
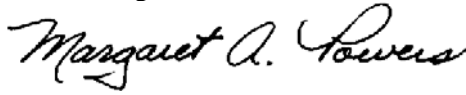


## NEPA REVIEW

Project/Activity Title: <b><i>Modification of a Special Use Permit to the Incorporated County of Los Alamos for the Construction and Operation of a Solid Waste Transfer Station at TA-61</i></b>		Accession No: 11228 LASO 05-003	Date: 02/8/05
Location: TA-61	Schedule: FY 05-06	Cost: Less than \$5M	
DOE Program Office: None		Non-DOE Sponsor: Los Alamos County	
Project Contact: Kirt Anderson SSMO-SPPI, M871, 5-2335, kirt@lanl.gov			
Preparer/Contact: Daniel Pava , LANL ENV-ECO		NEPA Reviewer: Margaret A. Powers, LANL ENV-ECO	
Signature: 	Signature: 		

### DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

The Incorporated County of Los Alamos (County) must close the existing solid waste landfill at TA-61 by December 2006 to comply with the solid waste management regulations administered by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The County hired a consultant to prepare a feasibility study that analyzed the type of facilities that would be developed to replace the existing landfill. The analysis showed that the most cost effective solution for managing municipal solid waste in Los Alamos County would be development of a transfer station to sort and consolidate waste for transport to an off-site licensed landfill. LANL, with support from the County, conducted a siting study to assess six locations where a transfer station could be developed, and it was determined that the site adjacent to the existing landfill is the most appropriate. The specific tract of land being considered is bounded by East Jemez Road on the north, the Transmit Mix concrete plant on the east, the existing landfill on the south, and the current entrance to the landfill on the west. The County has approached NNSA with a request to modify the existing Special Use Permit for the landfill at TA-61 to move the northern boundary between the concrete plant and the current landfill entrance north to East Jemez Road. This is a small expansion of the property currently covered by County's Special Use Permit that would allow a transfer station to be built on land where waste has not been buried, as required by solid waste management regulations. (see continuation sheet)

### NEPA DETERMINATION BASED ON ABOVE DESCRIPTION:

- Covered by prior NEPA review:
- Requires EIS:
- LANL recommended CX: B1.15 in Appendix B to Subpart D to Part 1021
- CX exception - Prepare EA (refer to appropriate sections of 10 CFR 1021 for full definition (check all that apply)):
- extraordinary circumstances (410(b)(2): \_\_\_\_\_
  - threaten violation of regulation (Subpart D, Appendix B (1)):
  - uncontrolled release of hazardous substance (Subpart D, Appendix B (3))
  - connected action (410(b)(3): \_\_\_\_\_
  - siting or expansion of waste TSD facility (Subpart D, Appendix 2))
  - adverse effect sensitive resource (Subpart D, Appendix B (4))
- None of the above: Prepare EA. [If applicable : 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix C ]
- Other:

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Continuation Sheet:

The current Special Use Permit, which expires December 31, 2037, allows operation of a transfer station at the site. LANL non-hazardous waste would be processed through the County's new transfer station. Municipal waste (including LANL waste) would be transported to an appropriately licensed landfill(s) outside of Los Alamos County. Waste would be collected and processed and transferred into larger trucks before being shipped off site.

The transfer station would include several facilities, including an administration building and a waste handling building, and land for composting, recycling, mulching and other tasks. Operations would require communications, water, electric, and gas utilities, which are readily available on-site, and sewage disposal capabilities, which are not currently available on-site. An on-site sewage leach field could be developed in lieu of a sewage hook-up but only if deemed environmentally acceptable. The transfer station would be served by an improved intersection with East Jemez Road to allow trucks and other vehicles to safely enter and leave; intersection improvements would have to be installed, as these do not currently exist. The complex would also have internal circulation for trucks and access to the various operations at the site. The public would have access to the site. At this time waste baling is not planned before shipping. Blowing litter would be controlled at the transfer station by having trash unloaded inside an enclosed building. Trash would only leave the building in transfer trailers that are covered with tarps. Large trucks carrying trash into and out of the facility are regulated by the Department of Transportation to tarp all loads. The facility would be required to be fenced, which acts as an additional line of defense for any fugitive blown litter.

The County would be responsible for permitting, constructing, operating and managing the transfer station. The facility would be operated under the regulations of the State of New Mexico, the County of Los Alamos, and terms of the Special Use Permit between NNSA and the County.

### NCO CLASSIFICATION/DETERMINATION:

This proposed action is covered by the categorical exclusion for: "Siting, construction, and operation of small-scale support buildings and support structures (including prefabricated buildings and trailers) and/or small-scale modifications of existing buildings or structures, within or contiguous to an already developed area where site utilities and roads are available (10CFR 1021, Appendix B1.15).

If changes are made to the scope of action so that it is no longer bound by the action described in the attached checklist, or is changed to encompass other actions, NEPA requirements for the action will need to be reassessed at that time and further analysis may be required.

Signature:



Elizabeth R. Withers, NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: March 17, 2005