



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

JUL 29 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL: RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED (7010 2780 0002 4354 5732)

Mr. David Partridge  
Chevron Mining Inc.  
116 Inverness Drive East  
Suite 207  
Englewood, CO 80112

Re: NPDES Permit No. NM0030180  
Ancho Mine  
Final Permit Decision

Dear Mr. Partridge:

This package constitutes EPA's final permit decision for the above referenced facility. Enclosed are the responses to comments received during the public comment period and the final permit. According to EPA regulations at 40 CFR124.19, within 30 days after a final permit decision has been issued, any person who filed comments on that draft permit or participated in the public hearing may petition the Environmental Appeals Board to review any condition of the permit decision.

Should you have any questions regarding the final permit, please feel free to contact Isaac Chen of the NPDES Permits Branch at the above address or VOICE:214-665-7364, FAX:214-665-2191, or EMAIL:chen.isaac@epa.gov. Should you have any questions regarding compliance with the conditions of this permit, please contact the Water Enforcement Branch at the above address or VOICE:214-665-6468.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W.K. Honker".

William K. Honker, P.E.  
Director  
Water Quality Protection Division

Enclosures

cc (w/enclosures):

New Mexico Environment Department

NPDES PERMIT NO. NM0030180  
RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

RECEIVED ON THE SUBJECT DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS LISTED AT 40CFR124.17

APPLICANT: Chevron Mining Inc.  
116 Inverness Drive East  
Suite 207  
Englewood, CO 80112

ISSUING OFFICE: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

PREPARED BY: Isaac Chen  
Environmental Engineer  
Permits & Technical Section (6WQ-PP)  
NPDES Permits Branch  
Water Quality Protection Division  
VOICE: 214-665-7364  
FAX: 214-665-2191  
EMAIL: chen.isaac@epa.gov

PERMIT ACTION: Final permit decision and response to comments received on the draft reissued NPDES permit publicly noticed on April 26, 2014.

DATE PREPARED: June 23, 2014

Unless otherwise stated, citations to 40CFR refer to promulgated regulations listed at Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, revised as of May 1, 2014.

CHANGES FROM DRAFT PERMIT

There are changes from the draft reissued permit publicly noticed on April 26, 2014. All changes and their rationale for changes can be found in the following response to conditions of certification and response to comments. Some significant changes are listed below:

1. Change total recoverable aluminum effluent limitations; and
2. Delete permit Part II.F. Monitoring and Reporting for Persistent Pollutants.

State Certification

State certification letter from Mr. James Hogan (NMED) to Mr. William Honker (EPA), dated June 5, 2014, certifies that the discharge will comply with the applicable provisions of the Clean Water Act and with appropriate requirements of State law.

Comment Letters

Mr. Steve Linse (Trihydro Corporation) to Ms. Evelyn Rosborough (EPA) letter dated May 27, 2014.

Comment 1: Chevron Mining Inc. (CMI) requested to use the hardness data for the receiving stream, Vermejo River, to calculate site-specific criteria for total recoverable aluminum.

Response: CMI provided stream data from three sampling locations which are VR-0, upstream of the mining area, VR-2, prior to any outfalls, and VR-4, downstream of all mining activities. EPA determined that the stream data from VR-2 are most representative for reasonable potential (RP) screening and effluent limitation development purposes. The average stream hardness is 140 mg/l. The calculated total recoverable aluminum acute criteria is 5.423 mg/l and the chronic criteria is 2.173 mg/l. Because EPA had determined discharges of mine drainage due to precipitation events are likely to cause acute, instead of chronic, impacts to aquatic life and established the acute criteria in the expired permit, new acute criteria for total recoverable aluminum, 5.423 mg/l, is established in the final permit.

Comment 2: CMI believed that the "Small Business Exemption" as defined in Form 2C applies to the facility and therefore, it is exempt from reporting pollutants listed in Part II, Section F of the draft permit. (In the letter of State Certification, NMED agreed with CMI and suggested removal of the monitoring requirement from the final permit.)

