

 **Los Alamos**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY  
**memorandum**

*Risk Reduction & Environmental Stewardship Division  
Water Quality & Hydrology Group  
(RRES-WQH)*

*To/MS:* SWAT Team Members  
*From/MS:* Steve Veenis, RRES-WQH, MS K497 *sw*  
*Phone/Fax:* 7-0013/5-9344  
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**SUBJECT: FINAL SURFACE WATER ASSESSMENT TEAM MEETING MINUTES FOR  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2002**

## **1.0 PURPOSE**

The Surface Water Site Assessment Team (SWAT) continues an effort to review the Laboratory's Storm Water Monitoring Program for the Multi-Sector General Permit. A Data Quality Objective (DQO) process will be used to determine the adequacy of the data collected by the Laboratory's monitoring network. The SWAT role is to provide a review of Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) Sector K – which includes Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs), station locations, analytical methods, Benchmark Parameters and approved monitoring waivers and to make recommendations on how to improve the overall approach.

## **2.0 DISCUSSION**

### **2.1 Coverage of SWMUs under the MSGP (NMR05A734)**

The consensus at the previous meeting was that runoff from SWMUs should be addressed under the MSGP, and that the first priority for consideration should be the approximately 250 SWMUs which have been ranked as highest in erosion potential. This meeting began the process of screening/consolidating those 250 to produce a viable monitoring strategy.

First, it was recognized that the list of 250 is dynamic and subject to change. For instance, some SWMUs whose high scores may have been an indirect effect of the Cerro Grande fire are showing lesser impacts now. Furthermore, SWMUs not ranked in the top 250 will be screened periodically, and moved up to a higher priority if appropriate.

To assist in the process of organizing the high-priority SWMUs, a multi-page table entitled "SWMUs and Industrial Activities Located Above LANL Gauging Stations" was distributed (attachment 1), and a map indicating the location of high-priority SWMUs was displayed. Using the tools, the team identified approximately 10 clusters of SWMUs that are candidates for consolidated monitoring. At the next meeting(s), the team will examine detailed maps of each of these areas, and will schedule field visits as well, in an effort to identify optimal sampling locations.

This search for geographic clusters is one step in identifying "substantially identical outfalls." SWMUs outside these clusters may need to be monitored individually, or they may be candidates for "substantially identical" designation based on other criteria, such as similarity of COPCs or BMPs.



There was also some discussion of how LANL shares monitoring data with NMED. Currently, storm water data is provided on the RRES-WQH website within the Water Quality Database (WQDB). Anyone can access this data, but it was suggested that it may not be easy to know what data to look for. A screening web-based tool is a desirable goal, but may not be feasible given resource limitations and the competing reporting requirements that were specified in the draft compliance order.

## 2.2 Using TSS as an Indicator Parameter?

The team discussed the merits of using Total Suspended Solids (TSS) as an indicator parameter during sample analysis. The MSGP does not require TSS as a Benchmark Parameter for Sector K, but TSS concentrations may be useful in determining the effectiveness of BMPs. The team will consider this and discuss further at future meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> in White Rock at the DOE/Oversight Bureau offices. Any exceptions taken to these minutes should be brought to the attention of the Steve Veenis (667-0013), within five (5) working days of receipt.

### Participants:

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Barbara Hoditschek  
Kevin Hull  
Ken Mullen  
Tim Michael  
Steve Veenis

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