they represent. For these reasons, and in compliance with NEPA and its implementing requirements, the SWEIS project has made a special effort to obtain input from such officials. Special meetings with such officials will continue to be offered throughout the SWEIS process.</p> <p>DOE has a policy of relating to tribal governments on a government-to-government basis. DOE's work on the SWEIS has attempted to adhere to that policy, and DOE intends to continue to relate to the tribal governments in this manner throughout all aspects of the SWEIS. The Pueblos of Cochiti, Jemez, Santa Clara, and San Ildefonso have entered into Accords with the DOE that emphasize the intent for the DOE and the pueblos to work closely together regarding cultural resource and environmental impact issues. Consistent with the Accords, DOE will continue to work closely with the tribal governments in the development of the SWEIS.</p> <p>Los Alamos County formally requested Cooperating Agency Status for the LANL SWEIS during the scoping period. This request initiated discussions on the specific nature of the County's proposed efforts on the SWEIS. It is possible that these discussions will culminate in the designation of the Los Alamos County as a Cooperating Agency, with details regarding the County's participation documented in a Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the DOE.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process (Page 39 of 41).

ISSUE CATEGORY K: RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER NEPA DOCUMENTS
<p><b>Issue_K_1: Hold the SWEIS Until the Completion of Other NEPA Documents</b></p> <p>Programmatic reviews should be completed prior to any site-wide analysis, and the LANL SWEIS should be put on hold until completion of the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS.</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "CCNS believes that the SWEIS process should still go forward. Our view is that the subordination of decisions made in the SWEIS to the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS Record of Decision needs to be formally expressed. CCNS urges DOE to complete the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS in a timely fashion. Preparation of the LANL SWEIS without this formal tie-in is an empty exercise."</li><li>2. "The SWEIS should not even begin until after the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Programmatic environmental impact statement is done, because that would analyze what the needs of the stewardship program are. It really doesn't seem to make much sense to put the cart before the horse."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>The current LANL SWEIS schedule indicates that the Implementation Plan, Draft SWEIS, Final SWEIS, and Record of Decision will all follow the corresponding documents for the Waste Management, Stockpile Stewardship and Management, and Tritium Supply PEISs. Preparation of the SWEIS is being coordinated with the preparation of ongoing PEISs. For more information on the relationship of the SWEIS to other NEPA reviews, refer to Section 1.0 of this Implementation Plan.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 40 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY L: OTHER
<p><b>Issue L<sub>1</sub>: Outside the Scope of the SWEIS</b></p> <p>A number of commentors requested information on programs or activities outside the scope of the SWEIS</p> <p><b>Representative Comments:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "I think a new definition of national security should be clear air, clean water, food for our children, proper schools for not only your children, but our adults for the future, to reeducate us in ways that will benefit us and the planet."</li><li>2. "I'd like to see citizens that live near these things like the particle accelerator given the time slots of operation so that they know when these things are turned on, and can decide for themselves if they want to be in the area when the accelerator is operating."</li></ol> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>These comments are outside the scope of the SWEIS and therefore will not be addressed in the document. These commentors did request information and some of those comments are being forwarded to the DOE Public Affairs Office.</p>

\* Comments are representative of the range of comments received in this issue category.

Table E-1. Issues Identified through the Public  
Scoping Process [Page 41 of 41].

ISSUE CATEGORY L: OTHER
<p>Issue L-2: No Response Required</p> <p>Several commentors made statements that were outside the scope of the SWEIS or required no response.</p> <p>Representative Comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. "We are blessed with a healthy baby, born in Los Alamos hospital, no less, we realize the value of life."</li><li>2. "Save New Mexico."</li></ol> <p>Response:</p> <p>No response required.</p>

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