



Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

NPDES Permit No. **NM0028100**

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"),

Rio Grande Resources Corporation
P.O. Box 1150
Grants, NM 87020

is authorized to discharge from Mt. Taylor Mine located in San Mateo, Cibola County, New Mexico, through an outfall located in McKinley County

to receiving water named unnamed arroyo to San Miguel Creek, thence to Arroyo Chico, thence to Rio Puerco, and thence to Rio Grande in Waterbody Segment No. 20.6.4.105 of Rio Grande Basin, from

Outfall 001: Latitude: 35° 24' 00", Longitude: 107° 38' 24"

in accordance with this cover page and effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Parts I [Requirements for NPDES Permits], II [Other Conditions], and III [Standard Conditions for NPDES Permits] hereof.

This permit supersedes and replaces NPDES Permit No. NM0028100 issued on March 30, 2005.

This permit shall become effective on August 1, 2010

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, July 31, 2015

Issued on July 28, 2010

Prepared by

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Permits Section (6WQ-PP)

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PART I – REQUIREMENTS FOR NPDES PERMITS

SECTION A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. Outfalls 001

During the period beginning the effective date of the permit and lasting through the expiration date of the permit (unless otherwise noted), the permittee is authorized to discharge from Outfall 001. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		Standard Units			
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
pH	00400	6.6	9.0	1/Day	Grab

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS				MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		lbs/day, unless noted		mg/l, unless noted			
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	30-Day Avg	Daily Max	30-Day Avg	Daily Max	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
Flow	50050	Report MGD	Report MGD	***	***	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Total Suspended Solids	00530	N/A	N/A	20	30	1/Day	Grab
Chemical Oxygen Demand	00340	N/A	N/A	100	125	1/Day	Grab
Ra226 (dissolved)	09503	N/A	N/A	3 pCi/l	10 pCi/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Ra226	09501	N/A	N/A	10 pCi/l	30 pCi/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Ra226+Ra228	11503	N/A	N/A	20 pCi/l	30 pCi/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Uranium	22706	N/A	N/A	2.0	4.0	1/Day	Grab
Total Zinc	01092	N/A	N/A	0.5	1.0	1/Day	Grab
Total Aluminum	01105	N/A	N/A	3.3	5.0	1/Day	Grab
Total Boron	01022	N/A	N/A	0.5	0.75	1/Day	Grab
Total Cadmium	01027	N/A	N/A	0.06	0.1	1/Day	Grab
Total Chromium	01034	N/A	N/A	0.32	0.48	1/Day	Grab
Total Cobalt	01037	N/A	N/A	0.033	0.05	1/Day	Grab
Total Copper	01042	N/A	N/A	0.35	0.53	1/Day	Grab

Total Mercury	71900	N/A	N/A	0.51 µg/l	0.77 µg/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Molybdenum	01062	N/A	N/A	0.67	1.0	1/Day	Grab
Total Selenium	01147	N/A	N/A	3.3 µg/l	5.0 µg/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Vanadium	01087	N/A	N/A	0.067	0.1	1/Day	Grab
Total Alpha	80029	N/A	N/A	10 pCi/l	15 pCi/l	1/Day	Grab
E. coli	51040	N/A	N/A	126 cfu/100 ml	410 cfu/100 ml	1/Day	Grab

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS	DISCHARGE MONITORING		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	30-DAY AVG MINIMUM	48-HR MINIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (*1) (48-Hour Static Renewal)	Report	Report	1/3 Months (*1)	24-Hr Composite

Footnotes:

*1 Monitoring frequency 1/3-month for the 1st year of the permit. If all tests pass, reduce the frequency to 1/6-month for years 2 – 5, and resume the frequency of 1/3-month on the last day of the permit. If any test fails during the period of the permit, return the frequency to 1/3-month for the remainder of the permit.

SAMPLING LOCATION(S)

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the following location(s): Outfalls 001.

2. Inter Outfalls 01A

During the period beginning the effective date of the permit and lasting through the expiration date of the permit (unless otherwise noted), the permittee is authorized to discharge treated sanitary wastewater from Inter Outfall 01A. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		Standard Units			
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
pH	00400	6.0	9.0	1/Day	Grab

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS				MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		lbs/day, unless noted		mg/l, unless noted			
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	30-Day Avg	Daily Max	30-Day Avg	Daily Max	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
Flow	50050	Report MGD	Report MGD	N/A	N/A	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Total Suspended Solids	00530	N/A	N/A	30	45	1/Day	Grab
BOD	00310	N/A	N/A	30	45	1/day	Grab

SAMPLING LOCATION(S)

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the following location(s): after the last treatment unit prior to co-mingling with other waste sources.

