

**HITP - 3**

**TEMPORARY  
PERMISSION**



# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

**BILL RICHARDSON**  
Governor  
**Joanna Prukop**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Mark E. Fesmire, P.E.**  
Director  
Oil Conservation Division

June 5, 2007

Ms. Beverly J. Cox  
ConocoPhillips Company  
San Juan Basin Gas Plant  
PO Box 217  
Bloomfield, NM 87413

**Re: Hydrostatic Test Water Discharge - Temporary Permission  
ConocoPhillips Company San Juan Basin Gas Plant – GW 35  
NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 14, Township 25 North, Range 11 West, NMPM  
San Juan County, New Mexico**

Dear Ms. Cox:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has received ConocoPhillips Company's (ConocoPhillips) revised request, dated June 5, 2007, for temporary permission to generate approximately 3,900 gallons of wastewater from a hydrostatic test of approximately 1500 feet of old pipeline and dispose of the wastewater at an OCD approved facility – Basin Disposal. The proposed discharge collection location is the San Juan Basin Gas Plant located in the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 14, Township 25 North, Range 11 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico - approximately 1 mile north of Bloomfield, New Mexico.

Based on the information provided in the request, **temporary permission is hereby granted** for the collection and disposal of the hydrostatic test water generated from the old pipeline test with the following understandings and conditions:

1. the discharge and collection of wastewater will occur at the following location: 61 Road 4900, Bloomfield, New Mexico;
2. the source of the hydrostatic test water will be obtained from a municipal/public water supply;
3. approximately 3,900 gallons of hydrostatic test water generated from the test will be discharged within the existing easement right of right;
4. no hydrostatic test water generated from the test will be discharged to groundwater or be allowed to exit the right of way;
5. the discharge does not enter any lake, perennial stream, river or their respective tributaries that may be seasonal;

6. no discharge shall occur:
  - i. where ground water is less than 10 feet below ground surface.
  - ii. within 200 feet of a watercourse, lakebed, sinkhole or playa lake;
  - iii. within an existing wellhead protection area;
  - iv. within, or within 500 feet of a wetland; or
  - v. within 500 feet from the nearest permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or church;
7. best management practices must be implemented to contain the discharge onsite, does not impact adjacent property, and to control erosion;
8. the discharge does not cause any fresh water supplies to be degraded or to exceed standards as set forth in Subsections A, B, and C of the 20.6.2.3103 NMAC (the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission Regulations);
9. the landowner(s) of the proposed discharge and/or collection/retention or alternative discharge location must be properly notified of the activities prior to the proposed hydrostatic test event; and
10. ConocoPhillips shall report all unauthorized discharges, spills, leaks and releases of hydrostatic test water and conduct corrective action pursuant to WQCC Regulation 20.5.12.1203 NMAC and OCD Rule 116 (19.15.3.116 NMAC).

It is understood that the hydrostatic test will occur sometime during the period of June 5, 2007 through August 5, 2007. **This temporary permission will expire in 120 calendar days.**

This approval does not relieve ConocoPhillips of responsibility should its operation result in pollution of surface water, ground water, or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve ConocoPhillips of responsibility for compliance with other federal, state or local regulations.

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Brad A. Jones at (505) 476-3487 or [brad.a.jones@state.nm.us](mailto:brad.a.jones@state.nm.us).

Sincerely,



Wayne Price  
Environmental Bureau Chief

LWP/baj

cc: OCD District III Office, Aztec, NM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT  
OF CHECK/CASH

I hereby acknowledge receipt of check No. 1101 dated 5/18/07

or cash received on \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ 250<sup>00</sup>

from Conoco Phillips Company San Juan Basin GRS Plant  
for GW-35

Submitted by: Laurie Romero Date: 6/11/07

Submitted to ASD by: Laurie Romero Date: 6/11/07

Received in ASD by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Filing Fee  New Facility \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Modification \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Code 52L07 Applicable FY 2004

To be deposited in the Water Quality Management Fund.

Full Payment \_\_\_\_\_ or Annual Increment \_\_\_\_\_

**DEBRA GOMEZ**  
**CONOCOPHILLIPS**  
P.O. BOX 119  
REHOBOTH NM 87322

**1101**

DATE May 18, 2007 56-1551/441

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Water Quality Management Fund \$ 500.00

Five hundred dollars and 00/100 DOLLARS

**JPMorganChase** Valid Up To 5000 Dollars  
JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.  
Columbus, OH

MEMO GW 035 - \$250  
GW 054 - \$250

Debbie Gomez

⑆04411551⑆⑆5287430615803⑆1101



**San Juan Business Unit**  
Beverly J. Cox  
Environmental Specialist  
P.O. Box 4289  
Farmington, NM 87499  
505-324-6194  
[beverly.j.cox@conocophillips.com](mailto:beverly.j.cox@conocophillips.com)

May 17, 2007

Brad Jones  
New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department  
Oil Conservation Division  
Environmental Bureau  
1220 South St. Francis Dr.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Subject: Temporary Permission to Discharge, Existing Discharge Permit GW 035

Dear Mr. Jones

ConocoPhillips Company by this letter submits this notice of intent to discharge in accordance with Sec. 1201, 20.6.2 NMAC; and seeks temporary permission to discharge as described herein. A check for the filing fee of \$100.00 and temporary approval fee of \$150 is attached.

