

NM1 - 30

**INSPECTIONS &
DATA**



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

GARY E. JOHNSON
Governor
Betty Rivera
Cabinet Secretary

Lori Wrotenbery
Director
Oil Conservation Division

December 11, 2002

Mr. Jim Wilson
Artesia Aeration L.L.C.
P.O. Box 310
Hobbs, NM 88240

**RE: Surface Waste Management Facility Inspection Report: Permit NM-01-0030
Artesia Aeration L.L.C.
N/2 of Section 7, Township 17 South, Range 32 East, NMPM,
Lea County, New Mexico**

Dear Mr. Wilson:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) inspected the Artesia Aeration L.L.C. (Artesia Aeration) surface waste management facility at the above location on November 19, 2002. Overall the OCD found Artesia Aeration to have a well maintained landfarm with good security. The OCD inspection and file review of Artesia Aeration indicates some permit deficiencies. Attachment 1 lists the permit deficiencies found at Artesia Aeration during the inspection and file review. Attachment 2 contains photographs taken during the inspection.

Artesia Aeration shall provide OCD with a detailed description of how the corrections will be made and a timetable of when each of the corrections will be completed. Artesia Aeration must respond to the permit deficiencies by January 21, 2003. The current financial assurance held by the OCD is in the amount of \$71,710.

Regarding the missing Form C-138 for the waste from Navajo Refining that we discussed during the inspection. I have checked with the Hobbs district office and I have re-checked my office and I cannot locate the submittal. I am sorry but you will need to re-submit the form again and attach the data packet from Navajo. To speed things up please send it directly to me. I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at (505) 476-3488.

Sincerely,

Martyne J. Kieling
Environmental Geologist

xc with Attachments: Hobbs OCD Office

ATTACHMENT 1
INSPECTION REPORT
PERMIT NM-01-0030
ARTESIA AERATION L.L.C
N/2 of Section 7, Township 17 South, Range 32 East, NMPM
Lea County, New Mexico
(December 11, 2002)

1. Fencing and Signs: The facility will be fenced and have a sign at the entrance. The sign shall be maintained in good condition and shall be legible from at least 50 feet and contain the following information: a) name of facility, b) permit number, c) location by section, township and range, and d) emergency phone number.

Facility is secured with fence and locking gate. The sign contains the name of the facility and NMOC D permit number. However, the sign does not contain the legal location and an emergency phone number (see Photo 1).

2. Berming: An adequate berm will be constructed and maintained to prevent runoff and runoff for that portion of the facility containing contaminated soils.

Cell berms are in good shape and well maintained.

3. Setbacks: All new landfarm facilities or modifications to existing landfarm facilities must have a setbacks along the facility boundary and along any pipelines crossing the landfarm. No contaminated soils will be placed within one-hundred (100) feet of the boundary of the facility. No contaminated soil will be placed within twenty (20) feet of any pipelines crossing the landfarm. In addition, no equipment will be operated within ten (10) feet of a pipeline. All pipelines crossing the facility will have surface markers identifying the location of the pipelines.

The facility set backs are maintained.

According to the facility survey map for the site there are pipelines bordering the facility on three sides. During this inspection the OCD facility personnel walked out a leak or spill of unknown volume along the south boundary of the facility. The spill was originally found by Artesia Aeration personnel during the fencing of the facility. The spill extends from the currently owned Navajo Pipeline to the north and south extending onto the landfarm property. The spill also in some places wraps up on top of the dunes some 2 to 2.5 feet above the base of the dunes where the flow tracked. According to the topographic map the gradient is to the south-southwest with a slope of approximately 50 feet to the mile (1'/105') (see photos 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12)

The portion of the landfarm containing the contaminated soil is currently not constructed. When the cells are to be constructed in this portion of the landfarm the facility must have at a minimum a 20-foot set back from the existing contaminated soil. If any additional contaminated soil is found during the construction of cells Artesia Aeration must notify the OCD Santa Fe and Hobbs District office in writing.

4. Soil Spreading, Disking and Lift Thickness: All contaminated soils received at the facility will be spread and disked within 72 hours of receipt. Soils will be spread on the surface in six inch lifts or less. Soils will be disked a minimum of one time every two weeks (biweekly) to enhance biodegradation of contaminants.

The soils have been disked and records were reviewed regarding maintenance and inspections (see photo 2, 3, and 4).

5. Free Liquids: No free liquids or soils with free liquids will be accepted at the facility.

No free liquids were observed within the landfarm.

6. Trash and Potentially Hazardous Materials: All trash and potentially hazardous materials should be properly disposed of.

The facility was free of all plastic, however, there was one smashed container in Cell 1 (see photo 2).

