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Date: December 22, 2006
 Refer to: EP2006-1104

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

SUBJECT: REVISED SUBMITTAL DATES FOR SEVERAL WATER STEWARDSHIP DELIVERABLES

References: Ltr, Phelps and Gregory to Bearzi, dated 12/1/06 (EP2006-1045); Ltr, Bearzi to Gregory and Phelps dated 12/13/06, e-mail Young to Simmons dated 12/14/06

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

On December 13, the U.S. Department of Energy and Los Alamos National Laboratory (collectively, the Permittees) received approval for the requested submittal dates for three deliverables: the Groundwater Background Investigation Report, Rev. 2; the Well Screen Analysis Report, Rev. 1 and NOD response; and the Summary of Pilot Well Rehabilitation Study Initial Results (as referenced in a letter to Bearzi, dated December 1). On December 14, John Young of your staff provided a list of NMED-approved background locations that was somewhat different from what had been discussed with the Permittees when the letter of December 1 was written with proposed dates for the Background Report and other deliverables. John's e-mail stated that NMED would entertain a delay in the due date of the report. Then on December 18 discussions between John Young and the Permittees clarified that NMED prefers a different approach to classifying background locations than had been discussed with the Permittees since July 2006.

We appreciate the discussions with your staff and are gratified to have arrived at an accepted group of background locations. Both the change in locations and the change in approach to classifying background in the regional aquifer, however, necessitate a reworking of the statistics and a rewrite of a significant portion of the report. Because these changes took place within the last week, the Groundwater Background Report will not be submitted on December 22 and the following reports that make use of background will of necessity move out in schedule. The new proposed dates for these reports, provided there are no further changes requested by NMED, are as follows:



- Groundwater Background Investigation Report, Rev. 2 – February 5, 2007
- Well Screen Analysis Report Revision 1 and NOD Response – February 16, 2007
- Summary of Pilot Well Rehabilitation Study Initial Results – March 16, 2007

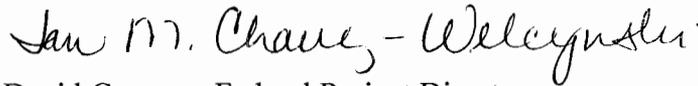
We appreciate the dialogue with your staff on this subject. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Ardyth Simmons at (505) 665-3935 or Mat Johansen at (505) 665-5046.

Sincerely,



Andrew Phelps, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,



David Gregory, Federal Project Director
Department of Energy
Los Alamos Site Office

AP/DG/AS/tml

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