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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: JUN 1 3 2012 Refer To: EP2012-0145

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

## Subject: Request for Extension for the Phase II Investigation Report for Upper Los Alamos Canyon Aggregate Area

Dear Mr. Kieling:

Los Alamos National Security, (LANS), LLC and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) request a 12-month extension to the August 30, 2012, submittal date for the Phase II Investigation Report for Upper Los Alamos Canyon Aggregate Area (hereafter, the Phase II IR) to a new submittal date of August 30, 2013. The basis for this extension request is to provide the time needed to conduct additional sampling and remediation activities to meet the investigation objectives of the Phase II investigation work plan. LANS and DOE are presently executing the work scope in the Phase II investigation work plan for Upper Los Alamos Canyon Aggregate Area, approved by the New Mexico Environment Department on January 19, 2011.

Los Alamos National Laboratory has received validated Phase II sampling data and is currently in the process of evaluating that data to determine whether vertical and lateral extent has been defined at the sites and whether solid waste management unit– (SWMU-) and area of concern– (AOC-) related contamination is above risk-based soil screening levels (SSLs). A preliminary evaluation of the data to date has identified areas where SWMU- and AOC-related contamination is present above SSLs and fails the residential risk scenario at several sites. Preliminary risk evaluations indicate additional soil removal is required.

To most efficiently complete activities for Upper Los Alamos Canyon Aggregate Area under the Compliance Order on Consent, LANS and DOE propose to perform additional sampling and remediation rather than submit the Phase II IR as currently scheduled. LANS and DOE estimate that an additional 12 months will be needed to identify and perform additional remediation and sampling, analyze samples, validate the analytical data, and prepare the final report. Although this approach will delay the submittal of the Phase II IR, LANS and DOE believe it will expedite completion of the Upper Los Alamos Canyon Aggregate Area investigation by eliminating the need to submit a Phase III investigation work plan and a Phase III IR.

If you have any questions, please contact Todd Haagensted at (505) 665-2936 (hth@lanl.gov) or Cheryl Rodriguez at (505) 665-5330 (cheryl.rodriguez@nnsa.doe.gov).

Sincerely,

It for MSG Michael J. Graham, Associate Director

Environmental Programs Los Alamos National Laboratory Sincerely,

5. Charles

Peter Maggiore, Assistant Manager Environmental Projects Office Los Alamos Site Office

## MG/PM/DM/TH:sm

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) Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed) Cheryl Rodriguez, DOE-LASO, MS A316 (date-stamped letter emailed) Todd Haagenstad, EP-CAP, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed) Kent Rich, EP-CAP, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed) Dave McInroy, EP-CAP, MS M996 (date-stamped letter emailed) Tori George, EP-REG, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed) Michael J. Graham, ADEP, MS M991 (date-stamped letter emailed) William Alexander, EP-BPS, MS M992 (date-stamped letter emailed) Public Reading Room, MS M992 (hard copy) RPF, MS M707 (electronic copy)