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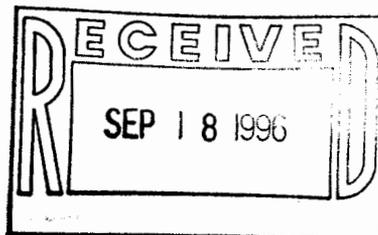
Los Alamos National Laboratory

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



Environmental Restoration Project
MS M992
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
505-667-0808/FAX 505-665-4747

Date: September 13, 1996
Refer to: EM/ER:96-469



Mr. Ted Taylor
Los Alamos Area Office
U.S. Department of Energy, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

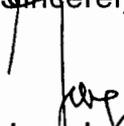
**SUBJECT: INTERIM ACTION PLAN FOR ACTIVITIES AT TA-21,
PRSS 21-023(c) and 21-024(b)**

Dear Ted:

Enclosed for your records please find a copy of the Interim Action Plan for activities at Technical Area 21, Potential Release Sites 21-023(c) and 21-024(b). These activities are planned for completion in Fiscal Year 1997. Informational copies of this plan are being distributed to the regulators.

If you have any questions, please call Garry Allen at (505) 667-6080 or Bonnie Koch at (505) 665-7202. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,


Jorg Jansen
Program Manager

JJ/el

Enclosure: Interim Action Plan for TA-21, PRSS 21-023(c) and 21-024(b)



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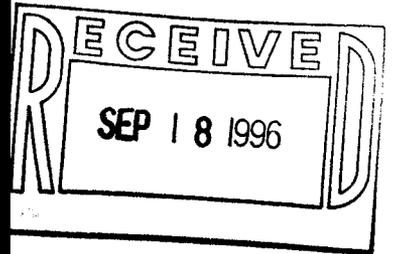
G. Allen, CST-18, MS E525
B. Garcia, NMED-HRMB (2 copies)
D. Griswold, AL-ERD, MS A906
J. Harry, EES-5, MS M992
B. Hoditschek, NMED-HRMB
B. Koch, LAAO, MS A316
N. Naraine, DOE-HQ, EM-453
D. Neleigh, EPA, R.6, 6PD-N (2 copies)
N. Weber, NMED-AIP, MS J993
J. White, ESH-19, MS K490
S. Yanicak, NMED-AIP, MS J993
RPF, MS M707

Cy (w/o enc.):

T. Baca, EM, MS J591
D. Bradbury, EM/ER, MS M992
T. Glatzmaier, DDEES/ER, MS M992
D. McInroy, EM/ER, MS M992
G. McMath, ERM-Golder, MS M327
G. Norris, EM/ER, MS M992
J. Levings, AL-ERD, MS A906
W. Spurgeon, DOE-HQ, EM-453
J. Vozella, LAAO, MS A316
K. Zamora, LAAO, MS A316
EM/ER File, MS M992

Interim Action Plan for Potential Release Site

21-023(c)



Field Unit 1

Environmental
Restoration
Project

September 1996

A Department of Energy
Environmental Cleanup Program

Los Alamos
NATIONAL LABORATORY

LA-UR-96-2836

CONTENTS

1.0 RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVE OF INTERIM ACTION 1

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERIZATION DATA 1

3.0 INTERIM ACTION 1

4.0 MONITORING AND CONFIRMATORY ACTIVITIES 1

5.0 MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION 3

6.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT 3

7.0 SCHEDULE AND COST 3

8.0 REFERENCES 4

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 1. Location of PRS 21-023(c) showing area of contamination and the location of the proposed fence. 2

1.0 RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVE OF INTERIM ACTION

Surface soils at the potential release site (PRS) 21-023(c) are contaminated with plutonium-239 and americium-241 at levels that exceed action limits for soil contamination areas established by the Environment, Safety, and Health (ESH) division at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). ESH direction requires areas exceeding these limits be fenced and posted as a radioactive soil contamination area. The PRS is located in an uncontrolled area on US Department of Energy (DOE) property and the potential exists for exposure and/or contamination of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) personnel or the public. The proposed interim action will limit the risk of potential exposure to LANL personnel and the public as well as bring PRS 21-023(c) into compliance with the site control and posting requirements for radioactive soil contamination areas.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERIZATION DATA

PRS 21-023(c) is a former septic system that routed sewage from building TA-21-33, the former waste treatment laboratory, through a septic tank to the surface on the south rim of DP Mesa above Los Alamos Canyon. Surface soil sampling at this PRS indicates plutonium-239 contamination to be as high as 300 pCi/g and americium-241 to be as high as 344 pCi/g. The ESH-1 action limit for plutonium-239 is 287 pCi/g, and for americium-241 the limit is 265 pCi/g. The site location and the extent of contamination are shown in Figure 1.

