

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Merl Wheeler

DATE: June 7, 1977

FROM : Margaret Anne Rogers *MAR*

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT FOR MAY 1977

SYMBOL : H8-77-323

1040 Reports

Forty-five core samples from Horizontal Holes 1-5 (beneath Pit 3, Area G) were submitted for Pu analysis. The forty-five samples were selected by taking 1) those samples which were spaced at approximately 20 ft intervals beneath the pit for each hole and 20 ft outside of the pit and 2) those samples which showed "relatively" high gross alpha results as compared to the rest of the core samples analyzed for gross alpha and the samples on either side of the "relative highs."

Reconnaissance work was continued in Pueblo and Bayo Canyons 1) As move up Pueblo Canyon from lower sewage disposal plant, thick sequences of Otowi are exposed along north wall of canyon. The Guaje pumice bed is exposed in a stream cut right before the emergency landing strip is reached. Exposures of the Tsankawi pumice bed are numerous midway up canyon north wall. The uppermost ash fall of the Tsankawi frequently cuts ash falls beneath it demonstrating that significant erosion took place before it was deposited. The number of ash falls in the Tsankawi or perhaps some of them are in the upper Otowi increases up Canyon. As cross creek beneath Pueblo Canyon Cliffs Subdivision (for the first time) the ash fall sequence may include 7 falls and be 15-20 ft thick. Changes in the Tshirege as one moves up canyon are most noticeable at the Unit 2a-2b contact which becomes increasingly difficult to call. 2) The paleo canyon in the south wall of Pueblo Canyon seen from the Main Hill Road near the county line is cut in the Otowi and through all of the ash falls at the top of the Otowi (or base of the Tsankawi). The uppermost ash fall (Tsankawi definitely) blankets the bottom of the canyon. Unit 1a is the only unit in the Tshirege which shows perceptible thickening in the paleo canyon. Contacts between Units 1a and 1b and Units 1b and 2a show some sag as they cross the canyon. Contact between Units 2a and 2b shows no elevational change as it crosses the paleo canyon. 3) Along the horse trail on the north rim of Bayo Canyon the contact between Units 1a and 1b can still be picked; but the contact between Units 1b and 2a can no longer be distinguished. The Tsankawi is still prominent beneath Unit 1a.



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Permanent markers for pits and shafts at Area G were reviewed with H-7. These will be brass caps set in concrete with information on pit or shaft number, dates in use, corner designation (for pits), and radionuclides present.

The report "History and Environmental Setting of LASL Near-Surface Land Disposal Facilities for Radioactive Wastes (Areas A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and T): A Source Document" underwent final proofing. It was passed through H-DO and is being read by ISD-6 for classification. It is expected to be at the printer in June.

MAR:kr

xc: John Smith
Linda Trocki
Danny Jackson
Willy Abeele