



GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110
Telephone 505-827-2855
Facsimile 505-827-2836



PETER MAGGIORE
SECRETARY

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Contact: Cornelius Amindyas, Project Leader
or John Kieling, Program Manager
Phone: (505) 841-9488 or (505) 428-2500

**State Environment Department Issues Hazardous Waste Permit
to Albuquerque Company**

(Santa Fe, NM) -- The New Mexico Environment Department has renewed a hazardous waste permit today authorizing Rinchem Company, Inc. to accept, manage, and store hazardous waste at its facility located at 6133 Edith Boulevard in northeast Albuquerque.

The Environment Department-issued permit allows Rinchem to accept, manage and store off-site generated hazardous waste in a container storage unit. Among other activities, Rinchem cleans up hazardous waste spills and stores waste on-site. (Rinchem does not generate hazardous waste.)

This is a renewal of an existing hazardous waste permit, with essentially no changes from the previous permit. This permit issuance comes after a 45-day comment period, which concluded on January 28; no public comment was received by the Environment Department. Rinchem has met all applicable standards for storage of hazardous waste which include, but are not limited to, siting, operating, contingency planning and financial assurance requirements.

The permit will be effective on March 14, 2002 and shall remain in effect for ten years.

For additional information, contact Cornelius Amindyas, NMED-HWB Project Leader, or John Kieling, NMED-HWB Program Manager at (505) 841-9488 or (505) 428-2500.

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