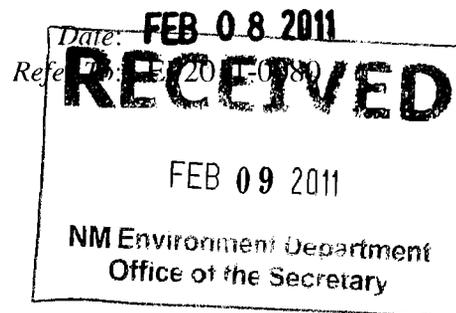


**Environmental Programs**  
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545  
(505) 606-2337/FAX (505) 665-1812



**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

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 Reconsideration of the New Mexico Environment Department's Denial of Extension Request for the Submittal of the Investigation/Remediation Report for Material Disposal Area A**

**References: Letter, Messrs. Graham and Rael to Mr. Bearzi, dated 01/12/11  
Letter, Mr. Bearzi to Messrs. Graham and Rael, dated 01/25/11**

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

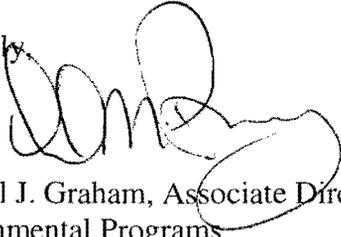
This letter respectfully requests that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) reconsider its January 25, 2011, letter denying the Department of Energy's and Los Alamos National Security, LLC's (collectively, the Laboratory's) January 12, 2011, request for an extension for the submittal of the Material Disposal Area (MDA) A Investigation/Remediation Report. As detailed in the Laboratory's January 12, 2011, letter, the requested extension for the submittal of the Investigation/Remediation Report from May 31, 2012, to December 20, 2013, was based upon the following schedule assumptions:

- equipment from MDA B will be utilized to excavate the central pit and two eastern trenches at MDA A,
- additional time will be needed to excavate waste using the stringent safety and environmental protocols currently used at MDA B and the associated excavation rate,
- two rounds of confirmation sampling will be performed at the central pit and the two eastern trenches, and
- the two plutonium tanks will be remediated concurrently with the work at the central pit and two eastern trenches.

As discussed with Mr. Cobrain of your staff during a January 27, 2011, conference call, the schedule in the Laboratory's extension request serves two purposes: (1) to provide NMED with a firm estimate for the submittal of the Investigation/Remediation Report, and (2) to provide a sound framework for project planning and execution as we complete Fiscal Year 2011 (FY2011) work and initiate plans for FY2012. Approving the MDA A extension request will provide the Laboratory with the necessary certainty to effectively plan and implement this project.

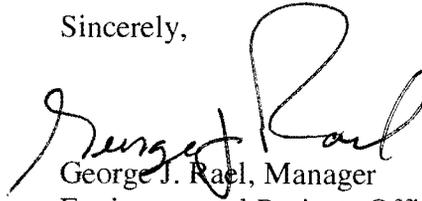
Thank you for reconsidering the MDA A extension request. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Huber at (505) 412-7673 (huberpr@lanl.gov) or Ed Worth at (505) 606-0398 (eworth@doeal.gov).

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/PH/BW/KL:sm

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX  
David Martin, Secretary NMED  
Raj Solomon, PE Deputy Secretary NMED  
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM  
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB, MS M894  
Ed Worth, DOE-LASO, MS A316 (date-stamped letter emailed)  
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)  
Bruce Schappell, EP-ARRA Project, MS C348 (date-stamped letter emailed)  
Paul Huber, EP-TA-21 Closure Project, MS C349 (date-stamped letter emailed)  
Bill Criswell, EP-TA-21 Closure Project, MS C349 (date-stamped letter emailed)  
John Bennett, EP-TA-21 Closure Project, MS C349 (date-stamped letter emailed)  
Kate Lynnes, EP-REG, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed)  
William Alexander, EP-BPS, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed)  
RPF, MS M707