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**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

11/19/03

August 19, 2003

Mr. G. Pete Nanos
Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P. O. Box 1663, MS A100
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

Mr. Ralph Erickson
Area Manager
Los Alamos Site Operations
Department of Energy
528 35th Street
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL AREA (TA)-16-401 AND TA-16-406 SAND
FILTERS CLOSURE PLAN
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY EPA ID# NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-03-004**

Dear Messrs. Nanos and Erickson:

The New Mexico Environment (NMED) has reviewed the Department of Energy and Los Alamos National Laboratory (Permittees) May 28, 2003 letter "Response to Notice of Deficiency (NOD), Technical Area (TA)-16 Closure Plan for the TA-16-401 and -406 Sand Filters." The letter consists of a response to the two comments contained in the NOD and revised closure plan pages affected by the NMED comments and certification for the revised pages.

The NMED finds the Permittees' March 2003 "Technical Area 16 Closure Plan for the TA-16-401 and -406 Sand Filters, Revision 0.0" (LA-UR-03-2091), as amended by the May 28, 2003 revised closure plan pages, technically adequate and complete. The NMED approves the amended closure plan.

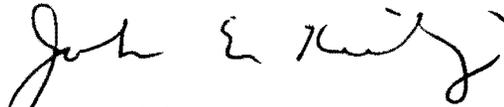


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Messrs. Nanos and Erickson
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Should you have any questions or require any additional information regarding this approval, please contact Lee Winn of my staff at (505) 428-2541.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Manager
Permits Management Program

JEK:lw

cc: S. Martin NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
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L. Winn, NMED HWB
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G. Turner, DOE OFO, SALSO, MS A316

File: Reading and TA-16 2003