

General

James


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
Phone/Fax: 7-0013/5-9344
Symbol: RRES-WQH: 02-463
Date: December 18, 2002

**SUBJECT: FINAL SURFACE WATER ASSESSMENT TEAM MEETING MINUTES FOR
DECEMBER 4, 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 TA-46 BMP Effectiveness Study Data

The meeting began with a review and discussion of TA-46 runoff data collected by Barbara Hoditschek. This discussion was provisional because the data set is not yet complete and the data have not yet been statistically analyzed or graphically displayed. The SWAT reviewed tables sorting runoff data by SSC and rainfall. Some of the data suggest a potential linkage between level of rainfall and SSC measurements, but other data are inconclusive. Once the full data set has been compiled and statistical/graphical analysis has been completed, the SWAT will review the data again. It is hoped that TA-46 can serve as a "test case" to calibrate and improve the draft decision logic.

2.2 Modeling Issues

The review of TA-46 data prompted discussion of the potential utility of modeling. For instance, it may be useful to incorporate the Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE), which is a well-established tool for evaluating erosion processes. It is important to include those variables that are relevant to the process; in addition to rainfall, these might include factors such as slope, rainfall duration and intensity, distance between BMPs, grain size, and run-on drainage area.

The SWAT will consult a LANL hydrologic modeler for advice on this issue. If modeling is to be employed, it will be necessary to define how model outputs will supplement collected data to support decisions about BMP performance and site stabilization.



2.3 Decision Logic

One element that is not yet present in the decision flow is determining the frequency of BMP inspection and maintenance. Inspection is routinely on a quarterly basis, but it may be possible to move to an annual basis after a sufficient number of good inspections. We will attempt to revise the logic flow to incorporate this factor.

2.4 Monitoring Locations

LANL's contractor has conducted a field inspection of Technical Areas 21/35/46 to identify potential sampling locations. The results of this inspection were distributed at the meeting; the document contains photographs of suggested locations. The candidate sites all have clear run-on potential (e.g., upgradient culverts).

2.5 Contaminants of Potential Concern (COPCs)

A provision of the MSGP is to identify COPCs that may be associated with storm water runoff. This information will be compiled for SWMUs once the LANL Environmental Restoration Program makes it available. The COPC list will not be used to establish analyte lists – the analytes at SWMU runoff sites will consist of the MSGP Sector K parameters as well as SSC. However, the COPC list is an input to “substantially identical outfall” determinations, and contributes to the ongoing site assessment and SWPPP requirements, which are important factors in the event of a site inspection by regulators.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2002 in White Rock at the DOE/OB Offices. Any exceptions taken to these minutes should be brought to the attention of the Steve Veenis (505) 667-0013, within five (5) working days of receipt.

Participants:

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Barbara Hoditschek
Kevin Hull
Ken Mullen
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SV/tml

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DEC 2002

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