

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau
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BILL RICHARDSON
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DEPUTY SECRETARY

LAMU TA-6 Pajarito Canyon

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

February 2, 2004

Steven R. Rae, Group Leader
Water Quality and Hydrology Group
Risk Reduction and Environmental Stewardship Division
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS K497
(RRES-WQH)
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545



RE: Response to Notice of Intent to Discharge for the Two-Mile Canyon Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) Project

Dear Mr. Rae:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) has reviewed your notice of intent (NOI) dated January 23, 2004, for the Two-Mile Canyon HDD project. The project is located at Los Alamos National Laboratory, in Section 21 and 22, T19N, R6E, Los Alamos County. The notice of intent satisfies the requirements of Section 20.6.2.1201 NMAC of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations.

Based on the information submitted with your NOI, a discharge permit is not being required for this project, as long as the project is as described in the notice of intent. The Ground Water Quality Bureau has concluded that the proposed project will not adversely impact ground water, and a discharge permit will not be required.

The discharge is briefly described as follows:

Approximately 2,500 lineal feet of 8-inch diameter steel pipe will be installed using HDD to cross Two-Mile canyon at a depth of approximately 50 feet below the canyon bottom. In addition, approximately 130 lineal feet of 8-inch diameter steel pipe will be installed at a depth of approximately 8 feet below Pajarito Road using HDD.

Although a discharge permit is not being required for this project at this time, you are not relieved of liability should your project result in actual pollution of surface or ground waters. Further, this decision by the NMED does not relieve you of your responsibility to comply with any other applicable federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations.

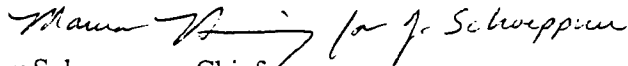


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If at some time in the future you intend to change the project or the location so that it will not be as described in the above referenced NOI, or if observation or monitoring shows that the project is not as described, you must file a new NOI with the Ground Water Pollution Prevention Section (GWPPS).

If you have any questions, please contact Curt Frischkorn of the GWPPS staff at 827-0078, or Maura Hanning, Program Manager of the GWPPS at 827-2945.

Sincerely,



Jerry Schoeppner, Chief
Ground Water Quality Bureau

JS:CSF/csf

xc: Mark Haagenstad, Water Quality and Hydrology Group, Los Alamos National Laboratory,
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James Jones, Group Leader, IP Group, Facilities and Waste Operations Division, Los Alamos
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Brett Lucas, NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau
NOI File