



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

JAMES C. KENNEY
CABINET SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 10, 2024

Danette Cabber, Interim Director
Estancia Solid Waste Authority
515 Allen Street
P.O. Box 736
Estancia, New Mexico 87106

RE: Draft Discharge Permit Modification, DP-1708, Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority Septage Dewatering and Disposal Facility

Dear Danette Cabber:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) hereby provides notice to you of the proposed approval of Ground Water Discharge Permit Modification, DP-1708, (copy enclosed), pursuant to Subsection H of 20.6.2.3108 NMAC. NMED will publish notice of the availability of the draft Discharge Permit in the near future for public review and comment and will forward a copy of that notice to you.

Prior to making a final ruling on the proposed Discharge Permit, NMED will allow 30 days from the date the public notice is published in the newspaper for any interested party, including the Discharge Permit applicant, i.e., yourself, to submit written comments and/or a request a public hearing. A hearing request shall set forth the reasons why a hearing is requested. NMED will hold a hearing in response to a timely hearing request if the NMED Secretary determines there is substantial public interest in the proposed Discharge Permit.

Please review the enclosed draft Discharge Permit carefully. Please be aware that this Discharge Permit may contain conditions that require the permittee to implement operational, monitoring or closure actions by a specified deadline.

Please submit written comments or a request for hearing to my attention at the address below, via email to melanie.sandoval2@env.nm.gov or to pps.general@env.nm.gov, or directly into the NMED Public Comment Portal at <https://nmed.commentinput.com/comment/search>. If NMED does not receive written comments or a request for hearing during the public comment period, the draft Discharge Permit will become final.

Thank you for your cooperation during the review process. Feel free to contact me with any questions at (505) 660-7892.

SCIENCE | INNOVATION | COLLABORATION | COMPLIANCE

Ground Water Quality Bureau | 1190 Saint Francis Drive, PO Box 5469, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-5469
Telephone (505) 827-2900 | www.env.nm.gov/gwqb/

Estancia Solid Waste Authority

October 10, 2024

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Sincerely,

Melanie Sandoval, Industrial Waste Team Lead

Encl: Draft Discharge Permit Modification, DP-1708
Mike Crepeau, PE, mcrepeaau@parkhill.com
Matt Kingsley, PE, mkingsley@parkhill.com



NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
 Ground Water Quality Bureau
 1190 Saint Francis Drive / PO Box 5469
 Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469
 Phone (505) 827-2900 Fax (505) 827-2965
www.env.nm.gov



Draft: October 10, 2024

GROUND WATER QUALITY BUREAU
DISCHARGE PERMIT
Issued under 20.6.2 NMAC

Facility Name: Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority Septage Dewatering and Disposal Facility

Discharge Permit Number: DP-1708

Facility Location: 249 Sidewinder Road
Moriarty, NM 87016

County: Torrance

Permittee: Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority

Mailing Address: 515 Allen Street
P.O. Box 736
Estancia, NM 87016

Facility Contact: Danette Cabber, Interim Director

Telephone Number/Email: (505) 384-3062 / danette@evswa.com

Permitting Action: Modification

Permit Issuance Date: DATE

Permit Expiration Date: November 24, 2025

NMED Permit Contact: Melanie Sandoval, Industrial Waste Team Lead

Telephone Number/Email: (505) 660-7892 / melanie.sandoval2@env.nm.gov or 505-827-2900 / pps.general@env.nm.gov

JUSTIN D. BALL
 Chief, Ground Water Quality Bureau
 New Mexico Environment Department

Date

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ATTACHMENTS

- Discharge Permit Summary
- Groundwater Discharge Permit Guidance for Synthetically Lined Lagoons – Liner Material and Site Preparation, Revision 0.0, May 2007
- Surface Disposal Data Sheet (SDDS-Septage/Sludge - <https://www.env.nm.gov/forms/>)

I. INTRODUCTION

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) issues this groundwater discharge permit Modification (Discharge Permit or DP-1708) to the Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority (Permittee) pursuant to the New Mexico Water Quality Act (WQA), NMSA 1978 §§74-6-1 through 74-6-17, and the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Ground and Surface Water Protection Regulations, 20.6.2 NMAC.

NMED's purpose in issuing this Discharge Permit, and in imposing the requirements and conditions specified herein, is to control the discharge of water contaminants from Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority Septage Dewatering and Disposal Facility (Facility) in order to protect groundwater and those segments of surface water gaining from groundwater inflow for present and potential future use as domestic and agricultural water supply and other uses, and to protect public health. It is NMED's determination in issuing this Discharge Permit that the Permittee has met the requirements of Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC. The Permittee is responsible for complying with the terms and conditions of this Discharge Permit pursuant to Section 20.6.2.3104 NMAC; failure to do so may result in enforcement action by NMED (20.6.2.1220 NMAC).

