

Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

WATER QUALITY & HYDROLOGY GROUP, ESH-18
FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

FAX #: (505) 665-0344

VERIFICATION #: (505) 665-0453

DATE: 12/07/94

LOG NO: WO&H-FAX-94:

FROM: ALEX A. PUGLISI

PHONE #: (505) 667-4882

TO: HARVEY DECKER FAX #: (505) 672-0466 PHONE #: (505) 672-0459

ORG: NMED/SWQB/AIP

TO: NINA WELLS FAX #: (505) 827-0886 PHONE #: (505) 827-0572

ORG: NMED/SURFACE WATER

TO: DON HELMER FAX #: 665-6977 PHONE #: (505) 665-0033

ORG: ESH-7

MESSAGE: Harvey: Please forward to Michael Dale
If you have any questions, please
call me.

Alex A. Puglisi

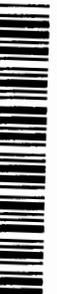
TA-21-3 Notification

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 2

CY: WQ&H FAX FILE

AAP
TEAM LEADER OR GROUP LEADER

10182



NPDES Permit No. NM002835
Release Notification Form

Sara Helmick/Chem Fac

Responsible Facility/User Group CST-13 Contact Person Steve Hansen

Phone # 667-9383/66/4301 Pager # N/A

Discharge location: TA-21, Bldg 3 (Break in pipe discovered)

Discharge occurred: Unknown Discharge discovered: N/A (See Attached)
date time date time

Discharge stopped: N/A Method: N/A
date time

Corrective Actions: Investigation of waste lines with video camera will proceed to determine if additional breaks in line between Bld. 3 and Bld. 257 have occurred. (See Attached)

Nearest watercourse and/or canyon affected: None Describe No Visible Discharge
Source and cause of discharge: Hole discovered in pipe located at TA-21
(See Attached)

Materials spilled: N/A (See Attached)

Estimate Amount: Potential Release of Unknown Volume

Cleanup started: Yes No Date Time

Cleanup finished: Yes No Date Time

Weather conditions: N/A

*24 hr Notification: EPA Person: N/A NMED Person: H. Decker
Time: Time: 3:00 PM
Date: Date: 12/1/94

EM&R Person: N/A DOE Person: K. Zamora
Time: Time: 8:00 AM
Date: Date: 12/2/94

Written follow-up within 7 days: Date: 12/7/94
Corrective action report within 15 days: Date: 12/7/94
NMED/EPA Approval on file: Date: N/A

Comments: There has not been a discharge identified. This is being reported as a potential concern.

Release Notification Form Completed By AAP

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

Dennis J. Erickson
Division Director, ESH-DO
University of California
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS K491
Los Alamos, New Mexico 07545
(505) 667-4218

Section 1-203 Release Notification

CST-13 Summary

TA-21, Bldg. 3

December 6, 1994

In mid September 1994, CST-13 personnel observed what seemed to be low flow coming in to the radioactive liquid waste treatment facility at TA-21-257. A conservative approach was taken and an inspection of the pipes was started. Dye tests, where a dye is poured into a sink that is connected to the radioactive liquid waste collection system, began in late September. These tests were conducted in cooperation with the area building manager.

After a period of testing the building manager made the decision to discontinue the use of the sinks and drains in Building 3 until further tests could be conducted to determine if a problem with the collection system existed. Use of the sinks and drains was discontinued on October 14, 1994.

On October 25, 1994, Santa Fe Engineering also conducted a series of dye tests at the request of ESH-18. The Santa Fe Engineering report confirmed the results of the tests conducted by CST-13 and the TA-21 building manager. These results showed that the dye did not travel to the holding tanks at the Building 257 treatment facility.

In November 1994, an effort to inspect the pipes which connect Building 3 sinks and drains to the Building 257 treatment facility were conducted using CST-13 camera equipment. Entry into the pipes was attempted at three different locations. These attempts failed to gain access farther than 5 to 15 feet because the pipes were too small. No leaks were observed during these investigations.

On November 29, 1994 entry was attempted in another location. A breach in a four inch waste line was discovered under Room 307 in Building 3. The inside of the line appeared corroded and contained debris such as small beakers and pieces of pipe. Because this pipe lies in a concrete trough there was no reason to believe that any liquid had escaped into the environment.

On November 30, 1994, entry into the waste line was attempted at a point where the line could be inspected between Building 3 and main line that leads to the treatment facility. This pipe appeared clean with no visible corrosion. Approximately 20 feet into the pipe there was a downward turn in the pipe. Down stream of this turn the pipe contained standing water. At this point the pipe contained metal shavings and other debris. The camera was slowly pushed through this water to prevent creating a cloud. Approximately 3 feet into the standing water the liquid became opaque. Approximately 5 feet into this dark liquid the camera was withdrawn.

