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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

December 22, 2009

David Gregory
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Remediation Services Deputy Project Director
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**RE: APPROVAL
COMPLETION REPORT FOR REGIONAL AQUIFER WELL R-41
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-09-070**

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-41* (Report) dated July 2009 and referenced by EP2009-0322. NMED hereby approves the Report with the following comments.

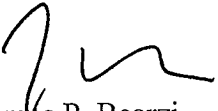
- 1) **Section 5.1, page 7:** The statement “[t]he entire interval from 795 to 925 ft bgs is made up of light gray massive dacitic lava” is incorrect. According to the borehole lithologic log, massive dacitic lava was encountered from 835 to 925 ft bgs, and the interval from 795 to 835 ft bgs is made up of dacite-rich sediments.
- 2) **Section 8.1:** An excessive pumping rate during the initial development of the lower screen resulted in the water level dropping below the top of the screen. Consequently, the part of the filter pack above the pumping water level was not cleaned of formation fines and the well required redevelopment. During development of future wells, the Permittees must prevent excessive pumping rates in order to maintain maximum saturation of the associated filter pack.

- 3) **Section 4.2, Table 4.2-1, and Section B-1.0:** Section 4.2 states that 20 groundwater screening samples were collected during drilling of R-41; however, Table 4.2-1 lists only 14 samples collected during drilling, and Section B-1.0 implies that only 8 groundwater screening samples were collected during drilling. In future completion reports, the Permittees must assure consistency throughout a document. If some groundwater samples were collected but not analyzed, the Permittees must account for these samples and provide an explanation for their exclusion from laboratory analyses.
- 4) **Table 3.1-1:** The subheading "Development" in the first column of the table is incorrect. The correct subheading should read "Construction". The Permittees must correct this error in future completion reports.
- 5) **Section B-1.3.1:** The collection depth for sample GW-41-09-3516 is incorrectly stated as 985 ft bgs. The correct collection depth for this sample is 895 ft bgs.

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-41 Completion Report