## NM1 - \_\_\_\_51

## GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

# YEAR(S):

2009

From:	Scott McKitrick [scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com]
Sent:	Wednesday, September 02, 2009 9:39 AM
To:	Jones, Brad A., EMNRD
Cc:	'Joe P. Moore'; 'Peter Fant'; 'Jerry May'; 'Lawrence N. Kemp'
Subject:	Concho Landfill drilling

Good morning Brad. We're currently waiting for the driller to resume drilling at the Concho Landfill. He believes that he'll be back out there in two weeks or so, but we don't have a firm date currently. When we do, I'll let you know. Please let me know if you have any questions on this. Thanks.

Scott A. McKitrick, P.G. Senior Geoscientist / Environmental Services Manager Souder, Miller & Associates 3451 Candelaria Rd. NE, Suite D Albuquerque, NM 87107 voice 505.299.0942 fax 505.293.3430 cell 505.220.6542 scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com

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From: Sent:	Scott McKitrick [scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com] Wednesday, August 05, 2009 2:10 PM
То:	Jones, Brad A., EMNRD
Cc:	'David Ennis'; 'Lawrence N. Kemp'; 'Joe P. Moore'; lenrstokes@gmail.com; 'Peter Fant'; 'Jerry Mav'
Subject:	Concho Landfill Drilling

Hi Brad. The driller is scheduled to be on-site at the Concho Landfill on Tuesday, August 18. I will be on vacation between tomorrow and the 17<sup>th</sup>. In my absence, coordination will be handled by either Dave Ennis in our Las Cruces Office (<u>david.ennis@soudermiller.com</u> 575.647.0799), or the field geologist, Larry Kemp, also in our Las Cruces Office (<u>larry.kemp@soudermiller.com</u> 575.647.0799). I don't have a mileage marker number for the Dog Lake turnoff to the site, but Len may be able to supply that. Someone (Dave or Larry) will call you toward the end of next week to confirm the start date. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Scott A. McKitrick, P.G. Senior Geoscientist / Environmental Services Manager Souder, Miller & Associates 3451 Candelaria Rd. NE, Suite D Albuquerque, NM 87107 voice 505.299.0942 fax 505.293.3430 cell 505.220.6542 scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com

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From:	Jones, Brad A., EMNRD
Sent:	Tuesday, August 04, 2009 5:33 PM
То:	'Scott McKitrick'
Cc:	'Joe P. Moore'; lenrstokes@gmail.com; 'Peter Fant'; 'Jerry May'
Subject:	RE: Revised Boring Plan

Scott,

Sorry about that..... The plan is approved. Keep me updated on the scheduling of the drill rig (time and date). Is there a mile marker near Dog Lake Road? I may be coming in from Hobbs.

#### Brad A. Jones

Environmental Engineer Environmental Bureau NM Oil Conservation Division 1220 S. St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505 E-mail: <u>brad.a.jones@statc.nm.us</u> Office: (505) 476-3487 Fax: (505) 476-3462

From: Scott McKitrick [mailto:scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2009 5:12 PM
To: Jones, Brad A., EMNRD
Cc: 'Joe P. Moore'; lenrstokes@gmail.com; 'Peter Fant'; 'Jerry May'
Subject: RE: Revised Boring Plan

Brad – can I assume the boring plan is approved?

To get to the site, head east from Artesia on Hwy 82. Take Hwy 529 to the southeast 11.65 miles to Dog Lake Road. Head north approximately 0.5 miles, then turn west on a relatively good caliche road approximately one mile, landfill and boring locations will be on the south. The attached kmz file will show you the location of our boring at the site in Google Earth. The landfill proper is just west of the boring.

Thanks.

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From: Jones, Brad A., EMNRD [mailto:brad.a.jones@state.nm.us]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2009 4:21 PM
To: Scott McKitrick; Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD
Cc: Joe P. Moore; lenrstokes@gmail.com; Peter Fant; Jerry May
Subject: RE: Revised Boring Plan

Scott,

Thank you for making the suggested revisions. Please provide me adequate notice in order to make arrangements to observe the drilling. I have set aside the week of August 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>, as proposed in the boring plan. Also, please provide me a map and directions to the proposed site. Thanks.

Brad

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From: Scott McKitrick [mailto:scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2009 3:56 PM
To: Jones, Brad A., EMNRD; Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD
Cc: 'Joe P. Moore'; lenrstokes@gmail.com; 'Peter Fant'; 'Jerry May'
Subject: Revised Boring Plan

Brad – thanks for catching that mistake. We'll log core and air rotary cuttings, and this plan says that. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Scott A. McKitrick, P.G. Senior Geoscientist / Environmental Services Manager Souder, Miller & Associates 3451 Candelaria Rd. NE, Suite D Albuquerque, NM 87107 voice 505.299.0942 fax 505.293.3430 cell 505.220.6542 scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com

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Cc:	'Joe P. Moore'; lenrstokes@gmail.com; 'Peter Fant'; 'Jerry May'
Subject:	RE: Revised Boring Plan
Attachments:	Concho Landfill kmz
Attachments:	Concho Landfill.kmz

