



GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau
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PETER MAGGIORE
SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 2, 2002

Dr. John Browne, Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop A100
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

Mr. Mat Johansen, Project Manager
Los Alamos Area Office
Department of Energy
528 35th Street, Mail Stop A316
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

**RE: REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION (RSI) ON THE INTERIM
ACTION (IA) PLAN FOR POTENTIAL RELEASE SITE (PRS) 53-002(a)
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID: # NM0890010515
TASK NUMBER HWB-LANL-01-028**

Dear Dr. Browne and Mr. Johansen:

The Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received Los Alamos National Laboratory's Interim Action (IA) Plan for Potential Release Site (PRS) 53-002(a), dated November 28, 2001 and referenced by ER2001-0980.

Enclosed please find the specific information requested related to this IA Plan listed in Attachment A.



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LANL shall respond to this RSI within thirty days of receipt of this letter. If the receipt is not signed, LANL shall respond within 30 days of the date of this letter. LANL's response shall consist of an electronic version in Microsoft Word 2000 or earlier version and hardcopy.

If you have any questions, please contact Lee Winn at (505) 428-2533.

Sincerely,



John Young
LANL Corrective Action Project Leader
Permits Management Program

JRY:lw

cc: L. Winn, NMED HWB
J. Parker, NMED DOE OB
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB
J. Davis, NMED SWQB
L. King, EPA 6PD-N
J. Canepa, LANL EM/ER, MS M992
G. Lopez Escobedo, EM/ER, MS M992
M. Kirsch, LANL EM/ER, MS M992
D. McInroy, LANL EM/ER, MS M992
File: Reading and LANL TA53

ATTACHMENT A
REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION (RSI) ON THE INTERIM
ACTION (IA) PLAN FOR POTENTIAL RELEASE SITE (PRS) 53-002(a)
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

1. LANL conducted a pre-remediation human health risk assessment as part of this Interim Action (IA) Plan. That risk assessment indicates potential excess risk for both the residential and industrial scenarios; the risk assessment supports the need for an interim action based on excess risk from radionuclides and PCBs in both the sludge and liner. Section 3.0 states that there are no cleanup levels proposed for the IA. For the IA to be a final remedy, the post-remediation risk assessment would have to compare the residual contamination after removal of the sludge and liner to the screening levels based on residential criteria. In addition, residual contamination levels should be compared to LANL Ecological Screening Levels (ESLs) and any potential ecological risk should be addressed. Confirmatory sampling to support the future risk assessment should include PCBs (including Aroclor 1254) as well as radionuclides. Tritium is not included in the current risk assessment, but residual levels in the tuff will need to be considered in the post-remediation risk assessment. It would be advisable to delay site restoration activities until after the post-remediation risk assessment has been conducted and reviewed in case that assessment indicates the need for additional sampling or determines the type of restoration to be done.
2. LANL shall perform representative full suite Appendix IX sampling during confirmatory sampling of the tuff following removal of the sludge and liner from the two northern impoundments.