

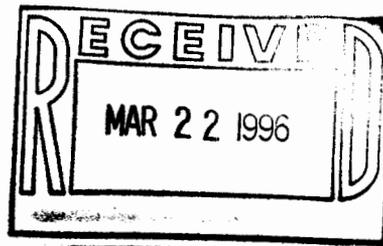
# Los Alamos

NATIONAL LABORATORY

*Community Involvement & Outreach Office*  
P.O. Box 1663, MS A117  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545  
(505) 665-4400/1-800-508-4400  
FAX (505) 665-4411  
E-mail Address: cio@lanl.gov

Date: March 13, 1996  
Refer to: CIO:96-085

Ms. Barbara Hoditschek  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau  
2044-A Galisteo, P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, NM 87502



Dear Ms. Hoditschek:

**SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 7, 1996, CONTROLLED AIR  
INCINERATOR PUBLIC MEETING**

Enclosed is a summary of the comments from the March 7, 1996, public meeting that was held at the Los Alamos Inn, Los Alamos, New Mexico, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The primary purpose of this public meeting was to inform the public about the Los Alamos National Laboratory's request to the New Mexico Environment Department to bring the hazardous waste operating permit up-to-date with changes made to the Controlled Air Incinerator and to discuss the proposed Hazardous Waste Closure Plan for the incinerator.

The following forms of advertising were used to publicize the public meeting:

- public notices were published in four local newspapers to advertise the meeting (copies are provided in Attachment A);
- a total of 2,000 notices were mailed to our stakeholders to inform them of this meeting;
- a tour of the Controlled Air Incinerator was advertised in the public notice (A tour of the Controlled Air Incinerator will be solicited throughout the comment period. Five individuals have expressed an interest in a tour.);
- four local document repositories were provided copies of the requests for the permit modification; and,
- separate large post cards with your address were provided to individuals who attended the meeting and desired to mail their comments directly to you.

Marja Shaner from the Laboratory's Community Involvement and Outreach Office began the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing Ken Hargis, the Manager of Operations for the Waste Management Program Office. Ken gave a brief overview and history of the Controlled Air Incinerator and then elaborated on the incinerator's Research & Development campaigns, regulatory status and proposed schedule for closure.



March 13, 1996

John Kinker, an Environmental Engineer from Benchmark, discussed the Class 2 permit modification request submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department.

Information sheets and copies of the permit modification and the closure plan were available. After John's presentation, an informal discussion among the group of people seated at round tables was held. The staff from the Laboratory's Waste Management Program Office and Environment, Safety and Health Division were available to discuss individual questions. Facilitators were also present to aid with discussion and to write down names, issues and comments.

The attendance list (Attachment B) for the public meeting indicated 17 people were present. The evaluation forms from the meeting are attached (Attachment C) for your review and information. The content of public comments, questions, and issues were recorded on "tear sheets" at the round table and are summarized in Attachment D.

Thank you for your commitment to the Laboratory's Waste Management Project. If you have any questions, please Ken Hargis at 505-667-2347.

Sincerely,



Christina Armijo, Group Leader  
for the Community Involvement & Outreach Office

Attachment A	Public notices announcing the March 7, 1996, public meeting
Attachment B	Attendance list from the March 7, 1996, public meeting
Attachment C	Evaluation forms for the March 7, 1996, public meeting
Attachment D	Tear sheets from the March 7, 1996 public meeting

Cy: W/attachments

M. Chacon, NMED  
J. Kinker, Benchmark  
K. Hargis, EM/WM, MS J552  
J. Ellvinger, ESH-19, MS K490  
C. Fesmire, DOE, MS A316  
CIO File, MS A117  
RPF, MS M707  
CIC-10, MS A150

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Public Notice, March 7, 1996, Public Meeting**

Great American Food • Spirits & Draft Beer  
 And We're Open Late! Great Steaks, Chicken & Sandwiches  
 SAN FRANCISCO STREET  
 BAR & GRILL

COLORED  
 the paper tiger  
 COPIES >99¢

LUBE, OIL + FILTER  
 \$12.99 Most Gas Vehicles  
 +24 pt Inspection  
 New Location!  
**PRO-TECH**  
 2778 Agua Fria #D  
 473-4600 For Appt.

