



ENTRANCE

FEB 12 2016

**Environmental Protection Division**  
**Environmental Compliance Programs (ENV-CP)**  
PO Box 1663, K490  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545  
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*Date:* February 9, 2016  
*Symbol:* ENV-DO-16-036  
*LA-UR:* 16-20735  
*Locates Action No.:* U1600689

Mr. John E. Kieling  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Mr. Kieling:

**Subject: Destruction of Unstable Hazardous Materials at TA-49, Los Alamos National Laboratory**

On January 29, 2016, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Environmental Compliance Programs Group (ENV-CP) submitted a *Request for Destruction of Unstable Hazardous Material at TA-49* to conduct emergency treatment (detonation) of a canister containing unstable nitrocellulose film. In a letter dated February 1, 2016, the New Mexico Environment Department Hazardous Waste Bureau (NMED-HWB) granted Emergency Authorization for treatment by detonation of the unstable nitrocellulose film. Destruction of the nitrocellulose film was conducted on February 3, 2016 in accordance with 40 CFR 270.1(c)(3).

The film canister containing nitrocellulose film was identified at TA-03-39 inside a vault with items of historical significance. The Emergency Response team was able to identify that the film contained nitrocellulose and determined that the film had decomposed, and posed a considerable safety risk. Emergency Response personnel determined that treatment by open detonation was a necessary response for the nitrocellulose film.

The nitrocellulose film was safely transported to TA-49 where the detonation was completed on February 3, 2016 at 10:10, in a controlled and safe manner. Emergency Response personnel were able to recover a couple small pieces of the canister, which were given back to the Records Management Group. They will

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retain the recovered canister pieces in the LANL Records Center evidence files compiled to document the disposition of this motion picture film record. No other residues remained after treatment.

Please contact Mark P. Haagenstad at (505) 665-0214 of the Environmental Compliance Programs (ENV-CP) if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Anthony R. Grieggs  
Group Leader  
Environmental Compliance Programs (ENV-CP)  
Los Alamos National Security, LLC

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