



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

**RECEIVED**

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OIL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION

MAR 16 2004

*Sub 801*

REPLY TO: 6WQ-S

Certified Mail #7000 0520 0021 8610 5829 - Return Receipt Requested

ConocoPhillips  
P. O. Box 2197, WL3 6106  
Houston, TX 77252-2197  
Attn: Ms. Yolanda Perez

Re: Draft UIC Permit Modification and Statement of Basis  
Permit No. 06SNMJ1P9071 - Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

Dear Ms. Perez:

Enclosed are the public notice, statement of basis, and the permit modification which have been drafted by this Agency under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Any comments you wish to make may be submitted in writing by the due date stated in the public notice to Ms. Evelyn Rosborough at the EPA address above.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this modification, please contact the permit writer, Mr. Bill Hurlbut at (214) 665-8305.

Sincerely yours,

*Larry Wright*

Larry D. Wright  
Chief  
Source Water Protection Branch

Enclosures

cc: with enclosures

Bureau of Land Management  
Albuquerque Area Office

Jicarilla Apache Tribe  
Mr. Thurman Velarde

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division ✓  
Mr. Will Jones

Bureau of Land Management  
Farmington Field Office

Mr. Rick Davis  
EPA Field Office

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Public Notice of Draft UIC Permit(s)**

MARCH 16 2004

This is to give notice that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, has formulated a Draft Permit for the following facility (facilities) under the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Development of the draft permit(s) was based on a preliminary staff review by EPA. The permit(s) will become effective within 30 days after the close of the comment period unless:

- A. Comments received by MARCH 31, 2004, in accordance with §124.20, warrant a public notice of EPA's final permit decision.
- B. A public hearing is held requiring delay of the effective date.

EPA's contact person for submitting written comments, requesting information regarding the draft permit, and/or obtaining copies of the permit and the Statement of Basis is:

**Ms. Diane Smith  
Customer Service Branch (6WQ-CA)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733  
(214) 665-2145**

EPA's comments and public hearing procedures may be found at 40 CFR 124.10 and 124.12 (48 Federal Register 14264, April 1, 1983, as amended at 49 Federal Register 38051, September 26, 1984). The comment period during which written comments on the draft permit may be submitted extends 30 days from the date of this Notice. During the comment period, any interested person may request a Public Hearing by filing a written request which must state the issues to be raised. A public hearing will be held when EPA finds a significant degree of public interest.

EPA will consider all comments submitted either in writing or at a public hearing when making its final permit decision. Any person that files comments on the draft permit may appeal the final permit decision. Persons who did not comment on the draft permit may appeal only those changes made to the final permit subsequent to draft permit issuance. Appeals to the final permit decision must be submitted in writing to the Administrator within 30 days after a final permit decision has been issued. An appeal must contain the information set out in 40 CFR 124.19 and 147.2929(j)(3).

**EPA will notify the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice of the final permit decision. A final permit decision means a final decision to issue, deny, modify, revoke or reissue, or terminate a permit. If a request for review of a final permit is granted, EPA will follow procedures found at 40 CFR 127.2929.**

**Further information including the administrative record is available for public review Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the EPA address referenced above or contact the Chairman of the Caddo Tribal Council at P.O. Box 487, Binger, Oklahoma 73009. It is recommended that you write or call for an appointment so the record(s) will be available at your convenience.**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received a complete Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit modification number 06SNMJ1P9071 from

Conoco Inc.  
P. O. Box 2197, WL3 6106  
Houston, TX 77252-2197

The permittee proposes a permit modification for well number #30-5, a salt water disposal injection well located in the NE Quarter, Section 32, Township 25N, Range 04W, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. The modification will allow the operator to increase the maximum injection pressure to 1500 psig and will delete the requirement that the operator maintain positive pressure ( $p > 0$ ) on the annulus as required by permit requirement I.B.1.

The permit application, supporting data submitted by the applicant, the EPA draft permit and statement of basis are available for public review Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75202-2733, (214)665-7165. Comments on the permit application and draft permit should be submitted to the Dallas office within 30 days of the date of this notice. Anyone desiring a hearing must submit a written request, identifying the issue(s) for discussion at the hearing, to the EPA office in Dallas, Texas, before the close of business on the last day of the comment period. EPA will give at least 30 days notice of the public hearing, if a hearing is held.



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

February 9, 2004  
STATEMENT OF BASIS

For Underground Injection Control Permit No. 06SNMJ1P9071 to modify a salt water disposal injection well.

Issuing office: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Applicant: ConocoPhillips  
P. O. Box 2197, WL3 6106  
Houston, Texas 77252-2197

1. As described in the application, the well is located in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, 800' FNL, 1850' FEL, NE/4, Section 32, Township 25N, Range 04W.
2. On the basis of preliminary staff review, the Environmental Protection Agency has made a tentative determination to draft a permit modification for this well as described in the modification request. More detailed information is available in the original Statement of Basis dated April 19, 2001.
3. The following is an explanation of the permit modification:

A modification request to increase the maximum injection pressure was received from the operator. EPA required that the operator run a step-rate test. This was accomplished on November 8, 2003, and the results were analyzed by EPA Region 6. EPA determined that a modification to increase the maximum injection pressure to 1500 psig would not endanger the underground sources of drinking water and is approvable. The modification will also delete the requirement that the operator maintain positive pressure ( $p > 0$ ) on the annulus as required by permit requirement I.B.1., since the permit requires two types of mechanical integrity testing every three years, annulus pressure testing and a radioactive tracer survey.

For additional information, please contact:

Ms. Evelyn Rosborough  
Administrative Support Team (6WQ-CA)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733  
(214) 665-7515

DRAFT



Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

UIC Permit No. :06SNMJ1P9071  
Well No.: 30-5

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**MODIFICATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
UIC PROGRAM JICARILLA APACHE TRIBE**

Permit No. 06SNMJ1P9071

Dated: April 19, 2001

Permit condition I.B.2. prescribed by Permit No. 06SNMJ1P9071 has been revised to read as follows:

I.B.1. The modification will delete the requirement that the operator maintain positive pressure ( $p > 0$ ) on the annulus as required by permit requirement I.B.1.

I.B.2. Injection pressure at the wellhead shall not exceed 1500 psig.

This modification is part of the permit and shall be attached thereto in accordance with 40 CFR Subpart GGG, §147.2927.

This permit modification shall become effective on

Prepared by

Issued on

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Hurlbut".

Bill Hurlbut  
Geologist  
Ground Water/UIC Section  
(6WQ-SG)

Miguel I. Flores  
Director  
Water Quality Protection  
Division