



**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

August 16, 2024

Gary Riggs, Manager  
Riggs Chile Company  
P.O. Box 126  
Garfield, NM 87936

**RE: Draft Discharge Permit Renewal, DP-1777, Riggs Chile Company**

Dear Gary Riggs:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) hereby provides notice to Riggs Chile of the proposed approval of Ground Water Discharge Permit Renewal, DP-1777, (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, through the online portal accessible at <https://nmed.commentinput.com/comment/search> or via email to [Aracely.tellez@env.nm.gov](mailto:Aracely.tellez@env.nm.gov), or [acs.general@env.nm.gov](mailto:acs.general@env.nm.gov). 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 [Aracely.tellez@env.nm.gov](mailto:Aracely.tellez@env.nm.gov) or [acs.general@env.nm.gov](mailto:acs.general@env.nm.gov)

Sincerely,

Aracely Tellez  
Water Resources Professional III

SCIENCE | INNOVATION | COLLABORATION | COMPLIANCE

Ground Water Quality Bureau | 1190 Saint Francis Drive, PO Box 5469, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-5469

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Enc: Draft Discharge Permit Renewal, DP-1777

cc: Ted Reyes, Consultant, ted\_reyes@yahoo.com  
ACS Reading File



Ground Water Quality Bureau

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***Draft: August 16, 2024***

**GROUND WATER QUALITY BUREAU  
DISCHARGE PERMIT – RENEWAL  
Issued under 20.6.2 NMAC**

**Facility Name:** Riggs Chile Company  
**Discharge Permit No:** DP-1777  
**Permittee Name:** Gary Shane Riggs  
**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 126  
Garfield, NM 87936

**Facility Location:** 13094 Highway 187  
Section 31, Township 17 South, Range 4 West

**County:** Sierra County

**Permitting Action:** Renewal  
**Source Classification:** Agriculture – Crop/Food Processing

**Permit Issuance Date:** DATE  
**Permit Expiration Date:** DATE

**NMED Permit Contact:** Aracely Tellez  
**Telephone Number/Email:** (505) 629-8864 /Aracely.tellez@env.nm.gov or  
**Main Bureau/Section Contact** (505) 827-2900/ [acs.general@env.nm.gov](mailto:acs.general@env.nm.gov)

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

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## **PART A GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **A100 Introduction**

- A. The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) issues this Discharge Permit Renewal (Discharge Permit), **DP-1777**, to Gary Riggs (Permittee) pursuant to the New Mexico Water Quality Act (WQA), NMSA 1978, §§ 74-6-1 through 74-6-17, and the New Mexico Ground and Surface Water Protection Regulations, 20.6.2 NMAC. NMED's purpose in issuing this Discharge Permit is to control the discharge of water contaminants from the Riggs Chile Company (Facility) for the protection of 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.
- B. The Permittee is discharging up to 12,000 gallons per day (gpd) of effluent from a chile processing facility. This discharge or leachate may move directly or indirectly into groundwater of the State of New Mexico which has an existing concentration of 10,000 milligrams per liter (mg/L) or less of total dissolved solids (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.
- C. In issuing this Discharge Permit, NMED has determined that the Permittee has met the requirements of Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC. Pursuant to Section 20.6.2.3104 NMAC, it is the Permittee's responsibility to comply with the terms and conditions of this Discharge Permit; failure to do so may result in enforcement action by NMED (20.6.2.1220 NMAC).

### **A101 Terms of Permit Issuance**

**Permit Duration** - Pursuant to WQA 74-6-5(I) and Subsection H of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC, the term of a Discharge Permit shall be for the fixed term of **five years** from the effective date of the Discharge Permit.

- D. **Permit Fees** – Payment of permit fees is due at the time of Discharge Permit approval. Permit fees shall be paid in a single payment or shall be paid in equal installments on a yearly basis over the term of the Discharge Permit. Single payments shall be remitted to NMED no later than 30 days after the Discharge Permit effective date. Initial installment payments shall be remitted to NMED no later than 30 days after the Discharge Permit effective date; subsequent installment payments shall be remitted to NMED no later than the anniversary of the Discharge Permit effective date. Permit fees are associated with issuance of this Discharge Permit. Nothing in this Discharge Permit relieves the Permittee of the obligation to pay all permit fees assessed by NMED. A Permittee that ceases discharging or does not commence discharging from the facility during the term of the Discharge Permit shall pay all permit fees assessed by NMED. An approved Discharge Permit shall be suspended or terminated if the facility fails to remit an installment payment by its due date. [Subsection F of 20.6.2.3114 NMAC, NMSA 1978, § 74-6-5.K]

