

General



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**SUBJECT: DOE Oversight Bureau Spill Closure Recommendations at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Los Alamos National Security, (LLC) Releases between 2/14/2000 and 8/25/2006.**

Dear Mr. Powell:

On December 19, 2006, Erik Galloway of my staff, met with Mr. Mark Haagenstad and Mr. Mike Salden, of LANS-ENV-RCRA/WQ to review information associated with thirty-eight (38) spill incidents, which occurred at LANL/LLC from February 2000 through February 2007. Documentation concerning the spills had been reported pursuant to the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (NMWQCC) Regulations (20 NMAC 6.2) and copies had were sent to the NMED-DOE Oversight Bureau for review. Additional information provided by Mr. Haagenstad on February 13, 2007, helped to finalize the following comments and recommendations.

**Location TA-16. LANL Spill Report # 81.** Overflow of sanitary waste from a manhole #785 approximately 100 yards north of building 400 at TA-16. Notification Date: 2/14/2000.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 200 gallons of raw sewage overflowed from manhole 785 due to a plugged line. The manhole was pumped out and the line was cleared of the plug. Approximately 300 sq. ft. of



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soil that was impacted was disinfected with 10% chlorox/water solution after all solids were removed from the ground. No SWMUs or PRSs were impacted by this discharge.

**This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-60 Sigma Mesa. LANL Spill Report # 84.** Approximately 50 gallons of fuel from fire fighting equipment that went over edge of canyon due to brake failure during Cerro Grande Fire. Notification Date: 5/13/2000.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

A water truck that was being used to fight the Cerro Grande fire fell off the side of Sigma Mesa into Sandia Canyon due to break failure. Approximately 50 gallons of diesel fuel from fire fighting equipment was released. The impacted soil was removed and drummed and was disposed of as New Mexico special waste. There was no visual evidence of any contamination being spread from the small tributary where the wreck occurred into Sandia Canyon. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-60-91, LANL Spill Report #91.** Approximately 50 gallons of liquid sanitary waste water was accidentally released from a new lift station designed to handle flows from the new US West building under construction during the Cerro Grande Wildfire. Notification Date: 5/31/2000.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 50 gallons of liquid sanitary waste water was accidentally released from a new lift station designed to handle flows from the new US West building under construction. The lift station was pumped dry by a pumper truck and the liquid was transported to the SWS treatment plant for treatment. There were no SWMU or PRS sites impacted by the spill. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-35-125, Ten Site Canton. LANL Spill Report # 94.** Approximately 3500 gallons of water foam mix was discharged to Ten Site canyon over PRS 35-005(b). Notification Date: 6/5/2000.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 300 to 3500 gallons of water mixed with fire suppression foam was discharged due to the fire suppression system accidental activation in TA-35 building 125. This discharge of fire suppression foam/water flowed over the top of an old, previously remediated oil discharge (PRS 35-005(b)) in Ten Site Canyon below building 125. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

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**Location TA-41, Los Alamos Canyon. LANL Spill Report # 96.** Approximately 1 gallon of transmission fluid was released to the Los Alamos Canyon stream course during flood control placement of BMPs in Los Alamos Canyon. Notification Date: 6/15/2000.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

This release of approximately 1 gallon of transmission fluid was released to the Los Alamos Canyon stream course. Absorbent booms and pads that were kept on site were immediately placed in the stream course to absorb the spilled fluid/oil. Additionally, check dams were placed directly downstream of the spill with addition absorbent material to capture residual fluid/oil. All oil was collected by the absorbent material. All absorbent material and impacted soil was removed and handled as waste for proper disposal. No SMWUs or PRS were impacted by the discharge. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-60 US West Building. LANL Spill Report # 97.** Approximately 300 gallons of clear sanitary liquid was discharged to Sandia Canyon from a lift station overflow. Notification Date: 7/6/2000.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 300 gallons of untreated sanitary waste (clear liquid with no solids) was discharged to the ground in Sandia Canyon. All standing liquids were removed and the area was disinfected. No SWMUs or PRSs were impacted from this discharge. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-3-22. LANL Spill Report #98.** Approximately 1 cup of Hg was found in sink trap connected to collection system. Notification Date: 8/11/2000.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

