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ASWA 3/10/97 16-020

Date: July 24, 1997  
Refer to: EMER 97-277



Mr. Benito Garcia  
NMED-HRMB  
P.O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, NM 87502

**SUBJECT: 15-DAY WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF A RELEASE FROM SWMU 16-020 (FORMER OU 1082)**

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The purpose of this letter is to provide written notification of a release of potable water to Potential Release Site (PRS) 16-020 that occurred on July 9 and 10, 1997. This PRS is commonly known as the silver solid waste management unit and it is an outfall area where untreated photographic wastes were discharged in the past.

Approximately 108,000 gals. of potable water was released from a fire line at approximately 10:00 p.m. on July 9 and continued until 10:45 a.m. on July 10, 1997. The release was discovered at approximately 10:00 a.m. on July 10, 1997. The potable water release was the result of a pipe rupture that occurred when fire lines were being checked. The verbal notification of this release was made by Pat Shanley on July 10, 1997, to John Kieling of your staff.

The water flowed about 75 ft west from the north side of Building 16-222 and then south prior to flowing onto PRS 16-020. The PRS is located below the National Pollutant Elimination Discharge System outfall at Building 16-222. The outfall and PRS are located in a natural drainage that flows south and intersects Cañon del Valle, which flows east. There is a best management practice (BMP) straw bale located at the intersection of the unnamed drainage and Cañon del Valle. No visible evidence of erosion was noted when the release was investigated and verified by the Laboratory's Water Quality Group. The BMP and extensive ground cover in the drainage helped reduce the flow sufficiently that no apparent erosion occurred.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Dave McInroy at 667-0819 or Joe Mose at 667-5808.

Sincerely,

*Jorg Jansen*  
Jorg Jansen, Program Manager  
LANL/ER Project

Sincerely,

*Theodore J. Taylor*  
Theodore J. Taylor, Program Manager  
DOE/LAO

JJ/TT/rfr



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