Department of Energy Finding of No Significant Impact

Transfer of the DP Road Tract to the County of Los Alamos
Los Alamos, New Mexico

U. S. Department of Energy Los Alamos Area Office 528 35th Street Los Alamos, NM 87544

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Transfer of the DP Road Tract to the County of Los Alamos (DOE/EA-1184) (attached) provides sufficient evidence and analysis to determine that a finding of no significant impact is appropriate for this action. The DOE documents environmental consequences of the proposed action in this EA. There are other issues associated with this action that are not in and are not meant to be in the EA. The EA documents the evidence and analysis in the following chapters: 1. Purpose and Need for Agency Action; 2. Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives; 3. Affected Environment; 4. Environmental Consequences; 5. Potential Accident Scenarios; and 6. Regulatory Requirements and Consultations.

PREDECISIONAL DRAFT REVIEW & COMMENT: On November 15, 1996, the Department of Energy (DOE) invited review and comment on the predecisional EA from the State of New Mexico and four American Indian Tribes: Cochiti, Jemez, Santa Clara and San Ildefonso (sometimes referred to as the four accord pueblos because each tribe has entered into an accord with the DOE). In addition, DOE made the predecisional draft EA available to Los Alamos County and the general public at the same time it was provided to the State of New Mexico and the four accord pueblos by placing it in the DOE Public Reading Rooms within the Los Alamos National Laboratory Outreach Center and Reading Room in Los Alamos, and the TVI-Main Campus Library in Albuquerque. Also, local

stakeholder groups were notified of the availability of the predecisional draft on November 15, 1996. The public comment period on this EA was extended three weeks because of stakeholder requests.

Comments were received from six stakeholders. These comments were addressed in the Final EA, and individual responses to the comments were sent to the respondents.

FINDING: Based on the EA that analyzes the consequences of the relevant issues of environmental concern and the concerns of the stakeholders, the United States Department of Energy finds that there would be no significant impact from proceeding with its proposal to transfer to the County of Los Alamos a 28-acre land tract located on DP Road for their development and use as a business park or for light industrial purposes. DOE makes this Finding of No Significant Impact pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA); 42 U.S.C. § 4321, et seq., the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA, 40 C.F.R. Part 1500; and the DOE National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021. The proposed action does not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the human environment within the mandate of NEPA. Therefore, no environmental impact statement is required for this proposal.

Signed in Los Alamos, New Mexico this 23 day of January, 1997

G. Thomas Todd Area Manager

Los Alamos Area Office

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on this proposal, this Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI), or the DOE's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review program concerning proposals at LANL, please contact:

Elizabeth Withers, NEPA Compliance Officer Los Alamos Area Office U.S. Department of Energy 528 35th Street Los Alamos NM 87544 (505) 667-8690

Copies of this FONSI (with the Environmental Assessment attached) will be made available for public review at the Los Alamos National Laboratory Outreach Center and Reading Room, 1450 Central Avenue, Suite 101, Los Alamos, New Mexico, 87544 at (505) 665-2127 or (800) 543-2342. Copies will also be made available in the DOE Public Reading Room, located in the TVI-Main Campus Library, 525 Buena Vista SE, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87106 at (505) 224-3000.