Response: Because the proposed monitoring and reporting for persistent pollutants were required by NMED during the development of the draft permit and because both EPA and NMED agree that the facility is qualified for the small business exemption, and EPA does not consider that the facility has reasonable potential to contribute those persistent pollutants, the monitoring and reporting requirements for persistent pollutants are removed from the final permit.

Comment 3: CMI requested to remove the 24-hour reporting requirement for exceedance of effluent limitation for total recoverable aluminum.

Response: The 24-hour reporting requirement has been applied to all dischargers. No change is made.

Comment 4: CMI requested to change "total aluminum" to "total recoverable aluminum. (NMED provided a same comment.)

Response: The term "Total Aluminum" in the permit could be interpreted as "Total Recoverable Aluminum." The term of total recoverable aluminum is used in the final permit.

Comment 5: CMI indicated that the section title "Copy of Reports and Application to NMED" should be Section D.

Response: The typo is corrected.



Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

NPDES Permit No. **NM0030180**

## 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"),

Chevron Mining, Inc.  
116 Inverness Drive East, Suite 207  
Englewood, CO 80112

is authorized to discharge from the Ancho-Gachupin-Brackett (Ancho) Mine located at York Canyon Complex in Colfax County, New Mexico, to

Salyers Canyon, Ancho Canyon, Gachupin Canyon, Brackett Canyon, and tributaries to Vermejo River, thence to the Canadian River in the Segment No. 20.6.4.309 of Canadian River Basin,

in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in Parts I, II, and III hereof.

This permit supersedes and replaces NPDES Permit No. NM0030180 issued on May 31, 2009.

This permit shall become effective on September 1, 2014

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, August 31, 2019

Issued on July 29, 2014

Prepared by

William K. Honker  
Division Director  
Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ)

Isaac Chen  
Environmental Engineer  
Permits Section (6WQ-PP)

Outfall	Latitude	Longitude	Receiving Stream
004	36° 48' 15"	104° 51' 30"	Ancho Canyon
005	36° 48' 15"	104° 51' 30"	Salyers Canyon
006	36° 48' 45"	104° 52' 15"	Salyers Canyon
007	36° 49' 15"	104° 52' 45"	Salyers Canyon
011	36° 47' 45"	104° 51' 00"	Ancho Canyon
012	36° 47' 30"	104° 50' 15"	Un-named Canyon
014	36° 46' 60"	104° 52' 00"	Vermejo River
015	36° 47' 15"	104° 52' 00"	Gachupin Canyon
016	36° 47' 15"	104° 53' 30"	Gachupin Canyon
017	36° 47' 15"	104° 53' 30"	Salyers Canyon
018	36° 47' 15"	104° 53' 60"	Gachupin Canyon
019	36° 47' 30"	104° 54' 15"	Gachupin Canyon
020	36° 47' 30"	104° 54' 15"	Gachupin Canyon
021	36° 47' 45"	104° 54' 30"	Gachupin Canyon
022	36° 47' 45"	104° 54' 30"	Gachupin Canyon
023	36° 47' 60"	104° 54' 45"	Gachupin Canyon
030	36° 47' 15"	104° 54' 00"	Gachupin Canyon
031	36° 47' 15"	104° 53' 30"	Gachupin Canyon
032	36° 47' 15"	104° 53' 00"	Gachupin Canyon
033	36° 47' 15"	104° 53' 60"	Gachupin Canyon
034	36° 46' 30"	104° 52' 30"	Brackett Canyon
037	36° 45' 45"	104° 51' 45"	Brackett Canyon

PART I – REQUIREMENTS FOR NPDES PERMITS

SECTION A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. OUTFALL(s) 004-007, 011-012, 014-023, 030-034, and 037

During the period beginning the effective date and lasting through the expiration date, the permittee is authorized to discharge from Outfall(s) listed above - mine drainage due to precipitation events from reclamation areas. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS				MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	lbs/day, unless noted		mg/l, unless noted		MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
		Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum		
Flow	50050	Report MGD	Report MGD	N/A	N/A	1/Month	Estimate
Total Recoverable Aluminum	01105	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.423	1/Month	Grab

SAMPLING LOCATION(S)

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the following location(s): Outfalls 004-007, 011-012, 014-023, 030-034 and 037.

