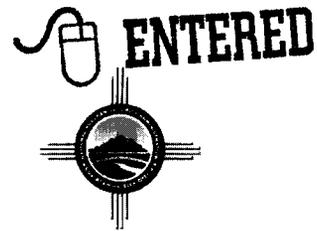




**Environmental Programs**  
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TAOO



**National Nuclear Security Administration**  
 Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316  
 Environmental Restoration Program  
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544  
 (505) 667-4255/FAX (505) 606-2132

*Date:* October 30, 2009  
*Refer To:* EP2009-0564

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

**Subject: Request for Extension in Time to Plug and Abandon Test Wells TW-1 and TW-1a**

**Reference: Letter, Bearzi to Messrs. Gregory and McInroy, dated 05/15/08**

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

This letter requests an extension to the originally established completion date for the plugging and abandonment of Test Wells 1 (TW-1) and TW-1a, per the attached table. In the referenced letter approving the drilling work plan for the Los Alamos and Pueblo Canyons monitoring wells, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) stated that the proposed plug and abandonment activities at TW-1, TW-1a, TW-2, and TW-2a must be completed by January 31, 2010, and a report summarizing these activities must be submitted no later than March 15, 2010.

The four test wells identified in the referenced letter and a fifth test well (TW-4) are planned for plugging and abandonment within this current fiscal year 2010. The scheduling of this work was reconsidered in light of the extensive scope associated with the installation of 16 new wells and the combined impact of the work to available drilling operations equipment and qualified crews. A resulting integrated well schedule was developed that reflected the complete scope of work and considered feedback from working discussions with NMED to ensure priorities were fully understood and efficiently aligned.

The specific dates for the completion of the plugging and abandonment work and respective reports are provided in the attached table. These dates are also consistent with an integrated well installation schedule for fiscal year 2010, as submitted to NMED in our letter dated October 14, 2009.

The logic for the sequence of the plugging and abandonment work was based on the location of the wells with respect to anticipated winter conditions and to other nondrilling scope interferences. TW-2, TW-2a, and TW-2b are farther up Pueblo Canyon and less accessible in winter; for this reason the Laboratory would like to complete field activities at this location first. For the TW-1 and TW-1a location, we would like to avoid any potential heavy equipment movement conflicts with the grade-control structure construction activities planned in lower Pueblo Canyon that are scheduled in

first quarter of FY2010. The aggregate schedule for the plugging and abandonment work allows sufficient time between the respective wells for contingencies. This schedule should allow for a delayed completion on one well to not impact the execution schedule for the work on subsequent wells, recognizing that the same rigs and crew will be doing all the work. If contingent situations do not arise, then the schedule dates will be advanced accordingly until all five test wells are completed.

By this letter, the Laboratory requests an extension for TW-1 and TW-1a and is committing to the balance of the dates shown in the attached table with all the work to be completed and reported on by the end of July 2010.

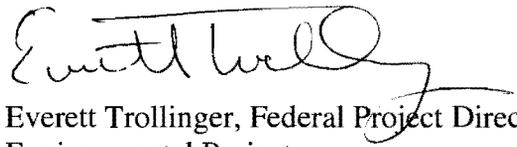
If you have any questions, please contact Ted Ball at (505) 665-3996 (tedball@lanl.gov) or Everett Trollinger at (505) 667-0281 (etrollinger@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,



Bruce Schappell, Executive Director  
Environmental Programs – Recovery Act Projects  
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,



Everett Trollinger, Federal Project Director  
Environmental Projects  
Los Alamos Site Office

MG/DG/PH/AS:sm

Attachment: Plugging and Abandonment Schedule for Test Wells in 2010

Cy: Neil Weber, San Ildefonso Pueblo  
Hai Shen, DOE-LASO, MS A316  
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB, MS M894  
Ardyth Simmons, EP-LWSP, MS M992  
Ted Ball, PMF-SEC, MS M992  
Andy Baumer, TA-54 Closure Project, MS C348  
Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX  
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM  
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)  
Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991  
Alison M. Dorries, EP-WES, MS M996  
Paul Huber, EP-LWSP, MS M992  
Kristine Smeltz, EP-WES, MS M992  
RPF, MS M707  
IRM-RMMSO, MS A150 (date-stamped letter emailed)

**Attachment**  
**Plugging and Abandonment Schedule for Test Wells in 2010**

<b>Well</b>	<b>Field Start</b>	<b>Finish*</b>	<b>Submit Report to NMED</b>
TW-2	11-16-09	12-1-09	1-4-10
TW-2a	12-9-09	1-13-10	2-9-10
TW-2b	1-22-10	2-19-10	3-17-10
TW-1	3-8-10	4-2-10	4-28-10
TW-1a	4-12-10	5-7-10	5-25-10
TW-4	5-24-10	6-21-10	7-16-10

\*Finish includes all fieldwork except site restoration and waste disposal.