

CTA 73

SWMU 73-001(a-d)

Darlene Goering

From: Darlene Goering [darlene_goering@nmenv.state.nm.us]
Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2004 8:25 AM
To: David W. Carroll
Subject: RE: Los Alamos Airport Landfill Remediation

Mr. Carroll,

I understand your concerns regarding DOE's plans for remediation at the airport landfill. DOE's plans include a cover that, at its maximum height, will be 8+ feet in elevation above the runway. However, the landfill cover will be sloped so that the maximum height will not be adjacent to the runway. The plan was modified by NMED because it was not deemed "protective" and now includes an additional 6 inches. The plan was approved by NMED last week and is available, along with the list of modifications, at our office here in Santa Fe. The plan complies with all applicable state and federal regulations.

In accordance with Public Law 105-119, DOE identified the airport as a land tract to be conveyed to the County. To my knowledge, DOE has kept the County informed of its remediation plans for the airport landfill. To my knowledge, DOE has also been well aware of the County's future intended use of this land. The DOE has decided to go ahead with their proposed plans regardless. Because the plan is deemed protective of human health and the environment and it complies with applicable regulations, my position has been that the NMED cannot prevent DOE from implementing the plan. The consequence in the end may be that the County may not take the land and the DOE may not be able to transfer it. In my opinion, the DOE is violating the public law but the State does not have the jurisdiction to enforce it.

If and when the DOE holds a public meeting regarding this matter, NMED will be there. FYI, the DOE intends to begin work the end of October.

Darlene Goering
Environmental Specialist
New Mexico Environment Department
505-428-2542

-----Original Message-----

From: David W. Carroll [mailto:dcarroll@lanl.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 02, 2004 5:30 PM
To: Darlene_Goering@nmenv.state.nm.us
Subject: Los Alamos Airport Landfill Remediation

Darlene,

I understand DOE has decided to go forward with a remediation plan for the Los Alamos airport landfill that includes construction of a 8 ft. high berm of debris that will approximately parallel the runway. As I have indicated to you previously, this plan is unacceptable because it 1.) creates a safety hazard for aircraft, 2.) removes from possible use a large tract of land that was intended to be used for economic development (the expressed intent of the public law enabling the land transfer process), and 3.) violates, I believe, the letter and intent of the public law.

I would like to know the status of the NMED process as it relates to the airport remediation site and if the DOE plan meets NMED requirements. I would also like to know if it is possible for the appropriate NMED staff to come to Los Alamos for a public meeting on this matter. Thanks. DC.



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David W. Carroll (dcarroll@lanl.gov)
MST Division: MST-7, Polymers & Coatings
Chemical Vapor Deposition Team
Los Alamos National Laboratory
phone: 505-667-2145
fax: 505-667-8109