FLOATING SOLIDS OR VISIBLE FOAM

There shall be no discharge of oils, scum, grease and other floating materials that would cause the formation of a visible sheen or visible deposits on the bottom or shoreline, or would damage or impair the normal growth, function or reproduction of human, animal, plant or aquatic life.

NO DISCHARGE REPORTING

If there is no discharge event at this outfall during the sampling month, place an "X" in the NO DISCHARGE box located in the upper right corner of the preprinted Discharge Monitoring Report.

B. REPORTING OF MONITORING RESULTS (MINOR DISCHARGERS)

Monthly monitoring information shall be submitted as specified in Part III.D.4 of this permit. Reporting periods shall end on the last day of the months March, June, September, and December. The permittee is required to submit regular quarterly reports as described above no later than the 28<sup>th</sup> day of the month following each reporting period.

C. OTHER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

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). Any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment shall be made to the EPA at the following e-mail address:

R6\_NPDES\_Reporting@epa.gov, as soon as possible, but within 24-hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance. This language supersedes that contained in Part III.D.7 of the Permit. Additionally, oral notification shall also be to the New Mexico Environment Department at (505) 827-0187 as soon as possible, but within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance. A written report of overflows which endanger health or the environment shall be provided to EPA and the New Mexico Environment Department, within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance.

D. COPY OF REPORTS AND APPLICATION TO NMED

The permittee shall send a copy of discharge monitoring reports (DMRs), all other reports required in the permit, as well as a copy of application for permit renewal to New Mexico Environment Department at the mailing address listed in Part III of the permit.

## PART II

## OTHER CONDITIONS

A. SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN

(1) This subpart applies to drainage at western alkaline coal mining operations from reclamation areas, brushing and grubbing areas, topsoil stockpiling areas, and regraded areas where the discharge, before any treatment, meets all the following requirements:

- (a) pH is equal to or greater than 6.0;
- (b) Dissolved iron concentration is less than 10 mg/L; and
- (c) Net alkalinity is greater than zero.

(i) The term *brushing and grubbing area* means the area where woody plant materials that would interfere with soil salvage operations have been removed or incorporated into the soil that is being salvaged.

(ii) The term *regraded area* means the surface area of a coal mine that has been returned to required contour.

(iii) The term *sediment* means undissolved organic and inorganic material transported or deposited by water.

(iv) The term *sediment yield* means the sum of the soil losses from a surface minus deposition in macro-topographic depressions, at the toe of the hillslope, along field boundaries, or in terraces and channels sculpted into the hillslope.

(v) The term *topsoil stockpiling area* means the area outside the mined-out area where topsoil is temporarily stored for use in reclamation, including containment berms.

(vi) The term *western coal mining operation* means a surface or underground coal mining operation located in the interior western United States, west of the 100th meridian west longitude, in an arid or semiarid environment with an average annual precipitation of 26.0 inches or less.

(2) The operator must submit an updated site specific Sediment Control Plan (the Plan), if there is any, which is approved by the Office of Surface Mining or State Mining Programs agency (Mining Office) under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) programs, to EPA within three (3) months from the approval of the Plan update. The Plan shall be designed to prevent an increase in the average annual sediment yield from pre-mined, undisturbed conditions. The Plan must identify best management practices (BMPs) and also must describe design specifications, construction specifications, maintenance schedules, criteria for inspection, as well as expected performance and longevity of the best management practices. The permittee shall also send a copy of the Plan to the State of New Mexico Environmental Department.

(3) Using watershed models, the operator must demonstrate that implementation of the Plan will result in average annual sediment yields that will not be greater than the sediment yield levels from premined, undisturbed conditions. The operator must use the same watershed model that was used to acquire the SMCRA permit.

