



State of New Mexico  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**DOE OVERSIGHT BUREAU**  
 P.O. Box 1663, MS/J-993  
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545



GARY JOHNSON  
 GOVERNOR

MARK E. WEIDLER  
 SECRETARY

23 January 1998

Mr. Mat Johansen, AIP POC  
 U.S. Department of Energy  
 Los Alamos Area Office  
 528 35th Street, MS A316  
 Los Alamos, NM 87544

**RE:** Department of Energy Oversight Bureau (DOE OB) Inspection Observations and Recommendations concerning NPDES outfalls scheduled for deletion through the Waste Stream Characterization Program at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL).

Dear Mr. Johansen:

The following NPDES outfalls are to be scheduled for deletion from LANL's NPDES permit through the Waste Stream Characterization Program. DOE OB and LANL ESH-18 staff completed non-regulatory inspections of these outfalls on the indicated dates and concur that they are no longer in use, with the exception that some outfalls are still being used for storm water discharges. DOE OB observations and recommendations for each outfall are listed on the following attachment. This inspection was requested by ESH-18 and a copy of this correspondence will be transmitted to the ESH-18 Group Leader.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me at 672-0448.

Sincerely,

*Stephen Janicak*

Steve Yanicak, LANL POC  
 Department of Energy Oversight Bureau

SY:sy

cc w/o attachments:

John Parker, NMED, Chief, DOE OB

Hswa LANL G/M/Y (NPDES)  
 Permit SW

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Mr. Mat Johansen  
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cc w/attachments:

**[REDACTED]**, NMED, Program Manager, HRMB  
Glen Saums, NMED, Program Manager, SWQB  
Barbara Hoditscheck, NMED, SWQB  
Ralph Ford-Schmid, NMED, DOE OB  
Joe Mose, DOE LAAO, ER Remedial Action Group, MS A316  
Bonnie Koch, DOE LAAO, ER Canyons Investigations Group, MS A316  
Roy Michelotti, LANL, ER Remedial Action Group, CST-7, MS E525  
Don Krier, LANL, ER MDA Group, MS D462  
Allyn Pratt, LANL, ER Canyons Investigations Group, MS J521  
Steve Rae, LANL, Group Leader, ESH-18, MS K497

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### DOE OB Inspection Observations and Recommendations

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**OUTFALL:** SSS05S

**LOCATION:** Building TA-21-227

**DATE OF INSPECTION:** 11-14-97

**DELETION METHOD:** Building 21-227 services DP-West and DP-East; contains a concrete holding tank for sanitary sewage which is now pumped as needed (currently, twice per-day). The outfall from 21-227 exits to a flow-meter station, which previously drained to DP Canyon; the outlet is now plugged at the flow-meter station.

**OUTFALL STATUS:** Outfall no longer in use.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The DOE OB recommends that this outfall be taken off the NPDES industrial permit after addressing the following concern: Because this outfall is listed as PRS 21-026(d) and previously discharged directly to DP Canyon, we recommend that the pipe and the drainage area immediately below the outfall be investigated through AP 4.5.

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**OUTFALL:** 05A071

**LOCATION:** Building TA-16-430

**DATE OF INSPECTION:** 11-14-97

**DELETION METHOD:** This outfall formerly exited an HE settling sump at Building 16-430. The outlet is now plugged and the sump is pumped as needed. The sump is fitted with an alarm and light to alert staff in the event of near-overflow conditions.

**OUTFALL STATUS:** Outfall no longer in use.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The DOE OB recommends that this outfall be taken off the NPDES industrial permit after addressing the following concerns: Because this outfall is listed as PRS 16-030(h), we recommend that the pipe and the drainage area immediately below the outfall be investigated through AP 4.5. This outfall is one of three from Building 16-430 which are joined at a collection box that outlets to a drainage tributary of Water Canyon. Although these outfalls are no longer in use and do not discharge storm water, the collection box contained dark red fluid when inspected on 11-14-97. It is recommended that the fluid and collection box be removed in addition to all the outfall pipes.

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**OUTFALL:** 05A066

**LOCATION:** Building TA-9-21

**DATE OF INSPECTION:** 11-19-97

**DELETION METHOD:** This outfall formerly exited settling sump 9-185 outside Building 9-21. The outlet is now plugged and the sump is pumped as needed. The sump is fitted with an alarm and light to alert staff in the event of near-overflow conditions. This outfall will continue to discharge storm water from Building 9-21 roof drains, but sump 9-185 is now bypassed.

**OUTFALL STATUS:** Outfall continues to discharge some storm water.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The DOE OB recommends that this outfall be taken off the NPDES industrial permit. This outfall will continue to discharge storm-water from exterior roof and storm drains. These exterior sources are not known to be PRSs or come in contact with any PRSs. This outfall does not discharge to any known PRSs immediately below or down-gradient of the pipe.

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**OUTFALL:** 05A067

**LOCATION:** Building TA-9-34

**DATE OF INSPECTION:** 11-19-97

**DELETION METHOD:** This outfall formerly exited settling sump 9-193 outside Building 9-34. The outlet is now plugged and the sump is pumped as needed. The sump is fitted with an alarm and light to alert staff in the event of near-overflow conditions. This outfall will continue to discharge storm water from Building 9-34 roof drains, but sump 9-193 is now bypassed.

**OUTFALL STATUS:** Continued use only during storm water events.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The DOE OB recommends that this outfall be taken off the NPDES industrial permit. This outfall will continue to discharge storm-water from exterior roof and storm drains. These exterior sources are not known to be PRSs or come in contact with any PRSs. This outfall does not discharge to any known PRSs immediately below or down-gradient of the pipe.

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**OUTFALL:** 05A068

**LOCATION:** Building TA-9-48

**DATE OF INSPECTION:** 11-19-97

**DELETION METHOD:** This outfall formerly exited settling sump 9-198 outside Building 9-48. The outlet is now plugged and the sump is pumped as needed. The sump is fitted with an alarm and light to alert staff in the event of near-overflow conditions. This outfall will continue to discharge storm water from Building 9-48 roof drains, but sump 9-198 is now bypassed.

**OUTFALL STATUS:** Continued use only during storm water events.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The DOE OB recommends that this outfall be taken off the NPDES industrial permit. This outfall will continue to discharge storm-water from exterior roof and storm drains. These exterior sources are not known to be PRSs or come in contact with any PRSs. This outfall does not discharge to any known PRSs immediately below or down-gradient of the pipe.

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