



SUSANA MARTINEZ  
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ  
Lieutenant Governor

05  
NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

*Ground Water Quality Bureau*

1190 St. Francis Drive  
P.O. Box 5469, Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469  
Phone (505) 827-2918 Fax (505) 827-2965  
www.nmenv.state.nm.us



DAVE MARTIN  
Secretary

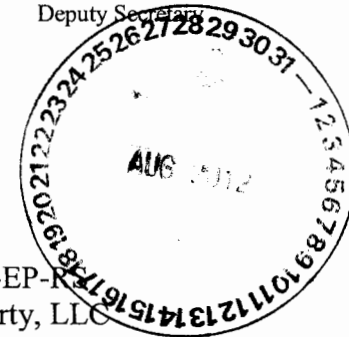
BUTCH TONGATE  
Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

August 24, 2012

Mr. Gene Turner, DOE/AIP/POC  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316  
528 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

Ms. Alison Dorries, LANS-EP-R  
Los Alamos National Security, LLC  
P.O. Box 1663 MS K404  
Los Alamos, NM 87545



**SUBJECT: Spill Response Assessment and Closure of Release ID# 2012-332 occurring at Monitoring Wells 03-B-13, 18-MW-18, CdV-16-4ip, R-4 and R-62, reported to NMED on June 14, 2012**

Dear Mr. Turner and Ms. Dorries:

On June 14, 2012, representatives of Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) reported several unauthorized discharges to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) as required by 20.6.2.1203 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations. The report identified contaminants in ground water monitoring wells at the following detection limits

- 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (CAS No. 71-55-6) at 0.170 mg/L in intermediate aquifer monitoring well 03-B-13 which exceed the WQCC standards of 0.06 mg/L. This well is located in Pajarito Canyon with a depth to water of approximately 21.5 feet.
- Chloride (CAS No. 7647-14-5) at 354 mg/L in an alluvial monitoring well identified as 18-MW-18 which exceeds the WQCC standard of 250 mg/L. This well is located in Pajarito Canyon with a depth to water of approximately 12.5 feet.
- RDX (CAS No. 121-82-4) at 0.154 mg/L in an intermediate monitoring well identified as CdV-16-4ip which is considered to be a toxic pollutant as defined under Subsection WW of 20.6.2.7 NMAC at a concentration of 0.0061 mg/L as derived from the EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSL) for residential tap water (June 2011) and, if applicable, adjusted to represent a lifetime risk of more than one cancer per 100,000 persons. This well is located in Water Canyon with a depth to water of approximately 815 feet.
- Perchlorate (CAS No. 14797-73-0) at 0.00479 mg/L in a regional monitoring well identified as R-4 which is considered to be a toxic pollutant as defined under Subsection WW of 20.6.2.7 NMAC at a concentration of 0.026 mg/L as derived from the EPA



Mr. Turner and Ms. Dorries  
August 24, 2012  
Page 2 of 3

Regional Screening Levels (RSL) for residential tap water (June 2011) and adjusted to represent a lifetime risk of more than one cancer per 100,000 persons. This well is located in Pueblo Canyon with a depth to water of approximately 792 feet.

- Chromium (CAS No. 7440-47-3) at 0.198 mg/L in a regional monitoring well identified as R-62 which exceeds the WQCC standard of 0.05 mg/L. This well is located in Sandia Canyon with a depth to water of approximately 1158 feet.

The sources of the exceedances were not identified in the report.

**Corrective actions to address these releases are being coordinated with the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) in accordance with the Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order) proceeding under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act § 74-4-10 and the New Mexico Solid Waste Act § 74-9-36(D) between NMED and the United States Department of Energy and the Regents of the University of California for Los Alamos National Laboratory. Based on the information in the Release/Discharge Notification submitted by LANS to GWQB on June 20, 2012 in accordance with 20.6.2.1203 NMAC, and because corrective actions are being coordinated with the HWB under the Consent Order, no further action is required at this time for release ID#2012-332. Please continue to coordinate any additional corrective actions related to the release with the HWB.**

The GWQB reserves the right to require additional corrective actions not already being required should LANS fail to complete corrective actions to the satisfaction of the HWB. Furthermore, nothing in this letter shall be construed as relieving the United States Department of Energy or LANS of their obligation to comply with all other applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, permits or orders.

If you have any questions, please contact either Jennifer Fullam at (505) 827-2909 or me at (505) 827-0027.

Sincerely,



Clint Marshall, Program Manager  
Pollution Prevention Section  
Ground Water Quality Bureau

CM:JF

cc: Ms. Tori George, LANS/LANL-EP-RS, LLC P.O. Box 1663 MS M992 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545-0001  
Tina Sandoval, LANS/ENV-RCRA/WQ, P.O. Box 1663, MS K490, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545-0001  
Jake Meadows, LANS/ENV-RCRA/WQ, P.O. Box 1663, MS K490, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545-0001

Mr. Turner and Ms. Dorries

August 24, 2012

Page 3 of 3

Sonia Hall, U.S. EPA-R6, Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WC), 1445 Ross Ave., Suite  
1200, Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Jennifer Fullam, NMED/GWQB

Richard Powell, NMED/SWQB

Dave Cobrain, NMED/HWB

Steve Yanicak, NMED/DOE/OB

Erik Galloway, NMED/DOE/OB