

Report

~~DOE/AIP~~

Surface Water Quality Bureau  
DOE/AIP Oversight  
Quarterly Report  
October - December, 1994  
1/1/95

1/4/95 Reports

-ANL. ~~WIPP~~ ES

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING/ SAMPLING

**Scope/Objectives**

**General:** Surface Water AIP staff continues to sample surface water and storm water and review DOE- generated data per requirements in the AIP Action 16 Deliverable. Staff collects samples according to NMED's Quality Assurance Project Plan for Water Quality Management Programs.

**LANL:** Surface Water AIP staff continues to regularly monitor LANL's NPDES outfalls per requirements in Action 7 Deliverable. Staff intend to sample at least 30 of LANL's 124 known outfalls during 1994.

Staff continues to study benthic invertebrate communities and has initiated a periphyton community study in perennial and ephemeral reaches below NPDES outfalls. Biological data collection is an essential element in the assessment of the environmental health of aquatic ecosystems. Biological monitoring enables us to detect changes in community structure due to stress from physical, chemical, or biological alterations. Staff collects samples according to EPA's Rapid Bioassessment Protocols.

**Sandia/ITRI:** Surface Water AIP staff continues to regularly monitor and sample SNL's storm water runoff and sanitary/industrial wastewater per requirements in Action 7 Deliverable.

**WIPP:** Staff continues to review Westinghouse Electric Corporation (Waste Isolation Division) generated documents.

**Accomplishments**

**General:** During the last quarter of 1994, Surface Water staff compiled and drafted a data report which consisted of 1992 and 1993 sampling data from LANL, WIPP and SNL.

**LANL - Biological Sampling:**

AIP staff accompanied LANL's Biological Resource Evaluation Team (ES&H-8) to Sandia Canyon for the purpose of selecting invertebrate sampling stations. Upon recommendations by AIP staff, LANL modified their sampling plan to incorporate standardized substrate characteristics into the site selection process.

AIP staff performed reconnaissance in Canyon de Valle and determined invertebrate sampling sites to be sampled in January.



## **LANL - NPDES, Storm Water, Stream, & Spring Sampling:**

Stream samples were collected in Los Alamos Canyon and Canon de Valle and analyzed for radionuclides, metals, and water chemistry.

Stream samples were collected and split in conjunction with LANL/ER and NMED/GWPRB from Los Alamos canyon directly above TA-2 omega west reactor and analyzed for total and dissolved metals and radiological parameters. Field parameters were obtained during sampling.

Samples were taken in conjunction with LANL staff during the start-up pump test for well DT-5A.

Surface Water personnel observed sampling by ER/LANL staff of seep below TA-3 Mercury SWMU. Samples were analyzed for VOC's, TPH and Tritium. Samples were not split with NMED.

## **Significant Changes from Intended Activities**

**LANL:** None.

**Sandia/ITRI:** Samples were collected from the waste water collection system at stations 2069K (WW011) and 2069A (WW001). Water samples were analyzed for the following parameters: water chemistry, nutrients, metals, gross-alpha/beta, and gamma scan. Samples were split with Sandia National Laboratory.

**Sandia/ITRI:** NMED storm water sampling trailers were located at KAFB and SNL for storm water sampling.

**Sandia:** A meeting was held on between SNL, NMED/SWQB regulatory staff and GWPRB personnel to discuss the issuance of a generic Notice of Intent (NOI) for potable water discharges. AIP staff participated in the meeting in a consultative role.

**WIPP:** Surface water samples were collected and split with the Westinghouse environmental surveillance group. The samples were collected by NMED on-site representatives, in consultation with SWQB staff in Santa Fe, at regional background locations and analyzed for radionuclides.

## **Significant Issues**

**LANL:** None.

**Sandia/ITRI:** None.

**WIPP:** None.

## **Percent of Staff Time**

**General:** Approximately 45% of staff time was used in compiling and generating a draft data report.

**LANL:** Approximately 20 % of staff time is used to coordinate the events, prepare equipment, collect the samples, and transport them to the laboratory for analysis. This includes all NPDES, storm water, and surveillance sampling events. It also includes organization and interpretation of analysis results and review of LANL generated data and reports.

**Sandia/ITRI:** Approximately 9 % of staff time is used to coordinate the events, prepare equipment, collect the samples, and transport them to the laboratory for analysis. This includes organization and interpretation of analysis results.

**WIPP:** Approximately 1 % of staff time is used to coordinate with the NMED POC, annual surveillance sampling at the WIPP site.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION**

### **Scope/Objectives**

**General:** Surface Water staff intends to oversee the remediation of all spills that impact water courses on DOE property. Staff will inspect spill sites, review remediation plans, and monitor cleanup activities.

