



Permit

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VI

ALLIED BANK TOWER AT FOUNTAIN PLACE

1445 ROSS AVENUE

DALLAS, TEXAS 75202

MAY 11 1987

RECEIVED
MAY 14 1987
HAZARDOUS WASTE SECTION

Harold Valencia, Area Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

RE: Visual Site Inspection
U.S. DOE Los Alamos National Laboratory
NM0890010515

Dear Mr. Valencia:

The RCRA Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 under Section 3004(u) require a RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA) for your facility as part of the permitting process. The objective of this evaluation is to determine whether there have been, or are likely to be, releases of hazardous wastes or hazardous constituents at the facility which will require further investigation. This analysis will provide information to establish priorities for a subsequent RCRA Facility Investigation, if needed.

An integral part of the RFA is a visual site inspection to verify, and determine the location of all "Solid Waste Management Units" (SWMUs). SWMUs are defined as "any discernable solid waste unit at a RCRA facility from which hazardous wastes or constituents might migrate, irrespective of whether the unit was intended for the management of solid and/or hazardous waste" (USEPA, 1986). The SWMUs definition includes container storage units; tanks; surface impoundments; waste piles; land treatment units; landfills; incinerators underground injection wells; physical, chemical and biological treatment units; recycling units; and areas contaminated by routine, systematic, and deliberate discharges from process areas.

We will visit your facility for the purpose of inspecting these SWMUs. This inspection is to enable EPA to attain a technical understanding of current and historical waste flows. Photographs of each SWMU are to be taken to document conditions at the facility and the waste management procedures. No samples will be taken during this inspection.

EPA may require the assistance of some of your personnel in reviewing solid waste flows, associated units, past and present disposal practices,



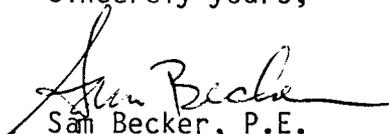
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construction details of units, and any other solid waste management information.

Attached are the RFA agenda and Information Needs Request which EPA will consider during the site inspection to clarify and supplement previously submitted information. Additional issues may be reviewed at the time of the site inspection. Other information applicable to this RFA is the draft CEARP report and an environmental survey of Los Alamos National Laboratory recently performed by Mary Walker's Office. I would appreciate you providing EPA staff with these two documents at the time of the inspection in order to assist us in completing the review of your facility.

The date of the inspection will be May 18-22, 1987. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Greg Uetrecht at (214) 655-6790.

Sincerely yours,



Sam Becker, P.E.

Chief

Hazardous Waste Compliance Branch

cc: Jack Ellvinger
New Mexico Health and
Environment Department

Tom Gunderson, Group Leader
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Ken Rea
Los Alamos National Laboratory