

August 18, 1989

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EPA REGION 5
HAZARDOUS WASTE
COMPLIANCE

Mr. Bill Honker
Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue, 12th floor
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Dear Mr. Honker:

This letter is in reference to the Los Alamos National Laboratories' proposed burning of hazardous and radioactive waste and LANL's application for a permit for such burning. I attended several of the hearings in Santa Fe regarding this issue, and must admit I left somewhat frustrated at the various agencies that seem to be interconnected with yards and miles of red tape, all of which have control of various aspects of our air, health, and earth quality and protection.

I wish to voice my opposition to any toxic, hazardous, mixed or otherwise, or radioactive waste burning at Los Alamos, or anywhere within this state or country for that matter. I am in favor of New Mexico being able to impose stronger regulations concerning such matters as health, water and air quality than those which may be in place by the federal government. I feel we citizens of New Mexico should be the governing protection body for the activities that take place or which are proposed to take place within our state that will so critically affect our lives and environment.

I am in favor of monitoring of any toxins that may be burned at any incineration facility in our state, if indeed such incineration is allowed. I am in favor of air quality as well as health and environmental impact studies being conducted around any nuclear production site such as LANL.

I feel more power needs to go back to the people regarding things that affect or may affect our lives, homes, environment, children, health, and quality of life on this planet. Too much power has been turned over to agencies or "the government", and we, the people, seem to be left with accepting what those agencies or the government determines is best for our lives. I'm all in favor of giving the responsibility back to the people; let us form a committee to govern and control proposed actions by such facilities as Los Alamos National Laboratories.

Again, I stress that I am for a moratorium against all incineration of hazardous or radioactive waste within this State of New Mexico--and not just for a year, but indefinitely.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter.

Prayers for a cleaner environment,

Virginia Quinn

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