



University of California
 Environmental Restoration Project, MS M992
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
 505-667-0808/FAX 505-665-4747

General



U. S. Department of Energy
 Los Alamos Area Office, MS A316
 Environmental Restoration Program
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
 505-667-7203/FAX 505-665-4504

*Steve JK
 please
 refer to
 for my signature
 [Signature]*

'96
 REP - LANL



Date: October 17, 1996
 Refer to: EM/ER:96-550

Mr. Benito Garcia
 NMED-HRMB
 P.O. Box 26110
 Santa Fe, NM 87502

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF RFI REPORT DELIVERY DATES FOR FY97

Dear Mr. Garcia:

In response to recent conversations with you and your staff, the Los Alamos National Laboratory Environmental Restoration Project would like to request a blanket extension for all Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) facility investigation (RFI) reports due in the first half of Fiscal Year (FY) 1997. We are requesting this extension in order to accommodate recent suggestions by your staff to incorporate ecological risk assessment and all applicable regulations into all of our future RFI reports. Consistent with our proposed streamlining efforts, these RFI reports would recommend only no further action (NFA) decisions.

The ecological risk assessment (eco-risk) process is the primary driver for requesting this extension request. As you and your staff are aware, our eco-risk assessment methodology has received support from your staff and the Environmental Protection Agency. It will take an estimated six months to implement an initial assessment. Further data gaps and needs will be assessed at that point and will take an estimated six to nine months to address remaining ecological concerns. We feel that many of the RFI reports already submitted, as well as those that are currently being written to address human health concerns, can incorporate eco-risk in about the March to May 1997 timeframe.

Other applicable regulations that will be incorporated into these RFI reports include, but may not be limited to, surface water, ground water, and air quality issues, as well as radiological concerns. We understand your staff is working with the other bureaus to coordinate reviews of our documents with the goal of receiving ultimate approval of all NFA decisions.

The current FY97 baseline replan summary will be delivered to your office on or before October 23, 1996. We will be requesting review of this replan by your staff with the acknowledgment that it currently shows RFI reports to be submitted within the next



2

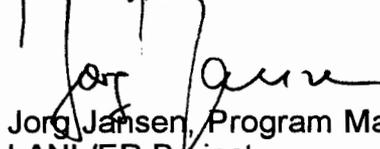
October 17, 1996

six months. In order to submit the replan for Department of Energy review and validation, we did not have time to incorporate the recent streamlining changes, eco-risk, and other regulations and we request your staff to disregard these dates, assuming you approve this extension request. Any reports your staff identifies as high priority for review purposes will be submitted as requested. The current replan will be changed in the near future based on these agreements and your approval of this extension request. The anticipated submittal dates for RFI reports for FY97 will be included in this change so that your staff will have dates on which to expect these documents. You and your staff will be notified of these changes.

We believe this approach will help your staff, as well as ours, to make final NFA decisions in a much more streamlined fashion, while incorporating all necessary requirements to ensure the NFA decision is correct.

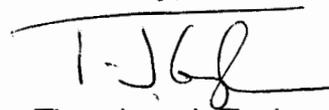
Please consider this request at your earliest convenience and call Tracy Glatzmaier at (505) 665-2613 or Ted Taylor at (505) 665-7203 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jorg Jansen, Program Manager
LANL/ER Project

Sincerely,



Theodore J. Taylor, Program Manager
DOE/LAAO

JJ/TT/bp

Cy: G. Allen, CST-18, MS E525
T. Baca, EM, MS J591
R. Ferenbaugh, EES-15, MS J495
M. Gilgosch, LAAO, MS A316
T. Glatzmaier, DDEES/ER, MS M992
G. Gould, ESA-EPE, MS G787
D. Griswold, AL-ERD, MS A906
J. Harry, EES-5, MS M992
B. Koch, LAAO, MS A316
D. Krier, EES-1, MS D462
M. Leavitt, NMED-GWQB
J. Levings, AL-ERD, MS A906
D. McInroy, EM/ER, MS M992
R. Michelotti, CST-18, MS E525
J. Mose, LAAO, MS A316
N. Naraine, DOE-HQ, EM-453
D. Neleigh, EPA, R.6, 6PD-N
J. Piatt, NMED-SWQB
A. Pratt, EES-13, MS J521
M. Salazar, EM/ER, MS M769
B. Simeone, LAAO, MS A316
L. Soholt, EM/ER, MS M992
W. Spurgeon, DOE-HQ, EM-453

T. Taylor, LAAO, MS A316
E. Trollinger, LAAO, MS A316
J. Vozella, LAAO, MS A316
N. Weber, NMED-AIP, MS J993
J. White, ESH-19, MS K498
S. Yanicak, NMED-AIP, MS J993
K. Zamora, LAAO, MS A316
EM/ER File, MS M992
RPF, MS M707