

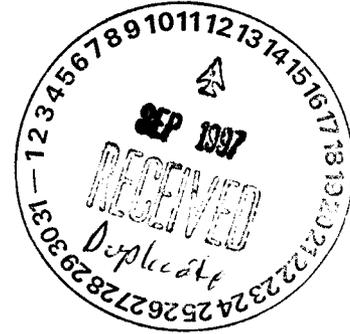


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Department of Energy

Albuquerque Operations Office
Los Alamos Area Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

SEP 12 1997



VIA HAND DELIVERY

Dr. Robert (Stu) Dinwiddie
Manager, RCRA Permits Management Program
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044 Galisteo Street, Building A
P. O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Dear Dr. Dinwiddie:

Subject: Response to the New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) Request for Radionuclide Data for Materials Treated at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Open Burning/Open Detonation Sites, Technical Areas (TA) 14, 15, 36 and 39

The purpose of this letter is to respond to NMED's June 26, 1997 letter and subsequent verbal communication. It also follows up on the discussion of this issue at our August 12, 1997 monthly meeting.

In our August 12 meeting, you mentioned a submittal (presumed to be our May response to your request regarding the radionuclides associated with the wastes being treated at our OD operations) which discussed the presence of radionuclides other than Depleted Uranium (DU). We reviewed that May submittal which documents radionuclides that were associated with the materials treated at our OB/OD units at the above-referenced TAs, and confirmed the information we submitted only addressed DU. We also went back to the individuals who have been working with these units over the years. They too confirmed that DU was the only radionuclide that was associated with the materials treated at these sites. Any other reference is likely erroneous and should be either ignored or brought to our attention so that it might be corrected.

If you should have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact me at (505) 665-5042.

Sincerely,

H. L. "Jody" Plum
Office of Environment

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