- E. **Permit Renewal** - To renew this Discharge Permit, the Permittee shall submit, in accordance with 20.6.2.3106 NMAC, an application and any associated fees for renewal, renewal and modification, or renewal for closure at least 120 days before the discharge permit expiration date, unless closure of the facility is approved by NMED before that date.
- F. **Transfer of Ownership** - This Discharge Permit is being issued to Gary Riggs as identified in **Section A100** above. In accordance with Section 20.6.2.3111 NMAC, the Permittee, any listed owner(s) of record, and any [other] holder(s) of an expired discharge permit are responsible for complying with the conditions listed herein. If during the duration of this Discharge Permit a change in the list of responsible parties is required, transfer of ownership shall be completed in accordance with Section 20.6.2.3111(A).

#### **A102 Applicable Regulations**

- A. **Scope** - This Discharge Permit applies solely for the regulation of process wastewater or stormwater generated from facility operations and does not include regulation of domestic wastewater at the facility. Domestic wastewater generated at the facility is treated or disposed of pursuant to 20.7.3 NMAC.
- B. The discharge from the facility is not subject to any of the exemptions of Section 20.6.2.3105 NMAC.
- C. Groundwater quality as observed in on-site monitoring wells is subject to the criteria of Sections 20.6.2.3101 and 20.6.2.3103 NMAC unless otherwise specified in this Discharge Permit.
- D. Complying with the applicable requirements of 20.6.2 NMAC does not relieve a facility's owner, operator or Permittee from complying with the requirements of other applicable local, state and federal regulations or laws.

#### **A103 Facility: Physical Description**

- A. This facility is located at 13094 Highway 187, Garfield, in Section 31, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Sierra County.
- B. This facility is comprised of the following wastewater system components as identified in the application dated February 28, 2024 and the administrative record which includes the original Discharge Permit issued on July 14, 2011 and subsequently on dates as of the effective date of this Discharge Permit:
  - 1. Fields within the surface disposal area:
    - a. **Field 1** – *Field 1 covers of 8.77 acres and is located east of highway 187 across from processing facility. Field 1 has been actively receiving wastewater discharge since July 3, 2019. Wastewater is applied by a tank truck.*

- b. **Field 2** – Field covers 1.10 acres and is located northwest adjacent to processing facility. Field 2 has been actively receiving wastewater discharge since July 3, 2019. Wastewater is applied by a tank truck.
- c. **Field 3** – Field covers 2.34 acres and is located south of Field 2 west of the processing facility. Field 3 has been actively receiving wastewater discharge since July 3, 2019. Wastewater is applied by a tank truck.

These system components identified are potential sources of groundwater contamination. **Section B100** lists all wastewater system components authorized to discharge under this Discharge Permit.

**A104 Facility: Documented Hydrogeologic Conditions**

- A. Groundwater most likely to be affected at this facility is at a depth of approximately 16-30 feet and had a total dissolved solids concentration of 1947 milligrams per liter.

**PART B DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

**B100 Facility: Authorized Discharge**

- A. NMED authorizes the Permittee to discharge water contaminants as part of facility operations subject to the following requirements:
  - 1. The Permittee is authorized to discharge up to 12,000 gpd of wastewater from the chile processing facility. Wastewater flows to a concrete sump and is pumped through a screen solids separator. Wastewater is pumped to a 6,000 gallon tanker truck and transferred to the surface disposal site where it is spread to up to 8.77 acres.
  - 2. The Permittee is authorized to apply wastewater to fields within the surface disposal area in accordance with Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC. The surface disposal area is comprised of the following fields for a total area of 8.77 acres.
    - a. **Field 1** – This field was authorized by the last Discharge Permit (*July 3, 2019*) to receive wastewater and *has* received wastewater as of the effective date of this Discharge Permit.
  - 3. The following fields within surface disposal area as listed in **Section A103** above, Field 2 and Field 3 **are not** authorized for use by this Discharge Permit. Field 2 and Field 3 were authorized for use by the last Discharge Permit and are now subject to closure and post-closure groundwater monitoring requirements.
- B. This Discharge Permit authorizes only those discharges specified herein. Any unauthorized discharges, such as spills or leaks must be reported to NMED in a corrective action conducted pursuant to Section 20.6.2.1203 NMAC.

