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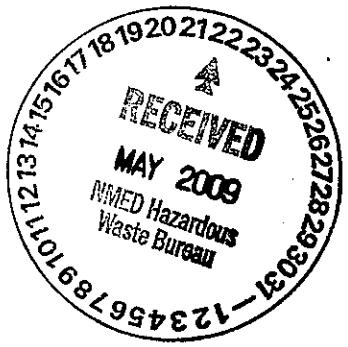
Date: May 29, 2009
Refer To: EP2009-0265

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 April 2009 Groundwater Data

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Water Stewardship Project (LWSP) met on May 14, 2009, to review new groundwater data received in April 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 May 14, 2009, and followed up with an email on the same day.

The six 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. None of the samples collected before June 14, 2007, at these locations contained the same contaminants at concentrations above a standard.

- Manganese was detected in a sample collected from Sandia Canyon alluvial groundwater monitoring well SCA-1-DP at 792 µg/L; the New Mexico groundwater standard is 200 µg/L.
- Chloride was detected in field duplicate samples at 291 mg/L and 292 mg/L, respectively, collected from Pajarito Canyon alluvial groundwater monitoring well 18-MW-18; the New Mexico groundwater standard is 250 mg/L.
- Chloride was detected in a sample collected from Pajarito Canyon alluvial groundwater monitoring well PCAO-7b2 at 578 mg/L; the New Mexico groundwater standard is 250 mg/L.
- Total dissolved solids were measured at 1360 mg/L in a sample collected from Pajarito Canyon alluvial groundwater monitoring well PCAO-7b2; the New Mexico groundwater standard is 1000 mg/L.

- Barium was detected at 1230 µg/L in a sample collected from Pajarito Canyon alluvial groundwater monitoring well PCAO-7b2; the New Mexico groundwater standard is 1000 µg/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 Compliance Order on Consent, 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,

for 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 April 2009" (LA-UR-09-2846)

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