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LANS Groundwater  
Los Alamos Canyon



NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau



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BUTCH TONGATE  
Acting Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

August 26, 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 J978  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

**SUBJECT: Spill Response Assessment and Closure of Release ID# 2011-308 occurring at Monitoring Wells LAZU-1 and R-55i, reported to NMED on June 15, 2011**

Dear Messrs. Casalina and Hjeresen:

On June 15, 2011, representatives of Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) reported an unauthorized discharge to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) as required by 20.6.2.1203 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations. The report identified ground water with recently confirmed detection levels of chloride at 341.0 mg/L in alluvial aquifer monitoring well LAZU-1 which exceeds the WQCC standard of 250.0 mg/L. This well is located in DP Canyon with a depth to water of 5.35 feet. The report also identified detection levels of manganese at 435.0 mg/L in an intermediate monitoring well identified as R-55i which exceeds the WQCC standard of 0.2 mg/L. This well is located in Canada del Buey Canyon with a depth to water of 510 feet. The sources of the exceedances for chloride and manganese were not identified in the report.

**Corrective actions to address this release are being coordinated with the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) in accordance with the Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order) proceeding under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act § 74-4-10 and the New Mexico Solid Waste Act § 74-9-36(D) between NMED and the United States Department of Energy and the Regents of the University of California for Los Alamos National Laboratory. Based on the information in the Release/Discharge Notification submitted by**

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Messrs. Jeffrey Casalina and Denny Hjeresen  
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**LANS to GWQB on June 22, 2011 in accordance with 20.6.2.1203 NMAC, and because corrective actions are being coordinated with the HWB under the Consent Order, no further action is required at this time for release ID#2011-308. Please continue to coordinate any additional corrective actions related to the release with the HWB.**

The GWQB reserves the right to require additional corrective actions not already being required should LANS fail to complete corrective actions to the satisfaction of the HWB. Furthermore, 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,



Jerry Schoeppner, Acting Chief  
Ground Water Quality Bureau

JS:JF

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