

From: LAJL EM/ER  
To: HRMB

Unit Type: Septic Tank  
SRS No. 47  
Not on Water Course List

**Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Environmental Restoration Project  
PRS Fact Sheet for Voluntary Corrective Action (revised)  
PRS 15-009(j) - Septic Tank**



**Description:**

PRS 15-009(j) is an enclosed, 1,500-gallon, concrete septic tank that was once connected to Building TA-15-285. The tank and drain field are positioned approximately 50 ft southeast of Building TA-15-285. The septic system was disconnected in the fall of 1992 when Building TA-15-285 was connected to the new Sanitary Waste Consolidation System. The inlet and outlet were plugged with concrete.

Conversations with personnel involved in past operations in the building indicated that silver soldering and the use of a brightening tank occurred between 1979 and 1986 in the building. Also, it was indicated that personnel potentially contaminated with beryllium, uranium, and lead from the vessel washing at PRS 15-012(b) showered in Building TA-15-285.

**Contaminants:**

Phase I RCRA Facility Investigation sampling revealed the presence of antimony, barium, cadmium, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel, selenium, silver, vanadium, uranium, and zinc in the small amount of water (less than 2 gallons) in the tank. The concentrations of metals in the water do not exceed RCRA toxicity characteristics.

**Rationale:**

This septic tank, which contains approximately 2 gallons of liquid, is being remediated and removed to eliminate the possibility of hazardous waste leaking from the tank and because the using group has potential plans for building in this area.

**Voluntary Corrective Action:**

Any small amount of liquid now in the tank will be removed from the tank and the tank will be pressure washed. It is anticipated that less than 75 gallons will be needed for the pressure washing. The liquid will be sampled for waste characterization. The tank will be removed and disposed of. Soil beneath the tank and at the inlet and outlet will be sampled for metals.

The liquid within the tank plus the decon water will be collected onsite in 55-gallon drums and managed in accordance with RCRA requirements.

Two boreholes will be drilled to a maximum of 50 ft within the two seepage pits. If contamination is found in either of the seepage pits, an assessment will occur. The soil will be collected in B-25 containers and managed in accordance with RCRA requirements. If the soil around the tank is found to contain metals above EPA Region 9 PRGs, the soil will be remediated as well.

**Expected Waste Types and Volumes:**

Less than 100 gallons of decon fluid is expected to be generated during the VCA. This fluid will likely be hazardous waste. Ten 55-gallon drums of drill cuttings with possible hazardous waste will be generated. The tank itself is approximately 4 cubic yards. Contaminated soil is estimated at 10 cubic yards.

**Cost:**

It is anticipated that the planning, cleanup, drilling, waste disposal, and report writing will cost approximately \$56,000, which includes the removal of an estimated 10 cubic yards of soil, as a contingency.

**Schedule:**

The VCA is scheduled to occur by July 31, 1997. The completion report will be submitted by September 30, 1997.

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