



SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



ENTERED



Hazardous Waste Bureau

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DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

RAJ SOLOMON, P.E.
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

March 9, 2011

George J. Rael
Assistant Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
3747 West Jemez Rd, MSA316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael J. Graham
Associate Director Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATION
WORK PLAN TO PLUG AND ABANDON TEST WELL 3
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 Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Work Plan to Plug and Abandon Test Well 3 (Plan)* dated January 14, 2011 and referenced by EP2011-0007.

NMED has reviewed the Plan and hereby issues this Approval with the following modification.

1. Before abandoning Test Well 3, the Permittees must measure the depth to water and obtain a video log inside the 10-inch casing. The condition of the casing, as exhibited by the video log, must be used to determine whether extraction and/or cutting and removal of the 10-inch casing is the best method of abandonment. For example, if the video log indicates that the screened interval is damaged or

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corroded, then cutting the casing just above the screen followed by removal of the casing may be necessary. If such conditions occur or if any other circumstances warrant a significant change in the method and/or procedure for abandoning Test Well 3, the Permittees must contact NMED for its approval prior to proceeding.

As proposed in the Plan, the Permittees must complete the plugging and abandonment of Test Well 3 by **December 20, 2011** and submit the well abandonment summary report no later than **January 31, 2012**.

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

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
J. Kulis, NMED HWB
M. Dale, NMED HWB
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File: Reading and LANL Groundwater 2011 – Work Plan to Plug and Abandon Test Well 3
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