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**Brad A. Jones** Environmental Engineer Environmental Bureau NM Oil Conservation Division 1220 S. St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505 E-mail: <u>brad.a.jones@state.nm.us</u> Office: (505) 476-3487 Fax: (505) 476-3462

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Subject: Revised Boring Plan

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Scott A. McKitrick, P.G. Senior Geoscientist / Environmental Services Manager Souder, Miller & Associates 3451 Candelaria Rd. NE, Suite D Albuquerque, NM 87107 voice.505.299.0942 fax 505.293.3430 cell 505.220.6542 scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com

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From:	Scott McKitrick [scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com]	L
Sent:	Tuesday, August 04, 2009 3:56 PM	•
То:	Jones, Brad A., EMNRD; Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD	
Cc:	'Joe P. Moore'; lenrstokes@gmail.com; 'Peter Fant'; 'Jerry May'	•
Subject:	Revised Boring Plan	
Attachments:	2009-08-04 Concho Landfill Boring Plan.pdf	

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Scott A. McKitrick, P.G. Senior Geoscientist / Environmental Services Manager Souder, Miller & Associates 3451 Candelaria Rd. NE, Suite D Albuquerque, NM 87107 voice 505.299.0942 fax 505.293.3430 cell 505.220.6542 scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com

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Souder, Miller & Associates + 3451 Candelaria Road NE, Suite D Albuquerque, NM 87107-1948 + (505) 299-0942 + (877) 299-0942 + fax (505) 293-3430

August 4, 2009

#5419335

Mr. Brad A. Jones, Environmental Engineer Environmental Bureau Oil Conservation Division 1220 S. St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505 brad.a.jones@state.nm.us

#### Re: *Revised* Boring Plan for Proposed Concho Landfill LLC, Lea County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Jones:

Souder, Miller and Associates (SMA) is pleased to submit this boring plan on behalf of Concho Landfill LLC for its proposed landfill in Lea County, New Mexico. It was prepared in a manner consistent with that discussed at the meeting between representatives of the Oil Conservation Division and representatives of Concho Landfill LLC on July 30, 2009 at your office, and subsequent to our phone discussion on August 3, 2009.

A total of eight borings are proposed to be advanced at the site, as shown on the attached Figures 1 and 2. Borings are proposed to investigate the potential for the existence of water at the interface between alluvial material and the underlying red beds at approximately 65 feet below ground surface (bgs), as well as the presence of water to a depth of 300 feet in the Permian-Triassic red beds. Additionally, the purpose of the boring program is to demonstrate geologic continuity across the site, and the nature of geologic formations beneath the site.

All boring activities will be conducted in a manner generally consistent with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) *Monitoring Well Construction and Abandonment Guidelines* (July, 2008, copy attached). All borings will be advanced using traditional air coring methodology. Hollow-stem auger drilling will not be employed. Borings through alluvial material will be advanced approximately five feet into red bed lithology. Borings to be advanced to 300 feet will be cored to a depth of 150 feet, then completed to 300 feet using the air rotary drilling method.

Continuous core and air rotary cuttings collected from each soil boring will be logged for lithologic description (ASTM D 2488-93, *Standard Practice for Description and Identification of Soils*), and moisture content, in accordance with SMA's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP, copy available upon request). Borings will be allowed to sit open over night (12 hours minimum) to determine if water is present. Presence of water will be determined using an electronic sounder and/or a new, disposable plastic bailer.

In the event that water is encountered, temporary monitoring wells may be constructed in order to accurately determine depth to water and to allow collection of water samples.

Boring Plan – Concho Landfill August 4, 2009 Page 2 of 3

Temporary monitoring wells will be completed with two-inch PVC casing, using fifteen (15) feet of 0.010-inch slotted screen. Monitoring wells will be completed to the extent possible with approximately 5 feet of screen above the water table and approximately 10 feet of screen below the water table.

For each temporary monitoring well, silica sand (10-20 grade) will be placed from total depth to approximately two feet above the top of the well screen. An approximately two foot bentonite pellet seal will be placed and hydrated above the sand pack. If the temporary well is to be converted to a permanent monitoring well, the annular space above the bentonite seal will be sealed with bentonite/cement grout. Casing will be extended approximately two feet above grade, and enclosed within a locking surface casing emplaced within a four-foot diameter, four-inch thick concrete pad sloped to drain away from the well boring. The top of the PVC casing will be notched and marked with a permanent black marker on either the highest point of the casing or the northern side of the casing. Top of casing elevations and subsequent depth to water measurement will be referenced to this permanent mark.

Borings and temporary monitoring wells will be plugged and abandoned in accordance with the requirements of the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (OSE). Any temporary casing installed will be pulled, and borings will be filled with a 6-8% bentonite cement grout from total depth to approximately 3 feet below ground surface (bgs). Clean backfill will then be used from approximately 3 feet bgs up to the surface and made flush with the existing ground surface.

