

*To Basilio Sta*



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

GARY E. JOHNSON  
GOVERNOR

MARK E. WEIDLER  
SECRETARY



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MAY 05 1997

NM ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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2 May 1997

Mr. Matt Johansen, AIP POC  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Los Alamos Area Office  
528 35<sup>th</sup> Street MS A316  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

**RE: Monumenting of Penetrations and Monitoring Wells  
in Canyons at Los Alamos National Laboratory.**

Dear Mr. Johansen:

The Department of Energy Oversight Bureau (DOE OB) commends the effort of LANL'S Environmental Restoration (ER) Group in monumenting penetrations and monitoring wells in Mortandad Canyon. During a recent site visit by DOE OB it was observed that all penetrations and monitoring wells in Mortandad Canyon had been permanently marked; however, there are additional ER and Environmental Surveillance wells in the area (Los Alamos, Pajarito, Pueblo, Water and DP Canyon, etc.) which need to be permanently marked. Therefore, DOE OB recommends that LANL inventory and permanently monument all additional wells and penetrations which have not been marked to date. In addition, we also recommend that LANL plug and abandon some or all moisture access holes within Mortandad Canyon due to their probable deteriorated condition (cracked casing, no caps, etc.).

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

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Mr. Mat Johansen  
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cc: Ted Taylor, DOE LAAO, Program Manager, EM/ER, MS A316  
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