On the afternoon of Tuesday, August 1, 2000 while a pipe fitter was removing from a trap from the janitor's sink at TA-3 approximately 1 cup of mercury spilled from the p-trap onto the floor. JONNM Environmental Rehabilitation Restoration team and Emergency Management and Response were notified and the spill was contained on the floor and vacuumed. Residual Hg was sprayed with Mercon X and left overnight. Clean-up was completed in the morning. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: LA Canyon. LANL Spill Report # 99.** A landslide on the north face of Los Alamos Canyon wall happened due to continual discharge of potable water from failed PRV on mesa top which caused approximately 2 cubic feet of sediment to be displaced. Notification Date: 11/06/2000.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

A landslide on the north face of the Los Alamos Canyon wall was exacerbated due to a continual

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discharge of potable water from failed PRV on mesa top due to a mechanical malfunction down stream of the potable water supply line which caused approximately 2 cubic feet of sediment to be displaced. The soil was pulled back from the edge of the stream course and BMPs were put in place to stabilize the area. . **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location Ta-21-113 (257). LANL Spill Report #100.** Approximately 50 gallons of partially treated rad waste water overflowed from holding tank through deleted 050 outfall on to SWMU 21-011(k). Notification Date: 1/5/2001.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

The operator noticed that the level gauge appeared to be incorrect, the tank was inspected, and the operator halted the work. Upon immediate inspection of the tank the operator observed the waste entering the tank overflow. At that time the operator placed a portable pump into the tank and pumped the waste back to the TA-21-257 treatment plant which stopped the inadvertent overflow. This site has now been moved from under the WQ/RCRA group who report spills under section 1203 to the Environmental Remediation group doing work at TA-21. Therefore it is being administratively transferred from under the State of New Mexico WQCC regulation to under the RCRA permit for remediation under the TA-21 project. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-40 Building 24. LANL Spill Report # 101.** Approximately 100 gallons of liquid waste was released from a septic tank due to plugged line. Notification Date: 8/2/2001.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 600 to 1000 gallons of Domestic Liquid Waste (DLW) (water only, no solids) was discharged from a septic tank vent due to a plugged leach field line. The restroom served by the septic tank was shut down and the tank was pumped of the remaining liquid and the plug was removed from the line. The area impacted from the discharge (~150 sq.ft. of impacted soil) was disinfected with a 10% bleach/water solution. This septic tank is listed as PRS 40-001(b). **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-15-185 to 03A028. LANL Spill Report # 102.** Approximately 4 gallons of compressor oil was discharged to floor drain then to EPA NPDES Outfall 03A028. Notification Date: 11/27/2001.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 4 gallons of oil was discharged from a broken air compressor inside of building TA-15-185. The oil entered a nearby floor drain connected to EPA NPDES outfall 03A028. The oil on the floor of the building and near the floor drain was initially picked up with oil spill absorbent material. Additional oil spill containment booms and pads were placed around the air compressor and the floor drain. Oil spill absorbent pads were placed at the end of the discharge

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pipe and where the pipe exits the road onto the ground. Additionally, the blowdown from the cooling tower (permitted discharge 03A028) was shut off until the piping and contaminated soil could be remediated. No SWMUs or PRSs were impacted by this discharge. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-3 Manhole 03-696. LANL Spill Report # 103.** Approximately 275 gallons of DLW liquid was accidentally discharged to storm drain that then flowed into Sandia Canyon. Notification Date: 11/29/01.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 275 gallons of untreated DLW (liquid only, no solids) was released from manhole 03-696 and entered a storm drain immediately adjacent to the manhole. The manhole was pumped down with a vacuum truck to halt the release and the obstruction was removed. The area immediately adjacent to the manhole and the storm drain was disinfected with 10% chlorine/water solution due to proximity to high pedestrian area. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-3-22. LANL Spill # 104.** Approximately 250,000 gallons of potable water was discharged from a broken six-inch water main supply line rupture. Approximately 5 cubic yards of eroded sediment was displaced.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 5 cubic yards of eroded sediment was removed and placed at Sigma Mesa with BMPs install (straw bales) for initial sediment transport prevention. An excavation permit was submitted to complete cleanup and backfilling of eroded areas was completed. Additional controls were placed in order to prevent any further mud flows. There was an Area of Concern involved with this spill (3-047(d)) that has been remediated as part of the Perimeter Security Project and the area is currently capped by asphalt. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-53-80. LANL Spill Report # 108.** Approximately 90 gallons of mineral oil was release (non-PCB (< 1 ppm)) at TA-53-80. Notification Date: 8/06/2002.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 90 gallons of mineral oil was released (non-PCB (< 1 ppm) at TA-53-80). The spill cleanup was completed on June 4, 2002 with all analytical results showing less than 100 TPH. A total of 30 cubic yards of TPH contaminated soil was generated and was disposed of at the Rio Rancho Landfill and the final sample analysis showed that no lingering debris or hazardous materials. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-16-400. LANL Spill Report # 110.** Approximately 500 gallons of untreated

