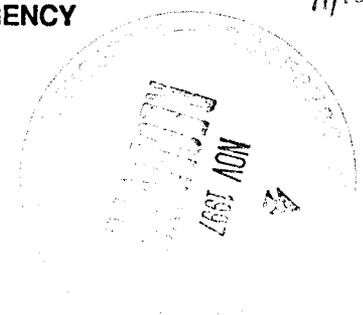




UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

*Stu -
Please forward to
DOE/LANL by 11/15/97
Benito
11/13/97*



November 4, 1997

Mr. Benito Garcia, Chief
New Mexico Environment Department
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
2044A Galisteo St.
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

**RE: Review of LANL VCA Completion Report for PRS 18-001(a),
EPA I.D. No. NM0890010515**

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed a technical review of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) RCRA Voluntary Corrective Action (VCA) Completion Report for cleanup activities in Technical Area (TA)18, Potential Release Site (PRS) 18-001(a), dated January 19, 1996. The EPA has found the Report to be deficient and enclosed is a list of deficiencies.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Allen T. Chang of my staff at (214) 665-7541.

Sincerely yours,

David W. Neleigh
David W. Neleigh, Chief
New Mexico/Federal Facilities
Section

Enclosure



1535

TL

LIST OF DEFICIENCIES
LANL VCA COMPLETION REPORT FOR PRS 18-001(a)

General Comments

1. In the RFI report, LANL stated that SALs were exceeded in four manholes, which would be decommissioned along with two lagoons. Please explain why the VCA Completion Report did not mention those four manholes. Please clarify whether these manholes are part of PRS 18-001(a). Had the manholes been removed? **(Best Professional Judgement, (BPJ))**

Site Specific Comments

1. Page 1, 6th paragraph, Monitoring Well: Please describe how the well was drilled. How deep? **(BPJ)**
2. Page 4, 1st paragraph: LANL states, "The SALs for groundwater are equivalent to the New Mexico State Water Quality Standards." Please specify which standard; surface water, or groundwater. **(BPJ)**
3. Page 4, 4th paragraph: The Report states that the measured manganese concentrations in monitoring wells PCO-1, PCO-2, and PCO-3 are 91, 1,460, and 8,800 µg/l, respectively. It is unusual for data to vary like this. Is there a laboratory problem? Has LANL verified the data? **(BPJ)**
4. Page 4, 5th paragraph: LANL believes that the measured manganese concentrations in the various wells are a function of overall water chemistry, rather than a pollution source. Please explain what it means and what are the major variables of this function. **(BPJ)**