

03



**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Governor

Ground Water Quality Bureau
1190 South St. Francis Drive (87505)
P.O. Box 5469, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-5469
Phone (505) 827-2900 Fax (505) 827-2965
www.env.nm.gov

JAMES C. KENNEY
Cabinet Secretary Designate

HOWIE C. MORALES
Lieutenant Governor

JENNIFER J. PRUETT
Deputy Secretary

Sent Via Electronic Mail

February 4, 2019

Ms. Jody M. Pugh, Assistant Manager
National Security Missions
Los Alamos Field Office
3747 West Jemez Road, MS-A316
Los Alamos, NM 87544
jody.pugh@nnsa.doe.gov

Mr. Enrique Torres, EPC Division Director
Triad National Security, LLC
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS-K404
Los Alamos, NM 87544
etorres@lanl.gov

SUBJECT: Response to Notification of Release ID# 2018-471, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Dear Ms. Pugh and Mr. Torres:

On December 19, 2018, a representative of Triad National Security, LLC verbally reported an unauthorized discharge to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) as required under 20.6.2.1203 NMAC of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations. The report identified an unauthorized discharge of cooling tower water at Technical Area 3 Structure 2238, due to a faulty float valve. The incident resulted in a release of approximately 12,000 gallons of cooling tower water, containing a corrosion inhibitor and a biocide, to the surrounding soil over a two-day period. Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) reportedly stopped the cooling tower water discharge once a replacement part was secured and installed on the cooling tower. Additionally, LANL reportedly deployed gravel bags and Vita-D Chlor tablets at the release site to prevent off-site migration of cooling tower water and to dechlorinate the discharging water. NMED was also notified that the discharge did not cause erosion or reach a watercourse.

Based on information submitted by Triad National Security, LLC, corrective action for this unauthorized discharge has been completed in a manner that is satisfactory to the GWQB. No further action is required at this time for release ID# 2018-471.



Ms. Pugh and Mr. Torres
February 4, 2019
Page 2

However, you are encouraged to contact the NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau at (505) 827-2995, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Dallas at (214) 665-3152, the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau at (505) 476-6000, and the NMED DOE Oversight Bureau at (505) 476-3031.

Nothing in this letter shall be construed as relieving the United States Department of Energy or Triad National Security, LLC of the obligation to comply with all other applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, permits, or orders.

If you have any questions, please contact either Gerald Knutson at (505) 827-2996 or me at (505) 827-2962.

Sincerely,



Steve Pullen
Program Manager
Pollution Prevention Section
Ground Water Quality Bureau

SP:GK

cc: Melanie Sandoval, NMED GWQB
Shelly Lemon, NMED SWQB
Sarah Holcomb, NMED SWQB
Erin Trujillo, NMED SWQB
John Kieling, NMED HWB
Steven Connolly, NMED HWB
Steven Yanicak, NMED DOE Oversight Bureau
Brian Iacona, EPC-CP, biacona@lanl.gov
Karen Armijo, DOE/NA-LA, Karen.armijo@nnsa.doe.gov