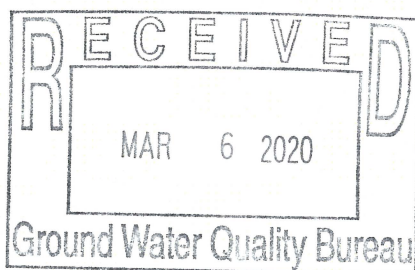




N3B-Los Alamos
1200 Trinity Drive, Suite 150
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
(505) 257-7690



Environmental Management
Los Alamos Field Office
P.O. Box 1663, MS M984
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545
(505) 257-7950/FAX (505) 606-2132

Date: **MAR 06 2020**
Refer To: N3B-20-0071

Steve Pullen
Program Manager
Groundwater Pollution Prevention Section
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 5469
1190 S. St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Subject: Submittal of Public Notification Completion for Discharge Permit 1793 Renewal Application

Dear Mr. Pullen:

On January 29, 2020, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA) and Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos, LLC (N3B) submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) a renewal application for Discharge Permit 1793 (DP-1793). On February 7, 2020, NMED transmitted to EM-LA/N3B the "Administrative Completeness Determination and Applicant's Public Notice Requirement, DP-1793, Los Alamos National Laboratory – On Site Groundwater Treatment," which states that on January 31, 2020, NMED determined that the EM-LA/N3B discharge permit renewal application was administratively complete. NMED requires that within 30 days of the determination date, EM-LA/N3B must complete the public notice requirements.

The first public notice requirement is to mail a public notice flyer to the owner of the discharge site. Because DOE is the owner of the discharge site, NMED has waived this requirement. In an effort to keep concerned members of the public informed, EM-LA/N3B has placed the public notice flyer into the Los Alamos Legacy Waste Cleanup Electronic Public Reading Room.

The second public notice requirement is to place a 2- by 3-inch display advertisement for 1 day in the Albuquerque Journal and the Los Alamos Monitor. The public notice display advertisement was placed in the Albuquerque Journal and the Los Alamos Monitor on February 26, 2020.

NMED requires that proof of notice be provided within 15 days of completing the public notice requirements. The enclosure contains an affidavit of public notice completion, the N3B email stating the waiver of the mailing requirement to the owner, and copies of the newspaper display advertisements.

If you have questions, please contact Christian Maupin at (505) 695-4281 (christian.maupin@em-la.doe.gov) or Cheryl Rodriguez at (505) 257-7941 (cheryl.rodriguez@em.doe.gov).

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Lowes
Program Manager
Environment, Safety and Health
N3B-Los Alamos

Sincerely,



David Nickless, Acting Director
Office of Quality and Regulatory Compliance
Environmental Management
Los Alamos Field Office

Enclosure(s): One hard copy:

1. Affidavit of Public Notice Completion, Renewal Permit DP-1793, N3B email, and the public notice display advertisements

cc (letter and enclosure[s] emailed):

Arturo Duran, EM-LA
David Nickless, EM-LA
Cheryl Rodriguez, EM-LA
Hai Shen, EM-LA
Ben Underwood, EM-LA
William Alexander, N3B
Emily Day, N3B
Danny Katzman, N3B
Christian Maupin, N3B
Glenn Morgan, N3B
Joseph Legare, N3B
Dana Lindsay, N3B
Frazer Lockhart, N3B
Elizabeth Lowes, N3B
Bruce Robinson, N3B
Bradley Smith, N3B
Steve White, N3B
emla.docs@em.doe.gov
n3brecords@em-la.doe.gov
Public Reading Room (EPRR)
PRS Website

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLIC NOTICE COMPLETION
Renewal Permit

DP-1793

I certify, under penalty of law, that I have fulfilled the Ground Water Discharge Permit public notice requirements of Section 20.6.2.3108(C)1 and 2 NMAC.

