



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



*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: DEC 18 2009  
Refer To: EP2009-0662

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

**Subject: Erosion Controls Associated with Fishladder Canyon [Solid Waste Management Unit 16-003(o)]**

Dear Mr. Bearzi:


This letter documents stormwater management following mitigation activities at Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 16-003(o), also known as Fishladder Canyon. This letter is required as part of the New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED's) Approval with Modifications for Phase II Investigation Report for the TA-16-340 Complex [Consolidated Units 13-003(a)-99 and 16-003(n)-99 and Solid Waste Management Units 16-003(o), 16-026(j2), and 16-029(f)], Revision 1, dated February 09, 2009.

In July 2008, stormwater controls were installed on the mesa top and north-facing hillslope that drain into Fishladder Canyon and in the main Fishladder Canyon drainage. The controls included straw wattles on the mesa top and hillslope (attached Figures 1-3) that were designed to control surface erosion and sediment transport by establishing a permanent vegetation cover. Previously existing controls in the main channel include a rock check dam and a gabion structure which were designed to reduce flow velocities and reduce sediment.

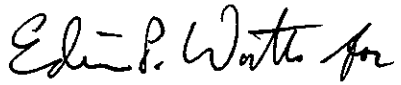
SWMU 16-003(o) is included in the Los Alamos National Laboratory National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Individual Permit (IP) (Permit No. NM0030759). Stormwater controls at the SWMU are inspected under the IP program at least once per year or following a 0.25 in. in 30 min or greater intensity rain event or following an exceedance of permit-specified stormwater standards. Controls at this SWMU were inspected five times this year between June 11 and October 21, 2009, following five separate rain events. No maintenance issues were identified with stormwater controls for this SWMU during the inspections.

If you have any questions, please contact John McCann at (505) 665-1091 (jmccann@lanl.gov) or Woody Woodworth at (505) 665-5820 (lwoodworth@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,

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

Sincerely,

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

MG/DG/JM:sm

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX  
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)  
Woody Woodworth, DOE-LASO, MS A316  
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM  
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB, MS M894  
John McCann, EP-CAP, MS M992  
Dave McInroy, EP-CAP, MS M992  
Michael Graham, ADEP, MS M991  
Kristine Smeltz, EP-WES, MS M992  
RPF, MS M707  
Public Reading Room, MS M992  
IRM-RMMSO, MS A150



Figure 1. View looking downslope from mesa top into Fishladder Canyon

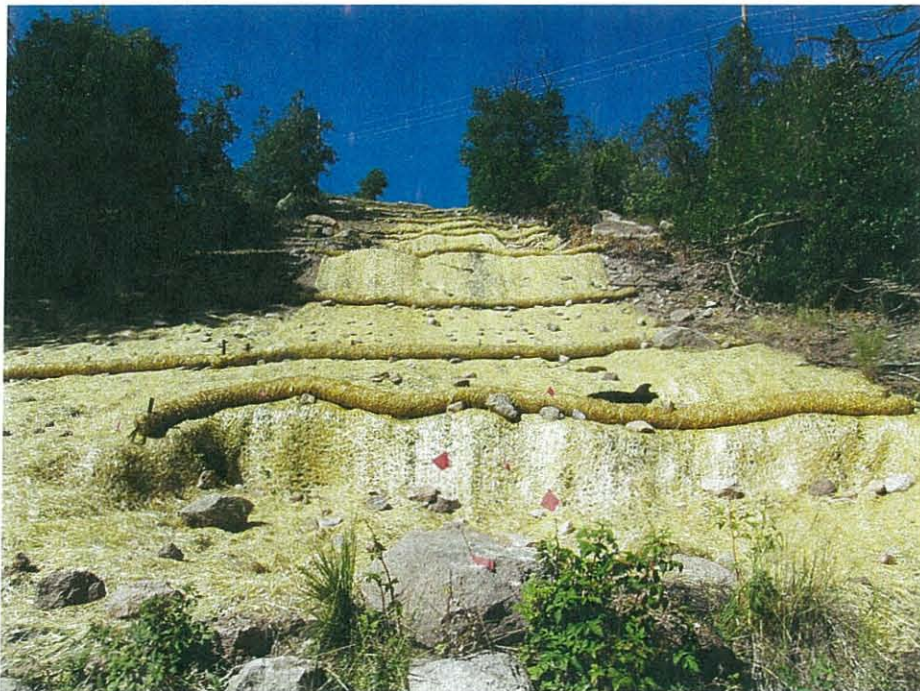


Figure 2. View looking upslope from bottom of Fishladder Canyon





Figure 3. View looking east down Fishladder Canyon