



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Santa Fe National Forest



ENTERED

105313

Espanola Ranger District  
P.O. Box 3307, Fairview Station  
1710 N. Riverside Dr.  
Espanola, New Mexico 87533  
505-753-7331 FAX 505-753-9411

File Code: 2700

Date: January 15, 2009

Mr. Mark Everett  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
PO Box 1663 Mailstop 992  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

Dear Mr. Everett,

Last year you proposed to drill a monitoring well in Rendija Canyon in order to monitor ground water in the vicinity. I understand that this well is important for you to drill because of regulatory requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency and New Mexico Environment Department. Because of circumstances I'll explain below, I am rejecting this proposal.

As you are aware, the location you have identified for this well would be on National Forest system land that will be transferred to the County of Los Alamos as part of the San Ildefonso Settlement Act (Public Law 109-286). Section 10 of the Act specifically prohibits the Forest Service from encumbering these lands, unless necessary or desirable to protect lives or property. Because I have received no indication that the well is immediately necessary or desirable to protect lives or property, regulation requires that I return your proposal because it has not met our initial screening criteria, specifically, because your proposal is inconsistent with Public Law 109-286.

If you would like further information, please feel free to contact Annie Apodaca, Española Ranger District Recreation and Lands Program Manager, at (505)753-7331.

Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

  
SANFORD HURLOCKER  
District Ranger



31741