The proposed action is a hydrostatic test of a short section of pipeline located at the San Juan Basin Gas Plant (SJBGP) using fresh water meeting WQCC groundwater standards. A 1494 ft. section of pipeline from the San Juan Plant to the pig launcher will be tested.

Hydrostatic test water from the pipeline will be certified RCRA exempt waste, and will be eligible for disposal accordingly. Copies of certifications will be provided to OCD, if required.

SJBGP has a current discharge plan (renewed June, 2006), details contained in this request for permission are duplicated from the discharge plan application.

a. The proposed discharger is:

ConocoPhillips Company  
San Juan Basin Gas Plant  
PO Box 217  
Bloomfield, NM 87413

Existing Discharge Permit # 035

b.,c.,d. The water will be captured at the pig launcher, located at Enterprises' facility, adjacent to the San Juan Basin Gas Plant. The pig launcher is located in the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 14, T25N, R11W. The facility is approximately 1 mile north of Bloomfield, NM.

e.,g.,h. The water will be captured at the plant in 250 barrel tanks, and hauled to Basin Disposal. No discharge to groundwater is expected to occur.

The San Juan Gas Plant has a written procedure in place to perform the hydro testing of the section of pipeline from the plant to the pig launcher. In addition to the operational procedure the point of water injection will be monitored as the line is filled. There is a valve on the pipeline and a valve on the pump that can be shut off in the event of a release. During the process of filling the line, the line pressure will be monitored and above ground valves will be monitored for leaks. During the dewatering process, the line will be monitored at the dewatering point and the collection tanks. There are valves on the pipeline at the discharge point and on the tanks that can be closed should a leak occur. The tanks receiving the test water and the discharge point are in a bermed area. Where the conditions allow, there will be containment pans placed under the valve/hose connections to collect any drips that may occur.

f. The pipe to be hydro-tested is approximately 1494 feet in length. The approximate volume of water discharged is 3902 gallons.

i. Since the location of the pipe to be tested and the location of capture is the property of ConocoPhillips, no alternate discharge locations are contemplated.

j.,k.,l. Subsequent to the test, ConocoPhillips will sample the water as per Basin Disposal's requirements. The water is expected to meet Basin Disposal's requirements.

m.,n. Since the test water will be contained in steel tanks and disposed of off-site, no discharge to groundwater is expected.

o. Landowners: El Paso Natural Gas Company and Enterprise Products jointly own the property that the San Juan Basin Gas Plant is located on

El Paso Natural Gas Company	Enterprise Products
81 County Road 4900	614 Reilly Avenue
Bloomfield, NM, 87413	Farmington, New Mexico, 87401
Russ Pyeatt (505) 632-6001	Joe Velasquez (505) 599-2200

ConocoPhillips understands that a follow-up letter stating the volume and method of disposal will be required subsequent to the test.

SJBGP requests that permission for additional hydrostatic testing of this nature be added to their existing discharge permit.

Your attention is appreciated; ConocoPhillips proposes to conduct this test the first week of June, 2007.

I certify that the above is true and correct to my knowledge and belief based on reasonable inquiry.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beverly J. Cox". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

Beverly J. Cox



San Juan Business Unit  
P.O. Box 4289  
Farmington, NM 87402-4289  
(505) 326-9700

June 5, 2007

Brad Jones  
New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department  
Oil Conservation Division  
Environmental Bureau  
1220 South St. Francis Dr.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Subject: Temporary Permission to Discharge, Existing Discharge Permit GW 035

Dear Mr. Jones

ConocoPhillips Company by this letter submits this notice of intent to discharge in accordance with Sec. 1201, 20.6.2 NMAC; and seeks temporary permission to discharge as described herein. A check for the filing fee of \$100.00 and temporary approval fee of \$150 has already been submitted.

SJBGP has a current discharge plan (renewed June, 2006), details contained in this request for permission are duplicated from the discharge plan application.

The actions to be taken are described below, in the format of the guidelines for Hydrostatic Test Dewatering:

a. *Name and Address of Proposed Discharger*

The proposed discharger is:

ConocoPhillips Company  
San Juan Basin Gas Plant  
PO Box 217  
Bloomfield, NM 87413

Existing Discharge Permit # 035

b. *The location of the discharge, including a street address, if available, and sufficient information to locate the facility with respect to surrounding landmarks*

The water will be captured at the pig launcher, located at Enterprises's facility, adjacent to the San Juan Basin Gas Plant. The San Juan Basin Gas Plant is located at 61 Road 4900, approximately 1 mile north of Bloomfield, NM.

c. *Legal description (Section/Township/Range) of the discharge location*

The pig launcher is located in the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 14, T29N, R11W.

