

Governor Bill Richardson
Capitol Building, Suite 400
Santa Fe, NM 87503

12/5/07

Dear Mr. Richardson:

I am highly concerned that the new pit rule 17 is going to push the oil and gas industry out of New Mexico.

Support jobs related to the drilling of oil and gas wells will be eliminated and the resulting drop in each local economy will be felt at even the lowest levels of retail business that is affected by this industry. It will also show at the local level of city and county government.

The additional cost to this pit issue, to the industry that keeps on giving to the State and Federal governments has about destroyed the drive to drill on New Mexico soil.

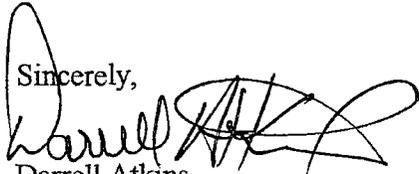
I am quite concerned that we are killing a great industry of which I am proud to be associated with. I am also a very concerned citizen that we are eliminating a revenue source for the education of our kids, fixing highways, and paying for health care and other oil and gas funded projects.

It does not make sense that cuttings can be moved from location A and be placed on a land farm in location B. The strain on the highways, emission issues and safety is not even being considered, not to mention the increased cost of doing business.

Proposed Drilling Pit rule 17 does not make sense, must not be adopted, plus unnecessary and expensive overregulation must stop.

It is not good for New Mexico or the people of New Mexico.

Sincerely,


Darrell Atkins

Darrell Atkins
28 E. Compress Road
Artesia, NM 88210