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Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 24, 2009

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 M992
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL
COMPLETION REPORT FOR REGIONAL AQUIFER WELL R-45
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-09-023**

Dear Messrs. Gregory and McInroy:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the Los Alamos National Security, L.L.C.(LANS) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) (the Permittees) document entitled *Completion Report for Regional Aquifer Well R-45* (Report) dated May 2009 and referenced by EP2009-0255. NMED hereby approves the Report, with the following comments and direction for future reports.

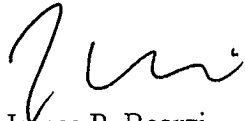
- 1) **Section 7.2:** Sections X.C.3 and X.C.4 of the March 1, 2005 Order on Consent state that any significant discrepancy between the calculated and actual volumes of filter pack or annular sealant shall be explained. Based on information in Figure 7.2-1 in the Report, discrepancies between calculated and actual volumes of certain bentonite seals and sand filter packs in well R-45 exceed 50% of the calculated volumes; however, no explanation for these discrepancies is provided. Future completion reports must contain an explanation for discrepancies between the calculated and actual volumes of filter packs or annular sealants that exceed 20 % of the calculated volumes.
- 2) **Appendix B, Section B-1.0:** The statement “[a]ll of the groundwater samples were collected within the Puye Formation” is incorrect. Groundwater samples from screen 2 were collected within the Miocene pumiceous sediments (Tjfp).

- 3) **Appendix C, Section C-7.0:** A portion of Section C-7.0 that describes Figures C-7.0-12 through C-7.0-17 has been mistakenly placed within Section C-8.0.

No revision of the Report is necessary.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Jerzy Kulis at (505) 476-6039.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

BRZ:jk

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file: Reading and LANL Groundwater General, R-45 Completion Report