

# Los Alamos National Laboratory

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION



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Date: March 13, 1996  
Refer to: EM/ER:96-1228



Mr. Glen Saums  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
1190 St. Francis Dr.  
Santa Fe, NM 87502

**SUBJECT: STORMWATER CONTROLS AT TECHNICAL AREA (TA)**

Dear Mr. Saums:

The Los Alamos National Laboratory is conducting a Phase II Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Facility Investigation at TA-32, the former Medical Research Facility located on Trinity Drive. A site survey was conducted in February 1996 to document potential stormwater run-on and runoff impacts for Potential Release Sites (PRSs) 32-002(a,b). Stormwater run-on from the Los Alamos County Maintenance Complex was identified as a potential source to mobilize contaminants associated with the outfall and canyon bench area of PRSs 32-002(a,b).

A straw-bale check dam was placed above the former septic tank location, TA-32-8, to divert run-on around the area of potential contamination at the outfalls and on the adjacent hillside. A straw-bale check dam was also placed at the confluence of the drainage channel on the canyon bench to help stop potential runoff associated with the outfalls area.

Mike Alexander of the Laboratory's Water Quality Section has reviewed and approved the placement of the dams an interim control measure. The site was photographed for documentation purposes and the photographs are enclosed for your review.

If you have any questions or concerns with regard to this letter, please contact Bonnie Koch at (505) 665-7202 or Garry Allen at (505) 667-3394.

Sincerely,

Jorg Jansen, Program Manager  
Environmental Restoration

Sincerely,

Theodore J. Taylor, Program Manager  
Los Alamos Area Office

JJ/TT/bp



TL

Enclosure: Photographs

Cy (w/enc.):

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**Photo #1: Looking NW at straw-bale check dam above PRS 32-002(a, b). Dam in place to divert potential run-on from the LA County Roads Division storage lots.**



**Photo #2: Looking SE at straw-bale check dam above PRS 32-002(a, b). Former septic tank TA-32-8 was located near lower right of photograph.**



**Photo #3: Looking N at straw-bale check dam above PRS 32-002(a, b). Note the LA County Roads Division salt and sand storage yard.**



**Photo #4: Looking S down outfall drainage for PRS 32-002(a, b). Straw has been put down to assist with run-off control. Note roadway in LA Canyon.**



**Photo #5:** Looking N up the drainage towards the outfall pipe located in PRS 32-002(a, b). Straw has been put down to assist with run-off control.



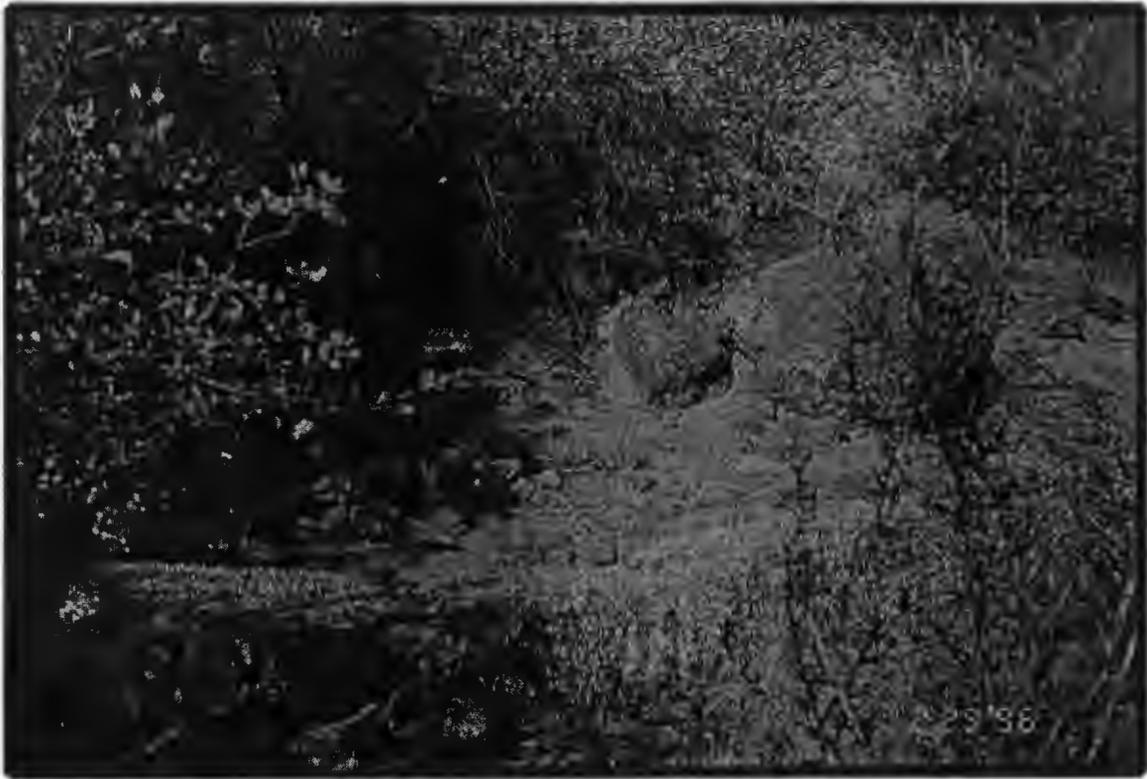
**Photo #6:** Looking S at straw-bale check dams put in place to assist with run-off control from the canyon bench area of PRS 32-002 (a, b). Note the roadway at bottom of LA Canyon.