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

Monitoring information shall be on Discharge Monitoring Report Form(s) EPA 3320-1 or electronic NetDMR as specified in Part III.D.4 of this permit and shall be submitted monthly. The permittee is required to submit regular monthly reports as described above no later than the 15th day of the month following each reporting period.

C. EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS

The permittee is required to take representative samples of mine drainage for analyses of constituents listed in Application Form 2-C, section V. Part A-D. The analytical results shall be sent to the following address no later than 90 days prior to any discharge to the water of the United States.

Water Quality Protection Division
NPDES Permits & TMDL Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

PART II
OTHER CONDITIONS

A. 24-hour Composite Sample

The term "24-hour composite sample" means a sample consisting of a minimum of eight (8) grab samples of effluents collected at regular intervals over a normal operating day and combined proportional to flow, or a sample continuously collected proportional to flow over a normal operating day.

B. Test Procedures

a. The effluent characteristics "dissolved radium 226" and "total radium 226" shall be measured by one of the approved methods in accordance with the procedures discussed for dissolved radium 226 and total radium 226 in Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, latest edition, or an equivalent method.

b. The effluent characteristic "Total Uranium" shall be measured by the procedure discussed in the HASL Procedural Manual, edition by John H. Harley, HASL 300 Health and Safety Laboratory, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, 1973, pg. EU-03, or an equivalent method.

C. Radioactivity

Sections 20.6.4.13 General Standards, Paragraph G Radioactivity of State of New Mexico Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters (20.6.4 NMAC): The radioactivity of surface waters of the state shall be maintained at the lowest practical level and shall in no case exceed the standards set forth in New Mexico Radiation Protection Regulations, 20.3.1 and 20.3.4 NMAC.

D. Minimum Qualification Levels (MQLS)

If any individual analytical test result is less than the MQL for that parameter listed in Appendix A to this Part, then a value of zero may be used for discharge monitoring report (DMR) calculations and reporting requirements for the parameter.

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) reporting requirements.

E. Reopener Clause

In accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.44(d), the permit may be reopened and modified during the life of the permit if relevant portions of New Mexico's Water Quality Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Streams are revised, or new State water quality standards are established and/or remanded by the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission.

In accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.62(s)(2), 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.

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
METALS, RADIOACTIVITY, CYANIDE and CHLORINE			
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		
DIOXIN			
2,3,7,8-TCDD	0.00001		
VOLATILE COMPOUNDS			
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
Clorodibromomethane	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		
ACID COMPOUNDS			
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	MLQ µg/l	POLLUTANTS	MLQ µg/l
BASE/NEUTRAL			
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		
PESTICIDES AND PCBs			
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

(MLQ's Revised November 1, 2007)

Footnotes:

*1 Default MLQ 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 MLQ 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 and contact the 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. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. 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.

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.

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.

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 \$27,500 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 \$11,000 per violation nor shall the maximum amount exceed \$27,500.

b. CLASS II PENALTY

Not to exceed \$11,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues nor shall the maximum amount exceed \$137,500.

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 =

$$C_1F_1 + C_2F_2 + \dots + C_nF_n$$

$$F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_n$$

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.
15. SEWAGE SLUDGE means the solids, residues, and precipitates separated from or created in sewage by the unit processes of a publicly owned treatment works. Sewage as used in this definition means any wastes, including wastes from humans, households, commercial establishments, industries, and storm water runoff that are discharged to or otherwise enter a publicly owned treatment works.
16. TREATMENT WORKS means any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of municipal sewage and industrial wastes of a liquid nature to implement Section 201 of the Act, or necessary to recycle or reuse water at

the most economical cost over the estimated life of the works, including intercepting sewers, sewage collection systems, pumping, power and other equipment, and their appurtenances, extension, improvement, remodeling, additions, and alterations thereof.

