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RON CURRY  
Secretary

JON GOLDSTEIN  
Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

April 22, 2008

David Gregory  
Federal Project Director  
Los Alamos Site Office, Department of Energy  
528 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Mail Stop A316  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

David McInroy  
Remediation Services Deputy Project Director  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop A992  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL WITH DIRECTION  
WELL R-14 REHABILITATION AND CONVERSION SUMMARY REPORT  
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY  
EPA ID #NM0890010515  
HWB-LANL-GROUNDWATER-MISC**

Dear Messrs. Gregory and McInroy:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy and Los Alamos National Security, LLC (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Well R-14 Rehabilitation and Conversion Summary Report* (hereafter, the Report) dated March 2008 and referenced by LA-UR-08-1539/EP2008-0149. NMED has reviewed the Report and hereby issues this approval with the following directions.

1. The Permittees must complete installation of the sampling pump described in Section 3.0 Summary and Conclusion of the Report no later than September 30, 2008. If the biological exclusion time ends earlier than August 30, 2008 in the area where R-14 is located, the Permittees must complete this installation within one month after the end of the exclusion dates.
2. The Permittees must collect water samples for analysis of iron concentrations after installation of the sampling pump. The Report shows that the equipment rinseate blanks

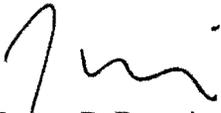


collected from the sampling equipment during the rehabilitation contained very high concentrations of iron. According to rehabilitation assessment results conducted previously at other wells, high concentrations of iron in the blanks interfered with the determination whether there are reactive iron minerals present in drilling fluid-impacted zones surrounding some well screens. These iron minerals may react with many contaminants of concern, potentially reducing the detected concentrations relative to the actual concentrations present in the formation water for contaminants that are sensitive to redox reaction and adsorption. Therefore, it is important to collect water samples using a pump equipped with a stainless-steel pipe to more accurately measure iron concentrations in groundwater samples obtained from R-14.

3. Table B-1 in the Report provides well and screen information that is inconsistent with the table title and the Report. The Permittees must correct these errors and ensure the data in the table represent the rehabilitation results for R-14, not other wells.

The Permittees must incorporate above comments into a revised report, and submit it to NMED no later than October 31, 2008. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Hai Shen of my staff at (505) 476-6039.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:hs

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file: Reading and LANL General (Mortandad Canyon, Groundwater)