

NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau



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DAVE MARTIN
Secretary
BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary



November 28, 2011

Mr. Michael Carstens 12379 W. Freeland Road Freeland, Michigan 48623

RE: Discharge Permit, DP-1260, Delta-Person Generating Station

Dear Mr. Carstens,

On May 13, 2010, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) received a Discharge Permit renewal application for the above referenced facility. Based on a technical evaluation of the discharges occurring at the facility the following has been determined.

- 1. The Delta-Person Generating Station is a gas fired, prime demand, electrical generating station located at 725 Electric Avenue, Albuquerque within Section 8, Township 09N, Range 03E of Bernalillo County, New Mexico.
- 2. Untreated raw water from the facilities ground water production well is used for cooling towers at the facility.
- 3. The Delta-Person Generating facility is currently discharging raw water cooling tower blowdown with no additives through an outfall to an intermittent waterway.
- 4. The discharge is currently permitted under a Non-Point Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit (NM0030376) through the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- 5. The facility is currently discharging in accordance with the GWQB Discharge Permit (DP-1260) originally issued March 6, 2000, and subsequently renewed on November 7, 2005.
- 6. Under the current Discharge Permit (DP-1260), the facility is required to sample ground water in downgradient wells from the discharge location on a quarterly basis for total dissolved solids, chloride, sulfate, nitrate and nitrite.



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- 7. Under the current Discharge Permit (DP-1260), the facility is required to sample effluent from the discharge location on a monthly basis for total dissolved solids, chloride, sulfate, nitrate and nitrite.
- 8. The analytical samples submitted to NMED as part of the Discharge Permit show no exceedances of ground water quality standards in downgradient monitoring wells PSMW-6R or PSMW-14 for Nitrate, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), Fats Oils & Grease, Sulfate or pH.
- 9. The analytical reports submitted to NMED as part of the Discharge Permit show no evidence of elevated concentrations in the effluent wastewater from the raw water cooling tower blowdown for Nitrate, TDS, Sulfate, pH, conductivity or Fats, Oils & Grease.
- 10. An application for the renewal of DP-1260 was received on May 13, 2010.
- 11. Based upon review of the proposed discharge and NMED's permitting authority pursuant to the New Mexico Water Quality Act (WQA), NMSA 1978 §§74-6-1 through 74-6-17, and the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations, 20.6.2 NMAC, NMED has determined that a Discharge Permit is no longer required for this facility.

Based upon this determination, Delta-Person Generating Station may request termination of DP-1260. This decision by NMED does not relieve Delta-Person Generating Station of the responsibility to comply with any other applicable federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations including but not limited to, other Discharge Permits, NPDES Permits or Hazardous Waste Permits issued to the facility.

If at any time the facility intends to change the volume, character (such as treating or incorporating additives to the raw water) or location of the discharge, or if observation or monitoring shows that the discharge is not as described in the May 13, 2010 Discharge Permit application for renewal, you must file a Notice of Intent with the Ground Water Quality Bureau.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Fullam at (505) 827-2909. Thank you for your cooperation during this Discharge Permit review.

Sincerely,

Jerry Schoeppner, Acting Chief Ground Water Quality Bureau

JS:JF

cc: William Chavez, Acting District Manager, NMED District I

NMED Albuquerque Field Office

John Romero, Office of the State Engineer

Chris Gonzales, Bernalillo County Office of Environmental Health, 111 Union Square SE, Suite 300, Albuquerque, NM 87102

Richard Powell, NMED-SWQB John Keiling, NMED-HWB Michael Carstens (DP-1200) November 28, 2011 Page 3

> Dan Western, Plant Manager, 725 Electric Avenue, Albuquerque NM 87105 Public Service Co. of NM, 2401 Aztec Rd, NE MS-Z110, Albuquerque, NM 87107 John Hale, PNM, Alvarado Square, MS-2104, Albuquerque, NM 87158