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PETER MAGGIORE
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CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 27, 1999

Mr. Theodore Taylor, Project Manager
Los Alamos Area Office-Department of Energy
528 35th Street MS A316
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

Dr. John Browne, Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS A100
Los Alamos, NM 87545

RE: **Limited Approval per the Request for Modification to the Baseline Surface Water Sampling Suite for Upper Sandia Canyon, Los Alamos National Laboratory, NM 0890010515**

Dear Mr. Taylor and Dr. Browne:

This letter is in response to a written request (dated January 7, 1999 and referenced by EM/ER:99-002) to limit the analytical suite for quarterly surface water base flow sampling as part of the Upper Sandia Canyon Sampling and Analysis Plan. After review of the data provided to the RCRA Permits Management Program (RPMP) of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), RPMP is approving the removal of radionuclides from the analytical suite at all but two of the base surface water flow sampling locations. The two sampling locations that should continue to have full suite analyses acquired are the south tributary below the outfall and the sampling location below the toe of the wetlands. RPMP believes that data from three more quarters of sampling at these locations will provide sufficient data to better understand the wetland system.

This approval for removal of radionuclides from the analytical suite at all but two of the sampling locations is limited to surface water base flow sampling *only*. As stated in the request letter, storm-water sampling at all locations *will* continue to require full suite analyses. The analytes for full suite include radionuclides, as well as diesel-range organics, polychlorinated biphenyls and pesticides, semivolatle organic compounds, total suspended solids, total organic carbon, dissolved organic carbon, and *inorganics*.



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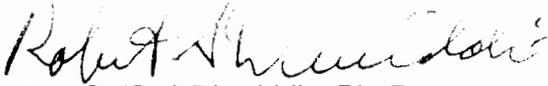
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Mr. Taylor and Dr. Browne
Upper Sandia Canyon Surface Water Sampling Suite
January 27, 1999
Page 2 of 2

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or Mr. John Kieling, RPMP's LANL Facility Manager at (505) 827-1558, extension 1012.

Sincerely,



Robert S. (Stu) Dinwiddie, Ph. D.
RCRA Permits Management Program
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

RSD:jry

cc:

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