



CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 17, 2023

Andrew Hume, Airport Administrator
Las Cruces International Airport
P.O. Box 20000
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001

RE: Draft Discharge Permit Modification, DP-1652, Las Cruces International Airport

Dear Andy Hume:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) hereby provides notice to Las Cruces International Airport of the proposed approval of Ground Water Discharge Permit Renewal, DP-1652, (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 above or via email to aracely.tellez@env.nm.gov or to pps.general@state.nm.us, 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) 629-8864.

Andy Hume
DATE
Page 2 of 2

Sincerely,

Aracely Tellez
Water Resources Professional III

Encl: Draft Discharge Permit Modification, DP-1652

cc: Leah Marquez, LMarquez@molzencorbin.com, Molzen-Corbin & Associates PA
Briana Borrego, bborrego@las-cruces.org, Airport Operations Manager



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: April 17, 2023

GROUND WATER QUALITY BUREAU
DISCHARGE PERMIT
Issued under 20.6.2 NMAC

Facility Name: Las Cruces International Airport
Discharge Permit Number: DP-1652
Facility Location: 8990 Zia Boulevard
Las Cruces, NM 88007

County: Dona Ana

Permittee: P.O. Box 20000
Mailing Address: Las Cruces, NM 88007

Facility Contact: Andrew Hume
Telephone Number/Email: 575-541-2471/ahume@las-cruces.org

Permitting Action: Modification

Permit Issuance Date:
Permit Expiration Date: March 22, 2027

NMED Permit Contact: Aracely Tellez
Telephone Number/Email: (505) 629-8864/Aracely.tellez@env.nm.gov or
(505) 827-2900 / pps.general@env.nm.gov

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

Date

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION 1

II. FINDINGS 3

III. AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE 3

IV. CONDITIONS 3

E. MODIFICATION CONDITIONS ADDED 3

ATTACHMENTS

Discharge Permit Summary

I. INTRODUCTION

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) issues this groundwater discharge permit Renewal (Discharge Permit or DP-1652) to the Las Cruces International Airport (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 Las Cruces International Airport (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.

Twenty-eight septic tank leachfield or holding tank systems receive and treat up to 6,015 gallons per day (gpd) of domestic wastewater.

The discharge permit modification consists of an increase in the number of septic tank/leachfields to twenty-eight.

The discharge may 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.A NMAC.

The Facility is located at 8990 Zia Boulevard, Las Cruces, NM, approximately 8 miles Southwest of Las Cruces, in Sections 26 and 27, Township 23S, Range 1W, in Dona Ana County. A discharge at the Facility is most likely to affect groundwater at a depth of approximately 350 feet and having a pre-discharge total dissolved solids (TDS) concentration of approximately 670 milligrams per liter.

NMED issued the original Discharge Permit to the Permittee on December 2, 2008, and subsequently renewed the Permit on February 14, 2014, and June 26, 2016, and March 23, 2021. The application (i.e., discharge plan) associated with this Discharge Permit consists of the materials submitted the Permittee dated November 3, 2022, 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 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
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 the Facility is not subject to any of the exemptions of Section 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 6,015 gpd of domestic wastewater using 28 existing septic tank/leachfield and/or holding tank systems.

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

IV. CONDITIONS

E. MODIFICATION CONDITIONS ADDED

#	Terms and Conditions
31.	<p>Prior to discharging to an additional NMED approved septic tank-disposal system(s), the Permittee shall submit an up-to-date diagram of the layout of the entire Facility to NMED. The diagram shall include the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a north arrow;• the issuance date of the diagram; and• all septic tank-disposal systems authorized by this Discharge Permit.

#	Terms and Conditions
	<p>The Permittees shall ensure that any element that cannot be directly shown due to its location inside of existing structures, or because it is buried without surface identification, shall be on the diagram in a schematic format and identified as such.</p> <p>[Subsection C of 20.6.2.3106 NMAC, Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]</p>
32.	<p>Prior to installing a new septic tank-disposal system or replacing an existing septic tank-disposal system, the Permittee shall notify NMED. The Permittee shall submit construction plans and specifications for NMED’s review and approval of the proposed septic tank-disposal system. The construction plans and specifications shall comply with the New Mexico Engineering and Surveying Practice Act and the rules promulgated under that authority or with the Liquid Waste Disposal and Treatment Regulations (20.7.3 NMAC) if the disposal system is less than 5,000 gpd.</p> <p>The Permittee shall submit the construction plans and specifications, that include the following elements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Details for the construction of the septic tanks(s) including sizing calculations. b) Details for the construction of the disposal system(s) including sizing calculations. c) The infrastructure necessary to discharge wastewater to the disposal system. d) A flow meter design detail to measure the volume of wastewater discharged to the septic tank(s). e) Specifications for all materials and installation procedures the Permittees will use in the installation of the septic tank-disposal system. <p>Prior to installing the new septic tank-disposal system or replacing an existing septic tank-disposal system, the Permittees shall obtain written verification from NMED that the plans and specifications meet the requirements of this Discharge Permit.</p> <p>[Subsections A and C 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>
33.	<p>Prior to discharging to an NMED approved septic tank-disposal system, the Permittee shall complete construction in accordance with the construction plans and specifications required by this Discharge Permit. The Permittees 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>

#	Terms and Conditions
34.	<p>Within 30 days of completing construction of the NMED approved septic tank-disposal system, the Permittee shall submit record drawings to NMED pursuant to the New Mexico Engineering and Surveying Practice Act and the rules promulgated under that authority or the Liquid Waste Disposal and Treatment Regulations (20.7.3 NMAC) if the disposal system is less than 5,000 gpd.</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>



