

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

December 28, 1999

Mr. David Amidei  
NASA Environmental Program Manager  
NASA White Sands Test Facility  
Las Cruces, NM 88004

Dear Mr. Amidei:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has carefully reviewed and considered the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) White Sands Test Facility (WSTF) September 1, 1999, XL proposal. We are pleased to inform you that EPA and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) are prepared to work with NASA to develop a Final Project Agreement (FPA). The FPA will detail the expectations of NASA, NMED, EPA, and stakeholders for your innovative Internet-based environmental information and management system. Once FPA negotiations are complete, the FPA, signed by EPA, NASA, and NMED, will set forth the parties' agreement and a detailed description of all components of this XL project. The FPA will describe the mechanism(s) that will be used to make this agreement legally enforceable.

Project XL was created to test innovative environmental management strategies for the 21<sup>st</sup> century and, through this process, foster excellence and leadership in environmental protection. The September 1, 1999, proposal and NASA's early cooperation in proposal development show potential to accomplish these goals.

Throughout the proposal development phase of the XL process, the components of this pilot Internet reporting project have been refined and clarified. Since there have been numerous discussions among our respective staffs since the September 1, 1999, proposal was submitted, this letter will clarify EPA's and NMED's expectations regarding this XL project to ensure a complete understanding of its components.

It is our expectation that the following items will be negotiated as part of the FPA:

1. In order to facilitate development of a legal mechanism to implement the project, EPA and NMED will need a list of the regulatory references and citations for each regulatory report and permit provision that will be electronically transmitted in this project.

2. As a safeguard against tampering or hacking, NASA WSTF will be required to satisfy the data security provisions set forth in the proposed Discharge Monitoring Report rule.

3. To expedite the implementation of the project, NASA will be expected to coordinate electronic reporting and permitting activities with each of the NMED's Bureaus.

The EPA has assembled a team to work with NASA, NMED, and other stakeholders on development of the project. That team will be led by John DuPree of EPA Headquarters at (202) 260-4468 and Adele Cardenas of EPA Region 6 at (214) 665-7210. They will be contacting you shortly to commence FPA negotiations.

Sincerely yours,

Original Signed by Gregg A Cooke

Gregg A. Cooke  
Regional Administrator

cc: Peter Maggiore, Secretary  
New Mexico Environment Department