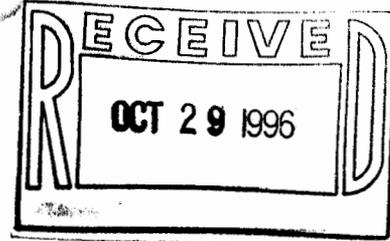


Department of Energy

Albuquerque Operations Office
Los Alamos Area Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

OCT 21 1996



CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Benito J. Garcia, Bureau Chief
Hazardous and Radioactive Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
525 Camino Del Los Marquez, Suite #4
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR A 30-DAY EXTENSION FOR STORAGE AT TA-33

Dear Mr. Garcia,

The purpose of this letter is to request a 30-day extension for storage at TA-33, pursuant to Title 20 of the New Mexico Administrative Code, Chapter 4, Part 1 (20 NMAC 4.1) Subpart III, which adopts 40 CFR 262.34(b). On September 5, 1996, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) submitted a letter to you (EM/ER:96-466) submitting a Waste Analysis Plan (WAP) to conduct generator treatment in a <90-day container storage area at TA-33 and to request a 30-day extension. At that time, we stated that although we intend to complete all treatment within the 90-day time frame, we believed that it was prudent to request an extension in case unforeseen events arise. In Coby Muckelroy's September 13, 1996 response to the September 5, 1996 letter, he approved the Waste Analysis Plan, but he could not grant the 30-day extension until the specific requirements of 20 NMAC 4.1.300 are provided.

Upon receiving approval for treatment of the waste, it was necessary to prepare a site-specific health and safety plan (SSHASP) prior to beginning testing of the stabilization treatment process to determine the optimal ratio of Portland cement to soil waste as per the WAP. The test samples were submitted for analysis on September 26, 1996, but the final analytical results of the stabilization testing were not received until October 14, 1996. It is anticipated that the treatment, post-treatment sampling and disposal of this waste will be completed by November 15, 1996.



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Because of the late receipt of the testing data, and the fact that we are still in the process of treating the soil waste stream for which the WAP was submitted, and since the 90 day time frame for this waste ends on October 24, 1996, a 30-day extension is requested. Upon completion of treatment, we will send a one-time notification and certification to you by the end of the calendar year that includes information specified in 20 NMAC 4.1, Subpart VIII, and 40 CFR 268.9(d). If you have any questions, please contact Jody Plum of my staff at (505) 665-5042.

Sincerely,



Joseph C. Vozella,
Assistant Area Manager for Environment and Projects
Los Alamos Area Office

cc: David Neleigh
RCRA Permits Branch
U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

C. Muckleroy, NMED-HRMB
S. Dinwiddie, NMED-HRMBM