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Hazardous Waste Bureau



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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 12, 2008

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, MS M992 Los Alamos, NM 87545

RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATIONS UPPER SANDIA CANYON AGGREGATE AREA INVESTIGATION WORK PLAN LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY (LANL) EPA ID #NM0890010515 HWB-LANL-08-010

Dear Messrs. Gregory and McInroy:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security L.L.C.'s (LANS) (collectively, the Permittees) Upper Sandia Canyon Aggregate Area Investigation Work Plan, Revision 1 (Plan), dated July 2008 and referenced by LA-UR-08-4798/EP2008-0388. NMED has reviewed the Plan and hereby issues this Approval with the following modifications. Comment numbers correspond to the Notice of Disapproval (NOD) dated June 25, 2008.

Specific Comments:

15. NMED Comment: In the Upper Sandia Canyon Work Plan (March 2008), the Permittees proposed to collect nine samples from three locations at SWMU 03-014(u). In the Revised Plan (July 2008), the proposed number of samples was



reduced to six samples, but no justification was provided. The Permittees must collect nine samples from the three depths as indicated in the Table 4.0-1 of the March 2008 investigation work plan. Additionally, the Permittees must collect samples (from two depths) at an additional location in the drainage channel where it turns from northwest to the northeast. The samples must be analyzed for the same suite of chemicals as proposed in Table 4.0-1 for SWMU 03-014(u).

17. NMED Comment: The NOD response indicates that samples will be collected from three additional locations, one beneath the former drainline and two in the drainage. However, only two new sampling locations are proposed, one beneath the former drainline and one in the drainage. The revised text and Table 4.0-1 also indicates that only two new additional sampling locations are proposed (i.e. from eight to ten locations). The Permittees must add another sampling location in the drainage northeast of the SWMU 03-015 as stated in their NOD response.

General Comments:

1. The Permittees should have mentioned in their NOD response letter that the revised Plan included additional revisions that were not in response to the NOD comments. NMED has noted that the Permittees have reduced the number of proposed sampling locations for SWMU 03-045(g) [Section 4.1.7.10], SWMU 03-012(b) [Section 4.1.9.1], SWMU 03-045(a) [Section 4.1.29], and SWMU 03-045(f) [Section 4.1.31]. NMED concurs with the revisions. In the future, the Permittees must include the references for all additional changes to revised documents in the crosswalk table submitted with NOD response. Please note that SWMU 61-002 is not included in the investigation of Upper Sandia Canyon Aggregate Area.

The Upper Sandia Canyon Aggregate Area Investigation Report must be submitted to NMED no later than December 31, 2009. The Notice Date will be June 30, 2010. All submittals (including maps) must be in the form of two paper copies and one electronic copy in accordance with Section XI.A of the Order.

Messrs. Gregory and McInroy
August 12, 2008
Page 3

Please contact Neelam Dhawan at (505) 476-6042, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc:

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