NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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Lieutenant Governor

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Cabinet Secretary

Butch Tongate
Deputy Secretary

EP2011-5568

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

December 28, 2011

George J. Rael, Assistant Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos Site Office
Department of Energy
3747 West Jemez Road, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael J. Graham, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Security, LLC
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, NM 87545

RE: REVIEW OF THE 2011 BIENNIAL ORDNANCE SURVEY REPORT, SWMU 00-011(A, C, D, AND E) AND AOC C-00-020, GUAJE/BARRANCAS/RENDIJA CANYONS AGGREGATE AREA LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY EPA ID #NM0890010515 HWB-LANL-11-093

Dear Messrs. Rael and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) (collectively, the Permittees) *2011 Biennial Ordnance Survey Report, Solid Waste Management Units 00-011(a, c, d, and e) and Area of Concern C-00-020, Guaje/Barrancas/Rendija Canyons Aggregate Area*, dated December 2011 and referenced by LA-UR-11-6766/EP2011-0383.

As required by the December 20, 2007 Approval with Direction for Guaje/Barrancas/Rendija Canyons Aggregate Area investigation report, an ordnance survey was conducted in 2011 at subject sites. No unexploded ordnance was found at any of the five sites. Munitions debris was found at three Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) 00-011(a, d, and e) and no munitions debris was found at SWMU 00-011(c) and Area of Concern (AOC) C-00-020.

The Permittees recommend that based on the fact that no munitions and explosives of concern, no munitions debris, or any other evidence of historical impact activities was ever found at SWMU 00-011(c) and AOC C-00-020, no further activities be conducted at SWMU 00-011(c) and AOC C-00-020. An ordnance survey conducted in 2009 also did not find evidence that these sites were ever used as mortar impact areas. Based on the information provided by the Permittees, NMED concurs that there is no need for conducting further surveys at these two sites. However, if in the future any information becomes available that indicates that these sites were used as firing ranges, NMED may require further investigations.

The Permittees must continue conducting biennial surveys at SWMUs 00-011(a, d, and e). The next report of biennial survey must be submitted no later than December 31, 2013. Please contact Neelam Dhawan of my staff at (505) 476-6042 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John E. Kieling
Acting Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
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L. King, EPA 6PD-N
File: LANL, Guaje/Barrancas/Rendija Canyons Aggregate, 2011
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