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Lieutenant Governor

**NEW MEXICO
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RYAN FLYNN
Cabinet Secretary
BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 1, 2015

Peter Maggiore
Assistant Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos Field Office, DOE
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael T. Brandt
Associate Director
Environment, Safety, Health
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS K491
Los Alamos, NM 87545



**RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATION
DRILLING WORK PLAN FOR REGIONAL AQUIFER WELL R-61r
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-MISC-GW**

Dear Messrs. Maggiore and Brandt:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Drilling Work Plan for Regional Aquifer Well R-61r* (Plan) dated February 2015 and referenced by EP2015-0015. NMED has reviewed the Plan, and hereby issues this approval with the following modification.

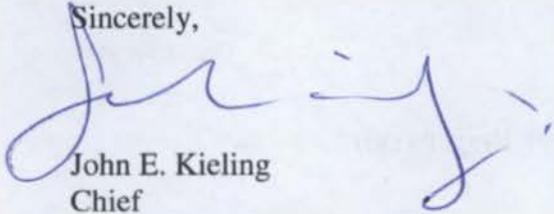
The Permittees propose to drill R-61r approximately 50 feet upgradient of R-61. It is NMED's opinion that 50 feet may not be an adequate distance from R-61 to avoid capturing altered and impacted groundwater at R-61. Therefore, the Permittees must drill R-61r a minimum of 300 feet upgradient or near upgradient from well R-61. Preferably, and assuming site access is attainable with respect to surface archeology, topography, etc., the R-61r drill-site would be positioned west or southwest of R-61. This location would provide adequate long-term contaminant monitoring at or near the facility boundary and be far enough from R-61 to avoid potential capture of impacted groundwater.

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Well R-61r must be completed by **June 30, 2016**, as proposed in the Plan.

Please contact Michael Dale at (505) 661-2673 if you have questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
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File: Reading and LANL 2015, DWP Well R-61r