

LANL Off Site



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GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
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RON CURRY
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December 1, 2003

John Gonzales, Governor
San Ildefonso Pueblo
Rt. 5 Box 315A
Santa Fe, NM 87501

SUBJECT: Request to Collect Environmental Samples in December 2003

Governor Gonzales:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Department of Energy Oversight Bureau (DOE OB) is requesting approval to collect and analyze water samples on San Ildefonso Pueblo property for metals, non-metals and radionuclides as part of our routine environmental surveillance program for Federal FY04. Since we have collected samples at San Ildefonso Pueblo in the recent past, the locations we recommend are Sacred Spring, La Mesita Spring, Spring 1, Spring 2, Sandia Spring and Los Alamos Spring.

If granted permission, NMED requests that our workers collect these samples by December 31, 2003.

The NMED Oversight Bureau has been monitoring surface- and ground waters in the vicinity of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) for the past seven years. Local water data, including such collected on Four-Accord Pueblo property that surrounds LANL, is key to understanding the complete hydrogeologic picture concerning any impacts that facility may have to tribal water resources. Our effort to work and team with the Four-Accord Pueblo environmental offices (specifically San Ildefonso Pueblo), on air and water issues is also mandated by both the State of New Mexico and the DOE.

All sampling and data collection by NMED will follow procedures agreed to in the current



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Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NMED and the Pueblo of San Ildefonso. Also, as per this MOU, any data we collect will be made available as soon as possible to the San Ildefonso Pueblo Department of Environmental and Cultural Preservation (DECP), and the subsequent submittal of such data to any state, federal, public or private agency would only be made under the strict discretion of the Pueblo.

It is always a pleasure to work with San Ildefonso Pueblo, and we extend our thanks to your environmental staff for their continued assistance. If there any questions regarding any aspects of this request, please have your technical representative contact Michael Dale (672-0449) or me (672-0448) at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Steve Yanicak, Program Manager
White Rock DOE OB Office

SY:sy

cc: Courte Voorhees, NMED, Bureau Chief, DOE OB
Tim Michael, NMED, PM
Neil Weber, San Ildefonso Pueblo, DECP, Environmental Program Manager
Steve Rydeen, San Ildefonso Pueblo, DECP
Michael Chacon, San Ildefonso Pueblo, DECP