

TA03



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January 10, 2008

Richard Powell
New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau
1190 St. Francis Dr
Suite N4050
Santa Fe, NM 87505

SUBJECT: Spill Response Assessment and Suggestion for Close-Out of Potable Water release at TA-3, Building 261, LANL report # 192 on January 2, 2008

Dear Mr. Powell:

On January 9, 2008, Los Alamos National Laboratory notified the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) that a potable water release occurred on the south side of Technical Area (TA) 3, Building 316. The spill resulted from a 10-inch diameter pipe that ruptured due to sub-freezing conditions. This spill was reported to the Emergency Spill Hotline as required by 20.6.2.1203 NMAC of the Water Quality Control Commission. The approximate amount of the discharge was 6,750 gallons and as reported, the water flowed over concrete and soil and over riprap into Sandia Canyon. This release ultimately flowed over SWMU 03-013(a)-00, thus requiring reporting under 20.6.2.1203 NMAC. SWMU 03-013(a)-00 includes the storm drains around the TA-3 National Security Science Building (NSSB) and Administration Buildings and an outfall area protected by riprap east of the new parking lot structure at TA-3-261 Otowi Complex.

The DOE Oversight Bureau has reviewed the spill response action report received on January 9, 2008 and has found it adequate. The DOE Oversight Bureau believes the response and clean-up is complete and agrees with LANL staff that no erosion or sediment movement occurred during the spill. The DOE Oversight Bureau recommends that no further action is required at this time under this discharge notification. However, this letter does not relieve the United States Department of Energy or the Los Alamos National Security, LLC, of its obligation to comply with any other applicable laws and regulations.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Erik Galloway of our Santa Fe office at (505) 476-6024.

Sincerely,

Stephen Yanicak
Staff Manager/POC

SY:eg

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Mr. Richard Powell
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Spill File