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sanitary sewage was discharged from a sanitary sewer line near TA-16-400. Notification Date: 6/25/2002.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

A sanitary sewer line near TA-16-400 was cracked by heavy equipment/trucks driving over an inadequately buried line during tree removal activities. Approximately 500 gallons of untreated sewage was discharge underground between manholes 776 and 783. Approximately 140 feet of sanitary sewage line was replaced with steel pipe at the proper depth. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-48, RC 89. LANL Spill Report # 111.** An area of contaminated soil was found located under the asphalt in the parking lot area on the east side of TA-48, Bldg. RC-1, during a trenching activity. Notification Date: 08/06/2002.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Immediate remediation was performed on 8/6/2002 was to cover the soil with a tarp with the entire length of the trench being covered with wooden pallets and then covered with plastic. Sandbags were also placed along the western edge of the area to help divert rainwater from the trench. The contaminated soil was then excavated, characterized, and properly disposed of under the "Voluntary Corrective Action Completion Report for Area of Concern (AOC) 48-012 at Technical Area (TA) 48". This report details the investigation and clean-up activities, and documents that there is no remaining risk to human health and the environment from the contamination that was encountered at the site in August of 2002. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-21. LANL Spill Report # 114.** Approximately 10 gallons of water was release from an acid line situated along edge of MDA B. Notification Date: 8/27/2002.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 10 gallons of residual rinse water from a TA-21 acid line removal was discharged from a 3 inch line along the south edge of MDA B along DP road. This pipeline was flushed numerous times prior to D&D removal. Analytical results from the rinse water entering the TA-50 RLWTF during flushing of the lines was < 100pCi/L alpha and 1 nCi/L tritium. The recovered soil was non-detect and the water had 5.2 nCi/L tritium. The discharged water was trapped in pothole work area. Approximately 10 gallons of water was pumped out of the pothole and soil (2 cubic feet) were removed and properly disposed of. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-46. LANL Spill Report # 115.** A potable water release of approximately 300 gallons into PRS 46-004(q) and 46-006(g). Notification Date: 8/6/2002.

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**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 300 gallons of potable water was released north of TA-46 Building 16 within the boundaries of PRS(s) 46-006(g) and 46-004(q) due to a stuck chiller backflow preventer. BMPs were already in-place due to the Cerro Grande Fire. BMPs were inspected at all SWMUs listed after the release and were found to be in good condition. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-16-532. LANL Spill Report # 124.** Approximately 1,000 gallons of sanitary liquid sewage (diluted with rainwater) discharged from an old sewage treatment plant clarifier tank (TA-16-532) at TA-16. The sewage flowed onto, but did not leave the boundaries of SWMU 16-004(a)-99. Notification Date: 7/24/03

**Comments/Recommendation:**

The material release was a sanitary liquid sewage discharge that was diluted with rainwater that had collected in the old sewage treatment plant clarifier tank (TA-16-532) at TA-16. A flange valve was discovered closed which diverted the sewage from a lift station to the old clarifier tank. An estimated 6,000 gallons of sewage was diluted inside the clarifier tank with approximately 16,000 gallons of rainwater. The flange was removed to prevent further recurrence and the wetted area was disinfected with a 10% chlorine/water solution. The clarifier basin was pumped out to within one-two foot of the bottom of the basin and the water was discharged into a nearby lift station, which then went to the TA-46 SWWS Facility for further treatment. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location:TA-53-1049. LANL Spill Report # 125.** Approximately 2,000 gallons of sewage was released to the environment from a break in a force main near Lift Station TA-53-1049. Notification Date: 8/5/03