(4) The operator must submit an annual Sediment Control Report to cover a 12-month reporting period from the last report. This report shall demonstrate that the facility has met requirements set forth in above sub-sections (2) and (3). The permittee shall also send a copy of the annual report to the State of New Mexico Environmental Department.

(5) The permittee shall conduct reclamation inspections within the drainage areas associated with the outfalls list above in conjunction with vegetation and erosion studies no less than once/quarter. Inspection reports for each associated outfall shall be submitted with the annual Sediment Control Report as described in item (4) above. Each reclamation inspection report shall include, at a minimum, the following items:

- (i) The personnel who conduct the inspections.
- (ii) Date(s) on which inspection was performed.
- (iii) A written summary of major observations, including observation of no deficiency.
- (iv) Actions should be taken to correct noted deficiencies.
- (v) Photodocumentation of findings if necessary.
- (vi) The signature of delegated officer.

B. MINIMUM QUANTIFICATION LEVEL (MQL)

If any individual analytical test result is less than the minimum quantification level listed in Appendix A, a value of zero (0) may be used for that individual result for the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) calculations and reporting requirements.

The permittee may develop an effluent specific method detection limit (MDL) in accordance with Appendix B to 40CFR136. 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 minimum quantification level (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 Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) calculations and reporting requirements.

C. 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, within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the violation followed by a written report in five days.

Total Recoverable Aluminum

D. REOPENER CLAUSE

The permit may be reopened and modified during the life of the permit if relevant portions of State of New Mexico Water Quality Standards and/or State Water Quality Management Plans are revised, new water quality standards are established and/or remanded and any other policy, or if procedures and implementation guidelines are adopted by the State that change applicable water quality standards and permit

implementation.

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.

If a TMDL is established for the receiving stream, the permit may be reopened, and new limitations based on the TMDL may be incorporated into the permit.

E. SMCRA BOND RELEASE

When the appropriate regulatory authority returns a reclamation or performance bond based upon its determination that reclamation work has been satisfactorily completed on a watershed or a specific part of a disturbed area, the permittee may request to terminate the corresponding NPDES discharge points to that specific drainage area, if the permittee can demonstrate that the Phase III bond for that particular drainage area has been released.

## APPENDIX A of PART II

The following Minimum Quantification Levels (MQL's) are to be used for reporting pollutant data for NPDES permit applications and/or compliance reporting.

POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l	POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l
<b>METALS, RADIOACTIVITY, CYANIDE and CHLORINE</b>			
Aluminum	2.5	Molybdenum	10
Antimony	60	Nickel	0.5
Arsenic	0.5	Selenium	5
Barium	100	Silver	0.5
Beryllium	0.5	Thallium	0.5
Boron	100	Uranium	0.1
Cadmium	1	Vanadium	50
Chromium	10	Zinc	20
Cobalt	50	Cyanide	10
Copper	0.5	Cyanide, weak acid dissociable	10
Lead	0.5	Total Residual Chlorine	33
Mercury *1	0.0005 0.005		
<b>DIOXIN</b>			
2,3,7,8-TCDD	0.00001		
<b>VOLATILE COMPOUNDS</b>			
Acrolein	50	1,3-Dichloropropylene	10
Acrylonitrile	20	Ethylbenzene	10
Benzene	10	Methyl Bromide	50
Bromoform	10	Methylene Chloride	20
Carbon Tetrachloride	2	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	10
Chlorobenzene	10	Tetrachloroethylene	10
Chlorodibromomethane	10	Toluene	10
Chloroform	50	1,2-trans-Dichloroethylene	10
Dichlorobromomethane	10	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	10
1,2-Dichloroethane	10	Trichloroethylene	10
1,1-Dichloroethylene	10	Vinyl Chloride	10
1,2-Dichloropropane	10		
<b>ACID COMPOUNDS</b>			
2-Chlorophenol	10	2,4-Dinitrophenol	50
2,4-Dichlorophenol	10	Pentachlorophenol	5
2,4-Dimethylphenol	10	Phenol	10
4,6-Dinitro-o-Cresol	50	2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	10

POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l	POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l
<b>BASE/NEUTRAL</b>			
Acenaphthene	10	Dimethyl Phthalate	10
Anthracene	10	Di-n-Butyl Phthalate	10
Benzidine	50	2,4-Dinitrotoluene	10
Benzo(a)anthracene	5	1,2-Diphenylhydrazine	20
Benzo(a)pyrene	5	Fluoranthene	10
3,4-Benzofluoranthene	10	Fluorene	10
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	5	Hexachlorobenzene	5
Bis(2-chloroethyl)Ether	10	Hexachlorobutadiene	10
Bis(2-chloroisopropyl)Ether	10	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	10
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)Phthalate	10	Hexachloroethane	20
Butyl Benzyl Phthalate	10	Indeno(1,2,3-cd)Pyrene	5
2-Chloronaphthalene	10	Isophorone	10
Chrysene	5	Nitrobenzene	10
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	5	n-Nitrosodimethylamine	50
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	10	n-Nitrosodi-n-Propylamine	20
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	10	n-Nitrosodiphenylamine	20
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	10	Pyrene	10
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	5	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	10
Diethyl Phthalate	10		
<b>PESTICIDES AND PCBS</b>			
Aldrin	0.01	Beta-Endosulfan	0.02
Alpha-BHC	0.05	Endosulfan sulfate	0.02
Beta-BHC	0.05	Endrin	0.02
Gamma-BHC	0.05	Endrin Aldehyde	0.1
Chlordane	0.2	Heptachlor	0.01
4,4'-DDT and derivatives	0.02	Heptachlor Epoxide	0.01
Dieldrin	0.02	PCBs	0.2
Alpha-Endosulfan	0.01	Toxaphene	0.3

(MQL's Revised November 1, 2007)

## Footnotes:

\*1 Default MQL for Mercury is 0.005 unless Part I of your permit requires the more sensitive Method 1631 (Oxidation / Purge and Trap / Cold vapor Atomic Fluorescence Spectrometry), then the MQL shall be 0.0005.

**PART III - STANDARD CONDITIONS FOR NPDES PERMITS****A. GENERAL CONDITIONS****1. INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Part 122.41, et. seq., this permit incorporates by reference ALL conditions and requirements applicable to NPDES Permits set forth in the Clean Water Act, as amended, (hereinafter known as the "Act") as well as ALL applicable regulations.

**2. DUTY TO COMPLY**

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Act and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or for denial of a permit renewal application.

**3. TOXIC POLLUTANTS**

a. Notwithstanding Part III.A.5, if any toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under Section 307(a) of the Act for a toxic pollutant which is present in the discharge and that standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation on the pollutant in this permit, this permit shall be modified or revoked and reissued to conform to the toxic effluent standard or prohibition.

b. The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the Act for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that established those standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.

**4. DUTY TO REAPPLY**

If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit. The application shall be submitted at least 180 days before the expiration date of this permit. The Director may grant permission to submit an application less than 180 days in advance but no later than the permit expiration date. Continuation of expiring permits shall be governed by regulations promulgated at 40 CFR Part 122.6 and any subsequent amendments.

**5. PERMIT FLEXIBILITY**

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause in accordance with 40 CFR 122.62-64. The filing of a request for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.

**6. PROPERTY RIGHTS**

This permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

**7. DUTY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION**

The permittee shall furnish to the Director, within a reasonable time, any information which the Director may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit, or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Director, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

**8. CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LIABILITY**

Except as provided in permit conditions on "Bypassing" and "Upsets", nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance. Any false or materially misleading representation or concealment of information required to be reported by the provisions of the permit, the Act, or applicable regulations, which avoids or effectively defeats the regulatory purpose of the Permit may subject the Permittee to criminal enforcement pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1001.

**9. OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE LIABILITY**

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under Section 311 of the Act.

**10. STATE LAWS**

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable State law or regulation under authority preserved by Section 510 of the Act.

