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NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

*Ground Water Quality Bureau*

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ENTERED

TA-16 R-25



DAVE MARTIN  
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE  
Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

June 1, 2012

Mr. Gene Turner, DOE/AIP/POC  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316  
528 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

Ms. Alison Dorries, LANS-EP-RS  
Los Alamos National Security, LLC  
P.O. Box 1663 MS K404  
Los Alamos, NM 87545



**SUBJECT: Spill Response Assessment and Closure of Release ID# 2012-331 occurring at Monitoring Well R-25, reported to NMED on April 12, 2012**

Dear Mr. Turner and Ms. Dorries:

On April 12, 2012, representatives of Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) reported an unauthorized discharge to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) as required by 20.6.2.1203 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations. The report identified ground water with recently confirmed detection levels of iron (CAS No. 7439-89-6), manganese (CAS No. 7439-96-5) and nickel (CAS No. 7440-02-0), at 20.9 mg/L, 0.686 mg/L and 3.73 mg/L, respectively, in regional aquifer monitoring well R-25 which exceed the WQCC standards of 1.0 mg/L, 0.2 mg/L and 0.2 mg/L, respectively. This well is associated with the Canon de Valle watershed with a depth to water of 730 feet. The sources of the exceedances were not identified in the report.

**Corrective actions to address this release are being coordinated with the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) in accordance with the Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order) proceeding, between NMED and the United States Department of Energy and the Regents of the University of California for Los Alamos National Laboratory, under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act § 74-4-10 and the New Mexico Solid Waste Act § 74-9-36(D). Based on the information in the Release/Discharge Notification submitted by LANS to GWQB on April 19, 2012, in accordance with 20.6.2.1203 NMAC, and because corrective actions are being coordinated with the HWB under the Consent Order, no**



Mr. Turner and Ms. Dorries

June 1, 2012

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**further action is required at this time for release ID#2012-331. Please continue to coordinate any additional corrective actions related to the release with the HWB.**

The GWQB reserves the right to require additional corrective actions not already being required should LANS fail to complete corrective actions to the satisfaction of the HWB. Furthermore, ~~nothing~~ in this letter shall be construed as relieving the United States Department of Energy or LANS of the obligation to comply with all other applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, permits or orders.

If you have any questions, please contact either Jennifer Fullam at (505) 827-2909 or me at (505) 827-0027.

Sincerely,



Clint Marshall, Program Manager  
Pollution Prevention Section  
Ground Water Quality Bureau

CM:JF

cc: Ms. Tori George, LANS/LANL-EP-RS, LLC P.O. Box 1663 MS M992 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545-0001  
Tina Sandoval, LANS/ENV-RCRA/WQ, P.O. Box 1663, MS K490, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545-0001  
Jake Meadows, LANS/ENV-RCRA/WQ, P.O. Box 1663, MS K490, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545-0001  
Sonia Hall, U.S. EPA-R6, Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WC), 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200, Dallas, TX 75202-2733  
Jennifer Fullam, NMED/GWQB  
Richard Powell, NMED/SWQB  
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