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**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 18, 2011

George J. Rael
Assistant Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
3747 West Jemez Rd, MSA316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael J. Graham
Associate Director Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL
EXTENSION REQUEST
TO COMPLETE THE INSTALLATION OF
PERCHED INTERMEDIATE WELL R-10i
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-11-GW-MISC**

Dear Messrs. Rael and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Request for Extension to Complete Perched Intermediate Well R-10i* (Completion) dated November 10, 2011 and referenced by EP2011-0386.

The Permittees request the extension to complete well R-10i due to the need to focus on removal of transuranic (TRU) waste from Technical Area (TA) 54 to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, located in Eddy County, New Mexico. The need to remove TRU waste stored at TA-54 is aligned with Governor Martinez' policy to prioritize groundwater and surface water protection and accelerate the removal of TRU waste stored at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

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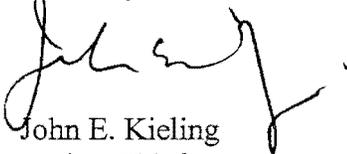


Messrs. Rael and Graham
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The Permittees stated cause for the requested time extension is acceptable. The submittal date for the Completion is hereby postponed from January 20, 2012 to **January 20, 2014**, as requested. NMED may re-evaluate the need for this extension based on the Permittees' progress in accelerating the removal of TRU waste from TA-54 or if new information is discovered related to groundwater contamination in the vicinity of Regional Well R-10. The Permittees must notify NMED, within 30 days of receipt of such information, should funds become available in the future that allow for the installation of Well R-10i to be completed prior to January 20, 2014.

Please contact Dave Cobrain at (505) 476-6055 if you have questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
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File: Reading and LANL 2011 – Groundwater, R-59 Installation