

Los Alamos National Laboratory

Hazardous and Solid Waste Group (ESH-19)

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Date: April 26, 2000

Refer to: ESH-19:00-038

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. John E. Kieling, Program Manager
RCRA Permits Management Program
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044-A Galisteo Street
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

2000
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Dear Mr. Kieling:

Subject: Request for an Extension for the Debris Leaching Treatability Study.

The purpose of this letter is to request a 6-month extension for the Debris Leaching Treatability Study. This treatability study was described in a July 19, 1999 letter to NMED. It was entitled Performing Debris Leaching Studies at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Title 20 of the New Mexico Administrative Code, Chapter 4, Part 1 (20 NMAC 4.1) Subpart II §261.4 (f)(5), specifies time frames for treatability studies. It states that laboratories or testing facilities must conclude each study no more than 90 days from the date the treatability study was completed for the sample, or no more than one year from the date the samples were shipped to the laboratory or testing facility (which ever date occurs first). It is our concern that the schedule for this treatability study may exceed this requirement.

Due to DOE funding reductions and delays, the testing and analysis schedule has been slowed and the study scope has been reduced. There is considerable analytical support necessary for such a study and funding delays may cause this study to take longer than the time allowed under the regulations.

An extension to January 19, 2001, if granted, will provide sufficient time to gather enough data to see complete and conclusive results for this treatability study. No more sample drums will be received for this study. This extension request is to complete only the current samples in case the testing and analysis takes longer than the anticipated July 19, 2000 date of completion.

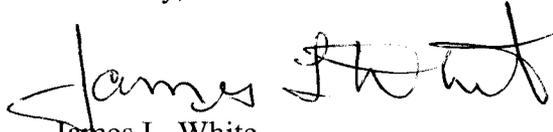


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If you should have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Jack Ellvinger at 667-0633.

Sincerely,


James L. White
Group Leader

JW/CN/vh

Cc: James P. Bearzi, Chief
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044-A Galisteo Street
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Robert S. (Stu) Dinwiddie, RCRA Advisor
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