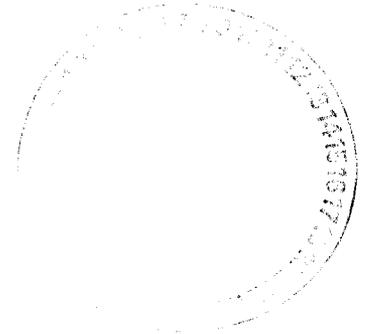


*Summit*

September 2, 2004

James Bearzi  
Hazardous Waste Bureau Chief  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East  
Building 1  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303



Dear James Bearzi,

I read today's New Mexican article "State, LANL reach cleanup deal" with concern over its implied comprehensiveness. The word cleanup requires a strict definition.

It would be very unwise to require removal of old debris from waste pits dating back to 1943. The waste pits run the length of DP Road on the south side; a large area on the north side of Pajarito Road and TA 54. They would require excavation resulting in a radioactive hornets nest. It is my opinion that these pits should not be disturbed. To my knowledge there is no reliable evidence that they are leaking or likely to leak in the future.

Therefore, I would suggest omitting from the agreement, any requirement to excavate these waste pits. Otherwise, such an undertaking would create a very serious potential for many hazardous releases. It would be very expensive and unjustified.

I have been a resident of Los Alamos since 1945 and have drunk Los Alamos water for 59 years without adverse effects. Most of those years include water from the same aquifer that serves Santa Fe.

Sincerely,

*Carl Buckland*  
Carl Buckland



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