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NEW MEXICO
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Hazardous Waste Bureau

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RON CURRY
Secretary

SARAH COTTRELL
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

December 9, 2010

George J. Rael
Assistant Manager
Los Alamos Site Office
Department of Energy
3747 West Jemez Road, Mail Stop A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael J. Graham
Associate Director Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Security, LLC
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL OF EXTENSION REQUEST FOR
SUBMITTAL OF THE INVESTIGATION/REMEDIATION REPORT
MATERIAL DISPOSAL AREA (MDA) B
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNIT 21-015, TECHNICAL AREA 21
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID No: NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-06-007**

Dear Messrs. Rael and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy and the Los Alamos National Security, LLC (collectively, the Permittees) *Request for Extension of Date for Submittal of the Material Disposal Area B Investigation/Remediation Report* (Request), dated November 30, 2010 and referenced by EP2010-0545. The Letter states that due to the "combination of stringent safety and environmental protocols" necessary both to initiate the waste removal and also to implement the work based on the levels of radionuclide and chemical contamination encountered during removal activities, the Permittees are unable to meet the schedule for submittal of the Investigation/Remediation Report (Report) by the submittal date of December 31, 2010. The Investigation/Remediation Work Plan was approved by NMED on January 31, 2007.



Messrs. Rael and Graham

December 9, 2010

Page 2

The Request also states that the rate of waste removal is proceeding at approximately 60 percent of the anticipated rate due to some areas requiring deeper excavation and the discovery of highly contaminated waste materials. In addition, the discovery, on three occasions, of highly contaminated waste resulted in work stoppages totaling nearly two months.

NMED has determined that, even though the planning and preparation phases of the project extended for an unusually long period of time, the Permittees have shown good cause. NMED hereby approves the requested extension for submittal of the MDA B Investigation/Remediation Report until August 31, 2011.

Please contact Dave Cobrain of my staff at (505) 476-6055 if you have questions.

Sincerely,



James Bearzi

Chief

Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS M894
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File: Reading and LANL/TA-21, SWMU 21-015, MDA B, 2010