- ✓ I placed a synopsis of the public notice in English and in Spanish in a newspaper approved by NMED. A copy of the newspaper page containing the synopsis is enclosed.
- ✓ I sent the public notice flyer via certified mail, return receipt requested, to *(check box if applicant is not the owner)*:
 - ☐ owner of the property of the proposed discharge locations – mailing address is enclosed.

I am aware that there are significant penalties for false certification including the possibility of fines.

Elizabeth Jones
Signature of Applicant

3-4-2020
Date

ELIZABETH JONES
Printed Name

N3B Program Manager, ESEH
Title

From: Christian T. Maupin

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 4:26 PM

To: William Alexander <William.Alexander@em-la.doe.gov>; Emily M. Day <Emily.Day@em-la.doe.gov>; Elizabeth Lowes <elizabeth.lowes@em-la.doe.gov>

Subject: Discussion with NMED GWQB

I spoke with Steve Pullen of the NMED GWQB today, and he stated that we don't need to do the certified mailout since DOE is the owner of the land where the discharge will be occurring.

Christian Maupin

Newport News Nuclear BWXT Los Alamos (N3B)

Regulatory & Stakeholder Interface

o. 505-257-7421

c. 505-695-4281

e. christian.maupin@em-la.doe.gov



1200 Trinity Drive, Suite 150
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Economic impact of 2019 Balloon Fiesta: \$186 million

From PAGE A1

The nine-day Balloon Fiesta also generated a fair chunk of tax dollars for government coffers. An estimated \$6.52 million went to the state of New Mexico, \$4.09 million to the city of Albuquerque, and \$1.44 million to Bernalillo County.

The estimated \$109.89 million in direct spending produced an additional \$58.99 million in New Mexico's employment wages supporting 1,482 full-time

equivalent employees at an annual salary of \$39,811.

"The numbers are very positive," said Matt Guthrie, president of the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta board of directors. "It's great for tourism," he said, pointing to the survey numbers showing 71% of visitors came from out of state.

"This is a destination event, so people come here to not only see the Balloon Fiesta, but also the surrounding area as well."

Often said to be the most

photographed event in the world, an estimated 3.4 billion photo impressions were generated on digital and traditional media during the 2019 fiesta.

The survey, which is done every other year, showed that there were 21,500 more visitors in 2017 than in 2019, but a higher percentage of them in 2019 were out-of-state visitors, who tend to spend more money than locals. On top of that, the per-person spending increased from \$150 in 2017 to \$157 in 2019.

The 2019 event also included a 70% increase in first-time visitors to Balloon Fiesta, up from 52.4% in 2017. With 14 ballooning sessions available, 70.6% of guests attended two or more sessions and 15.3% attended five or more.

The survey also noted that non-local Balloon Fiesta guests spent about \$17.99 million at local restaurants; fiesta attendees spent an average of \$31 per person with Balloon Fiesta concessionaires; 53.6% of guests paid for overnight

accommodations, either at a hotel, motel, inn or RV facility, resulting in an estimated \$41.80 million in local lodging revenue; based on the average per night room cost of \$162, overnight accommodations generated \$2.51 million in lodgers tax for the Albuquerque area.

In conducting the survey, Forward Analytics fielded on-site interviews with 1,368 adult attendees, age 18 and older, during 14 Balloon Fiesta sessions. A small incentive of an

official Balloon Fiesta key chain was provided to survey respondents.

The sample size represents a statistical margin of error of plus or minus percentage points and a 95% confidence level.

The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is the largest festival of hot air balloons in the world, drawing more than 500 balloons and pilots from across the United States and other countries.

Virgin Galactic edges toward launch

From PAGE A1

company wants to test all aspects of its ground and air operations, Whitesides said.

That includes flying the Unity on the underbelly of the VMS Eve, the mother ship that will carry the six-passenger spaceship to about 45,000 feet, at which point the Unity breaks away and fires up its rockets to shoot into space at 264,000 feet, or 50 miles up. Once there, paying passengers will be able to float for a few minutes in microgravity and view the Earth's curvature before the Unity glides back to Earth for a soft landing at the Spaceport.