New Mexico Environment Department Ground Water Quality Bureau Discharge Permit Summary

Facility Information

Facility Name Las Cruces International Airport
Discharge Permit Number DP-1652

Legally Responsible Party Andrew Hume, Airport Administrator
 Las Cruces International Airport
 P.O. Box 20000
 Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001
 (575) 541-2471

Treatment, Disposal and Site Information

Primary Waste Type Domestic
Facility Type Retail/Commercial

Treatment Methods

Type	Designation	Description & Comments
Septic Tank	Parcel 46	Concrete ST - New 1115 gallons
Septic Tank	Parcel 10	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 690 Wingspan
Septic Tank	Parcel 9W	Concrete – 900 gallons, 9300 Zia
Septic Tank	Parcel 16	Concrete – 900 gallons, 730 Leonard Bryan Alley
Septic Tank	Parcel 17	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 720 Leonard Bryan Alley
Septic Tank	Parcel 19A	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 700 Leonard Bryan Alley
Septic Tank	Parcel 18	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 710 Leonard Bryan Alley
Septic Tank	Parcel 21	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 740 Leonard Bryan Alley
Septic Tank	725 Leonard Bryan, Parcel 24	Concrete – 900 gallons, 725 Leonard Bryan Alley
Septic Tank	Parcel 25	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 715 Leonard Bryan Alley
Septic Tank	Parcel 26	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 705 Leonard Bryan Alley
Septic Tank	Parcel 23	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 745 Leonard Bryan Alley



New Mexico Environment Department Ground Water Quality Bureau Discharge Permit Summary

Septic Tank	Parcel 29	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 740 Therapy Dr
Septic Tank	Parcel 33	Concrete – 900 gallons, 745 White Lightning
Septic Tank	Parcel 34	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 735 White Lightning
Septic Tank	725 White Lightening- Parcel 35	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 725 White Lightning
Septic Tank	Parcel 8W	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 9400 Zia
Septic Tank	Parcel 30/31	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 670 Wingspan
Septic Tank	Parcel 11	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 670 Wingspan
Septic Tank	Parcel 12	Concrete – 900 gallons, 650 Wingspan
Septic Tank	Parcel 13	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 630 Wingspan
Septic Tank	Parcel 14	Concrete – 900 gallons, 610 Wingspan
Septic Tank	Parcel 15	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 8650 Gasoline Alley
Septic Tank	Parcel 38	Concrete – 1200 gallons, White Lightning
Septic Tank	Parcel 44	Concrete – 1200 gallons, 700 White Lightning
Septic Tank	Parcel 50	Concrete – 1200 gallons, Las Cruces Aviation, 800 Aerostar
Septic Tank	Parcel 45	Concrete – 1700 gallons, 95000 Zia
Septic Tank	Parcel 36/37	Concrete – 1500 gallons, Rocket Racing League, 705/715 White Lightning

Discharge Locations

Type	Designation	Description & Comments
Leachfield	LF-1	Serves ST-1
Leachfield	LF-6	Serves ST-6
Leachfield	LF-8	Serves Parcel 8W



New Mexico Environment Department Ground Water Quality Bureau Discharge Permit Summary

Leachfield	LF-9	Serves Parcel 9W
Leachfield	LF-10	Serves Parcel 10
Leachfield	LF-11	Serves Parcel 11
Leachfield	LF-12	Serves Parcel 12
Leachfield	LF-13	Serves Parcel 13
Leachfield	LF-14	Serves Parcel 14
Leachfield	LF-15	Serves Parcel 15
Leachfield	LF-16A	Serves Parcel 16A
Leachfield	LF-16B	Serves Parcel 16B
Leachfield	LF-17	Serves Parcel 17
Leachfield	LF-18	Serves Parcel 18
Leachfield	LF-19	Serves Parcel 19A
Leachfield	LF-21	Serves Parcel 21
Leachfield	LF-23	Serves Parcel 23
Leachfield	LF-25	Serves Parcel 25
Leachfield	LF-26	Serves Parcel 26
Leachfield	LF-29	Serves Parcel 29
Leachfield	LF-30-31	Serves Parcel 30-31
Leachfield	LF-33	Serves Parcel 33
Leachfield	LF-34	Serves Parcel 34
Leachfield	LF-38	Serves Parcel 38
Leachfield	LF-24	Serves Parcel 24
Leachfield	LF-35	Serves Parcel 35
Leachfield	LF-/37	Serves Parcel 36/67
Leachfield	LF-44	Serves Parcel 44



**New Mexico Environment Department Ground Water Quality Bureau
Discharge Permit Summary**

Leachfield	LF-50	Serves Parcel 50
Leachfield	LF-45	Serves Parcel 45
Leachfield	LF-45	Serves Parcel 46

Flow Metering Locations

Type	Designation	Description & Comments
Totalizing Flow Meter	Supply Meter	Facility Supply Meter

Depth-to-Ground Water 350 feet
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) 670 mg/L

Permit Information

Original Permit Issued December 2, 2008
Permit Renewal February 14, 2014
Permit Modification June 26, 2016
Permit Renewal June 28, 2021

Current Action **Permit Modification**
Application Received November 3, 2022
Public Notice Published [not yet published]
Permit Issued (Issuance Date) [issuance date]
Permitted Discharge Volume 6,015 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 Aracely Tellez
Lead Staff Telephone Number (505) 629-8864
Lead Staff Email aracely.tellez@env.nm.gov or pps.general@env.nm.gov