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ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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ENTERED



RON CURRY
Secretary

JON GOLDSTEIN
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

September 16, 2009

David Gregory
Federal Project Director
Los Alamos Site Office
Department of Energy
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

David McInroy
Remediation Services Deputy Project Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS M992
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: NOTICE OF APPROVAL FOR THE VAPOR-MONITORING WELL
INSTALLATION WORK PLAN FOR MATERIAL DISPOSAL AREA H, SOLID
WASTE MANAGEMENT UNIT 54-004, AT TECHNICAL AREA 54
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY EPA ID No: NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-09-042**

Dear Messrs. Gregory and McInroy:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy and the Los Alamos National Security, LLC (collectively, the Permittees) *Vapor-Monitoring Well Installation Work Plan for Material Disposal Area H, Solid Waste Management Unit 54-004, at Technical area 54*, dated August 28, 2009 and referenced by EP2009-0370. NMED has reviewed the document and issues this Notice of Approval.

The Permittees state in the Conceptual Site Model (CSM) Section that the total inventory of volatile organic chemicals in subsurface pore gas, pore water, and tuff is on the order of 10 kilograms. The Permittees did not explain how this determination was made; in any event, the unreliability of previous data makes any volume estimates suspect. After implementation of this work plan, NMED expects that new data generated from periodic monitoring events will be of better quality, representative of subsurface conditions, and defensible. Data collected from the new vapor-monitoring well and reconfigured wells must be used to refine the CSM which used data of poor quality and of suspect representativeness.

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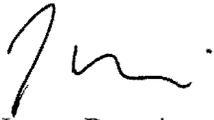


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In the Work Plan, the Permittees propose installation of vapor-monitoring wells in the first quarter of fiscal year (FY) 2010. Implementation schedule must be more precise. The Permittees must complete implementation of the Work Plan by November 20, 2009, submitting preliminary results to NMED no later than December 20, 2009. The preliminary results may be submitted electronically. A final report summarizing the results of well installation and presenting the results of initial vapor monitoring and sampling must be submitted to NMED no later than January 30, 2010.

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

Sincerely,



James Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
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File: Reading and LANL/TA 54/54-004, 2009