

TA 15



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



Handcarried

FEB 16 1999

~~CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED~~

Robert S. (Stu) Dinwiddie, Ph.D., Manager
RCRA Permits Management Program
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
2044 Galisteo Street, Building A
P. O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Dr. Dinwiddie:

Subject: Technical Area (TA) 15: Withdrawal of Part B Application

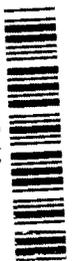
The purpose of this letter is to provide the Department of Energy Los Alamos Area Office (DOE) and its management and operating contractor, the University of California (UC) response to your letter of January 21, 1999. In this letter, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)/Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB) recognized the DOE/UC request to remove the TA-15 Open Detonation site from the Part B Permit Application.

DOE/UC has been reassessing the need for its waste management units based on operational needs and the recently adopted permit fees under 20 NMAC 4.2. As a result of this reassessment, TA-15 and a number of other units have been identified for either closure or withdrawal. On October 9, 1998, we wrote to HRMB to request that this site be removed from consideration for a permit. This request was accompanied by a certification from the operational personnel that this site had never been used for the treatment of a hazardous waste.

In your January 21, 1999 letter, you suggested the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) either undergo RCRA closure as per 20 NMAC 4.1, 40 CFR 265, Subpart G, or transfer to Corrective Action authority under Module VIII of the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of the operating permit. After consultation between the operating groups and the Environmental Restoration Program, DOE/UC has determined that the best approach is to transfer this activity to the Corrective Action Program.

This letter formally requests NMED to transfer the TA-15 open detonation site from the list of active units at LANL to the Corrective Action Program. DOE/UC will make the appropriate changes to Part A of the Permit Application once the Annual Unit Audit is completed. This will allow the last version of Part A (April 1998) to be updated and be reflective of the existing units determined through the Annual Unit Audit.

REC'D LANL TA-15 2/16/99



4241

Tk

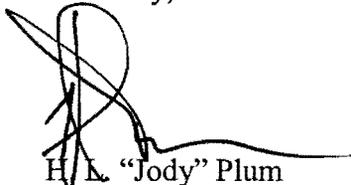
Dr. Robert S. Dinwiddie

2

FEB 16 1999

If you should have any questions concerning this request, please contact me at (505) 665-5042 or Jack Ellvinger at (505) 667-0633.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "H.L. 'Jody' Plum". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "H" and a long, sweeping underline.

H.L. "Jody" Plum
Office of Environment

LAAME:6JP-116

cc:

John Keiling

RCRA Permits Program

Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

New Mexico Environment Department

2044 Galisteo St., Building A

P. O. Box 26110

Santa Fe, NM 87505