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Date: **DEC 17 2009**
Refer To: EP2009-0661

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 November 2009 Groundwater Data

Dear Mr. Bearzi:



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

The four 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 two of these locations before June 14, 2007, also contained the same contaminants at concentrations above a standard. The other two instances are as follows:

- Lead was found in an unfiltered sample collected from Water Canyon alluvial monitoring well MSC-16-06294 at 17.3 $\mu\text{g/L}$; the EPA drinking water system action level is 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$.
- Dibenz(a,h)anthracene was found in an unfiltered sample collected from regional aquifer La Mesita Spring on San Ildefonso Pueblo at 0.22 $\mu\text{g/L}$; the EPA tap water screening level is 0.029 $\mu\text{g/L}$. This compound was also found in a field blank collected at another location on the same date.

The attached report contains a large number of fluoride results that are the highest measured at each of the locations. The Laboratory discovered that the analytical laboratory had made an error in analyzing these data, and results are being corrected.

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.

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: Two hard copies with electronic files – Summary of New Los Alamos National Laboratory Groundwater Data Loaded in November 2009 (LA-UR-09-8072)

Cy: (w/enc.)

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