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Date: DEC 07 2011
Refer To: EP2011-0393

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 Investigation Report for Cañon de Valle Aggregate Area, Technical Area 15

Dear Mr. Kieling:

This letter requests an extension from the July 2, 2012, date to submit the investigation report for Cañon de Valle Aggregate Area, Technical Area 15 (TA-15), to a new date of July 2, 2014. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security (LANS), LLC, request this extension in order to focus efforts on accelerating the shipment of aboveground transuranic (TRU) waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory's TA-54, Area G, to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. This focus will result in a material reduction of environmental risk. This acceleration of TRU waste shipments will also allow DOE/LANS to support the environmental priorities established by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and the State of New Mexico.

This new date to submit the investigation report for Cañon de Valle Aggregate Area, TA-15, was developed to support both the mutual goal of environmental risk reduction and the DOE goal of completing the Cañon de Valle Aggregate Area capital asset project. Additional work under Cañon de Valle capital asset project, such as activities at TA-16, the 260 Outfall subsurface corrective measure evaluation, and the 260 Outfall surface corrective measure implementation, will likely be impacted by this changed focus to accelerate shipment of TRU waste from TA-54. DOE/LANS will assess the potential for additional impacts and will provide such information to NMED at a later date. DOE/LANS request this extension under Section III.J.2 of the March 2005 Compliance Order on Consent.

If you have any questions, please contact Jarrett Rice at (505) 500-5673 (wjrice@lanl.gov) or Cheryl Rodriguez at (505) 665-5330 (cheryl.rodriguez@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/JM: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)
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Jarrett Rice, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Bruce Schappell, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)
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