



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

Received

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NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau

EMLA-24-BF049-2-1

November 20, 2023

Mr. Rick Shean
Designated Agency Manager
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6313

Subject: Request for Extension to Provide Work Plan in Response to the Request for Supplemental Information, Evaluation of Geochemical and Hydrologic Conditions in Monitoring Well R-42

Dear Mr. Shean:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has received the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) letter titled "Request for Supplemental Information, Evaluation of Geochemical and Hydrologic Conditions in Monitoring Well R-42," dated April 17, 2023, requesting information regarding the hydrologic conditions at R-42. NMED requested a response by October 10, 2023, with information for the following criteria:

- Repeat of the aquifer performance test conducted on June 17, 2013, at well R-42, for a minimum of 24 hr at a constant extraction rate of 9 gal. per minute (gpm) for comparison with the previous test results, including both hydraulic and water quality responses.
 - NMED understands that the water level at well R-42 has declined and an aquifer performance test at 9 gpm for 24 hr is no longer feasible. NMED will allow an aquifer performance test at a lower extraction rate that will stay constant for 24 hr. DOE is required to create a work plan for this test to be reviewed and approved by NMED prior to the test using the guidance: "Aquifer Performance Test Procedures for Hazardous Waste Facilities in New Mexico" (November 2022).
- Spinner log, heat-pulse flowmeter, or similar logging to verify that flow has been restored along the entire screen length below the static water level. Verify flow logging technology with NMED in the aquifer test work plan.

DOE is requesting an extension of the October 10, 2023, due date to provide an aquifer testing work plan to February 1, 2024, and is proposing submittal of a report documenting the requested information no later than 10 months after approval of the work plan. The work plan will document both the aquifer and spinner log (or similar) testing, including data quality objectives for determining the condition of R-42 based on these data.

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