In accordance with the OSE Rules Governing Well Driller Licensing, Construction, Repair and Plugging of Wells (19.27.4 NMAC), SMA will obtain the required exploratory well permit for each monitoring well that is to be installed. A well record for each installed monitoring well will also be supplied to the NMOSE at the completion of all drilling activities. SMA will also submit the appropriate forms to the NMOSE for monitoring well abandonment.

Drilling is currently scheduled to begin the week of August 17, 2009. As that date approaches, SMA will be in touch with Mr. Brad Jones to refine and confirm the drilling schedule. All data collected as part of this boring program will be submitted to the OCD in support of the permit application.

SMA appreciates your prompt review of the plan. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 505.299.0942, on my cell at 505.220.6542, or to email me at <u>scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com</u>. In my absence, please contact Mr. Peter Fant at 505.473.9211 or at <u>peter.fant@soudermiller.com</u>.

### Sincerely, SOUDER, MILLER & ASSOCIATES

Scott A. McKitrick, P.G. Senior Geoscientist / Environmental Services Manager

Attachments: Figures 1 and 2 NMED Monitoring Well Construction and Abandonment Guidelines 2

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Boring Plan – Concho Landfill August 4, 2009 Page 3 of 3

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cc: Mr. Len R. Stokes, P.O. Box 1067, Capitan, NM 88316

Mr. Joe P. Moore, PE, JM Consulting LLC, 9512 Palomas Ave. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109



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#### NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT GROUND WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT MONITORING WELL CONSTRUCTION AND ABANDONMENT GUIDELINES

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**Purpose**: These guidelines identify minimum construction and abandonment details for installation of water table monitoring wells under ground water Discharge Permits issued by the NMED's Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB). Proposed locations of monitoring wells required under Discharge Permits and requests to use alternate installation and/or construction methods for water table monitoring wells or other types of monitoring wells (e.g., deep monitoring wells for delineation of vertical extent of contaminants) must be submitted to the GWQB for approval prior to drilling and construction.

#### **General Drilling Specifications:**

- 1. All well drilling activities must be performed by an individual with a current and valid well driller license issued by the State of New Mexico in accordance with 19.27.4 NMAC. Use of drillers with environmental well drilling experience and expertise is highly recommended.
- 2. Drilling methods that allow for accurate determinations of water table locations must be employed. All drill bits, drill rods, and down-hole tools must be thoroughly cleaned immediately prior to the start of drilling. The bore hole diameter must be drilled a minimum of 4 inches larger than the casing diameter to allow for the emplacement of sand and sealant.
- 3. After completion, the well should be allowed to stabilize for a minimum of 12 hours before development is initiated.
- 4. The well must be developed so that formation water flows freely through the screen and is not turbid, and all sediment and drilling disturbances are removed from the well.

#### Well Specifications (see attached monitoring well schematic):

- 5. Schedule 40 (or heavier) PVC pipe, stainless steel pipe, carbon steel pipe, or pipe of an alternate appropriate material that has been approved for use by NMED must be used as casing. The casing must have an inside diameter not less than 2 inches. The casing material selected for use must be compatible with the anticipated chemistry of the ground water and appropriate for the contaminants of interest at the facility. The casing material and thickness selected for use must have sufficient collapse strength to withstand the pressure exerted by grouts used as annular seals and thermal properties sufficient to withstand the heat generated by the hydration of cement-based grouts. Casing sections may be joined using welded or threaded joints; the method selected must provide sufficient joint strength for the specific well installation. The casing must extend from the top of the screen to at least one foot above ground surface. The top of the casing must be fitted with a removable cap, and the exposed casing must be protected by a locking steel well shroud. The shroud must be large enough in diameter to allow easy access for removal of the cap. Alternatively, monitoring wells may be completed below grade. In this case, the casing must extend from the top of the screen to 6 to 12 inches below the ground surface; the monitoring wells must be sealed with locking, expandable well plugs; a flush-mount, watertight well vault that is rated to withstand traffic loads must be emplaced around the wellhead; and the cover must be secured with at least one bolt. The vault cover must indicate that the wellhead of a monitoring well is contained within the vault.
- 6. A 20-foot section (maximum) of continuous-slot, machine slotted, or other manufactured PVC or stainless steel well screen or well screen of an alternate appropriate material that has been approved for use by NMED must be installed across the water table. Screens created by cutting slots into solid casing with saws or other tools must not be used. The screen material selected for use must be compatible with the anticipated chemistry of the ground water and appropriate for the contaminants of interest at the facility. Screen sections may be joined using welded or threaded joints; the method selected must provide sufficient joint strength for the specific well installation and must not introduce constituents that may reasonably be considered contaminants of interest at the facility. A cap must be

attached to the bottom of the well screen; sumps (i.e., casing attached to the bottom of a well screen) should not be installed. The bottom of the screen must be installed no more than 15 feet below the water table; the top of the well screen must be positioned not less than 5 feet above the water table. The well screen slots must be appropriately sized for the formation materials. A slot size of 0.010 inches is generally adequate for most installations.

