



SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor



NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

February 13, 2012

George J. Rael
Assistant Manager, Env. Projects Office
Los Alamos Site Office, DOE
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316
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
ADDITIONAL EXTENSION REQUEST
TO PLUG AND ABANDON TEST WELL 3
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-GW-MISC**

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 *Request for an Additional Extension to Plug and Abandon Test Well 3* (Request) dated February 2, 2012 and referenced by EP2012-0038.

The Permittees request an additional time extension to plug and abandon Test Well 3 from February 10, 2012 to March 23, 2012. As stated in the Request, numerous and continuous problems at well H-19 such as borehole caving have occurred, causing unavoidable delays in completing the plugging of H-19. These delays have resulted in the delay in initiating the abandonment of Test Well 3. The unanticipated problems at H-19 constitute good cause for the Request. NMED hereby approves the requested time extension to plug and abandon Test Well 3 from February 10, 2012 to **March 23, 2012**. As proposed in the Request, the Permittees must submit a report summarizing the plugging and abandonment of Test Well 3 to NMED no later than **April 20, 2012**.

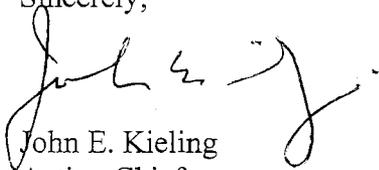
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Please contact Michael Dale at (505) 661-2673 if you have questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
B. Wear, NMED HWB
J. Kulis, NMED HWB
M. Dale, NMED HWB
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB
J. Schoeppner, NMED GWQB
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS M894
L. King, EPA 6PD-N
T. Ball, EP-CAP, MS M996
H. Shen, DOE-LASO, MS A316
P. Maggiore, DOE-LASO, MS A316

File: Reading and LANL 2012 – Additional Extension Request Test Well 3 2012