

TA 48



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Risk Reduction & Environmental Stewardship (RRES)  
Remediation (R) Program, MS M992  
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*National Nuclear Security Administration.*  
Los Alamos Site Operations, MS A316  
Environmental Restoration Program  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544  
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Date: February 19, 2003  
Refer to: ER2003-0156



Mr. John Young, Corrective Action Project Leader  
Permits Management Program  
NMED – Hazardous Waste Bureau  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East  
Building 1  
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

**SUBJECT: EXTENSION FOR THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNIT (SWMU)  
ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR POTENTIAL RELEASE SITE (PRS) 48-012 AT  
TECHNICAL AREA (TA) 48 LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY (LANL)**

Dear Mr. Young:

This letter is in response to your February 6, 2003 letter and to an e-mail dated February 11, 2003 from Ms. Lee Winn to David McInroy. In the e-mail you request that we provide a letter explaining why the time extension granted by New Mexico Environmental Department until March 31, 2003 is not sufficient to complete the Voluntary Corrective Action (VCA) Report for PRS 48-012.

In our January 16, 2003 letter we proposed a submission date of May 30, 2003 to provide sufficient time to prepare the VCA Report. The VCA Report now in progress will go beyond the requirements of a SWMU Assessment Report by detailing activities already implemented, the results of the confirmatory sampling after the cleanup was completed, and an assessment of risks as well as thorough assessment of this site. Results from analysis of soil samples collected to confirm cleanup show that this site does not pose a health or ecological risk.

As you are aware, all work conducted so far is in support of the facility at TA 48. The investigation was initiated and cleanup completed in less than 60 days with the costs borne by the facility. Funds were not available at that time for preparation of the VCA Completion Report, as Congress has not passed the budget bill for FY 2003. Development of a contract to complete this report was delayed approximately 60 days to ensure proper funding authorizations were in place and to preclude any perception of mis-appropriation of government funds. Changes to the business process are now being developed that better defines a facility's responsibilities for responses to environmental incidents such as the occurrence at TA 48. For these reasons and considering the current resource commitment to negotiation of the Corrective Action Order we hope you will reconsider our request for a time extension to complete the report for PRS 48-012.



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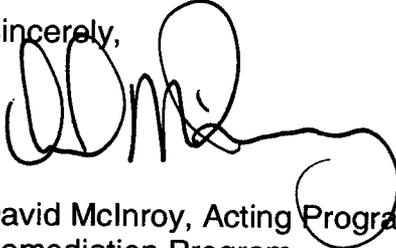
Mr. John Young  
ER2003-0156

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February 19, 2003

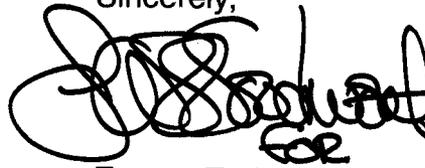
If you have any questions, please call Gabriela Lopez Escobedo (505) 665-7352 or David Gregory at (505) 667-5808.

Sincerely,



David McInroy, Acting Program Manager  
Remediation Program  
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,



Everett Trollinger, Project Manager  
Department of Energy  
Los Alamos Site Operations

DM/ET/GLE/am

Cy:

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