- 7. Casing and well screen must be centered in the borehole. Placement of centralizers near the top and bottom of the well screen is recommended.
- 8. A filter pack must be installed around the screen by filling the annular space from 1 foot below the bottom of the screen to 2 feet above the top of the screen with clean silica sand. The filter pack must be properly sized to prevent fine particles in the formation from entering the well; clean medium to coarse silica sand is generally adequate as filter pack material for 0.010-inch slotted well screen. For wells deeper than 30 feet, the sand must be emplaced by a tremmie pipe. The well should be surged or bailed to settle the filter pack and additional sand added, if necessary, before the bentonite seal is emplaced.
- 9. A bentonite seal must be constructed immediately above the filter pack by emplacing bentonite chips or pellets (3/8-inch in size or smaller) in a manner that prevents bridging of the chips/pellets in the annular space. The bentonite seal must be 3 feet in thickness and hydrated with clean water. Adequate time should be allowed for expansion of the bentonite seal before installation of the annular space seal.
- 10. The annular space above the bentonite seal must be sealed with a bentonite-cement grout (5 lbs. of powdered bentonite, 94 lbs. of Portland cement, and 6½ to 8½ gallons of clean water), neat cement grout (94 lbs. of Portland cement and 5 to 6 gallons of clean water), or bentonite grout (20 percent solids, created by mixing 50 lbs. of bentonite grout with 24 gallons of clean water). Emplacement of the annular space seal using a tremmie pipe (flow by gravity or pumping through the pipe) is preferred. Annular space seals must extend from the top of the bentonite seal to the ground surface (for wells completed above grade) or to a level 3 to 6 inches below the top of casing (for wells completed below grade).
- 11. For monitoring wells finished above grade, a concrete pad (2-foot minimum radius, 4-inch minimum thickness) must be poured around the shroud and wellhead. The concrete and surrounding soil must be sloped to direct rainfall and runoff away from the wellhead. The installation of steel posts around the well shroud and wellhead is recommended for monitoring wells finished above grade to protect the wellhead from damage by vehicles or equipment. For monitoring wells finished below grade, a concrete pad (2-foot minimum radius, 4-inch minimum thickness) must be poured around the well vault and wellhead. The concrete and surrounding soil must be sloped to direct rainfall and runoff away from the well well.

#### Abandonment:

- 12. Approval for abandonment of monitoring wells used for ground water monitoring in accordance with Discharge Permit requirements must be obtained from NMED prior to abandonment.
- 13. Monitoring wells no longer in use must be plugged in a manner to prevent migration of surface runoff or ground water along the length of the well casing. Where possible, this must be accomplished by removing the well casing and pumping bentonite-cement grout, neat cement grout, or bentonite grout (prepared as specified above for annular space seals) from the bottom of the borehole to the ground surface using a tremmie pipe. If the casing cannot be removed, bentonite-cement grout, neat cement grout, or bentonite grout must be emplaced in the well using a tremmie pipe from the bottom of the well to the ground surface.
- 14. After abandonment, written notification shall be submitted to the NMED with the date and method of abandonment.

**Deviation from Guidelines**: Requests to construct water table monitoring wells or other types of monitoring wells for ground water monitoring under ground water Discharge Permits in a manner that deviates from the details of these guidelines must be submitted in writing to the GWQB. Each request

must state the rationale for the proposed deviation from these guidelines and provide detailed evidence supporting the request. The GWQB will approve or deny requests to deviate from these guidelines in writing.

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### CORPORATIONS DIVISION



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	Entity Detail	
	CONCHO LANDFILL, LLC New Mexico Domestic Limited Liability	Company
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CorpNmprc# Purpose Corporation Status Date Of Incorporation State Of Incorporation FiscalYearDate	4177564 N/R EX-Exempt 06/08/2009 NM	Mailing Address 633 S. PAIRIEVIEW LOVINGTON,NM,US,88260 Corporation Address 633 S. PAIRIEVIEW LOVINGTON,NM;US,88260 OutOfState Address ,, Foreign Address ,,
	Agent Information	Director(s) Information
JOHN D. NORRIS 633 S. PAIRIEVIEW LOVINGTON,NM,88260	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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Orgnzr1 : JOHN D. NORRIS Orgnzr2 : Orgnzr3 : Orgnzr4 :	, <sup>1</sup>	Licence# : Expiration Year : Type :
Íns	trument Information	Supplemental Post Mark Dates
InstrumentNumber Filing Date Instrument Type Instrument Text	4177564 06/08/2009 Certificate Of Organization CONCHO LANDFILL, LLC 4PGS 06/08/2059	Supplemental : Purpose Change : Agent Resigned : Name Change :

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4/6/2011



Souder, Miller & Associates + 3451 Candelaria Road NE, Suite D Albuquerque, NM 87107-1948 + (505) 299-0942 + (877) 299-0942 + fax (505) 293-3430

July 28, 2009

#5419335

Mr. Joe P. Moore, PE JM Consulting LLC 9512 Palomas Ave. NE Albuquerque, NM 87109

#### Re: Fatal Flaw Analysis for Proposed Concho Landfill LLC, Lea County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Moore:

Souder, Miller and Associates (SMA) are pleased to present this letter report regarding a fatal flaw analysis for the proposed Concho Landfill located in Lea County, New Mexico at T33E, R17S, Section 31. This report was prepared pursuant to the contract between JM Consulting LLC and SMA, dated June 29, 2009. The purpose of this letter report is to summarize regional and site geology and hydrology of the area, summarize data gaps and determine if the site meets the siting requirement of 19.15.36.NMAC for an oil field waste landfill.