17. UPSET means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.
18. FOR FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA, a sample consists of one effluent grab portion collected during a 24-hour period at peak loads.
19. The term "MGD" shall mean million gallons per day.
20. The term "mg/L" shall mean milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm).
21. The term "µg/L" shall mean micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb).
22. MUNICIPAL TERMS
 - a. 7-DAY AVERAGE or WEEKLY AVERAGE, other than for fecal coliform bacteria, is the arithmetic mean of the daily values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar week, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week. The 7-day average for fecal coliform bacteria is the geometric mean of the values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar week.
 - b. 30-DAY AVERAGE or MONTHLY AVERAGE, other than for fecal coliform bacteria, is the arithmetic mean of the daily values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month. The 30-day average for fecal coliform bacteria is the geometric mean of the values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar month.
 - c. 24-HOUR COMPOSITE SAMPLE consists of a minimum of 12 effluent portions collected at equal time intervals over the 24-hour period and combined proportional to flow or a sample collected at frequent intervals proportional to flow over the 24-hour period.
 - d. 12-HOUR COMPOSITE SAMPLE consists of 12 effluent portions collected no closer together than one hour and composited according to flow. The daily sampling intervals shall include the highest flow periods.
 - e. 6-HOUR COMPOSITE SAMPLE consists of six effluent portions collected no closer together than one hour (with the first portion collected no earlier than 10:00 a.m.) and composited according to flow.
 - f. 3-HOUR COMPOSITE SAMPLE consists of three effluent portions collected no closer together than one hour (with the first portion collected no earlier than 10:00 a.m.) and composited according to flow.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

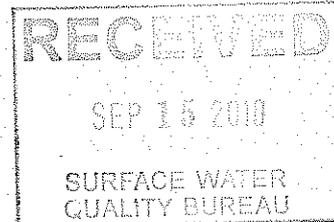
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

SEP 10 2010

CERTIFIED MAIL: RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED (7009 2820 0001 8283 5087)

Mr. J. C. Lister
Rio Grande Resources
P.O. Box 1150
Grants, NM 87020

Re: NPDES Permit No. NM0028100
Change of Administrative Records



Dear Mr. Lister:

The permit recently issued to the Rio Grande Resources requires your facility perform toxicity testing as specified in section A, Part I of the permit. But, EPA accidentally omits the standard procedure for sampling and performance of toxicity testing. A copy of the toxicity testing procedure is enclosed for your record. EPA also changes the description of alpha from total alpha to adjusted gross alpha in accordance with State water quality standards (20.6.4.7B and 20.6.4.900J).

The corrected pages are enclosed.

If you have any questions on any aspect of this minor permit modification, please feel free to contact the permit writer, Isaac Chen, by telephone at:214-665-7364, FAX:214-665-2191, or E-mail: chen.isaac@epa.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Brent Larsen
Acting Chief
Permits & Technical Section (6WQ-PP)

Enclosure(s)

c w/ Enclosure: New Mexico Environment Department

PART I – REQUIREMENTS FOR NPDES PERMITS

SECTION A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. Outfalls 001

During the period beginning the effective date of the permit and lasting through the expiration date of the permit (unless otherwise noted), the permittee is authorized to discharge from Outfall 001. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		Standard Units			
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
pH	00400	6.6	9.0	1/Day	Grab

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS				MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		lbs/day, unless noted		mg/l, unless noted			
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	30-Day Avg	Daily Max	30-Day Avg	Daily Max	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
Flow	50050	Report MGD	Report MGD	***	***	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Total Suspended Solids	00530	N/A	N/A	20	30	1/Day	Grab
Chemical Oxygen Demand	00340	N/A	N/A	100	125	1/Day	Grab
Ra226 (dissolved)	09503	N/A	N/A	3 pCi/l	10 pCi/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Ra226	09501	N/A	N/A	10 pCi/l	30 pCi/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Ra226+Ra228	11503	N/A	N/A	20 pCi/l	30 pCi/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Uranium	22706	N/A	N/A	2.0	4.0	1/Day	Grab
Total Zinc	01092	N/A	N/A	0.5	1.0	1/Day	Grab
Total Aluminum	01105	N/A	N/A	3.3	5.0	1/Day	Grab
Total Boron	01022	N/A	N/A	0.5	0.75	1/Day	Grab
Total Cadmium	01027	N/A	N/A	0.06	0.1	1/Day	Grab
Total Chromium	01034	N/A	N/A	0.32	0.48	1/Day	Grab
Total Cobalt	01037	N/A	N/A	0.033	0.05	1/Day	Grab
Total Copper	01042	N/A	N/A	0.35	0.53	1/Day	Grab

