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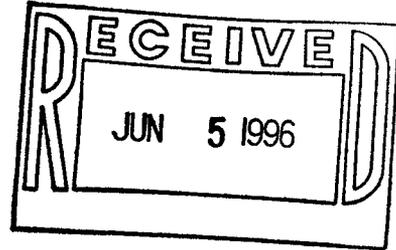
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June 1, 1996

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Barbara Hoditschek, RCRA Permits Program Manager
NMED Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
2044-A Galisteo
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87502



Subject: Closure Plan for the LANL Controlled Air Incinerator.

Dear Ms. Hoditschek:

As a consultant in 1994, I performed risk assessment studies of the Controlled Air Incinerator (CAI), in preparation for re-start after extensive improvement retrofits. This is a safe facility with minuscule risk to the region, while offering benefits of volume reduction and chemical conversion of hazardous wastes now in storage at LANL. Opponents waged incessant misrepresentation of environmental impact and benefits of operation. It is very unfortunate that DOE and LANL officials lowered the priority of the CAI to the point that LANL now proposes to permanently close and dismantle this useful facility, wasting the money already invested.

If the CAI is beyond any possible resurrection, the Amended Closure Plan should be approved without delay. I urge you to resist any efforts by anti-nuclear activists to drag the issue along for their own publicity purposes. Because of the apparent irreversible budgetary decision, I see no useful purpose to be served by a public hearing. There may be some in this community that will seek a hearing simply to obtain a pulpit for further frightening the public about Los Alamos activities and about incinerators in general. Such a pulpit should not be provided.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these brief comments.

Sincerely,

Stanley E. Logan, Ph.D., P.E.
President


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