



GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau
2044 Galisteo
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
(505) 827-1557
Fax (505) 827-1544



MARK E. WEIDLER
SECRETARY

EDGAR T. THORNTON, III
DEPUTY SECRETARY



August 7, 1996

Dear Concerned Citizen:

Enclosed is a fact sheet regarding a Closure Plan for the closure of the Oxygen Sparging Unit located in Building 4, Room 429, Technical Area 55 (TA-55). The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) proposes approval of this Closure Plan in September 1996.

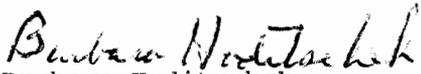
Copies of the Closure Plan are available for review at the offices of the NMED Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau, P.O. Box 26110, 2044 Galisteo Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM and at the:

1. Española Public Library in Española, New Mexico
2. Harwood Public Library in Taos, New Mexico
3. LANL Community Reading Room in Los Alamos, New Mexico
4. Mesa Public Library in Los Alamos, New Mexico
5. Office of Environmental Affairs, Santa Clara Pueblo, NM
6. Office of the Governor, Cochiti Pueblo, New Mexico
7. Office of the Governor, Santo Domingo Pueblo, New Mexico
8. Office of the Governor, San Ildefonso Pueblo, New Mexico
9. Santa Fe Public Library in Santa Fe, New Mexico

If you wish to make comments on this Closure Plan, they must be in writing and be received, not postmarked, by the NMED Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau at the address mentioned above no later than 5:00 PM, September 11, 1996.

If you have any questions regarding this Closure Plan, please contact Mr. Robert S. (Stu) Dinwiddie of my staff at (505) 827-1561 or at the Santa Fe address given above.

Sincerely,


Barbara Hoditschek
Program Manager
RCRA Permits Management Program
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

Enclosure.
xc: File R



4417

TC



GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau
2044 Galisteo
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
(505) 827-1557
Fax (505) 827-1544



MARK E. WEIDLER
SECRETARY

EDGAR T. THORNTON, III
DEPUTY SECRETARY

FACT SHEET

Intent to Approve Closure Plan

for the

**Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)
Technical Area 55 (TA-55) Oxygen Sparging Unit.**

**Public Comment Period
August 12, through September 11, 1996**

Activities: The oxygen sparge treatment process at TA-55 was used to oxidize ignitable and/or reactive metals (i.e., calcium, sodium, potassium) in pyrochemical salts. LANL has chosen to close the Oxygen Sparging Unit under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act. To ensure proper operation of the OSU and complete oxidation of the ignitable and/or reactive metals, a standard operating procedure (SOP) was written for the unit prior to the treatment of any waste salts.

Facility Name: Department of Energy, Los Alamos National Laboratory (DOE/LANL)

EPA I.D. No.: NM0890010515

Location: The Los Alamos National Laboratory is located in Los Alamos County, New Mexico, and surrounds the city of Los Alamos, New Mexico. The site is in Technical Area 55 southeast of the city of Los Alamos and northwest of the city of White Rock, New Mexico.

Unit Purpose: The refinement of Plutonium and destruction of Hazardous Wastes (metals).

Unit Description: The unit consisted of a magnesia (magnesium oxide) crucible in a stainless steel shell measuring approximately 1.5 feet (ft) high by 1.0 ft in diameter. The OSU was housed within a sub-atmospheric glovebox, in Room 429, within the Plutonium Building (TA-55-4).

Closure Plan
Availability:

A copy of the Closure Plan is available for public review at the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB), 2044 Galisteo Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM and at the following locations:

1. Española Public Library in Española, NM
2. Harwood Public Library in Taos, NM
3. LANL Community Reading Room in Los Alamos, NM
4. Mesa Public Library in Los Alamos, NM
5. Office of Environmental Affairs, Santa Clara Pueblo, NM
6. Office of the Governor, Cochiti Pueblo, NM
7. Office of the Governor, Santo Domingo Pueblo, NM
8. Office of the Governor, San Ildefonso Pueblo, NM
9. Santa Fe Public Library in Santa Fe, NM

Requests for hearing should include a statement of the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing and must include the requester's name and address. **Only comments and requests for hearing received by 5:00 PM August 30, 1996 will be considered.** NMED will publish a thirty day (30) notice of a public hearing, if a hearing is scheduled.

Final
Decision:

All comments received on the Closure Plan during the public comment period will be considered in reaching a final approval decision. The NMED will notify Los Alamos National Laboratory and each person who submitted a written comment, of any changes made in finalizing the closure plan in a Response to Public Comment Document.