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NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



Hazardous Waste Bureau

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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

September 26, 2011

George J. Rael, Assistant Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Department of Energy/National
Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
3747 West Jemez Road, MS 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 WITH MODIFICATION
INVESTIGATION REPORT
LOWER SANDIA CANYON AGGREGATE AREA
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-11-019

Dear Messrs. Rael and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) (collectively, the Permittees) the Response to the Second Notice of Disapproval for the Investigation Report for Lower Sandia Canyon Aggregate Area, (Response) dated September 16, 2011 and referenced by EP2011-0313. NMED hereby issues this approval with modification for the Investigation Report for Lower Sandia Canyon Aggregate Area (Report).

Modification:

The Response indicates that appropriate methods were not used to minimize the loss of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) during sample collection. NMED is concerned that the data

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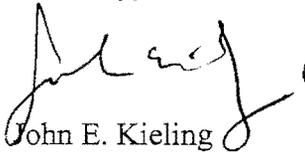


collected in such a manner may not have produced viable data. The Permittees recommended additional sampling to define the extent of contamination and propose to submit a Phase II work plan six months after the approval of the Report. The Permittees must propose to collect additional samples for VOC analysis during Phase II investigations to confirm the validity of data presented in the Report. The samples must be collected and preserved using appropriate methods that minimize the loss of VOCs. The Permittees must propose sample collection methods that are appropriate for media being sampled. The Permittees must provide the details of the proposed sample collection methods in the Phase II investigation work plan.

The Permittees must submit Phase II investigation work plan no later than **March 26, 2012**. The submittals must be in the form of two paper copies and one electronic copy in accordance with Section XI.A of the Order.

Please contact Neelam Dhawan of my staff at (505) 476-6042 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling  
Acting Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB  
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS J993  
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB  
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File: LANL, Lower Sandia Canyon Aggregate Area IR, 2011.  
LANL 11-019