



REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

NPDES Permit No NM0020770

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq; the "Act"),

City of Bloomfield
P.O. Box 1839
Bloomfield, NM 87413

is authorized to discharge from a facility located at 1176 South Church Street, in the City of Bloomfield, in San Juan County, New Mexico, to San Juan River in Segment 20.6.4.408 of the San Juan River Basin from a point located approximately:

Outfall 001: Latitude 36° 43' 42" N, Longitude 107° 57' 00" W

in accordance with this cover page and the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in Part I, Part II, III and Part IV hereof.

This permit supersedes and replaces NPDES Permit No. NM0020770 with an effective date of September 1, 2009.

This permit shall become effective on

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight,

Issued on

Prepared by

William K. Honker, P.E.
Director
Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ)

Tung Nguyen
Environmental Engineer
Permits & Technical Section (6WQ-PP)

DOCUMENT ABBREVIATIONS

In the document that follows, various abbreviations are used. They are as follows:

4Q3	Lowest four-day average flow rate expected to occur once every three-years
BAT	Best available technology economically achievable
BCT	Best conventional pollutant control technology
BPT	Best practicable control technology currently available
BMP	Best management plan
BOD	Biochemical oxygen demand (five-day unless noted otherwise)
BPJ	Best professional judgment
CBOD	Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (five-day unless noted otherwise)
CD	Critical dilution
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	Cubic feet per second
COD	Chemical oxygen demand
COE	United States Corp of Engineers
CWA	Clean Water Act
DMR	Discharge monitoring report
ELG	Effluent limitation guidelines
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FCB	Fecal coliform bacteria
FWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
mg/l	Milligrams per liter
ug/l	Micrograms per liter
lbs	Pounds
MGD	Million gallons per day
NMAC	New Mexico Administrative Code
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
NMIP	New Mexico NPDES Permit Implementation Procedures
NMWQS	New Mexico State Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
MQL	Minimum quantification level
O&G	Oil and grease
POTW	Publically owned treatment works
RP	Reasonable potential
SS	Settleable solids
SIC	Standard industrial classification
s.u.	Standard units (for parameter pH)
SWQB	Surface Water Quality Bureau
TDS	Total dissolved solids
TMDL	Total maximum daily load
TRC	Total residual chlorine
TSS	Total suspended solids
UAA	Use attainability analysis
USGS	United States Geological Service
WLA	Wasteload allocation
WET	Whole effluent toxicity
WQCC	New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan
WWTP	Wastewater treatment plant

PART I – REQUIREMENTS FOR NPDES PERMITS**A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

1. OUTFALL 001 - FINAL Effluent Limits – 0.9 MGD Design Flow

During the period beginning the effective date of the permit and lasting through the expiration date of the permit (unless otherwise noted), the permittee is authorized to discharge treated domestic wastewater from Outfall 001 to San Juan River. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee and reported as specified below:

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS	DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
pH	6.6 s.u.	9.0 s.u.	5/week	Instantaneous Grab

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS	DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS						MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	lbs/day, unless noted			mg/l, unless noted (*1)			MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
POLLUTANT	30-DAY AVG	7-DAY AVG	DAILY MAX	30-DAY AVG	7-DAY AVG	DAILY MAX		
Flow	Report, MGD	Report, MGD					Daily	Totalized Meter
BOD	225	338	N/A	30	45	N/A	1/week	3-hour Composite
BOD, minimum % removal	85						1/month	Calculation (*2)
TSS	225	338	N/A	30	45	N/A	3/month	3-hour Composite
TSS, minimum % removal	85						1/month	Calculation (*2)
E. coli bacteria	4.3 x 10 ⁹ cfu/day	N/A	4.3 x 10 ⁹ cfu/day	126 cfu/100 ml	N/A	126 cfu/100 ml	1/week	Grab (*3)
TRC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11 ug/l (*4)	5/week	Instantaneous Grab
TDS, Net increase (*5)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	400	1/quarter	3-hr Composite
Grease	Report	Report					3/month	Observation
Solid	Report	Report					3/month	Observation