**Comments/Recommendation:**

The sanitary liquid sewage discharge occurred approximately 600 feet west from the TA-53-1049 sewage lift station from a break in the force main. The discharge of approximately 200 gallons absorbed into the nearby soil and flowed down a nearby slope and onto the road at TA-563. The sewage went across the road where it dissipated into the surrounding soil and fractures. The release did not reach Sandia Canyon and the surface of the ground that was impacted by the sewage was disinfected with 10% chlorine /water solution. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-16-7. LANL Spill Report # 126.** Approximately 660 gallons of potable water was released from an excavation during waterline disconnect activities at TA-16-7 revealing petroleum contaminated soil. Notification Date: 9/26/2003.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

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This site has now been moved from under the Water Quality/RCRA group who report spills under section 1203 to the Environmental Remediation group doing work at TA-16. Therefore it is being administratively transferred from under the State of New Mexico WQCC regulation to under the RCRA permit for remediation under a RCRA TA-16 ER project. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: Two Mile Canyon HDD Project at TA-50. LANL Spill Report # 128.**

Approximately 140,000-gallons of bentonite drilling fluid from the Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) Gas Pipeline Project released from subsurface fractures to the bottom of Two Mile Canyon. Notification Date: 1/29/2004.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 140,000-gallons of bentonite drilling fluid from the Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) Gas Pipeline Project released from subsurface fractures to the bottom of Two Mile Canyon and then flowed approximately 3,600-feet to the Pajarito Flood Retention Structure (PFRS) where a temporary earthen berm was placed. The berm failed on 3/12/2004 due to high volumes of storm water. Some bentonite drilling fluid was transported downstream of the PFRS. Bentonite clean-up began on September 16, 2004 and concluded on October 21, 2004. Clean-up was done manually and with a skid-steer. Residual bentonite that was visible and accessible was removed and placed in a roll-off container for disposal as a non-regulated waste at the Rio Rancho Landfill. Approximately 2 cubic yards of residual bentonite was retrieved from the Canyon bottom. The bentonite that could not be removed without causing further significant disturbance/disruption to the watercourse will remain in the canyon bottom. The temporary earthen berm was removed from the watercourse and the area was re-contoured to its pre-berm grade. The work area at the canyon bottom was seeded in accordance with the EPA Construction SWPPP. Installation and removal of the earthen berm from the watercourse was done under a 404/401 permit. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-60-1. LANL Spill # 129.** Approximately 1-gallon of diesel fuel was released from a ruptured fuel-water separator from a parked wrecker vehicle. Notification Date: 2/26/04

**Comments/Recommendation:**

The release occurred at a parking /storage area on the southeast corner of TA-60 Building 1. Approximately 1-gallons of diesel fuel was released from a ruptured fuel-water separator from a parked wrecker vehicle. The diesel was released onto surrounding snow and asphalt. When snowmelt began flowing, an estimated 0.25-gallon of diesel fuel was released to a storm drain approximately 30-feet east of the spill location. An estimated 0.25 gallons seeped beneath the weathered asphalt near the spill location. Immediately after discovering the diesel fuel spill, Laboratory personnel placed BMPs (fuel/oil absorbent booms and pads), removed contaminated snow, and diverted snowmelt runoff from the contaminated area. Diesel fuel was skimmed from behind the booms and properly disposed of. **This reported discharge is recommended for**

**closure.**

**Location: TA-3-38. LANL Spill # 132.** An estimated 0.5 gallon of oil was released to a nearby storm drain that flows to upper Sandia Canyon. Notification Date: 4/9/2004.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

