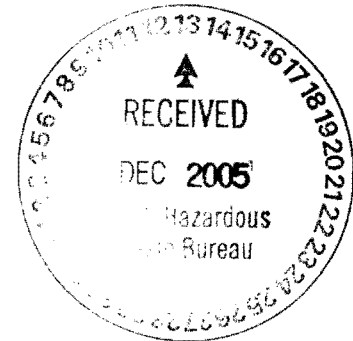


TA 03



Environmental Stewardship Division
Water Quality & Hydrology Group (ENV-WQH)
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop K497
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
(505) 665-1859/FAX: (505) 665-9344

Date: December 8, 2005
Refer To: ENV-WQH: 05-221



Mr. Erik Galloway
New Mexico Environment Department
DOE Oversight Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Bldg. 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

SUBJECT: LABORATORY RELEASES, REQUEST FOR CLOSURE UNDER NMWQCC REGULATIONS; SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Dear Mr. Galloway:

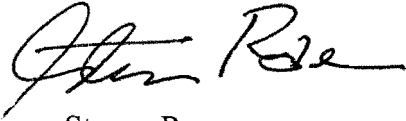
The Laboratory's Water Quality and Hydrology Group (ENV-WQH) notified the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) of two releases from the TA-3-261 Otowi Complex dated September 19, 2005 and October 4, 2005 pursuant to the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (NMWQCC) Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC). In a phone conversation on December 6, 2005 with ENV-WQH's Mark Haagenstad, you requested supplemental information be provided to NMED concerning spill closure for the above two releases from TA-3-261 Otowi Complex. The following supplemental information was provided to you in an email on December 7, 2005:

- On September 20, 2005, the Laboratory notified NMED of a vegetable oil release from a storage unit on the west side of TA-3-261 Otowi Complex. The Laboratory completed mitigation and corrective actions for the release. The recycled vegetable oil storage container on the west side of the TA-3-261 Otowi Complex has been placed on a monthly pumping schedule. Additionally, a second containment unit has been placed as a back-up storage unit for used vegetable oil, and employees are now being trained on storage requirements to ensure overfilling does not reoccur.
- On October 5, 2005, the Laboratory notified NMED of a wastewater release from the TA-3-261 Otowi Complex Cafeteria grease trap. The release was mitigated on October 5, 2005. The Laboratory is in the process of completely replacing the TA-3-261 cafeteria grease trap and associated wastewater lines. A new grease trap system has been placed in service and is now receiving approximately 33% of the cafeteria grey water waste. The existing grease trap is accepting approximately 66% of cafeteria grey water waste until all lines can be connected to the new system. Laboratory Utilities has placed a Work Order to complete the work by January 31, 2006.



As described in our November 5, 2005 letter, the Laboratory is requesting that NMED closeout these releases under the NMWQCC Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC). Please contact ENV-WQH's Mark Haagenstad at (505) 665-2014 if additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,



Steven Rae
Group Leader
Water Quality & Hydrology Group

SR:MH/tml

Cy: Marcy Leavitt, NMED/SWQB, Santa Fe, NM
Bret Lucas, NMED/SWQB, Santa Fe, NM
Chris Vick, NMED/GWPPB, Santa Fe, NM
John Young, NMED/HWB, Santa Fe, NM
Steve Yanicak, NMED/OB, MS J993
Gene Turner, NNSA/LASO, MS A316
Kenneth Hargis, ENV-DO, MS J591
Douglas Stavert, ENV-DO, MS J591
Victoria George, ENV-DO, MS J591
Tina Sandoval, ENV-WQH, MS K497
Mike Saladen, ENV-WQH, MS K497
Mark Haagenstad, ENV-WQH, MS K497
Phil Wardwell, LC-ESH, MS A187
ENV-WQH File, MS K497
IM-9, MS A150