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS	DISCHARGE MONITORING		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	30-DAY AVG	48-HR MINIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY (*7)	SAMPLE TYPE
WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING 48-HR ACUTE NOEC FRESHWATER (*6)				
Daphnia pulex	Report	Report	Once/Quarter (*8)	24-hr Composite
Pimephales promelas	Report	Report	Once/Quarter (*8)	24-hr Composite

Footnotes:

- *1 See **Appendix A of Part II** of the permit for minimum quantification limits.
- *2 Percent removal is calculated using the following equation:
[average monthly influent concentration (mg/l) – average monthly effluent concentration (mg/l)] ÷ [average monthly influent concentration (mg/l)] x 100.
- *3 Analyzed within in the maximum holding time specified in 40 CFR 136.
- *4 The effluent limitation for TRC is the instantaneous maximum and cannot be averaged for reporting purposes.
- *5 Net increase = effluent TDS concentration – intake drinking water supply TDS concentration, (mg/l)
- *6 Monitoring and reporting requirements begin on the effective date of this permit. See Part II of the permit for WET testing requirements for additional WET monitoring and reporting conditions.
- *7 The test shall take place between November 1 and April 30. This permit does not establish requirements to automatically increase the WET testing frequency after a test failure, or to begin a toxicity reduction evaluation (TRE) in the event of multiple failures. However, upon failure of any WET test, the permittee must report the results to EPA and NMED, Surface Water Quality Bureau, in writing, within 5 business days of notification of the test failure. EPA and NMED will review the test results and determine the appropriate action necessary, if any.
- *8 Once/quarter for the first four quarters. If all tests pass, reduce the frequency to once/6-months for *Daphnia pulex* and to once/year for *Pimephales promelas*. If fails any test, frequency returns to once/quarter for the remainder of the permit term. Frequency reverts to once/quarter on the last day of the permit.

2. FLOATING SOLIDS, VISIBLE FOAM AND/OR OILS

There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.

There shall be no discharge of visible films of oil, globules of oil, grease or solids in or on the water, or coatings on stream banks.

3. SAMPLE LOCATION(S)

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge from the final treatment unit prior to the receiving stream. The sample point shall be clearly marked by the facility if it is not at the final outfall location. There shall be no flow from any source into the piping system after the sample point and prior to the final outfall.

B. SCHEDULES OF COMPLIANCE

None.

C. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Monitoring results must be reported to EPA on either the electronic or paper Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) approved formats. Monitoring results can be submitted electronically in lieu of the paper DMR Form. To submit electronically, access the NetDMR website at www.epa.gov/netdmr and contact the R6NetDMR@epa.gov in-box for further instructions. Until you are approved for Net DMR, you must report on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Form EPA No. 3320-1 in accordance with the "General Instructions" provided on the form. No additional copies are needed if reporting electronically, however when submitting paper form EPA No. 3320-1, the permittee shall submit the original DMR signed and certified as required by Part III.D.11 and all other reports required by Part III.D. to the EPA and other agencies as required (See Part III.D.IV of the permit). Reports shall be submitted monthly.

1. Reporting periods shall end on the last day of the month.
2. The permittee is required to submit regular quarterly reports as described above postmarked no later than the 15th day of the month following each reporting period.
3. The annual sludge report required in part IV of the permit is due on February 19 of each year and covers the previous calendar year from January 1 through December 31.
4. NO DISCHARGE REPORTING: If there is no discharge at Outfall 001 during the sampling month, place an "X" in the NO DISCHARGE box located in the upper right corner of the Discharge Monitoring Report.
5. If any 7-day average or 30-day average value exceeds the effluent limitations specified in Part I.A, the permittee shall report the excursion in accordance with the requirements of Part III.D.
6. Any 7-day average or 30-day average value reported in the required Discharge Monitoring Report which is in excess of the effluent limitation specified in Part I.A shall constitute evidence of violation of such effluent limitation and of this permit.