**11. SEVERABILITY**

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

**B. PROPER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE****1. NEED TO HALT OR REDUCE NOT A DEFENSE**

It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit. The permittee is responsible for maintaining adequate safeguards to prevent the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated wastes during electrical power failure either by means of alternate power sources, standby generators or retention of inadequately treated effluent.

**2. DUTY TO MITIGATE**

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

**3. PROPER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

- a. The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by permittee as efficiently as possible and in a manner which will minimize upsets and discharges of excessive pollutants and will achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit.
- b. The permittee shall provide an adequate operating staff which is duly qualified to carry out operation, maintenance and testing functions required to insure compliance with the conditions of this permit.

**4. BYPASS OF TREATMENT FACILITIES****a. BYPASS NOT EXCEEDING LIMITATIONS**

The permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions of Parts III.B.4.b. and 4.c.

**b. NOTICE****(1) ANTICIPATED BYPASS**

If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible at least ten days before the date of the bypass.

**(2) UNANTICIPATED BYPASS**

The permittee shall, within 24 hours, submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Part III.D.7.

**c. PROHIBITION OF BYPASS**

(1) Bypass is prohibited, and the Director may take enforcement action against a permittee for bypass, unless:

(a) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;

(b) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and,

(c) The permittee submitted notices as required by Part III.B.4.b.

(2) The Director may allow an anticipated bypass after considering its adverse effects, if the Director determines that it will meet the three conditions listed at Part III.B.4.c(1).

## 5. UPSET CONDITIONS

### a. EFFECT OF AN UPSET

An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology-based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Part III.B.5.b. are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.

### b. CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR A DEMONSTRATION OF UPSET

A permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:

- (1) An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;
- (2) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated;
- (3) The permittee submitted notice of the upset as required by Part III.D.7; and,
- (4) The permittee complied with any remedial measures required by Part III.B.2.

### c. BURDEN OF PROOF

In any enforcement proceeding, the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

## 6. REMOVED SUBSTANCES

Unless otherwise authorized, solids, sewage sludges, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed in the course of treatment or wastewater control shall be disposed of in a manner such as to prevent any pollutant from such materials from entering navigable waters.

## 7. PERCENT REMOVAL (PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS)

For publicly owned treatment works, the 30-day average (or Monthly Average) percent removal for Biochemical Oxygen Demand and Total Suspended Solids shall not be less than 85 percent unless otherwise authorized by the permitting authority in accordance with 40 CFR 133.103.

## C. MONITORING AND RECORDS

### 1. INSPECTION AND ENTRY

The permittee shall allow the Director, or an authorized representative, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by the law to:

- a. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices or operations regulated or required under this permit; and
- d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

### 2. REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLING

Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.

### 3. RETENTION OF RECORDS

The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. This period may be extended by request of the Director at any time.

### 4. RECORD CONTENTS

Records of monitoring information shall include:

- a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;

- b. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
- c. The date(s) and time(s) analyses were performed;
- d. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
- e. The analytical techniques or methods used; and
- f. The results of such analyses.

#### 5. MONITORING PROCEDURES

- a. Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136, unless other test procedures have been specified in this permit or approved by the Regional Administrator.
- b. The permittee shall calibrate and perform maintenance procedures on all monitoring and analytical instruments at intervals frequent enough to insure accuracy of measurements and shall maintain appropriate records of such activities.
- c. An adequate analytical quality control program, including the analyses of sufficient standards, spikes, and duplicate samples to insure the accuracy of all required analytical results shall be maintained by the permittee or designated commercial laboratory.

#### 6. FLOW MEASUREMENTS

Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. The devices shall be installed, calibrated, and maintained to insure that the accuracy of the measurements is consistent with the accepted capability of that type of device. Devices selected shall be capable of measuring flows with a maximum deviation of less than 10% from true discharge rates throughout the range of expected discharge volumes.

### D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

#### 1. PLANNED CHANGES

##### a. INDUSTRIAL PERMITS

The permittee shall give notice to the Director as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only when:

- (1) The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR Part 122.29(b); or,
- (2) The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements listed at Part III.D.10.a.

