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GOVERNOR

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ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
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Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
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JUDITH M. ESPINOSA
SECRETARY

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July 29, 1991

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED



Mr. Jerry L. Bellows, Area Manager
Los Alamos Area Office
Department of Energy
528 35th Street
Los Alamos New Mexico 87544-500

RE: DRAFT CLOSURE PLAN FOR THE TA-40 SCRAP DETONATION SITE
NM0890010515

Dear Mr. Bellows:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has completed its review of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) closure plan for the TA-40 Scrap Detonation Site located at your facility near Los Alamos, New Mexico. Based upon this review, NMED proposes to approve the closure plan in accordance with the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (HWMR-6), Part VI, 40 CFR Section 265.112(d)(4). We have enclosed a copy of the fact sheet and legal notice. You are invited to comment on the proposed closure plan during the public comment period which ends on September 2, 1991. The final decision will not be made until after review of the comments received during the comment period.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Marc Sides of my staff at (505) 827-2420.

Sincerely,

Ed Horst
Program Manager
Hazardous and Radioactive Waste Bureau

Enclosures



2461

CLOSURE PLAN FACT SHEET
for the
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
HAZARDOUS WASTE THERMAL TREATMENT UNIT
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

Activities: Closure of a hazardous waste thermal treatment unit at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act.

Facility Name: Los Alamos National Laboratory

EPA I.D. No.: NM0890010515

Location: The LANL facility is located in Los Alamos County, New Mexico, west of the city of Los Alamos. The site is in Technical Area (TA) 40 (New Mexico State Plane coordinates E481,920; N1,767,000).

Unit

Description: The site is roughly circular, approximately 60 feet in diameter. The TA-40 Scrap Detonation Site area is on a south-facing mesa-rim shelf. The shelf has cliffs both to the north below the mesa, and to the south overlooking Pajarito Canyon. Ignitable and reactive hazardous wastes were treated at the site from the early 1960's until April 1985.

**Pre-Closure
Activities:**

Wastes are no longer received by the TA-40 Scrap Detonation Site. LANL has conducted preliminary soil sampling and analysis for the site and identified no contamination present.

**Closure of
Units:**

The proposed closure plan calls for clean closure of the unit. Soils and subsoils will be thoroughly investigated to determine if any contamination is present, and if so, the extent of contamination. All contaminated materials will be excavated, managed and disposed of as hazardous waste unless sampling indicates that the contamination is below regulatory levels.

Closure Plan

Availability: A copy of the closure plan is available for public review at the Sunny Days Plaza Community Relations Room, 2101 Trinity Drive, Los Alamos, New Mexico, and at the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Hazardous and Radioactive Waste Bureau, 1190 St. Frances Drive, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**Comment Period
and Request**

for Hearing: Any person, including LANL, who wishes to comment on the tentative decision to approve the closure plan, or who wishes to request a public hearing may do so by submitting written comments or requests to the NMED, Hazardous and Radioactive Waste Bureau, 1190 St Frances Drive, P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502. Requests for hearing must 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 public hearing received by September 2, 1991 will be considered. NMED will publish a thirty day notice of the public hearing, if scheduled

**Final
Decision:**

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

LEGAL NOTICE

**NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
RADIOACTIVE AND HAZARDOUS WASTE BUREAU
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502**

August 1, 1991

NOTICE OF INTENT TO CLOSE A HAZARDOUS WASTE TREATMENT UNIT

The State of New Mexico is authorized to operate a hazardous waste management program in lieu of the Federal program for those portions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) in effect prior to the enactment of the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA). The HSWA impose additional requirements on hazardous waste management facilities which will be administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) until the State of New Mexico receives additional authorization for those requirements.

Under authority of the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act (Section 74-4-1 et. seq. NMSA 1978, as amended, 1989) and the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management Regulations, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) can approve or deny closure plans. NMED proposed to approve the closure plan submitted by Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), EPA I.D. Number NM0890010515, for the LANL TA-40 Scrap Detonation Site. The unit is presently under RCRA interim status.

LANL is a contractor operated research facility under the administration of the Department of Energy (DOE) located near Los Alamos, New Mexico. The scrap detonation site is located in Technical Area (TA) 40 on a south-facing mesa-rim shelf (New Mexico State Plane coordinates E481,920;N1,767,000). The shelf has cliffs both to the north below the mesa top, and to the south overlooking Pajarito Canyon. The TA-40 Scrap Detonation Site is a thermal treatment unit which treated ignitable and reactive hazardous waste from the early 1960's until April 1985. The site is roughly circular in shape, approximately 60 feet in diameter.

The proposed closure plan calls for clean closure of the TA-40 Scrap Detonation Site. Soils and subsoils will be investigated to determine if any contamination is present, and if so, the extent of contamination. All contaminated materials will be excavated, managed, and disposed of as hazardous waste unless sampling and analysis indicates that the contamination is below regulatory levels.

The administrative record for this decision consists of the closure plan, a fact sheet, and related correspondence. The

administrative record may be viewed at the NMED, Hazardous and Radioactive Waste Bureau, Harold Runnels Building, 1190 St. Frances Drive, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502. The closure plan and fact sheet may be viewed at the Sunny Days Plaza Community Relations Room, 2101 Trinity Drive, Los Alamos, New Mexico. To obtain copy of the administrative record or any part thereof, at 35 cents per page, please contact Mr. Marc Sides at the above address or call (505) 827-2420.

Any person who wishes to comment upon the proposed plan or to request a public hearing should submit written comments and requests, along with the commentor's name and address, to the Santa Fe address. Requests for a public hearing shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Only comments and/or requests received by September 2, 1991 will be considered. NMED will provide a thirty day notice of the public hearing, if scheduled.

All written comments submitted on the proposed plan will be considered in formulating a final decision. NMED may modify the closure plan based on the comments received. NMED will notify LANL and each person who submitted a written comment during the public comment period of the final decision.

If, after consideration of all written comments, this proposed action becomes the final decision, NMED will issue LANL final approval for the proposed closure plan. The final approval will require that the closure activities be conducted in accordance with applicable State and Federal laws, as well as with the terms approved in the closure plan.