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Date: **DEC 18 2009**
Refer To: EP2009-0662

James Bearzi, Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Subject: Erosion Controls Associated with Fishladder Canyon [Solid Waste Management Unit 16-003(o)]

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

This letter documents stormwater management following mitigation activities at Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 16-003(o), also known as Fishladder Canyon. This letter is required as part of the New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED's) Approval with Modifications for Phase II Investigation Report for the TA-16-340 Complex [Consolidated Units 13-003(a)-99 and 16-003(n)-99 and Solid Waste Management Units 16-003(o), 16-026(j2), and 16-029(f)], Revision 1, dated February 09, 2009.

In July 2008, stormwater controls were installed on the mesa top and north-facing hillslope that drain into Fishladder Canyon and in the main Fishladder Canyon drainage. The controls included straw wattles on the mesa top and hillslope (attached Figures 1-3) that were designed to control surface erosion and sediment transport by establishing a permanent vegetation cover. Previously existing controls in the main channel include a rock check dam and a gabion structure which were designed to reduce flow velocities and reduce sediment.

SWMU 16-003(o) is included in the Los Alamos National Laboratory National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Individual Permit (IP) (Permit No. NM0030759). Stormwater controls at the SWMU are inspected under the IP program at least once per year or following a 0.25 in. in 30 min or greater intensity rain event or following an exceedance of permit-specified stormwater standards. Controls at this SWMU were inspected five times this year between June 11 and October 21, 2009, following five separate rain events. No maintenance issues were identified with stormwater controls for this SWMU during the inspections.



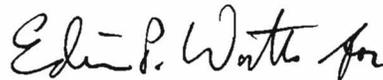
If you have any questions, please contact John McCann at (505) 665-1091 (jmccann@lanl.gov) or Woody Woodworth at (505) 665-5820 (lwoodworth@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,

Sincerely,



Michael J Graham, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory



David R. Gregory, Project Director
Environmental Operations
Los Alamos Site Office

MG/DG/JM:sm

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
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Figure 1. View looking downslope from mesa top into Fishladder Canyon

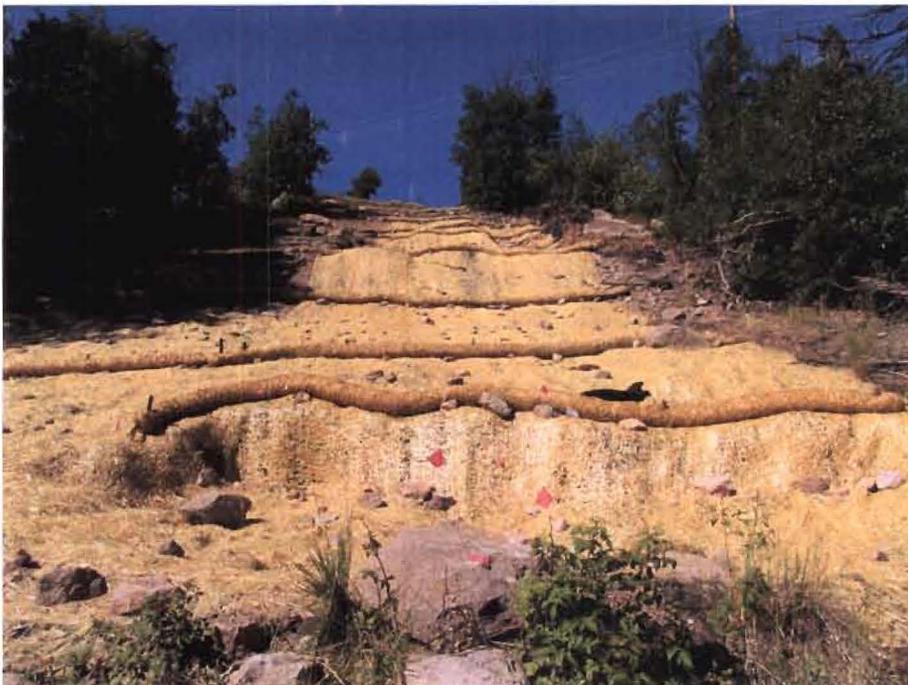


Figure 2. View looking upslope from bottom of Fishladder Canyon



Figure 3. View looking east down Fishladder Canyon