



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

MAY 16 1997



CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Dr. Stuart Dinwiddie
Permit Program Manager
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044 Galisteo St., Bldg. A
P. O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Dr. Dinwiddie:

Subject: Request for Change in Review Status for the Technical Area (TA) 16 Permit Application

The purpose of this letter is to request changing the review status for the TA-16 permit application. This was discussed during the April 15, 1997 monthly meeting. We explained that it was not feasible to try to process it as a modification to the existing permit.

The current permit expires in November 1999, and the renewal application is due in May 1999. The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) plans to submit the renewal package in January 1999. Considering the time necessary to develop an application, we will have to begin work on the renewal package in FY 1998. This will correspond to the time when we should be receiving approval for the existing application we submitted for TA-16.

It does not make sense to overlap these two applications and pay both a modification and permit fee, and then lose the modification after approximately one year. When we discussed this in the April 15, 1997 meeting, NMED agreed with our discussion and suggested we submit a request for a change in the review status. This letter represents that formal request.

The question of the existing permitted incinerator was also discussed. LANL is not yet sure it will seek to renew the permit for that unit. If we so decide at the time of the renewal, we will seek to modify the TA-16 module of the permit to include the incinerator. If not, we will start proceedings to close this unit at that time.



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RED LANL TA-16/98
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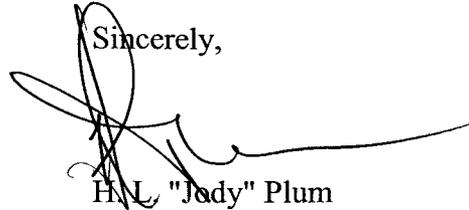
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Dr. Stuart Dinwiddie

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We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your consideration of this issue. If you should have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact me at (505) 665-5042.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H.L. "Jody" Plum', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

H.L. "Jody" Plum

Office of Environment and Projects

LAAMEP:3JP-043

cc:

Benito J. Garcia, Chief
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