

TA-35



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
(505) 827-2965 fax



PETER MAGGIORE
Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 7, 2002

Bob Beers
Water Quality & Hydrology Group
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS K497
RRES-WQH: 02-273
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

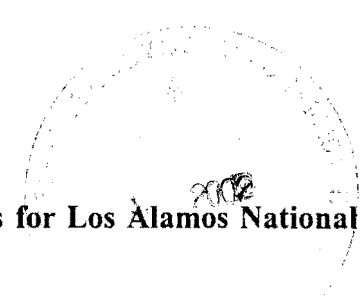
RE: Response to Notice of Intent to Discharge Drilling Fluids for Los Alamos National Laboratory's Hydrogeologic Workplan Well R-14

Dear Mr. Beers:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) has reviewed your notice of intent, dated July 16, 2002, for the discharge of approximately 50,000 gallons of containerized drilling fluids from Los Alamos National Laboratory's Hydrogeologic Workplan Well R-14. The wells is located in Section 23, T19N, R6E, Los Alamos County. The notice of intent satisfies the requirements of Section 20.6.2.1201 NMAC of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations.

Based on the information in your notice of intent, and on the analytical data presented during our July 11, 2002, and July 17, 2002 meetings, a discharge plan is not being required for this discharge as long as the discharge is as described in the notice of intent and associated data. The Ground Water Quality Bureau has concluded that the proposed discharge will not adversely impact ground water, and a discharge plan will not be required. On July 17, 2002, Roy Bohn of Los Alamos National Laboratory's Environmental Restoration Project was given verbal approval to begin discharging the R-14 drilling fluids referenced above.

The exempt discharge is briefly described as follows: Approximately 50,000 gallons of containerized drilling fluids from Hydrogeologic Workplan Well R-14 will be land applied with a portable sprinkler system, or applied to the access roads and well site for dust supression. The discharge shall be as described in the August 2, 2001, notice of intent.



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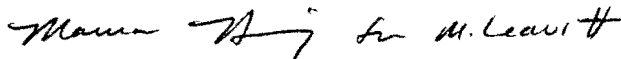
Bob Beers
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Although a discharge plan is not being required for this discharge at this time, you are not relieved of liability should your operation result in actual pollution of surface or ground waters. Further, this decision by the NMED does not relieve 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, the screening process, or the 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 notice of intent with the Ground Water Pollution Prevention Section (GWPPS).

If you have any questions, please contact either Curt Frischkorn of the GWPPS staff at 827-0078 or Maura Hanning, Program Manager of the GWPPS at 827-2945.

Sincerely,



Marcy Leavitt, Chief
Ground Water Quality Bureau

ML:CSF/csf

xc: Steven Rae, Water Quality and Hydrology Group, Los Alamos National Laboratory,
P.O. Box 1663, MS K497, RRES-WQH: 02-273, Los Alamos, NM 87545
Courte Voorhees, District Manager, NMED District II
John Young, Hazardous Waste Bureau, NMED, P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM 87502
NOI File