



Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office
Los Alamos Area Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

*John K. ...
Please ...
letter ...
for my signature*

OCT 20 1998

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Benito Garcia, Bureau Chief
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044 Galisteo Street, Building A
P. O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Mr. Garcia:

Subject: Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) TA-50-37-118 Solidification Unit

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau, New Mexico Environment Department, that LANL's TA-50, Building 37, Room 118 Solidification Unit was never built. The rationale for submitting this informational letter at this time is based on the fact that this unit mistakenly appears on a contour map of mixed waste units at TA-3, TA-55 and TA-50 which is included in a draft copy of a RCRA "Permit Modification Request, TA-50 TA-54" dated September 29, 1995. This unit has never been mentioned in any text submitted to you for permitting.

The following is a brief history of TA-50 and the above mentioned unit for your information:

TA-50 is located on a finger mesa bounded by Mortandad Canyon to the north and by Two Mile Canyon to the south. Mesa-top elevations at TA-50 range from approximately 7,250 to 7,280 feet amsl. TA-50 contains facilities for treatment, storage, and disposal of solid radioactive, hazardous and mixed waste (LANL, 1995).

The TA-50, Building 37, Room 118 Solidification Unit was initially considered for permitting as part of the Controlled Air Incinerator (CAI) located at TA-50 Building 37. With the passage of time, the advent of new regulations, fees and changes in various programs, it was determined that the CAI and hence the Solidification Unit would not be used for waste treatment activities, and that the CAI would be closed under RCRA. With the closure of the CAI, plans for permitting and constructing the Solidification Unit became obsolete.

We regret if this activity has caused any inconvenience to you or your staff. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact either Jack Ellvinger at (505) 667-0633 or me at (505) 665-5042.

Sincerely,

J. L. "Jody" Plum
Office of Environment

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