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 83**  
**NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**HAZARDOUS AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS BUREAU**  
 Santa Fe, NM 87502  
**NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPROVE RCRA PERMIT MODIFICATION**  
**LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY**  
 EPA No. NM0890010515

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 before the enactment of the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA). The HSWA imposes additional requirements on hazardous waste management facilities that 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 (20 NMAC 4.1), the New Mexico Environment Department can approve or disapprove permit modifications. The Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB) of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) proposes that the Department approve a Class II permit modification initiated by Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Los Alamos, New Mexico, EPA I.D. No. NM0890010515, for the Controlled Air Incinerator (CAI) located at Technical Area 50, Building 37.

NMED issued a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit on November 8, 1989, to the Department of Energy (DOE) and the University of California for the Los Alamos National Laboratory. The permit allows LANL to operate certain hazardous waste management units, such as the CAI, which although it has not operated since 1987 is subject to the requirements of the operating permit. LANL has proposed several equipment upgrades which have been determined to be Class II permit modifications by NMED, thus requiring public comment. Processing these Class II modifications will allow NMED to proceed with LANL's proposed closure plan for the CAI.

The administrative record for this proposed decision consists of the plan for Class II permit modifications, a fact sheet, and related correspondence. You may review the administrative record weekdays between 8 am and 5 pm at the NMED Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau library at 2044-A Galisteo, Santa Fe, NM. You may review the permit modification and fact sheet during normal business hours at the LANL Community Reading Room, 1350 Central Avenue, Suite 101, Los Alamos, NM, and the main public libraries in Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Española and Taos. To obtain a copy of the administrative record or any part thereof, at 35 cents per page, contact Mr. Michael Chacon at (505) 827-1561. LANL's compliance history during the life of the permit being modified is also available from Mr. Chacon.

The public is invited to attend an informal informational meeting on March 7, 1996, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Los Alamos Inn, 2202 Trinity Drive, Los Alamos. NMED, DOE and LANL staff members will be available at the meeting to provide additional information on the proposed permit modification. For more information, contact Jody Plum (DOE) at (505) 665-5042, Jack Elvinger (LANL) at (505) 667-0633, or Michael Chacon (listed above).

Any person wanting to comment upon the proposed plan or to request a public hearing should submit written comments or requests, along with their name and address, to Barbara Hoditschek, RCRA Permits Program Manager, at NMED Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau, P. O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM 87502. Requests for a public hearing should state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Only comments and/or requests received by April 22, 1996, will be considered.

NMED will consider all comments submitted on this proposed Class II permit modification before formulating a final decision. NMED will notify LANL, and each person who submitted a written comment during the public comment period, of the final decision or of any public hearing which may be scheduled. The final decision will require that activities at the CAI be conducted according to applicable State and Federal laws and with the terms approved in the permit modification.

You are also invited to participate in a tour of the Controlled Air Incinerator. If you would like to attend a tour on 3/8 or 3/9, please call 1-800-508-4400. You must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, and RSVP no later than March 5, 1996, 10:00 A.M.

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NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT  
HAZARDOUS AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS BUREAU  
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NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPROVE RCRA PERMIT MODIFICATION  
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY  
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**ATTACHMENT B**

**Attendance List, March 7, 1996, Public Meeting**

## SIGN-IN SHEET

Class 2 Permit Modification  
Controlled Air Incinerator

Los Alamos Inn, Peace Pipe Room  
March 7, 1996 - 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Name	Home Address	Telephone Number	Are you representing LANL, DOE or NMED - Yes or No	How did you hear about this meeting? (If a newspaper, indicate which one.)
1.	C. T. SWITLIK 816 Calle Chamisa #226 Española, NM 87532		No	mailing from LANL - CIO
2.	Jack Ellinger 2504 Camino de Vida Santa Fe, NM 87505		Yes	
3.	Jim White		Yes	
4.	Suzanne Marie-Mayer 1225 Box 270A Santa Fe NM 87501		No	
5.	John Kinkor 5703 EQUESTRIAN CT NW ALBUQUERQUE NM 87120		Yes	
6.	Ken Hargis	667-2347	Yes	
7.	John Newmyer 318 Kimberly LOS ALAMOS, NM 87544	672-1994	No	Newspaper
8.				