3.0 INTERIM ACTION

The proposed interim action involves placing a fence, with a locking vehicle gate, between the southeast corner of material disposal area (MDA) B and the northwest corner of MDA V (Figure 1). This fence will not encircle PRS 21-023(c) but it will keep unsuspecting individuals from accidentally coming into contact with contaminated soil since the area will be posted with signs indicating a radioactive soil contamination area. This interim action will bring the PRS into compliance with the access control and posting requirements for radioactive soil contamination areas and limit the potential for exposure of LANL personnel and the public.

4.0 MONITORING AND CONFIRMATORY ACTIVITIES

No monitoring or confirmatory sampling activities will be necessary after assembling the fence and posting signs in the area.

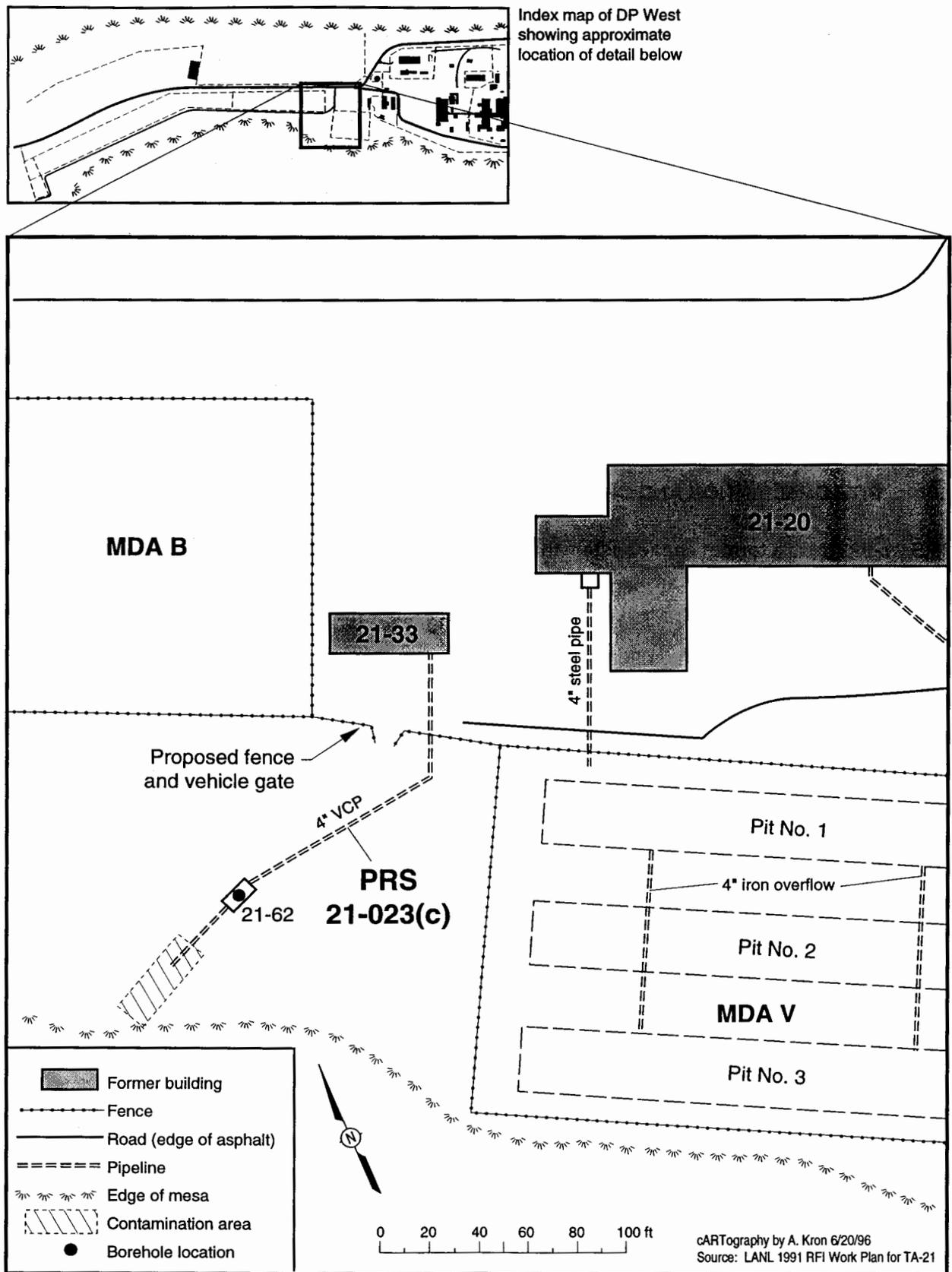


Fig. 1. Location of PRS 21-023(c) showing area of contamination and the location of the proposed fence.

