



BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

DIANE DENISH
Lieutenant Governor

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**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Hazardous Waste Bureau

2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

Phone (505) 476-6000 Fax (505) 476-6030

www.nmenv.state.nm.us



RON CURRY
Secretary

JON GOLDSTEIN
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 15, 2008

David Gregory
Federal Project Director
Los Alamos Site Office, Department of Energy
528 35th Street, Mail Stop A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

David McInroy
Remediation Services Deputy Project Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop A992
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: NOTICE OF APPROVAL
DRILLING WORK PLAN FOR LOS ALAMOS AND PUEBLO CANYONS
GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-GROUNDWATER-MISC**

Dear Messrs. Gregory and McInroy:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy and Los Alamos National Security, LLC (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Drilling Work Plan for Los Alamos and Pueblo Canyons Groundwater Monitoring Wells* (hereafter, the Plan) dated May 2008 and referenced by LA-UR-08-2738/EP2008-0218. NMED has reviewed the Plan and hereby issues this Notice of Approval.

NMED agrees with the Permittees concerning the order for drilling Los Alamos and Pueblo Canyons wells as proposed in the Plan. In consideration of the importance of the perched intermediate well in providing information for the design of a reliable monitoring network surrounding Technical Area (TA)-53, and the likelihood that a well intended to monitor potential contaminant migration toward the Buckman well field will be placed on San Ildefonso Pueblo land, NMED approves the schedules proposed in the Plan. Specifically, the Permittees must complete the perched intermediate well at TA-53 no later than March 30, 2009, and the Buckman



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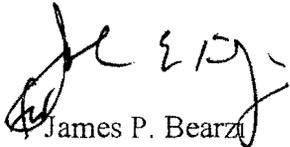
Messrs. Gregory and McInroy
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monitoring well and well R-3 no later than December 31, 2009. The Permittees must also complete the perched intermediate well intended to replace TW-2A no later than April 30, 2010. The Permittees must continue to monitor existing well TW-2A until completion of the replacement well.

As proposed in the Plan, the Permittees must complete the proposed plug and abandonment activities at TW-1, TW-1a, TW-2 and TW-2A by January 31, 2010, and submit a report to NMED summarizing these activities no later than March 15, 2010.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Hai Shen at (505) 476-6039.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:hs

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
J. Young, NMED HWB
K. Roberts, NMED HWB
H. Shen, NMED HWB
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS J993
B. Olson, NMED GWQB
L. King, EPA 6PD-N
G. Rael, DOE LASO, MS A316
M. Johansen, DOE LASO, MS A316
S. Stiger, LANL ENV, MS J591
P. Huber, LANL ENV, MS M992
D. Katzman, LANL ENV, MS M992

file: Reading and LANL TA-54 (Los Alamos and Pueblo Canyons, TA-53)