It's unclear how much testing Virgin Galactic will conduct before allowing Branson to board, much less paying passengers. The company wants first to review every element of the customers' experience throughout the "full flight program," starting with all ground services prior to boarding the Unity and optimal comfort and safety for passengers in the cabin while on board the spacecraft.

Pilots also need to build experience flying in New Mexico, collecting more performance data and coordinating operations with ground crews, Whitesides said.

"With each test we'll collect data on the entire flight performance," Whitesides said. "... We want to ready the vehicle for long-term, high-rate commercial service."

In fact, based on testing, the company could still fly the Unity back to Virgin Galactic headquarters at the Mojave Air and Space Port, where the spaceship was built, for structural modifications if needed, Whitesides said.

"We've come very far, but there's still significant, important work to accomplish to fly safely and successfully," he said.

Virgin Galactic is also still navigating the approval process to obtain a Federal Aviation Administration license to fly paying passengers to space from Spaceport America.

"We have a commercial launch license to conduct space flight missions, but we're now in the approval process to fly paying customers," Whitesides said. "We've cleared 20 of the 29 verification and validation elements needed."

But with the Unity and the VMS Eve now both in New Mexico, potential interest from customers worldwide is soaring. The company said nearly 8,000 people have registered their interest in reserving a seat on Unity as of Feb. 23, up from about 3,560 last September.

That's in addition to the roughly 600 people who previously paid deposits to fly at \$250,000 per ticket. The company stopped selling spots on the spaceship in December 2018, but it's gearing up now to take new reservations as the company nears commercial launch.

It announced a new sales program Tuesday, the "One Small Step Initiative," whereby new potential customers can pay a refundable \$1,000 deposit to be first in line for new tickets when the company opens the next tranche of seats for reservations, said Virgin Galactic Commercial Director Stephen



COURTESY OF VIRGIN GALACTIC

SpaceShipTwo and VMS Eve in the hangar of The Gateway to Space. Virgin Galactic is planning to send Sir Richard Branson into space this year.

The numbers

Virgin Galactic Holdings Inc. was listed in October on the New York Stock Exchange through a merger with New York investment firm Social Capital Hedosophia, paving the way for trading under the stock ticker SPCE. In its first earnings conference call with investors Tuesday, the company reported that as of Dec. 31, it had:

- \$480 million in cash and cash equivalents.
- \$529,000 in revenue earned from October to December.
- \$6 million in capital expenditures during the last three months of the year.
- A \$73 million net loss in the fourth quarter.

Attenborough. The deposit would go toward paying off the ticket for customers who actually follow through on buying a seat on the spacecraft.

"We have been greatly encouraged by the ongoing and increasing demand seen from around the world for personal spaceflight," Attenborough said in a statement. "One Small Step allows us to help qualify and build confidence in our direct sales pipeline, as well as ensure that those who are most keen to make reservations are able to do so at the earliest opportunity."

As the company prepares for commercial service in New Mexico with the Unity and the Eve now docked at the Spaceport, Virgin Galactic is pushing forward on building a full fleet of five spaceships and a second mother ship. Two more passenger rockets are now under produc-

tion in Mojave, with one of them expected to begin test flights next year.

Now that the rocket's basic foundation and design has been proven through the Unity, which flew two times to space from California in December 2018 and February 2019, new vehicle production has become much faster and more efficient, Whitesides said.

The company placed the second rocket on its wheels for the first time last December.

"That's nine months faster than it took for the first spaceship," Whitesides said.

The company hopes to have the full five-rocket fleet in service by 2023.

"We're readying the vehicles for long-term, high-rate service," Whitesides said. "We'll add a full fleet of vehicles that can turn around relatively rapidly."