##### b. MUNICIPAL PERMITS

Any change in the facility discharge (including the introduction of any new source or significant discharge or significant changes in the quantity or quality of existing discharges of pollutants) must be reported to the permitting authority. In no case are any new connections, increased flows, or significant changes in influent quality permitted that will cause violation of the effluent limitations specified herein.

#### 2. ANTICIPATED NONCOMPLIANCE

The permittee shall give advance notice to the Director of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.

#### 3. TRANSFERS

This permit is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Director. The Director may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit to change the name of the permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the Act.

#### 4. DISCHARGE MONITORING REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS

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](http://www.epa.gov/netdmr) and contact the [R6NetDMR@epa.gov](mailto: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 at the address below. Duplicate copies of paper DMR's and all other reports shall be submitted to the appropriate State agency (ies) at the following address (es):

**EPA:**

Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division  
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-W)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

**New Mexico:**

Program Manager  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P.O. Box 5469  
1190 Saint Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

**5. ADDITIONAL MONITORING BY THE PERMITTEE**

If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this permit, using test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or as specified in this permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR). Such increased monitoring frequency shall also be indicated on the DMR.

**6. AVERAGING OF MEASUREMENTS**

Calculations for all limitations which require averaging of measurements shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified by the Director in the permit.

**7. TWENTY-FOUR HOUR REPORTING**

a. The permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Notification shall be made to the EPA at the following e-mail address: R6\_NPDES\_Reporting@epa.gov, as soon as possible, but within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance. Oral notification shall also be to the New Mexico Environment Department at (505) 827-0187 as soon as possible, but within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance. A written submission shall be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The report shall contain the following information:

- (1) A description of the noncompliance and its cause;
- (2) The period of noncompliance including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and,
- (3) Steps being taken to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncomplying discharge.

b. The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours:

- (1) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit;
- (2) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit; and,
- (3) Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the Director in Part II (industrial permits only) of the permit to be reported within 24 hours.

c. The Director may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

**8. OTHER NONCOMPLIANCE**

The permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Parts III.D.4 and D.7 and Part I.B (for industrial permits only) at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed at Part III.D.7.

**9. OTHER INFORMATION**

Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

**10. CHANGES IN DISCHARGES OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES**

All existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvacultural permittees shall notify the Director as soon as it knows or has reason to believe:

- a. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant listed at 40 CFR Part 122, Appendix D, Tables II and III (excluding Total Phenols) which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":
- (1) One hundred micrograms per liter (100 µg/L);
  - (2) Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 µg/L) for acrolein and acrylonitrile; five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L) for 2, 4-dinitro-phenol and for 2-methyl-4, 6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
  - (3) Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
  - (4) The level established by the Director.
- b. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a nonroutine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":
- (1) Five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L);
  - (2) One milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
  - (3) Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
  - (4) The level established by the Director.

#### 11. SIGNATORY REQUIREMENTS

All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Director shall be signed and certified.

- a. ALL PERMIT APPLICATIONS shall be signed as follows:

- (1) FOR A CORPORATION - by a responsible corporate officer. For the purpose of this section, a responsible corporate officer means:
  - (a) A president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy or decision making functions for the corporation; or
  - (b) The manager of one or more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities, provided, the manager is authorized to make management decisions which govern the operation of the regulated facility including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations, and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long term environmental compliance with environmental laws and regulations; the manager can ensure that the necessary systems are established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and where authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures.
- (2) FOR A PARTNERSHIP OR SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP - by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.
- (3) FOR A MUNICIPALITY, STATE, FEDERAL, OR OTHER PUBLIC AGENCY - by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. For purposes of this section, a principal executive officer of a Federal agency includes:
  - (a) The chief executive officer of the agency, or
  - (b) A senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency.

