



SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

16
**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**



DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

RAJ SOLOMON, P.E.
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 29, 2011

George J. Rael
Assistant Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
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: REQUEST FOR NO LONGER CONTAINED-IN DETERMINATION
PURGE WATER, PUMP TEST WATER, AND CONTACT WASTE
REGIONAL AQUIFER WELL R-25b
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-MISC-GW**

Dear Messrs. Rael and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Request for "Contained-In" Determination for Purge Water, Pump Test Water, and Associated Contact Waste from Well R-25b* (Request) dated April 7, 2011 and referenced by ENV-RCRA-11-0065.

The Request states that purge and pump test water and associated contact waste derived from intermediate well R-25b is either in storage or expected to be generated. However, the Permittees have not included analytical data demonstrating that all of the media can be managed as a nonhazardous waste. Absent these data, NMED cannot proceed with its evaluation of the Request. NMED will resume its evaluation upon receipt of analytical results that allow comparison of contaminant concentrations in all of the media with the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) groundwater standards, the

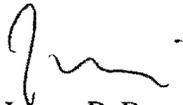


Messrs. Rael and Graham
April 29, 2011
Page 2

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Act Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) and Land Disposal Restrictions Treatment Standards (LDRs).

Please contact Michael Dale at (505) 661-2673 should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
M. Dale, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
B. Olson, NMED GWQB
L. King, EPA 6PD-N
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS M894
M. Mallory, PADOPS, A102
J.C. Cantwell, ADESHQ, K491
M. Alexander, CAP-FS, K497
A. Grieggs, ENV-RCRA, K490
M. Haagenstad, ENV-RCRA, K490
C. Rodriguez, LASO-EO, A316
G. Turner, LASO-EO, A316
H. Shen, DOE-LASO, MS A316

File: Reading and LANL 2011 – Response to Contained-In request for R-25b purge water, pump test water, and associated contact waste