James Bearzi, Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Subject: Request for Extension for Completion of Well R-61

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The purpose of this letter is to request an extension to the date for completing well R-61.
Los Alamos National Laboratory (the Laboratory) submitted the Drilling Work Plan for Well R-61
to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) on October 15, 2010. The work plan
proposed an NMED completion date of March 30, 2011. This completion date was approved by
NMED in its November 4, 2010, letter. This date would allow three quarters of sampling to be
completed and one quarter for data from the third quarter to be returned and incorporated in the
Sandia Canyon Phase II investigation report, due to NMED on April 30, 2012.

The installation of well R-61 is currently behind schedule because procurement was delayed by
Continuing Resolution, which did not authorize funding for fiscal year 2011 second quarter projects
until January 2011. The Laboratory is currently drilling well R-61 and has reached a depth of
520 ft. Additionally, the Laboratory has attempted to obtain a second drilling crew for 24-hour
operations to lessen the impact of the schedule delay caused by the Continuing Resolution, but as of
this date, no additional crews are available. Therefore, the Laboratory does not anticipate having
this well complete until after the March 30, 2011, due date, and the Laboratory is requesting an
extension for the completion of well R-61 until April 30, 2011.

The Laboratory recognizes the importance of completing the characterization of groundwater in
Sandia Canyon and the completion of the Phase II investigation report. This 30-day delay in
completion of well R-61 will not impact the laboratory’s ability to collect and analyze the three
quarters of sampling data before the Laboratory submits the Phase II report on the due date of
April 30, 2012.
If you have any questions, please contact Ted Ball at (505) 665-3996 (tedball@lanl.gov) or Woody Woodworth at (505) 665-5820 (lwoodworth@doeal.gov)

Sincerely,

Michael J. Graham, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

George J. Rael, Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos Site Office

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB, MS M894
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM (date-stamped letter emailed)
Woody Woodworth, DOE-LASO, MS A316 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
Ted Ball, EP-CAP, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Craig Douglass, EP-CAP, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)
William Alexander, EP-BPS, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)
RPF, MS M707