



BRUCE KING
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
(505) 827-2850

JUDITH M. ESPINOSA
SECRETARY

RON CURRY
DEPUTY SECRETARY

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: File

FROM: *JS* Bruce Swanton, HRMB Technical Group Supervisor

THROUGH: Ed Horst
Benito Garcia

DATE: February 14, 1992

SUBJECT: Pigout waste disposal pits near Roswell

Met with Coby Muckelroy and Larry Campbell of Enron. Enron is the parent company of Transwestern Pipeline and Northern Natural Gas. Enron pipelines run from Liberal, Kansas and Monahan, Texas to Roswell, NM, then roughly parallels I-40, passing near Gallup then into Arizona. Gas is currently transported one way, east to west, but plans call for two-way transport at some time in the future.

Compressor station cleaning and pigout wastes from running "pig" through the pipelines and following with water for maintenance. Solvents, e.g., trichloroethane, have been used for degreasing at this compressor station and also disposed of in the pit. Most of the pigout waste contaminants are 3 to 15 carbon aliphatics. Corrosion inhibitors have been used. Mr. Campbell will submit MSDS sheets on these. Methanol has been used to de-ice the pipeline. Pit last received wastes after 1980.

There were three pits, about 25 feet deep, which have been backfilled. The native water table is at about 120 feet. Pits are in extreme NE corner of property. At extreme SW corner is a well owned by a local well Co-op. Stated to be used only for water level measurements. Mr. Campbell will submit contact names for Co-Op members. A perched saturated zone has built up due to liquid disposal in the pits. The saturated zone may be 30 feet thick (plate #2 of Metric 12/91 report). Water is hard, but likely to be less than 10,000 tds. Pit 1 seems to be the most highly contaminated, known 13 ppm TCA at 13 feet below surface level.

Transwestern thinks that results which show that deeper zones within the red clay are uncontaminated mean that the clay has acted as a complete barrier to vertical liquid movement through the clay zone.

cc: Bruce Swanton, HRMB
Roger Anderson, Oil Conservation Division/Energy & Minerals Dept.
Garrison McCaslin, Roswell District IV Office