7. Drum Storage: All drums containing materials other than fresh water must be stored on an impermeable pad with curbing. All empty drums should be stored on their sides with the bungs in and lined up on a horizontal plane. Chemicals in other containers such as sacks or buckets should also be stored on an impermeable pad and curb type containment.

N/A There are no drums located at this facility.

All drums and chemical containers should be clearly labeled to identify their contents and other emergency information necessary if they were to rupture, spill or ignite.

8. Above Ground Saddle Tanks: Above ground saddle tanks must have impermeable pad and curb type containment unless they contain fresh water or fluids that are gases at atmospheric temperature and pressure.

There was one fuel saddle tank at the facility that was not on an impermeable pad and curb containment.

9. Tank Labeling: All tanks, drums and containers should be clearly labeled to identify their contents and other emergency information necessary if the tank were to rupture, spill or ignite.

The saddle tank was labeled.

10. Migratory Bird Protection: All tanks exceeding 16 feet in diameter and exposed pits, ponds or lagoons must be screened, netted, covered or otherwise rendered not hazardous to migratory birds.

N/A There are no open top tanks located at this facility.

11. Spill Reporting: All spills/releases shall be reported pursuant to OCD Rule 116 to the appropriate OCD District Office.

At the time of inspection, there were no spills evident at this facility

12. Regular Facility Inspections: Cells must be disked a minimum of one time every two weeks (biweekly) to enhance biodegradation of contaminants. Facility inspections and maintenance must be conducted on at least a biweekly basis and immediately following each consequential rainstorm or windstorm.

Records have been maintained and were inspected regarding diskings and site inspections.

13. H₂S Screening: H₂S screening must be recorded and maintained.

N/A.

14. Waste Acceptance and Disposal Documentation: The records for each load must include: 1) generator; 2) origin; 3) date received; 4) quantity; 5) certification; 6) NORM status declaration; 7) transporter; 8) exact cell location; and 9) any addition of microbes moisture, fertilizers, *etc.*

Waste disposal records have been maintained and were inspected regarding loads received.

Date in camera was incorrect.



Photo 1. Sign at entrance with name and permit number but missing legal description and emergency phone number.



Photo 4. Cell tilled.



Photo 2. Cell 1 contaminated soils are tilled. Cell has one piece of trash (squashed container).



Photo 5. Pipeline ride-of-way west of the landfarm facility. Contaminated soil found in the pipeline ride-of-way.



Photo 3. Cell construction. Pile in the back right corner is clean fill.



Photo 6. Contaminated soil near the pipeline ride-of-way was in the bottom of the dune field and on the sides of the sand dunes.



Photo 7. Contaminated soil follows pathway through the dunes.



Photo 8. Contaminated soil tracked on the surface from the pipeline right-of-way across the Artesia Aeration fence line.



Photo 9. Hydrocarbon contaminated soils extend from the pipeline area to the Artesia Aeration south fence line approximately 300+ feet. Photo was taken from outside the Artesia Aeration fence line.

Date in camera was incorrect



Photo 10. Release of hydrocarbons followed a depression between the dunes 40 to 50 feet west of the pipeline.



Photo 11. Hydrocarbon contaminated soils tracked to the east. Photo taken to the southwest.



Photo 12. Hydrocarbon contaminated soils extend from the pipeline to the Artesia Aeration south fence line. Photo was taken from inside Artesia Aeration fence line.



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS
& NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
2040 South Pacheco Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
(505) 827-7131

April 26, 2000

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT NO. Z-559-573-308

Mr. Rob Mathews
Artesia Aeration L.L.C.
P.O. Box 248
Artesia, NM 88210

**RE: Surface Waste Management Facility Inspection Report: Permit NM-01-0030
Artesia Aeration L.L.C.
N/2 of Section 7, Township 17 South, Range 32 East, NMPM,
Lea County, New Mexico**

Dear Mr. Mathews:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) inspected the Artesia Aeration L.L.C. (Artesia Aeration) commercial surface waste management facility at the above location on April 14, 2000. At the time of this inspection the Artesia Aeration facility had not yet been constructed. Attachment 1 contains photographs taken during the location inspection.

Please be advised that the financial assurance in the amount of \$25,000 will need to be submitted prior to construction. If you do not have a copy of the OCD surface waste management facility financial assurance forms you may obtain them from the OCD web site <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/ocd/>. Please note that construction must commence on the landfarm within one year of the permit approval date (by November 29, 2000) or the permit will be of no effect.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at (505) 827-7153.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Martyne J. Kieling".

Martyne J. Kieling
Environmental Geologist

Attachments
xc: Hobbs OCD Office



Photo 1 04-14-00
Looking North at test well.



Photo 2 04-14-00
Looking Northeast at test well.



Photo 3 04-14-00
Looking East at test well.