



State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
DOE OVERSIGHT BUREAU
 P.O. Box 1663, MS/J-993
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545



LAN General

GARY JOHNSON
 GOVERNOR

MARK E. WEIDLER
 SECRETARY

7 November 1997

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DOE OVERSIGHT BUREAU

Walter Dasheno, Governor
 Santa Clara Pueblo
 P.O. Box 580
 Española, NM 87532
 Santa Clara Pueblo, 87532

SUBJECT: Request for New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) access to Santa Clara Canyon (Santa Clara Pueblo) for the collection of environmental samples

Governor Dasheno:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Department of Energy Oversight Bureau (DOE OB) is requesting your approval for access to Santa Clara Canyon in order to conduct environmental sampling. This request is a more detailed follow-up to our letter of 9-15-97. Through continuous correspondence with Santa Clara Pueblo Office of Environmental Affairs representatives Regis L. Chavarria and Joseph Chavarria, it was decided that Thursday, November 13, 1997 would be the best time for both of our agencies to collect samples. On September 4, 1997, after a surveillance tour of Santa Clara Canyon, we discussed preliminary plans with Regis and Joseph to collect samples and measure field parameters of surface water and ground water at several locations. The selected locations are as follows.

Four (4) surface water samples collected at:

- 1) Santa Clara Creek, just east of the Turkey Canyon confluence
- 2) Santa Clara Creek, between ponds #2 and #3
- 3) Santa Clara Creek at Puye Well
- 4) Santa Clara Creek at the Rio Grande

Analyses for all above: Field parameters (pH, temperature, specific conductance), dissolved metals, total Hg, Total recoverable Se, Major cations/anions, non-metal inorganics (State of New Mexico Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Streams), and dissolved gross alpha/beta.

Three (3) ground-water samples collected at:

- 1) Colonel Spring, just west of pond #4
- 2) Ranger Station Well (alluvial)
- 3) Puye Well (alluvial)

Analyses for all above: Field parameters (pH, temperature, specific conductance), dissolved metals, Major cations/anions, non-metal inorganics, total Hg, Total recoverable Se (New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission Regulations, Subpart III, Standards for Ground Water), and dissolved gross alpha/beta.



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As previously agreed to, any data collected by the New Mexico Environment Department would be made immediately available to the Santa Clara Pueblo Office of Environmental Affairs. In addition, it was also specified that Santa Clara Pueblo would reserve the right to initially review the data for comment before our bureau would make it available to any state or federal agencies. These sample data and measurements will be extremely useful to the Pueblo as part of their ground-water monitoring program in addition to the State of New Mexico for assessing the existence of anthropogenic constituents and/or background values for the quality of ground waters and surface waters of the Pajarito Plateau and regional canyons system.

Thank you for your consideration, and please contact me (672-0448) or Michael Dale (672-0449) of our staff at your earliest convenience regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Steve Yanicak, LANL POC
Department of Energy Oversight Bureau

SY:smy

cc: Mat Johansen, DOE LAAO, AIP POC, MS A316
John Parker, Chief, DOE OB
Jeanne-Marie Crockett, DOE OB