

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA)
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544



SEP 27 2019

Mr. John E. Kieling
Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Dear Mr. Kieling:

Subject: Submittal of the Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area Letter Report

Enclosed please find two hard copies with electronic files of the "Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area Letter Report." This report is being submitted to fulfill Fiscal Year 2019 Milestone 20 in Appendix B of the 2016 Compliance Order on Consent.

If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Bowlby at (505) 551-2957 (brenda.bowlby@em-la.doe.gov) or Cheryl Rodriguez at (505) 257-7941 (cheryl.rodriguez@em.doe.gov).

Sincerely,

Arturo Q. Duran
Compliance and Permitting Manager
Environmental Management
Los Alamos Field Office

Enclosures:

1. Two hard copies with electronic files – Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area Letter Report (EM2019-0361)

cc (letter and enclosure[s] emailed):

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Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area Letter Report

Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos, LLC (N3B), under the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management Contract No. 89303318CEM000007 (the Los Alamos Legacy Cleanup Contract), has prepared this document pursuant to the Compliance Order on Consent, signed June 24, 2016. The Compliance Order on Consent contains requirements for the investigation and cleanup, including corrective action, of contamination at Los Alamos National Laboratory. The U.S. government has rights to use, reproduce, and distribute this document. The public may copy and use this document without charge, provided that this notice and any statement of authorship are reproduced on all copies.

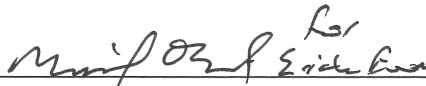
Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area Letter Report

September 2019


Responsible program director:

Michael O. Erickson		Program Director	RCRA Remediation Program	9/20/19
Printed Name	Signature	Title	Organization	Date

Responsible N3B representative:

Erich Evered		Program Manager	N3B Environmental Remediation Program	9/20/19
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Responsible DOE EM-LA representative:

Arturo Q. Duran		Compliance and Permitting Manager	Office of Quality and Regulatory Compliance	9/26/19
Printed Name	Signature	Title	Organization	Date

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This letter report fulfills fiscal year (FY) 2019 Milestone #20 of the 2016 Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order), Appendix B, under the Southern External Boundary Campaign. The specific milestone addressed by this deliverable is described as a letter report summarizing the fieldwork implementation and status of site investigations in Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area. The Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area is one of five aggregate areas that compose the Southern External Boundary Campaign.

2.0 OVERVIEW

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA) and Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos, LLC (N3B) are responsible for determining the nature and extent of contamination of the Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area and determining, through multiple lines of evidence, locations requiring cleanup.

3.0 SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK INITIATED IN FY 2019

The following sections provide site descriptions and background and summarize the status of fieldwork initiated in FY 2019 for the Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area.

3.1 Site Description and Background

The Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area is located within the Los Alamos National Laboratory site boundary and is restricted from public access. It has been disturbed as a result of many years of new construction, demolition of former structures, and historical firing-site activities. The Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area is listed in the 2016 Consent Order under the Southern External Boundary Aggregate Area Campaign and includes a total of 51 solid waste management units (SWMUs) and areas of concern (AOCs). Of these 51 sites, 8 have been previously investigated and/or remediated, approved for no further action by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), and excluded from further investigation. The remaining 43 sites (40 SWMUs and 3 AOCs) are being investigated during FY 2019 and 2020, with the results to be reported in the subsequent investigation report.

3.2 Work Completed in FY 2019

The "Investigation Work Plan for Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area, Revision 1" (LANL 2010, 111298.9), historical information, and NMED approval with modification documentation (NMED 2011, 201242) have been reviewed. Proposed sample and cleanup locations have been field verified. Sample matrices have been refined to reflect field verification location adjustments. Nature and extent sample locations have been added to address high levels of polychlorinated biphenyls and copper in adjacent and downgradient National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. NM0030759 (Individual Permit) site monitoring area samples.

Project Planning and Regulatory Review and Project Review and Requirements System reviews have been completed and identified actions completed. An operational control agreement request has been prepared and approved by EM-LA and the National Nuclear Security Administration Los Alamos Field Office (NA-LA). The storm water pollution prevention plan has been completed and the notice of intent provided to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

A National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) checklist, with NEPA determination, has been prepared and approved by the EM-LA NEPA Compliance Officer. Cultural resource mitigation and avoidance determinations have been obtained from N3B and Triad National Security, LLC, archaeologists for the only SWMU within close proximity to a known cultural resource location.

Waste characterization strategy forms have been prepared and approved. Waste containers have been procured, along with off-site transportation and disposal services at an approved treatment storage and disposal facility.

The subcontract to conduct the field effort has been awarded and the subcontractor's preparedness documentation, which includes site-specific health and safety plans, has been approved. The beryllium worker program, including plans, procedures, and the medical baseline process, has been completed and is ready for implementation. Beryllium worker baselines have been completed for the field implementation team.

Utility locates, excavation permits, and access road improvements have been completed. The subcontractor has mobilized, and sample location surveys have been initiated.

3.3 Current Site Status

Additional investigation work will continue during FY 2020. Approximately 1200 samples will be collected. Site cleanups will occur per the approved work plan. Analytical results for all investigation and field quality control samples collected during this project will be presented in a future investigation report, which is currently scheduled for submittal in FY 2020.

4.0 REFERENCE

The following reference list includes documents cited in this letter report. Parenthetical information following each reference provides the author(s), publication date, and ERID, ESHID, or EMID. This information is also included in text citations. ERIDs were assigned by the Laboratory's Associate Directorate for Environmental Management (IDs through 599999); ESHIDs were assigned by the Laboratory's Associate Directorate for Environment, Safety, and Health (IDs 600000 through 699999); and EMIDs are assigned by N3B (IDs 700000 and above). IDs are used to locate documents in N3B's Records Management System and in the Master Reference Set. The NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau

LANL (Los Alamos National Laboratory), November 2010. "Investigation Work Plan for Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area, Revision 1," Los Alamos National Laboratory document LA-UR-10-7226, Los Alamos, New Mexico. (LANL 2010, 111298.9)

NMED (New Mexico Environment Department), March 3, 2011. "Approval with Modifications for the Investigation Work Plan for Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area, Revision 1," New Mexico Environment Department letter to G.J. Rael (DOE-LASO) and M.J. Graham (LANL) from J.E. Kielling (NMED-HWB), Santa Fe, New Mexico. (NMED 2011, 201242)