

J. Bearzi / Files



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August 8, 2002

Elizabeth Withers
NEPA Compliance Officer
Office of Los Alamos Site Operations
528 35th Street
Los Alamos, N.M. 87544

FAX: (505) 667-9998

Dear Ms. Withers:

RE: PREDECISIONAL DRAFT SITE-WIDE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR CONTINUED OPERATION OF LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY; MODIFICATION OF MANAGEMENT METHODS FOR TRANSURANIC WASTE CHARACTERIZATION AT LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY, LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO; JULY 23, 2002

This transmits New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) staff comments concerning the above-referenced Predecisional Draft Environmental Assessment (PDEA).

Based on the review by the Department's Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB), Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) must include the proposed actions in their Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Operating Permit Application prior to implementation. The LANL RCRA permit application is currently being reviewed by the HWB. The proposed actions cannot be implemented until the final RCRA Operating Permit is issued. If LANL intends to implement the proposed actions prior to the issuance of the final RCRA Operating Permit, then the actions must be approved by the HWB under interim status in accordance with 20.4.1.600 NMAC incorporating 40 CFR 265.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this document.

Sincerely,

Gedi Cibas, Ph.D.
Environmental Impact Review Coordinator
NMED File No. 1621ER



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