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NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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ENTERED



RYAN FLYNN
Cabinet Secretary-Designate

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

THOMAS SKIBITSKI
Acting Director
Resource Protection Division

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 7, 2013

Peter Maggiore
Assistant Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

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

**RE: EXTENSION REQUEST
FOR SUBMITTAL OF THE WORK PLAN FOR THE
REPLACEMENT OF REGIONAL WELL R-61
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890018
HWB-LANL-13-011**

Dear Messrs. Maggiore and Mousseau:

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 the Work Plan for the Replacement of Regional Well R-61* (Work Plan) dated May 28, 2013 and referenced by EP2013-0099.

The Permittees submitted a report summarizing the results of attempted rehabilitation and testing of well R-61 (*Evaluation to Determine the Cause of Reducing Conditions Observed in Regional Aquifer Monitoring Wells R-54 and R-61* (Evaluation) dated April 11, 2013 and referenced by EP2013-0068) that provided evidence that the well was not capable of producing representative data due to the introduction of hammer oil. Based on the information provided in the Evaluation, NMED subsequently directed the Permittees,



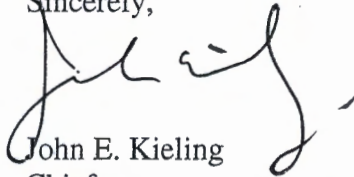
in a letter dated May 7, 2013, to submit the subject Work Plan to replace well R-61. The Permittees conducted an additional extended purge test between April 30 and May 6, 2013. NMED's preliminary review of the data generated during this test also indicates that well R-61 does not produce representative data.

The date for submittal of the Work Plan for the well replacement has been changed from June 14, 2013 to **September 30, 2014**, as requested.

NMED is concerned over delays that affect the progress of groundwater characterization and remediation; however, NMED is aware of the current uncertainties associated with the allocation of DOE resources to LANS to fund groundwater monitoring and cleanup at the Laboratory. Based on the chemical analytical data acquired previously and during the recent extended purge test, the water chemistry has been altered in well R-61 and the recent rehabilitation efforts were not effective. Therefore, it does not appear likely that the well will be adequate to serve as part of the chromium plume monitoring well network.

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

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: T. Skibitski, NMED RPD
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
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