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CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 21, 2019

Doug Hintze, Manager
Environmental Management
Los Alamos Field Office
P.O. Box 1663 MS-M984
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL EXTENSION REQUEST FOR
SUBMITTAL OF TWO DRILLING WORK PLANS FOR MONITORING WELLS R-35C
AND R-73
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID#NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-MISC**

Dear Mr. Hintze:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy's (DOE's) *Extension Request for Submittal of two Drilling Work Plans for Monitoring Wells R-35c and R-73* (Request), dated and received on August 7, 2019 and referenced by EM-LA-40DH-00491.

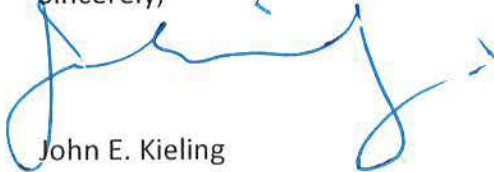
Based upon a review of the results of groundwater samples collected from newly installed regional well R-70, NMED sent a letter on July 12, 2019 requiring DOE to submit work plans for two additional regional wells R-35c and R-73 to characterize chromium contamination in the northwestern portion of the chromium plume and near the base of Puye Formation upgradient of production well PM-3. NMED required these wells because of concern that there exists a significant data gap regarding chromium contamination near or nearing the Los Alamos County's production well, PM-3, which is a major drinking water source for the County.

NMED's July 12 correspondence stated that DOE was to meet with NMED's technical team prior to submittal of the drilling work plans to discuss the details of the well installations. DOE did not attempt to meet with NMED on the matter prior to the drilling work plans coming due on August 11, 2019. Instead, DOE submitted the aforementioned Request on August 7, 2019, in which it requested a 30-day extension to allow for discussions between NMED and DOE on this matter.

NMED has reviewed the Request and NMED is amenable to approving an extension for submittal of the work plans. Therefore, the Request is hereby approved. DOE must schedule a meeting with NMED within 15 days of receipt of this approval letter to discuss the objectives and locations of regional wells R-35c and R-73. The drilling work plans for R-35c and R-73 must be submitted within two weeks after the meeting with NMED. For future extension requests, please insure that a "good cause" justification is provided.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Neelam Dhawan at 505-476-6042.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
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File: 2019 LANL, Approval Extension Request Work Plans for Regional Wells R-35c and R-73