

John



LANL TA-21 (Los Alamos Canyon)

Environmental Stewardship Division (ENV-DO)
Water Quality & Hydrology Group (ENV-WQH)
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop K497
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
(505) 665-1859/FAX: (505) 665-9344

Date: August 5, 2005
Refer To: ENV-WQH: 05-143

Ms. Marcy Leavitt, Bureau Chief
Surface Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
Harold Runnels Building, Room N2050
P.O. Box 26110
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM, 87502



SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR CLOSURE UNDER NMWQCC REGULATIONS, WATER RELEASE FROM TA-21 NPDES DELETED OUTFALL 03A034

Dear Ms. Leavitt:

On January 21, 2005, personnel from the Laboratory's Water Quality and Hydrology Group (ENV-WQH), New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), and the Department of Energy (DOE) discovered water flowing from a deleted NPDES Outfall 03A034 at Technical Area 21 (TA-21). A notification was made to NMED and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pursuant to the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (NMWQCC) Regulations (20 NMAC 6.2) on January 21, 2005.

The Laboratory conducted extensive assessments of TA-21 facilities to determine the source of the water. The source of the water was identified as potable water from an HVAC system at TA-21-152. The system was repaired and water no longer flows from the outfall. Enclosed for your review is the Updated Release / Discharge Notification (Enclosure 1). Information associated with the water release is summarized in the enclosed report.

The Laboratory is requesting that NMED closeout this release under the NMWQCC Regulations (20 NMAC 6.2). Please contact Mark Haagenstad of the Laboratory's Water Quality and Hydrology Group at (505) 665-2014, if additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Steven Rae
Group Leader
Water Quality & Hydrology Group



SR:MH/lm

Enclosure: a/s

Cy: Bret Lucas, NMED/SWQB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.
Chris Vick, NMED/GWPPB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.
John Young, NMED/HWB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.
Steve Yanicak, NMED/OB, w/enc., MS J993
Gene Turner, NNSA/LASO, w/enc., MS A316
Chuck Tesch, ESA-TSE, w/enc., MS C348
Ann Sherrard, ESA-MEE, w/enc., MS C924
Kenneth Hargis, ENV-DO, w/o enc., MS J591
Doug Stavert, ENV-DO, w/o enc., MS J591
Victoria George, ENV-DO, w/o enc., MS J591
Tina Sandoval, ENV-WQH, w/o enc., MS K497
Mike Saladen, ENV-WQH, w/o enc., MS K497
Mark Haagenstad, ENV-WQH, w/enc., MS K497
ENV-WQH File, w/enc., MS K497
IM-9, w/enc., MS A150

Enclosure 1

RELEASE / DISCHARGE NOTIFICATION

LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

Permit Number: NM0028355

Calendar Year

2005

NPDES or Operational Spill/Release <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	} Indicate with "X" in appropriate box.	Release ID Number:
ER Spill/Release <input type="checkbox"/>		141
Other Spill/Release <input type="checkbox"/>		

Responsible Facility/User Group:	FWO-DX-ESA		
Contact Person:	Keith Ohler	Pager #:	664-2083
Phone #:	667-6471	Cell Phone #:	699-2078
Release/Discharge Location:	The release was located at Deleted Outfall 03A034. Water was flowing (estimated 0.5 gallons per minute) from the end of the deleted outfall pipe and soaked into the ground approximately 5 feet from the end of the pipe.		
TA:	21		
Building:	Outside		

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:

None.

Discharge Occurred:	1/21/2005	Unknown	Discharge Discovered:	1/21/2005	12:30 p.m.	Discharge Stopped:	4/11/2005	
	Date & Time			Date & Time			Date & Time	
Cleanup Started:		N/A	Cleanup Completed:		N/A			
	Date & Time			Date & Time				

Material(s) Released / Discharged:

On 4/11/2005, the source of the water was determined to be associated with an HVAC unit inside TA-21-152.

Release/Discharge Mitigation Method:

HVAC system was repaired and no longer releases water into the floor drain.

Weather Conditions:

Sunny and cool.

Duration of Release/ Discharge, in HOURS:	~2,400	Est. Volume Released/ Discharged, in GAL.	~36,000	Est. Volume Recovered, in GAL.	~36,000
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Corrective Actions Taken (ie, type of BMPs, etc):

During an assessment inside TA-21-152 on 4/11/2005, it was determined that a chilled water loop on a HVAC unit in room 177 was the source of the water. The potable make-up water valve on an HVAC unit was left open and kept the system pressurized, releasing water into a nearby floor drain that ties into the outfall line. The valve was closed and the system is currently de-pressurized. Water no longer releases from the unit and the outfall line is dry.

Nearest Watercourse (Canyon Name)

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 water did not reach Los Alamos Canyon. The water releases from the outfall pipe and soaks into the ground approximately 5 feet from the pipe outlet.

Depth to Groundwater, in FT, if known: ~1,100

Distance to Nearest Drinking Water Well, in FT, if known: ~3,450 Well ID# OW-4

24-HOUR RELEASE / DISCHARGE NOTIFICATIONS

	Contact Person	Phone	Fax	Date & Time (or Comment)	
EPA:	Waudelle Strickley	214 665-7491	214 665 2168	1/28/2005	FAX 7-Day Report
NMED/SWQB:	Bret Lucas	827-2933	827-0160	1/25/2005	1:00 p.m. verbal
NMED/GWQB:	Chris Vick	827-0078	827-2965	1/28/2005	FAX 7-Day Report
NMED/HRMB:	John Young	428-2538	428-2567		FAX 7-Day Report
NMED/DOE-OB:	Steve Yanicak	672-0448	672-0466	1/28/2005	FAX 7-Day Report
ENV-WQH:	Mike Saladen	665-6085	665-9344	1/28/2005	FAX 7-Day Report
DOE:	Gene Turner	667-5794	505-665-4872	1/28/2005	FAX 7-Day Report
OTHER:	Charles Tesch			1/28/2005	FAX 7-Day Report
OTHER:	Ann Sherrard	665-7226	667-5734	1/28/2005	FAX 7-Day Report

Comments: On 01/21/2005 at ~2:30 p.m. NMED, DOE, and Laboratory personnel discovered the release. On 1/25/2005 at 1:00 p.m. ENV-WQH's Mark Haagenstad notified Bret Lucas NMED-SWQB of the release

Form Completed By: Mark Haagenstad

7 DAY RELEASE / DISCHARGE ACTIONS

7 Day Notice 7 Day Notice Date: 1/28/2005 7 Day Notice By: Mark Haagenstad

Mark "X" when done.

Comments: The Laboratory continued to assess the release during the time of the 7-Day Release Report.

15 DAY RELEASE / DISCHARGE ACTIONS

15 day Follow-up Due: 2/4/2005 15-day Follow-Up By: Mark Haagenstad

Comments: Additional site visits were completed to assess dye tests conducted near leaking condensate lines at TA-21-166. No sources associated with leaking condensate lines and floor drains in the equipment room of TA-21-166 were found. Additional dye tests will be conducted in sinks connecting to sewage lines that bisect the Deleted Outfall line. The water appears to be coming from a leaking hydrant line that bisects the Deleted Outfall line. Laboratory personnel will video the Deleted Outfall line to verify. Assessment was ongoing during the time of the 15-Day Release Report.

NMED 30 DAY APPROVAL / DISAPPROVAL

NMED 30 Day Response Date: 2/19/2005

Comments: Request closure.

Edwin Wilmot, Director
Office of Los Alamos Site Operations
Department of Energy
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
(505) 667-5105

Kenneth Hargis, ENV Acting Division Leader
University of California
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