**B101 Existing System Controls**

- A. The following existing system controls at this facility shall be required as described below:

1. **Flow Meter** - The facility measures the volume of (1) wastewater discharged from the production area and (2) wastewater and stormwater discharged to the surface disposal area using the following flow meters:
  - a. Tanker Truck – permittee shall measure the monthly volume of wastewater by obtaining reading from a calibrated gauge located on the tank truck or measuring stick calibrated to the truck and record the discharge volume on each surface disposal area. [Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]
2. **Monitoring Wells** - The facility uses the following monitoring wells to supply data representative of groundwater quality [Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]:
  - a. **MW-1** - hydrologically upgradient of all contamination sources at the facility and north of the surface disposal area.
  - b. **MW-2** - hydrologically downgradient of all contamination sources south of the surface disposal area.

**B102 Conditions for Operation**

- A. NMED has reviewed the permit application for the proposed facility and has determined that the provisions of the applicable groundwater quality standards will be met in accordance with this Discharge Permit. General conditions for all Discharge Permits issued by the Ground Water Quality Bureau pursuant to NMAC 20.6.2 are summarized on **Table B1**. Unless otherwise specified in Parts A or B of this Discharge Permit, both the general conditions for a facility discharge permit (as listed in this part) and facility-specific conditions as listed are mandated to assure continued compliance.

**Table B1**

**General Discharge Permit Conditions:**

<b>Engineering and Surveying</b>
----------------------------------



**Table B1  
 General Discharge Permit Conditions:**

a) None required.
<b>Operations and Maintenance</b>
b) Operate in a manner such that standards and requirements of Sections 20.6.2.3101 and 20.6.2.3103 NMAC are not violated.
c) Maintain all signage indicating that the wastewater at the facility is not potable. All signage shall be printed in English and Spanish and shall remain visible and legible.
d) Repair or replace compromised pipe(s) or fixture(s) within 72 hours of discovery.
<b>Inspection and Monitoring</b>
e) Visually inspect all facility pipes and fixtures on a weekly basis for evidence of leaks or failure. [20.6.2.3107 NMAC]
<b>Recordkeeping and Reporting</b>
f) Maintain written records at the facility of any inspection(s), repairs and maintenance conducted on facility infrastructure as related the wastewater management system.
g) Conduct the monitoring, reporting, and other requirements in accordance with the monitoring requirements of this Discharge Permit. [Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]
h) Unless otherwise specified by this Discharge Permit, or approved in writing by NMED, the Permittee shall use sampling and analytical techniques that conform with the references listed in Subsection B of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC
i) Unless otherwise identified in this Discharge Permit, submit monitoring reports to NMED annually according to the following schedule: [Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]
• January 1 through December 31 – report by May 1
j) Retain required records for a minimum period of five years from the date of any sample collection, measurement, report or application in accordance with 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, 74-6-5 WQA.

B. **Land Application Area Management** - The Permittee shall manage all land application areas at the facility in accordance with 20.6.2.3101 NMAC and the conditions summarized in **Table B2** below.

**Table B2  
 Land Application Area Management**

<b>Engineering and Surveying</b>
a) Any irrigation or supply wells located within the land application area shall have a surface pad constructed in accordance with the recommendations of Subsection G of 19.27.4.29 NMAC and a permanent well cap or cover pursuant to Subsection I of 19.27.4.29 NMAC.
<b>Operations and Maintenance All Land Application Areas</b>
b) The Permittee shall discharge wastewater to each field in the surface disposal area such that the amount of total nitrogen discharged does not exceed 200 pounds per acre in any 12-month

**Table B2  
 Land Application Area Management**

<p>period. Nitrogen content shall not be adjusted to account for volatilization or mineralization processes. Wastewater shall be distributed evenly throughout the entire disposal area. Excessive ponding shall be prevented.</p>
<p><b>Inspection and Monitoring All Land Application Areas</b></p>
<p>c) The Permittee shall maintain 18-inch to 24-inch berms around the surface disposal area to prevent surface water run-on and run-off. The berms shall be inspected on a regular basis and after any major precipitation event, and repaired as soon as possible following discovery of the damage.</p>
<p><b>Recordkeeping and Reporting All Land Application Areas</b></p>
<p>d) The Permittee shall complete Surface Disposal Data Sheets (SDDS; copy enclosed) on a monthly basis that document the amount of nitrogen applied to each zone within the surface disposal area during the most recent 12 months. The SDDS shall reflect the total nitrogen concentration from the most recent wastewater analysis and the measured discharge volumes to each zone within the surface disposal area for each month. The SDDS shall be completed with information above or shall include a statement that wastewater disposal did not occur. The SDDS shall be submitted to NMED in the <b>Annual Monitoring Report</b>.</p>

- C. **Solids Management** - The Permittee shall manage all solids at the facility in accordance with 20.6.2.3101 NMAC and the conditions summarized in **Table B3** below.

