



BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

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TALL
NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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ENTERED



RON CURRY
Secretary

SARAH COTTRELL
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 30, 2010

George J. Rael
Environmental Operations Manager
Los Alamos Site Office
Department of Energy
3747 West Jemez Road, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael Graham
Associate Director Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.
P.O. Box 1663, MS 991
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL
"NO-LONGER-CONTAINED-IN" DETERMINATION FOR DRILL CUTTINGS
AND ASSOCIATED CONTACT WASTE FROM REDRILLING OF REGIONAL
WELL R-48
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID #NM0890010515
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 the Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Request for "Contained-In" Determination for Drill Cuttings, and Associated Contact Waste, from Redrilling of Regional Well R-48*, dated June 15, 2010 and referenced by ENV-RCRA-10-122.

The Permittees provide a comparison of the maximum detected concentration of methylene chloride in drill cuttings with the NMED Residential Soil Screening Levels (SSLs), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Screening Levels (RSLs), and the EPA Land Disposal Restrictions Treatment Standards (LDRs). The analytical results demonstrate that the concentrations of methylene chloride in drill cuttings are below the SSLs, the RSLs, and the LDRs. The Permittees propose to manage the drill cuttings as non-hazardous waste in accordance with the NMED-approved *NOI Decision Tree for Land Application of IDW Solids from Construction of Wells and Boreholes*, and to dispose of the associated contact waste as non-hazardous waste based on the analysis of drill cuttings.

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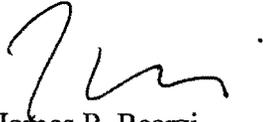


Messrs. Rael and Graham
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NMED hereby grants the Permittees' request that drill cuttings and associated contact waste collected from redrilling of regional well R-48 be managed as non-hazardous waste.

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

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:jk

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
K. Roberts, NMED HWB
J. Kulis, NMED HWB
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T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB
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File: '10 Reading and LANL Groundwater General