



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
 REGION 6
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JUN 08 1995

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 Bob S. ✓
 Tim M. ✓
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Mr. John Gould, Manager
 Environmental Restoration Program
 U. S. Department of Energy
 Kirtland Area Office
 P.O. Box 5400
 Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400

Dear Mr. Gould:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) appreciated your attendance at the June 1, 1995 meeting to discuss the Background Study being completed by Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) and Kirtland Air Force Base. Both the EPA and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) agree that the importance of this topic warrants a follow-up letter to reiterate our requests with respect to the Background Study.

EPA and NMED agree that the two major issues discussed at the meeting were:

- Data quality (unknown quality of some of the historical data); and
- Locations from which data were collected (especially within or very near technical areas and solid waste management units).

It would appear that these issues could be resolved, or at least discussed more productively, if EPA and NMED were furnished with an electronic copy of the actual data used in the study. This is not a new request. The data was first requested at the December 1994 background meeting held in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The data was again requested in the January 1995 comments submitted by EPA to SNL and the Department of Energy. We understand and share your concern that the background study proceed as expeditiously as possible. However, EPA and NMED cannot concur on this, or any other study, without first reviewing the analytical data.

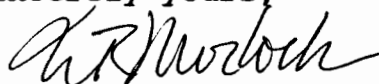
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Additionally, the EPA and NMED would appreciate copies of large-scale maps which locate the sample collection areas (when known).

The EPA understands that the database will be ready for transmittal to EPA and NMED by the end of this month. Please contact me at (214) 665-6650 if there will be any delays.

Sincerely yours,



Nancy Rinehart Morlock
Environmental Engineer

cc: Mr. Ron Kern
New Mexico Environment Department
Mr. Lloyd Aker
New Mexico Environment Department
Mr. Warren Cox
Sandia National Laboratories
Mr. Christopher DeWitt
Kirtland Air Force Base