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 Environmental Restoration Project, MS M992
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U. S. Department of Energy
 Los Alamos Area Office, MS A316
 Environmental Restoration Program
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
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Date: March 20, 1997
 Refer to: EM/ER:97-072



Mr. Stu Dinwiddie
 NMED-HRMB
 P.O. Box 26110
 Santa Fe, NM 87502

SUBJECT: ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT FOR PRSs AT TA-3 AND TA-32

Dear Mr. Dinwiddie:

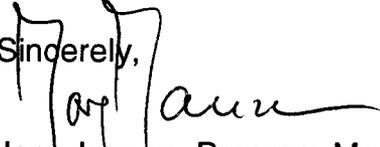
The Los Alamos National Laboratory's (Laboratory's) Environmental Restoration (ER) Project is in receipt of the February 19, 1997, letter from the New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED's) Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB) requesting that an ecological risk assessment be conducted by June 1, 1997, on Potential Release Sites (PRSs) 3-010(a), 32-001, 32-002(a, b), 32-003, and 32-004.

As you know, the Laboratory's ER Project is developing a site-wide ecological risk assessment process. These sites will, as will all other Laboratory PRSs, be investigated for ecological concerns with the site-wide ecorisk process when it is finalized. Our current schedule shows the ecorisk screening process to be completed by June of this year. We are in the process of prioritizing all PRSs for inclusion in the screening process. Depending on the results of the screening process, some PRSs will need to be considered for additional ecological risk evaluations.

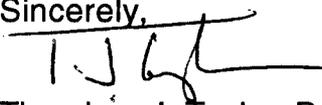
We would like to ask for an extension to your June 1, 1997, requested submittal date until these PRSs can undergo the screening process and be included as part of our site-wide approach. We anticipate these sites will be reported on by August 29, 1997.

Please ask your office to contact Tracy Glatzmaier at (505) 665-2613, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


 Jorg Jansen, Program Manager
 LANL/ER Project

Sincerely,


 Theodore J. Taylor, Program Manager
 DOE/LAO

JJ/TT/ss

JJ



505-667-7203

Cy:

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