PUBLIC NOTICE DISCHARGE PERMIT RENEWAL

Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos, LLC and the United States Department of Energy propose to discharge up to 350,000 gallons per day through land application of treated groundwater. Discharge location: Within Los Alamos National Laboratory, approximately 1.5 to 7 miles south of Los Alamos. For additional information, contact the New Mexico Environment Department and reference: DP-1793 PN1.

(505) 827-2900 www.env.nm.gov/gwqb/public-notice

AVISO PÚBLICO RENOVACIÓN DE PERMISO DE DESCARGA

Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos, LLC y el Departamento de Energía de los Estados Unidos propone descargar hasta 350,000 galones por día a través de la aplicación en tierra de aguas subterráneas tratadas. Sitio de descarga: Dentro de Los Alamos National Laboratory, aproximadamente entre 1.5 y 7 millas al sur de Los Alamos. Para información adicional comuníquese con el Departamento de Medio Ambiente de Nuevo México y ponga la referencia: DP-1793 PN1.

AlbuquerqueJournal

NOVEMBER 2019
CONTRACTOR OF THE MONTH
Terri Morris

Terri began delivering newspapers for The Albuquerque Journal in May of 2012. She has the Four Hills area of town. Terri has to deal with wind issues on her route on a regular basis and does so working with her customers to get the paper delivered as much as possible where they won't blow away. She has a very good relationship with her customers and makes sure to keep track of vacation stops and starts along with any special delivery request. Terri is an animal lover and takes her two dogs with her every day when delivering her route.

Virus cases in South Korea rise again

From PAGE A1

in a town near Daegu and visited both Carroll and nearby Camp Walker in recent days, according to the statement.

South Korean authorities and U.S. military health professionals were tracing his contacts to determine whether others may have been exposed. About 28,500 U.S. troops are stationed in South Korea.

U.S. Forces Korea previously said a widowed dependent had the virus, the first case involving someone connected to the U.S. military. South Korea's 600,000-member military has reported 18 cases and placed thousands of soldiers in quarantine.

South Korea now has 1,146 confirmed infections of the virus and 11 fatalities from the COVID-19 illness it causes. The national government has been channeling medical personnel, protective suits and other supplies to Daegu, and there are concerns the local hospitals are being overwhelmed, and fatigued doctors are becoming vulnerable to infections.

The number of cases was expected to rise as health workers finish testing hundreds of members of

the Daegu branch of a church that has the country's biggest cluster of infections. The Shincheonji Church of Jesus, which mainstream Christian organizations describe as a cult, agreed to hand over a list of 200,000 members nationwide so screenings could widen.

On Tuesday, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention called for Americans to be prepared for the illness to spread there.

New outbreaks occurring in far-flung places were raising concerns about containing the illness and what will happen when it reaches new places.

"It's not so much a question of if this will happen anymore, but rather more a question of exactly when this will happen — and how many people in this country will have severe illness," Dr. Nancy Messonnier of the CDC told reporters Tuesday.

China, by far, still has the most cases and deaths from the illness, although its numbers have slowed recently. Chinese officials on Wednesday reported another 406 cases and 52 additional deaths, all of them in hard-hit Hubei province and all but 10 in the epicenter, the city of Wuhan.

China has recorded 2,715 deaths from COVID-19 and 78,064 confirmed cases of the virus on the mainland since the illness emerged in December.

China has put Wuhan and nearby cities under virtual quarantine for weeks, halting nearly all movement except for disease prevention, health care and distribution of necessities.

Officials are still unsure how best to stem the spread of the illness. Italy took Europe's most stringent preventive measures, but it has suffered the biggest outbreak outside Asia. Experts in Japan acknowledged that the mishandling of a virus-stricken cruise ship may have allowed the problem to magnify.

Japan's case total of 860, third-highest behind China and South Korea, includes 691 from the Diamond Princess. Four former passengers on the ship have died, and more than a dozen people who were evacuated by their home countries later tested positive for the virus.

