



BRUCE KING  
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT  
Harold Runnels Building  
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502  
(505) 827-2850

*LANL  
OU 1071*

JUDITH M. ESPINOSA  
SECRETARY

RON CURRY  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

March 11, 1993

Jerry Bellows, Manager  
Los Alamos Area Office  
Department of Energy  
528 35th Street  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

Dear Mr. Bellows:

This letter is to summarize the January 7, 1993 meeting held at Los Alamos with personnel from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) DOE Oversight Program, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), and the Department of Energy Los Alamos Area Office (LAAO). The meeting was held to discuss LANL's response to the NMED's comments on the OU 1071 RFI Work Plan. We understand the initial response we received was a draft and LANL's final response will appear in a final draft to be submitted to the NMED. The final draft will also serve as a summary of decisions made by attendees at the January 7th meeting.

The issue of statistical approaches to site investigation (e.g. statistical determination of adequate sample numbers) was left unresolved at the meeting. In the NMED's initial comments to DOE/LANL, peer-reviewed journal articles were requested as support for the statistical approaches proposed in the OU 1071 RFI Work Plan. These were received and are being reviewed. Of concern is the multiplicity of statistical approaches proposed in the Work Plans reviewed to date by the NMED. As a means of resolving this issue, we are proposing that DOE work with NMED and EPA in deciding upon a single system of statistical tools to be employed at all DOE sites within New Mexico. We suggest that a course/workshop be set up to train people who will be working with or evaluating the statistical approaches finally selected.

If you have any questions, please contact Danny Katzman of my staff at 665-7127.

Sincerely,  
*Kathleen M. Sisneros*  
Kathleen M. Sisneros, Director  
Water and Waste Management Division

cc: Neil Weber, Chief, DOE Oversight Program  
Benito Garcia, Chief, HRMB  
Barbara Hoditschek, Manager, RCRA Permits  
Barbara Driscoll, EPA Region 6  
Diana Webb, DOE/LAAO

