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Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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ENTERED



DAVE MARTIN
Cabinet Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

JAMES H. DAVIS, Ph.D.
Director
Resource Protection Division

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

December 5, 2012

Pete Maggiore,
Environmental Operations Manager
Los Alamos Site Office
Department of Energy
3747 West Jemez Road, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Jeffrey D. Mousseau,
Associate Director Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.
P.O. Box 1663, MS 991
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: RESPONSE TO USE OF POTABLE WATER FOR DUST SUPPRESSION
DURING DISPOSAL OF BULK LOW-LEVEL WASTE AT TECHNICAL
AREA-54
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY (LANL)
EPA ID #NM0890010515**

Dear Messrs. Maggiore and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security L.L.C.'s (LANS) (collectively, the Permittees) *Use of Potable Water for Dust Suppression during Disposal of Bulk Low-Level Waste at Technical Area 54 (Document)*, dated November 15, 2012 and referenced by EP2012-0278.

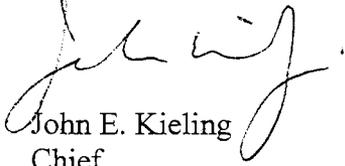
In the Document, the Permittees state, "Pit 38 is used exclusively for the disposal of LLW." Based on the analytical laboratory data contained in Table 1 of Enclosure 2 of the Permittees' August 13, 2012 *Notice of Intent to Discharge Potable Water Used for Dust Suppression and Decontamination at Technical Area 54 Disposal Pit 38*, solid waste containing hazardous constituents was disposed of in Pit 38. Therefore, the statement quoted above is not accurate.



Messrs. Maggiore and Mousseau
December 5, 2012
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Please contact Dave Cobrain at (505) 476-6055 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
B. Wear, NMED HWB
J. Schoeppner, NMED GWQB
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File: LANL 2012, MDA G, TA-54