



*General*  
**NEW MEXICO**  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**  
*Water and Waste Management Division*

*LANL GROUND WATER*  
**ENTERED**  
*General?*



BILL RICHARDSON  
 Governor

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RON CURRY  
 Secretary

DIANE DENISH  
 Lieutenant Governor

JON GOLDSTEIN  
 Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

October 2, 2009



Gene Turner, DOE/AIP/POC  
 U.S. Department of Energy  
 Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316  
 528 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Los Alamos, NM 87545

Tori George, LANL-EP-RS  
 Los Alamos National Security, LLC  
 P.O. Box 1663 MS M992  
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545-0001

**Re: LANL Drilling, Development, Rehabilitation and Sampling Purge Water Decision Tree Draft Revisions**

Dear Mr. Turner and Ms. George:

The attached “Los Alamos National Laboratory Drilling, Development, Rehabilitation and Sampling Purge Water Decision Tree” (Decision Tree) is a guidance document that has been prepared by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) to provide the Los Alamos National Laboratory owner and operators (LANL) with direction regarding the discharge of ground water associated with the drilling, development, rehabilitation and routine sampling of monitoring wells located throughout the facility. This document provides a mechanism for determining the appropriate fate of such waters in accordance with State regulations. LANL must demonstrate that these discharges do not pose a threat to human health or the environment by following the Decision Tree. Inadvertent discharges to the environment which do not specifically adhere to the Decision Tree and contain water contaminants that may, with reasonable probability, pose a threat to the environment or human health must continue to be reported following the procedures outlined in Section 1203 of the Water Quality Control Commission Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC).

The attached document contains proposed revisions intended to clarify and/or correct elements of the guidance that have been noted to be problematic by NMED and LANL (the revised sections are highlighted). NMED is requesting that LANL review and comment on this draft revised Decision Tree so that its use can be approved by NMED. Please be aware that there may be additional reporting requirements to maintain compliance with other regulatory programs. NMED reserves the right to modify, amend or

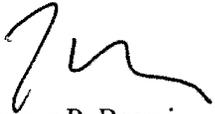
Mr. Turner and Ms. George

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retract this document as it pertains to compliance with the Water Quality Control Commission's Water Quality Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC) or the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act (74-4 *et. seq.*, NMSA 1978). Please submit any comments regarding the revised decision tree to the Ground Water Quality Bureau by **November 2, 2009**.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau



William C. Olson  
Chief  
Ground Water Quality Bureau

JB & WO:jf

- Enc: Draft Revised Los Alamos National Laboratory Drilling, Development, Rehabilitation and Sampling Purge Water Decision Tree  
Los Alamos National Laboratory Drilling, Development, Rehabilitation and Sampling Purge Water Decision Tree (Current Revision dated July 26, 2006)
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