The facility manager was reached on November 30, 1994 and notified of CST-13's findings. Notification to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) was made by ESH-18 on November 30, 1994. This notification, made on the initial findings, reported a potential leak into the environment.

There is no indication that liquid has escaped into the environment at this time.

Additional inspections need to be performed to determine if a blockage exists or a breach in the pipe has allowed an escape into the environment.

A critique of the findings was conducted on December 1, 1994. It was decided to report this incident as an off normal potential concern under DOE Order 5000.3B (Category 9C) pending further investigation. All additional information gathered by CST-13 will be forwarded to the facility manager as it is gathered.

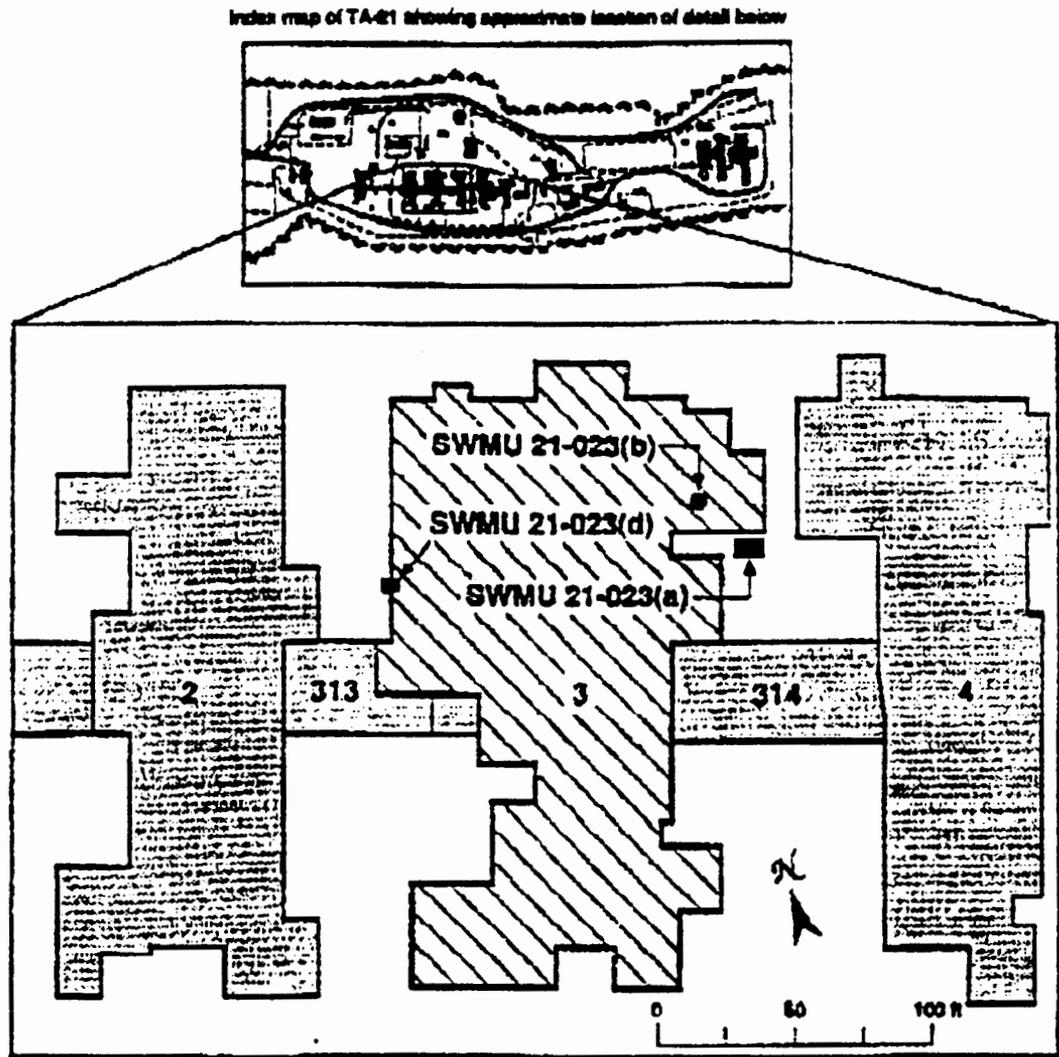


Fig. 18.3-1 Location of SWMUs 21-023(a), (b), and (d) in relation to current configuration of Building 3. (LASL 1964, 1968a)

TA-21-DDP-257

INFLUENT FLOW - 1993/1994

