

Los Alamos National Laboratory

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

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Date: May 20, 1996
Refer to: EM/ER:96-281

Mr. Benito Garcia
NMED-HRMB
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87502

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF DELIVERY DATE FOR
MATERIAL DISPOSAL AREA (MDA) V RESOURCE
CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT (RCRA) FACILITY
INVESTIGATION (RFI) REPORT**

The Los Alamos National Laboratory's Environmental Restoration (ER) Project is requesting your approval for an extension to the date of delivery for the MDA V [potential release site (PRS) 21-018] RFI Report. According to the letter the ER Project submitted to your office in early February, we currently have this report scheduled for delivery to your office on June 17, 1996. However, an extension of 60 days past this date is requested with the following explanation.

(a)
PRS 21-018 is a material disposal area which received primarily radioactively contaminated liquid wastes from a laundry during the period of 1945-1961. The absorption beds which comprise the unit were constructed of a layer of large cobbles overlaid by finer material. The absorption beds were intended to function as a filter for contaminants. During Phase I drilling, no recovery of material within the layer of cobbles was possible. Loss of recovery was not considered to be of concern for RCRA issues because the results for samples recovered both above and below the cobble layer showed hazardous constituents at levels well below screening action levels (SALs). However, during the assessment of Phase I radiological data, sample results for one borehole had radiological constituents above SAL, and the need for some additional investigation of the cobble layer was identified. Trenching of the absorption bed near the location of elevated radiological constituents to confirm the presence or absence of contamination in the cobble layer was initiated during the week of May 13, 1996. Preliminary results via the use of screening instruments indicate that radiological contamination is present at levels which may be considerably above SALs. Because of these results, it is prudent to confirm that RCRA constituents are below SALs in the cobble layer. A delay in the RFI Report for RCRA constituents past June 17, 1996, is therefore necessary.



TK

May 20, 1996

The trenching activities at MDA V are anticipated to continue through the week of May 20, 1996. A 60-day extension is requested so that the field activity can be completed, samples can be analyzed, and the data can be thoroughly evaluated, including the preparation of risk assessments if necessary. With your approval of a 60-day delay, the report would be due to your office no later than August 16, 1996.

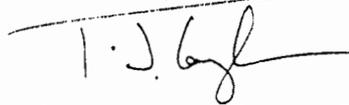
Please let us know at your earliest convenience whether this extension is approved. If you have questions regarding this issue, please contact Garry Allen at (505) 667-3394 or Bonnie Koch at (505) 665-7202.

Sincerely,



Jorg Jansen, Program Manager
Environmental Restoration

Sincerely,



Theodore J. Taylor, Program Manager
Los Alamos Area Office

JJ/TT/bp

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