The oil release occurred on the west side of TA-3-38. The majority of the product was spilled in an estimated 15-ft x 15 ft area. There were several additional areas where the product was released, all within 50 to 75-feet from the main spill area. An estimated 0.5 gallons of oil was released to a nearby storm drain that flows to upper Sandia Canyon. Laboratory personnel used absorbents (oil sponge) to remove oil released to asphalt and the water and oil remaining in the storm drain was pumped into a 55-gallon drum. In addition, oil absorbent booms were placed around the storm drain near the spill area to capture any residual contamination that remained after the initial cleanup. All waste was managed and disposed of in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-60-5 MRF. LANL Spill Report # 133.** A storm water and metal cutting fluid mixture release occurred near the TA-60-5 Materials Recycling Facility (MRF). Approximately 300 gallons of the mixture was released to the ground. Notification Date: 4/15/2004.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

A storm water and metal cutting fluid mixture release occurred near the TA-60-5 Materials Recycling Facility (MRF). While loading a metals recycling bin, a Laboratory subcontractor accidentally released an estimated 300 gallons of the mixture to the ground. An estimated 100 to 150 gallons flowed to a storm drain that drains into upper Sandia Canyon. Laboratory personnel installed a temporary earthen berm around the storm drain to prevent further transport of the spilled liquid mixture into surface water. Laboratory personnel absorbed all free liquids and removed the contaminated soil where the liquids pooled. All waste materials from the cleanup activities were managed in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-3-43. LANL Spill # 134.** Approximately 200 gallons of sewage flowed from Manhole #616 across an asphalt parking lot to a storm drain. Notification Date: 4/21/2004.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

The sewage release occurred east of TA-3-43. Sewage flowed from Manhole #616 across an asphalt parking lot to a storm drain approximately 30 feet east. The release was caused by a root blockage in the sewer line and was approximately 200 gallons. Immediately after Laboratory Utilities was notified, the sewage Manhole #616 was pumped onto a pump truck and returned to TA-46 Sanitary Waste Water Treatment plant. The root blockage was removed and the surface of the asphalt that was impacted by the sewage was disinfected. **This reported discharge is**

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**recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-3-4100. LANL Spill # 136.** Approximately 1.5 gallons of motor oil was released on the fourth floor of the new TA-3-4100 Parking Structure. Notification Date: 7/26/2004.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 1.5 gallons of motor oil was released on the fourth floor of the new TA-3-4100 Parking Structure. The motor oil entered the structure's storm water drain system that flows to a storm water retention basin on the southeast corner of the TA-3-4100. Storm water from the retention basin ultimately flows to upper Two Mile Canyon. Laboratory personnel removed all standing oil on the parking structure concrete with oil absorbents. Oily stones in the storm water retention basin were removed and oil absorbent booms were placed in the basin and at the outlet of the basin to absorb any residual oil and then were disposed of properly. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-21 Deleted Outfall 34A034. LANL Spill Report # 141.** The release was located at Deleted Outfall 03A034. Water was seen flowing (estimated 0.5 gallons per minute) from the end of the deleted outfall pipe and soaking into the ground approximately 5 feet from the end of the pipe. The total amount of the release is unknown. Notification Date: 1/20/2005

**Comments/Recommendation:**

The release was located at Deleted Outfall 03A034. Water was seen flowing (estimated 0.5 gallons per minute) from the end of the deleted outfall pipe and soaking into the ground approximately 5 feet from the end of the pipe. The total amount of the release is unknown. The Laboratory conducted a series of extensive assessments of the TA-21 facilities to determine the source of the water. The source of the water was identified as potable water from an HVAC system at TA-21-152. The system was repaired and the water no longer flows from the outfall and all floor drains have been plugged. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-16-340. LANL Spill Report # 143.** A Laboratory subcontractor damaged a 6-inch sanitary sewer line with a large backhoe. Approximately 1,200 gallons of sanitary sewage discharged to an excavation. An additional estimated 700 gallons of sewage overflowed the excavation and released to various areas within the ER site. Notification Date: 4/14/2005.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

The release occurred near TA-16-340. While conducting Environmental Restoration (ER) activities, a Laboratory subcontractor damaged a 6-inch sanitary sewer line with a large backhoe. Approximately 1,200 gallons of sanitary sewer discharged to an excavation. An additional estimated 700 gallons of sewage overflowed the excavation and released to various areas within the ER site. The release of sanitary sewage originated with the geographic boundary of SWMU

