



Environmental Programs
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
(505) 606-2337/FAX (505) 665-1812



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: August 15, 2008
Refer To: EP2008-0452

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: Request for Extension to Complete the Plugging and Abandonment Activities at Test Well 8 and MCOBT-4.4

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

This letter proposes an extension for completion of plugging and abandonment (P&A) activities at TW-8 and MCOBT-4.4. P&A work for these two wells is currently scheduled for completion by August 15, 2008.

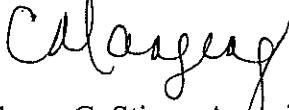
The basis for the request for extension is the resource limitations that Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) is experiencing from the drilling field campaigns that have been ongoing since spring 2008. These recent campaigns have focused on well rehabilitation (R-33 and R-14) and drilling new wells (R-42, SCI-2, R-37, R-39, R-40, R-25b, and R-25c) and have stressed the availability of drill rigs, field crews, and LANL support.

Deferral of these two P&As will also provide LANL an opportunity to implement the work under the pending master drilling contract (currently on track for award in January 2009). Implementation of the P&As, as well as other drilling projects under the master drilling contract, is expected to provide implementation and cost efficiencies via economy of scale and also provide a substantial boost in available resources through utilization of multiple contractors. Deferral of the P&A projects for TW-8 and MCOBT-4.4 will result in implementation of eight instead of six P&A during fiscal year (FY) 2009. In the interim, LANL does not see any adverse technical consequences by deferring P&A of these two wells into FY2009.

A specific schedule for the P&As will be sent to NMED once the task order is issued. Favorable disposition of this request is greatly appreciated.

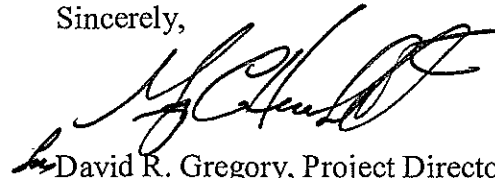
If you have any questions, please contact Danny Katzman at (505) 667-6333 (katzman@lanl.gov) or Nancy Werdel at (505) 665-3619 (nwerdel@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,



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

Sincerely,



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

SS/DG/DK:sm

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Steve Yanicak, NMED-OB, White Rock, NM
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM
Alison Bennett, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
Nancy Werdel, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Danny Katzman, EP-LWSP, MS M992
Paul R. Huber, EP-LWSP, MS M992
Susan G. Stiger, ADEP, MS M991
Alison M. Dorries, WES-DO, MS M992
Kristine Smeltz, WES-DO, MS M992
EP-LWSP File, MS M992
RPF, MS M707
IRM-RMMSO, MS A150 (date-stamped letter emailed)