



SUSANA MARTINEZ  
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ  
Lieutenant Governor

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NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

*Hazardous Waste Bureau*

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ENTERED



DAVE MARTIN  
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE  
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 8, 2012

Pete Maggiore, Assistant Manager  
Environmental Projects Office  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Los Alamos Site Office  
3747 West Jemez Rd, MSA316  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael J. Graham, Associate Director  
Environmental Programs  
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL  
EXTENSION REQUEST TO SUBMIT THE PHASE II INVESTIGATION WORK  
PLAN FOR THE POTRILLO AND FENCE CANYONS AGGREGATE AREA  
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY  
EPA ID#NM0890010515  
HWB-LANL-11-043**

Dear Messrs. Maggiore 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 *Request for Extension to Submit the Phase II Investigation Work Plan for Potrillo and Fence Canyons Aggregate Area*, dated April 27, 2012 and referenced by EP2012-0114.

The Permittees request the extension to submit the Phase II investigation work plan for the Potrillo and Fence Canyons Aggregate Area (IWP) due to the need to focus efforts on shipment of aboveground transuranic (TRU) waste from Technical Area (TA) 54 to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, located in Eddy County, New Mexico. The need to remove TRU waste stored at TA-54 is aligned with Governor Martinez' policy to prioritize groundwater and surface water protection and accelerate the removal of TRU waste stored at Los Alamos National Laboratory.



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The IWP was due to NMED by June 14, 2012. NMED finds the stated cause for the requested time extension acceptable. The submittal of the IWP is hereby postponed from June 14, 2012 to **June 14, 2013**, as requested.

NMED may re-evaluate the need for these extensions based on the Permittees' progress in accelerating removal of TRU waste from TA-54 or if new information becomes available that indicates off-site migration of contamination. The Permittees must notify NMED, within 30 days of receipt of such information, should funds become available in the future that allow for the IWP to be prepared and submitted prior to June 14, 2013.

Please contact Neelam Dhawan at (505) 476-6042 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB  
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S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS M894  
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File: Reading and LANL 2012 – Potrillo and Fence Aggregate Area Phase II IWP, 11-043