



GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau
2044 Galisteo
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
(505) 827-1557
Fax (505) 827-1544



MARK E. WEIDLER
SECRETARY

EDGAR T. THORNTON, III
DEPUTY SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 22, 1997

Mr. G. Thomas Todd, Area Manager
Los Alamos Area Office-Department of Energy
528 35th Street
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

Dr. Sigfried Hecker, Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS-A100
Los Alamos, NM 87545

RE: Field Unit 4 Field Activities/Regional Characterization Well R-9 (EM/ER:97-370) Los Alamos National Laboratory (NM0890010515)

Dear Mr. Todd and Dr. Hecker:

This letter is in response to the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) letter dated September 10, 1997 and referenced by EM/ER:97-370, regarding field activities at the regional characterization well R-9. Among the field activities listed in the letter are slug tests to be "...conducted in selected zones of saturation...". The RCRA Permits Management Program (RPMP) reminds LANL that the data from these tests, conducted on an undeveloped well(s) to characterize hydraulic conductivity, are questionable and should be regarded as such. Please refer to appropriate LANL standard operating procedures and other guidance (RCRA Ground-Water Monitoring Technical Enforcement Guidance Document (TEGD), 1987; RCRA Ground-Water Monitoring: Draft Technical Guidance, 1992) when conducting slug tests to ensure data quality. RPMP is aware, however, that the slug tests are being conducted in part to test the equipment and process utilized for these tests.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact myself or Mr. John Kieling, LANLs Facility Manager at (505) 827-1561.

Sincerely,

Robert S. (Stu) Dinwiddie, Ph.D., Manager
RCRA Permits Management Program
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

RSD:jry



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TC

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cc (w/attachments):

T. Baca, LANL EM-DO, MS J951
B. Garcia, NMED HRMB
T. Glatzmaier, LANL DDEES/ER, MS-M992
M. Gilgosh, MS A316
J. Jansen, LANL ER, MS-M992
M. Johansen, DOE LAAO, MS-A316
J. Kieling, NMED HRMB
M. Leavitt, NMED GWQB
H. LeDoux, DOE LAAO, MS A316
D. McInroy, LANL EM/ER, MS-M992
D. Neleigh, EPA, 6PD-N
J. Parker, NMED DOE-OB
G. Saums, NMED SWQB
T. Taylor, DOE LAAO, MS-A316
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE-OB, MS-J993
J. Young, NMED HRMB
File: LANL HSWA 4/1049
Track: LANL, 10/22/97, n/a, DOE/LANL, HRMB/jry, RE, file