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Department of Energy
Albuquerque Field Office
P.O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5400
FEB 24 1993

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Ms. Judith M. Espinosa
Secretary
New Mexico Environmental Department
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Ms. Espinosa:

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to construct and operate a new Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility (RLWTF) at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Los Alamos, New Mexico. In accordance with DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations and policy, I am notifying you that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of this proposal and its alternatives. Your office will be given an opportunity to review and comment on this EIS prior to the issuance of any Record of Decision concerning this proposal. A brief description of the project is provided below.

The proposed project consists of the siting, design, construction, and operation of a new RLWTF to replace the existing facility located at Technical Area - 50, the extension of waste transfer lines to the new facility, and the decontamination and decommissioning of the old facility and transfer lines. The RLWTF will treat transuranic (TRU), low-level (LLW), and radioactive and hazardous mixed (MW) liquid wastes. The sludge resulting from the proposed RLWTF would be disposed of in LANL's LLW landfill, while the wastewater will be disposed of in accordance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements.

