



GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303
Telephone (505) 428-2500
Fax (505) 428-2567
www.nmenv.state.nm.us



PETER MAGGIORE
SECRETARY

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

April 16, 2002

Mr. John Hale, PE
Technical Project Manager
Public Service Company of New Mexico
2401 Aztec NE
MS Z160
Albuquerque, NM 87107

**RE: REPLACEMENT OF PSMW-16 AND PSMW-24 WITH EW-4 AND EW-5
CLASS 1 PERMIT MODIFICATION REQUEST
PERSON GENERATING STATION NMT360010342
HWB-PNM-01-099**

Dear Mr. Hale:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has completed its review of Public Service Company of New Mexico's (PNM) letter dated December 20, 2001, requesting a Class 1 Permit Modification to the Person Generating Station RCRA Post-Closure Care Permit, Permit No. NMT360010342-1.

NMED has determined that this request constitutes a Class 1 permit modification and hereby approves this Class 1 permit modification to replace PSMW-16 and PSMW-24 with EW-4 and EW-5. The replacement of these extraction wells was necessitated by the following conditions: 1) extraction well PSMW-16 had become hydrologically stranded due to the lowering of the local water table and 2) extraction well PSMW-24 was rendered inoperable due to a damaged pump.

This Class 1 permit modification is considered a minor change that does not substantially alter the permit conditions or reduce the capacity of the facility to protect human health or the environment pursuant to 20.4.1.900 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR 270.42 (a) (1)).

The approved permit modification consists of the following, as proposed by PNM:

PNMPS 2002

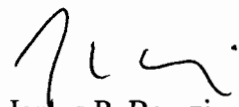
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- 1) Removal of extraction wells PSMW-16 and PSMW-24 from service by plugging the wells with bentonite cement and removing the well casings to an elevation flush with the ground surface or equivalent. PNM shall annotate in the Post-Closure Care Permit and Permit Attachments wherever necessary that PSMW-16 and PSMW-24 have been plugged and removed from service in accordance with this section.
- 2) Extraction wells EW-4 and EW-5 were installed within approximately 25 feet of plugged extraction wells PSMW-16 and PSMW-24. The locations of extraction wells EW-4 and EW-5 were surveyed, well diagrams constructed, and sample logs completed and submitted to NMED in support of this Class 1 permit modification request.
- 3) The new extraction wells, EW-4 and EW-5, are hereby incorporated and made part of the Post-Closure Care Permit and Permit Attachments. PNM shall insert the well survey data, well sample logs, and construction diagrams for EW-4 and EW-5 into applicable portions of their Permit and Permit Attachments.

PNM is also required to send a notice of the permit modification to all persons on the enclosed facility mailing list. This notification must be made within 90 calendar days after the change is put into effect in accordance with 20.4.1.900 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR 270.42 (a) (1) (ii)).

Should you have any questions please contact Robert Warder of my staff at (505) 841-9040.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:rw

Enclosure

cc w/out enclosure:

John Kieling, NMED HWB
Will Moats, NMED HWB
Robert Warder, NMED HWB
Ana Marie Ortiz, NMED OGC
Laurie King, EPA Region 6 (6PD-N)

File: Red PNM 01-099, Reading File