

TA-16-021

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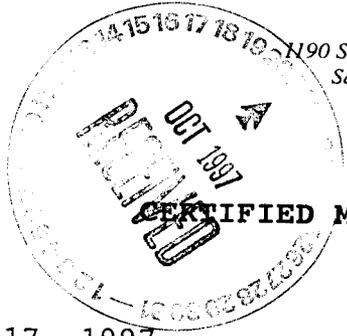
GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Ground Water Quality Bureau

Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
(505) 827-2918 phone
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MARK E. WEIDLER
SECRETARY



CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 17, 1997

Steven Rae, Group Leader
Los Alamos National Laboratory
MS-K497
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

RE: Response to Notice of Intent to Discharge Potable Water for
Soil Wetting and Bioremediation, (WQ&H:97-0218)

Dear Mr. Rae:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received your Notice of Intent (NOI), dated April 28, 1997, for the discharge of 400 gallons per day from your proposed bioremediation project at ER Site PRS-021 at TA-50, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in accordance with Section 1201 of the NM Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations. The facility is located at LANL in Los Alamos County. The application satisfies the requirements of Section 1201 of the WQCC Regulations.

Based on the presently available information in your NOI and additional information dated August 4, 1997 and October 1, 1997, a discharge plan is not being required for this discharge as long as the discharge is as described.

In accordance with WQCC Regulation 3104, a discharge plan is not being required because the information provided indicates that no effluent or leachate will move directly or indirectly into ground water.

The exempt discharge is briefly described as follows:

Up to 400 gallons per day of potable water will be applied by drip irrigation to three test plots of high explosive contaminated soil, totaling 1000 square feet, in order to sustain organisms for the bioremediation of high explosives. Inspections will be performed regularly to identify and prevent any ponding of water and to insure that water from the

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site will not enter surface waters. The application method will prohibit leaching from occurring.

Although a discharge plan is not being required for this discharge, you are not relieved of liability should your operation 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, such as zoning requirements, plumbing codes and nuisance ordinances.

If at some time in the future you intend to change the amount, the character, or location of your discharge so that it will not be as described, or if observation or monitoring shows that the discharge is not as described, you must file a new request for exemption with the Ground Water Pollution Prevention Section.

If you have any questions, please contact either Phyllis Bustamante of the Ground Water Pollution Prevention Section staff at 827-0166 or Dale Doremus, Program Manager of the Ground Water Pollution Prevention Section at 827-2900.

Sincerely,



Marcy Leavitt, Chief
Ground Water Quality Bureau

ML:PAB/pab

xc: James Bearzi, District Manager, NMED District II
NOI File
SWQB
HRMB