d. *Maps (site specific and regional) indicating the location of the pipelines to be tested and the proposed discharge location*

A copy of a 7.5 minute map is attached showing the location of the plant. Also attached is a scan of an aerial photo of the SJBGP, and a scan of the overall pipeline map showing the location of the pipeline as it leaves the plant. The length of pipeline to be tested is 1494 ft, the scale on the maps is 1 in = 12,000 ft. The pipeline sections are not within the footprint of the existing groundwater discharge permits for either facility.

e. *A demonstration of compliance to the following siting criteria or justification for any exceptions:*

- i. *within 200 feet of a watercourse, lakebed, sinkhole or playa lake*
- ii. *within an existing wellhead protection area or 100-year floodplain*
- iii. *within or within 500 feet of, a wetland*
- iv. *within the area overlying a subsurface mine; or*
- v. *within 500 feet from the nearest permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or church*

To the best of our knowledge and belief, the potential discharge point for this action will not be located within 200 feet of a watercourse, lakebed, sinkhole or playa lake; will not be located within an existing wellhead protection area or 100-year floodplain; within or within 500 feet of a wetland; within the area overlying a subsurface mine; or within 500 feet from the nearest permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or church. A copy of a portion of a 7.5 minute map showing the 500ft radius from the point of potential discharge is attached to demonstrate this.

f. *A brief description of the activities that produce the discharge*

The proposed action is a hydrostatic test of a short section of pipeline located at the San Juan Basin Gas Plant (SJBGP) using fresh water meeting WQCC groundwater standards. A 1494 ft. section of pipeline from the San Juan Plant to the pig launcher will be tested.

g. *The method and location of collection and retention of fluids and solids*

The water from the test will be hauled away from the facility immediately upon generation. There will be a vacuum truck on site which will be removing the waste as it is generated. The vacuum truck will immediately haul the waste water to Basin Disposal. No discharge to groundwater is expected to occur.

- h. *A brief description of the best management practices to be implemented to contain the discharge onsite and to control erosion*

The San Juan Gas Plant has a written procedure in place to perform the hydro testing of the section of pipeline from the plant to the pig launcher. In addition to the operational procedure the point of water injection will be monitored as the line is filled. There is a valve on the pipeline and a valve on the pump that can be shut off in the event of a release. During the process of filling the line, the line pressure will be monitored and above ground valves will be monitored for leaks. During the dewatering process, the line will be monitored at the dewatering point and the vacuum truck. There are valves on the pipeline at the discharge point and on the truck that can be closed should a leak occur. Where the conditions allow, there will be containment pans placed under the valve/hose connections to collect any drips that may occur.

- i. *A request for approval of an alternative treatment, use, and/or discharge location (other than the original discharge site), if necessary*

Since the location of the pipe to be tested and the location of capture is the property of ConocoPhillips, no alternate discharge locations are contemplated.

- j. *A proposed hydrostatic test wastewater sampling plan*

Since the waste will be immediately disposed of as RCRA exempt waste by Basin disposal, no sampling plan is required. The Facility will fill out the C-138 forms for the collection to enable transport as RCRA-exempt waste.

- k. *A proposed method of disposal of fluids and solids after test completion, including closure of any pits, in case the water generated from test exceeds the standards as set forth in Subsections A, B, and C of the 20.6.2.3103 NMAC*

Hydrostatic test water from the pipeline will be certified RCRA exempt waste, and will be eligible for disposal accordingly. The waste will be immediately removed and disposed of by Basin Disposal. Copies of certifications will be provided to OCD, if required.

- l. *A brief description of the expected quality and volume of the discharge*

The pipe to be hydro-tested is approximately 1494 feet in length. The approximate volume of water discharged is 3902 gallons.

m. *Geological characteristics of the subsurface at the proposed discharge site*

Since the water will be collected and disposed of immediately, no discharge to groundwater is expected. A copy of the portion of the geological information from the discharge permit is attached for your review.

Geologically, the potential discharge location is on the Nacimiento formation outcrop.

n. *The depth to and total dissolved solids concentration of the ground water most likely to be affected by the discharge*

Since the water will be collected and disposed of immediately, no discharge to groundwater is expected. A copy of the portion of the geological information from the discharge permit is attached for your review.

According to WJ Stone (et. Al), "*Hydrology and Water Resources of the San Juan Basin*", the approximate total dissolved solids (TDS) concentration of the ground water is 4000 mg/l.

Based on records for a nearby well in the area (obtained from the State Engineer's Office database), the estimated depth to water is 150 ft. This was taken from the closest available well in the area reflecting similar topography.

o. *identification of landowners at and adjacent to the discharge and collection/retention site*

El Paso Natural Gas Company and Enterprise Products jointly own the property that the San Juan Basin Gas Plant is located on

El Paso Natural Gas Company  
81 County Road 4900  
Bloomfield, NM, 87413  
Russ Pyeatt (505) 632-6001

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Beverly J. Cox  
Environmental Specialist