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GOVERNOR

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ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 25, 2007

David Gregory
Federal Project Director
Los Alamos Site Office, Department of Energy
528 35th Street, Mail Stop A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

David McInroy
Remediation Services Deputy Project Director
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop A100
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: NOTICE OF APPROVAL
WELL SCREEN ANALYSIS REPORT, REVISION 2
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-05-022**

Dear Messrs. Gregory and McInroy:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security, LLC (collectively, the Permittees) document entitled *Well Screen Analysis Report, Revision 2* (hereafter, the Report) dated May 2007 and referenced by LA-UR-07-2852/EP2007-0249. NMED has reviewed the Report and the response to NMED's April 9, 2007 Direction to Modify, and hereby issues this Notice of Approval.

NMED notes that the conclusions obtained in the Report were derived mainly from analysis of extent data in the literatures, possibly under conditions different from the Los Alamos National Laboratory's site (the site). The absence of critical site-specific data, such as adsorption properties, reaction kinetics and microbial activities, implies that there would be uncertainties and limitations in using the methodology developed in the Report to assess the quality of groundwater samples collected from monitoring wells installed at this site. NMED is especially

concerned about the uncertainty with respect to monitoring certain potential contaminants of concern, such as the highly adsorptive radionuclides. NMED therefore suggests that the Permittees consider conducting proper laboratory and field studies to address the uncertainty regarding whether or not the monitoring wells installed as the monitoring network are capable of providing reliable data to monitor potential releases of the highly adsorptive radionuclides from operation of the Laboratory to groundwater.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Hai Shen at (505) 476-6039 or John Young at (505) 476-6038.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:hs

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
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file: Reading and LANL General (Groundwater)