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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: **SEP 25 2012**
Refer To: EP2012-0207

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

Subject: Review of August 2012 Groundwater Data

Dear Mr. Kieling:

Members of the Los Alamos National Laboratory Environmental Programs staff met on September 13, 2012, to review new groundwater data received in August 2012. At that time, several groundwater samples were identified with contaminant concentrations above the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission or federal water quality standards.

An Environmental Programs staff member notified the New Mexico Environment Department Hazardous Waste Bureau about these findings by email on September 13, 2012, and followed up with a phone call (voice message) on the same day.

The one instance of a contaminant above a standard for the first time (based on samples collected since June 14, 2007) is tabulated in the attached report. This instance is the following.

- A July 18, 2012, sample from Cañon de Valle intermediate screen R-25 S2 contained cobalt in a filtered sample at 51.2 µg/L, above the 50-µg/L NMWQCC groundwater standard. This screen was affected by drilling problems, which cause high metal concentrations in samples. Cobalt concentrations have been similar or higher since 2009. However, most of the recent results are from an internal analytical laboratory, the Earth and Environmental Sciences EES-14 laboratory, using method EPA:200.8 (metal analysis), and are not considered in this report.

This letter is our written submission that meets notification requirements laid out in Section IV.A.3.g of the Compliance Order on Consent. The required information for the contaminants and other chemical parameters that meet the seven screening criteria contained in that section is given in the accompanying report and table.

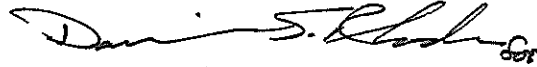
If you have questions, please contact Steve Paris at (505) 606-0915 (smparis@lanl.gov) or Hai Shen at (505) 665-5046 (hai.shen@nnsa.doe.gov).

Sincerely,



Jeff Mousseau, Associate Director
Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,



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

JM/PM/CD/SP/DR:sm

Enclosure: Two hard copies with electronic files – Summary of New Los Alamos National Laboratory Groundwater Data Loaded in August 2012 (LA-UR-12-24778)

Cy: (w/enc.)
Hai Shen, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Steve Paris, EP-CAP, MS M992
RPF, MS M707 (electronic copy)
Public Reading Room, MS M992 (hard copy)

Cy: (Letter and CD/DVD only)
Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Neil Weber, San Ildefonso Pueblo, NM
Jake Chavarria, Santa Clara Pueblo, NM
Ed Worth, DOE-LASO, MS A316
Jake Meadows, ENV-RCRA, MS K490
Steve Yanicak, NMED-OB, MS M894
William Alexander, EP-BPS, MS M992

Cy: (w/o enc.)
Pete Padilla, Los Alamos County Utility Department, Los Alamos, NM
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM (date-stamped letter emailed)
Annette Russell, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)
David Rogers, EP-ET (date-stamped letter emailed)
Mei Ding, EES-6 (date-stamped letter emailed)
Craig Douglass, EP-CAP (date-stamped letter emailed)
Jeff Mousseau, ADEP (date-stamped letter emailed)