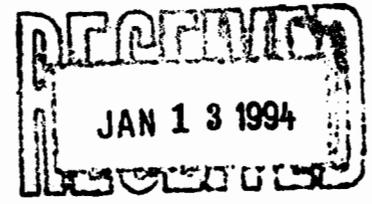




Department of Energy
 Carlsbad Area Office
 P. O. Box 3090
 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

JAN 10 1995



*Steele to
 Mr. Suermann
 w/ me pronto*

Mr. Benito J. Garcia, Bureau Chief
 Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
 State of New Mexico-Environment Department
 P.O. Box 26110
 Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Mr. Garcia:

Thank you for your letter of December 12, 1994, transmitting your comments on the TRU Waste Characterization Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP), Rev. B, July 8, 1994.

3/13/95

We are scheduling completion of our internal review of your comments and transmittal of our draft final response on your comments by February 6, 1995. Subsequent to your receipt of our draft final response, my staff desires to meet jointly with your staff, and those of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Environmental Evaluation Group (EEG) in late February to resolve any final comments on our responses in preparation for issuing the final QAPP. We would like to meet no later than late February in order that the final QAPP can be issued in time to support our March milestone of submitting the draft compliance certification package to the EPA.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact John F. Suermann of my staff at (505) 234-7475.

Sincerely,

George E. Dials
 George E. Dials
 Manager

- cc:
 P. McCasland, NMED-Carlsbad
 M. Matthews, CAO
 J. Mewhinney, CAO
 J. Suermann, CAO
 R. Bisping, CAO
 M. Connolly, INEL
 J. Maupin, WTAC
 J. Tillman, WTAC

*1/18 per phone - looking at week of
 2/20 to meet, probably in ALB.*