



BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR

General
State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Water & Waste Management Division
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

Telephone (505) 827-2855
Fax (505) 827-2836

www.nmenv.state.nm.us



RON CURRY
SECRETARY

DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE
DEPUTY SECRETARY

CHARLES LUNDSTROM
DIVISION DIRECTOR
WATER & WASTE MANAGEMENT

February 26, 2004

Los Alamos National Laboratory
ATTN: RRES – Remediation Services
RBES Document Comments
Mail Stop: M992, P.O. Box 1663
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

**RE: PROPOSED RISK-BASED END-STATE VISION FOR COMPLETION OF THE
EM CLEANUP MISSION AT LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY NM0890010515**

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted a preliminary review of “The Proposed Risk-Based End-State Vision for Completion of the EM Cleanup Mission at Los Alamos National Laboratory” dated November 3, 2003 (referenced by LA-UR-03-8254). This document describes the Department of Energy’s “proposed site-wide goal for environmental remediation” at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). NMED does not support the approach outlined in the RBES document for the reason that it circumvents the regulatory decision-making process, including public participation, mandated by the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act (HWA), the Hazardous Waste Management Regulations that incorporate the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

LANL must comply with the requirements for site characterization, remediation and monitoring included in the Order issued under Section 10 and 13 of the HWA on November 26, 2002, and specifically, follow the requirements included in Section VIII, Cleanup and Screening Levels, of the Order.

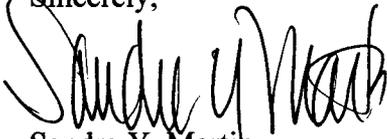


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RBES Comments
February 26, 2003
Page 2

Should you have any questions regarding the comments within this letter please contact me at (505) 428-2512.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra Y. Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with some loops and flourishes.

Sandra Y. Martin
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

SYM;jk(HWB)

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB

File: LANL 04