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Date: APR 2 8 2011 Refer To: EP2011-0177

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

Request for Extension of Time to Submit a Work Plan To Install a Regional Subject: Aquifer Monitoring Well at Material Disposal Area H

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

Los Alamos National Laboratory (the Laboratory) requests an extension of time to submit a work plan to install a regional aquifer monitoring well east-southeast of Material Disposal Area (MDA) H, approximately halfway between wells R-37 and R-40. On April 15, 2011, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) directed the Laboratory to install this well in its comment in the notice of disapproval (NOD) letter for the corrective measures evaluation (CME) report for MDA H (Specific Comment 27). In the NOD, NMED required the Laboratory to submit the work plan by May 13, 2011, and complete the well by December 30, 2011.

NMED provided several comments on the CME report that were directly related to groundwater. As noted in Comment 3, Groundwater, the Laboratory is required to

Update the Report with the latest information obtained from the MDA H groundwater monitoring network, including but not limited to water level measurements, pumping test results, water-quality data, geology and stratigraphy, and other information obtained since this version of the Report. Update relevant text, tables, and figures, including water-table and structure-contour maps, and geologic cross-sections.

The Laboratory would like to first address NMED's comments, especially by updating the watertable map with water levels from newly installed regional monitoring wells, to determine if an eastern groundwater pathway from MDA H is not monitored by the current Technical Area 54 monitoring network. In addition, an extension of time will allow the Laboratory and NMED to have a technical meeting to discuss the Laboratory's analyses of the issues raised by NMED in Comment 3, and to come to resolution on an appropriate path forward.

James Bearzi

Therefore, the Laboratory requests an extension of the May 13, 2011, submittal date to no later than August 31, 2011, to coincide with the submittal date of the revised CME report for MDA H. The well could be completed by February 28, 2012, if the work plan is submitted no later than August 31, 2011.

If you have any questions, please contact Jarrett Rice at (505) 665-3874 (wjrice@lanl.gov) or Ed Worth at (505) 606-0398 (eworth@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,

MIG Michael J. Graham, Associate/Director

Environmental Programs Los Alamos National Laboratory

MG/GR/AB/JR:sm

Sincerely,

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

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB, MS M894 Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM (date-stamped letter emailed) Ed Worth, DOE-LASO, MS A316 (date-stamped letter emailed) Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed) Jarrett Rice, EP-TA-54 Closure Project, MS J910 (date-stamped letter emailed) Andy Baumer, EP-TA-54 Closure Project, MS J910 (date-stamped letter emailed) Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed) William Alexander, EP-BPS, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed) RPF, MS M707 (electronic)

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