### **Accomplishments**

#### **LANL:**

SWQB staff attended joint NMED, LANL, and EPA meeting to discuss ongoing ER project at LANL.

Staff attended OSHA 40 hour training and 8 hr. refresher training.

A meeting was held between NMED, EPA, LANL, and DOE staff concerning Phase II sampling activities at TA-3-30, SWMU 3-010 Mercury spill site.

SWQB staff attended field survey of Bayo canyon remediation efforts. It appears that after further interviews with former employees of the site and ongoing field screening that the extent of contamination at the site is more extensive than first believed.

Meeting held between NMED/AIP and LANL/ER and ES&H-18 technical staff in order to discuss ongoing projects. Hillsides 138, 139, and 140 corrective action plans were presented to NMED/AIP staff at this time.

Surface Water AIP, HRMB, and GWPRB personnel visited the TA-16 site to observe SWMU's located in the area. Personnel were escorted by E.R. and TA-16 staff.

Surface Water AIP personnel accompanied ES&H 18 staff to Los Alamos canyon inspect erosion controls after a heavy rain incident. Several erosion problems were noted, and some BMP's appeared to be ineffective as erosion continued to be a problem. Point source and regulation section staff were notified of observations.

Surface Water AIP staff inspected a spill of approximately 3,000 gallons of cooling tower water at TA-53 facility.

Surface Water AIP staff attended a meeting on a possible spill at TA-21 and observed the suspected spill site.

Surface Water staff witnessed and assisted LANL/ES staff in preparation and set up of equipment for the pump test on well DT-5A. Staff observed area where water is to be discharged to the surface and assisted in setting flow rate of 2.5 GPM discharge rate for surface discharge. Staff later visited the site to sample the well and check flow rate of surface discharge.

Surface Water staff attended Canyons OU technical meeting.

Surface Water staff conducted a review of TA-50 radioactive liquid waste treatment facility discharges during 1991 & 1992, as detailed in the Environmental Surveillance Reports.

Surface Water staff attended a presentation given by LANL CST-13 staff detailing the TA-50 radioactive liquid waste treatment facility.

**Sandia/ITRI:** None.

**WIPP:** None.

### **Significant Issues Changes from Intended Activities**

No significant changes from intended activities were made.

### **Significant Issues**

Communication between the NMED staff in the SWQB, DOE office staff, and the laboratories continues to be extremely good.

### **Percent of Staff Time**

Approximately 20 % of staff time is spent in overseeing environmental restoration activities at DOE facilities. This includes meetings, inspections, and correspondence.

## **WASTE MANAGEMENT/ WASTE CHARACTERIZATION**

### **Scope/Objectives**

Surface Water staff intends to continue to monitor and review LANL's Waste Stream Characterization reports that were developed under LANL's Waste Stream Characterization Program pursuant to Administrative Order VI-94-1210 issued by the EPA.

### **Accomplishments**

Surface Water staff continues to review the LANL's Waste Stream Characterization Reports.

### **Significant Changes from Intended Activities**

No significant changes from intended activities were made.

### **Significant Issues**

None.

### **Percent of Staff Time**

Approximately 1% of staff time is spent reviewing LANL's Waste Stream Characterization Reports.

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING**

### **Scope/Objectives**

SWQB staff would like to be involved in the Emergency Response Planning as an observer at mock scenarios. We have not been invited to become involved in any Emergency Response Planning activities.

### **Accomplishments**

None.

### **Significant Changes from Intended Activities**

None.

## **Significant Issues**

Lack of involvement with Surface Water Quality Bureau AIP staff.

## **Percent of Staff Time**

0 %.

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION /PUBLIC MEETINGS**

### **Scope/Objectives**

Surface Water staff intends to inform DOE and the public of its activities through regular bimonthly and other meetings that take place.

### **Accomplishments**

Surface Water AIP staff attended DOE/AIP bimonthly meetings as representatives for SWQB.

Surface Water AIP staff attended a NMED sponsored public meeting in Espanola for Los Alamos National Laboratory. SWQB staff demonstrated storm water sampling equipment.

SWQB staff attended monthly NMED/AIP technical staff meeting held in conjunction with LANL ES&H-18 and DOE staff.

Three SWQB staff received "Q" security clearances from DOE/AL headquarters.

### **Significant Changes from Intended Activities**

No significant changes from intended activities were made.

### **Significant Issues**

None.

### **Percent of Staff Time**

Approximately 4 percent of staff time is spent on public relations work, including attending meetings and making any written reports available to the public.