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ENTERED



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JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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Resource Protection Division

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 17, 2013

Peter Maggiore
Assistant Manager, Env. Projects Office
Los Alamos Site Office, DOE
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Jeffery D. Mousseau
Associate Director, Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: PERIODIC MONITORING REPORT
FOR WHITE ROCK CANYON AND RIO GRANDE WATERSHED GENERAL
SURVEILLANCE MONITORING GROUP,
SEPTEMBER 24-OCTOBER 3, 2012
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-13-019**

Dear Messrs. Maggiore and Mousseau:

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) *Periodic Monitoring Report for White Rock Canyon and Rio Grande Watershed General Surveillance Monitoring Group, September 24-October 3, 2012*, dated February 19, 2013 and referenced by LA-UR-13-20388/EP2013-0008 (Report). NMED has reviewed the Report and has the following comments.

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Messrs. Maggiore and Mousseau
May 17, 2013
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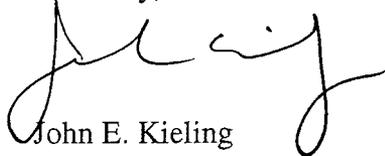
Several of the pH results exceeded the required extraction or analysis holding time. Also, CAWR-12-23405, CAWR-12-23461, CAWR-12-23462, and CAWR-12-23406 potassium measurements all exceeded the range of analysis. The Permittees must meet all quality assurance criteria and must discuss all samples that do not meet the required criteria and propose practical solutions for future sampling events that will provide the ability to meet all quality assurance requirements for all samples in the next report for this site.

NMED noted that Spring 9B was not sampled this year (FY 2012) due to restricted access from poison ivy. For future monitoring events, the Permittees must plan to sample in the late fall or winter seasons when poison ivy is less of an issue. The Permittees must also plan to remove enough of the poison ivy, to ensure that samples can be collected from Spring 9B.

NMED also noted an increase in magnesium to slightly above the groundwater standard at Spring 2. The Permittees must evaluate the representativeness of water-quality data obtained from Spring 2. The redox conditions within the wetlands above Spring 2 may have created conditions which render the water quality as non-representative of formation water. In the next report the Permittees must discuss the increasing magnesium concentrations and provide an explanation for this change.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Siona Briley of my staff at (505) 476-6049.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
B. Wear, NMED HWB
S. Briley, NMED HWB
L. King, EPA 6PD-N
M. Dale, NMED HWB
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S. Paris, EP-CAP, MS M992
C. Rodriguez, DOE-LASO, MS A316
H. Shen, DOE-LASO, MSA316

File: Reading and LANL 2013, PMR for White Rock Canyon and Rio Grande Watershed
General Surveillance Monitoring Group (February 2013)