



REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

NPDES Permit No NM0030864

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"),

Sierra County Regional WWTP-North Area
P.O. Box 1080
Elephant Butte, NM 87935

is authorized to discharge from a facility located at 1001 Sunset Ridge Road, Sierra County, New Mexico, into Cuchillo Negro Creek, thence to Rio Grande Basin.

Outfall 001: Latitude 35° 09' 16.02" N and Longitude 107° 13' 52.18" 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.

This permit supersedes and replaces NPDES Permit No. NM0030864 with an effective date of August 1st, 2007.

This permit shall become effective on

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

Issued on

Prepared by

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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 – 0.6 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 to Cuchillo Negro Creek (20.6.4.98 NMAC) from Outfall 001. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee and reported as specified below:

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS	DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	POLLUTANT	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY
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 (*10)	SAMPLE TYPE (*10)
POLLUTANT	30-DAY AVG	7-DAY AVG	30-DAY AVG	7-DAY AVG	DAILY MAX		
Flow	Report MGD	Report MGD	***	***	***	5/Week	Totalized
BOD	150.2	225.3	30	45	N/A	2/Month	Grab
BOD % removal, minimum	≥85 (*2)	***	***	***	***	Monthly	Calculation (*2)
TSS	150.2	225.3	30	45	N/A	2/Month	Grab
TSS % removal, minimum	≥85 (*2)	***	***	***	***	Monthly	Calculation (*2)
E. coli bacteria (*3)	N/A	N/A	206 cfu/100 ml	N/A	940 cfu/100 ml	2/Month	Grab
TRC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11 ug/l (*4)	5/Week	Grab (*5)

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS	DISCHARGE MONITORING		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS		
	7-DAY CHRONIC NOEC FRESHWATER (*6)	30-DAY AVG	7-DAY MINIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE (*9)
Ceriodaphnia dubia (in 1 st year)	Report	Report	Report	Once/year (*7)	3-hr Composite
Pimephales promelas (in 1 st year)	Report	Report	Report	Once/year	3-hr Composite
WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING 48-HR ACUTE NOEC FRESHWATER (*6)(*8)	30-DAY AVG	48-HR MINIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE (*9)	
Daphnia pulex (years: 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th)	Report	Report	Once/ year (*7)	3-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 Colony forming units (cfu) per 100 ml
- *4 TRC shall be measured during periods when chlorine is used as either backup bacteria control, when disinfection of plant treatment equipment is required or when used for filamentaceous algae control. For permit reporting, when chlorine is not used in the treatment system the permittee may report N/A on the DMR. The effluent limitation for TRC is the instantaneous maximum and cannot be averaged for reporting purposes.
- *5 Regulations at 40 CFR Part 136 define "grab" as instantaneous grab, analyzed within 15 minutes of collection.
- *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 tests 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 This 48-hr acute test is required if the 7-day chronic tests pass in first year of the permit term.
- *9 Allowed for this facility due to available number of discharge per day.
- *10 If the discharge flow is 0.5 MGD or greater on daily basis, the permittee shall notify EPA within 5 days from the first month of 0.5 MGD or greater discharges. EPA may then amend the monitor frequency and sample type appropriately.

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.

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 (MINOR DISCHARGERS)

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 quarterly.

1. Reporting periods shall end on the last day of the months March, June, September, and December.
2. The permittee is required to submit regular quarterly reports as described above postmarked no later than the 28th day of the month following each reporting period.
3. 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.

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:

- a. The influent loadings, flow and design capacity;
- b. The effluent quality and plant performance;
- c. The age and expected life of the wastewater treatment facility's equipment;
- d. Bypasses and overflows of the tributary sewerage system and treatment works;
- e. New developments at the facility;
- f. Operator certification and training plans and status;
- g. The financial status of the facility;
- h. Preventative maintenance programs and equipment conditions and;
- i. 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. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (7-DAY CHRONIC NOEC FRESHWATER)

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
EFFLUENT DILUTION SERIES:	32%, 42%, 56%, 75%, and 100%
CRITICAL DILUTION:	100%
COMPOSITE SAMPLE TYPE:	Defined at PART I
TEST SPECIES/METHODS:	40 CFR Part 136

Ceriodaphnia dubia chronic static renewal survival and reproduction test, Method 1002.0, EPA 821 R 02 013, or the most recent update thereof. This test should be terminated when 60% of the surviving females in the control produce three broods or at the end of eight days, whichever comes first.

Pimephales promelas (Fathead minnow) chronic static renewal 7-day larval survival and growth test, Method 1000.0, EPA 821 R 02 013 or the most recent 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 herein 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. Chronic lethal 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. Chronic sub-lethal test failure is defined as a demonstration of a statistically significant sub-lethal effect (i.e., growth or reproduction) at test completion to a test species at or below the critical dilution.
- c. This permit may be reopened to require whole effluent toxicity limits, chemical specific effluent limits, additional testing, and/or other appropriate actions to address toxicity.
- d. 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 test failures. However, upon failure of any WET test, the permittee must report the test results to NMED, Surface Water Quality Bureau, in writing, within 5 business days of notification the test failure. NMED will review the test results and determine the appropriate action necessary, if any.

