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Date: January 30, 2008
Refer To: EP2008-0019

James P. Bearzi, Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Subject: Review of December 2007 Groundwater Data

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The Los Alamos National Laboratory (the Laboratory) Water Stewardship Project (LWSP) met on January 15, 2008, to review new groundwater data received through December 20, 2007. At that time, several groundwater samples were identified with contaminant concentrations above the New Mexico or federal water quality standards. Remaining new data for December 2007 will be reviewed and submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) in a subsequent report.

The LWSP deputy program director notified the Hazardous Waste Bureau by telephone on January 15, 2008, and followed up with an email on the same day. The 18 instances of a contaminant above a standard for the first time (based on samples collected since June 14, 2007) are tabulated in the attached report. Samples collected before June 14, 2007, at these locations contained the same contaminant at concentrations above a standard with the following 5 exceptions:

- Ammonia (as nitrogen) was detected at 0.24 mg/L in an unfiltered sample at water supply well PM-4; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) tap water screening level is 0.21 mg/L.
- Iron was detected at 2770 µg/L in a filtered sample at Water Canyon alluvial well FLC-16-25279; the New Mexico groundwater standard is 1000 µg/L. This was the first sample event for this well.
- Manganese was detected at 1030 µg/L in a filtered sample at Water Canyon alluvial well FLC-16-25279; the New Mexico groundwater standard is 200 µg/L. This was the first sample event for this well.
- Iron was detected at 2520 µg/L in a filtered sample at Water Canyon alluvial well FLC-16-25278; the New Mexico groundwater standard is 1000 µg/L. This was the first sample event for this well.

- Manganese was detected at 1370 µg/L in a filtered sample at Water Canyon alluvial well FLC-16-25278; the New Mexico groundwater standard is 200 µg/L. This was the first sample event for this well.

This letter is our written submission that indicates in the accompanying report and tables the chemical constituents that meet the seven screening criteria laid out in the Settlement Agreement and Stipulated Final Order signed by NMED, the U.S. Department of Energy, and Los Alamos National Security, LLC, on June 14, 2007. The report identifies data collected since June 14, 2007, that meet these criteria.

If you have questions, please contact Ardyth Simmons at (505) 665-3935 (asimmons@lanl.gov) or Mat Johansen at (505) 665-5046 (mjohansen@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,

FOR

Susan G. Stiger, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,

David R. Gregory, Project Director
Environmental Operations
Los Alamos Site Office

SG/DR/PR/AS/DB:sm

Enclosure: Report and accompanying tables: "Summary of New Los Alamos National Laboratory Groundwater Data Loaded in December 2007" (EP2008-0019)

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