

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: April 29, 2009
Refer To: EP2009-0210

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 March 2009 Groundwater Data

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Water Stewardship Project (LWSP) met on April 14, 2009, to review new groundwater data received in March 2009. At that time, several groundwater samples were identified with contaminant concentrations above the New Mexico or federal water quality standards.

The LWSP program manager notified the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Hazardous Waste Bureau about these findings by telephone on April 14, 2009, and followed up with an email on the same day.


The 9 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 at these locations before June 14, 2007, also contained the same contaminants at concentrations above a standard, with the following exceptions:

- Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate was detected in field duplicate samples at 6.1 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and 7.3 $\mu\text{g/L}$, respectively, collected from Mortandad Canyon regional aquifer monitoring well R-38; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maximum contaminant level (MCL) is 6 $\mu\text{g/L}$.
- Benzene was detected in field duplicate samples at 6.3 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and 23.8 $\mu\text{g/L}$, respectively, collected from Mortandad Canyon regional aquifer monitoring well R-38; the EPA MCL is 5 $\mu\text{g/L}$.
- Perchlorate was detected at 4.39 $\mu\text{g/L}$ in a sample collected from Los Alamos Canyon intermediate groundwater monitoring location Basalt Spring; Compliance Order on Consent (the Consent Order) screening level is 4 $\mu\text{g/L}$.

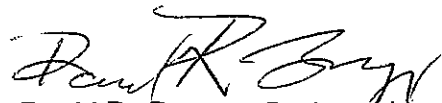
This letter is our written submission that indicates in the accompanying report and tables the chemical constituents that meet the seven screening criteria laid out in the Consent Order, modified on May 13, 2008. The report identifies data collected since June 14, 2007, that meet these criteria.

If you have questions, please contact Ardyth Simmons at (505) 665-3935 (asimmons@lanl.gov) or David Gregory at (505) 667-5808 (dgregory@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,


Michael J. Graham, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,


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

MG/DG/PH/AS/DR:sm

Enclosure: Report and accompanying tables: "Summary of New Los Alamos National Laboratory Groundwater Data Loaded in March 2009" (LA-UR-09-2347)

Cy: (w/enc.)

Neil Weber, San Ildefonso Pueblo
David Rogers, EP-LWSP, 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
Ardyth Simmons, EP-LWSP, MS M992
Kristine Smeltz, EP-WES, MS M992
EP-LWSP File, MS M992

Cy: (w/o enc.)

Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM
Keyana DeAguero, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991
Alison M. Dorries, EP-WES, MS M992
Paul R. Huber, EP-LWSP, MS M992
Mei Ding, EES-6, MS J514
Florie Caporuscio, EES-6, MS J514
IRM-RMMSO, MS A150 (date-stamped letter emailed)