Described below are the activities that produce the discharge, the location of the discharge, and the quantity, quality, and flow characteristics.

The Facility discharges domestic septage including portable toilet waste in volumes of up to 100,000 gallons per week to two 2-celled synthetically lined impoundment dewatering systems. The Facility land applies domestic septage, including portable toilet waste, or septage filtrate (the liquid fraction of domestic septage) in volumes of up to 7,000 gallons per week to 10 surface disposal cells totaling 0.93 acres each on a rotational basis or to the mortality compost area by spray irrigation with a water truck. Septage solids collected from the dewatering systems are periodically removed and transferred to the registered composting operations (SWB #0130179C).

The Discharge Permit modification consists of an increase in the maximum discharge volume from 50,000 to 100,000 gallons per week, the addition of a second 2-celled synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system and the discharge of the liquid fraction of domestic septage to the mortality compost area.

Discharge Permit Location Information:

Physical Address	249 Sidewinder Road, Moriarity, NM 87106
Nearest Town/City	Moriarty

Section, Township, Range	Section 23, Township 9 North, Range 10 East
County	Torrance
Depth to Groundwater	245
Pre-Discharge TDS	820

Discharge Permit Issuance History:

Original Permit Issuance	May 17, 2011
Permit Renewal	September 12, 2014
Permit Renewal	November 25, 2020

The application (i.e., discharge plan) associated with this Discharge Permit consists of the materials submitted by the Permittee dated May 17, 2024, and July 16, 2024, and materials contained in the administrative record prior to issuance of this Discharge Permit.

The Permittee shall manage the discharge in accordance with all conditions and requirements of this Discharge Permit.

NMED reserves the right to require a Discharge Permit modification in the event NMED determines that the Permittee is or may be violating, or is likely to violate in the future, the requirements of 20.6.2 NMAC or the standards of Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC. NMED reserves this right pursuant to Section 20.6.2.3109 NMAC. An NMED requirement to modify the Discharge Permit may result from a determination by the department that structural controls and/or management practices approved under this Discharge Permit are insufficiently protective of groundwater quality and human health. NMED reserves the right to require the Permittee to implement abatement of water pollution and remediate groundwater quality.

NMED issuance of this Discharge Permit does not relieve the Permittee of the responsibility to comply with the WQA, WQCC Regulations, and any other applicable federal, state and/or local laws and regulations, such as zoning requirements and nuisance ordinances.

This Discharge Permit may use the following acronyms and abbreviations.

Abbreviation	Explanation	Abbreviation	Explanation
BOD ₅	biochemical oxygen demand (5-day)	NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
CAP	Corrective Action Plan	NMSA	New Mexico Statutes Annotated
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NO ₃ -N	nitrate-nitrogen
CFU	colony forming unit	NTU	nephelometric turbidity units
Cl	chloride	QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control

Abbreviation	Explanation	Abbreviation	Explanation
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency	TDS	total dissolved solids
Gpd	gallons per day	TKN	total Kjeldahl nitrogen
LAA	land application area	total nitrogen	= TKN + NO ₃ -N
LADS	Land Application Data Sheet(s)	TRC	total residual chlorine
mg/L	milligrams per liter	TSS	total suspended solids
mL	milliliters	WQA	New Mexico Water Quality Act
MPN	most probable number	WQCC	Water Quality Control Commission
NMAC	New Mexico Administrative Code	WWTF	Wastewater Treatment Facility

II. FINDINGS

In issuing this Discharge Permit, NMED finds the following.

1. The Permittee is discharging effluent or leachate from the Facility so that such effluent or leachate may move into groundwater of the State of New Mexico that has an existing concentration of 10,000 mg/L or less of TDS, within the meaning of Subsection A of 20.6.2.3101 NMAC, without exceeding standards of 20.6.2.3103 NMAC for any water contaminant.
2. The Permittee is discharging effluent or leachate from the Facility directly or indirectly into groundwater pursuant to this Discharge Permit and Sections 20.6.2.3000 through 20.6.2.3114 NMAC.
3. The discharge from this Facility has the potential to contain water contaminants or toxic pollutants elevated above the standards of Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC and is not subject to the exemption at Subsection 20.6.2.3105 NMAC.

III. AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE

The Permittee is responsible for ensuring that discharges authorized by this Discharge Permit are consistent with the terms and conditions herein pursuant to 20.6.2.3104 NMAC.

