

HIP - 74

**PERMITS,
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NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

GARY E. JOHNSON
Governor
Jennifer A. Salisbury
Cabinet Secretary

November 5, 2001

Lori Wrotenbery
Director
Oil Conservation Division

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT NO. 7099-3220-0000-5051-2597

Mr. Scott P. Berger
PNM
Alvarado Square, MS 2104
Albuquerque, NM 87158

Re: Hydrostatic Test Water Discharge Permit HI-074
Starlake 24" loop gasline
Discharge location: NW/4 Section 34, T 20 N, R 6 E, NMPM,
McKinley County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Berger:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has received Public Service Company's (PNM) request, dated October 1, 2001, for authorization to discharge approximately 1,688,406 gallons of waste water from the hydrostatic test of the Starlake 24" loop gasline. The test will be on approximately 13.6 miles of new 24-inch natural gas pipeline. The discharge point will be located in NW/4 Section 34, T 20 N, R 6 E, NMPM, McKinley County, New Mexico.

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 (1,688,406 gallons) will be transported to an existing lined evaporation pond located at the Starlake Compressor station NW/4 Section 34, T 20 N, R 6 E, NMPM, McKinley County, New Mexico.
2. The pond will be maintained to allow for adequate free board to prevent overtopping.
3. Test water will be held in the lined evaporation pond until evaporated.
4. Only fresh water of less than 1,000 mg/l total dissolved solids from a water supply system or other potable source shall be used in the hydrostatic test.
5. The fluids will not be allowed to migrate to a water of the State or a water of the U.S.

6. 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.
7. The analytical results will be made available to the OCD along with a request for disposal of the accumulated solids.

Pursuant to WQCC Regulation 20 NMAC 6.2.3106.B, this approval will allow PNM to discharge without an approved discharge plan for a period not to exceed 120 days. Pursuant to WQCC Regulation 20 NMAC 6.2.3114 an application fee of one hundred dollars (\$100) is due at the time of the permit application submittal and a temporary permission permit fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) is due upon receipt of this approval. The \$100 application fee and \$150 temporary permission fee have been received. 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 PNM of liability should their operation result in pollution of surface water, ground water, or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve PNM of responsibility for compliance with other federal, state or local regulations.

If there are any questions, please call Martyne Kieling at (505) 476-2488.

Sincerely,



Roger C. Anderson
Environmental Bureau Chief

RCA/mjk

xc: OCD Aztec Office