

TA-16

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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October 17, 2003
Immediate Release

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Environment Department Seeks Comments on Closure of two Open Burn Units for Los Alamos National Laboratory

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is seeking public comment on closure of two Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste open burn units at Technical Area (TA)-16 at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL).

The TA-16-401 and TA-16 406 Sand Filters structures filter wastewater from high explosive (HE) operations before it is treated at the TA-16 High Explosive Wastewater Treatment Facility (HEWTF). The surface of each filter is also used as a “burn tray” to thermally treat wet HE. This thermal treatment of hazardous waste is subject to the operating and closure requirements of RCRA. In the closure plan, LANL proposed a method to close the units that will meet the RCRA closure performance standards while preserving the sand filters for continued use for wastewater treatment. Documentation of this closure is available for review at the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau office located at 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1 in Santa Fe. The comment period ends on **November 17, 2003**. Additional information is available on the NMED web page at www.nmenv.state.nm.us/HWB/lanlperm.html



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For additional information regarding this closure contact John Kieling, NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau, at (505) 428-2500, or Jon Goldstein, Communications Director, NMED at (505) 827-0314.

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