#### **Regional and Site Geology**

The proposed Concho Landfill (Figure 1) is located in the Delaware Basin in southeastern New Mexico. The Delaware Basin contains up to 24,000 vertical feet of sedimentary rocks deposited over the last 500 million years. The Permian age rocks in the Delaware Basin are common targets for natural gas, oil and water, and the Salado Formation of the Permian has been utilized for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Repository (Johnson, et. al., 2003). Sedimentary beds are relatively flat lying, and exhibit limited vertical topography.

In Lea County surficial geology consists generally of Quaternary age sediments and the Tertiary age Ogallala Formation. East of the proposed landfill site is the Mescalero Ridge, which is an escarpment that runs northwest to southeast, and divides the Llano Estacado (to the east of the ridge) and the Querecho Plains (to the west of the ridge) (Nicholson and Clebsch, 1961).

The proposed site is located in the Querecho Plains, approximately 2.5 miles west of Mescalero Ridge. On July 9, 2009 SMA logged a soil boring drilled by Cox Drilling (Figure 3a-3c). The first 65 feet encountered was alluvium material thought to be of Quaternary age. Lithology encountered between 65 feet below ground surface (bgs) and 150 feet bgs was unconsolidated red, red-brown and purple clays. These beds are thought to be Triassic (Dockum Group, which includes the Chinle and Santa Rosa Formations) or late Permian age. The Triassic and later Permian age red beds are reported to be separated by an erosional unconformity. Based on the borehole lithology and a review of published data, the specific age of the red beds can not be assigned to a specific age, and will be herein described as Permian-Triassic.

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Fatal Flaw Report – Concho Landfill July 28, 2009 Page 2 of 6

SMA reviewed published literature available from New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources (NMBGMR), United States Geological Survey (USGS), oil and gas well permits submitted to the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) Oil Conservation Division (OCD) and available on the EMNRD OCD database, and water well permits submitted to the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (OSE) to determine subsurface geology within a two mile radius of the site. Figure 2 shows wells found, and their locations, as well as the proposed site.

Many of the well records reviewed combine the Quaternary age sediments (thickness generally zero to 100 feet, Nicholson and Clebsch, 1961) with the Permian-Triassic red beds. Based on the records reviewed by SMA, the Quaternary age sediments and Permian-Triassic red beds are together between approximately 810 and 1,270 feet thick for wells proximal to the site. This is consistent with information published by Nicholson and Clebsch (1961) who have estimated the red beds to be between 140 and 1,570 feet thick in the Delaware Basin.

Underlying the Permian-Triassic red beds is the Permian age Ochoa Series, which consists of (youngest to oldest, top to bottom) the Rustler Formation, primarily composed of anhydrite (between 90 and 360 feet thick), the Salado Formation, primarily composed of halite (between 0 and 2,000 feet thick) and the Castile Formation, primarily composed of anhydrite (between 0 and 1,800 feet thick) (Nicholson and Clebsch, 1961).

Underlying the Ochoa Series is the White Horse Group, which is comprised of (youngest to oldest, top to bottom) the Tansill, Yates, Seven Rivers, Queen and Grayburg Formations. This Group ranges from 880 to over 1,500 feet in thickness. Underlying the White Horse Group is the Guadalupe Group, which is comprised of (youngest to oldest, top to bottom) the Bell Canyon, Cherry Canyon and Brushy Canyon Formations. Underlying the Guadalupe Group is the (youngest to oldest, top to bottom) Yeso Formation, Abo Formation and Hueco Formation (Nicholson and Clebsch, 1961).

Over five miles south of the site are multiple collapse structures. These structures occur when the Permian age salts in the Ochoa Series are removed by solution, leaving a void space behind; as a result overlying beds have the potential to collapse (Nicholson and Clebsch, 1961). The Ochoa Series likely occurs beneath the site at a depth in excess of 1,200 feet. Based on review of published geologic information and aerial photography review SMA did not note any evidence of collapse features near the site. The large thickness of red bed overlying the Ochoa Formation has precluded propagation of collapse structures to the surface. No known faults that have been seismically active in the recorded past are known in the area. Thus, the site is not located in an unstable area that would require incorporation of engineering measures to ensure that the surface waste management facility's integrity would not be compromised.

