



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

Barbara
FILED ARCHIVED
RCS 2150

JUL 23 1996



Mr. Benito Garcia, Chief
Hazardous and Radioactive
Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044A Galisteo Street
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Re: Approval with Modifications for RFI Report on TA-50
Los Alamos National Laboratory (NM0890010515)

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed and recommends approval of the Los Alamos National Laboratory RFI Report for Technical Area 50 dated October 13, 1995, with the enclosed list of modifications. The approved RFI Report should consist of the RFI Report dated October 13, 1995, the Notice of Deficiency Response dated May 9, 1996, and the enclosed list of modifications.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Barbara Driscoll at (214) 665-7441.

Sincerely,

David W. Neleigh
David W. Neleigh, Chief
New Mexico and Federal
Facilities Section

Enclosure

TK



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List of Modifications
RFI Report for Technical Area 50
Los Alamos National Laboratory

This RFI Report included information on the following solid waste management units (SWMUs): 50-006(a and c), 50-007 and 50-008.

1. Elevated concentrations of beryllium, chromium and nickel were found to be associated with samples collected at a pipe rack. The area is currently in use and it is unclear which SWMU this is associated with. If the rack is not currently associated with a SWMU then it is recommended that the area be given a new designation and added to the permit.
2. In addition, a review of the sampling information presented for beryllium related to SWMUs 50-006(c), 50-007 and 50-008, indicates that the calculated upper tolerance limit (UTL) is too high for this metal. The highest value for beryllium was 1.1 mg/kg which should probably be the UTL for TA-50. Using the facility-wide value for this metal does not appear appropriate, and a site-specific value should be used.
3. Further characterization of Ten Site Canyon is recommended, as well as, removal of the hummock area in Ten Site Canyon which contained high levels of radionuclides and polychlorinated biphenyls.