Several Middle Eastern countries reported jumps in new cases tied to travel from Iran, which has the biggest outbreak in the Middle East, with 95 cases and 15 deaths.

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LOCAL/STATE NEWS

Blini breakfast to be offered at St. Job of Pochaiv Church

St. Job of Pochaiv Orthodox Church in Los Alamos will offer its traditional Blini Breakfast Saturday, Feb. 29.

Serving times are divided into one-hour segments: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and 11 a.m. This will be the 21st year offering this breakfast in Los Alamos.

A blini breakfast is traditional in preparation for the Great Fast (Lent) which will soon be upon us. This breakfast uses many of the ingredients abstained from for the duration of the fast. The breakfast is offered to the community in thanks for its continued support, according to a news release from the church.

For those who have never

attended, and perhaps do not even know what “blini” are, here’s a quick introduction: “Blini” are traditional thin Slavic pancakes that can be enjoyed savory or sweet. Savory options are filled with salmon, pickled herring, mushroom caviar or boiled eggs topped with sour cream and green onion.

Sweet ones can be filled with fruit preserves, sour cream and butter.

Ticket prices purchased in advance are as follows: \$12 for adults, \$6 for children ages 6-12, and children under age 6 are free. Tickets purchased at the door are \$15.

Contact the church for reservations at (505) 412-6031 or blini@stjobla.org.



N3B contributed nearly \$415,000 to community groups during 2019

In 2019, 45 Northern New Mexico community groups received \$414,444 from Newport News Nuclear BWXT Los Alamos (N3B).

“It’s important to us to help support nonprofit organizations in the communities where our 700 employees and subcontractors live,” said Glenn Morgan, N3B President. N3B manages the Los Alamos Legacy Cleanup Contract for the U.S. Department of Energy.

“I have been impressed with the breadth and scope of programs offered in our communities, and we’re pleased to help support their efforts,” Morgan said.

The company committed to donate five percent of the fee it earns over the life of its 10-year contract with DOE to cleanup legacy waste at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

N3B made \$400,000 available to community organizations in 2019.

Twenty percent of that was dedicated to the Apprenticeship Program, a joint venture between N3B and Northern New Mexico College to train students to become nuclear operators.

The balance went to charitable nonprofits and community organizations in Northern New Mexico.

The N3B-supported organizations provide services in Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Sandoval and Taos counties.

Education-related activities received 59 percent of the available funding, followed by 17 percent to health and human services organizations, 13 percent to civic and community groups, and 11 percent to arts and culture groups.

Dollars went to support organizations through sponsorships, grants and memberships.

In addition to dollars, N3B employees and their families also volunteered nearly 4,000 hours at nonprofit organizations, civic clubs, churches, environmental groups and other community organizations.

Detailed information about N3B community contributions is available in the 2019 Community Commitment Annual Report located on the N3B website at under Community Commitment.

The website also includes a listing of the types of activities N3B will fund, as well as instructions for submitting a request.

N3B is a limited liability company owned by HII Nuclear, a subsidiary of Huntington Ingalls Industries, and BWX Technologies.



The Villa Therese Catholic Clinic in Santa Fe was one of 45 nonprofit organizations that received funding last year from Newport News Nuclear BWXT Los Alamos (N3B). The only free health care clinic in New Mexico, the Villa Therese clinic provides health and dental care to the underserved members of the community.

N3B

From Page A1

the lab wants to do with that property... is it going to stay within institutional controls, is it going to be given to the county... I think it's going to stay,” Legare said.

N3B's predecessor had worked on remediating the property, but a lot has happened since work began seven to eight years ago.

“... They did some good work, but a lot has evolved in terms of the information since then,” Legare said. “We’re going to provide some updates and some information on the state of the groundwater and what we’ve learned.”

