

Los Alamos National Laboratory

Environment, Safety And Health Division (ESH-19)

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Date: August 29, 2000
Refer to: ESH-19-00:078

Hand Delivered



Mr. John Kieling, RCRA Permits Program
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2004 Galisteo St. Building A
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Mr. Kieling:

**SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY CHEMICAL
DESTRUCTION AT LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY (LANL),
TECHNICAL AREA (TA) 36**

The purpose of this letter is to provide a written report notifying you of the destruction of seven Type A fluorine gas cylinders that were damaged in the recent Cerro Grande Fire. The destruction took place on August 26, 2000, following approval provided by you via telephone on June 8, 2000.

These cylinders had been located adjacent to a building at TA-15-R-50 that was destroyed by the fire. Upon inspection by emergency personnel, it was believed that the integrity of the cylinders may have been compromised by the intense heat, that they were a potential threat to human health and safety, and that an emergency destruction was necessary. Because of the continuing threat of fire, the cylinders were isolated in place until detonations could be conducted safely.

The material to be destroyed was moved from TA-15-50 to TA-36-8 by the HazMat Team. Air modeling calculations performed by Environmental, Safety and Health, Group 17 personnel determined that the planned release of the material generated during the operation would not result in significant toxic release concentrations at public access points. Safe stand-off distances for personnel for the chemical destruction were calculated and observed. An inspection of the surrounding area conducted after the destruction process revealed no unusual occurrences. Metal fragments were characterized and managed appropriately.



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Mr. John Kieling
ESH-19:00-078

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August 22, 2000

If you have any questions, please call me at 667- 0820.

Sincerely,



Alice Barr
Hazardous and Solid Waste Group

AB/vh

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