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NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

ENTERED



Hazardous Waste Bureau

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SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

DAVE MARTIN
Cabinet Secretary

RAJ SOLOMON, P.E.
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 2, 2011

George J. Rael, Assistant Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos Site Office, DOE
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael J. Graham
Associate Director, Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: PROPOSAL FOR ALTERNATIVE EVALUATION OF CROSS-FLOW AT WELL
R-57
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-MISC-GW**

Dear Messrs. Rael and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Proposal for Alternative Evaluation of Cross-Flow between Screens at Well R-57* (Letter) dated April 15, 2011 and referenced by EP2011-0139.

The Permittees performed a capture-zone analysis to address the estimated 31,400 gallons of cross-flow that occurred during sampling system installation between the upper and lower screens at R-57. The analysis indicates that all commingled groundwater at R-57 has already migrated beyond the capture zone of the sampling system pump. The Permittees therefore request an approval to sample well R-57 without prior removal of 31,400 gallons of cross-flow.

NMED hereby approves the Permittees' request to sample well R-57 after purging a minimum of three casing volumes and any additional amount necessary to obtain stable field parameters.

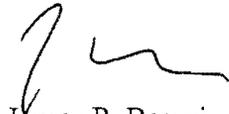
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Messrs. Rael and Graham
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Should you have any questions, please contact Jerzy Kulis of my staff at (505) 476-6039.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

BRZ:jk

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
M. Dale, NMED HWB
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