As for the chemical cleanups, N3B is working on cleaning up soil contamination caused by a high explosives compound known as RDX decades ago at Tech Area 16.

“RDX is another groundwater issue, and we have to decide what to do,” Legare said. “Do we pull it all out, do we just try to contain it? If you really want to understand the data, the models, the gritty science and engineering, that’s what those (future) meetings will be about.”

As for a chromium 6 plume discovered in the mid 2000s under Mortandad Canyon, Legare talked about N3B's ongoing efforts to contain the plume using a network of wells and pumps that have worked to contain the plume from further expansion. During



The public information meeting hosted by Department of Energy contractor N3B was packed with people wanting to know more about the contractor’s future plans and schedule.

Photo by Tris DeRoma

the last year, N3B was able to report that the technique has caused one area of the plume to shrink away from the lab’s border with San Ildefonso Pueblo, lessening the threat to the pueblo’s drinking water supply.

Legare said however control of the plume by injecting clean water into the ground is only an interim measure. He said it will be up to the public to determine how they ultimately get rid of the chromium 6, either by actively pulling it out of the ground or by some other means. Some of it has reverted to chromium 3 a non-toxic version of chromium, by natural means.

“Again, we are going to have those discussions. We will submit corrective measures, an evaluation to the regulators and then they will have a public meeting,” Legare said. “We all have to decide on the final remedy.”

The final remedy may include injecting a molasses-like solution into the chromium using

the well system. The solution would work to convert the remaining chromium-6 into chromium 3.

“We’re pulling out some chromium, but that’s not really the purpose. We are exchanging it out and injecting clean water. It’s mostly to have hydraulic control over that plume so it doesn’t spread,” Legare said.

The RDX and Chromium contaminations happened decades ago, long before N3B obtained the contract to clean up the waste several years ago. The Los Alamos National Laboratory started cleaning up the sites in the mid-2000s.

Beata Tsosie-Pena, the coordinator for the Tewa Women United’s Environmental Health and Justice program said at the meeting she would like N3B’s plans to include more input from the leadership of the surrounding pueblos, such as San Ildefonso, Santa Clara and Ohkey Owingeh.

“This is an important topic I’ve been trying to

learn about in the last 10 years as a community member and a mother living downstream and downwind from this community,” Pena said.

“...We have a lot of community expertise and ideas and solutions that combine indigenous knowledge with western technology that combine bio and micro remediation and restorative methods. It’s not just putting vegetable oil and molasses in the plume, it’s about looking at a whole sitewide restoration of our natural systems to really strengthen these sites that they can help to heal themselves.”

After the meeting, the public examined the posters and maps of the sites provided that showed where the work was being done on the three projects, and residents had a chance to have one-on-one discussions with Legare and other experts on N3B’s remediation operations.

Scott Kovac, operations and research director at Nuclear Watch New Mexico, said he would’ve liked to see more give-and-take at the meeting.

“(The meeting format) doesn’t encourage public speaking. The one-on-one dynamic of a poster session is not my favorite,” Kovac said. “I don’t know why they couldn’t briefly present the posters to the whole group and everybody asks questions about it. That’s where people really learn...The one-on-one at the poster session is good for one person, but that’s one person at a time.”

PUBLIC NOTICE DISCHARGE PERMIT RENEWAL

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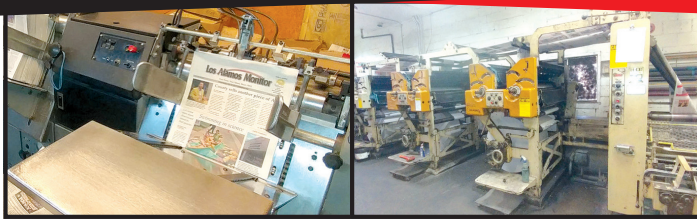
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AVISO PÚBLICO RENOVACIÓN DE PERMISO DE DESCARGA

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Los Alamos Monitor

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