

TA 54

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



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**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

May 17, 2005

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

G. Pete Nanos, Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop A100
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: NOTIFICATION FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MDA H,
SWMU 54-004, AT TA-54
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY EPA ID No: NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-03-007**

Dear Messrs. Gregory and Nanos:

This letter is a follow up to a meeting held on May 10, 2005 between staff from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and the United States Department of Energy and the Regents of the University of California (collectively, the Permittees). The meeting was held to discuss the progress of the corrective measure study (CMS) for Material Disposal Area (MDA) H. NMED is requesting the following information from the Permittees before any decision can be accomplished on remedy selection.

1. NMED is requesting that quarterly subsurface vapor monitoring be continued in the three existing boreholes (i.e. 54-15461, 54-15462 and 54-1023) at MDA H. The results of subsurface monitoring should be submitted to NMED in a separate report. The report should include information on sample collection methods, the methods used to calculate percent moisture for tritium samples and document QA/QC problems or any changes in the sampling protocol. The report should identify sample depth, purge volumes, and field parameters measured to determine stability/collection



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- of borehole vapor samples. The report should follow the requirements outlined in the Section XI.D of the Order on Consent (March 1, 2005).
2. Resubmit Appendix K, Supporting Information for Cost Estimates, with the revisions discussed at the meeting. The detail provided should be equivalent to cost details in the Sandia National Laboratories Mixed Waste Landfill Corrective Measures Study Final Report (May 2003). The report is available at NMED's website: http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/HWB/SNL/CMS/MWL_CMS_Final_Report.pdf
 3. Submit a groundwater monitoring report that includes data from wells R-16, R-20, R-21, R-22, R-23, R-32, PM-2, PM-4, and PM-5. The report should meet the requirements outlined in Section XI.D of the Order on Consent (March 1, 2005).
 4. Submit a Groundwater Background Investigation report for NMED review. Without this information NMED cannot review Appendix P and the Groundwater Monitoring Report that will be submitted for TA 54. Until the Background document is submitted, reviewed and approved, the remedy selection for MDA H or other CMS/CMEs in the review cannot be accomplished by NMED.
 5. Provide a copy of the Purtymun (1989) study (Hydrologic Characteristics of the Bandelier Tuffs as determined through an Injection Well System) referenced in Appendix O, for NMED review.

NMED cannot select a remedy for MDA H until this information is provided, reviewed and evaluated.

Please contact me at (505) 428-2540 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Neelam Dhawan
Project Leader
Permits Management Program

cc: J. Bearzi, NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
J. Young, NMED HWB
D. Gregory, DOE LAAO, MS A316
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J. Hopkins, LANL ENV-ECR, MS M992

File: Reading and LANL/TA 54/54-004