Total Mercury	71900	N/A	N/A	0.51 µg/l	0.77 µg/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Molybdenum	01062	N/A	N/A	0.67	1.0	1/Day	Grab
Total Selenium	01147	N/A	N/A	3.3 µg/l	5.0 µg/l	1/Day	Grab
Total Vanadium	01087	N/A	N/A	0.067	0.1	1/Day	Grab
Adjusted Gross Alpha (*1)	80029	N/A	N/A	10 pCi/l	15 pCi/l	1/Day	Grab
E. coli	51040	N/A	N/A	126 cfu/100 ml	410 cfu/100 ml	1/Day	Grab

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS	DISCHARGE MONITORING		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	30-DAY AVG MINIMUM	48-HR MINIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (*1) (48-Hour Static Renewal)	Report	Report	1/3 Months (*1)	24-Hr Composite
Daphnia pulex	Report	Report	1/3 Months (*1)	24-Hr Composite

Footnotes:

*1 Adjusted gross alpha means the total radioactivity due to alpha particle emission as inferred from measurements on a dry sample, including radium-226, but excluding radon-222 and uranium.

*2 Monitoring frequency 1/3-month for the 1st year of the permit. If all tests pass, reduce the frequency to 1/6-month for years 2 – 5, and resume the frequency of 1/3-month on the last day of the permit. If any test fails during the period of the permit, return the frequency to 1/3-month for the remainder of the permit.

SAMPLING LOCATION(S)

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the following location(s): Outfalls 001.

F. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (48-HOUR ACUTE NOEC FRESHWATER)

It is unlawful and a violation of this permit for a permittee or his designated agent, to manipulate test samples in any manner, to delay sample shipment, or to terminate or to cause to terminate a toxicity test. Once initiated, all toxicity tests must be completed unless specific authority has been granted by EPA Region 6 or the State NPDES permitting authority.

1. SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

- a. The permittee shall test the effluent for toxicity in accordance with the provisions in this section.

APPLICABLE TO FINAL OUTFALL(S):	001
REPORTED AS FINAL OUTFALL:	001
CRITICAL DILUTION (%):	100
EFFLUENT DILUTION SERIES (%):	32, 42, 56, 75, 100
COMPOSITE SAMPLE TYPE:	Defined at PART I
TEST SPECIES/METHODS:	40 CFR Part 136

Daphnia pulex acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using EPA-821-R-02-012, or the latest update thereof. A minimum of five (5) replicates with eight (8) organisms per replicate must be used in the control and in each effluent dilution of this test.

- b. The NOEC (No Observed Lethal Effect Concentration) is defined as the greatest effluent dilution at and below which lethality that is statistically different from the control (0% effluent) at the 95% confidence level does not occur. Acute test failure is defined as a demonstration of a statistically significant lethal effect at test completion to a test species at or below the critical dilution.
- c. This permit may be reopened to require whole effluent toxicity limits, chemical specific effluent limits, additional testing, and/or other appropriate actions to address toxicity.
- d. Test failure is defined as a demonstration of statistically significant lethal effects to a test species at or below the effluent critical dilution.
- e. This permit does not establish requirements to automatically increase the WET testing frequency after a test failure, or to begin a toxicity reduction evaluation (TRE) in the event of multiple test failures. However, upon failure of any WET test, the permittee must report the test results to NMED, Surface Water Quality Bureau, in writing, within 5 business days of notification the test failure. NMED will review the test results and determine the appropriate action necessary, if any.

2. REQUIRED TOXICITY TESTING CONDITIONS

a. Test Acceptance

The permittee shall repeat a test, including the control and all effluent dilutions, if the procedures and quality assurance requirements defined in the test methods or in this permit are not satisfied, including the following additional criteria:

- i. Each toxicity test control (0% effluent) must have a survival equal to or greater than 90%.
- ii. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the control (0% effluent)-
- iii. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the critical dilution, unless significant lethal effects are exhibited.

