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National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316
Environmental Restoration Program
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
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Date: April 1, 2008
Refer To: EP2008-0170

Mr. James P. Bearzi, Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Subject: Proposed Date for Submittal of Well R-33 Rehabilitation and Conversion Summary Report

References: (1) Letter, Bearzi to Gregory and McInroy, dated December 7, 2007
(2) Letter, Stiger and Gregory to Bearzi, dated January 29, 2008
(3) Letter, Stiger and Gregory to Bearzi, dated March 21, 2008
(4) E-mail, Hai Shen to Simmons, dated March 28, 2008

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

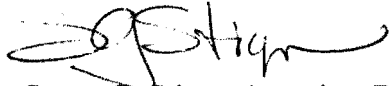
As you know, R-33 is located within Mexican spotted owl habitat and as we communicated earlier by letter on March 21, 2008, it was necessary to suspend rehabilitation work activities at the R-33 site to stay in compliance with Threatened and Endangered Species Act requirements. Surveys for mating owl pairs are underway and will be completed by May 15, 2008. If a mating pair is found such that the required habitat exclusion zone includes the R-33 site, rehabilitation activities cannot restart before August 31st, 2008. We therefore request an extension whereby rehabilitation activities are to be completed by September 30, 2008 with the summary report to follow by November 12, 2008. If the survey concludes no mating pair impact to performing the work at R-33, we will move the restart date forward and accordingly notify NMED with a revised, earlier completion schedule.

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)-approved schedule for completion of well rehabilitation and conversion activities at well R-33 calls for completing field activities by January 31, 2008, and submittal of a summary report by February 20 (reference 1). In January we requested and received an extension of the submittal date of the summary report on rehabilitation of R-33 (reference 2). In a letter dated March 21, 2008 we notified NMED that completion of rehabilitation activities and reporting thereof would be delayed due to the location of well R-33 in nesting habitat for the Mexican spotted owl (reference 3). NMED asked for specific dates for the requested extension in an e-mail dated March 28, 2008 (reference 4).



If you have any questions, please contact Ardyth Simmons at (505) 665-3935 (asimmons@lanl.gov) or Mat Johansen at (505) 665-5046 (mjohansen@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,



Susan G. Stiger, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,



David R. Gregory, Project Director
Environmental Operations
Los Alamos Site Office

SS/DG/PH/AS/JH:sm

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Steve Yanicak, NMED-OB, White Rock, NM
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM
Bonita Eichorst, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
Mat Johansen, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Ardyth Simmons, EP-LWSP, MS M992
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Susan G. Stiger, ADEP, MS M991
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EP-LWSP File, MS
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IRM-RMMSO, MS A150