**Table B3  
 Solids Management**

<p><b>Engineering and Surveying</b></p>
<p>a) None required.</p>
<p><b>Operations and Maintenance</b></p>
<p>b) The Permittee shall store and remove solids separated from the wastewater in a manner and frequency necessary to prevent the contamination of groundwater. Solids collected by the screen separator and removed from the sump shall be contained, transported, and disposed of in accordance with all local, state, and federal regulations. <b>Disposal of solids on the surface disposal area is prohibited.</b></p>
<p><b>Inspection and Monitoring</b></p>
<p>c) The Permittee shall inspect the concrete sump on a quarterly basis and clean as needed to prevent pump failure. The Permittee shall maintain a record of sump inspections, repairs and cleanings. Solids generated in the processing area shall be stored and transported off-site in accordance with the conditions of this Discharge Permit.</p>
<p><b>Recordkeeping and Reporting</b></p>
<p>d) The Permittee shall, at all times, have the log of sump inspections, repairs, and cleanings available for NMED review.</p>

- D. **Flow Meters** – Pursuant to 20.6.2.3107 (A) and 20.6.2.3109 (C), the Permittee shall employ a flow metering system that uses flow measurement devices (flow meters) to measure the

volume(s) of 1) wastewater discharged from the production area and 2) wastewater transferred and land applied at the facility. All flow meters employed at the facility shall be managed in accordance with the conditions listed in **Table B4** below.

**Table B4  
 Flow Meters**

<b>Engineering and Surveying</b>
a) None required.
<b>Operations and Maintenance</b>
b) All flow meters shall be calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer’s requirements prior to installation or reinstallation following repair.
<b>Inspection and Monitoring</b>
c) The Permittee shall provide evidence of the volume of the tank truck and count the number of loads applied to each surface disposal zone to determine the volume of wastewater applied. Partial loads shall be measured via a site gauge, dipstick, or other approved method.
<b>Recordkeeping and Reporting</b>
d) Record of meter readings at intervals not to exceed monthly. The average daily discharge volume for each recording interval shall be calculated by dividing the difference between the meter readings by the number of days between meter readings.
e) Record meter readings (without adjustments or deductions) and submit in the <b>Annual Monitoring Report due by DATE</b> . Include the date, time and units of each measurement, and calculations for the average daily volumes of wastewater discharged from the processing area, reported in gallons per day.
f) The Permittee shall maintain a log of repairs. The log shall be available, at all times, for NMED inspection.

E. **Monitoring Well(s)** - Pursuant to 20.6.2.3107 (A) and 20.6.2.3109 (C), the Permittee is required to install monitoring wells at appropriate depths and locations to monitor groundwater quality. The approved groundwater monitoring well system at the facility is detailed in **Table B5** below.

**Table B5  
 Groundwater Monitoring Wells**

<b>Engineering and Surveying</b>
a) Within 60 days following the effective date of this Discharge Permit ( <b>by DATE</b> ), the Permittee shall submit a written monitoring well location proposal for review and approval by NMED. The proposal shall designate the locations of all monitoring wells required to be installed by this Discharge Permit. The proposal shall include, at a minimum, the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A map showing the proposed location of the monitoring well(s) from the boundary of the source it is intended to monitor</li> </ul>

**Table B5**  
**Groundwater Monitoring Wells**

- A written description of the specific location proposed for the monitoring well(s) including the distance (in feet) and direction of the monitoring well(s) from the edge of the source it is intended to monitor. Examples include: 35 feet north-northwest of the northern berm of the synthetically lined impoundment; 30 feet southeast of the land application area; 150 degrees from north
- A statement describing groundwater flow direction beneath the facility, and documentation and/or data supporting the determination

All proposed monitoring well locations shall be approved by NMED prior to installation. [NMSA 1978, § 74-6-5.D, Subsection B of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]

b) Survey all **new** facility groundwater monitoring wells upon installation in accordance with Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC.