- b. ALL REPORTS required by the permit and other information requested by the Director shall be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

- (1) The authorization is made in writing by a person described above;
- (2) The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, or position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental

matters for the company. A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or an individual occupying a named position; and,

(3) The written authorization is submitted to the Director.

c. CERTIFICATION

Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

12. AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS

Except for applications, effluent data permits, and other data specified in 40 CFR 122.7, any information submitted pursuant to this permit may be claimed as confidential by the submitter. If no claim is made at the time of submission, information may be made available to the public without further notice.

E. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. CRIMINAL

a. NEGLIGENT VIOLATIONS

The Act provides that any person who negligently violates permit conditions implementing Section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a fine of not less than \$2,500 nor more than \$25,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a negligent violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 2 years, or both.

b. KNOWING VIOLATIONS

The Act provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$100,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 6 years, or both.

c. KNOWING ENDANGERMENT

The Act provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act and who knows at that time that he is placing another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury is subject to a fine of not more than \$250,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 15 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing endangerment violation, a person shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 30 years, or both. An organization, as defined in section 309(c)(3)(B)(iii) of the CWA, shall, upon conviction of violating the imminent danger provision, be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000 and can be fined up to \$2,000,000 for second or subsequent convictions.

d. FALSE STATEMENTS

The Act provides that any person who knowingly makes any false material statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, plan, or other document filed or required to be maintained under the Act or who knowingly falsifies, tampers with, or renders inaccurate, any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under the Act, shall upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 years, or by both. If a conviction of a person is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment shall be by a fine of not more than \$20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 4 years, or by both. (See Section 309.c.4 of the Clean Water Act)

2. CIVIL PENALTIES

The Act provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$37,500 per day for each violation.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES

The Act provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to an administrative penalty, as follows:

a. CLASS I PENALTY

Not to exceed \$16,000 per violation nor shall the maximum amount exceed \$37,500.

b. CLASS II PENALTY

Not to exceed \$16,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues nor shall the maximum amount exceed \$177,500.

F. DEFINITIONS

All definitions contained in Section 502 of the Act shall apply to this permit and are incorporated herein by reference. Unless otherwise specified in this permit, additional definitions of words or phrases used in this permit are as follows:

1. ACT means the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq.), as amended.
2. ADMINISTRATOR means the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
3. APPLICABLE EFFLUENT STANDARDS AND LIMITATIONS means all state and Federal effluent standards and limitations to which a discharge is subject under the Act, including, but not limited to, effluent limitations, standards or performance, toxic effluent standards and prohibitions, and pretreatment standards.
4. APPLICABLE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS means all water quality standards to which a discharge is subject under the Act.
5. BYPASS means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.
6. DAILY DISCHARGE means the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in terms of mass, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the sampling day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the sampling day. "Daily discharge" determination of concentration made using a composite sample shall be the concentration of the composite sample. When grab samples are used, the "daily discharge" determination of concentration shall be arithmetic average (weighted by flow value) of all samples collected during that sampling day.
7. DAILY MAXIMUM discharge limitation means the highest allowable "daily discharge" during the calendar month.
8. DIRECTOR means the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator or an authorized representative.
9. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY means the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
10. GRAB SAMPLE means an individual sample collected in less than 15 minutes.
11. INDUSTRIAL USER means a non-domestic discharger, as identified in 40 CFR 403, introducing pollutants to a publicly owned treatment works.
12. MONTHLY AVERAGE (also known as DAILY AVERAGE) discharge limitations means the highest allowable average of "daily discharge(s)" over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all "daily discharge(s)" measured during a calendar month divided by the number of "daily discharge(s)" measured during that month. When the permit establishes daily average concentration effluent limitations or conditions, the daily average concentration means the arithmetic average (weighted by flow) of all "daily discharge(s)" of concentration determined during the calendar month where C = daily concentration, F = daily flow, and n = number of daily samples; daily average discharge =

$$\frac{C_1F_1 + C_2F_2 + \dots + C_nF_n}{F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_n}$$

13. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM means the national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under Sections 307, 318, 402, and 405 of the Act.
14. SEVERE PROPERTY DAMAGE means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.