

Teri



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

MARK E. WEIDLER
SECRETARY

GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

5/1157/9 / 9-013 [MDA-M]

September 23, 1997

Mat Johansen, DOE AIP POC
U. S. Department of Energy
Los Alamos Area Office, MS A316
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544



Re: **The status of BMP's at LANL ER site 9-013 (MDA-M), located in TA-9, as observed in August 1997.**

Dear Mr. Johansen:

The DOE Oversight Bureau (DOE OB) temporarily installed an automatic water sampler at the southeast margin of MDA-M during August 1997. While installing and later removing the sampler DOE OB staff noticed that the BMP's were no longer effective, and that incision and erosion were occurring on a large scale in the restored areas of MDA-M. Staff noted that the seeding of the site from last year was only marginally effective, approximately 25%-35% cover of the restored area, and that this and the ineffective BMP's have contributed to the present erosion problems. A 45 minute storm event was observed at the site in which turbid runoff flowed from the restored area. Within approximately 40 meters of the BMP's the surface water flow entered Starmers Gulch. The turbidity of the runoff leaving MDA-M and its contribution to Starmers Gulch may not be in compliance with the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Streams (Title 20, Chapter 6, Part 1, Subpart I, Section 1102 J). Surface water runoff from MDA-M flows into a perennial reach in Starmers Gulch which in turn flows into a perennial reach in Pajarito Canyon within approximately 60 meters.

Additional measures should be taken to control erosion at this site. Silt fences and hay bales should be installed and maintained until vegetation is established. It may be necessary

TR



Mat Johansen
MDA-M BMP's
9-23-97

Page 2 of 2

to re-grade and re-seed portions of the site. I suggest quarterly inspection and maintenance of the BMP's at MDA-M until the stabilization is complete.

Please contact me at 505-672-0448 or Scott Anderson the DOE Oversight Bureau FU-5 Manager at 505-827-1536 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Steve Yanicak, LANL POC
Department of Energy Oversight Bureau

SY:spa

cc: John Parker, NMED, Chief, DOE OB
Marcy Leavitt, NMED, Chief, GWQB
Benito Garcia, NMED, Chief, HRMB
Glenn Saums, NMED, Program Manager, SWQB
Ted Taylor, DOE, Program Manager, EM/ER, MS A316
Donathon Krier, LANL, FU-5 FPL, MS D462
Carol LaDelfe, LANL, FU-5 TL, MS D462
Tom Alexander, LANL, DX-FM, MS P915
Judith Snow, LANL, DX 2 Group Leader, MS C920
Jack Elvinger, LANL, ESH-19, MS K490
Hilary Noskin, LANL, ESH-19, MS K490
Franco Sisneros, LANL, DX-DO-FMST, MS P915
Margaret Orbison, LANL, DX 2, MS C920
Mike Alexander, LANL, ESH-18, MS K497
SF MFICHE