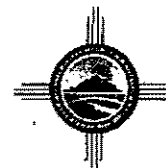




**Environmental Programs**  
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**National Nuclear Security Administration**  
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Environmental Restoration Program  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544  
(505) 667-4255/FAX (505) 606-2132

Date: **NOV 25 2009**  
Refer To: EP2009-0632

James 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 Deviations from the Approval for the Investigation Work Plan for the S-Site Aggregate Area**

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The purpose of this letter is to request the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) approve deviations from the approved/revised investigation work plan for the S-Site Aggregate Area. These deviations are based on a review by the Laboratory concerning sampling in and around the historically preserved buildings and grounds near the V-Site Subaggregate in Technical Area 16.

Proposed surface and subsurface sampling for the V-Site Subaggregate area was shown on Figures 4.4-1 and 4.4-2 of the investigation work plan for the S-Site Aggregate Area. The readiness review and preparations for executing the S-Site Aggregate Area field work revealed that sampling would be inside the historically preserved and protected buildings and grounds at V-Site and samples could not be collected without consulting the State Historical Preservation Office. This issue and our proposed deviations were discussed with Katie Roberts and Neelam Dhawan of your staff during a site visit conducted on October 22, 2009.

Proposed surface and subsurface sampling locations following consideration of the historical preservation requirements are shown on the attached figure. Surface and subsurface sampling locations have effectively been removed from the historically preserved area and placed around the periphery of the site and between the berms separating buildings 16-515 and 16-516. As per the approved work plan, samples will be collected from the surface (0.0 – 0.5 ft) and subsurface (5.5 – 6.0 ft) at each location and submitted for the same suite of analytes as presented in the plan. One borehole within SWMU 16-029(g2) (former shaker table) remains in the sampling plan because this location is a former borehole that was not plugged or patched. This borehole will be drilled to the depth specified in the approved plan and samples will be analyzed per the approved plan.

Based on the land use controls established for this historical preservation site, the proposed sampling should provide the data needed to determine whether contamination at this site poses an unacceptable risk.

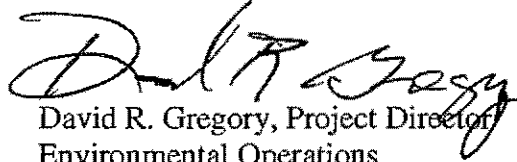
We appreciate your efforts to visit the site and to approve these deviations so the work plan can be implemented in a timely manner. If you have any questions, please contact John McCann at (505) 665-1091 (jmccann@lanl.gov) or Woody Woodworth at (505) 665-5820 (lwoodworth@doeal.gov).

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/DM/JM:sm

Attachment: Figure of proposed sampling locations for the courtyard, adjusting for restricted access because of historical preservation (LA-UR-09-7621)

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX  
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM  
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB, MS M894  
Woody Woodworth, DOE-LASO, MS A316  
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)  
John McCann, EP-CAP, MS M992  
Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991  
Dave McInroy, EP-CAP, MS M992  
Kristine Smeltz, EP-WES, MS M992  
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IRM-RMMSO, MS A150 (date-stamped letter emailed)