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NOV 2011
NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau

Date: NOV 0 1 2011
Refer To: EP2011-0357

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

Subject: Request to Discontinue Vapor Sampling at Material Disposal Area V

Dear Mr. Kieling:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security (LANS), LLC, request approval from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) to discontinue quarterly vapor sampling at Material Disposal Area (MDA) V. Quarterly vapor sampling has been implemented at MDA V to characterize the nature and extent of subsurface vapor-phase tritium at the site. In addition, vapor-monitoring activities were performed at MDA V during the third and fourth quarters of fiscal year (FY) 2011 to support remediation of MDA B. The results of these vapor-monitoring activities have been documented in periodic monitoring reports submitted to NMED.

NMED issued certificates of completion for the four solid waste management units (SWMUs) and one area of concern (AOC) at MDA V on June 3, 2011, stating that DOE/LANS have satisfied the requirements of the March 2005 Compliance Order on Consent for corrective action at these SWMUs and AOC. NMED's June 3, 2011, letter issuing the certificates of completion for the five sites referenced DOE/LANS's February 15, 2011, letter committing to continue performing quarterly vapor monitoring at MDA V in connection with ongoing remedial actions at MDA B. NMED also stated that the need for this continued monitoring at MDA V would be reconsidered when remedial actions at MDA B were completed.

Because the sampling data collected during the most recent two quarters demonstrate there is no evidence of any contaminant contribution from MDA B in the MDA V vapor-monitoring wells, DOE/LANS believe vapor monitoring at MDA V is no longer necessary. DOE/LANS propose to discontinue annual vapor sampling at MDA V beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2012. DOE/LANS will submit the periodic monitoring report for the most recent vapor samples collected during the fourth quarter of FY2011 in January 2012.

If you have any questions, please contact Jarrett Rice at (505) 665-3874 (wjrice@lanl.gov) or Peter Maggiore at (505) 665-5658 (peter.maggiore@nnsa.doe.gov).

Sincerely,

B_G Schappell for M.J.G

Michael J. Graham, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,

George J. Rael, Assistant Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos Site Office

MG/GR/TG:sm

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB, MS M894
Jim Davis, NMED-Resource Protection, Santa Fe, NM (date-stamped letter emailed)
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM (date-stamped letter emailed)
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
David Rhodes, DOE-LASO, MS A316 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Peter Maggiore, DOE-LASO, MS A316 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Bruce Wedgeworth, EP-TA-21, MS C349 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Craig Douglass, EP-CAP, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)
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