

**Environmental Programs**

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**National Nuclear Security Administration**

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10-25-13 A 11:35 RCVD

Date: **OCT 25 2013**

Refer To: EP2013-0202

Ms. Jan Walker
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
 Compliance and Assurance Division
 Water Enforcement Branch (6EN)
 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
 Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Ms. Diana McDonald
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
 Compliance and Assurance Division
 Water Enforcement Branch (6EN)
 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
 Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

**Subject: NPDES Permit No. NM0030759 – Request for Permit Modification,
 Site Monitoring Requirements for Site 72-001 (S-SMA-6)**

Dear Meses. Walker and McDonald:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) (the Permittees) are submitting this letter to request approval by Region 6 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to modify Appendix B, Site Monitoring Requirements for Site 72-001, located in Sandia Canyon. Storm water samples collected in 2011 from the S-SMA-6 sampler pursuant the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. NM0030759 (the Individual Permit or Permit) exceeded the applicable target action levels (TALs) for aluminum, copper, cyanide, gross-alpha radioactivity, radium-226 and radium-228, and total polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

New and substantial information and data presented in the attached report demonstrate (1) Site 72-001 is not the source of aluminum, cyanide, PCBs, gross-alpha radioactivity, or radium-226 and radium-228 detected in storm water; (2) upstream sources, including solid waste management units, areas of concern, and electrical equipment that was decommissioned under Toxic Substances Control Act requirements, are the source of the PCB exceedance in storm water at S-SMA-6; (3) upstream sources, including historical releases at Technical Area 03 (TA-03) and the TA-03 wetland, are the likely source of the cyanide exceedance in storm water at S-SMA-6; (4) the source of the aluminum exceedance is associated with unique geochemical conditions in the TA-03 wetland and is naturally occurring; and (5) the source of the adjusted gross-alpha radioactivity and isotopic radium exceedances is likely naturally occurring alpha-emitting radionuclides derived from the local rock unit within the watershed and canyon bottom.

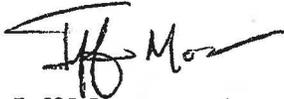
This permit modification request, seeks the following change pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations §122.62 (a)(2) and Part III.A.5 of the Individual Permit:

Appendix B, p. 4: Delete monitoring requirements for aluminum, cyanide, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), gross-alpha radioactivity, and radium-226 and -228 at Site 72-001 (S-SMA-6).

Upon approval of this permit modification request, Site 72-001 will no longer be a High Priority Site as identified in Part I.E.4(a), thereby extending the deadline for completion of corrective action for copper, which is the remaining potential Site-related constituent, until November 1, 2015.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Veenis at (505) 667-0013 (veenis@lanl.gov) or David Rhodes at (505) 665-5325 (david.rhodes@nnsa.doe.gov).

Sincerely,



Jeff Mousseau, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,



Peter Maggiore, Assistant Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos Field Office

JM/PM/CD/SV:sm

Enclosure: One hard copy with electronic files – NPDES Permit No. NM0030759 Request for Permit Modification, Site Monitoring Requirements for Site 72-001 (S-SMA-6) (LA-UR-13-27464)

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