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MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Governor

HOWIE C. MORALES
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NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau
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JAMES C. KENNEY
Cabinet Secretary

JENNIFER J. PRUETT
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

December 6, 2019

Taunia Van Valkenburg, Group Leader
Environmental Protection and Compliance Division (EPC-DO)
Compliance Programs Group
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, K490
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: Response to Notice of Intent to Discharge; Discharge Permit Not Required for a
Dechlorinated Potable Water Discharge within Technical Area 35, AI:856
(PRD20190003)**

Dear Ms. Van Valkenburg:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) received a Notice of Intent (NOI) on October 29, 2019, to discharge approximately 15,000 gallons of dechlorinated potable water from a stormwater pipe within Technical Area 35 and northwest of Structure 213 to the Effluent Canyon watercourse. Best management practices shall be incorporated to prevent erosion. The discharge has been requested in order to hydrostatically test the stormwater pipe to ensure the pipe and associated joints are secure. The NOI 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 at 35° 51' 53" North, 106° 17' 59" West, approximately 1.35 miles south of Los Alamos in Section 22, Township 19N, Range 06E, Los Alamos County.

Based on the information and materials provided in the Notice of Intent, NMED GWQB has determined that a Discharge Permit is not required as long as the discharge occurs as described. A Discharge Permit is not required at this time because the information provided indicates it is unlikely that the discharges will adversely affect groundwater quality.

However, because the information provided indicates that discharges may occur to a watercourse, you are encouraged to contact NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau at (505) 827-2795 and the

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Dallas at (214) 665-3152 to determine whether your discharge may require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination (NPDES) permit.

Although a Discharge Permit is not being required for this discharge at this time, you are not relieved of liability should this operation result in actual pollution of ground or surface waters. Further, this decision by NMED does not relieve you of your responsibility to comply with any other applicable federal, state, and/or local laws, regulations, 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; or if observation or monitoring shows that the discharge is not as described in your NOI, you must file a revised NOI with the GWQB.

If you have any questions, please contact either Gerald Knutson at (505) 827-2996 or Steve Pullen, Program Manager, at (505) 827-2962.

Sincerely,



Michelle Hunter, Chief
Ground Water Quality Bureau

MH:GK

enc: Notice of Intent received October 29, 2019

cc: Robert Italiano, District Manager, NMED District II
Steve Pullen, NMED GWQB
Melanie Sandoval, NMED GWQB
Gerald Knutson, NMED GWQB
NOI File
County File
Shelly Lemon, NMED SWQB
Sarah Holcomb, NMED SWQB
Jennifer Foote, NMED SWQB
Neelam Dhawan, NMED HWB
Steven Yanicak, NMED-DOE-Oversight Bureau
Karen Armijo, NA-LA, Karen.Armijo@mnsa.doe.gov
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