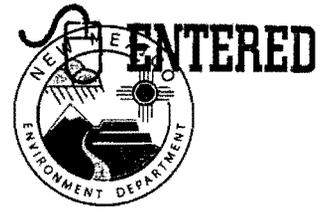




Office

NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau



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Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
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DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

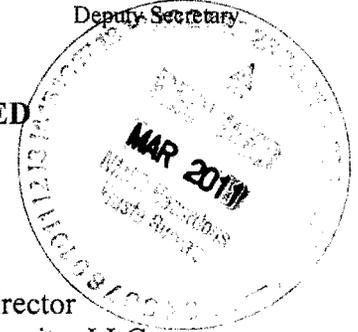
RAJ SOLOMON, P.E.
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

March 18, 2011

Jeffrey M. Casalina
Deputy Designated Federal Official (DDFO)
Office of Environmental Operations (OEO)
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
3747 West Jemez Road MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Denny Hjeresen,
Acting ENV Division Director
Los Alamos National Security, LLC.
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS J978
Los Alamos, NM 87544



SUBJECT: Spill Response Assessment and Closure of Release ID# 2011-300 Occurring at Regional Spring “Sacred Spring”, Monitoring Wells SCA-1-DP and R-16, confirmed on February 14, 2011

Dear Messrs. Casalina and Hjeresen:

On February 15, 2011, representatives of Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) reported an unauthorized discharge to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) as required by 20.6.2.1203 NMAC of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations. The report identified ground water with recently confirmed detection levels of iron at 2.15 mg/L which exceeds the WQCC standard of 1.0 mg/L in alluvial aquifer monitoring well SCA-1-DP (located in Sandia Canyon with a depth to water of 2.16 feet) and detection levels of manganese in two samples at 0.424 mg/L and 0.402 mg/L in a regional spring identified as “Sacred Spring” (located in White Rock Canyon) which exceeds the WQCC standard of 0.2 mg/L. The sources of the exceedances for iron and manganese were not identified in the report. Detection levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), specifically Aroclor-1254 and Aroclor-1242, were also reported at concentrations of 0.0021 mg/L and 0.0011 mg/L respectively in regional monitoring well R-16 (located in Canada del Buey with a depth to water of approximately 1,237 feet) which exceed the cumulative WQCC standard of 0.001 mg/L. According to the report submitted by LANS, the source and extent of the exceedance for PCB’s is attributed to analytical contamination and are not representative of ground water quality. All wells are located within Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sacred Springs is located within the San Ildefonso Pueblo Land Grant.



Messrs. Jeffrey Casalina and Denny Hjeresen

March 18, 2011

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Corrective actions to address this release are being coordinated with the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) in accordance with the Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order) proceeding under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act § 74-4-10 and the New Mexico Solid Waste Act § 74-9-36(D) between NMED and the United States Department of Energy and the Regents of the University of California for Los Alamos National Laboratory. Based on the information in the Release/Discharge Notification submitted by LANS to GWQB on December 21, 2010 in accordance with 20.6.2.1203 NMAC, and because corrective actions are being coordinated with the HWB under the Consent Order, no further action is required at this time for release ID#2011-300. Please continue to coordinate any additional corrective actions related to the release with the HWB.

The GWQB reserves the right to require additional corrective actions not already being required should LANS fail to complete corrective actions to the satisfaction of the HWB. Furthermore, nothing in this letter shall be construed as relieving the United States Department of Energy or LANS, of its obligation to comply with all other applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, permits or orders.

If you have any questions, please contact either Jennifer Fullam at (505) 827-2909 or George Schuman, Program Manager of the Ground Water Pollution Prevention Section, at (505) 827-2945.

Sincerely,



William C. Olson, Chief
Ground Water Quality Bureau

WO:JF

cc: Mr. Gene Turner, DOE/AIP/POC, U.S. Department of Energy, Los Alamos Site Office,
MS 16 528 35th Street, Los Alamos, NM 87545
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Jennifer Fullam, NMED/GWQB

Messrs. Jeffrey Casalina and Denny Hjeresen

March 18, 2011

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Richard Powell, NMED/SWQB
Dave Cobrain, NMED/HWB
Steve Yanicak, NMED/DOE/OB
Erik Galloway, NMED/DOE/OB