



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Farmington District Office
1235 La Plata Highway
Farmington, New Mexico 87401

IN REPLY REFER TO:

3162.5-1(a)

JUN 10 1994

State of New Mexico
Oil Conservation Division
Attention: Chris Eustice
P.O. Box 2088
Santa Fe, NM 87504-2088

Dear Mr. Eustice:

As the adjacent land owner to the proposed evaporation pond, by RMI, the following are the Bureau of Land Managements (BLM) concerns, regarding the proposed project. The location of the proposed evaporation pond is approximately 100 yards from BLM surface. There are two stock water ponds and one improved natural spring downstream within 125 yards of the proposed action.

1. Overspray drift from this proposed pond may occur and would result in produced water concentrates polluting the adjacent public land surface and sensitive water resources located on the public lands.

2. The water resources located on public land adjacent to this proposed pond, a spring and two earthen reservoirs, constitute critical water sources for resident wildlife and nesting habitat for migratory waterfowl.

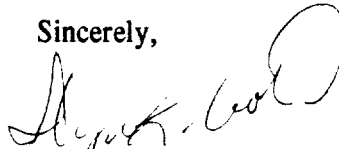
3. The proposed facility will be located adjacent to a critical travel route utilized by both elk and mule deer. The lights and general operation activities associated with this proposed facility will negatively impact the wildlife habitat values of the adjacent public land. It will interfere with the travel activities and migration of resident elk and mule deer herds and will compromise the wildlife values of the adjacent water resources.

4. The proposed facility will be located adjacent to an area which constitutes critical elk and mule deer winter range, a frequently utilized elk calving and mule deer fawning site and water resources which are critical to resident elk and mule deer herds.

5. Construction activities would increase sediment loads that would result in the siltation of the existing stock ponds.

Enclosed is a map showing the existing reservoirs and spring in relation to the proposed evaporation pond. The BLM is apposed to the construction of this evaporation pond at its proposed location due to the concerns stated above. The BLM would be amenable to work with both the land owner and operator of the facility to find a more appropriate location. Your help and cooperation in the matter is appreciated. If we can provide any other assistance concerning this matter please contact Don Ellsworth at (505) 599-6315.

Sincerely,



Ilyse K. Gold
Chief, Branch of Lands, Cultural,
Recreation and Environmental Compliance

Enclosure

cc:

Larry O. Barns