

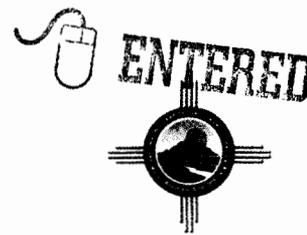


Environmental Programs
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AUG 29 2014

**NMED
Hazardous Waste Bureau**



National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Field Office, MS A316
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
(505) 667-4255/FAX (505) 606-2132

Date: **AUG 29 2014**
Refer To: EP2014-0434

John Kieling, Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Subject: Request for Extension to Complete Well R-63i

Dear Mr. Kieling:

This letter requests an extension from the September 30, 2014, date to complete installation of intermediate groundwater monitoring well R-63i to a new date of October 31, 2014. The U.S. Department of Energy and Los Alamos National Security, LLC (DOE/LANS) request this extension under Section III.J.2 of the March 2005 Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order). This new date is the result of the unavailability of a dual-rotary/casing-advance drilling rig and crew as well as operational activities at Technical Area 16 (TA-16). The subsequent deliverables (i.e., well completion summary fact sheet and well completion report) will be submitted per the schedule provided in Section IV.A.3.e.iv of the Consent Order.

The lower portion of the borehole requires drilling operations be conducted by a dual-rotary/casing-advance drilling rig. As part of the contract issued in June 2014, DOE/LANS requested two dual-rotary/casing-advance drilling rigs to support 24-hour, 7-day-per-week operations to complete well R-63i. The first drilling crew was on-site as scheduled and began drilling activities. However, the second drilling rig and crew were delayed on their previous job at an Air Force base in Utah. The unavailability of the second rig and crew to support 24-hour, 7-day-per-week operations negatively impacted the R-63i completion schedule.

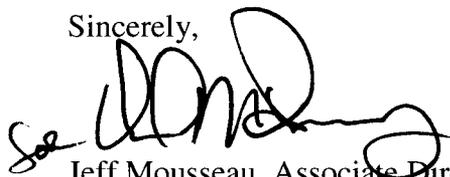
DOE/LANS were successful in mitigating additional schedule delays by obtaining a conventional rotary rig to complete borehole drilling of R-63i to 709 ft in August 2014. However, as stated previously, the lower portion of the borehole requires drilling operations be conducted by a dual-rotary/casing-advance drilling rig, now scheduled to begin in September. Additionally, weather-related delays have impacted operational activities at the burning grounds in TA-16. In an effort to mitigate their delays, the TA-16 burning ground will conduct operations 4 hours per day during the work week for the foreseeable future, effectively precluding drilling activities during this time frame and reducing the drilling crews from 24-hour operations to 19- to 20-hour operations.



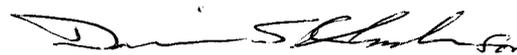
Because the contracted dual-rotary/casing-advance drilling rig and crew were not available, given the delays on a drilling site in Utah and the scheduled operational activities at TA-16, DOE/LANS's schedule will be negatively impacted by approximately 4 weeks. DOE/LANS, therefore, request a 1 month extension, to October 31, 2014, to install well R-63i.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Paris at (505) 606-0915 (smparis@lanl.gov) or Hai Shen at (505) 665-5046 (hai.shen@nnsa.doe.gov).

Sincerely,


Jeff Mousseau, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,


Peter Maggiore, Assistant Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos Field Office

JM/PM/DM/SP:sm

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX (date-stamped letter emailed)
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Katie Roberts, EP-REG (date-stamped letter emailed)
John McCann, EP-CAP (date-stamped letter emailed)
Steve Paris, EP-CAP (date-stamped letter emailed)
Dave McInroy, EP-CAP (date-stamped letter emailed)
Jeff Mousseau, ADEP (date-stamped letter emailed)
PRS Database with ER ID
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