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**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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Cabinet Secretary

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Deputy Secretary

JAMES H. DAVIS, Ph.D.
Director
Resource Protection Division

EP2012-5253

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 11, 2012

Pete Maggiore
Environmental Operations Manager
Los Alamos Site Office
Department of Energy
3747 West Jemez Road, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Jeffrey D. Mousseau
Associate Director, Environmental Programs
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.
P.O. Box 1663, MS 991
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL
RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY REPORT FOR POST-LAS CONCHAS FIRE
FLOODING IN WATER CANYON AND CAÑON DE VALLE
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY (LANL)
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-12-043**

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security L.L.C.'s (LANS) (collectively, the Permittees) *Reconnaissance Survey Report for Post-Las Conchas Fire Flooding in Water Canyon and Cañon de Valle* (Report), dated July 2012 and referenced by LA-UR-12-23405/EP2012-0139. NMED has reviewed the Report and hereby issues this Approval.

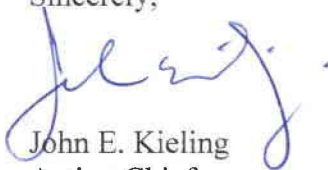
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The Permittees are required to follow the recommendations of the Report as proposed. These requirements include:

1. Continue monitoring surface water, springs, and alluvial groundwater at a frequency of no less than twice annually and in accordance with the current Interim Plan.
2. Continue monitoring stormwater at stations located both upgradient and downgradient of the Laboratory.
3. Conduct a post-monsoon season sediment-sampling effort in the fall of 2012 and 2013 to assess potential impacts from additional flooding. Sampling must follow the methods used for the 2011 post-flood sediment sampling campaign. In lieu of a Phase II investigation report, the Laboratory must prepare summary reports that contain the results of each year's sediment sampling effort. The summary reports must be submitted by April 30 of 2013 and 2014, respectively.
4. Defer consideration of the need for the PRBs and replacement of destroyed alluvial wells until 2014. The Permittees must continue to monitor stormwater at existing boundary stations because of the potential for continued flood damage for the next several years.
5. Make every effort to garner approval to utilize the filters currently located at several TA-16 springs.

The Permittees must submit the 2012 sediment sampling report by **April 30, 2013**. Please contact Ben Wear at (505) 476-6041 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
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File: LANL '12, Water Canyon and Cañon de Valle

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