

Mello Aff #2, Par 15

continue to take place while both facilities are operating. With both facilities operating at reduced levels at the same time, the combined demand for electricity, water, and manpower to support transition activities during this period may be higher than what would be required by the separate facilities. Nevertheless, the combined total impacts during this transition phase from both these facilities would be expected to be less than the impacts attributed to the Expanded Operations Alternative and the level of CMR operations analyzed in the *LANL SWEIS*.

Also during the transition phase, the risk of accidents would change at both the existing CMR Building and the new CMRR Facility. At the existing CMR Building, the radiological material at risk and associated operations and storage would decline as material and equipment are transferred to the new CMRR Facility. This would have the positive effect of reducing the risk of accidents at the CMR Building. Conversely, at the new CMRR Facility, as the amount of radioactive material at risk and associated operations increases to full operations, the risk of accidents would also increase. However, the improvements in design and technology at the new CMRR Facility would also have a positive effect of reducing overall accident risks when compared to the accident risks at the existing CMR Building. The expected net effect of both of these facilities operating at the same time during the transition period would be for the risk of accidents to be lower than the accident risks at either the existing CMR Building or the fully operational new CMRR Facility.

CMR Building and CMRR Facility Disposition Impacts

All action alternatives would require some level of decontamination and demolition of the existing CMR Building. Operational experience at the CMR Building indicates some surface contamination has resulted from the conduct of various activities over the last 50 years. Impacts associated with decontamination and demolition of the CMR Building are expected to be limited to the creation of waste within LANL site waste management capabilities. This would not be a discriminating factor among the alternatives.

Decontamination and demolition of the new CMRR Facility would also be considered at the end of its designed lifetime operation of at least 50 years. Impacts from the disposition of the CMRR Facility would be expected to be similar to those for the existing CMR Building.