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ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 30, 2010

George J. Rael  
Environmental Operations Manager  
Los Alamos Site Office  
Department of Energy  
3747 West Jemez Road, MS A316  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael Graham  
Associate Director Environmental Programs  
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 1663, MS 991  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: REQUIREMENT TO PLUG AND ABANDON WELLS AND BOREHOLES AT  
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY  
EPA ID#NM0890010515  
HWB-LANL-MISC-GW**

Dear Messrs Rael and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Information on Wells and Boreholes, Los Alamos National Laboratory and Surrounding Area* (Document) dated December, 2009 and referenced by EP2009-0641. NMED has reviewed the Document and provides the following direction.

Many of the wells and boreholes presented in the Document are potential conduits or migration pathways for liquid and vapor-phase contamination to move from the surface and/or the vadose zone to the regional aquifer. NMED hereby requires the Permittees to submit a plugging and abandonment work plan that, at a minimum, describes the method(s) and procedures for abandonment of the following wells and boreholes. The plan also must provide a schedule for abandonment of the wells and borings in the following order of priority.

1. H-19
2. Layne Western
3. Sigma Mesa EGH-LA-1

33839



4. TH-5
5. TH-6
6. SHB-1
7. SHB-3
8. SHB-4
9. 46-SM-88 TA-46 Distillation hole(s)
- 10.21-SM-3 TA-21 Distillation hole
- 11.USGS Test Hole east of MDA C, TA-50
- 12.Beta Hole
- 13.CH-1
- 14.CH-3
- 15.CH-4
- 16.TH-1 through TH-5
- 17.TBM-1
- 18.TBM-2
- 19.49-10046
- 20.49-10047
- 21.49-10048

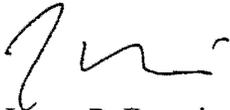
The proposed method(s) and procedures for well and borehole abandonment must be consistent with the requirements set forth in Section X.D of the March 1, 2005 Order on Consent (Order) and must comply with the applicable New Mexico State Engineer Office requirements for *Well Driller Licensing; Constructing, Repair and Plugging of Wells* (19.27.4. NMAC).

The work plan must be submitted to NMED no later than **November 1, 2010**.

Messrs. Rael and Graham  
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Should you have any questions, please contact Michael Dale of my staff at (505) 661-2673.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:md

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
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File: '10 Reading and LANL Groundwater General, Well and Borehole Abandonment