Rio Algom - Ambrosia Lake - 40-8905

From: kevin myers <kcmyers12000@yahoo.com>
To: <sjc7@nrc.gov>
Date: 10/24/05 11:47AM
Subject: Alternative Abatement Standards (AAS) from New Mexico Regulations

Steve,

The New Mexico regulation is 20.6.2.4103.F NMAC for the Alternative Abatement Standards.
The Section 20.6.2.4103.E.3 NMAC indicates the limitation for approval of Technical Infeasibility not over two times any numerical standards, which must be approved by the Water Quality Control Commission.

Here is an excerpt from the abatement regulations:

20.6.2.4000 PREVENTION AND ABATEMENT OF WATER POLLUTION:

[12-1-95; 20.6.2.4000 NMAC - Rn, 20 NMAC 6.2.IV, 1-15-01]

20.6.2.4001 - 20.6.2.4100: [RESERVED]

[12-1-95; 20.6.2.4001 - 20.6.2.4100 NMAC - Rn, 20 NMAC 6.2.III.3115-4100, 1-15-01]

20.6.2.4101 PURPOSE:

A. The purposes of Sections 20.6.2.4000 through 20.6.2.4115 NMAC are to:

(1) Abate pollution of subsurface water so that all ground water of the State of New Mexico which has a background concentration of 10,000 mg/L or less TDS, is either remediated or protected for use as domestic and agricultural water supply, and to remediate or protect those segments of surface waters which are gaining because of subsurface-water inflow, for uses designated in the Water Quality Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Streams in New Mexico (20.6.4 NMAC); and

(2) Abate surface-water pollution so that all surface waters of the State of New Mexico are remediated or protected for designated or attainable uses as defined in the Water Quality Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Streams in New Mexico (20.6.4 NMAC).

B. If the background concentration of any water contaminant exceeds the standard or requirement of Subsections A, B and C of Section 20.6.2.4103 NMAC, pollution shall be abated by the responsible person to the background concentration.

C. The standards and requirements set forth in Section 20.6.2.4103 NMAC are not intended as maximum ranges and concentrations for use, and nothing herein contained shall be construed as limiting the use of waters containing higher ranges and concentrations.

[12-1-95; 20.6.2.4101 NMAC - Rn, 20 NMAC 6.2.IV.4101, 1-15-01]

20.6.2.4102: [RESERVED]

[12-1-95; 20.6.2.4102 NMAC - Rn, 20 NMAC 6.2.IV.4102, 1-15-01]

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20.6.2.4103 ABATEMENT STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS:

A. The vadose zone shall be abated so that water contaminants in the vadose zone shall not be capable of contaminating ground water or surface water, in excess of the standards in Subsections B and C below, through leaching, percolation or as the water table elevation fluctuates.

B. Ground-water pollution at any place of withdrawal for present or reasonably foreseeable future use, where the TDS concentration is 10,000 mg/L or less, shall be abated to conform to the following standards:

(1) toxic pollutant(s) as defined in Section 20.6.2.1101 NMAC shall not be present; and

(2) the standards of Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC shall be met.

C. Surface-water pollution shall be abated to conform to the Water Quality Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Streams in New Mexico (20.6.4 NMAC).

D. Subsurface-water and surface-water abatement shall not be considered complete until a minimum of eight (8) consecutive quarterly samples from all compliance sampling stations approved by the secretary meet the abatement standards of Subsections A, B and C of this section. Abatement of water contaminants measured in solid-matrix samples of the vadose zone shall be considered complete after one-time sampling from compliance stations approved by the secretary.

E. Technical Infeasibility.

(1) If any responsible person is unable to fully meet the abatement standards set forth in Subsections A and B of this section using commercially accepted abatement technology pursuant to an approved abatement plan, he may propose that abatement standards compliance is technically infeasible. Technical infeasibility proposals involving the use of experimental abatement technology shall be considered at the discretion of the secretary. Technical infeasibility may be demonstrated by a statistically valid extrapolation of the decrease in concentration(s) of any water contaminant(s) over the remainder of a twenty (20) year period, such that projected future reductions during that time would be less than 20 percent of the concentration(s) at the time technical infeasibility is proposed. A statistically valid decrease cannot be demonstrated by fewer than eight (8) consecutive quarters. The technical infeasibility proposal shall include a substitute abatement standard(s) for those contaminants that is/are technically feasible. Abatement standards for all other water contaminants not demonstrated to be technically infeasible shall be met.

(2) In no event shall a proposed technical infeasibility demonstration be approved by the secretary for any water contaminant if its concentration is greater than 200 percent of the abatement standard for that contaminant.

(3) If the secretary cannot approve any or all portions of a proposed technical infeasibility demonstration because the water contaminant concentration(s) is/are greater than 200 percent of the abatement standard(s) for each contaminant, the responsible person may further pursue the issue of technical infeasibility by filing a petition with the commission seeking:

(a) approval of alternate abatement standard(s) pursuant to Subsection F of this section; or

(b) granting of a variance pursuant to Section 20.6.2.1210 NMAC.

F. Alternative Abatement Standards.

(1) At any time during or after the submission of a Stage 2 abatement plan, the responsible person may file a petition seeking approval of alternative abatement standard(s) for the standards set forth in Subsections A and B of this section. The commission may approve alternative abatement standard(s) if the petitioner demonstrates that:

(a) compliance with the abatement standard(s) is/are not feasible, by the maximum use of technology within the economic capability of the responsible person; OR there is no reasonable relationship between the economic and social costs and benefits (including attainment of the standard(s) set forth in Section 20.6.2.4103 NMAC) to be obtained;

(b) the proposed alternative abatement standard(s) is/are technically achievable and cost-benefit justifiable; and

(c) compliance with the proposed alternative abatement standard(s) will not create a present or future hazard to public health or undue damage to property.

(2) The petition shall be in writing, filed with the secretary. The petition shall specify, in addition to the information required by Subsection A of Section 20.6.2.1210 NMAC, the water contaminant(s) for which alternative standard(s) is/are proposed, the alternative standard(s) proposed, the three-dimensional body of water pollution for which approval is sought, and the extent to which the abatement standard(s) set forth in Section 20.6.2.4103 NMAC is/are now, and will in the future be, violated. The petition may include a transport, fate and risk assessment in accordance with accepted methods, and other information as the petitioner deems necessary to support the petition.

(3) The commission shall review a petition for alternative abatement standards in accordance with the procedures for review of a variance petition provided in the commission's adjudicatory procedures, 20.1.3 NMAC.

[12-1-95, 11-15-96; 20.6.2.4103 NMAC - Rn, 20 NMAC 6.2.IV.4103, 1-15-01]

Web page for entire 20.6.2 NMAC Regulations
http://www.nmcpr.state.nm.us/nmac/parts/title20/20.006.0002.htm

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