



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**

June 17, 1998

Mr. Theodore Taylor, Program Manager  
Los Alamos Area Office  
Department of Energy  
528 35th Street, MS A316  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

Dr. John C. Browne, Director  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
P. O. Box 1663, Mail Stop A100  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

**RE: Notice of Deficiency  
VCA Completion Report on PRS 12-001(a)  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
NM 0890010515**

Dear Mr. Taylor and Dr. Browne:

The RCRA Permits Management Program (RPMP) of the Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau has reviewed the VCA Report for Potential Release Site (PRS) 12-001(a), dated September 1996, referenced by LA-UR-96-3316 and Response to the Request for Supplemental Information dated December 5, 1997, referenced by EM/ER: 97-513 and found them to be deficient. Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) must respond to the deficiencies noted in Attachment A within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of this letter.



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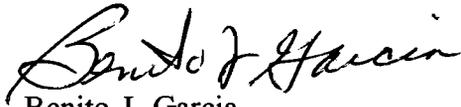
2/1086/1a  
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Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me or Mr. John Kieling, RPMP's LANL Facility Manager, at (505) 827-1558.

Sincerely,



Benito J. Garcia  
Bureau Chief  
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau

RSD:ND

cc w/attachments:

J. Canepa, LANL EM/ER, MS M992  
J. Davis, NMED SWQB  
B. Garcia NMED HRMB  
M. Johansen, DOE LAAO, MS A316  
J. Kieling, NMED HRMB  
S. Kruse, 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  
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS J993 14 a 12/67  
File: Reading and HSWA LANL 2/1085/12/12-001(a)  
Track: LANL, June 17, 1998, NA, DOE/LANL, RPMP/Garcia, RE, File

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**Attachment A**  
**List of Deficiencies**  
**VCA Completion Report for Potential Release Site**  
**Response to Request for Supplemental Information**  
**12-001(a)**

1. LANL did not characterize the distribution of contaminants left in place (e.g. uranium, arsenic, chromium and thallium) in the area surrounding the pit (i.e. area between the pit and 150 feet radius). The samples taken at the radius of 50 feet (e.g. # 0005, 0006, 0008 shown on the site map) were not submitted for fixed laboratory analyses even though contamination was detected in the samples taken at the radius of 150 feet. The contaminant concentrations in the area between the pit and 150 feet radius may be higher than those found at the 150 feet radius. Consequently, health risks associated with the contaminants left in place could be higher than those estimated. LANL shall perform additional sampling in the area surrounding the pit (e.g. at the radius of 50 and 100 feet from the pit) and submit the samples for fixed laboratory analyses.
2. LANL shall evaluate the potential impact of the contaminants (if detected at concentrations above background levels) on human health and ecological receptors. The evaluation should be conducted in accordance with NMED/HRMB guidance provided in the Risk Based Decision Tree. Chromium should be included in the evaluation of both carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic effects. All chromium detected should be assumed to be chromium VI, unless speciation data is available.

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