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LANL 1995

Los Alamos National Laboratory

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

ER ID # 45978

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Date: APR 7 1995
Refer to: EM/ER:95-132

Ms. Barbara Driscoll
NM/Federal Facilities Section
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Dear Ms. Driscoll:

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF GROUNDWATER ENCOUNTERED BELOW MATERIAL DISPOSAL AREA (MDA) L

During air-drilling of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Phase I investigation borehole Hole 54-1016 below MDA L on March 9, 1995, water was encountered at a depth of 592 feet. The hole, designated 54-1016, is being drilled at an angle to monitor for the presence of volatile organic compounds beneath MDA L (Operable Unit 1148; now Field Unit 5). The production of water is estimated at less than two gallons per day. The elevation of the wet horizon in the hole is approximately 6188 ft, while the elevation of the main aquifer at this location is estimated to be 5850 feet. The evidence indicates this is a small perched water horizon within the basalt section underlying the Bandelier Tuff. Upon encountering the water, we halted drilling and waited until the next morning to attempt to bail a sample. However, no water accumulated in the borehole the next morning, and no sample was obtained. The hole was then drilled to a total depth of 605 ft.

The borehole will be completed as a monitoring well. The design includes seven ports to be installed for vapor monitoring at various depths. Three of these are available for taking water samples, should any accumulate over time. The deepest water port is at 600 ft depth, just below the wet horizon described above.

Sincerely,

Jorg Jansen, Project Manager
Environmental Restoration

Sincerely,

Theodore J. Taylor, Program Manager
Los Alamos Area Office

Environmental Restoration

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Received by ER-RI
APR 13 1995

Barbara Driscoll
EM/ER:95-132

APR 7 1995

JJ/TTA/bp

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