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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 27, 2010

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Michael J. Graham
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**RE: REVIEW OF PERIODIC MONITORING REPORTS FOR ANCHO
WATERSHED, MARCH 31 - APRIL 8, 2009 AND OCTOBER 21 -
OCTOBER 28, 2009
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-09-041 AND HWB-LANL-10-017**

Dear Messrs. Rael and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security L.L.C.'s (LANS) (collectively, the Permittees) *Periodic Monitoring Report for Ancho Watershed, March 31 - April 8, 2009* dated August, 2009 and referenced by LA-UR-09-4935/EP2009-0377 and *Periodic Monitoring Report for Ancho Watershed, October 21 - October 28, 2009* (Reports), dated August, 2009 and referenced by LA-UR-10-0940/EP2010-0071. NMED has reviewed the Reports and provides the following comments.

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Comments for March 31 – April 8, 2009 Report:

1. The third sentence of the first paragraph in Section 4.2 on page 3 states, “The screening levels with which the results are compared are shown in Table 4.2-1.” However, Table 4.2-1 lists the sources of the screening levels, not the actual screening levels. For clarification, the statement cited above and also found in the first paragraph following bulleted items in Section 4 on page 4 must be revised to state that the Table lists the source of screening levels in future reports.
2. It is unclear which port, Port MP2A or MP2B, in Well R-31 is used for groundwater sampling for field parameters, collection of samples and for determining groundwater-level measurements. For example, Table 2.0-1, Monitoring Locations and General Information, on page 9 indicated that Port MP2A in Monitoring Well R-31 is positioned at 532.2 feet. However, groundwater-level measurements presented in Appendix C indicated that Port MP2B is located at 532.2 feet. Analytical results presented in Appendix D indicate that groundwater for tritium analysis was collected from 542.5 feet. The Permittees must clearly indicate which ports are used to collect samples and measure parameters.

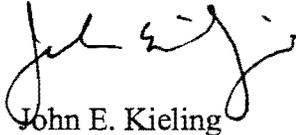
Comments for October 21 – 28, 2009 Report:

3. The third sentence of the first paragraph in Section 4.2 on page 3 states, “The screening levels with which the results are compared are shown in Table 4.2-1.” However, Table 4.2-1 lists the sources of the screening levels, not the actual screening levels. For clarification, the statement cited above, and also found in the first paragraph following bulleted items in Section 4 on page 4, should be revised to state that the Table lists the source of screening levels in future reports.
4. A section discussing investigation-derived waste (IDW) and an Appendix discussing the management of wastes produced during the periodic monitoring event (PME) are not included with this Report. The Permittees must include a description of the management of IDW as specified in Section XI.D.5 of the Consent Order in future reports.
5. Information presented in Table 2.0-1 indicated that R-31 was sampled on October 26, 2009 from port MP2B at 542.5 feet. Groundwater-Elevation Measurements presented in Appendix B indicated that R-31 port MP2B is located at 532.2 feet. The Permittees must resolve the discrepancy in the reported depths for port MP2B and indicate the correct depth in future reports.
6. NMED noted a substantial increase in pH in groundwater sampled from port 1562 at 542.5 feet in monitoring well R-31. The pH was reported as 6.78 in April 2009 and reported as 11.05 in the October 2009 periodic monitoring event.

Messrs. Rael and Graham
August 27, 2007
Page 3

No revisions to the Reports are necessary. Please contact Pat Stewart at (505) 476-6059 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Program Manager
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Hazardous Waste Bureau

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File: Reading and LANL 2010 and Ancho Watershed PMR