

# Los Alamos

NATIONAL LABORATORY

**Environmental Management  
Solid Waste Operations**  
EM-SWO, MS J595  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545  
Phone (505) 665-6158  
FAX (505) 665-8347

Date: January 30, 1998

Refer to: EM-SWO:98-014

Benito's  
Reading  
File

Benito J. Garcia  
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2044 Galisteo Street, Bldg. A  
P.O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505



**RE: MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF ASPHALT MATERIALS AT  
TECHNICAL AREA 54**

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The purpose of this letter is to update you concerning actions undertaken to date by Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to address the management and disposal of certain asphalt materials from Technical Area (TA)-54.

Sampling and analysis activities performed by LANL have been completed in accordance with the August 6, 1997 letter from James White and Anthony Stanford to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The bullets below describe the status of completed activities.

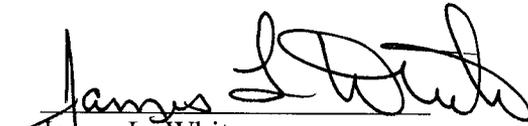
- Sampling has been completed at the two locations where the asphalt remains accessible. All sampling was conducted in accordance with the Sampling and Analysis Plan included with the August 6, 1997 submittal to NMED (as amended). A total of twenty locations were sampled from the asphalt/soil pile east of Bldg. 281, and seventeen samples were collected from the asphalt/soil placed in Pit 37.
- All analytical data has been received by LANL. The analytical data indicates that the types of constituents and their respective concentrations are consistent with what has been seen in source asphalt from Area L and pore gas.
- Final QA review/validation of analytical data is pending. This review should be completed by 1/30/98.
- LANL will complete an initial risk evaluation by 2/6/98. As discussed in the August 6, 1997 letter from Mr. White and Mr. Stanford to the NMED, the evaluation will determine the potential risk associated with leaving disposed asphalt in place.



January 30, 1998

Should you wish to participate, or if you have any input into this process, please contact Tony Stanford (665-6158) or Jim White (667-0666). In any event, we will contact you upon completion of the initial risk evaluation.

Sincerely,

  
James L. White  
ESH-19 Group Leader

  
Anthony Stanford  
EM-SWO Group Leader

Cy: Stu Dinwiddie  
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau  
New Mexico Environmental Department  
2044 Galisteo Street, Bldg. A  
P.O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

John Tymkowych  
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2044 Galisteo Street, Bldg. A  
P.O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Glenn Saums  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
1190 St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87502