

TA 40

RELEASE / DISCHARGE NOTIFICATION

LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

Permit Number: NI#0028355

Calendar Year

2004

NPDES or Operational Spill/Release <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Indicate with "X" in appropriate box.	Release ID Number:
ER Spill/Release <input type="checkbox"/>		138
Other Spill/Release <input type="checkbox"/>		

Responsible Facility/User Group: FWO-DX-ESA

Contact Person: Keith Ohler **Pager #:** 664-2083

Phone #: 567-6471 **Cell Phone #:** 699-2078

Release/Discharge Location:

TA: 40 **Building:** Outside

The sanitary liquid waste (sewage) overflow occurred from the standpipe of a septic system (NMED Permit #: LA-45) that collects sewage from buildings TA-40-1 and TA-40-23 at Technical Area (TA) 40. The sewage impacted an area approximately 15 feet in diameter around the standpipe and soaked into the ground. A faulty valve on a restroom unit caused an increase flow to the system and it overflowed. A similar release occurred from the system on 8/1/2001 which was reported to NMED on 8/2/2001.

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: 40-001(b)

Indicate with "X" in appropriate box(es).

Relationship of the Discharge to a SWMU or PRS:

SWMU 40-001(b) is an active septic system (structure 40-24) that was installed in 1949. The 1215-gal. Tank (structure 40-24) is constructed of reinforced concrete. The outfall from this tank originally went to a leach field, but in 1973, the overflow was connected to a gravel-filled seepage pit. The septic system served former Building 40-19 and still serves Buildings 40-1 and 40-23; all were built in the early 1950s. Building 40-1 contained offices, a darkroom, and an explosives laboratory. In the early 1980s, the explosives laboratory was removed and the building was converted into office space. Building 40-19 was a guard shack and is no longer in use. Building 40-23 has contained a cable shop, a warehouse, and an electronics laboratory. Building 40-23 now contains offices, a laser laboratory, a carpenter shop, and a staff shop. Potential contaminants from historical operations at this SWMU include HE, photo-processing chemicals, solvents, and acids. The current septic system accepts only sanitary liquid waste from restrooms and kitchen areas.

The ER Project conducted RFI sampling at SWMU 40-001(b) in 1994. Six samples were collected and submitted to an analytical laboratory for analysis of inorganic chemicals, organic chemicals, and HE. None of the chemicals analyzed exceeded SALs.

Discharge Occurred: 10/14/2004 Unknown	Discharge Discovered: 10/14/2004 ~12:15 p.m.	Discharge Stopped: 10/14/2004 ~1:30 p.m.
Cleanup Started: 10/14/2004 ~1:30 p.m.	Cleanup Completed: 10/15/2004 ~4:00 p.m.	

Material(s) Released / Discharged:

Sanitary Liquid Waste (sewage).

Release/Discharge Mitigation Method:

All flow to the septic system was stopped. Laboratory Utilities personnel pumped the system; sewage to be characterized and disposed of in accordance with regulations and requirements.

Weather Conditions:

Partly cloudy and cool.

Duration of Release/ Discharge, in HOURS: 1.25	Est. Volume Released/ Discharged, in GAL. ~300	Est. Volume Recovered, in GAL. ~0
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Corrective Actions Taken (ie, type of BMPs, etc):

Report Printed 10/29/2004 3:07:14 PM



2500

All flow to the system was stopped until a critique was conducted. The impacted area was disinfected with a 10% Clorox solution in water. Upon completion of the critique, Laboratory facility personnel placed the septic system back on-line (limited / minimum usage). The septic system will be visually monitored every 1-2 days to ensure no additional releases occur. Additionally, the facility is proposing the installing of an overflow alarm on the septic system to monitor and prevent surface discharges.

Nearest Watercourse (Canyon Name)

Two Mile Canyon

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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 release did not appear to impact a watercourse.

Depth to Groundwater, in FT, if known:

Distance to Nearest Drinking Water Well, in FT, if known: Well ID#

24-HOUR RELEASE/DISCHARGE NOTIFICATIONS

	Contact Person	Phone	Fax	Date & Time (or Comment)
EPA:	Waudelle Strickley	214 665-7491	214 665 2168	10/21/2004 7-Day Report
NMED/SWQB:	Bret Lucas	827-2933	827-0160	10/15/2004 verbal at 12:30 p.m.
NMED/GWQB:	Chris Vick	827-0073	827-2965	10/21/2004 7-Day Report
NMED/HRMB:	Frank Rodarte	428-2503	428-2567	10/15/2004 verbal at 12:25 p.m.
NMED/DOE-OB:	Steve Yanicak	672-0443	672-0466	10/21/2004 7-Day Report
RRES-WQH:	Mike Saladen	665-6085	665-9344	10/21/2004 7-Day Report
DOE:	Gene Turner	667-5794	505-665-4872	10/21/2004 7-Day Report
OTHER:	Keith Ohler	667-6471	667-0288	10/21/2004 7-Day Report
OTHER:	Joseph Richardson	665-4844	665-6977	10/21/2004 7-Day Report

Comments: On 10/15/2004, RRES-WQH's Mark Haagenstad verbally notified Frank Rodarte (NMED-HWB), Bret Lucas (NMED-SWQB), and personnel from NMED-GWQB at ~12:25 p.m., 12:30 p.m., and 12:40 p.m. respectively.