#### Groundwater Hydrology

Fatal Flaw Report – Concho Landfill July 28, 2009 Page 3 of 6

Ochoa Group, which is located at a depth of approximately 1,200 feet beneath the site. The Chinle and Santa Rosa Formations are known to yield water, generally of low production and poor quality. In the southwestern portion of Lea County, the Santa Rosa Formation is the principle aquifer. To the east of Mescalero Ridge (eastern portion of Lea County), the principal aquifer is the Ogallala Formation (High Plains Aquifer). This aquifer is stratigraphically higher than the alluvium and red beds underlying the Concho Landfill site.

SMA reviewed well records from the OSE, EMNRD and publications from the OSE, EMNRD, NMBGMR, USGS and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to determine depth to water within an approximate two mile radius of the site. Table 1 is a compilation of the wells, well names, depth to water, location, well type the date depth to water was measured and the well completion date. Figure 2 shows the wells from Table 1, as well as their depth to water and their location relative to the proposed site. The majority of the water wells within the 2 mile radius of the site were drilled east of the Mescalero Ridge in the Ogallala Aquifer, which is a shallow aquifer that does not extend west of the Mescalero Ridge.

	·····	Table 1 - We	Ils Within a 2-Mile Radiu	s of the Conchas La	Indfill		
*****			· · ·		Date DTW	Well	
	·	Depth to			Was	Completion	Type of
Figure ID	Well Name or Owner	Water	Well Location	Source	Measured	Date	Well
1	July-2009 Boring	>150	32.79205N, 103.70063W	SMA		7/8/2009	Boring
2	L-2875	190 -	17.33.20.220	OSE		5/28/1955	3
3	Continental Oil Co.	710	17.32.26.41	OSE	,	5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
4	L-3713	>210	17.33.28.143	OSE		10/23/1957	
5	Misc. 2-L-58	204	17.33.29.222	OSE		7/22/1958	
6	Continental Oil Co.	>533*	17.33.30.11	OSE ·		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
7	Continental Oil Co.	>1,145*	17.33.30.12	OSE		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
8	Continental Oil Co.	>810*	17.33.30.14	OSE		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
9	Continental Oil Co.	>1,078*	17.33.30.31111	OSE		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
10	Cities Service Co.	>1,171*	17.33.30.42	OSE		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
11	CP-758 Explor.	>250	18.33.4.34233	OSE		5/10/1991	
12	CP-546	70	18 33 9 42241	OSE	•	6/3/1975	
13	25-24944	83	17.32.36	EMNRD		2/16/1975	Oil/Gas
14	30-025-38277	48	17.32.36	EMNRD		Not Available	Oil/Gas
15	30-025-36747	190	17.33.31	EMNRD		10/24/2004	Oil/Gas
16	30-025-36633	. 150	17.33.31	EMNRD		6/20/2004	Oil/Gas
17	30.025-36388	61/190**	17.33.31.13	EMNRD	•	12/12/2003	Oil/Gas
18	30-025-36494	61/190**	17.33.31.242	EMNRD		3/30/2004	Oil/Gas
19	Unknown	198	17.33.28.110	USGS GW Rep 6	5/11/1954		
20	Walter Williams	70	17.33.30:124	USGS GW Rep 6	7/29/1954		
21	<sup>-</sup> Unknown	147 39	17 33 20.221443	BLM OFR 95	3/14/1961		Boring
22	Unknown	163.45	17.33.20.24143	BLM OFR 95	2/15/1971		Windmill
23	Unknown	198	17.33.28.110	BLM OFR 95	5/11/1954		None
24	Unknown	201.35	17.33.29.222221	BLM OFR 95	3/14/1961		Industrial
25	Unknown	61.43	17.33.29.34411	BLM OFR 95	2/16/1971		Oil/Gas
26	Unknown	69.14	17.33.30.12432	BLM OFR 95	2/16/1971		Domestic

\* indicates the log is an excerpt from Oil Conservation Commission files in Hobbs, N.M, and the logs did not indicate if water was encountered during drilling

\*\* well record indicates two depths to first water

- Blank fields indicate information not available

- Well completion date represents the date the OSE recived and typed the data from Oil Conservation Commission

Most of the well records obtained by SMA were for wells drilled prior to 1980, and the majority were for oil wells as opposed to water wells. Based on a conversation with Jerry W. Sherrell

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with Mack Energy Corporation, the depth to waters on the OCD permits are usually not the actual depth to water encountered during drilling, but the depth to water they obtain from OCD or OSE Waters database, thus, the reliability of this data is questionable at best. This includes the wells closest to the proposed site (13 through 18, Table 1). Well 20 (use unknown) and 26 (domestic) are located approximately one mile north of the site and indicated depths to water of 69 to 70 feet, based on data from 1954 and1971, respectively. Well 25 (oil/gas), located approximately one mile east-southeast of the site, indicated a depth to water of 61 feet in 1971.

A water table contour map of Lea County was compiled by Geohydrology Associates Inc. on behalf of the BLM in 1978 in support of a BLM Environmental Impact Statement (Geohydrology Associates Inc., 1978). The report projected a shallow (<100 feet) depth to water in the area of the Concho Landfill. A review of this map indicates that water table contours were based on limited data in the Concho Landfill area.

