

(Office of Water letterhead)

June 26, 1987

Mr. Paul E. Wyszowski, P.E.
Manager, Environmental Management Department
AT&T Bell Laboratories
Whippany Road
Whippany, New Jersey 07981-0903

Dear Mr. Wyszowski:

On April 8, 1987, I provided you with an interim response to your request for a meeting on the applicability of categorical pretreatment standards to Research and Development (R&D) facilities. At that time, I suggested that such a meeting be delayed until EPA gathered additional information. This letter is to inform you that EPA's Office of Water Regulations and Standards (OWRS) has now completed its review on the applicability of the categorical pretreatment regulations to stand alone R&D facilities, and to provide you with the results.

Based on the records supporting the categorical pretreatment standards, EPA has determined that stand alone R&D facilities are not subject to the categorical standards currently promulgated. For a plant to be considered a stand alone R&D facility, there should be no commercial sale of products made at the facility.

EPA reserves the right to issue specific categorical standards which are applicable to stand alone R&D facilities -- however, such activity is not currently underway. The lack of currently applicable categorical standards does not mean that pollution controls are not necessary. Noncategorical indirect dischargers are still required to comply with the General Pretreatment Regulations (General and Specific Prohibitions) and with limits that may be established by local or state authorities. When local or state authorities address needed pollution controls for noncategorical industrial users, EPA does consider the categorical standards and the accompanying development documents as excellent guidance on the performance of pollution control technologies. However, other site-specific factors may be considered in setting limits (potential for interference or pass through, raw waste load, age, size, land availability, flow, non-water quality impacts, energy, and costs).

Based on OWRS's review and conclusion, a meeting between AT&T, the State of New Jersey and EPA does not appear to be necessary.

If you have any questions or feel that a meeting is appropriate, please contact Dr. James Gallup, Chief, Tech Support Branch, Permits Division. Dr. Gallup's telephone number is (202) 475-9541.

Sincerely,

Rebecca W. Hanmer
Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water□