Form Completed By:

7-DAY RELEASE/DISCHARGE ACTIONS

7 Day Notice 7 Day Notice Date: 7 Day Notice By:
 Mark "X" when done.

Comments: The Laboratory is proposing to begin monitoring all similar septic systems at the Laboratory. This will include quarterly monitoring and preventative maintenance including the installation of overflow alarms.

15-DAY RELEASE/DISCHARGE ACTIONS

15 day Follow-up Due: 15-day Follow-Up By:

Comments: Laboratory facility personnel conducted a percolation test to determine efficiency of the septic system. Laboratory's RRES-WQH will submit percolation test results to NMED upon receipt of the results. Laboratory personnel conducted sampling of the sanitary liquid waste in the septic tank and have submitted samples to an analytical laboratory. Pending analyses, the system will be pumped regularly and transported to the TA-46 Sanitary Waste Water System (SWWS) Treatment Plant until long-term corrective actions have been implemented / completed. The Laboratory will develop corrective actions based on analysis of the system. Corrective actions may include modification or replacement of the existing septic system. The system continues to be carefully monitored (visual inspections every 1-2 days), and is subject to limited usage. Facility personnel are currently using portable toilets until the system can be placed back on-line.

NMED 30-DAY APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL

NMED 30 Day Response Date:

Comments:

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

Beverly Ramsey, RRES Division Director
 University of California
 Los Alamos National Laboratory
 P.O. Box 1663, MS K491
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544



Risk Reduction & Environmental Stewardship Division
WATER QUALITY & HYDROLOGY GROUP, RRES-WQH
FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

FAX #: (505) 665-9344**VERIFICATION #: (505) 665-0453**

DATE:	<u>10/29/2004</u>	LOG NO:	<u>WQH-FAX-03-</u>
FROM:	<u>Mark Haagenstad</u>	PHONE#:	<u>(505) 665-2014</u>
TO:	<u>Waudelle Strickley</u>	ORG:	<u>EPA</u>
FAX #:	<u>(214) 665-2168</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(214) 665-7491</u>
TO:	<u>Bret Lucas</u>	ORG:	<u>NMED-SWQB</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 827-0160</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 827-2933</u>
TO:	<u>Chris Vick</u>	ORG:	<u>NMED-GWQB</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 827-2965</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 827-2900</u>
TO:	<u>Frank Rodarte</u>	ORG:	<u>NMED-HMB</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 428-2567</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 428-2500</u>
TO:	<u>Steve Yanicak</u>	ORG:	<u>NMED/DOE-OB</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 672-0466</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 672-0448</u>
TO:	<u>Joe Richardson</u>	ORG:	<u>PS-7</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 665-6977</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 665-4844</u>
TO:	<u>Gene Turner</u>	ORG:	<u>DOE</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 665-4872</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 667-5794</u>
TO:	<u>Keith Ohler</u>	ORG:	<u>FWO-ESA-DX</u>

FAX #:	<u>(505) 667-0288</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 667-6471</u>
TO:	<u>Alice Barr</u>	ORG:	<u>RRES-SWRC</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 667-5224</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 667-0820</u>
TO:	<u>Kelly V. and Paula B.</u>	ORG:	<u>RRES-SWRC / RRES-ECR</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 665-4747</u>	PHONE #:	<u></u>
TO:	<u>Randy Johnson</u>	ORG:	<u>DX-4</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 667-8020</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 667-0509</u>
TO:	<u>Liz Martinez</u>	ORG:	<u>FWO-ESA-DX</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 667-0288</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 665-9075</u>
TO:	<u>Robert Dye</u>	ORG:	<u>DX-2</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 667-0288</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 667-6471</u>
TO:	<u>Ed Hoth</u>	ORG:	<u>FWO-UI</u>
FAX #:	<u>(505) 665-6636</u>	PHONE #:	<u>(505) 665-6002</u>

MESSAGE: Attached you will find the 15-Day Release / Discharge Notification for a sewage discharge to the environment from a septic system at TA-40 at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Please see 15-Day Release / Discharge Actions section of the attached spill notification for an update on the matter. Please contact Mark Haagenstad (665-2014 or 699-1733) if you have any questions. Thanks...

NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW: 3