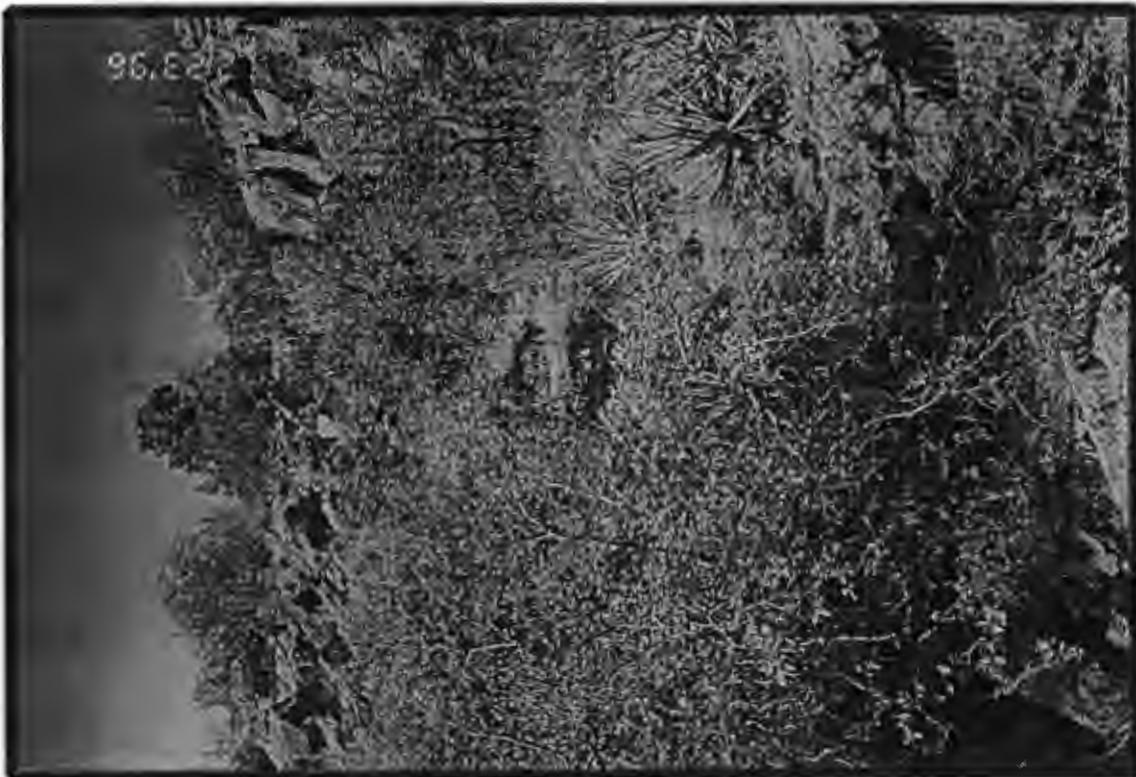
**Photo #7: Looking S at straw-bale check dams put in place to assist with run-off control from the canyon bench area of PRS 32-002 (a, b). Note the roadway at bottom of LA Canyon.**



**Photo #8: Looking S down the drainage from the canyon bench area of PRS 32-002(a, b). Note the stream channel north of the roadway in LA Canyon.**



**Photo #9:** Looking N at straw-bale check dam located at the cliff edge of the canyon bench. Main PRS 32-002(a, b) drainage channel is above the dam.



**Photo #10:** Looking N, from cliff edge of the canyon bench, up the main outfall drainage for PRS 32-002(a, b).