7. Other measurements of oxygen demand (e.g., TOC and COD) may be substituted for the five day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5), or for the five-day Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5), as applicable, where the permittee can demonstrate long term correlation of the method with BOD5 or CBOD5 values, as applicable. Details of the correlation procedures used must be submitted and prior approval granted by the permitting authority for this procedure to be acceptable. Data reported must also include evidence to show that the proper correlation continues to exist after approval.
8. The permittee shall submit a copy of an annual summary of the data that results from WET testing to the following agencies:

Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-W)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Program Manager
Surface Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 5469
1190 Saint Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

D. OVERFLOW REPORTING

The permittee shall report all overflows with the Discharge Monitoring Report submittal. These reports shall be summarized and reported in tabular format. The summaries shall include: the date, time, duration, location, estimated volume, and cause of the overflow; observed environmental impacts from the overflow; actions taken to address the overflow; and ultimate discharge location if not contained (e.g., storm sewer system, ditch, tributary).

Overflows that endanger health or the environment shall be orally reported at (214) 665-6595, and NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau at (505) 827-0187, within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance. A written report of overflows that endanger health or the environment shall be provided to EPA and the NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance.

E. POLLUTION PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS

The permittee shall institute a program within 12 months of the effective date of the permit (or continue an existing one) directed towards optimizing the efficiency and extending the useful life of the facility. The permittee shall consider the following items in the program:

- The influent loadings, flow and design capacity;
- The effluent quality and plant performance;
- The age and expected life of the wastewater treatment facility's equipment;
- Bypasses and overflows of the tributary sewerage system and treatment works;
- New developments at the facility;
- Operator certification and training plans and status;
- The financial status of the facility;
- Preventative maintenance programs and equipment conditions and;
- An overall evaluation of conditions at the facility.

PART II - OTHER CONDITIONS**A. MINIMUM QUANTIFICATION LEVEL (MQL)**

See list of MQL's at Appendix A of Part II below. For pollutants listed on Appendix A of Part II below with MQL's, analyses must be performed to the listed MQL. If any individual analytical test result is less than the MQL listed, a value of zero (0) may be used for that pollutant result for the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) calculations and reporting requirements.

In addition, any additional pollutant sampling for purposes of this permit, including renewal applications or any other reporting, shall be tested to the MQL shown on the attached Appendix A of Part II.

The permittee may develop an effluent specific method detection limit (MDL) in accordance with Appendix B to 40 CFR §136. For any pollutant for which the permittee determines an effluent specific MDL, the permittee shall send to the EPA Region 6 NPDES Permits Branch (6WQ-P) a report containing QA/QC documentation, analytical results, and calculations necessary to demonstrate that the effluent specific MDL was correctly calculated. An effluent specific MQL shall be determined in accordance with the following calculation:

$$\text{MQL} = 3.3 \times \text{MDL}$$

Upon written approval by the EPA Region 6 NPDES Permits Branch (6WQ-P), the effluent specific MQL may be utilized by the permittee for all future DMR reporting requirements until/or unless changes are required for adoption of a lower MQL.

B. 24-HOUR ORAL REPORTING: DAILY MAXIMUM LIMITATION VIOLATIONS

Under the provisions of Part III.D.7.b.(3) of this permit, violations of daily maximum limitations for the following pollutants shall be reported orally to EPA Region 6, Compliance and Assurance Division, Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-W), Dallas, Texas, and concurrently to NMED within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the violation followed by a written report in five days.

None

C. PERMIT MODIFICATION AND REOPENER

In accordance with [40 CFR Part 122.44(d)], the permit may be reopened and modified during the life of the permit if relevant portions of New Mexico's Water Quality Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Streams are revised, or new State water quality standards are established and/or remanded by the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission.

