

SUSANA MARTINEZ Governor JOHN A. SANCHEZ Lieutenant Governor

NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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BUTCH TONGATE Cabinet Secretary JC BORREGO Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

ESHID-602197

February 24, 2017

Mr. Anthony R. Grieggs Environmental Protection Division Environmental Compliance Programs ENV-CP PO Box 1663, K490 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545 Emergency Permit #17-001

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION TO DESTROY UNSTABLE HAZARDOUS WASTE LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY, EPA ID# NM0890010515

Dear Mr. Grieggs,

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) hereby authorizes Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Emergency Response team to destroy unstable hazardous waste that LANL has determined poses an imminent and substantial health and safety risk. The waste covered by this authorization was identified in a phone call and a follow-up e-mail from LANL on February 23, 2017. NMED authorized the treatment of the waste on February 23, 2017 during a phone call and by email. The waste consists of a ³/₄ full 50 mL container of acetaldehyde. Field screening measurements indicated peroxide levels greater than 250 ppm. The unstable chemical was found in a refrigerator in a lab in TA-59 Building 1.

LANL's HAZMAT personnel are authorized to detonate the unstable hazardous material at a safe onsite location at TA-59 in accordance with 20.4.1.900 NMAC.

Emergency destruction of waste materials is allowed when performed in accordance with 20.4.1.900 NMAC, incorporating 40 CFR § 270.1(c)(3), under an emergency permit issued by NMED in accordance with 20.4.1.900 NMAC incorporating 40 CFR § 270.61. While operating

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under this authorization, LANL must take all necessary safety precautions and comply with all applicable requirements of 40 CFR § 264, subparts C and D in accordance with 20.4.1.500 NMAC incorporating 40 CFR § 264.1(g)(8)(ii). This authorization is valid only through 5:00 p.m., February 28, 2017.

LANL must properly dispose of any hazardous residues that remain after the destruction. LANL must also submit a report to NMED detailing the activities conducted under this emergency permit within seven days after the emergency activity was completed, or no later than March 7, 2017.

Sincerely,

RIPN

John E. Kieling Chief Hazardous Waste Bureau

JEK:jk

cc: David Cobrain, NMED HWB Neelam Dhawan, NMED HWB Janine Kraemer, NMED HWB Mark Haagenstad, LANL, mph@lanl.gov

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