

Environmental Programs
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National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316
Environmental Restoration Program
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
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Date: DEC 2 1 2010
Refer To: EP2010-0531

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 November 2010 Groundwater Data

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

Members of the Los Alamos National Laboratory Environmental Programs staff met on December 14, 2010, to review new groundwater data received in November 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 (NMED) Hazardous Waste Bureau about these findings by telephone on December 14, 2010, and followed up with an email on the same day.

The three 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:

- Uranium was found in a filtered sample from the 754-ft intermediate screen of Water Canyon well R-25 at 43.7 μg/L; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maximum contaminant level is 30 μg/L. The unfiltered result for this sample event was 0.5 μg/L. Prior filtered and unfiltered results range from 0.4 μg/L to 1.6 μg/L. This well is being replaced under the direction of NMED.
- Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene was detected in an unfiltered sample from Water Canyon regional aquifer well R-27 at 0.4 μg/L; the EPA tap water screening level is 0.29 μg/L. The value was just above the 0.22 μg/L minimum detection limit and was estimated. The compound was not detected in 12 earlier samples.
- Manganese was found in a filtered sample from Water Canyon regional aquifer well R-27 at 214 μg/L; the New Mexico Groundwater Standard is 200 μg/L. This is the second sample from the well; the earlier result was 127 μg/L.

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

Sheller

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 November 2010 (LA-UR-10-8103)

Cy: (w/enc.)

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