Los Alamos
NATIONAL LABORATORY
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Environmental Programs
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
(505) 606-2337/FAX (505) 665-1812

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National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316
Environmental Restoration Program
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
(505) 667-4255/FAX (505) 606-2132

Date: November 9, 2007
Refer To: EP2007-0692

Governor Martin W. Aguilar
Pueblo de San Ildefonso
Route 5, Box 315A
Santa Fe, NM 87506

Subject: Bayo Canyon Shrapnel Survey

Dear Governor Aguilar:

On September 26, 2007, a walkover survey was performed by Los Alamos National Laboratory (the Laboratory) staff in Bayo Canyon between former Technical Area (TA) 10 at the Laboratory and New Mexico State Highway 502. The purpose of the survey was to look for shrapnel fragments that had been transported by floods downcanyon from former firing sites in the upper canyon. Most of the survey occurred on Pueblo de San Ildefonso land, and this work was approved by the Office of the Governor on August 28, 2007. This completed a task that was specified in the "Work Plan for the North Canyons" (LA-UR-01-1316, p. 7-11), which was submitted to Governor Perry Martinez in September, 2001, and approved by the New Mexico Environment Department.

Laboratory personnel walked an approximately 5-mile long stretch of canyon bottom and examined both the active stream channel and adjacent floodplains that postdated initial Laboratory operations at TA-10. Three pieces of deformed metal were observed that may have been shrapnel or associated material from firing activities. One of these pieces was found west of the Pueblo de San Ildefonso fence approximately 0.5 miles downcanyon from former firing sites, and the other two were found approximately 1.8 miles downcanyon from the firing sites on Pueblo land, approximately 3.3 miles above NM 502. Each piece was flagged, photographed, located with a global-positioning system (GPS) unit, and screened for radioactivity with an Eberline E-600 survey meter (LANL bar code PN-012396, calibrated 8/15/07 and source-checked 9/26/07). No radioactivity above background levels was detected in these three pieces. Notes on these three pieces of metal, including GPS coordinates, are presented below. Photographs of these pieces of metal are also included. The westernmost piece of metal, B.S.-1, was outside the active channel and may have been within the dispersal range of debris from the shots and not transported by floods. The other pieces were in the active channel, and their geomorphic position provides evidence of flood transport.

Designation	Easting Coordinate (NAD29)	Northing Coordinate (NAD29)	Notes
B.S.-1	387962	3971897	Thin twisted metal plate with wiring, 15 cm by 15 cm, north side of main channel, west of Pueblo de San Ildefonso fence
B.S.-2	390201	3971347	Fragment of metal with semicircular edges, 2 cm by 6 cm, 7 mm thick, in active channel on Pueblo de San Ildefonso land
B.S.-3	390250	3971241	Thin distorted piece of sheet metal, 5 cm by 7 cm, in active channel on Pueblo de San Ildefonso land

Thank you for your help with this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Danny Katzman at (505) 667-6333 (katzman@lanl.gov) or Mat Johansen at (505) 665-5046 (mjohansen@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,

Susan G. Stiger, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,

David R. Gregory, Project Director
Environmental Operations
Los Alamos Site Office

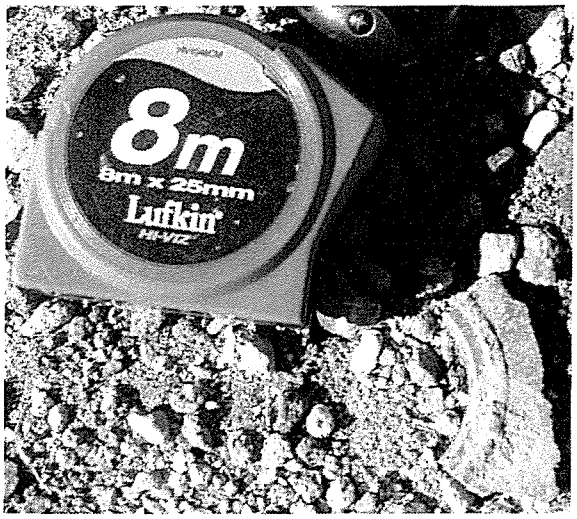
SS/DG/DK/SR:sm

Enclosure: a/s Photos of Shrapnel in Bayo Canyon

Cy: (w/enc.)
Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Neil Weber, San Ildefonso Pueblo
Steve Yanicak, NMED-OB, White Rock, NM
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM
Bonita Eichorst, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
Mat Johansen, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Cassandra Begay, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Don AMI, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Danny Katzman, EP-LWSP, MS M992
Steven Reneau, EES-9, MS D452
Becky Coel-Roback, ERSS-RS, MS M992
Susan G. Stiger, ADEP, MS M991
Carolyn A. Mangeng, ADEP, MS M991
Paul R. Huber, EP-LWSP, MS M992
Tina Behr-Andres, EP-LWSP, MS M992
Alison M. Dorries, ERSS-DO, MS M992
Peggy Reneau, EP-ERSS, MS M992
EP-LWSP File, MS M992
RPF, MS M707 (with two CDs)
Public Reading Room, MS M992
IRM-RMMSO, MS A150



Photograph of B.S.-1.



Photograph of B.S.-2



Photograph of B.S.-3