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16-003(o). This SWMU consists of sumps, a drain line, and outfall formally used to discharge wastewater generated during the production of high explosives. The release of sewage also flowed onto and adjacent SWMU 13-001-99, which consists of an historic firing site. The sewage was pumped from the excavation and transported to a sewage manhole that connects to the TA-46 Sanitary Waste Water System (SWWS). All impacted areas were disinfected with a 10% Clorox solution in potable water. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-3-22 Power Plant. LANL Spill Report # 144.** Approximately 10 gallons of steam condensate from boiler system ponded on the roof, flowed down the roof drainage system, and released to an area storm drain. The storm drain releases to Upper Sandia Canyon. Notification Date: 5/25/2005.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 10 gallons of boiler steam condensate originated from a roof vent at the TA-3-22 Power Plant. Steam condensate from boiler system ponded on the roof, flowed down the roof drainage system, and was then released to an area storm drain. The storm drain releases to Upper Sandia Canyon. Until a more permanent operational correction can be made, the steam condensate from the roof vent has been diverted from the storm drain to a floor sump inside building TA-3-22. The floor sump discharges to an environmental tank, where it is treated and discharges out of NPDES outfall 001 whose discharge is currently regulated under a NPDES discharge permit. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-60-175. LANL Spill Report# 145.** Approximately 7,000 gallons of wastewater originating from the TA-3-1398 Sanitary Effluent Re-use Facility (SERF) was released from a failed vacuum breaker and/or a failed pipe connection to a valve on the buried effluent line. Notification Date: 6/14/2005.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 7,000 gallons of wastewater originating from the TA-3-1398 Sanitary Effluent Re-use Facility (SERF) was released from a failed vacuum breaker and/or a failed connection of the pipe to a valve on the buried effluent line. The release saturated the area and surfaced in several locations on the north side of TA-60 Building 175. The surface releases flowed to a silt fence and soaked into the ground. All TA-3-1398 SERF operations were put on hold until the leak and line was repaired. All impacted areas were disinfected with a 10% Clorox solution in potable water. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-21-346. LANL Spill Report # 146.** An 8-inch potable water line ruptured approximately 50 feet north southwest of TA-21-346 and approximately 100,000 gallons of potable water was released. Notification Date: 7/8/2005.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

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An 8-inch potable water line ruptured approximately 50 feet north southwest of TA-21-346. Approximately 100,000 gallons of potable water flowed into natural drainage areas, onto a road, and dissipated in a grassy area in the watercourse at DP Canyon. **After a visual evaluation this reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-54-215, Area G, Dome 215. LANL Spill Report #164.** A fire suppression line broke at TA-54 Dome 215 and the water from the release flowed onto the Dome floor and into an environmental tank. The environmental tank overflowed and an estimated 33,000 gallons of potable water was released to the environment. The overflow of water then flowed into Canada Del Buey. Notification Date: 12/2/2006.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

A fire suppression line broke at TA-54 Dome 215 and the water from the release flowed onto the Dome floor and into an environmental tank. The environmental tank overflowed and an estimated 33,000 gallons of potable water was released to the environment. The overflow of water then flowed into Canada Del Buey. The water was shut off to the sprinkler system and the discharge ceased on 12/2/2006 at approximately 3:00 p.m.. Facility personnel modified the areas fire suppression BMPs to ensure fire emergency and safety requirements are satisfied. BMPs have been implemented to ensure a similar discharge will not occur from the building fire suppression system. In addition, the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Bureau has investigated the site for any impacts to SWMU or PRS encroachment and has declared a finding of "No Impact". **After a visual evaluation of the site was conducted, this reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-21 Building 89, MDA-T. LANL Spill Report # 166.** This potable water discharge occurred from a waterline north of TA-21-89 and the water flowed into the run-on diversion channel at MDA-T. Notification Date: 12/7/2006.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

