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NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



ENTERED

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

February 21, 2012

George J. Rael
Assistant Manager, Env. Projects Office
Los Alamos Site Office, DOE
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316
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
REQUEST FOR EXTENSION TO INSTALL A PERMANENT
SAMPLING SYSTEM IN CdV-16-4ip AND TO PERFORM
WATER-QUALITY TIME-SERIES SAMPLING
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-11-046**

Dear Messrs. Rael 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 Install a Permanent Sampling System in CdV-16-4ip and to Perform Water-Quality Time-Series Sampling Pursuant to the December 27, 2011, Approval with Modifications of the Hydrologic Testing Report for Consolidated Unit 16-021(c)-99* (Request) dated February 15, 2012 and referenced by EP2012-0049.

As a result of prioritization with respect to the accelerated shipment of TRU wastes and associated funding allocations, the Permittees request an extension to install a dedicated-permanent sampling system in CdV-16-4ip. An extension is requested to install the permanent sampling system from the required due date of February 29, 2012 to March 13, 2013. Due to the current prioritization of projects caused by restricted funding, NMED finds the Request to be acceptable. The due date to install the dedicated sampling system in well CdV-16-4ip is extended from the required due date of February 29, 2012

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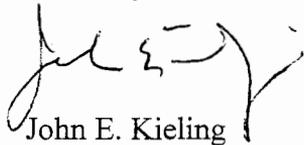


to **March 13, 2013**. The Permittees propose to sample CdV-16-4ip with a temporary sampling system prior to the end of April 2012. NMED concurs with this proposal.

Monitoring and sampling of the subject well was last conducted in March 2011, almost a year prior to NMED's receipt of this Request. NMED is concerned that the high concentrations (150 – 200 ug/L) of RDX (hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5 triazine) and other contaminants (e.g., PCE) in the deep (\approx 850 feet below ground surface) intermediate aquifer are not being adequately characterized or monitored. NMED urges the Permittees to expedite the installation of the permanent sampling system in CdV-16-4ip to reduce the delay in monitoring and potentially controlling the contaminant plume present in the vicinity of the well.

Please contact Michael Dale at (505) 661-2673 if you have questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
B. Wear, NMED HWB
J. Kulis, NMED HWB
M. Dale, NMED HWB
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB
J. Schoepner, NMED GWQB
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS M894
L. King, EPA 6PD-N
J. McCann, EP-CAP, MS M992
P. Maggiore, DOE-LASO, MS A316
H. Shen, DOE-LASO, MS A316
W. Woodworth, DOE-LASO, MS A316

File: Reading and LANL 2012 – Extension Request Install Pump CdV-16-4ip