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ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 27, 2015

Charles F. McMillan, Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS K499
Los Alamos, NM 87545

Kimberly Davis Lebak, Manager
Los Alamos Field Office
U.S. Department of Energy
3747 West Jemez Road, MS A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

**RE: MODIFICATION TO MAY 19, 2014, ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515**

Dear Mr. McMillan and Ms. Davis Lebak:

On May 19, 2014, the New Mexico Environment Department (“NMED”) issued an Administrative Order (“Order”) to the Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C. (“LANS”) (collectively, the “Permittees”). On July 10, 2014, NMED modified Paragraph 19 of the Order to allow for twice weekly, instead of daily, technical calls between NMED and the Permittees.

On April 21, 2015, the Permittees submitted Revision 3 of the *LANL Nitrate Salt Bearing Waste Container Isolation Plan* (“Isolation Plan”). The Permittees propose to remove the 29 un-remediated nitrate salt-bearing waste containers from the Isolation Plan, allowing the Permittees to move these containers from isolation in Dome 231 into compliant storage at Dome 230. The Permittees also proposed adding four newly identified remediated nitrate salt-bearing waste containers to the Isolation Plan, as these containers were moved to isolated storage in Dome 375 on March 27, 2015.

NMED has reviewed the revised Isolation Plan. The Permittees have demonstrated that the 29 un-remediated nitrate salt containers do not contain materials that are incompatible with the waste, and therefore do not pose an increased combustion hazard. The Isolation Plan describes how the Permittees will ensure that these 29 containers are stored in compliance with the applicable special requirements for ignitable waste in Permit Section 2.8. NMED, therefore,

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concurs with the proposed removal of the 29 un-remediated nitrate salt-bearing waste containers from the Isolation Plan.

NMED also concurs with the proposed addition of the four newly identified remediated nitrate salt-bearing waste containers to the Isolation Plan. This letter hereby modifies Paragraph 18 of the Order to exclude the 29 un-remediated nitrate salt-bearing waste containers from the Isolation Plan. All other provisions and requirements of the modified Order shall remain in full force and effect.

NMED notes that the Permittees refer to the four newly identified remediated waste containers as “suspect” nitrate salt-bearing waste containers in Revision 3 of the Isolation Plan. NMED understands now that the Permittees have confirmed that the waste in those four containers includes nitrate salts; and, therefore the Permittees must modify Revision 3 of the Isolation Plan by removing the word “suspect” from any and all reference to those four newly identified remediated waste containers, and then resubmit the Isolation Plan to NMED.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact John Kieling at (505) 476-6035.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Roberts
Director, Resource Protection Division
New Mexico Environment Department

cc: J. Kendall, NMED OGC
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File: Reading and LANL 2015 – May 19, 2014 Administrative Order

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