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NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



SUSANA MARTINEZ Governor JOHN A. SANCHEZ Lieutenant Governor

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RYAN FLYNN Cabinet Secretary BUTCH TONGATE Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 14, 2016

Kimberly Davis Lebak, Manager Los Alamos Field Office U.S. Department of Energy 3747 West Jemez Road, MS A316 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

Michael T. Brandt, Associate Director Environment, Safety and Health Los Alamos National Laboratory P.O. Box 1663, MS K499 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATIONS LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY NITRATE SALT-BEARING WASTE CONTAINER ISOLATION PLAN, REVISION 4 LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY EPA ID #NM0890010515

Dear Ms. Davis Lebak and Mr. Brandt:

On May 19, 2014, the New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED") issued an administrative Order ("Order") requiring the Department of Energy ("DOE") and the Los Alamos National Security, LLC ("LANS; collectively, with DOE the "Permittees") to submit a Los Alamos National Laboratory ("LANL") Nitrate Salt-Bearing Waste Container Isolation Plan ("Plan"). The Plan was received by NMED on May 21, 2014, and was then modified subsequently on July 10, 2014; April 27, 2015, May 8, 2015, and August 12, 2015.

Revision 4 of the Plan was received by NMED on December 18, 2015, and has been reviewed. NMED hereby approves the revised Plan with the following modification.

- 1. Section VII, Cemented Legacy and Newly Generated Cemented Nitrate Salt-Bearing Waste, page 27. The Permittees state that "[t]he reactivity characteristic has never been observed regarding cement, and further, review of AK [acceptable knowledge] documentation processes involved in the waste stream do not indicate the potential for reactivity". Please provide a supplemental list of references of AK documentation reviewed by

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the Permittees which support this conclusion.

The Permittees must address this by providing the above reference AK documentation to NMED no later than **March 31, 2016**.

Should you have any questions, please contact John Kieling at (505) 476-6035.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Roberts
Director, Resource Protection Division
New Mexico Environment Department

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
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File: 2016 LANL, Nitrate Salt-Bearing Waste Container Isolation Plan, Revision 4.