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:

- The toxicity test control (0% effluent) must have survival equal to or greater than 80%.
- The mean number of *Ceriodaphnia dubia* neonates produced per surviving female in the control (0% effluent) must be 15 or more.
- 60% of the surviving control females must produce three broods.
- The mean dry weight of surviving Fathead minnow larvae at the end of the 7 days in the control (0% effluent) must be 0.25 mg per larva or greater.
- The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the control (0% effluent) for: the young of surviving females in the *Ceriodaphnia dubia* reproduction test; the growth and survival endpoints of the Fathead minnow test.
- The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the critical dilution, unless significant lethal or nonlethal effects are exhibited for: the young of surviving females in the *Ceriodaphnia dubia* reproduction test; the growth and survival endpoints of the Fathead minnow test.
- A PMSD range of 13 - 47 for *Ceriodaphnia dubia* reproduction;
- A PMSD range of 12 - 30 for Fathead minnow growth.

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 *Ceriodaphnia dubia* survival test, the statistical analyses used to determine if there is a significant difference between the control and the critical dilution shall be Fisher's Exact Test as described in EPA/821/R-02-013 or the most recent update thereof.
- For the *Ceriodaphnia dubia* reproduction test and the Fathead minnow larval survival and growth test, the statistical analyses used to determine if there is a significant difference between the control and the critical dilution shall be in accordance with the methods for determining the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) as described in EPA/821/R-02-013 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 80% 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 a survival 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 for;
 - toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges to receiving water classified as intermittent streams; and
 - toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges where no receiving water is available 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 3.a was run concurrently with the receiving water control;
 - the test indicating receiving water toxicity has been carried out to completion (i.e., 7 days);
 - the permittee includes all test results indicating receiving water toxicity with the full report and information required by Item 3 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 a minimum of three flow-weighted composite samples from the outfall(s) listed at Item 1.a above.
- The permittee shall collect second and third composite samples for use during 24-hour renewals of each dilution concentration for each test. 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.
- The permittee must collect the composite samples so that the maximum holding time for any effluent sample shall not exceed 72 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.

- 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 if the discharge occurs over multiple 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 section in accordance with the Report Preparation Section of EPA/821/R-02-013, or the most current publication, 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. A valid test for each species must be reported during each reporting period specified in PART I of this permit unless the permittee is performing a TRE which may increase the frequency of testing and reporting. Only ONE set of biomonitoring data for each species is to be recorded for each reporting period. The data submitted should reflect the LOWEST lethal and sub-lethal effects 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 for EPA review.
- c. The permittee shall submit the results of each valid toxicity test as follows below. Submit retest information, if required, clearly marked as such. Only results of valid tests are to be reported.
 - *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. TLP6C
 - Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOP6C
 - Report the LOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TXP6C
 - Report the NOEC value for growth, Parameter No. TPP6C
 - Report the LOEC value for growth, Parameter No. TYP6C

- If the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) for growth is less than the critical dilution, enter a '1'; otherwise, enter a '0' for Parameter No. TGP6C
- Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQP6C
- Ceriodaphnia dubia
 - If the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a '1'; otherwise, enter a '0' for Parameter No. TLP3B
 - Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOP3B
 - Report the LOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TXP3B
 - Report the NOEC value for reproduction, Parameter No. TPP3B
 - Report the LOEC value for reproduction, Parameter No. TYP3B
 - If the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) for reproduction is less than the critical dilution, enter a '1'; otherwise, enter a '0' for Parameter No. TGP3B
 - Report the higher (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQP3B
- d. If retests are required by NMED, enter the following codes:
 - For retest number 1, Parameter 22415, enter a '1' if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a '0'
 - For retest number 2, Parameter 22416, enter a '1' if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a '0'

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

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
EFFLUENT DILUTION SERIES:	32%, 42%, 56%, 75%, and 100%
CRITICAL DILUTION:	100%
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.

- 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. This permit may be reopened to require whole effluent toxicity limits, chemical specific effluent limits, additional testing, and/or other appropriate actions to address toxicity.
- d. Test failure is defined as a demonstration of statistically significant lethal effects to a test species at or below the effluent critical dilution.
- e. 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 test failures. However, upon failure of any WET test, the permittee must report the test results to NMED, Surface Water Quality Bureau, in writing, within 5 business days of notification the test failure. NMED will review the test results and determine the appropriate action necessary, if any.

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).
- The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the critical dilution, unless significant lethal effects are exhibited.

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

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 for determining the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) as de-scribed in 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 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 for;
 - toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges to receiving water classified as intermittent streams; and
 - toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges where no receiving water is available 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 3.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 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 a minimum of three flow-weighted composite samples from the outfall(s) listed at Item 1.a above.
- The permittee shall collect second and third composite samples for use during 24-hour renewals of each dilution concentration for each test. 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.
- The permittee must collect the composite samples so that the maximum holding time for any effluent sample shall not exceed 72 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.
- 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 if the discharge occurs over multiple 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. A valid test for each species must be reported during each reporting period specified in PART I of this permit unless the permittee is performing a TRE which may increase the frequency of testing and reporting. Only ONE set of biomonitoring data for each species is to

be recorded 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 for EPA review.

- c. The permittee shall report the following results of each valid toxicity test. Submit retest information, if required, clearly marked as such. Only results of valid tests are to be reported.

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.
- d. If retests are required by NMED, enter the following codes:
- For retest number 1, Parameter 22415, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
 - For retest number 2, Parameter 22416, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."