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ENTERED



NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau



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JOHN A. SANCHEZ
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DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

BLANCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary



CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

February 17, 2012

Jeffrey M. Casalina
Deputy Designated Federal Official (DDFO)
Office of Environmental Operations (OEO)
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
3747 West Jemez Road MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Denny Hjeresen,
Acting ENV Division Director
Los Alamos National Security, LLC.
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS J978
Los Alamos, NM 87544

SUBJECT: Spill Response Assessment and Closure of Release ID# 2012-328 occurring at Monitoring Well R-51 and Piezometer SF-2B, reported to NMED on January 13, 2012

Dear Messrs. Casalina and Hjeresen:

On January 13, 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) and aluminum (CAS No. 7429-90-5) at 8.73 mg/L and 14.2 mg/L, respectively, in regional aquifer monitoring well R-51 which exceed the WQCC standards of 1.0 mg/L and 5.0 mg/L, respectively. This well is located in Pajarito Canyon with a depth to water of approximately 914 feet.

The report also identified detection levels of uranium at 0.044 mg/L and 0.040 mg/L in a piezometer monitoring well identified as SF-2B which exceed the WQCC standard of 0.03 mg/L. This well is located in White Rock Canyon with a depth to water of approximately 802 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 under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act § 74-4-10 and the New



Messrs. Jeffrey Casalina and Denny Hjeresen
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Mexico Solid Waste Act § 74-9-36(D) between NMED and the United States Department of Energy and the Regents of the University of California for Los Alamos National Laboratory. Based on the information in the Release/Discharge Notification submitted by LANS to GWQB on January 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 further action is required at this time for release ID#2011-328. 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 their 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
Ground Water Quality Bureau

CM:JF

cc: Mr. Gene Turner, DOE/AIP/POC, U.S. Department of Energy, Los Alamos Site Office,
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