

Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office
Los Alamos Area Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

JUL 02 1997

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Benito Garcia, Bureau Chief
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials
Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044 Galisteo St., Bldg. A
P. O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Dear Mr. Garcia:

Subject: Notice Of Deficiency (NOD), Part B Permit Application for TA-14 OB/OD,
Request for Extension

The purpose of this letter is to request an extension for responding to the NOD on the Part B Permit Application for the OB/OD units at TA-14. The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) requested submittal of information to the Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB) within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt at the Department of Energy, Los Alamos Area Office (DOE/LAAO), or July 11, 1997. Due to the numerous and often complex information requests contained in this NOD, a considerable amount of time will be needed to respond adequately and appropriately. The more extensive information requests include the following:

- Engineering drawings will need to be developed for each unit; if the units may be modified in response to the NOD, the drawings will need to reflect these modifications.
- A human health and ecological risk analysis will need to be conducted.
- Clarification on several issues (e.g., groundwater issues, soil and vadose zone sampling and monitoring) is needed from the HRMB.
- A Post-Closure Plan will need to be developed.

Because of these and numerous other less extensive information requests, we discussed the possibility of an extension to the response deadline with NMED staff during our monthly meeting on June 17, 1997. We further discussed partial submittal of the more easily answered questions. NMED requested that a complete package be submitted rather



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Mr. Benito Garcia

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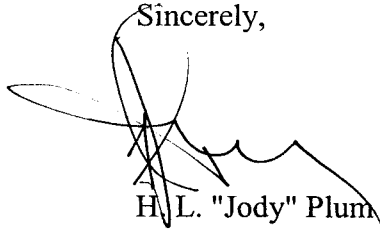
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than two or more partial packages. By this letter, we are requesting a ninety (90) day extension to the due date of July 11, 1997. Submittal of our complete response will, therefore, be no later than close of business October 20, 1997. We also agreed that discussion of specific questions is requested and we would like to do this as part of our monthly meeting on July 15, 1997.

In addition, we would like to extend an invitation for NMED to visit TA-14, 15, 36, and 39 OB/OD sites. If there is interest in such familiarization tours, please contact me.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 665-5042.

Sincerely,



H.L. "Jody" Plum
Office of Environment and Projects

LAAMEP:9JP-059