**Operations and Maintenance**

c) Within 120 days following written approval from NMED for proposed monitoring well location(s), install and complete the following additional groundwater monitoring wells:

- **MW-3**, hydrologically upgradient of existing fields within the surface disposal area

All new wells shall be completed in accordance with the attachment titled *Ground Water Discharge Permit Monitoring Well Construction and Abandonment Conditions, Revision 1.1, March 2011*. Construction and lithologic logs shall be submitted to NMED within 30 days of well completion.

d) Following installation of the monitoring wells required by this Discharge Permit, the Permittee shall sample groundwater in the wells and analyze the samples for dissolved TKN, NO<sub>3</sub>-N, TDS and Cl. Groundwater sample collection, preservation, transport and analysis shall be performed according to the following procedure:

- Measure the depth-to-most-shallow groundwater from the top of the well casing to the nearest hundredth of a foot.
- Purge three well volumes of water from the well prior to sample collection.
- Obtain samples from the well for analysis.
- Properly prepare, preserve and transport samples.
- Analyze samples in accordance with the methods authorized in this Discharge Permit.

Depth-to-most-shallow groundwater measurements, analytical results, including the laboratory QA/QC summary report, and a facility layout map showing the location and number of each well shall be submitted to NMED within 30 days of the completion of the monitoring well survey.

**Inspection and Monitoring**

e) Perform quarterly groundwater sampling for all facility monitoring wells as identified in Section B101 A.3 and analyze the samples for dissolved TKN, NO<sub>3</sub>-N, TDS and Cl. Groundwater sample collection, preservation, transport and analysis shall be performed according to the following procedure:

- Measure the depth-to-most-shallow groundwater from the top of the well casing to the nearest hundredth of a foot.
- Purge three well volumes of water from the well prior to sample collection.

**Table B5**  
**Groundwater Monitoring Wells**

- Obtain samples from the well for analysis.
- Properly prepare, preserve and transport samples.
- Analyze samples in accordance with the methods authorized in this Discharge Permit.

Depth-to-most-shallow groundwater measurements, analytical results, including the laboratory QA/QC summary report, and a facility layout map showing the location and number of each well shall be submitted to NMED in the **Annual Monitoring Report**.

- f) The Permittee shall develop a groundwater elevation contour map on a semi-annual basis using the top of casing elevation data from the monitoring well survey and semi-annual depth-to-most-shallow groundwater measurements obtained from the groundwater monitoring wells required by this Discharge Permit.

The groundwater elevation contour map shall depict the groundwater flow direction based on the groundwater elevation contours. Groundwater elevations between monitoring well locations shall be estimated using common interpolation methods. A contour interval appropriate to the data shall be used, but in no case shall the interval be greater than two feet. Groundwater elevation contour maps shall depict the groundwater flow direction, using arrows, based on the orientation of the groundwater elevation contours, and the location and identification of each monitoring well and contaminant source. The groundwater elevation contour map shall be submitted to NMED in the **Annual Monitoring Report**.

- g) Prior to the expiration date of this Discharge Permit, NMED shall have the option to perform one downhole inspection of each monitoring well identified in this Discharge Permit. NMED shall establish the inspection date and provide at least 60 days' notice to the Permittee by certified mail. The Permittee shall have any existing dedicated pumps removed at least 48 hours prior to NMED inspection to allow adequate settling time of any sediment agitated as a result of pump removal.

**Recordkeeping and Reporting**

- h) Within 150 days following the effective date of this Discharge Permit (**by DATE**) the Permittee shall survey all wells approved by NMED for Discharge Permit monitoring purposes to a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) or other permanent benchmark. Survey data shall include northing, easting and elevation to the nearest hundredth of a foot or shall be in accordance with the "Minimum Standards for Surveying in New Mexico" (12.8.2 NMAC). A survey elevation shall be established at the top-of-casing, with a permanent marking indicating the point of survey. The survey shall bear the seal and signature of a licensed New Mexico professional surveyor (pursuant to the New Mexico Engineering and Surveying Practice Act and the rules promulgated under that authority).

Depth-to-most-shallow groundwater shall be measured to the nearest hundredth of a foot in all surveyed wells, and the data shall be used to develop a groundwater elevation contour map showing the location of all monitoring wells and the direction and gradient of groundwater flow at the facility. The data and groundwater elevation contour map shall be submitted to NMED within 30 days of survey completion.

