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NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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RON CURRY
Secretary

CINDY PADILLA
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 23, 2007

David Gregory
Federal Project Director
Los Alamos Site Office, Department of Energy
528 35th Street, Mail Stop A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

David McInroy
Remediation Services Deputy Project Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop M992
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL OF THE DRILLING WORK PLAN FOR REGIONAL AQUIFER
WELL R-36
EPA ID #NM0890010515**

Dear Messrs Gregory and McInroy:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the Department of Energy and the Los Alamos National Security, LLC (collectively, the Permittees) document titled "Drilling Work Plan for Regional Aquifer Well R-36 dated June 2007 and referenced by LA-UR-07-4342 (hereafter, the Work Plan) and hereby issues this approval. Because drilling is costly and time consuming, NMED requires that the Permittees take all reasonable steps to identify and collect data that will provide information regarding the extent, chemistry, and hydrogeologic conditions of any perched zones that may be intersected before advancing the borehole beyond the proposed depth of advancement of the 12-inch casing.

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Messrs. Gregory and McInroy
August 23, 2007
Page 2

Should you have any questions please contact me at (505) 476-6016 or John Young of my staff at (505) 476-6038.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:jy

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
H. Shen, NMED HWB
J. Young, NMED HWB
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB
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file: Reading and LANL TA-3[Groundwater, TA-72 and Sandia Canyon]