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CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 14, 2020

Doug Hintze, Manager
Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy
Los Alamos Field Office
P.O. Box 1663 MS M984
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: APPROVAL
REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION FOR SWMUS 21-027(C) and 21-027(D) IN
THE DELTA PRIME SITE AGGREGATE AREA
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-18-068**

Dear Mr. Hintze:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy (DOE) *Response to Disapproval, Request for Certificates of Completion for SWMUs in the Delta Prime Site Aggregate* (Request) dated and received November 22, 2019, and referenced by EMLA-2020-1061-02-001.

Solid Water Management Unit (SWMU) 21-027(c) was a pipeline and outfall that exited a former machine shop and discharged south on Delta Prime (DP) Mesa and is composed of a 4-inch vitrified clay pipe. The machine shop (21-0006) was removed in 1966, and the pipe was left in place. This site was investigated in 2005-2006 and in 2008-2009, and the results were reported in *Delta Prime Site Investigation Report* (dated November 7, 2007 and referenced by EP2007-0425) and *Phase II Investigation Report for Delta Prime Site Aggregate Area* (dated March 31, 2010 and referenced by EP2010-0097). The human health and ecological risk evaluations were presented in the investigation reports submitted in 2007 and 2010.

In NMED's *Disapproval, Request for Certificates of Completion for SWMUs in Delta Prime Site Aggregate Area* dated June 24, 2019, NMED concluded that the lateral extent of lead was not defined and recommended that the DOE utilize existing sediment data from Los Alamos Canyon upgradient and downgradient of SWMU 21-027(c) since additional samples could not be collected due to steepness of topography near the SWMU.

Enclosure 2 of the DOE's November 22, 2019 response contained additional sampling data for lead was provided from the upgradient sampling location LA-00151 and three downgradient sampling locations LA-00158, LA-00160, LA-00162. NMED concurs that the nature and extent of contamination is defined. Human health and ecological risks were evaluated, and results indicate that SWMU 21-027(c) does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health under the residential, industrial land use, and construction worker scenarios. The results of ecological risk screening indicate that the site does not pose an unacceptable risk to the environment.

SWMU 21-027(d), was an outfall from a fuel storage tank secondary containment system, located below Material Disposal Area (MDA) B and adjacent to MDA V. In 1999, the DOE performed a voluntary corrective measure (VCM) that included SWMU 21-027(d). Investigation and remediation of MDA V was completed in 2007 and documented in the investigation report for Consolidated Unit 21-018(a)-99. The removal of buried waste at MDA B, was completed in 2011, and is documented in the *Investigation/Remediation Report for Material Disposal Area B, Solid Waste Management Unit 21-015* (September 30, 2011). Remediation of MDA B eliminated a potential source of contamination.

The DOE was directed to combine further characterization of SWMU 21-027(d) with future investigations at MDA V (September 10, 2002). The DOE did not address SWMU 21-027(d) in the MDA V or B investigations reports.

In 2015, the DOE requested a certificate of completion without controls for SWMU 21-027(d) which was not approved by NMED. In NMED's *Response to Certificates of Completion, Two Areas of Concern and Twelve Solid Waste Management Units in the Delta Prime Site Aggregate Area*, dated June 16, 2016, NMED identified a data gap of approximately 60 feet in the upper drainage that had not been sampled. NMED recommended that the DOE utilize data from a nearby SWMU 21-023(c) to address the data gap which was provided in the DOE's December 19, 2018 submittal, however, DOE did not include an ecological risk assessment in the December 2018 submittal.

Human health risks were evaluated, and the results indicate that SWMU 21-027(d) does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health under the residential and industrial land use and construction worker scenarios. In Enclosure 3 of DOE's November 22, 2019 response DOE provided an evaluation of the ecological risk for SWMU 21-027(d). The results of ecological risk screening indicate that the site does not pose an unacceptable risk to the environment.

NMED hereby issues certificates of completion without controls for SWMU 21-027(c) and SWMU 21-027(d). If new information becomes available that indicates that the site may pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, NMED may require the DOE to

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conduct additional investigations and/or corrective action at this site.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Siona Briley at (505) 476-6049.

Sincerely,



Kevin Pierard
Chief
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File: 2020 LANL, Approval Certificate of Completion, 21-027(c) and 21-027(d), Delta Prime Site
Aggregate Area
LANL-18-068