

TA-53



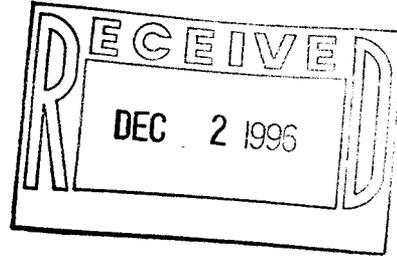
**Department of Energy**

Albuquerque Operations Office  
Los Alamos Area Office  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

NOV 27 1996

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Stuart Dinwiddee  
Program Manager, Permitting  
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2044 Galisteo Street, Bldg. A  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, NM 87505



Dear Mr. Dinwiddee:

Subject: Transmittal of Sampling Data for TA-53 South Impoundment and Request for Withdrawal

The purpose of this letter is to transmit to you and your staff the analytical data package for the sampling conducted at the TA-53 South Impoundment, and request that the impoundment be withdrawn as a Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) waste management unit. Both of these items were discussed with you and your staff at the November 14, 1996 Los Alamos National Laboratory/New Mexico Environment Department (LANL/NMED) monthly meeting.

There are lots of data contained in the enclosed package. We are available to sit with your staff and review, explain, and/or discuss any of this information. Alice Barr would be the representative who is most intimately familiar with this information and the actual sampling event. She is available at your request.

We formally request that, after reviewing the enclosed data package, NMED withdraw the TA-53 South Impoundment from LANL's Part A. As we discussed, there is a high potential for the Trichloroethane that is present in the South Impoundment to be an artifact, breakdown product, from the Trichloroethylene that was present in the two northern impoundments. We have researched all of the available information pertaining to this site and have found no link that indicates that hazardous waste was disposed in it. Interviews with past and present employees, as well as several detailed sampling events, lead us to believe that this impoundment does not belong in the hazardous waste system. At the time of notification, LANL indicated to NMED that it was likely that this was so and suggested that the notification was a protective filing and, upon further investigation, LANL would request its removal from the system. We are doing so at this time.



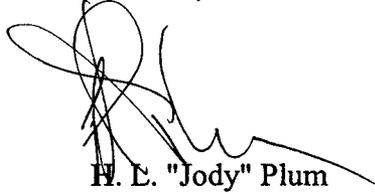
NOV 27 1996

Stuart Dinwiddee

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If there are any questions concerning this issue, or if you wish to discuss this information, please contact me at (505) 665-5042.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. E. 'Jody' Plum". The signature is stylized with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail.

H. E. "Jody" Plum  
Office of Environment and Projects

LAAMEP:3JP-024

Enclosure