



GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau
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PETER MAGGIORE
SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 21, 1999

Mr. David A. Gurule, Area Manager
Department of Energy
Los Alamos Area Office
528 35th Street, Mail Stop 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

Dear Mr. Gurule and Dr. Browne:

**RE: Technical Area (TA) 15; Withdrawal of Part B Application
EPA I.D. No. NM 089 001 0515**

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB) has received DOE/LAAO's (DOE) letter (Ref: LAAME:3JP-091) dated October 9, 1998, regarding the captioned interim status unit. DOE's letter requests withdrawal of the permit application, and includes a certification that there has been no mixed or hazardous waste treated at the TA-15 open detonation site (the site). However, HRMB understands that the site is used for experimentation with high explosives (HE), thus HE waste is present.

As an Interim Status unit, the site must undergo either:

- RCRA closure under 20 NMAC 4.1, 40 CFR 265 Subpart G, either by removal or decontamination of all wastes and equipment/structures, or closure with wastes in place with post-closure care; or
- Transfer to Corrective Action authority, under Module VIII, the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) of the operating permit.



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DOE is required to respond within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of this letter. If the receipt is not signed, LANL will respond within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of this letter. The response shall indicate the manner in which the unit is to be addressed.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. John Kieling, HRMB's LANL Facility Manager at (505) 827-1558, extension 1012.

Sincerely,



Robert S. (Stu) Dinwiddie, Ph.D., Manager
RCRA Permits Management Program

RSD/mjc

cc: Benito J. Garcia, Chief, HRMB
John Kieling, HRMB
Michael Chacón, HRMB
David Neleigh, EPA (6PD-N)
H. Ledoux, DOE LAAO, MS A316
Jody Plum, DOE LAAO, MS A316
Jack Ellvinger, LANL ESH-29, MS K490
File: Reading and Red LANL TA-15 '99
Track: LANL, doc.date, NA, DOE/LANL, RPMP/Dinwiddie, RE, File

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