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National Nuclear Security Administration Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316 Environmental Restoration Program Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544 (505) 667-4255/FAX (505) 606-2132

*Date*: February 29, 2008 *Refer To*: EP2008-0103

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: Submittal of the Response to the Approval with Modifications for the Investigation Work Plan for Sites at Technical Area 49 Inside the Nuclear Environmental Site Boundary

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The purpose of this letter is to document the agreement between the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and Los Alamos National Laboratory (the Laboratory) concerning the drilling of the regional groundwater monitoring well R-30. This agreement was reached during discussions with NMED staff on October 15, 2007, at the time the TA-49 Sites Inside the NES Boundary Investigation Work Plan was being developed, and on January 8, 2008, as part of the discussions of the NMED's Notice of Disapproval for the Investigation Work Plan at Technical Area 49 Inside the Nuclear Environmental Site Boundary, dated December 20, 2007.

As discussed in the Laboratory's response to the Notice of Disapproval for the Investigation Work Plan at Technical Area 49 Inside the Nuclear Environmental Site Boundary, dated January 31, 2008, the Laboratory proposes optimizing the final determination for placement of R-30 by using data from the NMED-approved vadose-zone characterization that will be implemented in accordance with the approved TA-49 Sites Inside the NES Boundary Investigation Work Plan. Therefore, the schedule for drilling of R-30 will be set shortly after execution of the approved scope for vadose zone investigation. Optimal placement and timing of execution will allow the Laboratory to incorporate quarterly monitoring results in the corrective measures evaluation for these sites. James Bearzi EP2008-0103

If you have any questions, please contact John McCann at (505) 665-1091 (jmccann@lanl.gov) or Ed Worth at (505) 606-0398 (eworth@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,

Culoren Susan G. Stiger, Associate Director

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

Sincerely,

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

## SS/DG/DM/JM/:sm

Cy: (w/enc.) Neil Weber, San Ildefonso Pueblo John McCann, EP-CAP, MS M992 RPF, MS M707 (with two CDs) Public Reading Room, MS M992

Cy: (Letter and CD only) Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX Steve Yanicak, NMED-OB, White Rock, NM Kim T. Birdsall, Northwind Ed Worth, DOE-LASO, MS A316 Peggy Reneau, WES-DO, MS M992 EP-CAP File, MS M992

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