



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: **NOV 19 2010**
Refer To: EP2010-0518

James 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 October 2010 Groundwater Data

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

Members of the Los Alamos National Laboratory Environmental Programs staff met on November 9, 2010, to review new groundwater data received in October 2010. At that time, several groundwater samples were identified with contaminant concentrations above the New Mexico or federal water quality standards.

An Environmental Programs staff member notified the New Mexico Environment Department Hazardous Waste Bureau about these findings by telephone on November 9, 2010, and followed up with an email on the same day.

The five 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. These instances are the following:

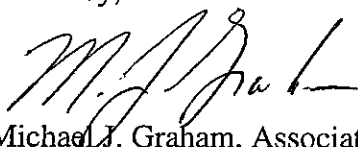
- RDX (hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine) was found in an unfiltered sample from the 1110-ft screen of Water Canyon intermediate well CDV-16-4ip at 167 $\mu\text{g/L}$; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) tap water screening level is 6.1 $\mu\text{g/L}$. These data from the deeper port are affected by cross-communication during development; data following development are pending.
- Iron was found in a filtered sample from the 1200-ft regional aquifer screen of Water Canyon well CdV-R-37-2 at 13,100 $\mu\text{g/L}$; the New Mexico Groundwater Standard is 1000 $\mu\text{g/L}$. This is a sample from the Westbay system prior to conversion of the sampling system; there were higher values before June 14, 2007.
- Manganese was found in a filtered sample from the 1200-ft regional aquifer screen of Water Canyon well CdV-R-37-2 at 967 $\mu\text{g/L}$; the New Mexico Groundwater Standard is 200 $\mu\text{g/L}$. This is a sample from the Westbay system prior to conversion of the sampling system; there were higher values before June 14, 2007.
- Benzo(b)fluoranthene and indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene were detected in an unfiltered sample from the 994-ft screen of Cañada del Buey regional aquifer well R-55 at 0.42 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and 0.466 $\mu\text{g/L}$, respectively; the EPA tap water screening level for both compounds is 0.29 $\mu\text{g/L}$. These results are the first samples from the deeper port of a newly installed

well. These constituents are not likely to be present in groundwater, and the results are probably due to analytical laboratory contamination.

This letter is our written submission that meets notification requirements laid out in Section IV.A.3.g of the Compliance Order on Consent, modified on May 13, 2008. The required information for the chemical constituents that meet the seven screening criteria contained in that section is given in the accompanying report and tables.

If you have questions, please contact Steve Paris at (505) 606-0915 (smparis@lanl.gov) or Hai Shen at (505) 665-5046 (hshen@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,



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

Sincerely,



George J. Rael, Manager
Environmental Projects Office
Los Alamos Site Office

MG/GR/DM/SP/DR:sm

Enclosure: Two hard copies with electronic files – Summary of New Los Alamos National Laboratory Groundwater Data Loaded in October 2010 (LA-UR-10-7591)

Cy: (w/enc.)

Neil Weber, San Ildefonso Pueblo, NM
Hai Shen, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Ed Worth, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Steve Paris, EP-CAP, MS M992
Jake Meadows, ENV-RCRA, MS K490
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-ET, MS M992
William Alexander, EP-BPS, MS M992

Cy: (w/o enc.)

Pete Padilla, Los Alamos County Utility Department, Los Alamos, NM
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
David Rogers, EP-ET-DO, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Mei Ding, EES-6, MS J514 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Craig Douglass, EP-CAP, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)