In accordance with [40 CFR Part 122.62(s)(2)], the permit may be reopened and modified if new information is received that was not available at the time of permit issuance that would have justified the application of different permit conditions at the time of permit issuance. Permit modifications shall reflect the results of any of these actions and shall follow regulations listed at [40 CFR Part 124.5].

D. CONTRIBUTING INDUSTRIES

1. The following pollutants may not be introduced into the treatment facility:

- Pollutants which create a fire or explosion hazard in the publicly owned treatment works (POTW), including, but not limited to, wastestreams with a closed cup flashpoint of less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit or 60 degrees Centigrade using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21;
 - Pollutants which will cause corrosive structural damage to the POTW, but in no case discharges with pH lower than 5.0, unless the works are specifically designed to accommodate such discharges;
 - Solid or viscous pollutants in amounts which will cause obstruction to the flow in the POTW, resulting in Interference;
 - Any pollutant, including oxygen demanding pollutants (e.g., BOD), released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause Interference with the POTW;
 - Heat in amounts which will inhibit biological activity in the POTW resulting in Interference but in no case heat in such quantities that the temperature at the POTW treatment plant exceeds 40 degrees Centigrade (104 degrees Fahrenheit) unless the Approval Authority, upon request of the POTW, approves alternate temperature limits;
 - Petroleum oil, non-biodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin in amounts that will cause interference or pass through;
 - Pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes within the POTW in a quantity that may cause acute worker health and safety problems; and
 - Any trucked or hauled pollutants, except at discharge points designated by the POTW.
2. The permittee shall require any indirect discharger to the treatment works to comply with the reporting requirements of Sections 204(b), 307, and 308 of the Act, including any requirements established under 40 CFR Part 403.
3. The permittee shall provide adequate notice of the following:
- Any new introduction of pollutants into the treatment works from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Sections 301 and 306 of the Act if it were directly discharging those pollutants; and
 - Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the treatment works by a source introducing pollutants into the treatment works at the time of issuance of the permit.

Any notice shall include information on (i) the quality and quantity of effluent to be introduced into the treatment works, and (ii) any anticipated impact of the change on the quality or quantity of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

E. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (48-HR ACUTE NOEC FRESHWATER)

It is unlawful and a violation of this permit for a permittee or his designated agent, to manipulate test samples in any manner, to delay sample shipment, or to terminate or to cause to terminate a toxicity test. Once initiated, all toxicity tests must be completed unless specific authority has been granted by EPA Region 6 or the State NPDES permitting authority.

1. SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

- a. The permittee shall test the effluent for toxicity in accordance with the provisions in this section.

APPLICABLE TO FINAL OUTFALL(S):	001
REPORTED ON DMR AS FINAL OUTFALL:	001
CRITICAL DILUTION (%):	12
EFFLUENT DILUTION SERIES (%):	5, 7, 9, 12 and 16
COMPOSITE SAMPLE TYPE:	Defined at PART I
TEST SPECIES/METHODS:	40 CFR Part 136

Daphnia pulex acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using EPA 821-R-02-012, or the latest update thereof. A minimum of five (5) replicates with eight (8) organisms per replicate must be used in the control and in each effluent dilution of this test.

Pimephales promelas (Fathead minnow) acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using EPA 821-R-02-012, or the latest update thereof. A minimum of five (5) replicates with eight (8) organisms per replicate must be used in the control and in each effluent dilution of this test.

- b. The NOEC (No Observed Lethal Effect Concentration) is defined as the greatest effluent dilution at and below which lethality that is statistically different from the control (0% effluent) at the 95% confidence level does not occur. Acute test failure is defined as a demonstration of a statistically significant lethal effect at test completion to a test species at or below the critical dilution.
- c. The conditions of this item are effective beginning with the effective date of the WET limit. When the testing frequency stated above is less than monthly and the effluent fails the survival endpoint at or below the critical dilution, the permittee shall be considered in violation of this permit limit and the frequency for the affected species will increase to monthly until such time compliance with the Lethal No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) effluent limitation is demonstrated for a period of three consecutive months, at which time the permittee may return to the testing frequency stated in PART I of this permit. During the period the permittee is out of compliance, test results shall be reported on the DMR for that reporting period.
- d. The purpose of additional tests (also referred to as ‘retests’ or confirmation tests) is to determine the duration of a toxic event. A test that meets all test acceptability criteria and demonstrates

significant toxic effects does not need additional confirmation. Such testing cannot confirm or disprove a previous test result.

