

Permit



Environmental Protection Division  
Water Quality & RCRA (ENV-RCRA)  
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop K490  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545  
(505) 667-0666/FAX: (505) 667-5224

Date: May 14, 2007  
Refer To: ENV-RCRA: 07-097  
LA-UR: 07-3266

Ms. Sonia Hall  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division  
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WC)  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF CHANGED CONDITION AT NPDES OUTFALL 051,  
NPDES PERMIT NO. NM0028355**

Dear Ms. Hall:

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. NM0028355 for Los Alamos National Laboratory requires the permittee to notify the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding any planned physical alterations or additions to a NPDES permitted facility that could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. The Laboratory's Radioactive Waste Treatment Facility (RLWTF) is planning to construct three new concrete evaporation tanks at Technical Area 52 to receive fully treated radioactive liquid effluent from RLWTF. These tanks are being constructed to reduce the volume of treated effluent being discharged through NPDES Outfall 051. Each tank will cover approximately one surface acre. The transfer line from the RLWTF to the tanks will be approximately 0.75 mile long. A copy of the proposed site location is enclosed for your review (Enclosure 1). Final drawings and specifications will be provided when completed.

Since the new evaporation tanks will be part of an existing wastewater treatment facility (i.e., RLWTF) which discharges under an NPDES permit, they will be exempt from RCRA permitting requirements pursuant to 40 CFR 264.1(g)(6) ("The requirements of this part do not apply to . . .(6) The owner or operator of . . . a wastewater treatment unit . . .").

We intend to submit a detailed letter to the New Mexico Environment Department in the near future regarding these issues. We will provide your office with a copy of this correspondence.



Ms. Sonia Hall  
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Please contact Marc Bailey of the Laboratory's Water Quality and RCRA Group (ENV-RCRA) at (505) 665-8135, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Anthony R. Grieggs  
Group Leader  
Water Quality & RCRA (ENV-RCRA) Group

ARG:MB/lm

Enclosures: a/s

Cy: Isaac Chen, USEPA, Region VI, Dallas, TX, w/enc.  
Marcy Leavitt, NMED/SWQB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.  
Robert George, NMED/GWQB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.  
James Bearzi, NMED HWB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.  
Gene Turner, NNSA/LASO, w/o enc., MS A316  
Richard V. Bynum, PADOPS, w/o enc., MS A102  
Richard S. Watkins, ADESHQ, w/o enc., MS K491  
Victoria George, ENV-DO, w/o enc. MS J978  
Tina Sandoval, ENV-RCRA, w/o enc., MS K490  
Mike Saladen, ENV-RCRA, w/o enc., MS K490  
Bob Beers, ENV-RCRA, w/enc., MS K490  
Marc Bailey, ENV-RCRA, w/enc., MS K490  
Pete Worland, EWMO-RLW, w/enc., MS E518  
Dave Moss, RLW, w/enc., MS E518  
Phil Wardwell, LC-LESH, w/o enc., MS A187  
ENV-RCRA, File, w/enc., MS K490  
IRM-RMMSO, w/enc., MS A150

# ENCLOSURE 1

NPDES PERMIT NO. NM0028355  
Proposed RLWTF Concrete Evaporation Tanks

