



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

September 8, 1994

John P. ...
NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT
SEP 11 1994 13
OFFICE OF ...
Kathy
EA sent to
Credi Ribas

Ms. Judith M. Espinoza, Secretary
New Mexico Environment Department
1190 Saint Francis Drive, Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Ms. Espinoza:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is considering a proposed relocation of the Weapons Component Test Facility project at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico.

The Department has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the potential environmental consequences of this proposed action and its alternatives. This EA has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, and the DOE NEPA regulations.

Section 1021.301(d) of the DOE NEPA regulations (10 CFR Part 1021) requires that DOE provide a State and any American Indian tribe that would host a proposed DOE action the opportunity to review and comment on an EA for that action before DOE's approval of the EA. The DOE may also provide the same opportunity to any other State or American Indian tribe if, in DOE's judgement, the State or Indian tribe may be affected by the proposed action. This process is intended to foster early and open communication between DOE and affected States and Indian tribes. Accordingly, I am providing you with an advanced copy of this EA.

If you have any comments on this document, please send them to me within 14 days from your receipt of this letter. Comments sent within this period will be considered prior to approval of the EA. Comments sent after that will be considered to the extent practicable. Please inform me if you do not have any comments.

If you or your office staff wish to receive further information about this project, please contact Earl Bean, Acting Area Manager, Los Alamos Area Office, 528 35th Street, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545, (505) 667-5105. For further information about DOE's NEPA process, please contact Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Oversight, (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

Sincerely,

Victor H. Reis
Victor H. Reis
Assistant Secretary
for Defense Programs

Enclosure

cc:
T. Ribe, LANL Community Reading Room
Albuquerque Operations Office Public Reading Room