This Discharge Permit authorizes the Permittee to receive and treat up to 100,000 gallons per week of domestic septage including portable toilet waste using two 2-celled synthetically lined impoundment dewatering systems. This Discharge Permit also authorizes the Permittee to discharge up to 7,000 gallons per week of septage filtrate (the liquid fraction of domestic septage)

to 10 surface disposal cells totaling 0.93 acres each on a rotational basis or to the mortality compost area by spray irrigation with a water truck.

This Discharge Permit also authorizes the Permittee to remove and transfer the septage solids collected from the dewatering systems to the registered composting operations (SWB #0130179C).

[20.6.2.3104 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3106 NMAC, Subsection D of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]

IV. CONDITIONS

NMED issues this Discharge Permit for the discharge of water contaminants subject to the following conditions.

A. MODIFICATION CONDITIONS ADDED

Operational Actions with Implementation Deadlines

#	Terms and Conditions
1.	<p>A minimum of 90 days prior to construction of the new synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system #3, the Permittee shall submit final construction plans and specifications for NMED's review of the proposed synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system. The construction plans and specifications shall bear the seal and signature of a licensed New Mexico professional engineer (pursuant to New Mexico Engineering and Surveying Practice Act and the rules promulgated under that authority) and shall include the supporting design calculations.</p> <p>The submitted documentation shall include the following elements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) ALL IMPOUNDMENTS - Details for the construction of the impoundment system and a liner consistent with the attachment titled <i>Groundwater Discharge Permit Guidance for Synthetically Lined Lagoons – Liner Material and Site Preparation</i>, Revision 0.0, May 2007.b) ALL - Wastewater system component(s) design, e.g., lift stations, valves, transfer lines, process units and associated details.c) SUBSURFACE DISPOSAL/IRRIGATION - The infrastructure necessary to discharge wastewater to a subsurface irrigation system. The absorption area shall be sized to accommodate the maximum daily volume of wastewater discharged at the maximum allowable total nitrogen limit designated in this Discharge Permit while not exceeding the nitrogen loading limit of 200 pounds per acre in any 12-month period.

#	Terms and Conditions
	<p>d) ALL – Flow meter design detail - Flow meters to measure the volume of wastewater discharged from the synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system to the surface disposal cells or to the mortality compost area.</p> <p>e) ALL - Specifications for all equipment, materials and installation procedures the Permittee will use in the construction of the wastewater system.</p> <p>f) ALL - Fences design detail around the synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system.</p> <p>Prior to constructing the synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system and its associated components, the Permittee shall obtain written verification from NMED that the plans and specifications meet the requirements of this Discharge Permit.</p> <p>[Subsections A and C of 20.6.2.1202 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3106 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, NMSA 1978, §§ 61-23-1 through 61-23-32]</p>
2.	<p>Prior to discharging to the new synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system #3, the Permittee shall complete construction in accordance with the final construction plans and specifications required by this Discharge Permit. The Permittee shall notify NMED at least five working days prior to commencement of construction to allow NMED personnel to be onsite for inspection.</p> <p>[Subsections A and C of 20.6.2.1202 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC, NMSA 1978, §§ 61-23-1 through 61-23-32]</p>
3.	<p>Within 30 days of completing construction of the new synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system #3 the Permittee shall submit record drawings to NMED that bear the seal and signature of a licensed New Mexico professional engineer (pursuant to the New Mexico Engineering and Surveying Practice Act and the rules promulgated under that authority) for the constructed synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system #3.</p> <p>[Subsections A and C of 20.6.2.1202 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC, NMSA 1978, §§ 61-23-1 through 61-23-32]</p>
4.	<p>Five business days prior to discharging to the new synthetically lined impoundment dewatering system #3, the Permittee shall submit written notification to NMED stating the date the discharge is to commence.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, Subsection H of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]</p>
5.	<p>Within 30 days of the issuance date of this Discharge Permit (by DATE), the Permittee shall post signs indicating that the wastewater at the Facility is not potable. The</p>

#	Terms and Conditions
	<p>Permittee shall post signs at the Facility entrance and other areas where there is potential for public contact with wastewater. Posted signs shall be in English and Spanish and shall be legible during the term of this Discharge Permit.</p> <p>The Permittee shall submit documentation demonstrating sign installation that consists of date stamped photographs to NMED in the next required periodic monitoring report.</p> <p>[Subsections B and C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC, NMSA 1978, § 74-6-5.D]</p>
6.	<p>Within 30 days of the issuance date of this Discharge Permit (by DATE), the Permittee shall post the following signs at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs posted at the Facility entrance and every 500 feet along the Facility boundary that state: "Notice: Waste Disposal Area - KEEP OUT" and "Aviso: Área de Disposición - NO ENTRAR". • A sign posted at the entrance gate with the name of the Facility's contact person, office phone number of the contact person, emergency contact phone number for the Facility, and physical location of the Facility including township, range, and sections. • A sign at the boundary of each zone to identify the zone number. <p>All signs shall be weatherproof and remain legible for the term of this Discharge Permit.</p> <p>The Permittee shall submit documentation demonstrating sign installation that consists of date stamped photographs to NMED in the next required periodic monitoring report.</p> <p>[NMSA 1978, § 74-6-5.D, Subsections B and C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]</p>

