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Rec'd 5/4/21**

James C. Kenney
Cabinet Secretary

Jennifer J. Pruett
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 3, 2021

Arturo Duran
Designated Agency Manager
Environmental Management
Los Alamos Field Office
P.O. Box 1663 MS-M984
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: LOWER WATER/INDIO CANYONS AGGREGATE AREA PROGRESS REPORT
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID # NM0890010515
LANL-20-065**

Dear Mr. Duran:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy's (DOE's) *Lower Water/Indio Canyons Aggregate Area Progress Report* (Report), dated and received on September 30, 2020 and referenced by EMLA-2020-1604-02-001.

The Report was submitted to fulfill the requirement of Southern External Boundary Campaign, Milestone #17 of Appendix B for fiscal year (FY) 2020 under the 2016 Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order). The due date for submittal of the Report was September 30, 2020.

The Report summarizes the completion of field work at AOC 15-001, AOC 15-004(h), SWMU 15-009(g), AOC C-15-011, AOC 15-014(d), and SWMU 15-014(l) as required by FY 2020 Milestone #17. The results of investigations for all the areas sampled in the Lower Water/Indio Canyons Aggregate Area Progress Report will be presented in the Investigation Report for Lower Water/Indio Canyons Aggregate Area. The original target date for the Investigation Report for Lower Water/Indio Canyon Aggregate Area was April 30, 2021. The Progress Report discussed a delay in the proposed date for submittal of the Investigation Report, due to COVID-19. The new target date for the Lower Water/Indio Canyon Aggregate Area Investigation Report is September 30, 2021, as reflected in the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Appendix B milestones.

NMED hereby validates that the progress report meets the requirement of FY 2020 Milestone # 17 of the Consent Order. This validation does not constitute an approval of the field work conducted at the

sites described in the Report. DOE will present analytical results and risk assessments in future investigation reports. NMED will conduct a review of analytical data and risk evaluations at that time.

If you have any questions, please contact Neelam Dhawan at 505-690-5469.

Sincerely,

**Kevin
Pierard**  Digitally signed by
Kevin Pierard
Date: 2021.05.03
11:24:54 -06'00'

Kevin M. Pierard, Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
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File: 2021 LANL, Lower Water/Indio Canyons Aggregate Area Progress Report, Milestone # 17,
Appendix B, FY 2020