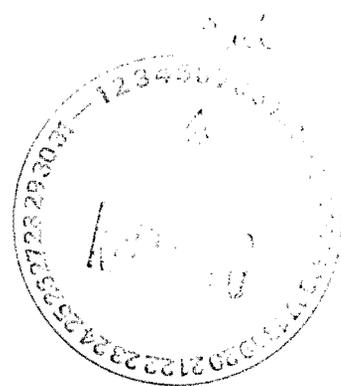




Department of Energy
 Albuquerque Operations Office
 Los Alamos Area Office
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

MAR 1 2001



CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Carl Will, Permits Project Leader
 RCRA Permits Management Program
 Hazardous Waste Bureau
 New Mexico Environment Department
 2044-A Galisteo Street
 P.O. Box 26110
 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

Dear Mr. Will:

Subject: Removal of the Decon Operation Storage Areas at Technical Area (TA) 50-1 from the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Hazardous Waste Permit

The purpose of this letter is to request the removal of the Decon Operation's storage areas from the LANL Hazardous Waste Permit (Permit #NM0890010515-1). Rooms 35, 36, 38, and 38A at TA-50 Building 1 were included in the permit on February 28, 1997, via a letter from Ed Kelley to G. Thomas Todd approving LANL's Class 3 permit modification request. No specific permit language was developed at that time. At a subsequent monthly meeting with the Hazardous Waste Bureau staff, LANL was instructed to operate the units in the permit modification per the language in the application until such time as the permit language was developed and inserted into the permit. This information was relayed to the appropriate operating group.

The operating group misunderstood the approval letter and the subsequent information passed on to them from the monthly meeting mentioned above. Their understanding was that they had not yet received a permit, and that once the permit language was crafted the permit would be in place. Subsequently, they did not store any wastes in the proposed storage areas. Since this site was not an interim status waste management operation, no treatment, storage, or disposal activities as defined by the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Regulations ever occurred. This presented no hardship for the operating group as their funding and the original mission for these rooms waned, removing the need for their operation.

I have attached a page of certifications from the operating group that includes the certifications of the Operations Manager, Group Leader, Facility Manager, and Division Director that waste management operations were never conducted in TA-50-1 Rooms 35, 36, 38 and 38A. This certification is in addition to that of the representative of the



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HSWA LANL G/M/01

TA 50

TK

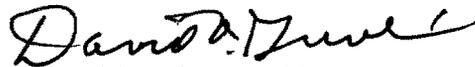
MAR 1 2001

University of California and mine representing the Department of Energy. The acceptance of this certification by the New Mexico Environment Department Hazardous Waste Bureau will resolve the issue of remaining hazardous waste management sites at TA-50 that are not included in the Hazardous Waste Permit Renewal Application.

This request requires a Class 1 permit modification because it is merely an administrative change that removes language from the permit. This is comparable to the recently approved request for a Class 1 permit modification to remove the unused/never built storage sites at TA-50 identified as TA-50-137, 138, 139 and 140. Since no language was ever developed or inserted into the permit, this request should be limited to the public notice.

If you should have any questions or concerns regarding this request, please feel free to contact either Gene Turner of my staff at 667-5794 or Jack Ellvinger of LANL ESH-19 at 667-0633.

Sincerely,



David A. Gurulé, P.E.
Area Manager

LAAME:3GT-004

Enclosure

cc:
See page 3

Mr. Carl Will

3

MAR 1 2000

cc w/enclosure (2 copies):
David Neleigh, Chief (6PD-N)
New Mexico/Federal Facilities Section
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

cc w/o enclosure

James P. Bearzi, Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044-A Galisteo Street
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110
Robert S. (Stu) Dinwiddie, RCRA Advisor
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044-A Galisteo Street
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110
Mr. John E. Kieling, Program Manager
RCRA Permits Management Program
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044-A Galisteo Street
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110
G. Turner, LAAME, LAAO
J. Stetson, PWT, LAAO
G. Bacigalupa, ESH-19, LANL, MS-K490
R. Alexander, FWO-WFM, LANL, MS-E518
J. Harper, E-ET, LANL, MS-E517
E. Louderbough, LC-GL, LANL, MS-A187
J. Ellvinger, ESH-19, LANL, MS-K490

Certification

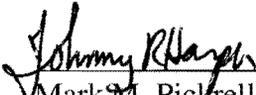
I certify under penalty of law that I am familiar with the operations of the Decon Ops Facility in Technical Area 50 Building 1, Rooms #35, 36, 38 and 38A. I further certify that to the best of my knowledge no hazardous or mixed waste(s) were ever stored in those rooms.



Myrna Romero
Operations Manager
ET&T, Los Alamos National Laboratory

2-14-01

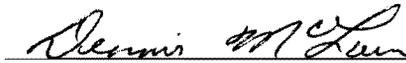
Date Signed



Mark M. Pickrell
Group Leader
E&ET, Los Alamos National Laboratory

2-14-01

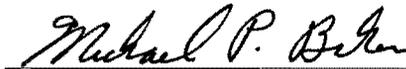
Date Signed



Dennis McLain
Facility Manager
FWO-WFM, Los Alamos National Laboratory

2/22/01

Date Signed



Michael P. Baker
Division Director
E Division

2/19/01

Date Signed

Certification

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision according to a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

 _____ 2/23/01
Dennis Erickson Date Signed
Division Director for Environment Safety & Health Division
Los Alamos National Laboratory

 _____ 3/1/01
David Gurule Date Signed
Area Manager, Los Alamos Area Office
U.S. Department of Energy Albuquerque Operations
Owner/Operator