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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  
Deputy Secretary

JAMES H. DAVIS, Ph.D.  
Director  
Resource Protection Division  
EP2012-5170

### CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 2, 2012

Pete Maggiore  
Assistant Manager  
Environmental Projects Office  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Los Alamos Site Office  
3747 West Jemez Road, MS A316  
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: CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION  
FOUR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS AND THREE AREAS OF  
CONCERN IN THE S-SITE AGGREGATE AREA  
EPA ID #NM0890010515  
HWB-LANL-11-047**

Dear Messrs. Maggiore and Graham:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security L.L.C.'s (LANS) (collectively, the Permittees) *Request for Certificates of Completion for Five Solid Waste Management Units and Three Areas of Concern in the S-Site Aggregate Area*, dated July 07, 2012 and referenced by EP2011-0237.

Five solid waste management units (SWMUs) and three areas of concern (AOC) were recommended for corrective action complete in the *Investigation Work Plan for S-Site Aggregate Area Revision 1* (LA-UR-07-8366/EP2007-0796) and *Investigation Report for S-Site Aggregate Area, Revision 1* (Report), dated February 2011 (LA-UR-11-0561/EP2011-0012). NMED issued

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an Approval with Modification (AWM) for the Report on March 16, 2011. The Permittees have satisfied the requirements of the March 1, 2005 Consent Order for completion of corrective action at the following sites.

**SWMU 16-004(e)** is the inactive bar screen (structure 16-534) at the technical area (TA) 16 sanitary wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The screen was used to filter out large solids and it was later replaced with a cutting device for sewage solids. Investigations conducted during 2010 indicated that there are no potential unacceptable risks from the residual contamination for the residential land use scenario. The results of the ecological risk-screening assessment indicate no potential unacceptable risk to ecological receptors at the site. The Permittees have demonstrated that SWMU 16-004(e) is eligible for corrective action complete without controls.

**SWMU 16-029(d)** consists of two inactive high explosives (HE) sumps located on the exterior west wall of building 16-301. The sumps formerly discharged to an outfall, SWMU 16-026(e). The sumps were plugged in 1990. Investigations conducted during 2010 indicated that there are no potential unacceptable risks from the residual contamination for the residential land use scenario. No complete exposure pathways to ecological receptors were identified. The Permittees have demonstrated that SWMU 16-029(d) is eligible for corrective action complete without controls.

**SWMU 16-029(g2)** is a concrete pit (structure 16-523) at TA-16 that was used to house a shaker table for vibration tests for the Fat Man, nuclear explosive. Tests on the device were controlled remotely. In 1945, the concrete pit was filled with dirt, and covered with a concrete slab and abandoned in place. Investigations conducted during 2010 indicated that there are no potential unacceptable risks from the residual contamination for the residential land use scenario. No complete exposure pathways to ecological receptors were identified. The Permittees have demonstrated that SWMU 16-029(g2) is eligible for corrective action complete without controls.

**SWMU 16-017(p)-99** is a former storage magazine (structure 16-61) that was located at the end of Pressing Road. The magazine measured 20 x 60 ft and was of wood-frame construction surrounded by an earthen berm on three sides. The building was removed in 1996. The SWMU was previously part of SWMU 16-017, which contained several structures, that was divided into 24 SWMUs in 1999. Investigations conducted during 2010 indicated that there are no potential unacceptable risks from the residual contamination for the residential and industrial land use scenario. The results of the ecological risk-screening assessment indicate no potential unacceptable risk to ecological receptors at the site. The Permittees have demonstrated that SWMU 16-017(p)-99 is eligible for corrective action complete without controls.

**AOC C-16-049** is an area of potential soil contamination associated with the footprint of a former workshop (structure 16-475) at TA-16. A 1983 memorandum indicates that no hazardous materials were associated with the building. No investigations were conducted at the site. Any liquid waste would have been discharged from the building via a single drainline, which is being



investigated under SWMU 13-003(a). Based on the information provided, the site does not pose any threat to human health or the environment. The Permittees have demonstrated that AOC C-16-049 is eligible for corrective action complete without controls.

**AOC C-16-062** is a former access manhole (structure 16-889) that was located at P-Site in TA-16. Maintenance personnel used it to access underground electric conduits. The manhole was installed in 1950 and removed in 1972. No investigations were conducted at the site. In 1994, a site visit confirmed that the manhole had been removed. Based on the information provided, the site does not pose any threat to human health or the environment because it never managed hazardous waste. The Permittees have demonstrated that the AOC C-16-062 is eligible for corrective action complete without controls.

**AOC C-16-063** is a former access manhole (structure 16-888) that was located at P-Site in TA-16. Maintenance personnel used it to access underground electrical conduits. The manhole was installed in 1950 and removed in 1972. No investigations were conducted at the site. In 1994, a site visit confirmed that the manhole had been removed. Based on the information provided, the site does not pose threat to human health or the environment because it never managed hazardous waste. The Permittees have demonstrated that AOC C-16-063 is eligible for corrective action complete without controls.

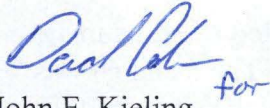
If new information becomes available that indicates that any of these sites may pose a risk to human health or the environment, NMED may require the Permittees to conduct additional corrective action. NMED hereby issues this Certificate of Completion for 7 sites discussed above pursuant to section VII.E.6.b of the Consent Order.

**SWMU 16-004(a)** is the inactive Imhoff tank (structure 16-530) that was used for sewage treatment at the TA-16 WWTP. The Imhoff tank received effluent that flowed over a weir into a dosing siphon. The Permittees recommended the site for corrective action complete in the Report. However, NMED's AWM stated that additional samples were required to define the nature and extent of contamination at the site. The AWM also stated that the site may be deferred until the decontamination and decommissioning of the former WWTP. SWMU 16-004(a) is not eligible for corrective action complete at this time.

Messrs. Maggiore and Graham  
July 2, 2012  
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Please contact Neelam Dhawan at (505) 476-6042, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John E. Kielling", followed by the word "for" in a smaller, cursive script.

John E. Kielling  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB  
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS J993  
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB  
L. King, EPA 6PD-N  
C. Rodriguez, DOE LASO, MS A316  
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File: 2012 LANL, Certificates of Completion for S-Site AA Sites (LANL 11-047)



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Hazardous Waste Bureau  
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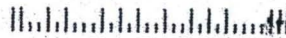
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Michael J. Graham  
Associate Director Environmental Programs  
Los Alamos National Security, LLC  
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NAME *M. J. Graham*  
Z# 0996410  
DATE 7-5-2012