By email: rosborough.evelyn@epa.gov

Ms. Evelyn Rosborough

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6
NPDES/Wetland Review Section (6WD-PN)

1201 Elm Street, Suite 500

Dallas, TX 75270

Re: Public Comment about the draft LANL Industrial Wastewater Discharge

 Clean Water Act Permit No. NM0028355

Dear Ms. Rosborough:

I object to Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) asking the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to issue a Clean Water Act permit for industrial facilities that have not discharged wastewater to the environment for years, if not decades.

Clean Water Act permits may be granted only for “the discharge of any pollutant, or combination of pollutants.” Some LANL facilities have no discharge from a “point source,” also known as an outfall. These facilities should no longer be on the permit.

I object to EPA issuing a permit for facilities that handle, treat and store hazardous waste, but do not discharge. Such Clean Water Act permitting confers an exemption from more stringent Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste laws and regulations. The only reason to issue a Clean Water Act permit is to illegitimately exempt LANL facilities from RCRA.

I object to EPA issuing a permit for those LANL facilities that have not discharged, such as the

* Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility (RLWTF),
* Strategic Computing Complex;
* Los Alamos Neutron Science Complex, or LANSCE, facility;
* National High Magnetic Field Laboratory; and
* High Explosive Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Please delete from the Clean Water Act permit those facilities that are in the business of handling, treating, and storing hazardous waste, but do not discharge. Open the door to their proper and more stringent regulation under RCRA.

Thank you for your careful consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,