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Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

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NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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ENTERED



DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 2, 2012

Pete Maggiore, Assistant Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos Site Office, DOE
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316
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
REQUEST TO DEFER ARMORING OF THE STILLING BASIN IN UPPER
SANDIA CANYON
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-11-037**

Dear Messrs. Maggiore and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Request to Defer Armoring of the Stilling Basin in Upper Sandia Canyon* (Request) dated February 23, 2012 and referenced by EP2012-0051.

In the September 29, 2011 *Work Plan and Final Design for Stabilization of the Sandia Canyon Wetland*, the Permittees proposed armoring the existing stilling basin below the 72-inch culvert at the head of the Sandia Canyon wetland. In the Request, the Permittees state that, due to potential impact to the buried sewer line, they will not be able to use the existing grade cut to access the stilling basin, and it is impractical to build a dedicated access road. Therefore, they request a suspension of the requirement to armor the stilling basin.

NMED has reviewed the Request and hereby issues this Approval. As proposed in the Request, the Permittees must establish a geomorphic survey line through the stilling basin and add it to the monitoring plan for post-stabilization monitoring of Sandia Canyon wetland. This Approval does

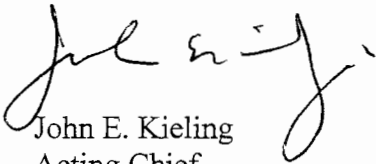


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not affect the requirement to complete the grade control structure in the Upper Sandia Canyon by July 1, 2012.

Should you have any questions, please contact Jerzy Kulis of my staff at (505) 476-6039.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
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