Test failure may not be construed or reported as invalid due to a coefficient of variation value of greater than 40%. A repeat test shall be conducted within the required reporting period of any test determined to be invalid.

b. Statistical Interpretation

The statistical analyses used to determine if there is a statistically significant difference between the control and the critical dilution shall be in accordance with the methods for determining the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) as described in EPA-821-R-02-012 or the most recent update thereof.

If the conditions of Test Acceptability are met in Item 2.a above and the percent survival of the test organism is equal to or greater than 90% in the critical dilution concentration and all lower dilution concentrations, the test shall be considered to be a passing test, and the permittee shall report an NOEC of not less than the critical dilution for the reporting requirements found in Item 3 below.

c. Dilution Water

- i. Dilution water used in the toxicity tests will be receiving water collected as close to the point of discharge as possible but unaffected by the discharge. The permittee shall substitute synthetic dilution water of similar pH, hardness, and alkalinity to the closest downstream perennial water for;
 - (A) toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges to receiving water classified as intermittent streams; and
 - (B) toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges where no receiving water is available due to zero flow conditions.
- ii. If the receiving water is unsatisfactory as a result of instream toxicity (fails to fulfill the test acceptance criteria of Item 3.a), the permittee may substitute synthetic dilution water for the receiving water in all

subsequent tests provided the unacceptable receiving water test met the following stipulations:

- (A) a synthetic dilution water control which fulfills the test acceptance requirements of Item 3.a was run concurrently with the receiving water control;
- (B) the test indicating receiving water toxicity has been carried out to completion (i.e., 48 hours);
- (C) the permittee includes all test results indicating receiving water toxicity with the full report and information required by Item 4 below; and
- (D) the synthetic dilution water shall have a pH, hardness, and alkalinity similar to that of the receiving water or closest downstream perennial water not adversely affected by the discharge, provided the magnitude of these parameters will not cause toxicity in the synthetic dilution water.

d. Samples and Composites

- i. The permittee shall collect two flow-weighted composite samples from the outfall(s) listed at Item 1.a above.
- ii. The permittee shall collect a second composite sample for use during the 24-hour renewal of each dilution concentration for the tests. The permittee must collect the composite samples so that the maximum holding time for any effluent sample shall not exceed 36 hours. The permittee must have initiated the toxicity test within 36 hours after the collection of the last portion of the first composite sample. Samples shall be chilled to 6 degrees Centigrade during collection, shipping, and/or storage.
- iii. The permittee must collect the composite samples such that the effluent samples are representative of any periodic episode of chlorination, biocide usage or other potentially toxic substance discharged on an intermittent basis.
- iv. If the flow from the outfall(s) being tested ceases during the collection of effluent samples, the requirements for the minimum number of effluent samples, the minimum number of effluent portions and the sample holding time are waived during that sampling period. However, the permittee must collect an effluent composite sample volume during the period of discharge that is sufficient to complete the required toxicity tests with daily renewal of effluent. When possible, the effluent samples used for the toxicity tests shall be collected on separate days. The effluent composite sample collection duration and the static renewal protocol associated with the abbreviated sample collection must be documented in the full report required in Item 3 of this section.

3. REPORTING

- a. The permittee shall prepare a full report of the results of all tests conducted pursuant to this Part in accordance with the Report Preparation Section of EPA-821-R-02-012, for every valid or invalid toxicity test initiated, whether carried to completion or not. The permittee shall retain each full report pursuant to the provisions of PART III.C.3 of this permit. The permittee shall submit full reports upon the specific request of the Agency. For any test which fails, is considered invalid or which is terminated early for any reason, the full report must be submitted for agency review.
- b. A valid test for each species must be reported during each reporting period specified in PART I of this permit unless the permittee is performing a TRE which may increase the frequency of testing and reporting. Only ONE set of biomonitoring data for each species is to be recorded for each reporting period. The data submitted should reflect the LOWEST Survival results for each species during the reporting period. All invalid tests, repeat tests (for invalid tests), and retests (for tests previously failed) performed during the reporting period must be attached for EPA review.
- c. The permittee shall report the following results of each valid toxicity test. Submit retest information, if required, clearly marked as such. Only results of valid tests are to be reported.
 - i. Daphnia pulex
 - (A) If the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TEM3D.
 - (B) Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOM3D.
 - (C) Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQM3D.
- d. If retests are required by NMED, enter the following codes:
 - i. For retest number 1, Parameter 22415, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
 - ii. For retest number 2, Parameter 22416, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."