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Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Acting Deputy Secretary

EP2011-5488

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 21, 2011

George J. Rael
Assistant Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
3747 West Jemez Rd, MSA316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

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

**RE: APPROVAL
EXTENSION REQUEST FOR
SUBMITTAL OF THE PROPOSED LOCATION FOR
REGIONAL AQUIFER WELL R-59
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-11-GW-MISC**

Dear Messrs. Rael and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Request for Extension to Submit the Proposed Location of Well R-59 (Location)* dated October 6, 2011 and referenced by EP2011-0340.

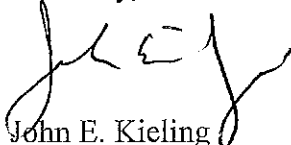
The Permittees request the extension to submit the Report due to the need to focus on removal of transuranic (TRU) waste from Technical Area (TA) 54 to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, located in Eddy County, New Mexico. The need to remove TRU waste stored at TA-54 is aligned with Governor Martinez' policy to prioritize groundwater and surface water protection and accelerate the removal of TRU waste stored at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

The Permittees stated cause for the requested time extension is acceptable. The submittal

date for the Report is hereby postponed from October 31, 2011 to **October 31, 2013**, as requested. The Permittees must notify NMED, within 30 days of receipt of such information, should funds become available in the future that allow for the proposed location of R-59 to be submitted prior to October 31, 2013.

Please contact Dave Cobrain at (505) 476-6055 if you have questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
M. Dale, NMED HWB
J. Kulis, NMED HWB
J. Schoepner, NMED GWQB
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H. Shen, DOE-LASO, MS A316
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File: Reading and LANL 2011 – Groundwater, R-59 Location

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