Operating Conditions

#	Terms and Conditions
7.	<p>The Permittee shall visually inspect the area above the mortality compost area (disposal system) semi-annually to ensure proper maintenance. The Permittee shall correct any conditions that indicate damage to the disposal system. The Permittee shall ensure conditions corrected include erosion damage, animal activity/damage, woody shrubs, evidence of seepage, or any other condition indicating damage.</p>

#	Terms and Conditions
	<p>The Permittee shall keep a log of the inspections that includes a date of the inspection, any findings and repairs, and the name of the inspector. The Permittee shall make the log available to NMED upon request.</p> <p>In the event of a failure of the disposal system, the Permittee shall implement the Contingency Plan set forth in this Discharge Permit.</p> <p>[Subsections A and D of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]</p>

B. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Monitoring and Reporting - Domestic Septage

#	Terms and Conditions
8.	<p>The Permittee shall on a monthly basis complete a Surface Disposal Data Sheet for Septage (SDDS-Septage, attached) to document the amount of nitrogen in septage discharged to each surface disposal cell and to the mortality compost area. The Permittee shall complete a SDDS for each cell and to the mortality compost area and shall reflect the volume and total nitrogen concentration of waste discharged to the disposal cells for each month. To determine the amount of nitrogen in septage applied, the Permittee may assume a total nitrogen concentration of 600 mg/L, based on average characteristics of septage (Guide to Septage Treatment and Disposal, EPA/625/R-94-002), or may use a total nitrogen value from the laboratory analysis of a composite sample from a minimum of six waste loads semi-annually using a sampling protocol approved by NMED prior to sample collection.</p> <p>The Permittee shall not adjust the nitrogen content to account for volatilization or mineralization processes. If the Permittee derives the total nitrogen value from laboratory analysis, the Permittee shall submit the analytical results, including the laboratory QA/QC summary report and Chain of Custody, to NMED in the semi-annual monitoring reports.</p> <p>The Permittee shall submit the SDDSs, or a statement that no surface disposal occurred within the cell(s), to NMED in the semi-annual monitoring reports.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 and Subsection H of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]</p>



New Mexico Environment Department Ground Water Quality Bureau Discharge Permit Summary

Facility Information

Facility Name Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority Septage Dewatering and Disposal Facility
Discharge Permit Number DP-1708
Legally Responsible Party Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority
Danette Cabber, Interim Director
515 Allen Street
P.O. Box 736
Estancia, NM 87016
(505) 384-3062

Treatment, Disposal and Site Information

Primary Waste Type Industrial
Facility Type Septage Disposal Facility

Discharge Locations

Type	Designation	Description & Comments
Septage Dewatering System	SDS-Lagoon #1	Decommissioned in 2020 prior to construction of Existing Septage Evaporation Lagoon #2.
Septage Dewatering System	SDS-Lagoon #2	60-mil smooth HDPE liner with an 8" concrete slab on top and 60-mil HDPE secondary liner for leak detection. The liquids collection sump houses a submersible pump with associated controls.
Septage Dewatering System	SDS-Lagoon #3	60-mil smooth HDPE liner with an 8" concrete slab on top and 60-mil HDPE secondary liner for leak detection. The liquids collection sump houses a submersible pump with associated controls. To be installed.
Reuse Area	Surface Disposal Area	Approximately 9.3 acres. Spent wood chips receiving liquid from the Septage Lagoons via spray irrigation or spray application via water wagon over ten, 0.93-acre cells.
Reuse Area	Mortality Compost Area	Approximately 3 acres. Shredded green waste and animal carcasses/offal windrows receiving liquid addition from the Septage Lagoons via water wagon.

Depth-to-Ground Water 245 feet
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) 820 mg/L

Permit Information

Original Permit Issued May 17, 2011
Permit Renewal September 12, 2014
Permit Renewal November 25, 2020



New Mexico Environment Department Ground Water Quality Bureau Discharge Permit Summary

Current Action

Application Received
Public Notice Published
Permit Issued (Issuance Date)
Permitted Discharge Volume

Modification

May 17, 2024
[not yet published]
[issuance date]
100,000 gallons per day

NMED Contact Information

Mailing Address

Ground Water Quality Bureau
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-5469

GWQB Telephone Number

(505) 827-2900

NMED Lead Staff

Melanie Sandoval

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draft