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MMW 1/31/85

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

WAR DEPARTMENT
P. O. Box 2610
WASHINGTON, D. C.

REFER TO FILE No. _____

4 January 1946

VERIFIED UNCLASSIFIED
Mark M Jones 1/31/85

Dr. N. E. Bradbury
P. O. Box 1663
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Dr. Bradbury:

It was my belief that the making of long-range plans with respect to the future of atomic energy should be delayed until after the passage of legislation so as to avoid serious commitments which might hinder the actions of whatever commission or other body should be established to take charge of the work. Unfortunately, no legislation has been passed, and certain forces are at work the effect of which has been to delay any legislative program.

It has therefore become necessary for me to make definite plans, despite the fact that this will commit to some extent at least any future control body. Our wartime effort was to end the war. Everything was sacrificed to that objective. We counted on suitable legislation being passed promptly at the end of the war. We should not count on atomic bomb development being stopped in the forseeable future.

The Los Alamos site must remain active for a considerable period. Taking into consideration the type of work which must be done here, there has been found no site that combines as many desirable facilities for our work as Los Alamos. If one should be found, it would require at least six months to plan, twelve months to build, and six months to complete the move from Los Alamos. The only conclusion, therefore, is to stay at Los Alamos for at least the next few years, and to improve the existing facilities to such a degree as is necessary.

The major factors requiring improvement are the utilities, housing, and community facilities, particularly recreational facilities for single persons. This

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transition from war to peacetime community conditions will start immediately. To do this intelligently, however, requires planning, and this planning has already started.

With the current interest in the water situation, I wish to state my exact expectations with respect to this. First, all possible steps will be taken to maintain the existing system at maximum efficiency. This will include the trucking of sufficient additional water for as long as is necessary to supply continuous water service to all housing and to operate S Site and DP Site. Second, careful studies will be made with a view to securing a year-round supply based on 100 gallons per person per day which is considered adequate for a community with our industrial needs. Third, construction will be initiated promptly as soon as the plans have proceeded to the point where initiation of construction is feasible.

With respect to power and highway communications, it appears that the expected loads can be properly accomodated. If not, necessary steps will be taken to improve these facilities.

With respect to housing, we are assuming that DP Site will operate on a relatively permanent basis, and studies have been initiated with respect to layout and design of the needed family housing. It must be realized that there are certain legal restrictions which set a maximum cost of $7500 per unit. This means that the most careful designs must be made in order that satisfactory permanent accomodations will be achieved.

With respect to community facilities, in addition to the recreation for single individuals already mentioned, there should be a wide range of consumer goods establishments and the stimulation of concessionnaires in this line is necessary.

Sincerely yours,

L. R. Groves

L. R. GROVES
Major General, USA

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