This potable water discharge occurred from a waterline north of TA-21-89 and the water flowed into the run-on diversion channel at MDA-T and did not flow onto SWMU 21-0016(a)-99. The New Mexico Hazardous Waste Bureau has investigated the site for any impacts to SWMU or PRS encroachment and has declared a finding of "No Impact". In addition, this site has now been moved from under the Water Quality/RCRA group who report spills under section 1203 to the Environmental Remediation group doing work at TA-21. Therefore, it is being administratively transferred from under the State of New Mexico WQCC regulation to under the RCRA permit for remediation under the RCRA TA-21 project. **After a visual evaluation of the site was conducted, this reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-3 Building 38. LANL Spill Report #168.** A dumpster transport worker drove through the south portal entrance of Technical Area 3 Building SM-38 and struck several

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sprinkler heads located overhead on the ceiling of the portal. Approximately 630 gallons of the fire suppression mixture and potable water were discharged. Notification Date: 12/18/2006.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

A dumpster transport worker drove through the south portal entrance of Technical Area 3 Building SM-38 and struck several sprinkler heads located overhead on the ceiling of the portal. Approximately 630 gallons of the fire suppression mixture and potable water were discharged. The fire suppression water mixture and potable water (30% propylene glycol and 70% water) flowed to SWMU 03-013(a)-00 which included storm drains around the NSSB and the TA-3 Administration Buildings and into an outfall area east of the new parking structure at TA-3-261 Otowi Complex near University house. Facility representatives have implemented BMPs including an electronic height monitor to ensure vehicles are aware of the portals clearance limits and have moved the dumpster to another location where dumpster pick-up vehicles will not need to drive under the portal. **After a visual evaluation of the site was conducted, this reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-3 Building 410. LANL Spill Report #169.** Due to cold weather conditions, a 10-inch water main ruptured northwest of TA-3-410 and the potable water discharge flowed over nearby pavement into a storm drain and entered a small tributary to upper Sandia Canyon. Approximately 5,000 gallons of potable water was discharged. Notification Date: 1/10/2007.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Due to cold weather conditions, a 10-inch water main ruptured northwest of TA-3-410 and the potable water discharge flowed over nearby pavement into a storm drain and entered a small tributary to upper Sandia Canyon. Approximately 5,000 gallons of potable water was discharged. Laboratory Utilities personnel shut off the water main at approximately 8:45 a.m. to conduct repairs on 1/10/2007 and the broken waterline was repaired at 5:00 p.m. on 1/10/2007. DOE Oversight staff conducted a visual evaluation on March 1, 2007 and agree with LANL personnel that the site is ready for closure under Section 1203 of the WQCC Regulations. **After a visual evaluation this reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

**Location: TA-18 Building 129. LANL Spill Report #171.** Approximately 1,000 gallons of sanitary wastewater was discharged from a ruptured 8-inch PVC force main and the release flowed along the side of Pajarito Road before entering a drainage basin and eventually discharged into the Pajarito Canyon watercourse. Notification Date: 2/7/2007.

**Comments/Recommendation:**

Approximately 1,000 gallons of sanitary wastewater was discharged from a ruptured 8-inch PVC force main and the release flowed along the side of Pajarito Road before entering a drainage basin and eventually discharging into the Pajarito Canyon watercourse. The sanitary wastewater line force main was shut off for repairs at 11:10 a.m. on 2/7/2007 and the sanitary wastewater was

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pumped into a tanker to accommodate continued inflow of sewage until the line was repaired. All areas affected by the release were disinfected with 10% Clorox solution in potable water. There were no solids observed during the disinfection process. **This reported discharge is recommended for closure.**

Based on the spill response action report(s) received by NMED, face-to-face meetings between Mr. Mark Haagenstad of WQ/RCRA and Mr. Erik Galloway of the DOE Oversight Bureau, and from onsite observations by DOE Oversight Bureau staff, the responses taken by the laboratory appear adequate and the DOE Oversight Bureau recommends that no further action is required at this time under these discharge notifications. However, this letter does not relieve the United States Department of Energy or the Los Alamos National Security, LLC, of its obligation to comply with any other applicable laws and regulations.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Erik Galloway of our Santa Fe DOE Oversight Bureau office at (505) 476-6024.

Sincerely,



Stephen Yanicak  
Program Manager/POC/White Rock Office

SY:epg

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