**Table B5**  
**Groundwater Monitoring Wells**

- i) An **Annual Monitoring Report** shall be filed with NMED in accordance with the general reporting schedule listed in **Table B1**. Each **Annual Monitoring Report** shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:
- Facility map with location and number of each well in relation to the contamination source it is intended to monitor
  - Depth-to-shallowest groundwater measurements
  - Field parameter measurements and parameter stabilization log
  - Analytical results (including the laboratory quality assurance and quality control summary report)
  - Groundwater elevation contour maps utilizing elevation contours of 2 ft or less

**B103 Facility: Conditions for Closure**

- A. Upon closure of the facility, the Permittee shall perform the following closure measures:
- B. For permanent closure, the following closure actions shall be completed upon permanent cessation of wastewater discharge:
1. The Permittee shall continue groundwater monitoring until the requirements of this condition have been met and groundwater monitoring confirms for a minimum of eight (8) consecutive quarterly groundwater sampling events that the standards of Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC are not exceeded and toxic pollutants are not present in groundwater.  
If monitoring results show that a groundwater quality standard in Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC is exceeded, the total nitrogen concentration in groundwater exceeds 10 mg/L, or a toxic pollutant as defined in Section of 20.6.2.7 NMAC is present in groundwater, the Permittee shall implement the contingency plan required by this Discharge Permit.
  2. Following notification from NMED that post-closure monitoring may cease, the Permittee shall plug and abandon the monitoring well(s) in accordance with the attachment titled *Ground Water Discharge Permit Monitoring Well Construction and Abandonment Conditions*, Revision 1.1, March 2011.
  3. When all closure and post-closure requirements have been met, the Permittee may request to terminate the Discharge Permit [20.6.2.3109 NMAC, 20.6.2.3107. NMAC].

**B104 Facility: Contingency Plan**

- A. In the event NMED or the Permittee identifies any failures of the Discharge Permit or system not specifically noted herein, NMED may require the Permittee to develop for NMED approval a contingency or corrective action plan and schedule to cope with the failure(s) [20.6.2.3107.A(10) NMAC].

B. Facility conditions that will invariably require Permittee action under one or more contingency plans include:

1. **Exceedance of groundwater quality standards** – In the event that groundwater monitoring indicates that a groundwater quality standard identified in Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC is exceeded; the total nitrogen concentration in groundwater is greater than 10 mg/L; or a toxic pollutant (defined in Subsection WW of 20.6.2.7 NMAC) is present in a groundwater sample and in any subsequent groundwater sample collected from a monitoring well required by this Discharge Permit, the Permittee shall enact the following contingency plan:

Within 60 days of the subsequent sample analysis date, the Permittee shall propose measures to ensure that the exceedance of the standard or the presence of a toxic pollutant will be mitigated by submitting a corrective action plan to NMED for approval. The corrective action plan shall include a description of the proposed actions to control the source and an associated completion schedule. The plan shall be enacted as approved by NMED.

Once invoked (whether during the term of this Discharge Permit; or after the term of this Discharge Permit and prior to the completion of the Discharge Permit closure plan requirements), this condition shall apply until the Permittee has fulfilled the requirements of this condition and groundwater monitoring confirms for a minimum of two years of consecutive groundwater sampling events that the standards of Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC are not exceeded and toxic pollutants are not present in groundwater.

2. **Ineffective groundwater monitoring well(s)** – In the event that information available to NMED indicates that a well(s) is not constructed in a manner consistent with the attachment titled *Ground Water Discharge Permit Monitoring Well Construction and Abandonment Conditions, Revision 1.1, March 2011*; contains insufficient water to effectively monitor groundwater quality; or is improperly located the Permittee shall install a replacement well(s) and shall survey the replacement monitoring well(s) within 120 days following notification from NMED.

Replacement well location(s) shall be approved by NMED prior to installation and completed in accordance with the attachment titled *Ground Water Discharge Permit Monitoring Well Construction and Abandonment Conditions, Revision 1.1, March 2011*. The Permittee shall submit construction and lithologic logs, survey data and a groundwater elevation contour map to NMED within 60 days following well completion.

Upon completion of the replacement monitoring well(s), the monitoring well(s) requiring replacement shall be properly plugged and abandoned. Well plugging, abandonment and documentation of the abandonment procedures shall be completed in accordance with the attachment titled *Ground Water Discharge Permit Monitoring Well Construction and Abandonment Conditions, Revision 1.1, March 2011*, and all applicable local, state, and federal regulations. The well abandonment documentation shall be submitted to NMED within 60 days of completion of well plugging activities.

3. **Exceedance(s) of permitted maximum daily discharge volume** - The maximum daily discharge volume authorized by this Discharge Permit is exceeded by more than ten percent for any four average daily discharge volumes within any 12-week period the

Permittee shall submit a corrective action plan to reduce the discharge volume for NMED approval.