5.0 MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION

Limited maintenance of the fence and inspections of the signage will be required as a result of this proposed interim action. Maintenance will be limited to repairing the fence on an as-needed basis. The signage will be inspected annually to ensure legibility.

6.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

No waste will be generated or require disposal as a result of the proposed interim action.

7.0 SCHEDULE AND COST

The fence and signage can be completed in approximately one day. The cost of this interim action is estimated to be less than \$5 000.

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**INTERIM ACTION PLAN
APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL FORM**

PRS(s) 21-023(c)

The undersigned have reviewed the Interim Action Plan and believe that an Interim Action is appropriate.

FPL Grallen

Date 4 Sept 96

FPC a. Koch

Date 9/5/96

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I, Theodore J. Taylor, DOE-LAAO, **APPROVE** , **DISAPPROVE** the accompanying Interim Action Plan for PRS(s) 21-023(c), TA-21.

The following reasons reflect the decision for disapproval:

Signed: T. J. Taylor

Date: 9/13/96

Interim Action Plan for Potential Release Site

21-024(b)

Field Unit 1

Environmental
Restoration
Project

September 1996

A Department of Energy
Environmental Cleanup Program



Los Alamos
NATIONAL LABORATORY

LA-UR-96-2837

CONTENTS

1.0 RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVE OF INTERIM ACTION 1

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERIZATION DATA 1

3.0 INTERIM ACTION 1

4.0 MONITORING AND CONFIRMATORY ACTIVITIES 1

5.0 MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION 3

6.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT 3

7.0 SCHEDULE AND COST 3

8.0 REFERENCES 4

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 1. Location of PRS 21-024(b) showing area of contamination and the location of the proposed fence. 2

1.0 RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVE OF INTERIM ACTION

Surface soils at the potential release site (PRS) 21-024(b) are contaminated with plutonium-239 at levels that exceed action limits for soil contamination areas established by the Environment, Safety, and Health (ESH) division at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). ESH direction requires areas exceeding these limits be fenced and posted as a radioactive soil contamination area. This PRS is located in an uncontrolled area on US Department of Energy property and the potential exists for exposure and/or contamination of LANL personnel or the public. The proposed interim action will limit the risk of potential exposure to LANL personnel and the public as well as bring PRS 21-024(b) into compliance with the site control and posting requirements for radioactive soil contamination areas.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERIZATION DATA

PRS 21-024(b) is a former septic system that routed sewage from building TA-21-17 through a septic tank to the surface on the south rim of DP Mesa above Los Alamos Canyon. Surface soil sampling indicates plutonium-239 contamination to be as high as 324 pCi/g. The ESH-1 action limit for plutonium-239 is 287 pCi/g. The site location and the extent of contamination are shown in Figure 1.

3.0 INTERIM ACTION

The proposed interim action involves placing a fence between the area of plutonium-239 contaminated soil and a trail, but the fence will not encircle the entire site (Figure 1). The fence will be posted as a radioactive soil contamination area. Because PRS 21-024(b) is a rough terrain with very limited access, the fence will ensure that unsuspecting individuals do not accidentally come into contact with contaminated soil. The interim action will bring this PRS into compliance with the access control and posting requirements for a radioactive soil contamination area and limit the potential for exposure of LANL personnel or the public.

4.0 MONITORING AND CONFIRMATORY ACTIVITIES

No monitoring or confirmatory sampling activities will be necessary after assembling the fence and posting signs in the area.

