



Department of Energy  
Albuquerque Operations Office  
P. O. Box 5400  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5400

✓ Barbara  
SPM RD

June 20, 1996

Governor Randolph Padilla  
Jemez Pueblo  
P. O. Box 100  
Jemez Pueblo, NM 97024

Dear Governor Padilla:

The Department of Energy, Albuquerque Operations Office regrets that you were unable to attend the March 1996 meeting hosted by Santa Clara Pueblo on the FY 1998 Environmental Management Budget Priorities.

However, based on comments we received from your fellow Governors and interested stakeholders, DOE-AL revised its priorities for FY 1998. The following is a list of some points raised at the March meeting which was attended by representatives of the Santa Clara and Cochiti Pueblos:

**The canyon study should be elevated in priority.**

The Los Alamos and Pueblo Canyon work for 1998 has been moved into the upper 50% of the request level.

**Technical reports are too lengthy and technical for tribal leaders to review and comment on in a timely manner.** Reports will contain an executive summary that provides the most pertinent information from the document. Meetings will be arranged with tribal leaders to coincide with important decision points effecting the canyon activities.

I hope the above responses address your concerns. Your comments and questions were important in helping DOE/AL prepare for the FY 1998 Internal Review Budget (IRB) meeting with DOE/HQ.

At the conclusion of the FY 1998 IRB meeting held in Washington, DC, on May 20-24, 1996, each DOE/AL laboratory and plant facility was tentatively funded at the planning (fully funded) level (see attachment). Further discussions on the FY 1998 budget will take place via a national stakeholders' videoconference on June 26, 1996, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. MDT. You are welcomed to join in on the videoconference. Tami Toops is the DOE/AL point of contact for the videoconference and can be reached at (505) 845-5264.



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Additionally, we are supporting Assistant Secretary for EM, Alvin L. Alm, in instituting a Ten-Year Plan. This Plan will clearly show all commitments and budget requirements for all DOE facilities nationwide, with a goal to complete a majority of the EM Program in ten years.. While it is our goal that most DOE/AL plant and laboratories will be cleaned up much sooner, the action underscores the new Assistant Secretary's wish to see accelerated progress made in cleaning up the Department's nuclear legacy.

In summary, your involvement is vital to helping DOE/AL develop and justify our environmental management budget request. You will be kept informed as FY 1998 budget decisions are made and as the Ten-Year Plan process is implemented, and I look forward to continued interaction with you in this important area.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please call me at (505) 845-6210.

Sincerely,



W. John Arthur, III  
Acting Assistant Manager for  
Environment/Project Management

Attachment

cc w/attachment:

Benito Garcia, NMED  
David Neleigh, EPA  
Joe Vozella, LAAO  
Ted Taylor, LAAO  
George Laskar, KAO  
Mark Jackson, KAO  
Rich Sena, ERD, AL  
Deborah Griswold, ERD, AL  
Tony Trujillo, ERD, AL  
Peggy Hanson, BRMD, AL  
Mona Williams, WMD, AL  
T. Loughead, OPA, AL

