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LANL (CO) 87502
TO: LANL, FROM: NMED, P. 12943
423-97

January 23, 1997

Mr. Theodore J. Taylor, Program Manager
DOE/LAAO, MS A316
Environmental Restoration Program
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

Mr. Jorg Jansen, Program Manager
LANL/ER Project, MS M992
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

RE: LIST OF COPECS

Dear Messrs. Taylor and Jansen:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) proposed list of contaminants of potential ecological concern (COPECS), dated October 23, 1996. Discussion at a October 23 meeting concluded that the core list (1) is a starting point for the purpose of obtaining toxicity data, (2) can be further refined as the eco-risk process continues (3) is primarily for terrestrial systems and that water quality standards as well as toxicity data will be considered when assessing impacts to aquatic systems, and (4) may be modified as receptor and/or site specific information is developed. The Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB) has compiled comments from all reviewers within the NMED. The comments are as follows:

SOILS

1. Gross alpha, beta, and gamma must be added as indicators of possible radioactive daughter products.
2. Other parent and breakdown products of TCE and EDC, such as 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethylene (PCE), 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane, 1,1,1 trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, trans-1,2-dichloroethylene, cis-1,2-dichloroethylene, 1,1-dichloroethylene, 1,1-dichloroethane, and vinyl chloride should be considered.

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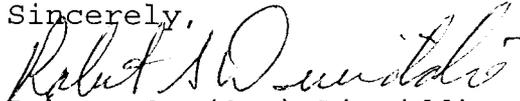
Messers. Taylor and Jansen
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WATER

As more water data are generated, a list of COPECs for aquatics alone should be developed with input from stakeholders in other agencies, tribal governments, etc. The list should include the following whenever appropriate: water quality standards, toxicity data, acute and chronic fishery standards, livestock watering and wildlife habitat standards, both dissolved and suspended fractions in surface water, nitrates, phosphorous, and all appropriate radionuclides.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Ms. Susan Hoines of my staff at 505/827-1558.

Sincerely,



Robert S. (Stu) Dinwiddie,
RCRA Permits Management Program Manager
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

cc: Ed Kelley, Ph.D, Director, WWMD, NMED
Benito J. Garcia, Chief, HRMB, WWMD
David Neleigh, Chief, US EPA Region 6
Stu Dinwiddie, Manager, RCRA Permits Management Program
John Parker, Chief, NMED DOE OB
Barbara Hoditschek, SWQB
John Rogers, GWQB
Jeff Yurk, US EPA Region 6
Roger Ferenbaugh, Ph.D., EES-15, LANL, MS J495
Susan Hoines, RCRA Permits Management Program
File HSWA LANL G/M/S

ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT ROUTING SLIP

Letter To: Theodore Taylor, DOE/LAAO; Jorg Jansen, LANL/ER

For: Benito Garcia's _____ SIGNATURE

Drafted By: Susan Hoines _____ Date: 12-30-96 _____

Subject: list of contaminants of potential ecological concern (COPECs)

Final Decision Needed By: - _____ Reason _____

Contact For Information: Susan Hoines _____

REVIEW:

		Initial	Date Received	Date Approved
<u>Stu Dinwiddie</u>	PROGRAM MANAGER	<u>SD</u>	<u>1/23/97</u>	<u>1/23/97</u> <i>Kieling</i>
<u>Benito Garcia</u>	BUREAU CHIEF	<u>BG</u>	<u>1/23/97</u>	<u>1/23/97</u>
<u>Teri Davis</u>	DOE SUPERVISOR	<u>TD</u>	<u>1/22/97</u> <u>1/31/97</u>	<u>1/23/97</u> <i>w/ corrections</i>
_____	GRANTS	_____	_____	_____
_____	ACCOUNTING	_____	_____	_____
_____	BUDGETS	_____	_____	_____
_____	LEGAL REVIEW	_____	_____	_____
_____	ASD DIRECTOR	_____	_____	_____
_____	WWM DIRECTOR	_____	_____	_____
_____	EPD DIRECTOR	_____	_____	_____
_____	DEPUTY SECRETARY	_____	_____	_____
_____	SECRETARY	_____	_____	_____
_____	DIR. OF COMM.	_____	_____	_____
<u>John Kieling</u>	OTHER	<u>JK</u>	<u>12/30/97</u>	<u>12/31/97</u>
_____	ADM. SEC.	_____	_____	_____

COMMENTS BY DRAFTER OR REVIEWER(S):

Copy of DOE Oversight Bureau's comments and GWOB comments on the list of COPECs attached, FYI