

**HIP - 71**

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# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

**GARY E. JOHNSON**  
Governor  
**Jennifer A. Salisbury**  
Cabinet Secretary

May 21, 2001

**Lori Wrotenbery**  
Director  
**Oil Conservation Division**

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT NO. 7099-3220-0000-5051-2368**

Mr. Richard Duarte  
El Paso Natural Gas Company  
3801 Atrisco Blvd. NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87120

**Re: Hydrostatic Test Water Discharge HI-071**  
**Line 2000 CA/AZ border to Lordsburg NM**  
**Section 13, T 23 S, R 17 W, NMPM, Hidalgo County, NM**

Dear Mr. Duarte:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has received El Paso Natural Gas Company's (EPNG) request, dated May 11, 2001, for authorization to discharge approximately 15,000,000 gallons of waste water from the hydrostatic test of approximately 506 miles of used pipeline (30-inch line, No. 2000) from the CA/AZ border to Lordsburg, NM. into a lined pond located at Section 13, T 23 S, R 17 W, NMPM Hidalgo County, NM.

Based on the information provided in the request the hydrostatic test water discharge is **hereby approved** subject to the following conditions:

1. The test water (15,000,000 gallons) will be held in a lined pond located at the EPNG compressor station near Lordsburg (formerly the All American Lordsburg Compressor Station) located at Section 13, T 23 S, R 17 W, NMPM, Hidalgo County, NM.
2. Prior to the hydrostatic test the pipeline will be cleaned according to the information provided in the application request and the cleaning fluids will be handled and disposed of according to applicable federal, state and local regulations.
3. Test water will be from the Colorado River and will be analyzed prior to the test for major anions and cations (Ca, Mg, Na, K, HCO<sub>3</sub>, CO<sub>3</sub>, Cl, SO<sub>4</sub>), heavy metals (As, Ba, Cd, Pb, Hg, Se, Fe, Zn), aromatic and halogenated hydrocarbons screens, PAH (Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons), TDS, Fe, Mn, pH and conductivity.
4. The pond will be constructed to allow for adequate free board to prevent overtopping.
5. The evaporation pond liner will be at least 40 mil must be anchored along the edges and weighted in the bottom to prevent wind from lifting and tearing the liner.
6. Test water will be held in the lined evaporation pond until evaporated.

7. Hydrostatic test water sample analysis from the pond will include major anions and cations (Ca, Mg, Na, K, HCO<sub>3</sub>, CO<sub>3</sub>, Cl, SO<sub>4</sub>), heavy metals (As, Ba, Cd, Pb, Hg, Se, Fe, Zn), aromatic and halogenated hydrocarbons screens, PAH (Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons), TDS, Fe, Mn, pH and conductivity.
8. The analytical results from the hydrostatic test discharge water will be made available to the OCD.
9. Any solids that accumulate in the lined evaporation pond as a result of the discharge will be subject to full hazardous waste characterization testing to determine the proper means of disposal.
10. The analytical results will be made available to the OCD along with a request for disposal of the accumulated solids.
11. The landowner at the collection /retention site must be notified and written permission must be received.
12. The fluids will not be allowed to migrate to a water of the State or a water of the U.S.

Pursuant to WQCC Regulation 3-106.B, this approval will allow EPNG to discharge without an approved discharge plan for a period not to exceed 120 days. If the site is to be used for more than one test discharge, formal reapplication must be made. If the discharge exceeds 120 days, a formal discharge plan must be submitted for review.

Please be advised that this approval does not relieve EPNG of liability should their operation result in pollution of surface water, ground water, or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve EPNG of responsibility for compliance with other federal, state or local regulations.

If there are any questions, please call Martyne Kieling at (505) 476-3488.

Sincerely,



Roger C. Anderson  
Environmental Bureau Chief

RCA/mjk

xc: OCD Artesia Office