



Environmental Programs
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
(505) 606-2337/FAX (505) 665-1812



National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316
Environmental Restoration Program
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
(505) 667-4255/FAX (505) 606-2132

Date: **DEC 02 2011**
Refer To: EP2011-0406

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 for Extension to Submit the Phase II Investigation Report for Sandia Canyon

Dear Mr. Kieling:

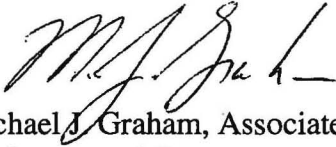
This letter requests an extension from the April 30, 2012, date to submit the Phase II investigation report for Sandia Canyon to a new date of September 30, 2012. This extension request is based on the need to obtain and incorporate key groundwater data from newly installed groundwater monitoring wells R-61 and R-62. These wells were installed on May 3, 2011, and October 3, 2011, respectively, pursuant to the New Mexico Environment Department's requirement in the approval with direction for the October 2009 investigation report for Sandia Canyon and the approved extension request to complete R-62 from September 19, 2011, to October 11, 2011.

The first round of samples from R-61 was collected in May 2011, and quarterly sampling is ongoing. Installation of the sampling system in R-62 is expected to be completed in mid-December 2011. Quarterly sampling at R-62 will begin thereafter (no later than January 2012). Two rounds of data from R-62 will be available by June 2012. The need for a minimum of two rounds of representative data from these wells to be included in the Phase II report is the schedule-driving factor for this extension request. Data from these wells will provide important information on the nature and extent of chromium contamination and will help distinguish other possible contaminant sources.

The U.S. Department of Energy and Los Alamos National Security, LLC, request this extension under Section III.J.2 of the March 2005 Compliance Order on Consent.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Veenis at (505) 667-0013 (veenis@lanl.gov) or Peter Maggiore at (505) 665-5658 (peter.maggiore@nnsa.doe.gov).

Sincerely,



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/DM/SV: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)
David Rhodes, DOE-LASO, MS A316 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Peter Maggiore, DOE-LASO, MS A316 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
Steve Veenis, EP-CAP, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Kent Rich, EP-CAP, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Craig Douglass, EP-CAP, MS M996 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Dave McInroy, EP-CAP, MS M996 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Tori George, EP-REG, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Jarrett Rice, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Bruce Schappell, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Dan Cox, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)
William Alexander, EP-BPS, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)
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