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GARREY CARRUTHERS
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LARRY GORDON
Secretary

CARLA L. MUTH
Deputy Secretary

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT DIVISION
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

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MAY 4 1987

May 4, 1987

GROUND WATER/HAZARDOUS WASTE
BUREAU

MEMORANDUM

TO: Richard Mitzelfelt, Chief, Ground Water & Hazardous Waste Bureau
Kathy Sisneros, Chief, Surface Water Quality Bureau
Cubia L. Clayton, Chief, Air Quality Bureau
Janice (Dev) Lynn, Information Liaison
Mike Brown, Chief, Radiation Bureau

FROM: Kirk Jones, Assistant Director *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: DOE REPORT ON LANL

The attached report is for background information only. In the event we are asked to comment, I will respond. Please note the Sandia Audit will be coming up. Please have staff put together our "wish list" of information to be developed or instructions to be reviewed in the DOE Audit.

KJ/io

HSWA LANL G/M/87



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May 4, 1987

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael J. Burkhart, Director

FROM: Kirkland Jones, Assistant Director

SUBJECT: DOE Audit of LANL

DOE officials briefed me on the initial results found by the DOE Audit Team. A preliminary draft will be issued in several months - I requested a copy or at least photocopies of some pages. A final report will be issued in 3 years and will review all DOE facilities controlled by the Albuquerque office. It will prioritize all of the facilities.

DOE uses a system of categories ranging from I to IV. Category I is an emergency while category IV deals with administrative policy. There were no category I observations. The following are my notes on the verbal presentation. This information is very sketchy and may be in error. Do not take actions based upon this information, it is for background only.

Category II - Findings that need "Immediate" attention by management

1. Solvents were being released into the soil at TA-16.
2. There are organic and inorganic wastes in the NPDES outfalls at TA-16 and TA-50 which are not controlled under the permit.
3. Laboratory-wide, wastes of various types (hazardous, mixed, radioactive, etc.) are not being segregated.
4. Laboratory-wide, there are a number of drums which have or may in the future leak and release waste.
5. Laboratory-wide, there are a number of PCB transformers which lack spill containment, are near drains, are indoors near high traffic areas, or have combustibles near the transformer.

Category III - Contamination exists or a potential for contamination exists due to operations.

1. There may be tritium in the soil at TA-33.
2. TA-53 Lagoon may have received radioactive wastes which were subsequently released from the outfall.
3. Laboratory-wide, there are areas of chemical contamination in canyons due to past operations.
4. The groundwater under area L may have been contaminated by organics. Some were found in vapor phase at 100 feet.
5. Acid tanks at TA-46 and TA-3 may have had releases.
6. The Lagoon at TA-35 may be contaminated by hazardous waste. Some release may have occurred through the outfall.
7. Laboratory-wide, there may be soil contaminated by lead - large quantities of shot, lead scrap and lead bricks were found.
8. unbermed oil tanks may present a hazard.
9. Hazardous materials are stored in underground tanks which have not been tested; possible releases to soil may have occurred.
10. Possible releases of asbestos may have occurred due to outdoor steam lines having been disturbed; releases may occur in the future due to old buildings which are contaminated by asbestos and high explosives - possible fire or explosion.
11. Pesticides are stored in temporary sheds - potential release.
12. There are 25 inactive land fills 18 "bone yards" (storage areas) and 36 inactive liquid disposal (french drains) areas which may have releases.
13. There are 32 inactive firing sites which have high explosives, lead, beryllium, and depleted uranium in the soil.
14. There are 26 active firing sites which are contaminated by high explosives, beryllium and some radioactive materials (?) TA-36, 39 and 40.
15. Underground experiments conducted at TA-15, 43 and 49 resulted in chambers contaminated with chemicals and radiation.
16. Three "burn areas" may have chemical contamination. Burn areas are pads upon which excess high explosives are burned.
17. The surface soil at TA-49 may be contaminated with Plutonium. Some surface runoff may have carried Plutonium offsite.

Memorandum:

To: Michael J. Burkhart

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18. 9 old (inactive) NPDES outfalls may have had some hazardous waste contamination.
19. A records search of TA-1 (old Sigma site) indicates potential for chemical contamination of land now in private ownership. Sampling is being conducted to confirm the contamination. DOE has issued a press release on this one finding.

DOE officials indicated that EID would be invited to share concerns about Sandia National Laboratory prior to the audit of this facility. The meeting will be the week following 4th of July. We should prepare a list of concerns.

KJ/sl