

NPDES authorization to discharge to waters of the United States, Permit No. NM0031228

The applicant's mailing address is:

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
555 Broadway Boulevard, NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

The discharge is located at Latitude 36° 35' 44.65" North, Longitude 106° 43' 57.77" West. The discharge from the facility is to El Vado Reservoir, subject to Section 20.6.4.120 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC). El Vado Dam is located in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Under the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code(s) 1629, the applicant states its plan to install a geomembrane system on the steel face of El Vado Dam. The scope of work also includes injecting grout behind the steel plates and into the foundation to enhance the dam's stability and impermeability. The proposed grouting operations involve using El Vado Reservoir water to produce grout and subsequently clean grout lines and equipment. The applicant then proposes to discharge the grouting process water into the reservoir once it has been treated to meet the conditions and requirements described in this permit. The discharge is expected to release a maximum flow of 0.008 MGD of treated effluent into El Vado Reservoir. The proposed discharge is authorized from the effective date to the expiration date of the permit term. Designated uses of the receiving water are stated in the Fact Sheet.

This is a newly proposed permit, therefore there are no changes from the previous permit.

A fact sheet explaining the reasoning behind the permit conditions and requirements is available.

This Public Notice includes a 45-day public commenting period.

#### State Certification

This Notice also serves as a Public Notice of the intent of the New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau to consider issuing Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification. The purpose of such certification is to reasonably ensure that the permitted activities will be conducted in a manner that will comply with applicable New Mexico water quality standards, including the antidegradation policy, and the statewide water quality management plan. The NPDES permit will not be issued until the certification requirements of Section 401 have been met.

If you wish to comment on State Certification, submit written comments within the 45 day period to:

Susan A. Lucas Kamat  
Program Manager, Point Source Regulation Section  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
1190 S. St. Francis Dr.

P.O. Box 5469

Santa Fe, NM 87502

Phone: 505-946-8924

Email: [Susan.LucasKamat@state.nm.gov](mailto:Susan.LucasKamat@state.nm.gov)