



BRUCE KING
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
(505) 827-2850

JUDITH M. ESPINOSA
SECRETARY

RON CURRY
DEPUTY SECRETARY

October 20, 1993

Dear Concerned Citizen:

Enclosed is a Fact Sheet regarding a Draft Research, Development, and Demonstration Permit that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) proposes for the Department of Energy (DOE)/Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Hydrothermal Processing Unit.

Copies of the Draft Permit are available for review at the offices of the NMED Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau, P.O. Box 26110, 525 Camino de los Marquez, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, and at the Environmental Restoration Community Reading Room, 1450 Central Avenue, Suite 101, Los Alamos, New Mexico. Call the Reading Room for business hours.

If you wish to make comments on this Draft Permit, they must be in writing and be received by the NMED Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau at the address mentioned above no later than **December 15, 1993**.

If you have any questions regarding this Draft Permit, please contact Mr. Carl Stubbs of my staff at (505) 827-4308 or at the Santa Fe address given above.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hoditschek
Program Manager
RCRA Permit Section
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

Enclosure.

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FACT SHEET

DRAFT RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION PERMIT

for the

LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

HYDROTHERMAL PROCESSING UNIT

LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

Activities: Application for a Research, Development and Demonstration Permit for a Hydrothermal Processing treatment unit at the Department of Defence (DOE)/Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act.

Facility Name: Department of Energy
Los Alamos National Laboratory

EPA I.D. No.: NM0890010515

Location: The DOE/LANL facility is located in Los Alamos County, New Mexico, southwest of the city of Los Alamos. The site is in Technical Area (TA) 9, Building 38.

Unit Purpose: The purpose of the proposed project is to demonstrate the technical feasibility and performance capability of the hydrothermal processing unit. The treatment includes destruction of reactive hazardous organic constituents in heated, pressurized water. The RD&D permit will allow DOE/LANL the opportunity to demonstrate the suitability of the hydrothermal process for treatment of wastes containing propellants, explosives, and pyrotechnics (PEP).

Unit Description: The hydrothermal processing unit will be housed in Building 38, which is designed for activities involving the management of explosives. The treatment unit proposes to

use a supply and mixing subsystem to provide a mixed waste/water/oxygen feed for the heated reactor. A cool-down and pressure let-down subsystem post-processes the reactor effluent. Process effluent will be captured in pressure vessels for analysis and subsequent disposal. The treatment unit is designed to process two gallons of hazardous waste per hour.

Draft Permit
Availability:

A copy of the draft permit is available for public review at the Environmental Restoration Community Reading Room, 1450 Central Avenue, Suite 101, Los Alamos, New Mexico (Contact the Reading Room for Business hours.) and at the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB), 525 Camino de los Marquez, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Any person who wishes to comment on the draft permit or request a public hearing should submit comments or request to the Santa Fe address mentioned above, Attention: Mr. Carl Stubbs. Requests for hearing should include a statement of the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing and must include the requestor's name and address. Only comments and requests for hearing received by **December 15, 1993** will be considered. NMED will publish a thirty day (30) notice of a public hearing, if scheduled.

Final
Decision:

All comments received on the draft permit during the public comment period will be considered in reaching a final permit approval decision. The NMED will notify LANL and each person who submitted a written comment, of any changes made in finalizing the permit.