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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544



DEC 10 2012

Mr. Harry Burgess
Los Alamos County Administrator
Los Alamos County
133 Central Park Square
Los Alamos, NM 87544



Dear Mr. Burgess:

Reference:

1. LASO Letter from Kevin Smith, Manager, LASO to Harry Burgess, Administrator, Los Alamos County, Subject: *Airport Landfill Assessment*, dated June 28, 2012

Subject: Airport Landfill Update

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update on the action the Department of Energy (DOE) have taken this year with regard to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) compliant airport landfill cover. We have completed several activities this last year at the Los Alamos Airport landfill to maintain its cover integrity and insure that the cover continues to be impermeable to precipitation events and environmental conditions in accordance with post closure requirements. The DOE had an independent expert in landfill covers assess the cover's performance against RCRA post-closure requirements (Reference [1]). The DOE has studied the cover assessment report titled, "Los Alamos County Airport Landfill Technical Feasibility Study", and would be glad to brief you on the results. The DOE had the cover installation contractor, Matcon Inc., return in October 2012 to perform maintenance on the cover to address observed cracks and gaps at material boundaries. The DOE also had three additional risers and spinners installed to provide additional data on the methane levels at the landfill and to provide further information on potential water infiltration into the landfill.

The DOE has planned and budgeted to continue with any necessary maintenance and repair activities during the current Continuing Resolution. The DOE would like to meet with you this spring to discuss potential long-term solutions to the airport landfill cover and determine an agreeable path forward regarding potential shared use/function.

If you have any questions, call David Rhodes at (505) 665-5325.

Respectfully,

Kevin W. Smith
Manager

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cc:

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