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**PERMITS,
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MODS**



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
2040 S. PACHECO
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87505
(505) 827-7131

May 9, 1996

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT NO. P-269-269-391

Mr. Gilbert Aragon.
El Paso Natural Gas Company
P.O. Box 1492
El Paso, Texas 79978

Re: **Hydrostatic Test Water Discharge
Luna County, New Mexico**

Dear Mr. Aragon:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division has received El Paso Natural Gas Company's request, dated May 1, 1996, for authorization to discharge approximately 8,000 gallons of waste water from the hydrostatic test of a section of used pipeline (No. 2010) in Grant County, New Mexico. The proposed method of discharge is into a lined pond at the Deming Compressor station located in the SE/4 SE/4 of Section 32, Township 23 South, Range 11 West, NMPM, Luna County, New Mexico, for evaporation.

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 will be discharged into a lined pit at the Deming compressor station located in the SE/4 SE/4 of Section 32, Township 23 South, Range 11 West, NMPM, Luna County, New Mexico
2. The liquids will be allowed to evaporate in the lined pond.
3. Any solids that accumulate as a result of the discharge will be subject to full hazardous waste characterization testing to determine the proper means of disposal.
4. The analytical results will be made available to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division along with a request for disposal of the accumulated solids.

Pursuant to Water Quality Control Commission Regulation 3106.B, this approval will allow El Paso Natural Gas Company 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

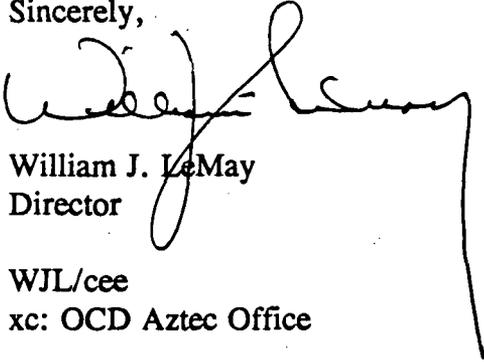
Mr. Gilbert Aragon
May 9, 1996
Page 2

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 El Paso Natural Gas Company of liability should their operation result in pollution of surface water, ground water or the environment.

If there are any questions, please call Chris Eustice at (505) 827-7153.

Sincerely,



William J. LeMay
Director

WJL/cee
xc: OCD Aztec Office