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State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 8, 2007

David Gregory
Federal Project Director
Los Alamos Site Office, Department of Energy
528 35th Street, Mail Stop A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

David McInroy
Remediation Services Deputy Project Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop A100
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: DENIAL OF EXTENTION REQUEST FOR REPLACEMENT OF MONITORING
WELL R-12 SCREEN 3
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-GW MISC**

Dear Messrs. Gregory and McInroy:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security, LLC (collectively, the Permittees) extension request letter entitled *Submittal of Request of Deferral of Requirement for Replacement of Monitoring Well R-12, Screen 3* (Request) dated May 25, 2007 and referenced by EP2007-0309. The Request was to submit an "execution plan" for the replacement of R-12 Screen 3 on an unspecified date after the monitoring well network analysis (well evaluation), due to NMED September 14, 2007, is completed for Sandia Canyon (referred to as a Fate and Transport Report).

Screening data recently obtained from newly-installed groundwater monitoring wells R-35a and R-35b strongly suggest that monitoring of the water-bearing zone intersecting screen 3 in well R-12 is crucial because anthropogenic contamination (e.g., molybdenum and sulfate) has reached the upper portion of the main aquifer. It is likely that there is a correlation between the water-bearing zones intercepted at R-35 and those at R-12 screen



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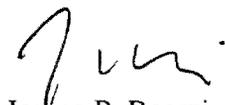
Messrs. Gregory and McInroy
Denial of the Request for Deferral of Requirement
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3. Moreover, during well rehabilitation efforts, R-12 screen 3 was adversely affected by the introduction of a large volume of water to the zone and, according to the Permittees, cannot be restored. Additionally, the proximity of R-12 to the facility boundary and Los Alamos County municipal supply well PM-1 argue for the need for a well capable of producing reliable detection monitoring data at this location.

Given the history of delays with the monitoring well drilling project – most recently with R-35a and R-35b – a delay of about five months for replacement of R-12 screen 3 is not acceptable. NMED is disinclined to encourage a situation similar to that which resulted in the R-35 drilling delay – that is, our agreement to an open ended date for monitoring well completion. Therefore, the requirements for abandoning R-12 screen 3 and installing an active sampling system at screens 1 and 2, as outlined in the NMED letters dated March 5, 2007 and April 27, 2007, are hereby ratified.

The R-12 screen 3 replacement work/execution plan must be submitted no later than July 1, 2007 so that the R-12 screen 3 replacement well is completed by October 31, 2007. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact John Young at (505) 476-6038.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
D. Goering, NMED HWB
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file: Reading and ~~LANL~~ General 2007 (Groundwater) *