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NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau

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ENTERED



DAVE MARTIN  
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE  
Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

November 9, 2011

Jeffrey M. Casalina  
Deputy Designated Federal Official (DDFO)  
Office of Environmental Operations (OEO)  
U.S. Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Los Alamos Site Office  
3747 West Jemez Road MS A316  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Denny Hjeresen,  
Acting ENV Division Director  
Los Alamos National Security, LLC.  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
P.O. Box 1663, MS K404  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

**SUBJECT: Spill Response Assessment and Closure of Release ID# 2011-306 occurring at Technical Area (TA) 53 on October 26, 2010.**

Dear Messrs. Casalina and Hjeresen:

On June 6, 2011, representatives of Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) verbally reported an unauthorized discharge to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) as required by 20.6.2.1203 NMAC of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations. The report identified that approximately 10 gallons of diesel was released on October 26, 2010 (Release ID# 2011-306) from a tank on a trailer mounted generator at TA-53 near Building 939. Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) reportedly took immediate corrective actions to remediate the release, however; did not immediately report the unauthorized release to NMED pursuant to 20.6.2.1203 NMAC and as set forth under the guidance document titled *LANL Un-permitted Discharge Reporting Decision Tree (March 10, 2009)* until June 6, 2011.

On April 26, 2011, LANL detected diesel fumes in the vicinity of the October 2010 release site and began investigations to further define the nature and extent of the release. Following the verbal notification to NMED on June 6, 2011, LANL began site excavation and remediation of contaminated soil on June 8, 2011. NMED identified the appropriate soil clean-up level for Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) at this site to be less than 440 mg/kg in accordance with Table 2a of NMED's Hazardous Waste Bureau TPH Screening Guidelines (October 2006). All other petroleum related contaminants were required to meet the screening guideline limits in

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Table 3 of the same referenced document. On September 15, 2011, LANL completed remediation of the spill and requested administrative closure under 20.6.2.1203 NMAC. Upon further clarification of clean-up levels, NMED provided verbal approval of the corrective actions and directed LANL to proceed with final closure of the site.

**Based on information submitted by LANS, corrective action for this unauthorized discharge has been completed in a manner that is satisfactory to the GWQB. No further action is required at this time for release ID#2011-306.**

NMED reserves the right to require additional corrective actions not already being required should this incident result in the degradation of ground water quality. Further, nothing in this letter shall be construed as relieving the United States Department of Energy or LANS of its obligation to comply with all other applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, permits or orders.

If you have any questions, please contact either Jennifer Fullam at (505) 827-2909 or Clint Marshall, Acting Program Manager of the Ground Water Pollution Prevention Section, at (505) 827-0027.

Sincerely,



Clint Marshall, Acting Program Manager  
Ground Water Quality Bureau

CM:JF

cc: Mr. Gene Turner, DOE/AIP/POC, U.S. Department of Energy, Los Alamos Site Office,  
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