



*General*  
**NEW MEXICO  
 ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**



*Surface Water Quality Bureau*

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RON CURRY  
 Secretary  
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 Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

March 10, 2009



Mr. Gene Turner, DOE/AIP/POC  
 U.S. Department of Energy  
 Los Alamos Site Office, MS A316  
 528 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Los Alamos, NM 87545

Ms. Tori George, LANL-EP-RS  
 Los Alamos National Security, LLC  
 P.O. Box 1663 MS M992  
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545-0001

**Re: LANL Un-permitted Discharge Reporting Guidance (Decision Tree)**

Dear Mr. Turner and Ms. George:

The attached “Los Alamos National Laboratory Un-permitted Discharge Reporting Decision Tree” is a guidance document that has been prepared by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) to provide Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) with direction regarding the reporting of incidental liquid discharges that generally do not, with reasonable probability, pose a threat to the environment or human health. These discharges consist primarily of potable water that meets New Mexico Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) standards and New Mexico Water Quality Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters. This document provides a mechanism for logging these types of discharge incidents and routinely reporting them to NMED in quarterly reports. “Traditional” spills such as significant releases of oil and grease, concrete washout, sewage, and other water contaminants that may, with reasonable probability, pose a threat to the environment or human health should continue to be reported following the procedures outlined in Section 1203 of the Water Quality Control Commission Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC).

A draft of this document was submitted for your review on September 2, 2008 and NMED has received and considered your comments and suggested changes from your response letter dated January 26, 2009. NMED approves the suggested changes as submitted and therefore deems the final document titled “Los Alamos National Laboratory Un-permitted Discharge Reporting Decision Tree” (copy enclosed) effective as of the date of this letter.

Please be aware that there may be additional reporting requirements to maintain compliance with other regulatory programs. For example, it is our understanding that NMED/Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) requires that any discharge to a RCRA permitted or interim status hazardous waste management unit be reported to the HWB Permits Management Program Manager within three business days.



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NMED reserves the right to modify, amend or retract this document as it pertains to compliance with the Water Quality Control Commission's Water Quality Regulations 20.6.2 NMAC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Rich Powell at (505) 827-2798 or Robert George at (505) 476-3648.

Sincerely,

  
Glenn Saums, Chief (acting)  
Surface Water Quality Bureau

GS & WO:JF

  
William C. Olson, Chief  
Ground Water Quality Bureau

Enc: Los Alamos National Laboratory Un-permitted Discharge Reporting Decision Tree  
Notification of Spills and Unauthorized Discharges

cc: Marcy Leavitt, Director, NMED Water and Waste Management Division  
Richard Powell, NMED/SWQB  
Robert George, NMED/GWQB  
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