

Los Alamos

NATIONAL LABORATORY

Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

Date: November 9, 1998
In Reply Refer To: ESH-18/WQ&H:98-0383
Mail Stop: K497
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Mr. Samuel Coleman, P. E., Director
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division (6-EN)
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

**SUBJECT: NPDES PERMIT NO. NM0028355, NOTICE OF CHANGED CONDITIONS
AT OUTFALL 05A055**

Dear Mr. Coleman:

The Laboratory's Environmental Restoration (ER) Project is drilling monitoring wells as part of the ER Pilot Canyon Study and the Laboratory's Hydrogeologic Workplan. Groundwater investigations within the Laboratory are required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) Module VII Permit for the Laboratory. An estimated 20,000 gallons of produced groundwater has been collected during the drilling of groundwater Monitoring Well R-25. Monitoring Well R-25 is located on the mesa top above Canon de Valle at Technical Area (TA) 16. The Laboratory is notifying EPA and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) of its intent to treat this produced groundwater through the TA-16 High Explosives Wastewater Treatment Facility (TA-16 HEWTF). An estimated total of 40,000 gallons of produced groundwater will be generated, containerized, and transported for treatment at the TA-16 HEWTF during this borehole drilling operation.

Please note, Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC) have been developed for the TA-16 HEWTF based upon RCRA Universal Treatment Standards (UTS) and NPDES Permit Requirements. All HE waste streams are characterized under the Laboratory's Waste Profile Form (WPF) Process prior to discharge into the TA-16 HEWTF to insure the facility meets all NPDES Permit requirements. Based on screening characterization information, the additional influent to the TA-16 HEWTF should not significantly affect the quantity or quality of effluent at NPDES Outfall 05A055.

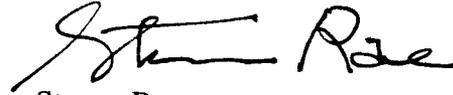
On October 30, 1998, Mike Saladen of the Laboratory's Water Quality and Hydrology Group (ESH-18) discussed the addition of this influent to the TA-16 HEWTF with Mr. Everett Spencer of your staff. Mr. Saladen advised Mr. Spencer that the Laboratory had identified the most common types of HE compounds, organic and inorganic compounds, and other water quality information related to the TA-16 HEWTF in the Laboratory's 1998 NPDES Permit Re-Application submitted to EPA on May 4, 1998, and therefore the new influent was covered by the NPDES Permit. Mr. Saladen was advised by Mr. Spencer to submit this information as a notification of changed conditions. Mr. Spencer concurred with the treatment of the discharge from Monitoring Well R-25 to the TA-16 HEWTF based on the information provided to him.



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Please contact me at (505) 665-1859 or Mike Saladen at (505) 665-6085 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Steven Rae
Group Leader
Water Quality and Hydrology Group

SR/em

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