Name	Home Address	Telephone Number	Are you representing LANL, DOE or NMED- Yes or No	How did you hear about this meeting? (If a newspaper, indicate which one.)
9. Joe Richardson	769 Cepulin	662-6972	JCI	Letter/Invite.
10. STAN BENESTEIN	3523B ARIZONA	662 7057	LANL	UPDATE
11. Bob Weers	PO Box 3	667-2023	LANL	Update
12. COURT Fesmire			Doe	
13. Steve Yznick	RR 5 Box 394-B Espanola	87532	NMED-AIP	Letter
14. Linda Kolb	500 River Los Alamos		No	Update
15. Michael Chacón	2504 Camino de Patricio S.F.	827-1701	NMED-HUMB	
16. Charles L. Fox	412 Rover	672-9056	NO	
17. PATRICK GARCIA	2161B 4651	662-0865	NO	PAPER/UPDATE

**ATTACHMENT C**

**Evaluation Forms, March 7, 1996, Public Meeting**

Thank you for participating in the public meeting for the Controlled Air Incinerator. Please take a few minutes to complete the questions on this evaluation card. Your response will help us in providing better, more cost-effective ways of involving you in the Laboratory's environmental issues. We appreciate your time and effort.

1. Did the information presented during the meeting enable you to understand the environmental issues at the Controlled Air Incinerator so you could provide your suggestions to Laboratory staff?

THERE ARE ISSUES OF GREATER IMPORTANCE THAT WILL BE GENERATED BY THE CLOSURE.

2. Was the information presented at an appropriate level for you and the other participants (e.g., was it too technical, too simple)?

I FELT THE LEVEL WAS FINE

3. Did you feel this interaction focused on personal contact, dialogue, and mutual education?

YES

4. Did the date, time, and length of this meeting meet your needs? Please offer your suggestions.

EVERYTHING WAS FINE. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS ARE FAR BETTER THAN PREVIOUS HEARINGS.

Thank you for participating in the public meeting for the Controlled Air Incinerator. Please take a few minutes to complete the questions on this evaluation card. Your response will help us in providing better, more cost-effective ways of involving you in the Laboratory's environmental issues. We appreciate your time and effort.

1. Did the information presented during the meeting enable you to understand the environmental issues at the Controlled Air Incinerator so you could provide your suggestions to Laboratory staff?

good info on facility and history. No in-depth discussion of environmental context

2. Was the information presented at an appropriate level for you and the other participants (e.g., was it too technical, too simple)?

yes for me but I have a technical background

3. Did you feel this interaction focused on personal contact, dialogue, and mutual education?

It tried. Hard to do when the majority of audience is not the public. Disappointing to not see more public involvement.

4. Did the date, time, and length of this meeting meet your needs? Please offer your suggestions.

yes

but not surprising

Thank you for participating in the public meeting for the Controlled Air Incinerator. Please take a few minutes to complete the questions on this evaluation card. Your response will help us in providing better, more cost-effective ways of involving you in the Laboratory's environmental issues. We appreciate your time and effort.

1. Did the information presented during the meeting enable you to understand the environmental issues at the Controlled Air Incinerator so you could provide your suggestions to Laboratory staff? *yes - informative*

2. Was the information presented at an appropriate level for you and the other participants (e.g., was it too technical, too simple)?