On July 9, 2009, SMA installed a soil boring (Figure 3) to a depth of 150 feet bgs and did not encounter moist soils or water. The boring was advanced by air-rotary drilling. The boring was advanced through alluvium to 65 feet and red sediments from 65 feet to total depth of the boring. The boring was allowed to sit open overnight, and did not contain water on sounding the following day, indicating depth to water in excess of 150 feet. The boring was then plugged in accordance with the requirements of the OSE.

The discrepancy between reported historical depth to groundwater in the red beds proximal to the Concho Landfill and the boring advanced by SMA is likely due to drawdown of the water table over the last 30 years. Given the low productivity of the red bed aquifer, minimal pumping would cause rapid drawdown. As the red bed aquifer has low productivity and poor water quality, SMA estimates the depth to a productive aquifer at the site to be at least 1,200 feet, the depth of the Rustler Formation.

#### Surface Water Hydrology

Surface water in the Lea County is limited to ephemeral streams, playa lakes and small lakes that are a result of summer precipitation (Lea County Regional Water Plan, 2000). The Mescalero Ridge acts as a surface water flow divide; surface water to the west of the ridge is part of the Pecos River Valley. However due to the lack of an integrated stream network, water does not flow to the Pecos River (Nicholson and Clebsch, 1961). There are no surface water bodies (watercourse, lakebed, sinkhole or playa lake) within the siting criteria distance of 200 feet of the proposed site.

#### Mines

SMA reviewed Bureau of Land Management (BLM), NMBGMR and EMNRD, Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) databases for mines within 2 miles of the proposed landfill. These searches indicated no mines (surface or underground), mills or quarries exist within a 2 mile radius. Additionally, SMA reviewed the USGS Dog Lake quadrangle topographic map, which includes the Concho Landfill site, for any mines, mills or quarries. The topographic map indicates that there are 4 gravel pits within a 2 mile radius (two are approximately 1.3 and 1.7 miles northwest of the site, the third gravel pit is approximately 0.95 miles east of the site and the fourth gravel pit is approximately one-half mile northeast of the site), however it is unknown

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if these pits are still active, and SMA does not believe their proximity will impact the permitting of the proposed landfill.

#### Wetlands

SMA reviewed National Wetlands Inventory Map published in 1984 by United States Fish and Wildlife Service to determine if there were any wetlands within 500 feet of the proposed landfill. This review indicated the closest wetland is approximately 1.2 miles northeast of the site, thus no wetlands occur within 500 feet of the proposed landfill.

#### Wellhead Protection/Floodplain

Wellhead protection areas are related to public water supply wells. As no public water supply wells exist within the area, the site is not within a wellhead protection area. At this time, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has not undertaken a study to determine if this area is within a 100 year flood zone, given its rural nature. Preliminary evaluation of the site indicates that it is not prone to flooding.

#### **Occupied Structures**

There are no occupied structures within a minimum distance of one mile of the site. The nearest permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or church is likely in Maljamar, New Mexico, approximately six miles to the northeast. Thus the site meets the siting criteria of no occupied structures within 500 feet.

#### OCD Siting Requirements Compliance

Based on the information summarized above, the proposed Concho Landfill site is in compliance with the siting requirements of 19.15.36 NMAC.

SMA appreciates the opportunity to provide environmental services to JM Consulting LLC. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 505.299.0942, on my cell at 505.220.6542, or to email me at <u>scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com</u>.

Sincerely, SOUDER, MILLER & ASSOCIATES

Scott A. McKitrick, P.G. Senior Geoscientist / Environmental Services Manager

Attachments: Figures 1-3

References

Bureau of Land Management, website accessed July, 2009.

Fatal Flaw Report – Concho Landfill July 28, 2009 Page 6 of 6

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United States Geological Survey, Dog Lake Quadrangle 1:24,000, 7.5 Minute Series, 1979, United States Geological Survey, Reston Va.





3 of 293-3430 (Fax) Mountain Figure 87107-1956 Soil Boring Log Page 1 a Suite Rocky Depth Depth NE, (feet) (feet) Soil Type Sample Description \* (505) **Candeluria** Southwest 299-0942 3451 ŝ 5 5 Serving Tan sandy clay with caliche, unconsolidated, Albu (505) dry 10 10 Red-tan sandy clay with dense caliche fragments, unconsolidated, dry 15 15 Gray caliche fragments, dense, dry 20 <u>20</u> Soil Boring Log Diagram Lea County, New Mexico <u>25</u> <u>25</u> Concho Landfill LL( <u>Log Legend</u> Predominantly sand ) 기원 Red-tan sandy clay with caliche and cemented <u>30</u> Predominantly silt sand fragments, unconsolidated, dry <u>30</u> ..... Drawn Checked Approved Predominantly clay Predominantly caliche <u>35</u> <u>35</u> Red-tan sandy clay with small caliche fragments, unconsolidated, dry Driller : Cox Drilling, WD-1497 40 40 Rights Reserved Date Completed: July 9, 2009 Borehole Diameter: 6 7/8 inches I.D. Drilling Method: Air Rotary Total Boring Depth: 151 feet bgs Depth to Water >151 feet bgs All Descr.: Descr. <u>45</u> 45 ÷ bgs= below ground surface & Associates Revisions Borehole Location Information: Gray caliche, dense, dry GPS Coordinates: N: 32.79205\* 50 50 Willer W: 103.70063\* Date: Date. Souder, Township, Range, Section: 175, 33E, 31 2009 55 55 Br Br Copyright ₹\$\$18332 01-12<u>-08</u>



