Los Alamos
NATIONAL LABORATORY
EST 1943
Environmental Programs
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
(505) 606-2337/FAX (505) 665-1812

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NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau

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: December 5, 2008
Refer To: EP2008-0644

James P. Bearzi, Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Subject: Request for a Meeting with the New Mexico Environment Department Regarding Material Disposal Area T, Technical Area 21

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

We have completed four quarters of vapor monitoring at three locations at Material Disposal Area (MDA) T in accordance with the approved work plan. These data indicate the vertical extent of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as methylene chloride, trichloroethene, and carbon tetrachloride has not been defined. Our intent at the outset of this investigation is to characterize the site and to identify both nature and extent of residual hazardous substances. An evaluation of preliminary data indicate we have not achieved this goal.

A summary of the preliminary data is attached for these three VOCs. The increases in concentrations with depth are consistent in borehole 21-25264. Boreholes 21-603058 and 21-603059 show inconsistent changes in concentration with depth.

We are preparing to return to the field to expand the investigation by sampling and analyzing soil vapor at two new borehole locations at deeper depths at MDA T. We believe this additional sampling will define the nature and extent of contamination required to support the corrective measures evaluation process.

We request a meeting with your staff to discuss the data and the details of collecting the remaining data.

If you have any questions, please contact Bruce Wedgeworth at (505) 231-0108 (brucew@lanl.gov) or George Henckel at (505) 606-0960 (GHenckel@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,

Michael J. Graham, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,

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

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MG/DG/AC/BW:sm

Attachment: (1) Data plots for MDA T (LA-UR-08-7748)

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM
Kevin Reid, TPMC, Los Alamos, NM
Steve Yanicak, NMED-OB, White Rock, NM
Alison Bennett, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
George Henckel, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Bruce Wedgeworth, EP-TA-21, MS C349
Allan Chaloupka, EP-TA-21, MS C349
Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991
Alison M. Dorries, WES-DO, MS M992
Kristine Smeltz, WES-DO, MS M992
EP-TA-21 File, MS C349
RPF, MS M707
IRM-RMMSO, MS A150 (date-stamped letter emailed)