

NPDES authorization to discharge to waters of the United States, Permit No. NM0020141

The applicant's mailing address is:

Los Alamos County Department of Public Utilities
1000 Central Avenue, Suite 130
Los Alamos, NM 87544

The discharge from this facility is located at 3500 Pueblo Canyon Road, Los Alamos, Los Alamos County, New Mexico. Under the SIC code 4952, the applicant operates Los Alamos Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF), which has a design flow of 1.4 MGD providing sanitary services for residence in the city. Effluent is disinfected with ultra violet system before discharged via Outfall 002 to the Pueblo Canyon, an unclassified water (20.6.4.98 NMAC), thence Los Alamos Canyon, thence the Rio Grande immediately downstream of the Otowi Bridge. Designated uses of the receiving water are stated in the Fact Sheet.

This is a renewal of a permit issued on July 8, 2011, with an effective date of August 1, 2011, and an expiration date of July 31, 2016.

Changes from the previous permit are:

- Limits for E. coli have been relaxed; monitoring frequency has been reduced.
- Monitoring frequency of BOD/TSS has been reduced.
- Limits for DO and thallium have been established.
- Monitoring of aluminum, benzo(a)pyrene and hexachlorobenzene has been established.
- Limit for copper has been removed.

A fact sheet is available.

State Certification

This Notice also serves as 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 want to comment on State Certification submit written comments within the 30 day period to:

Sarah Holcomb, Acting Program Manager-PSRS
New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau (N2050)
1190 Saint Francis Drive

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