4. **Exceedance(s) of Nitrogen Loading Limits** - In the event that the SDDS show that the amount of nitrogen in wastewater applied to [any zone within] the surface disposal area in any 12-month period exceeds 200 pounds per acre, the Permittee shall propose the reduction of nitrogen loading to the surface disposal area by submitting a corrective action plan to NMED for approval. The plan shall include a schedule for completion of corrective actions and shall be submitted within 90 days following the end of the monitoring period in which the exceedance occurred. The Permittee shall initiate implementation of the plan following approval by NMED.
  5. **Spills, leaks, unauthorized discharge** – In the event of any spill or release that is not authorized under this Discharge Permit, the permittee shall comply with the requirements of Sections 20.6.2.1203 NMAC. The permittee shall submit to NMED all information or documentation required by the applicable portions of Sections 20.6.2.1203 NMAC.
- C. The Permittee may be required to abate water pollution pursuant to Sections 20.6.2.4000 through 20.6.2.4115 NMAC, should the corrective action plan not result in compliance with the standards and requirements set forth in Section 20.6.2.4103 NMAC within 180 days of confirmation of groundwater contamination.

## **PART C GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **C100 Legal**

- A. Nothing in this Discharge Permit in any way, relieves the Permittee of the obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, permits or orders [20.6.2 NMAC].
- B. Pursuant to Section 20.6.2.3109 NMAC, NMED reserves the right to require a Discharge Permit Modification in the event NMED determines that the requirements of 20.6.2 NMAC are being or may be violated or the standards of Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC are being or may be violated. This may include a determination that structural controls and/or management practices approved under this Discharge Permit are not protective of groundwater quality, and NMED may require more stringent actions to protect groundwater quality. NMED may require the Permittee to implement abatement of water pollution and remediate groundwater quality.
- C. Any violation of the requirements and conditions of this Discharge Permit, including any failure to allow NMED staff to enter and inspect records or facilities, or any refusal or failure to provide NMED with records or information, may subject the Permittee to a civil enforcement action. Pursuant to WQA 74-6-10(A) and (B), such action may include a compliance order requiring compliance immediately or in a specified time, assessing a civil penalty, modifying or terminating the Discharge Permit, or any combination of the foregoing; or an action in district court seeking injunctive relief, civil penalties, or both. Pursuant to WQA 74-6-10(C) and 74-6-10.1, civil penalties of up to \$15,000 per day of noncompliance may be



assessed for each violation of the WQA 74-6-5, the 20.6.2 NMAC, or this Discharge Permit, and civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per day of noncompliance may be assessed for each violation of any other provision of the WQA, or any regulation, standard, or order adopted pursuant to such other provision. In any action to enforce this Discharge Permit, the Permittee waives any objection to the admissibility as evidence of any data generated pursuant to this Discharge Permit. [74-6-10 WQA, 74-6-10.1 WQA]

- D. Pursuant to WQA 74-6-10.2(A-F), NMED may assess criminal penalties for any person who knowingly violates or knowingly causes or allows another person to:
1. Make any false material statement, representation, certification or omission of material fact in an application, record, report, plan or other document filed, submitted or required to be maintained under the WQA;
  2. Falsify, tamper with or render inaccurate any monitoring device, method or record required to be maintained under the WQA; or
  3. Fail to monitor, sample or report as required by a permit issued pursuant to a state or federal law or regulation, is subject to felony charges and shall be sentenced in accordance with the provisions of Section 31-18-15 NMSA 1978.
- E. The Permittee shall notify the proposed transferee in writing of the existence of this Discharge Permit and include a copy of this Discharge Permit with the notice in accordance with 20.6.2.3111 NMAC, prior to the transfer of any ownership, control, or possession of this permitted facility or any portion thereof. The transferee(s) shall notify NMED, in writing, of the date of transfer of ownership and provide contact information for the new owner(s) pursuant to Subsection B of 20.6.2.3111 NMAC. Submit to NMED notification of the transfer within 30 days of the ownership transfer date. [20.6.2.3111 NMAC]
- F. Pursuant to WQA 74-6-5(o), the Permittee has a right to appeal the conditions and requirements as outlined in this Discharge Permit through filing a petition for review before the WQCC. Such petition shall be in writing to the WQCC within thirty (30) days of the receipt of this Discharge Permit. Unless a timely petition for review is made, the decision of NMED shall be final and not subject to judicial review.

