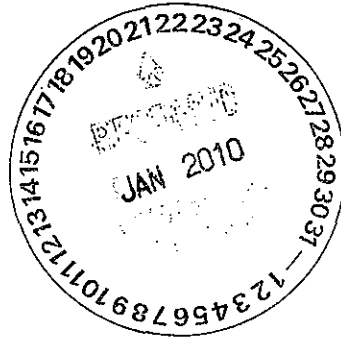




Environmental Programs
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National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316
Environmental Restoration Program
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
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Date: **JAN 21 2010**
Refer To: EP2010-0032

James Bearzi, Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Subject: Status of Drilling of Regional Aquifer Well R-52

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The Los Alamos National Laboratory (the Laboratory) is providing this update to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) on the status of drilling of regional groundwater monitoring well R-52. Although the NMED's December 22, 2009, approval of the Laboratory's December 15, 2009, drilling work plan for Regional Aquifer Well R-52 did not include approval of the Laboratory's proposed completion date of January 29, 2010, for the well, the Laboratory is currently actively drilling on the site on a 24-hr, 7 day/wk schedule and still targeting completion by January 31, 2010. However, due to a later-than-planned start date caused by unavailability of the rig, the January 29, 2010, date may be missed by several days.

The Laboratory will keep your staff apprised of progress on this very important well and will provide additional updates by email to Michael Dale, Jerzy Kulis, and Dave Cobrain.

If you have any questions, please contact Ted Ball at 665-5996 (tedball@lanl.gov) or Everett Trollinger at 667-0281 (etrollinger@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,

Bruce Schappell, Executive Director
Environmental Programs – Recovery Act Projects
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,

Everett Trollinger, Federal Project Director
Environmental Projects
Los Alamos Site Office

MG/DG/DK:sm

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB, MS M894
Everett Trollinger, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
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Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991
Kristine Smeltz, EP-WES, MS M992
RPF, MS M707
IRM-RMMSO, MS A150 (date-stamped letter emailed)