

1/11/1969

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TA 21

Surface drainage in the area of the pit is to the north into DP Canyon. Intermittent flow in the canyon is from storm runoff and release of treated-industrial effluents from the waste treatment plant at Building 257, TA-21.

The total thickness of the Bandelier Tuff underlying the mesa probably exceeds 800 feet. The tuff is in the unsaturated zone; the top of the saturated zone in the Puye Formation is at about 1,150 feet below the surface of the mesa.

General statement

A few open joints are exposed in the walls of the pit; however, they should cause no trouble when the pit is sealed. Wastes should be buried below the soil zone within the natural confines of the tuff. The seal (tuff removed from excavation) should be 6 to 8 feet thick over the wastes, extended beyond the edges of the pit, and slightly rounded with adequate surface drainage. It may be necessary to plant the seal material with vegetation, not only to prevent water erosion but to prevent wind erosion which may cause problems in nearby shops and laboratories. If the pit is to be left open any length of time, steps should be taken to prevent summer storm runoff from draining into the wastes in the pit along the south wall (see figure 3).

*Geology*

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Pit Area  
1969



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