RE: NOTICE OF APPROVAL
MIXED WASTE LANDFILL TOLUENE INVESTIGATION REPORT, REVISED OCTOBER 2010
SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES, EPA ID# NM5890110518
HWB-SNL-10-011

Dear Mmes. Wagner and Hruby:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed the Mixed Waste Landfill Toluene Investigation Report (revised) dated October 2010. The revised report was submitted by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on behalf of itself and Sandia Corporation (collectively, the Permittees) in response to the Notice of Disapproval issued by the NMED on September 28, 2010, for the original version of the report dated August 2010. The subject report, as revised in October 2010, is hereby approved.

NMED is confident that the Mixed Waste Landfill (MWL) is likely not the source of the low levels of toluene detected in groundwater samples from the new monitoring wells installed in 2008. The likely source or sources are laboratory contamination or error, sampling equipment, drilling equipment, or a combination of these potential sources. The best management practices proposed in the report to promote awareness of quality control issues should reduce occurrences of false positive data.
In accordance with Section VI.A, *Investigation Work Plan*, of the Sandia National Laboratories Compliance Order on Consent (April 29, 2004), if the NMED determines that further investigation is needed based on new information or if subsequent analysis indicates a release or likelihood of a release from the MWL, the NMED will notify the Permittees in writing that additional investigation is required. If so notified by the NMED, the Permittees shall submit to the NMED for approval an investigation work plan prepared in accordance with Section X.B of the Consent Order by the date specified by the NMED.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter please contact William Moats of my staff at (505) 222-9551.

Sincerely,

James P. Bearzi  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB  
W. Moats, NMED HWB  
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE-OB  
L. King, EPA-6  
J. Cochran, SNL, MS 0719  
J. Gould, SNL, MS 0184  
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