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GOVERNOR

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CABINET SECRETARY

September 19, 2023

Arturo Duran
Designated Agency Manager
Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy
Los Alamos Field Office
1200 Trinity Drive, Suite 400
Los Alamos, New Mexico, 87544

RE: REVIEW
PLUGGING AND ABANDONMENT REPORT FOR WELL R-25 (APRIL 2023)
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY (LANL)
EPA ID #NM0890010515
HWB-LANL-23-031

Dear Mr. Duran:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy's (DOE) *Plugging and Abandonment Report for Well R-25* (Report), dated April 2023 and referenced by EM2023-0262. The Report was received by NMED on April 27, 2023.

NMED has reviewed the Report and requests a revision that explains the timeline between NMED approval and the beginning of the plugging and abandonment. NMED approved the 2012 "Work Plan to Plug and Abandon Well R-25" on January 11, 2013. However, the plugging and abandonment of R-25 was conducted in operational phases that began in 2019. Revision to the Report must specify the reasons for the delay between NMED approval and the submission of the "Plugging Plan of Operations for RG-98113 (R-25)" to the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (NMOSE) on July 15, 2019.

Please provide a response to the NMED comment within 45 days of receipt of this letter. Should you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Michael Petersen at (505) 690-5107.

Sincerely,

Rick Shean
Digitally signed by
Rick Shean
Date: 2023.09.19
11:08:14 -06'00'

Rick Shean
Designated Agency Manager
Director, Resource Protection Division

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New Mexico Environment Department

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