*it was fine -  
speakers went out of  
their way to explain.*

3. Did you feel this interaction focused on personal contact, dialogue, and mutual education?

*yes*

4. Did the date, time, and length of this meeting meet your needs? Please offer your suggestions.

*yes*

*note address  
on BACIL —*

Thank you for participating in the public meeting for the Controlled Air Incinerator. Please take a few minutes to complete the questions on this evaluation card. Your response will help us in providing better, more cost-effective ways of involving you in the Laboratory's environmental issues. We appreciate your time and effort.

1. Did the information presented during the meeting enable you to understand the environmental issues at the Controlled Air Incinerator so you could provide your suggestions to Laboratory staff? *yes*

2. Was the information presented at an appropriate level for you and the other participants (e.g., was it too technical, too simple)? *yes*

3. Did you feel this interaction focused on personal contact, dialogue, and mutual education? *yes. Round table format is better*

*than lecture hall*

4. Did the date, time, and length of this meeting meet your needs? Please offer your suggestions. *fine*

Thank you for participating in the public meeting for the Controlled Air Incinerator. Please take a few minutes to complete the questions on this evaluation card. Your response will help us in providing better, more cost-effective ways of involving you in the Laboratory's environmental issues. We appreciate your time and effort.

1. Did the information presented during the meeting enable you to understand the environmental issues at the Controlled Air Incinerator so you could provide your suggestions to Laboratory staff?

Yes

2. Was the information presented at an appropriate level for you and the other participants (e.g., was it too technical, too simple)?

Yes

3. Did you feel this interaction focused on personal contact, dialogue, and mutual education?

Yes

4. Did the date, time, and length of this meeting meet your needs? Please offer your suggestions.

Yes

We appreciated the assistance provided by the CTO in setting up this meeting.  
Jack Ellinson

We encourage your oral and/or written participation in the New Mexico Environment Department's public review process for the Los Alamos National Laboratory's permit modification. You may submit your written comments to Barbara Hoditschek directly (address on the back), or you may give or mail them to the Community Involvement & Outreach Office, MS A117, Los Alamos, NM 87545, and we will mail them to Ms. Hoditschek. Feel free to add more pages. Thank you.

1. THERE WAS NO TECHNICAL ISSUE ASSOCIATED WITH THE CAL THAT SHOULD HAVE CLOSED THIS TREATMENT FACILITY. IT WAS PURELY POLITICAL (MY OPINION).
2. AS A TAX PAYER, I'M DISAPPOINTED THAT MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WERE SPENT WITH NO PRODUCT. HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLAR SYSTEM WILL END UP AS EXCESS WASTE!
3. DOE'S DECISION TO CLOSE (MOTH-BALL) THE CAL SURE HAD AN IMPACT (PREDETERMINED) ON SWELS.
4. WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN IF DOE FINDS LANL WASTE TREATMENT BEST ALTERNATIVE IS AN INCINERATOR, SPEND MORE \$?
5. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE WASTE IDENTIFIED FOR TREATMENT @ THE CAL. TSCA INCINERATOR MELTED ITS OFFGAS. SRL SUCKED A DUCK IN ITS OFFENS. MAN, OPTIONS ARE NOT GOOD, WITHIN THE COMPLEX.

Optional\*:

Name: PATRICK GARCIA

Address: 2161 B 46 ST. LOS ALAMOS, NM 87544

\*Please provide your name address if you would like a response from the New Mexico Environment Department.

**ATTACHMENT D**

**Tear Sheets, March 7, 1996, Public Meeting**

**Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Public Meeting on the Controlled Air Incinerator  
March 7, 1996, Los Alamos Inn, Los Alamos, NM**

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TAKEN FROM THE TEAR SHEETS

- What plans were made for the waste that would have been treated at the Controlled Air Incinerator?
- What were factors that led to the closure of the incinerator?
- What is the prognosis of all the equipment involved with the incinerator?
- What is the plan for disposal of the equipment?
- Is this incineration technology used elsewhere?
- Will the building or facility be used after closure?
- What happens after this public meeting?
- How many days are left for public comment?