- e. This permit may be reopened to require chemical specific effluent limits, additional testing, and/or other appropriate actions to address toxicity.

2. REQUIRED TOXICITY TESTING CONDITIONS

a. Test Acceptance

The permittee shall repeat a test, including the control and all effluent dilutions, if the procedures and quality assurance requirements defined in the test methods or in this permit are not satisfied, including the following additional criteria:

- ✓ Each toxicity test control (0% effluent) must have a survival equal to or greater than 90%.
- ✓ The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the control (0% effluent) for the *Daphnia pulex* survival test and fathead minnow survival test.
- ✓ The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the critical dilution unless significant lethal effects are exhibited for the *Daphnia pulex* survival test and/or the fathead minnow survival test.

Test failure may not be construed or reported as invalid due to a coefficient of variation value of greater than 40%. A repeat test shall be conducted within the required reporting period of any test determined to be invalid.

b. Statistical Interpretation

For the *Daphnia pulex* survival test and the Fathead minnow survival test, the statistical analyses used to determine if there is a statistically significant difference between the control and the critical dilution shall be in accordance with the methods EPA 821-R-02-012 or the most recent update thereof.

If the conditions of Test Acceptability are met in Item 2.a above and the percent survival of the test organism is equal to or greater than 90% in the critical dilution concentration and all lower dilution concentrations, the test shall be considered to be a passing test, and the permittee shall report an NOEC of not less than the critical dilution for the DMR reporting requirements found in Item 3 below.

c. Dilution Water

- ✓ Dilution water used in the toxicity tests will be receiving water collected as close to the point of discharge as possible but unaffected by the discharge. The permittee shall substitute synthetic dilution water of similar pH, hardness, and alkalinity to the closest downstream perennial water where the receiving stream is classified as intermittent or where the receiving stream has no flow due to zero flow conditions.
- ✓ If the receiving water is unsatisfactory as a result of instream toxicity (fails to fulfill the test acceptance criteria of Item 2.a.), the permittee may substitute synthetic dilution water

for the receiving water in all subsequent tests provided the unacceptable receiving water test met the following stipulations:

- a synthetic dilution water control which fulfills the test acceptance requirements of Item 2.a was run concurrently with the receiving water control;
- the test indicating receiving water toxicity has been carried out to completion (i.e., 48 hours);
- the permittee includes all test results indicating receiving water toxicity with the full report and information required by Item 3.a below; and
- the synthetic dilution water shall have a pH, hardness, and alkalinity similar to that of the receiving water or closest downstream perennial water not adversely affected by the discharge, provided the magnitude of these parameters will not cause toxicity in the synthetic dilution water.

d. Samples and Composites

- ✓ The permittee shall collect two flow weighted composite samples from the outfall(s) listed at Item 1.a above.
- ✓ The permittee shall collect a second composite sample for use during the 24 hour renewal of each dilution concentration for both tests. The permittee must collect the composite samples so that the maximum holding time for any effluent sample shall not exceed 36 hours. The permittee must have initiated the toxicity test within 36 hours after the collection of the last portion of the first composite sample. Samples shall be chilled to 6 degrees Centigrade during collection, shipping, and/or storage.
- ✓ The permittee must collect the composite samples such that the effluent samples are representative of any periodic episode of chlorination, biocide usage or other potentially toxic substance discharged on an intermittent basis.
- ✓ If the flow from the outfall(s) being tested ceases during the collection of effluent samples, the requirements for the minimum number of effluent samples, the minimum number of effluent portions and the sample holding time are waived during that sampling period. However, the permittee must collect an effluent composite sample volume during the period of discharge that is sufficient to complete the required toxicity tests with daily renewal of effluent. When possible, the effluent samples used for the toxicity tests shall be collected on separate days. The effluent composite sample collection duration and the static renewal protocol associated with the abbreviated sample collection must be documented in the full report required in Item 3 of this section.

