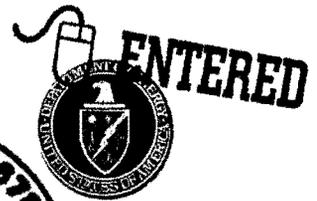


TA21



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544



OCT 02 2009



To: Distribution List

The purpose of this letter is to serve as notification for actions proposed within a floodplain area at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in accordance with the U. S. Department of Energy's (DOE) *Compliance with Floodplain and Wetland Environmental Review Requirements* (10 CFR Part 1022), and to request that the attached document, the *Floodplain Assessment of the Proposed Grade Control Structure in DP Canyon, Technical Area(TA)-21, Los Alamos National Laboratory*, be made available for public review at the Robert J. Oppenheimer Study Center Research Library for a period of 30 days.

The DOE National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Los Alamos Site Office is preparing to implement a project to repair the degraded channel using a grade control structure in DP Canyon at TA-21 to limit the loss of sediment and dissipate floodwater leaving LANL property. The proposed structure is composed of gabions with a 21-foot low-flow weir width at 4 feet above the lowest elevation in the existing stream and a 54-foot overflow weir at 3 feet above the low-flow weir. The 5-year flow was used to design the low-flow notch. The 100-year flow was used to determine the rest of the weir dimensions (the upper notch and confinement walls) and to calculate the energy dissipation (stilling) basin dimensions and end sill heights. The initial design crest of the low-flow notch is 4 feet above the existing ground but can go as high as 7.5 feet. A perforated and slotted riser pipe will be placed approximately 50 feet upstream of the structure to assist in releasing water stored upstream. This pipe is connected to an outfall pipe that goes through the gabion structure and outlets to the stilling basin or plunge pool to let the water drain at a slow measured pace. The proposed installation of the grade control structure is a corrective measure prescribed by the New Mexico Environmental Department.

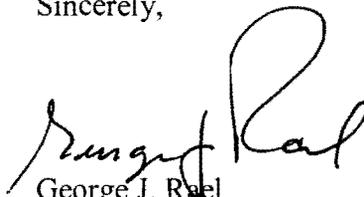
In accordance with 10 CFR Part 1022, NNSA has prepared the attached Floodplain Assessment and will perform the proposed action in a manner so as to avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the affected floodplain. Copies of the Floodplain Assessment are available for review electronically on the Internet at: <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/compliance>, and for hard copy review at the Robert J. Oppenheimer Study Center Research Library, located within LANL TA-3, Los Alamos, New Mexico. The draft document may also be sent upon request by calling Ms. Vicki Loucks at (505) 667-6819.

Any comments about the action are due no later than close of business on October 16, 2009. Written comments should be addressed to Ms. Loucks at: U. S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, Los Alamos Site Office, 3747 West Jemez Road, Los Alamos, NM 87544, or may be submitted by e-mail to: vloucks@doeal.gov, or sent by facsimile to (505) 667-9998. For further information on general DOE floodplain environmental review requirements, contact Mrs. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and



Compliance (GC-20), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20585; (202) 586-4600, or leave a message at (800) 472-2756.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George J. Rael". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, prominent loop at the end of the last name.

George J. Rael
Assistant Manager
Environmental Operations

EO: 17VL-162842

cc:

V. Loucks, EO, LASO

C. Rodriguez, EO, LASO

L. Hansen, ENV-EAQ, LANL, MS J978

Records Center, LASO

Official Contract File, LASO