



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



GARY JOHNSON  
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April 28, 1999

**ENTERED**  
 7/30/99

Joe Vozella, LAAO  
 AIP Point of Contact  
 U.S. Department of Energy  
 Los Alamos Area Office  
 528 35th Street, MS A316  
 Los Alamos, NM 87544

RE: Replacement of test well TW-1A with POI-4 for monitoring purposes during the 1999 sampling season

Dear Mr. Vozella:

In recent years, samples collected at TW-1A by ESH-18 and the Oversight Bureau during yearly surveillance activities have notably been of poor quality. The high iron content noted by the orange-colored ting of the water and the lack of adequate purge volumes is probably due to the poor condition of the well, not the sampling procedures. Furthermore, these conditions will probably continue to influence the ability to acquire representative ground-water samples from this zone. This year, we recommend that LANL's ESH-18 group collect their sample from Environmental Restoration's characterization/monitoring well POI-4. Apparently POI-4 is completed and screened within the same saturated unit as TW-1A. Moreover, LANL may want to evaluate the possibility of removing the casing from TW-1A; followed by the re-conditioning of the borehole and completing with new well casing, well intake or screen, filter pack, annular seal, etc. (e.g., RCRA constructed well). In terms of ground-water flow (direction, gradient, etc.) and contaminant transport, we feel that both wells are beneficial to any ongoing characterization/monitoring, and attempts should be made to keep TW-1A as a monitoring point.

Please contact Michael Dale at 505-672-0449 or Chris Hanlon-Meyer at 505-827-1536 if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Steve Yanicak, LANL POC  
 Department of Energy Oversight Bureau

**R E C E I V E D**

APR 29 1999

DOE OVERSIGHT BUREAU

SY:mrd

- cc: [Redacted], NMED, Chief, DOE OB  
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LANL General & Public Camp, Groundwater