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May 6, 2009

DCN: NMED-2009-09

Mr. David Cobrain
Hazardous Waste Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Dr. E/Bldg 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: Evaluation of the Draft Response to the "Notice of Disapproval, Pajarito Canyon Investigation Report, Los Alamos National Laboratory, EPA ID No. NM0890010515, HWB-LANL-08-035" Dated November 21, 2009

Dear Mr. Cobrain:

This letter addresses the evaluation of Los Alamos National Laboratory's (LANL) responses to Notice of Disapproval comments on the *Pajarito Canyon Investigation Report*, LANL, New Mexico (November 2008). As noted in an email dated May 5, 2009, Mr. Dan Comeau requested a review of applicable portions of the draft response and to verify that responses are consistent with discussions during a teleconference with LANL held on February 12, 2009.

Overall, the responses are adequate as provided and are consistent with the tentative agreements and understandings made during the February conference call. The following General Comments were included in this review: Nos. 2, 3, and 4. The following Specific Comments were included in this review: Nos. 2, 3, 13 through 21, and 26 through 28.

Specific Comment Nos. 20 and 21 requested that a Work Plan be provided to address how additional monitoring of sediment, surface water, groundwater, and cavity-nesting birds and their food would be conducted. While LANL did not provide such a Work Plan, citations to how each of the above would be addressed under other monitoring programs was provided. The response to these two comments is adequate if these outside references are deemed appropriate. In addition, it is suggested that the New Mexico Environment Department review each of the cited programs to ensure that the monitoring will provide sufficient data to ensure protection of human health and the environment.

If you or any of your staff have questions, please contact me at (801) 451-2864 or via email at paigewalton@msn.com.

Thank you,

Paige Walton
AQS Senior Scientist and Project Lead

cc: Dan Comeau, NMED (electronic)
Joel Workman, AQS (electronic)