#### **C101 General Inspection and Entry Requirements**

- A. Nothing in this Discharge Permit limits in any way, the inspection and entry authority of NMED under the WQA, 20.6.2 NMAC, or any other applicable law or regulation. [20.6.2.3107 NMAC, 74-6-9(B) & (E) WQA]
- B. The Permittee shall allow the Secretary or an authorized representative, upon the presentation of credentials, to [20.6.2.3107.D NMAC, 74-6-9(B) & (E) WQA]:
1. Enter at regular business hours or at other reasonable times upon the Permittee's premises or other location where records must be kept under the conditions of this Discharge Permit, 20.6.2 NMAC, or any other applicable law or regulation.

2. Inspect and copy, during regular business hours or at other reasonable times, any records required to be kept under the conditions of this Discharge Permit, 20.6.2 NMAC, or any other applicable law or regulation.
3. Inspect, at regular business hours or at other reasonable times, any facility, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment or treatment works), practices or operations regulated or required under this Discharge Permit, 20.6.2 NMAC, or any other applicable law or regulation.
4. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Discharge Permit or as otherwise authorized by the WQA, any effluent, water contaminant, or receiving water at any location before or after discharge.

**C102 General Record Keeping and Reporting Requirements**

- A. The Permittee shall maintain a written record of the following:
1. Amount of wastewater, effluent, leachate or other wastes discharged pursuant to this Discharge Permit. [20.6.2.3107.A NMAC]
  2. Operation, maintenance, and repair of all facilities/equipment used to treat, store or dispose of wastewater; to measure flow rates, to monitor water quality, or to collect other data required by this Discharge Permit. Per Section A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, this record shall include:
    - a. Repair, replacement or calibration of any monitoring equipment
    - b. Repair or replacement of any equipment used in the Permittee's waste or wastewater treatment and disposal system.
  3. Any spills, seeps, and/or leaks of effluent, and of leachate and/or process fluids not authorized by this Discharge Permit. [20.6.2.3107.A NMAC]
- B. The Permittee shall maintain at its facility a written record of all data and information related to field measurements, sampling, and analysis conducted pursuant to this Discharge Permit. The following information shall be recorded and shall be made available to NMED upon request:
1. The dates, exact place and times of sampling or field measurements;
  2. The name and job title of the individuals who performed each sample collection or field measurement;
  3. The date of the analysis of each sample;
  4. The name and address of the laboratory and the name and job title of the person that performed the analysis of each sample;
  5. The analytical technique or method used to analyze each sample or take each field measurement;
  6. The results of each analysis or field measurement, including raw data;
  7. The results of any split sampling, spikes or repeat sampling; and

- 8. A description of the quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) procedures used.
- C. The Permittee shall furnish to NMED, within a reasonable time, any documents or other information which it may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, terminating and/or renewing this Discharge Permit or to determine compliance with this Discharge Permit. The Permittee shall also furnish to NMED, upon request, copies of documents required to be kept by this Discharge Permit. [20.6.2.3107.D NMAC, 74-6-9(B) & (E) WQA]

**C103 Modifications and/or Amendments**

- A. The Permittee shall notify NMED of any changes to the Permittee's wastewater treatment and disposal system, including any changes in the wastewater flow rate or the volume of wastewater storage, or of any other changes to operations or processes that would result in any significant change in the discharge of water contaminants. The Permittee shall obtain NMED's approval, as a modification to this Discharge Permit pursuant to Subsections E, F, or G of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC, prior to any increase in the quantity discharged, or any increase in the concentration of water contaminants discharged, above those levels approved in this Discharge Permit [20.6.2.3107.C NMAC].
- B. The Permittee shall file plans and specifications with NMED for the construction of a wastewater system and for proposed changes that will change substantially the quantity or quality of the discharge from the system. The Permittee shall file plans and specifications prior to the commencement of construction. Changes to the wastewater system having a minor effect on the character of the discharge shall be reported as of January 1 and June 30 of each year to NMED. [20.6.2.1202 NMAC]

**Part D MISCELLANEOUS**

**D100 Acronyms**

CL.....	chloride
CQA .....	construction quality assurance
CQC.....	construction quality control
DP .....	discharge permit
FEMA .....	Federal Emergency Management Administration
FIRM .....	flood insurance rate map
gpd .....	gallon per day
LADS .....	land application data sheet(s)
mg/L .....	milligram per liter
mL.....	milliliters
NMAC .....	New Mexico Administrative Code
NMED .....	New Mexico Environment Department
NMSA .....	New Mexico Statutes Annotated
NO <sub>3</sub> -N .....	nitrate as nitrogen

SDDS.....surface disposal data sheet(s)  
TDS .....total dissolved solids  
TKN.....total Kjeldahl nitrogen  
WQA.....New Mexico Water Quality Act  
WQCC.....Water Quality Control Commission

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