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NEW MEXICO  
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RON CURRY  
Secretary

JON GOLDSTEIN  
Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

August 6, 2008

Patty Wagner  
Manager  
Sandia Site Office/NNSA  
U.S. Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 5400 MS 0184  
Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400

Francis B. Nimick  
Deputy Director  
Nuclear Energy & Global Securities Technologies  
Sandia National Laboratories  
P.O. Box 5800, MS 0701  
Albuquerque, NM 87185

**RE: NOTICE OF DISAPPROVAL: SUMMARY REPORT FOR TECHNICAL AREA V  
MONITORING WELL PLUG AND ABANDONMENT AND INSTALLATION  
DECOMMISSIONING OF GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL TAV-MW-1  
INSTALLATION OF GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL TAV-MW10  
JUNE, 2008  
SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES, EPA ID# NM5890110518  
HWB-SNL-08-011**

Dear Ms. Wagner and Mr. Nimick:

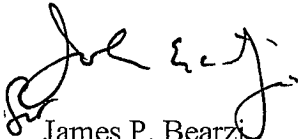
The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed the subject document submitted in June, 2008 and has identified several deficiencies. The U.S. Department of Energy and Sandia Corporation ("Permittees") must submit a revised plan to correct these deficiencies. The plan must address the following comments.

1. Section 3.3, Initial Groundwater Level and Well Construction, does not mention the use of centralizers, which were called for in the work plan. Confirm the use of and describe the spacing of centralizers used in the installation of TAV-MW10 in this section of the report.

2. In Section 2.0, Plug and Abandonment insert the word "Attachment" in front of "B" in the second sentence.
3. The work plan, Section 5.2.3, Well Development, states "representative water is assumed to be obtained when pH, temperature, turbidity, and specific conductivity readings stabilize (less than 10% variability over three consecutive well bore volumes) and the water is visually clear of suspended solids with a target turbidity of less than five Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTUs)". The field data submitted in the report shows that these conditions were met except for turbidity, which did not stabilize to within 10% variability. However, because the final turbidity was less than 5 NTU, NMED does accept that the well was adequately developed and that representative groundwater samples can be obtained. However, rewording of the above criteria should be considered in any future work plans to avoid confusion as to what situations are applicable for the two different criteria (10% variability or < 5 NTU) for turbidity.
4. Geophysical logs have been used extensively in the past to interpret the subsurface and correlate geologic units between boreholes at SNL. Section 5.0, Variances, second bullet, discusses the fact that geophysical logging was not conducted as planned. As it was known at the time of the work plan that the new well would be located close to the abandoned well, specify the cut-off distance criteria used in the Permittees' decision not to geophysically log the borehole/well and explain why this decision wasn't discussed ahead of time with the NMED.

The revised report must be submitted to the NMED within 60 days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Sid Brandwein of my staff at (505) 222-9504.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB  
W. Moats, NMED HWB  
S. Brandwein, NMED HWB  
T. Skitbitski, NMED DOE OB  
L. King, EPA-6  
J. Cochran, SNL, MS 0719  
File: SNL 2008 and Reading  
SNL-08-011