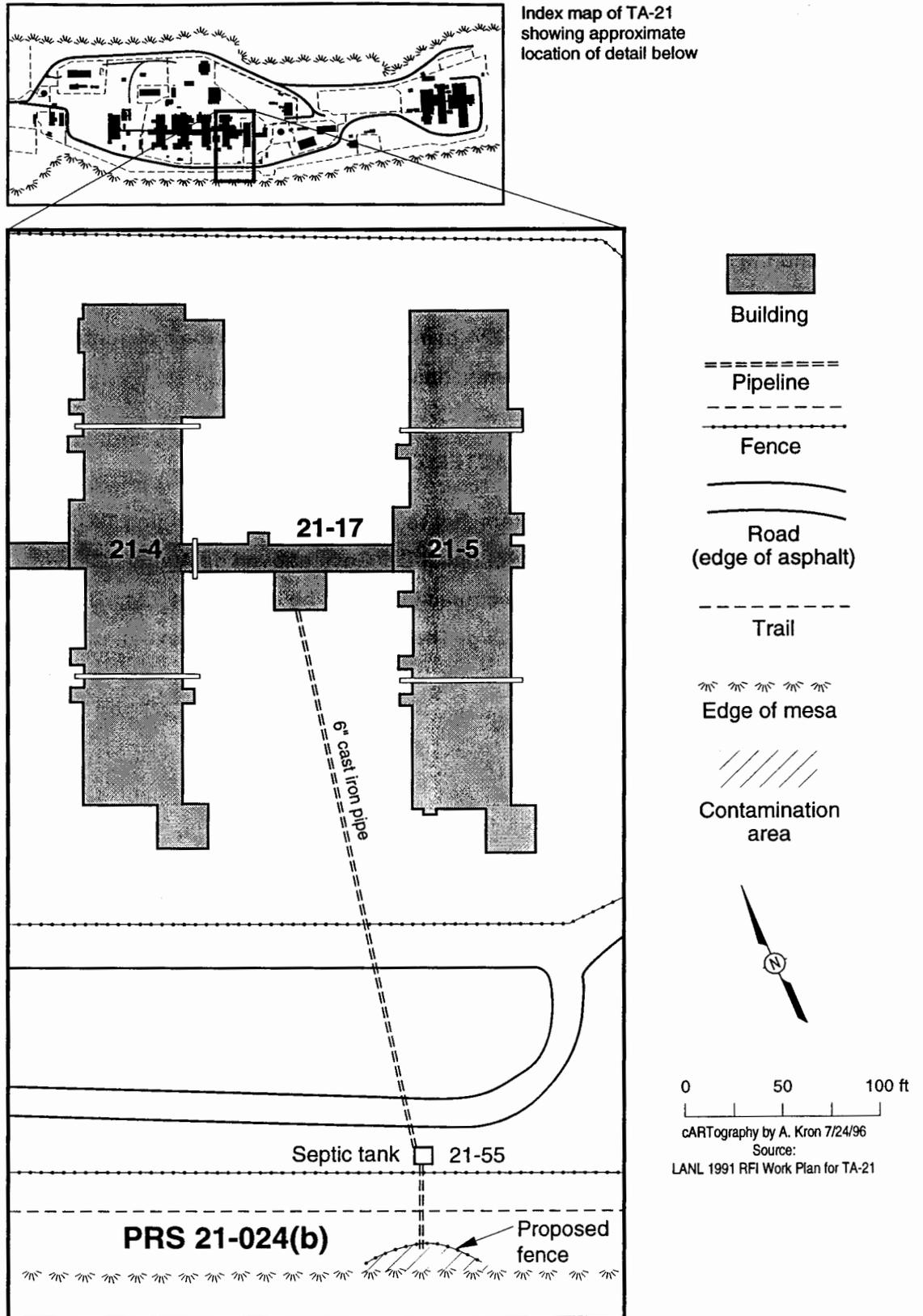


Fig. 1. Location of PRS 21-024(b) showing area of contamination and the location of the proposed fence.

5.0 MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION

Limited maintenance of the fence and inspections of the signage will be required as a result of the proposed interim action. Maintenance will be limited to repairing the fence on an as-needed basis. The signage will be inspected annually to ensure legibility.

6.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

No waste will be generated as a result of the proposed interim action.

7.0 SCHEDULE AND COST

The fence and signage can be completed in approximately one day. The cost of this interim action is estimated to be less than \$5 000.

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**INTERIM ACTION PLAN
APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL FORM**

PRS(s) 21-024(b)

The undersigned have reviewed the Interim Action Plan and believe that an Interim Action is appropriate.

FPL BR Allen

Date 4 Sept 96

FPC a. kcal

Date 9/5/96

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I, Theodore J. Taylor, DOE-LAAO, **APPROVE** , **DISAPPROVE** the accompanying Interim Action Plan for PRS(s) 21-024(b), TA-21.

The following reasons reflect the decision for disapproval:

Signed: TJG

Date: 9/13/96