



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

ENTERED

JUL 20 1999



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ines Triay, Manager  
Carlsbad Area Office  
U.S. Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, NM 88221-3090

Dear Dr. Triay:

Enclosed is the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) inspection report for EPA Inspection No. EPA-LANL-6.99-8 of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), June 14-18, 1999. The enclosed report is a waste characterization inspection report, issued in accordance with EPA's regulations at 40 CFR 194.8(b)(3). EPA has determined that LANL adequately demonstrated compliance with the requirements of 40 CFR 194, Section 194.24(c)(4), for the waste characterization systems and processes inspected by EPA. The inspection team identified five minor findings of nonconformance and one concern, as explained in the inspection report. EPA requires a written response to four of the findings.

With this letter, EPA is approving LANL's waste characterization activities required under Conditions 3 of EPA's certification of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (Appendix A to 40 CFR Part 194). This approval applies to the systems and processes inspected by EPA as they may be used to characterize contact-handled debris and homogeneous waste streams.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Kruger at (202) 564-9310.

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Page, Director  
Office of Radiation and Indoor Air

Enclosure

cc: Butch Stroud, CAO  
Mark Italiano, CAO  
Steve Zappe, NMED ✓  
Bob Neill, EEG

