

LANL *offsite*



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GOVERNOR

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1 December 2003

Governor D. Gutierrez
Santa Clara Pueblo
P.O. Box 580
Española, NM 87532

SUBJECT: Request to Collect Environmental Samples in December 2003

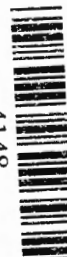
Governor Gutierrez:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Department of Energy Oversight Bureau (DOE OB) is requesting approval to collect and analyze water samples on Santa Clara 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 Santa Clara Pueblo in the recent past, the locations we recommend are SCC-1, SCC-2, SCC-3 and SCC-4 (surface-water stations) and Colonel Spring and DEPOGW-4 (ground-water stations).

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 Santa Clara Pueblo), on air and water issues is also mandated by both the State of New Mexico and the DOE.

It is important to emphasize that all data collected by the NMED on Pueblo property are submitted to Santa Clara Pueblo's Office of Environmental Affairs for their review. As we have respectfully worked with Santa Clara Pueblo many times in the past, NMED acknowledges that



Santa Clara Pueblo reserves the right to review, comment and/or approve the release of any data prior to NMED making it available to any state, federal agency or outside party.

It is always a pleasure to work with Santa Clara 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
Natural Sciences Manager-2

SY:smy

cc: Courte Voorhees, NMED, Chief, DOE OB
Tim Michael, NMED, DOE OB, NSM-2
Joseph Chavarria, Santa Clara Pueblo, DEPO