



NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



ENTERED



*Ground Water Quality Bureau*

SUSANA MARTINEZ  
Governor  
JOHN A. SANCHEZ  
Lieutenant Governor

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DAVE MARTIN  
Secretary  
NICH TONGATE  
Deputy Secretary



**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

February 24, 2012

Michael Graham  
Associate Director, Environmental Programs  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
PO Box 1663, MS-K490  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Michael Brandt  
Acting Associate Director ESH  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
PO Box 1663, MS-K490  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

**RE: Response to Notice of Intent to Discharge; Discharge Permit Not Required for Untreated Well Development and Pump Test Ground Water Discharge at Regional Monitoring Well R-66, AI:856 (PRD20120001)**

Dear Messrs. Graham and Brandt:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received a Notice of Intent on January 11, 2012 (copy enclosed) for a one-time discharge of approximately 75,000 gallons of pump test water, from monitoring well R-66, to approximately four miles of dirt road within Los Alamos Canyon. The ground water from monitoring well R-66 is not believed to present any toxic pollutant(s) as defined under Subsection WW of 20.6.2.7 NMAC nor exceed any ground water quality standard listed under 20.6.2.3103 NMAC. The notice satisfies the requirements of Subsection A of 20.6.2.1201 NMAC of the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC). The proposed discharge is located in Los Alamos Canyon, approximately two miles east of Los Alamos, in Section 13, Township 19N, Range 06E, within the boundaries of Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos County.

Based on the information provided in the Notice of Intent, NMED has determined that a Discharge Permit is not required as long as the discharge is as described. The Notice of Intent states all pump test water shall be containerized and sampled to ensure no toxic pollutants are present or exceedances in ground water are detected in accordance with 20.6.2.3103 NMAC. **Within 30 days following the conclusion of the pump test, Los Alamos National Laboratory shall submit a final report to NMED which includes the total volumes discharged, locations**



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**of discharges and analytical results for the discharges.** A Discharge Permit is not required at this time because the information provided indicates it is unlikely that the discharge will adversely affect ground water quality.

Although a Discharge Permit is not being required for this discharge at this time, LANL is not relieved of liability should this operation result in actual pollution of surface or ground waters. Further, this decision by NMED does not relieve LANL of the 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, character or location of your discharge changes, or if observation or monitoring shows that the discharge is not as described in the Notice of Intent, a revised Notice of Intent must be filed with the Ground Water Quality Bureau.

If you have any questions, please contact either Jennifer Fullam at (505) 827-2909 or me at (505) 827-0027.

Sincerely,



Clint Marshall, Program Manager  
Pollution Prevention Section  
Ground Water Quality Bureau

CM:JF

Enc: Notice of Intent dated January 9, 2012

Cc: Robert Italiano, District Manager, NMED District II  
NMED Santa Fe Field Office  
County File  
James Bearzi, NMED SWQB  
Richard Powell, NMED SWQB  
John Kieling, NMED HWB  
Steven Yanicak, NMED-DOE-Oversight Bureau  
Hai Shen, LASO-EO, Los Alamos National Laboratory, A316, Los Alamos, NM  
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