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NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



ENTERED



Hazardous Waste Bureau

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Cabinet Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Acting Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 12, 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: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATIONS
COMPLETON REPORT FOR REGIONAL AQUIFER WELL R-52
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-10-072**

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 (LANS), L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Completion Report for Regional Aquifer Well R-52* (Report) dated September 2010 and referenced by EP2010-0342. NMED hereby approves the Report with the following modifications.

1. **Section 8.1.1, Well Development Field Parameters, Lower Screen, page 9, first paragraph, first sentence:**
The Permittees erroneously express pH values in NTUs. NTUs are used to express turbidity values and not pH.
2. **Appendix B, Section B-1.2, Field Parameters, page B-2:**
The Permittees state that the majority of field measurements of ORP and turbidity for the lower screen during well development, and a portion of dissolved oxygen measurements for the lower screen during aquifer testing, are likely inaccurate due to suspected instrument malfunctions. In the future, either increase the frequency of

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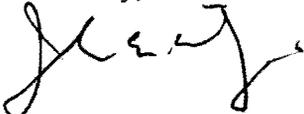
calibration checks for field instruments or measure field parameters simultaneously with two instruments in order to assure and verify the accuracy of all measurements.

3. Appendix B, Section B-1.3.2, Cations, Anions, Perchlorate, and Metals, page B-4, first bullet:

The Permittees state that iron, manganese and zinc concentrations in groundwater samples collected during well development were elevated because a corroded steel discharge pipe was used during development. In the future, a corroded steel discharge pipe must not be used for collection of groundwater samples that are analyzed for metals.

No revision of the Report is necessary. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Jerzy Kulis at (505) 476-6039.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

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