



**Los Alamos National Laboratory/University of California**  
 Risk Reduction & Environmental Stewardship (RRES)  
 Remediation Services (RS), MS M992  
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545  
 (505) 667-0808/FAX (505) 665-4747



**National Nuclear Security Administration.**  
 Los Alamos Site Operations, MS A316  
 Environmental Restoration Program  
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544  
 (505) 667-7203/FAX (505) 665-4504

TA-16  
 (260 outfall, 16-021(G))

Date: February 2, 2004  
 Refer to: ER2004-0055



Mr. John Young, Project Leader  
 Permits Management Program  
 NMED – Hazardous Waste Bureau  
 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East  
 Building 1  
 Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

**SUBJECT: STRATEGIES FOR PROCEEDING WITH ACTIVITIES AT BOREHOLES  
 CDV-16-2 (i) AND CDV-16-3 (i)**

Dear Mr. Young:

Per the telephone discussion between Carolyn Cooper and Darlene Goering of your staff and Los Alamos National Laboratory ([LANL] Dave Broxton, Dave Vaniman, Don Hickmott), the Department of Energy, Los Alamos Site Office ([DOE-LASO] Lance Woodworth, Bob Enz, Tom Whitacre), and Kleinfelder (Bernie Bockisch) on January 20, 2004, this letter documents the current strategy for proceeding with activities at boreholes CDV-16-2 (i) and CDV-16-3 (i).

- Borehole CDV-16-2 (i) is located east of the TA-16 Burning Ground. It was drilled to a total depth of 1063 feet and completed as a two-screen well. This well produced water (static water level ~ 950 ft) during December 2003 but was dry except for a small amount of water in the sump in January 2004.
- Borehole CDV-16-3 (i) is located south of the TA-16 Burning Ground and southeast of Building TA-16-340. It was drilled to a total depth of 1405 ft at which depth it should be ~100 ft within the regional aquifer. This borehole is currently dry except for a small amount of water in the bottom few feet that probably represents drilling fluids.

DOE and LANL propose to perform periodic (biweekly) monitoring of water levels in these boreholes for approximately 6 months to determine whether they will ultimately be able to provide water samples that can be used to determine the nature and extent of high explosive contamination in deep groundwaters at TA-16. LANL will provide a letter documenting the results of this water level monitoring at that time. At that time a decision will be made, in consultation with New Mexico Environment Department personnel, whether to plug and abandon or redrill the boreholes, whether to complete them as sampling wells, or whether to continue to drill at these locations.



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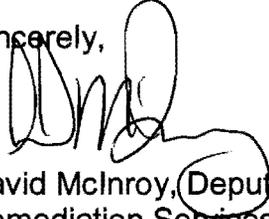
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If you have any questions, please contact Tom Whitacre at (505) 665-5042 or Donald Hickmott at (505) 667-8753.

Sincerely,



David McInroy, Deputy Project Director  
Remediation Services  
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,



David Gregory, Federal Project Director  
Department of Energy  
Los Alamos Site Operations

DM/DG/NR/th

Cy:(w/enc)

N. Quintana, RRES-ECR, MS M992  
D. Gregory, LASO, MS A316  
T. Trujillo, DOE-AL  
D. Goering, NMED-HWB  
S. Yanicak, NMED-OB, MS J993  
L. King, EPA Region 6  
RRES-RS File, MS M992  
IM-5, MS A150  
RPF MS M707

Cy:(w/o enclosure)

D. McInroy, RRES-RS, MS M992  
J. Kieling, NMED-HWB  
S. Martin, NMED-HWB  
C. Voorhees, NMED-OB