



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

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 20, 1993

Mr. Jerry L. Bellows, Area Manager
Los Alamos Area Office
Department of Energy
528 35th Street
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544-5000

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

Dear Mr. Bellows:

The Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB) has completed a review of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Closure Plan Modification and Clean Closure Equivalency Demonstration for the TA-40 Scrap Detonation Site. Based upon this review, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) finds that LANL has supplied adequate information for public notice to be published in accordance with the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (HWMR-7), Part VI, 40 CFR Section 265.112(d)(4).

The approved closure plan must be consistent with NMED closure regulations. Final approval of the closure plan may contain modifications resulting from any public comments received or technical review. If NMED determines that additional sampling data or other field activities are required to confirm clean closure, then NMED will review the results of the additional work to determine whether or not clean closure can be granted.

We have enclosed a copy of the fact sheet and legal notice for this closure. You are invited to comment on the proposed closure plan modification during the public comment period, which ends November 30, 1993. No final decision will be made until after review of the comments received during the comment period.



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Mr. Jerry L. Bellows, Area Manager
October 20, 1993
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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Carl Stubbs of my staff at (505) 827-4308.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosures.

xc: File Red



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LEGAL NOTICE NUMBER 52

NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT
HAZARDOUS AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS BUREAU
Santa Fe, New Mexico

NOVEMBER 1, 1993

NOTICE OF INTENT TO CLOSE A HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
THERMAL TREATMENT UNIT AND TERMINATE INTERIM STATUS

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 (HWMR-7), The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) can approve or deny the closure plan. NMED has received a closure plan modification submitted by the **Department of Energy (DOE)/Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), EPA I.D. Number NM0890010515**, for the LANL Technical Area 40 Scrap Detonation Site. The unit is presently under RCRA interim status. Interim status was granted to those facilities in operation prior to the effective date of the regulations.

LANL is a contractor operated research facility under the administration of the DOE located near Los Alamos, New Mexico. The thermal treatment unit was used to treat explosive scrap material by open burning and open detonation. The facility includes a burn cage, two burn areas, a burn pit, and a detonation area (or amphitheater). This unit is located on a south-facing mesa-rim shelf.

LANL submitted a closure plan which was approved by NMED on September 13, 1991. The closure plan was subsequently implemented by LANL and completed in January, 1993. Hazardous constituents were detected above health-based risk levels at various locations throughout the site. At the request of NMED,

LANL submitted a closure plan modification on May 19, 1993. This closure plan modification presents LANL's proposal for removal of the contaminated soils and subsoils, and additional sampling for hazardous constituents.

The administrative record for this closure consists of the closure plan, closure plan modification, a fact sheet, and related correspondence. The administrative record may be reviewed at NMED, Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau, 525 Camino de los Marquez, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM. The closure plan modification and fact sheet may also be viewed at the Environmental Restoration Community Reading Room, 1450 Central Avenue, Suite 101, Los Alamos, New Mexico. To obtain a copy of the administrative record or any part thereof, at 35 cents per page, please contact Mr. Carl Stubbs at the above Santa Fe address or call (505) 827-4308.

Any person who wishes to comment upon the closure plan modification or to request a public hearing should submit written comments and requests, along with the commenter'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 **November 30, 1993** will be considered. NMED will provide a thirty day (30) notice of a public hearing, if scheduled.

NMED must ensure that the approved closure plan modification is consistent with the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management Regulations for closure. All written comments submitted on the closure plan modification 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.

After consideration of all written comments received, NMED will approve or modify and approve the closure plan submitted by DOE/LANL. If NMED modifies and approves the closure, then NMED shall provide LANL with a detailed written statement of reasons for the modification and the modified plan will become the approved closure plan. A copy of the modified closure plan with a detailed statement of the reasons for the modification will be mailed to LANL. If closure activities meet the closure standards for closure by removal, NMED will grant clean closure of the unit. If closure by removal standards are not met, then the unit will be subject to post-closure care regulatory requirements.



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FACT SHEET

CLOSURE PLAN MODIFICATION

for the

LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

TA-40 SCRAP DETONATION SITE

LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

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

Facility Name: Los Alamos National Laboratory

EPA I.D. No.: NM08900105151

Location: The LANL facility is located in Los Alamos County, New Mexico, south of the city of Los Alamos. The site is in Technical Area (TA) 40.

Unit Description: The thermal treatment unit was used to treat explosive scrap material by open burning and open detonation. The facility includes a burn cage, two burn areas, a burn pit, and a detonation area (or amphitheater). This unit is located on a south-facing mesa-rim shelf.

Closure Activities: Wastes are no longer managed in the TA-40 Scrap Detonation Site. LANL submitted a closure plan which was approved by NMED on September 13, 1991. The closure plan was subsequently implemented by LANL and completed in January, 1993. Hazardous constituents were detected above health-based risk levels at various locations throughout the site. At the request of NMED, LANL submitted a closure plan modification to address the remaining contamination on May 19, 1993.

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Closure of
Unit:

The proposed closure plan modification calls for clean closure of the unit. The contaminated materials including soils and subsoils will be excavated, and managed and disposed of as hazardous waste unless sampling indicates that the contamination is below NMED-Approved Health-Based Exposure Limit Criteria. Soils and subsoils will be thoroughly re-investigated to determine if any contamination is present, and if so, the extent of contamination.

Closure Plan
Availability:

A copy of the closure plan is available for public review at the Environmental Restoration Community Reading Room, 1450 Central Avenue, Suite 101, Los Alamos, New Mexico and at the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau, 525 Camino de los Marquez, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502. Requests for hearing shall 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 **November 30, 1993** will be considered. NMED will publish a thirty day (30) notice of the public hearing, if scheduled.

Final
Decision:

All comments received on the proposed closure plan modification 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. If, after all closure activities are complete, the closure meets the standards for closure by removal, NMED will grant clean closure of the unit and terminate interim status. If closure by removal standards are not meet, the unit will be subject to post-closure care regulatory requirements.