

Los Alamos

NATIONAL LABORATORY

Hazardous & Solid Waste Group (ESH-19)
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ESH-19:97-0258

September 23, 1997

Mr. Steve Pierce
Program Manager,
Surface Water Quality Bureau/Standards and Surveillance
New Mexico Environment Department
1190 St. Francis Drive
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Mr. Pierce

**SUBJECT: TRAINING FOR LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY PERSONNEL
BY NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT SWQB/S&S PERSONNEL**

I want to thank you for giving Scott Hopkins and Julie Tsatsaros permission to come to the Los Alamos National Laboratory on Friday, September 19, 1997, to demonstrate an ultra-clean handling technique that can be used to collect surface water samples that are intended to be analyzed for very low levels (low part-per-trillion-range) of mercury. Scott and Julie demonstrated their expertise in not only field techniques but also in aspects of toxicology and chemistry related to mercury in the environment.

As you know, there is a growing awareness of the hazards afforded by environmental mercury. LANL is cognizant of the State's desire to minimize the releases of mercury to the environment, and is committed to undertake those surveillance programs that can best indicate releases of mercury from the laboratory. By learning from discussions such as we had today with NMED surface water experts, it should be possible to implement the best strategy to sample for environmental mercury.

Thank you again for you and your staff's assistance.

Sincerely,

Ron Conrad

Ron Conrad
Hazardous & Solid Waste

RC:em

Cy: Ed Kelly, Acting Bureau Chief, NMED, P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM 87502
Julie Tsatsaros, NMED, P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM 87502
Scott Hopkins, NMED, P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM 87502
CIC-10, MS A150
ESH-19 Circ File

Ed Kelly *Julie*
To be filed

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