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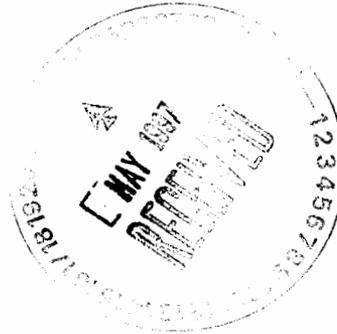
State of New Mexico  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT  
DOE OVERSIGHT BUREAU  
P.O. Box 1663, MS/J-993  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

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GOVERNOR

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22 May 1997

Mr. Mat Johansen  
US Department Of Energy  
Los Alamos Area Office  
528 35th Street MS A316  
Los Alamos, NM 87544



RE: DOE OB Erosion Concerns within Los Alamos Canyon.

Dear Mr. Johansen:

During recent surveillance activities in Los Alamos Canyon our staff observed advanced erosion and wash-out of the LADP-3 ER well road crossing Los Alamos creek. In addition, the access road and stream channel is severely eroded due to a potable water outfall from East Gate storage tank. Therefore, the DOE OB recommends that Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) conduct a review of the historical surface water discharge data from GS-08313030 in order to support the decision process for the replacement of old culverts, specifically the LADP-3 culvert, with the adequate size that will transmit maximum flow during 1997 and future storm events. At LADP-3, the current culverts are washed out and causing massive scaring to the stream bank. In addition, the DOE OB recommends that LANL establish BMPs to halt head-cutting caused by potable water joining the stream channel. The extreme erosion conditions observed at these two sites may increase the transport of known contaminated soils further down Los Alamos Canyon, and possibly off LANL's boundary.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Bryan Vigil of our staff at 672-0457.

Sincerely,

Steve Yanicak, LANL POC  
Department of Energy Oversight Bureau

SY:bmv

HSWA LANL 4/10/97

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Mr. Mat Johansen  
22 May 1997  
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cc: Ted Taylor, DOE LAAO, Program Manager, EM/ER, MS A316  
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LADP-3 PIPE