



**NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

ERID-522558



*Hazardous Waste Bureau*

SUSANA MARTINEZ  
Governor

**2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1**

**Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303**

**Phone (505) 476-6000 Fax (505) 476-6030**

*www.nmenv.state.nm.us*

RYAN FLYNN  
Cabinet Secretary-Designate

BUTCH TONGATE  
Deputy Secretary

JOHN A. SANCHEZ  
Lieutenant Governor

THOMAS SKIBITSKI  
Acting Director  
Resource Protection Division  
EP2013-5111

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

May 17, 2013

Peter Maggiore  
Assistant Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Los Alamos Site Office  
3747 West Jemez Rd, 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 M991  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: THIRD EXTENSION REQUEST  
TO RECONFIGURE WELL R-22  
TECHNICAL AREA 54  
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY  
EPA ID#NM0890018  
HWB-LANL-12-037**

Dear Messrs. Maggiore and Mousseau:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.'s (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Request for Extension to Reconfigure Well R-22* (well reconfiguration) dated May 9, 2013 and referenced by EP2013-0093. This extension request is preceded by a request to extend the well reconfiguration from September 30, 2012 to June 30, 2013 (referenced by EP2012-0146 subsequently extended by NMED until January 31, 2013) and a second request to extend the reconfiguration from January 31, 2013 to July 31, 2013 (EP2012-0275).

The date for completion of the well reconfiguration has been changed from July 31, 2013 to **June 30, 2014**, as requested.

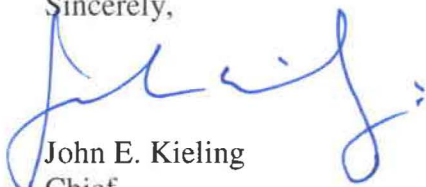
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The extension request states that “[g]roundwater protection will not be sacrificed as a result of this extension” and “no contamination has been detected above a standard in upgradient well R-57.” NMED notes that Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) staff received verbal notification of packer failure (Steve Paris of LANS telephone notification to Michael Dale of HWB at 3:37pm May 9, 2013) approximately one hour prior to NMED’s receipt, by hand delivery, of this extension request. In addition, NMED does not consider well R-57 to be upgradient of well R-22 based on the complex geology beneath the mesa at TA-54. Well- R-57 was installed to replace the uppermost screens in R-22. The wells are located approximately 300 feet apart and the uppermost screened intervals in each well are at corresponding elevations approximately 900 feet below ground surface.

NMED is concerned over delays that affect the progress of groundwater characterization and remediation; however, NMED is aware of the current uncertainties associated with the allocation of DOE resources to LANS to fund groundwater monitoring and cleanup at the Laboratory. The Permittees must notify NMED, within seven days of receipt of such information, should funds become available in the future that allow for the conversion of Regional Aquifer Well R-22 to a single screened well prior to June 30, 2014. If funding becomes available, NMED may re-evaluate the deadline for completion of this project.

Please contact Dave Cobrain at (505) 476-6055 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

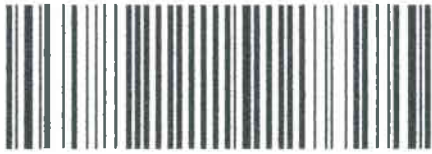


John E. Kieling  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

- cc: T. Skibitski, NMED RPD  
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB  
B. Wear, NMED HWB  
M. Dale, NMED HWB  
J. Kulis, NMED HWB  
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB, MS M894  
L. King, EPA 6PD-N  
S. Paris, EP-CAP, MS A992  
C. Rodriguez, DOE-LASO, MS A316  
H. Shen, DOE-LASO, MS A316

New Mexico Environment Department  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Bldg.1  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

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Jeffrey D. Mousseau, Associate Director  
Environmental Programs  
Los Alamos National Security, LLC  
P.O. Box 1663, MS ~~K491~~ *MS-A 150*  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

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