



GARY E. JOHNSON  
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Ground Water Quality Bureau  
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PETER MAGGIORE  
Secretary  
PAUL R. RITZMA  
Deputy Secretary

ENTERED

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

June 23, 2000

Steven Rae, Group Leader  
Water and Hydrology Group  
Los Alamos National Laboratory, MSK497  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545



**RE: Response to Analytical Results from Sampling Ground Water Produced During the Drilling of Monitoring Well R-31 Well, WQ&H:00-0079**

Dear Mr Rae:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) has received and reviewed the analytical results submitted by the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), dated March 9, 2000, for well development water produced during the drilling of Monitor Well R-3, Technical Area (TA)-39 at LANL in accordance with Section 1201 of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations and the response to the Notice of Intent (NOI) sent to LANL by the GWQB dated July 22, 1999. The additional information meets the requirements of WQCC 1201 and the response to the NOI.

Based on the effluent quality information provided in your letter dated March 9, 2000, the Ground Water Quality Bureau has determined that the proposed discharge is not likely to adversely impact ground water, and a discharge plan will not be required.

The exempt discharge is briefly described as follows:

Up to 60,000 gallons of well development water from the R-31 well will be discharged by aluminum piping with sprinkler heads to a grassy plain, with a slope of less than 10%, within TA-39. The land application will be conducted for 8-10 hours per day and will be monitored periodically during each discharge day to ensure that no ponding or run-off is occurring. Water will not be allowed to enter into surface water courses and will not be allowed to pond. No Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) or Potential Release Sites (PRSs) will be impacted by this discharge.

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



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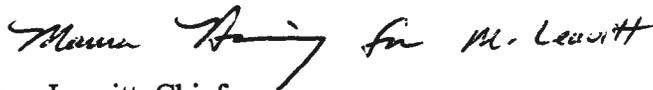
Mr. Rae  
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decision by the NMED does not relieve you of your responsibility to comply with any other applicable federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations, such as zoning requirements, plumbing codes and nuisance ordinances.

If at some time in the future you intend to change the amount, the character, or location of your discharge so that it will not be as described in this letter or the NOI submitted May 18, 1999, or if observation or monitoring shows that the discharge is not as described, you must file a new request for exemption with the Ground Water Pollution Prevention Section (GWPPS).

If you have any questions, please contact either Phyllis Bustamante of the GWPPS staff at 827-0166 or Maura Hanning, Program Manager of the GWPPS at 827-2900.

Sincerely,



Marcy Leavitt, Chief  
Ground Water Quality Bureau

ML:PAB/pab

xc: Benito Garcia, District Manager, NMED District II  
Barbara Hoditscheck, SWQB  
John Young, HRMB  
Steve Yanicek, DOEOB  
NOI File