3. REPORTING

- a. The permittee shall prepare a full report of the results of all tests conducted pursuant to this Part in accordance with the Report Preparation Section of EPA 821-R-02-012, for every valid or invalid toxicity test initiated, whether carried to completion or not. The permittee shall retain each full report pursuant to the provisions of PART III.C.3 of this permit. The permittee shall

submit full reports upon the specific request of the Agency. For any test which fails, is considered invalid or which is terminated early for any reason, the full report must be submitted for agency review.

- b. The permittee shall report the Whole Effluent Lethality values for the 30 Day Average Minimum and the 48 Hr. Minimum under Parameter No. 22414 on the DMR for that reporting period in accordance with PART III.D.4 of this permit.

If more than one valid test for a species was performed during the reporting period, the test NOECs will be averaged arithmetically and reported as the DAILY AVERAGE MINIMUM NOEC for that reporting period.

If more than one species is tested during the reporting period, the permittee shall report the lowest 30 Day Average Minimum NOEC and the lowest 48 Hr. Minimum NOEC for Whole Effluent Lethality.

A valid test for each species must be reported on the DMR during each reporting period specified in PART I of this permit. Only ONE set of biomonitoring data for each species is to be recorded on the DMR for each reporting period. The data submitted should reflect the LOWEST Survival results for each species during the reporting period. All invalid tests, repeat tests (for invalid tests), and retests (for tests previously failed) performed during the reporting period must be attached to the DMR for EPA review.

- c. The permittee shall submit the results of the valid toxicity test on the DMR for that reporting period in accordance with PART III.D.4 of this permit, as follows below. Submit retest information clearly marked as such with the following month's DMR. Only results of valid tests are to be reported on the DMR.

✓ Pimephales promelas (Fathead minnow)

- If the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TEM6C.
- Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOM6C.
- Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQM6C.

✓ Daphnia pulex

- If the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TEM3D.
- Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOM3D.
- Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQM3D.

4. MONITORING FREQUENCY REDUCTION

This section does not apply to any species for which the permit establishes whole effluent toxicity (WET) limits. For the first five years after the effective date of a WET limit, the minimum monitoring frequency for the affected species is once per quarter.

- a. The permittee may apply for a testing frequency reduction upon the successful completion of the first four consecutive quarters of testing for a test species, with no lethal or sub-lethal effects demonstrated at or below the critical dilution. If granted, the monitoring frequency for that test species may be reduced to not less than once per year for the less sensitive species (usually the Fathead minnow) and not less than twice per year for the more sensitive test species (usually the *Daphnia pulex*).
- b. Certification - The permittee must certify in writing that no test failures have occurred and that all tests meet all test acceptability criteria in item 3.a. above. In addition the permittee must provide a list with each test performed including test initiation date, species, NOECs for lethal effects and the maximum coefficient of variation for the controls. Upon review and acceptance of this information the agency will issue a letter of confirmation of the monitoring frequency reduction. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to the agency's Permit Compliance System section to update the permit reporting requirements.
- c. Survival Failures - If any test fails the survival endpoint at any time during the life of this permit, three monthly retests are required and the monitoring frequency for the affected test species shall be increased to once per quarter until the permit is re-issued. Monthly retesting is not required if the permittee is performing a TRE.
- d. This monitoring frequency reduction applies only until the expiration date of this permit, at which time the monitoring frequency for both test species reverts to once per quarter until the permit is re-issued.