

APR 05 1996

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

Re: RFI Report for Drilling at Material Disposal Area G
Los Alamos National Laboratory (NM0890010515)

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the proposed list of RFI Report deliverables and field work for the FY96 and FY97 timeframe, and has serious concerns related to work which was required to be conducted at high priority unit, Material Disposal Area G (MDA G) in Technical Area 54.

In a letter dated September 28, 1995, from EPA to Mr. Theodore Taylor of the Department of Energy (DOE), EPA approved a modification for a drilling plan at MDA G. In the approval letter, EPA required Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to submit an RFI Report on the approved drilling by July 1, 1996. Field work was to have began for the drilling October 2, 1995. This required RFI Report is not listed by LANL for the FY96 or FY97 timeframe.

EPA recommends that the fieldwork and required RFI Report for MDA G be completed during FY97. During a meeting held between the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), EPA, DOE and LANL on March 27, 1996, DOE/LANL requested a review by NMED/EPA of their proposed work schedules and submittals. In that meeting DOE/LANL requested NMED submit any changes on proposed work as quickly as possible so that the appropriate planning could occur at LANL. EPA met with NMED on March 28, 1996, to discuss LANL's proposed work schedules. At that meeting, NMED agreed that MDA G is a very high priority area, and work should be expedited at this site over lower priority sites.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Barbara Driscoll at (214) 655-7441.

Sincerely,

DW
David W. Neleigh, Chief
New Mexico and Federal
Facilities Section

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