

BILL RICHARDSON Governor

DIANE DENISH Lieutenant Governor

ドロウス NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303 Phone (505) 476-6000 Fax (505) 476-6030 www.nmenv.state.nm.us



RON CURRY Secretary

SARAH COTTRELL Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

December 8, 2010

George J. Rael Environmental Operations Manager Los Alamos Site Office, Department of Energy 3747 West Jemez Road, Mail Stop A316 Los Alamos, NM 87544 Michael J. Graham Associate Director Environmental Programs Los Alamos National Security, LLC P.O. Box 1663, MS M991 Los Alamos, NM 87545

RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATION DRILLING WORK PLAN FOR REGIONAL AQUIFER WELL R-62 LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY EPA ID #NM0890010515 HWB-LANL-MISC-GW

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 *Drilling Work Plan for Regional Aquifer Well R-62* (Plan) dated October 29, 2010 and referenced by EP2010-0483.

NMED has reviewed the Plan and hereby issues this Approval with the following modifications.

1. If perched intermediate water is encountered during drilling of well R-62 in volume sufficient for sample collection, the Permittees must collect a groundwater screening sample and analyze it for metals and major ions. The preliminary results of the analyses must be provided to NMED within two business days after they become available.



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2. In the Plan, the Permittees propose to install well R-62 as a single-screen well, which represents a deviation from the Sandia Canyon Phase II Investigation Work Plan (EP2010-0290) that states that well R-62 will be a double-screen well. The Permittees must install well R-62 as a double-screen well, in conformance with the Sandia Canyon Phase II Investigation Work Plan, with the upper screen located just below the water table and the lower screen located approximately 100 feet below the upper screen. The double-screen configuration will provide additional information on potential deep contaminant pathways, vertical hydraulic gradient, and hydrologic properties of different aquifer zones.

Well R-62 must be completed by June 30, 2011, as proposed in the Plan.

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

Sincerely,

Jamés P. Bearzi Chief Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:jk

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
J. Kulis, NMED HWB
J. Kulis, NMED HWB
M. Dale, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS M894
B. Olson, NMED GWQB
L. King, EPA 6PD-N
M. Everett, EP-ET-DO, MS M992
H. Shen, DOE LASO, MS A316