



**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Howie C. Morales**  
Lt. Governor

**NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

**Hazardous Waste Bureau**  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6313  
Phone (505) 476-6000 Fax (505) 476-6030  
[www.env.nm.gov](http://www.env.nm.gov)



**James C. Kenney**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Jennifer J. Pruett**  
Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

October 16, 2020

Arturo Duran, Designated Agency Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Environmental Management  
Los Alamos Field Office  
P.O. Box 1663 MS M984  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

**RE: REVIEW**  
**2019/2020 ANNUAL LONG-TERM MONITORING STATUS REPORT FOR THE**  
**LOS ALAMOS COUNTY AIRPORT LANDFILL COVER SYSTEM REPLACEMENT**  
**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS 73-001(a, d), TECHNICAL AREA 73**  
**LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY**  
**EPA ID#NM0890010515**  
**HWB-LANL-20-046**

Dear Mr. Duran

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy's (the Permittee) *2019/2020 Annual Long-Term Monitoring Status Report (July 2019 through June 2020) for the Los Alamos County Airport Landfill Cover System Replacement, Solid Waste Management Units 73-001 (a, d) Technical Area 73* (Report) dated and received July 30, 2020.

In accordance with the approved Long-Term Monitoring Plan, the Permittee submitted a monitoring report for the Los Alamos County Airport Landfill Replacement Cover System that describes the monitoring and inspection results from the previous four quarters (July 2019 - June 2020).

NMED has reviewed the Report and notes that no methane was detected in the semiannual methane monitoring. The Report states that the evapotranspiration (ET) cover system is currently in good condition and functioning as designed.

NMED notes that a surface crack was observed in the last quarter of inspection (June 2020). The surface crack is estimated at 1 in. wide and possibly as much as 2 feet deep. The crack is linear and extends approximately 150 feet, from near survey grid point 34 to point 44. The crack was first seen in March 2018 but was not visible in the subsequent inspections. The Permittee states in the Status Report: "The engineer of record for the ET cover was consulted regarding the crack and it will be filled with loose soil from the surrounding area to prevent potential storm water runoff from entering the separation at the surface. The condition of the crack will be reevaluated following the next quarterly inspections." The Permittee must continue to monitor the surface crack for any adverse effect to the ET cover system.

The next annual report, documenting monitoring and inspection results, must be submitted no later than **July 30, 2021**, and annually by July 30<sup>th</sup> thereafter.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Mitchell Schatz (505) 476-6051.

Sincerely,

**Kevin  
Pierard** Digitally signed  
by Kevin Pierard  
Date: 2020.10.16  
12:47:12 -06'00'

Kevin M. Pierard, Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc:

N. Dhawan, NMED HWB  
S. Briley, NMED HWB  
M. Schatz, NMED HWB  
C. Catechis, NMED DOE OB  
L. King, EPA Region 6  
C. Rodriguez, DOE-EM-LA  
D. Diehl, N3B  
E. day, N3B  
W. Alexander, N3B  
P. Maestas, N3B  
[emla.docs@em.doe.gov](mailto:emla.docs@em.doe.gov)

File: Review 2020 LANL TA-73: 2019/2020 Annual Long-Term Monitoring Status Report for Los Alamos County Airport Landfill Cover Replacement SWMU 73-001 (a, d)  
HWB-LANL-20-046