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1989 AUG 28 AM 8:35

EPA REGIONAL  
HAZARDOUS WASTE  
COMPLIANCE SECTION

Aug. 19, 1989

Box 351, El Prado, N.Mex.

Legions of Living Light

0275  
Permit

Dear EPA folks,

These are more comments on the Los Alamos Lab clean up and incinerator operation. First i did not get the fertalizer info, so have asked that someone in Kentucky forward some, to you. Hope you have recieved same. <sup>\*</sup> Was thinking they could dig up the stuff in the trenches, ~~process~~ it into fertalizer, <sup>and</sup> ~~and~~ put it back in the trenches for observation at first. (If there is any reason to doubt.)

I believe that LANL is not as contaminated as Savannah River or Fernald because the folks who work at the Lab are slightly more aware of the dangers of the materials. They are more educated, though they too must work within the framework of DoE's system. There is definately a need for outside regulation of this messy department and it's hazardous waste disposal. If you find oppertunity to request citizen assistance, i'd be happy to help.

Have been looking and looking for some paragraphs in a story told about a Utah scientist who lost his job and reputation after doing research on downwinders from above ground nuclear teating at Nevada Test Site. I have the feeling that you know something about this subject. Kathy Wilson <sup>(who testified in S.F.)</sup> said to read the book, "The day they Bombed Utah" by John Fuller, but i haven't. Hope you can find it, <sup>and read too</sup> Her number is 753-3052 in Santa Cruz, N.M. if you have trouble locating it she will probably loan it to you since she offered to loan me same. (Obviously i have not found the article yet.)

\* please include in the record



Since the underground water flows from LA mesa to springs along the Rio Grande, I was wondering if you run water tests on each of these? <sup>(springs)</sup> It seems to me important and also easier than drilling a well, what with the chances of allowing toxins to move through the drill sites as time erodes them. If these springs are presently tested, would they be listed in pgs. 237-64 of the Lab's 1987 Environmental Surveillance document. Will you please have them tested regularly and include the results in <sup>future</sup> ~~similar~~ documentation.

What a book. Was wondering why Table G-52 show only two TA's as having toilets, or at least being tested for fecal coliforms. Are these the only toilets at the Lab? No, table G-51 lists 10 as the number of outfalls for Fecal Coliform Bacteria, yet only two of the eleven facilities listed on the next pages have FC tests and they fail both. Sorry but this does not sound good. Are you analyzing this book as part of the permit process? I have many more criticisms.

But not enough time to answer by deadline

Please require tests of air, soil, water, plants and fish from areas north and NE of LANL, and in all directions in concentric circles out to major mountains. And test for all the heavy metals, radionuclides, and other toxins known to be emitted from them.

It is frightening to realize that the Environmental Protection Agency is not endowed with the power to protect people and all life, from the dangerous and destructive DoE. How sad to see you decline commitment to study and protection of health and environment. Certainly you must know the danger of radioactive contamination. Should the decision of "how much is too much" be left to DoE?

All DoE facilities should be studied and tested by outside observers as these "clean-up's" proceed. Please <sup>challenge</sup> ~~challenge~~ these limitations.

Thanks a lot, peace and light

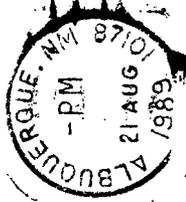
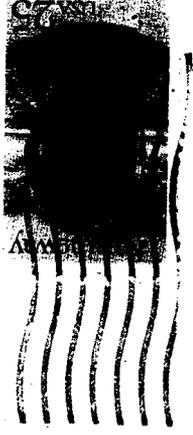
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p.s. sorry there is no time to re-type. Hope it makes sense. What about volcanic movement & seismic activity possible effects on dump sites?



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