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Date: DEC 06 2010
Refer To: EP2010-0533

James Bearzi, Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Subject: Erosion Controls Associated with Fishladder Canyon [Solid Waste Management Unit 16-003(o)]

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

This letter documents stormwater management following mitigation activities on Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 16-003(o)—“Fishladder Canyon.” This letter is required as part of the New Mexico Environment Department’s (NMED’s) approval with modifications for the Phase II investigation report for the TA-16-340 Complex, Revision 1, dated February 9, 2009.

Stormwater controls were installed on the mesa top and north-facing hillslope draining into Fishladder Canyon and in the main Fishladder Canyon drainage. Controls included straw wattles on the mesa top and hillslope (see attached Figures 1 to 3) that were designed to control surface erosion and sediment transport by establishing a permanent vegetation cover. Previously existing controls in the main channel include a rock check dam and a gabion structure, which were designed to reduce flow velocities and sediment.

SWMU 16-003(o) is included in Los Alamos National Laboratory’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Individual Permit (Permit No. NM0030759). Stormwater controls at the SWMU are inspected under the Individual Permit Program at least once per year or following a 0.25 in./30 min or greater intensity rain event or following an exceedance of permit-specified stormwater standards. Controls at this SWMU were inspected six times this year between June 11 and October 21, following six separate rain events. Maintenance issues were identified for storms on July 8, 2010, and July 29, 2010, and promptly resolved. Photos of individual controls are not required as part of the Individual Permit Program inspection procedure and are not available for this report.

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,

Sincerely,



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



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

MG/GR/DM/JM:sm

Enclosures: Two hard copies with electronic files – Figures (LA-UR-10-7864)

Cy: (w/enc.)

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