

# WATER QUALITY & HYDROLOGY GROUP (ESH-18)

## FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

FAX #: (505) 665-9344

VERIFICATION #: (505) 665-0453

DATE: July 23, 1999

LOG NO: ESH-18:99-FAX-

- √ TO: B. Hoditschek FAX #: (505) 827-0160 PHONE # (505) 827-0596 GRP ORG NMED/SWC
- √ TO: S. Yanicak FAX #: (505) 672-0466 PHONE # (505) 672-04 GRP ORG NMED/AIP
- √ TO: B. Enz FAX #: (505) 982-8278 PHONE # (505) 982-4038 GRP ORG DOE/LAOP
- √ TO: Everett Spencer FAX #: (214) 665-6490 PHONE # (214) 665-6080  
(214) 665-6475 GRP ORG EPA Region 4
- √ TO: Deb Woitte FAX #: (505) 665-4424 PHONE # (505) 667-3766 GRP ORG LC GEN
- √ TO: F. Sisneros FAX #: (505) 667-0288 PHONE # (505) 665-6978 GRP ORG ESH-7
- √ TO: J. Horner FAX #: (505) 827-2965 PHONE # (505) 827-1014 GRP ORG NMED/GWQI
- √ TO: John Young FAX #: (505) 827-1544 PHONE # (505) 827-1557 GRP ORG NMED/HRME
- TO: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX #: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ GRP ORG \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: Harvey Decker, ESH-18, MS K497 PHONE #: (505) 665-2014

MESSAGE: 7 day report on the TA-9 Steam Condensate line failure.

NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW: 2

Cy: ESH-18 FAX FILE  
CRM-4, MS A150  
ESH-18, spill file

GROUP LEADER/TEAM LEADER  
H.D for M.S



# RELEASE / DISCHARGE NOTIFICATION

LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

Permit Number: NM0028355

Calendar Year

1999

NPDES or Operational Spill/Release    
 ER Spill/Release    
 Other Spill/Release

Indicate with "X" in appropriate box.

Release ID Number:

73

Responsible Facility/User Group: DX-DO FMU 67

Contact Person: Tom Alexander

Pager #: NA

Phone #: 667-6471

Cell Phone #: NA

Release/Discharge Location:

TA: 9

Building: 48

Believed to be near TA-9-48, but is possibly from multiple locations of the piping in the steam condensate return system for buildings at TA-9. Manhole 148 is located outside of building 48 on the south side, and has been accumulating condensate. The actual location of the condensate line leak has not been determined as of 7/23/99.

If the release/discharge is associated with a NPDES Outfall, Potential Release Site (PRS) or Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU), indicate the site/unit number and its relationship to the release/discharge:

NPDES Outfall:  PRS:  SWMU:

PRS/SWMU Number:

Indicate with "X" in appropriate box(es)

Relationship of the Discharge to a SWMU or PRS:

It is not believed that there has been a direct impact to a SWMU or PRS.

Discharge Occurred: 3/1/1999  
Date & Time

Discharge Discovered: 6/28/1999  
Date & Time

Discharge Stopped: 7/20/1999  
Date & Time

Cleanup Started: 7/20/1999  
Date & Time

Cleanup Completed:   
Date & Time

### Material(s) Released / Discharged:

Based on information obtained from the Johnson Controls Inc. Albuquerque operator, the package steam plant has experienced a loss of approximately 375,000 gallons of steam condensate since March of 1999. On June 28, 1999, steam manhole # 148 and 130 began filling daily with condensate which alerted staff to a problem. The NMED/SWQB was notified through the Administrative Reporting procedures on July 2, 1999 based on the need to pump the manholes. On the weekend of 7/10/99 the entire steam system at TA-9 was shut down to verify that condensate was the only source filling the manholes. At that time water was observed filling manhole 130, subsequent investigation revealed that a nearby potable water line was leaking into Manhole 130 and the line was shut off pending repairs. Manhole 148 had no further condensate accumulation during the steam plant shutdown.

### Release/Discharge Mitigation Method:

Immediate corrective actions are to begin isolating sections of the condensate return line until the problem area is located. Additionally, building 48, which has experienced the majority of recent condensate related problems, will also be isolated from the steam/condensate system.

### Weather Conditions:

Variable, spring weather

Duration of Release/ Discharge, in HOURS: 2520

Est. Volume Released/ Discharged, in GAL: 375,000

Est. Volume Recovered, in GAL:

### Corrective Actions Taken (ie, type of BMPs, etc):

The steam system will be isolated in sections until the problem area(s) is located. Once the line break is isolated that section will be eliminated from the steam/condensate loop until permanent, long term corrective actions can be implemented. Also, building 48, will be isolated from the system. All immediate corrective actions will begin on July 19, 1999 in order to isolate and eliminate the leak as soon as possible. Facility Management is requesting funding from the Laboratory for the replacement and refurbishing of the underground piping.

Nearest Watercourse (Canyon Name)  
Report Printed 7/23/99 7:59:02 AM

Pajarito Canyon

Hswa LANL 5/1157/9

12

If the release/discharge reached a watercourse, describe the estimated surface area affected, presence of release/discharge now in the watercourse, and the media the release/discharge was detected in:

The nearest watercourse is Stammers Gulch, a small tributary to Pajarito Canyon. Bulldog Spring, located in Stammers Gulch is located approximately 200 yards Northeast of TA-9 building 48.

Depth to Groundwater, In FT, if known: 800

Distance to Nearest Drinking Water Well, In FT, if known: 10000 Well ID# PM-2

	Contact Person	Phone	Fax	Date & Time (or Comment)	
EPA:	E. Spencer	214-665-6475	214-665-6490	7/23/1999	8:00 a.m. (by fax)
NMED/SWQB:	B. Hodltechek	827-0596	827-0160	7/20/1999	7:30 a.m.
NMED/GWQB:	Jim Horner	8270-1014	827-2965	7/19/1999	2:07 p.m.
NMED/HRMB:	John Young	827-1557	827-1544	7/19/1999	3:45 p.m.
NMED/DOE-OB:	S. Yanicak	672-0448	672-0466	7/19/1999	2:16 p.m.
ESH-18:	H. Decker	665-2014	665-9344	7/19/1999	11:00 a.m.
DOE:	Bob Enz	982-4038	982-8278	7/20/1999	12:55 p.m.
OTHER:					
OTHER:					

Comments: The NMED/SWQB requested on 7/20/99, that a metals sample including Chromium 6, be collected from the condensate system. A sample for these analytes was collected and submitted for analysis on 7/20/99. Analytical results will be transmitted to the NMED when they become available. An engineering design study is underway to address long term corrective actions (replacement or refurbishing) of the steam/condensate piping system at TA-9. A schedule for long term corrective actions will be provided upon completion of the engineering design study.

Form Completed By: H. Decker

7 Day Notice  7 Day Notice Date: 7 Day Notice By: H. Decker

Mark "X" when done. Comments:

15 day Follow-up Due: 15-day Follow-Up By: H. Decker

Comments:

NMED 30 Day Response Date:

Comments:

David Gurule, Area Manager  
Los Alamos Area Office  
Department of Energy  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544  
(505) 667-5105

Dennis J. Erickson, ESH Division Director  
University of California  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
P.O. Box 1663, MS K491  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544  
(505) 667-4218