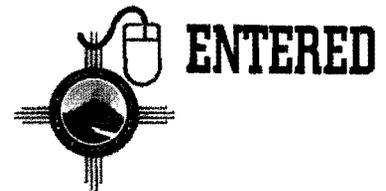


Environmental Programs
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TASO



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

Date: **MAY 26 2010**
 Refer To: EP2010-0260

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

Subject: Reprioritization of Remaining Fiscal Year 2010 Monitoring Wells

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The purpose of this letter is to request a suspension of the requirement to drill regional aquifer well R-58 (Buckman Well Field Sentinel) pending submittal of a technical proposal letter by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS), the co-permittees for an alternate approach for enhanced monitoring at the Buckman Well Field. The co-permittees are also requesting an extension to October 31, 2010, for the drilling of the new well R-59 at Material Disposal Area (MDA) C, as directed by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). These extensions will provide the co-permittees with the time necessary to effectively meet the mutually vital groundwater monitoring objectives.

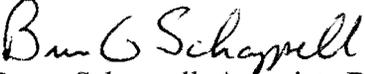
Well R-58 was originally proposed by the co-permittees for completion by September 30, 2010, in a letter to NMED dated October 14, 2009, entitled Submittal of a Proposed Integrated Well-Installation Schedule. NMED approved the completion date in a letter dated November 2, 2009. However, because of new insights into the relation of groundwater beneath the Pajarito Plateau with that produced from the Buckman Well Field, the co-permittees proposes to submit an alternate approach for enhanced monitoring for the well field. A letter detailing the proposal will be submitted to NMED by June 15, 2010. The suspension will be for only the time the co-permittees need to validate the enhanced monitoring approach or to identify the best location to install R-58 to effectively protect Buckman Well Field.

In NMED's letter of May 11, 2010, regarding the Approval with Modifications Phase III Investigation Work Plan for Material Disposal Area C, Solid Waste Management Unit 50-009, at Technical Area 50, Revision 1, the co-permittees were directed to install the first of two regional aquifer wells for MDA C by September 30, 2010. Because of administrative requirements associated with switching the subcontract focus from well R-58 to R-59, the co-permittees request that the completion date for R-59 be extended to October 31, 2010. The co-permittees are committed to submitting the drilling work plan for R-59 by June 1, 2010, as specified in NMED's letter. Efforts are underway to prepare for the installation of R-59, and the co-permittees are confident we can meet the requested completion date of October 31, 2010.

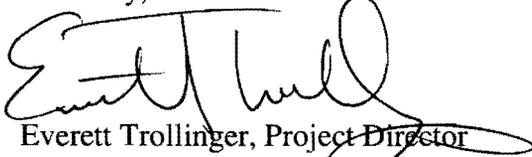


If you have any questions, please contact Ted Ball at (505) 665-3996 (tedball@lanl.gov) or Ed Mignardot (505) 665-7758 (emignardot@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,


Bruce Schappell, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,


Everett Trollinger, Project Director
Environmental Project Office - ARRA
Los Alamos Site Office

MG/DG/AB/TB/ME:sm

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB, MS M894
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
Hai Shen, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Tom Whitacre, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Mark Everett, EP-ET-DO, MS M992
Ted Ball, PMF-SEC, MS M992
Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991
Kristine Smeltz, EP-WES, MS M992
RPF, MS M707
IRM-RMMSO, MS A150 (date-stamped letter emailed)