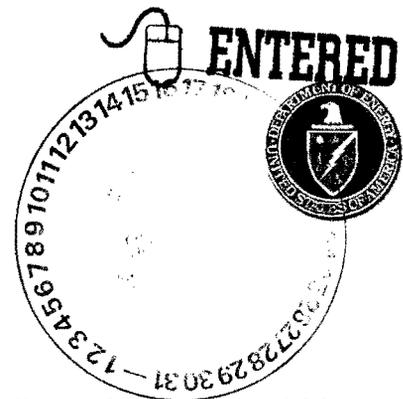




DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544



James

SEP 15 2009

To: Distribution

Subject: Floodplain Assessment Notice, Installing a Grade Control Structure within Pueblo Canyon, Los Alamos National Laboratory

The purpose of this letter is to serve as notification for actions proposed within the Pueblo Canyon floodplain area at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). This notice is being made in accordance with the U. S. Department of Energy's (DOE) *Compliance with Floodplain and Wetland Environmental Review Requirements* (10 CFR Part 1022). Personnel from the DOE's National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Los Alamos Site Office, Environmental Operations, and Los Alamos National Security, LLC, Environmental Programs, are preparing to implement a project to repair the degraded Pueblo Canyon channel by installing a Grade Control Structure in Pueblo Canyon at Technical Area (TA) 74. The structure will limit the loss of sediment and dissipate floodwater leaving LANL property. The proposed structure will be composed of gabions (rectangular rock-filled wire baskets) with a 30-foot low-flow weir width at 4 feet above the low point in the existing stream and a 171-foot (including the 30 foot low-flow weir) high water overflow weir at 3 feet above the low-flow weir. The estimated 100-year flow was used to determine the weir dimensions. The structure will include a 350-foot earthen guide berm angled to the north west along the floodplain to prevent erosion caused by water as it is collected and funneled south east toward the structure opening. The proposed construction of the Grade Control Structure is part of the corrective actions of the New Mexico Environment Department approved *Supplemental Interim Measure Work Plan to Mitigate Contaminated Sediment Transport in Los Alamos and Pueblo Canyons*, October 2008. Wetlands within the Pueblo Canyon channel will not be affected.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 1022, a Floodplain Assessment has been prepared for the proposed project. Work will be performed for the grade control structure in a manner so as to avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the affected floodplain. Copies of the Floodplain Assessment are available for review electronically on the Internet at: <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/compliance/>, and for hard copy review at the Robert J. Oppenheimer Study Center Research Library, located within LANL's Technical Area-3, Los Alamos, New Mexico. The draft document may also be sent to you upon your request by calling Ms. Vicki Loucks at (505) 667-6819.

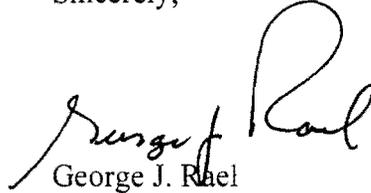
You are invited to comment on this proposed project. The public comment period commenced with the publication of this notice in the Los Alamos Monitor on September 15, 2009 and will continue for 15 days thereafter. NNSA will consider all comments regarding the project received or postmarked 15 days from the publication of said notice. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable. Written comments should be addressed to Ms. Loucks at: U. S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, Los Alamos Site Office, 3747 West Jemez Road, Los Alamos, NM 87544, or may be submitted by e-mail to: vloucks@doeal.gov, or sent by facsimile to (505) 667-9998.

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For further information: Information on general DOE floodplain environmental review requirements is available from: the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (GC-20), 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0119 or leave a message on toll-free number: 1-800-472-2756; fax: 202-586-7031; or e-mail Webmaster at: denise.freeman@hq.doe.gov.

Sincerely,



George J. Rael
Assistant Manager
Office of Environmental Operations

EO: 17CR-004

cc:

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