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Reports



Wife: K. E. - Jul

*Environmental Protection Division
Water Quality & RCRA (ENV-RCRA)*
P.O. Box 1663, Mail Stop K490
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
(505) 667-0666/FAX: (505) 667-5224

Date: May 14, 2007
Refer To: ENV-RCRA: 07-097
LA-UR: 07-3266

Ms. Sonia Hall
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WC)
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF CHANGED CONDITION AT NPDES OUTFALL 051,
NPDES PERMIT NO. NM0028355**

Dear Ms. Hall:

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. NM0028355 for Los Alamos National Laboratory requires the permittee to notify the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding any planned physical alterations or additions to a NPDES permitted facility that could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. The Laboratory's Radioactive Waste Treatment Facility (RLWTF) is planning to construct three new concrete evaporation tanks at Technical Area 52 to receive fully treated radioactive liquid effluent from RLWTF. These tanks are being constructed to reduce the volume of treated effluent being discharged through NPDES Outfall 051. Each tank will cover approximately one surface acre. The transfer line from the RLWTF to the tanks will be approximately 0.75 mile long. A copy of the proposed site location is enclosed for your review (Enclosure 1). Final drawings and specifications will be provided when completed.

Since the new evaporation tanks will be part of an existing wastewater treatment facility (i.e., RLWTF) which discharges under an NPDES permit, they will be exempt from RCRA permitting requirements pursuant to 40 CFR 264.1(g)(6) ("The requirements of this part do not apply to . . . (6) The owner or operator of . . . a wastewater treatment unit . . .").

We intend to submit a detailed letter to the New Mexico Environment Department in the near future regarding these issues. We will provide your office with a copy of this correspondence.

Please contact Marc Bailey of the Laboratory's Water Quality and RCRA Group (ENV-RCRA) at (505) 665-8135, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Anthony R. Grieggs
Group Leader
Water Quality & RCRA (ENV-RCRA) Group

ARG:MB/lm

Enclosures: a/s

Cy: Isaac Chen, USEPA, Region VI, Dallas, TX, w/enc.
Marcy Leavitt, NMED/SWQB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.
Robert George, NMED/GWQB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.
James Bearzi, NMED HWB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.
Gene Turner, NNSA/LASO, w/o enc., MS A316
Richard V. Bynum, PADOPS, w/o enc., MS A102
Richard S. Watkins, ADESHQ, w/o enc., MS K491
Victoria George, ENV-DO, w/o enc. MS J978
Tina Sandoval, ENV-RCRA, w/o enc., MS K490
Mike Saladen, ENV-RCRA, w/o enc., MS K490
Bob Beers, ENV-RCRA, w/enc., MS K490
Marc Bailey, ENV-RCRA, w/enc., MS K490
Pete Worland, EWMO-RLW, w/enc., MS E518
Dave Moss, RLW, w/enc., MS E518
Phil Wardwell, LC-LESH, w/o enc., MS A187
ENV-RCRA, File, w/enc., MS K490
IRM-RMMSO, w/enc., MS A150

ENCLC IRE 1

NPDES PERMIT NO. NM0028355
Proposed RLWTF Concrete Evaporation Tanks

