



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733



JUN 2001
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JUN 14 2001

Mr. James Bearzi, Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Dr. East, Bldg. 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Re: Comments on the Supplemental Sampling Plan for the RCRA Facility Investigation at Material Disposal Area H (MDA H), ER:20010420, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), EPA I.D. NM0890010515

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed LANL's Supplemental Sampling Plan for MDA H dated May 21, 2001, and offers the enclosed comments for your review. Should you have any questions regarding the comments, please feel free to contact Mr. Rich Mayer at (214) 665-7442.

Sincerely,


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

Enclosure

TC



Comments on the Supplemental Sampling Plan for MDA H

General Comment: EPA believes that in order to adequately characterize the horizontal extent of the tritium plume originating from MDA H, two additional boreholes are needed. EPA suggests locating one of the boreholes approximately 125 feet south to southwest of borehole 54-1023. The other borehole should be located approximately 125 feet north of borehole 54-1025. However, the exact distance from each borehole is negotiable.

Also, it is not clear to EPA whether there is a contingency clause on the depth of each borehole. If contamination is found deeper than originally planned, the vertical depth of contamination should be delineated in each borehole.

Finally, the boreholes drilled should be designed so they can be used in long term monitoring of the site.