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Lieutenant Governor

**NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

*Hazardous Waste Bureau*

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THOMAS SKIBITSKI  
Acting Director  
Resource Protection Division

EP2013-5110

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

May 17, 2013

Peter Maggiore  
Assistant Manager, Env. Projects Office  
Los Alamos Site Office, DOE  
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Jeffery D. Mousseau  
Associate Director, Environmental Programs  
Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 1663, MS M991  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: PERIODIC MONITORING REPORT  
FOR WHITE ROCK CANYON AND RIO GRANDE WATERSHED GENERAL  
SURVEILLANCE MONITORING GROUP,  
SEPTEMBER 24-OCTOBER 3, 2012  
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY  
EPA ID#NM0890010515  
HWB-LANL-13-019**

Dear Messrs. Maggiore and Mousseau:

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) *Periodic Monitoring Report for White Rock Canyon and Rio Grande Watershed General Surveillance Monitoring Group, September 24-October 3, 2012*, dated February 19, 2013 and referenced by LA-UR-13-20388/EP2013-0008 (Report). NMED has reviewed the Report and has the following comments.

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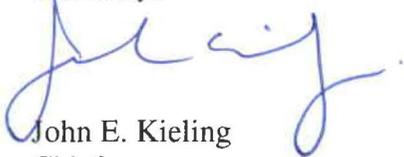
Several of the pH results exceeded the required extraction or analysis holding time. Also, CAWR-12-23405, CAWR-12-23461, CAWR-12-23462, and CAWR-12-23406 potassium measurements all exceeded the range of analysis. The Permittees must meet all quality assurance criteria and must discuss all samples that do not meet the required criteria and propose practical solutions for future sampling events that will provide the ability to meet all quality assurance requirements for all samples in the next report for this site.

NMED noted that Spring 9B was not sampled this year (FY 2012) due to restricted access from poison ivy. For future monitoring events, the Permittees must plan to sample in the late fall or winter seasons when poison ivy is less of an issue. The Permittees must also plan to remove enough of the poison ivy, to ensure that samples can be collected from Spring 9B.

NMED also noted an increase in magnesium to slightly above the groundwater standard at Spring 2. The Permittees must evaluate the representativeness of water-quality data obtained from Spring 2. The redox conditions within the wetlands above Spring 2 may have created conditions which render the water quality as non-representative of formation water. In the next report the Permittees must discuss the increasing magnesium concentrations and provide an explanation for this change.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Siona Briley of my staff at (505) 476-6049.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB  
B. Wear, NMED HWB  
S. Briley, NMED HWB  
L. King, EPA 6PD-N  
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J. Kulis, NMED HWB

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J. Chavarria, Santa Clara Pueblo  
S. Paris, EP-CAP, MS M992  
C. Rodriguez, DOE-LASO, MS A316  
H. Shen, DOE-LASO, MSA316

File: Reading and LANL 2013, PMR for White Rock Canyon and Rio Grande Watershed  
General Surveillance Monitoring Group (February 2013)

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