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Depth (feet)		Soil Borin,	g Log Sample Description	Depth (feet)	Figure 3 Page 3 of 3	ia NE, Suite D Mexico 87107–1956 105) 293–3430 (Fax) milier.com t & Rocky Mountains
105			Brown-red clay, unconsolidated, dry	105 -		3451 Candelari Albüquerque, New J (505) 299-0942 / (5 www.souder Serving the Southwess
<u>110</u>	· · · · · ·		Brown-red clay grading into red-purple clay, unconsolidated, dry			MA
<u>115</u>	· ·		Red-purple clay grading into red clay, unconsolidated, dry	<u>11</u> 5		Ender a service
<u>120</u>			Red clay, unconsolidated, dry	<u>12</u> 0		·
<u>125</u>	Log Legend Predominantly sand		Red clay, unconsolidated, dry	<u>12</u> 5	log Diagran ndfill LLC New Mexico	LNK 222 SAU
130	Preaominantly silt Predominantly clay Predominantly clay Predominantly caliche			130	il Boring I Concho Lau a County,	Drawn Checked Approved
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<u>140</u>	Date Completed: July 9, 2009 Borehole Diameter: 6 7/8 inches I.D. Drilling Method: Air Rotary Total Boring Depth: 151 feet bgs Depth to Water: >151 feet bgs bgs= below ground surface		Red clay, unconsolidated, dry	145		s Descr.: . Descr.: cs - All Rights Reserve
<u>150</u>	Borehole Location Information: GPS Coordinates: N: 32.79205 W: 103.70063		Red clay, unconsolidated, dry	 <u>15</u> 0		Date: Rewsion. Date: Associat
155	Township, Range, Section: 17S, 33E, 31	· · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-155		Br Land Land Land Land Land Land Land Land
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July 28, 2009

#5419335

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Fatal Flaw Report – Concho Landfill July 28, 2009 Page 2 of 6

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#### **Groundwater Hydrology**

The proposed landfill is located in the eastern portion of the Roswell-Artesia Underground Water Basin (UWB). The principle water bearing rocks in the Roswell-Artesia UWB is limestone (Johnson, et. al., 2003), principally within the White Horse Group. At the proposed landfill, the depth to limestone (White Horse Group) is between 2,515 and 2,770 feet based on a review of nearby oil and gas wells. A lesser used aquifer is the Rustler Formation of the Fatal Flaw Report – Concho Landfill July 28, 2009 Page 3 of 6

Ochoa Group, which is located at a depth of approximately 1,200 feet beneath the site. The Chinle and Santa Rosa Formations are known to yield water, generally of low production and poor quality. In the southwestern portion of Lea County, the Santa Rosa Formation is the principle aquifer. To the east of Mescalero Ridge (eastern portion of Lea County), the principal aquifer is the Ogallala Formation (High Plains Aquifer). This aquifer is stratigraphically higher than the alluvium and red beds underlying the Concho Landfill site.

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		Table 1 - We	ells Within a 2-Mile Radiu	s of the Conchas La	andfill		
				•	Date DTW	Well	
		Depth to	·		Was	Completion	Type of
Figure ID	Well Name or Owner	Water	Well Location	Source	Measured	Date	Well
1	July-2009 Boring	>150	32.79205N, 103.70063W	SMA		7/8/2009	Boring
2	L-2875	190	17.33.20.220	OSE		5/28/1955	
3	Continental Oil Co.	710	17.32.26.41	OSE		5/11/1978	·Oil/Gas
4	L-3713	>210	17.33.28.143	OSE		10/23/1957	,
5 ·	Misc. 2-L-58	204	17.33.29.222	OSE		7/22/1958	
6	Continental Oil Co.	>533*	17.33.30.11	OSE		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
7	Continental Oil Co.	>1,145*	17.33.30.12	ÖSE		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
8	Continental Oil Co.	>810*	17.33.30.14	OSE		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
9	Continental Oil Co.	>1,078*	17 33 30.31111	OSE		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
10	Cities Service Co.	>1,171*	17.33.30.42	OSE		5/11/1978	Oil/Gas
11	CP-758 Explor.	>250	. 18.33.4.34233	OSE		5/10/1991	
12	CP-546	70	18.33.9.42241	OSE		6/3/1975	
13	25-24944	, 83	17.32.36	EMNRD		2/16/1975	Oil/Gas
14	30-025-38277	48	17.32.36	EMNRD		Not Available	Oil/Gas
15	30-025-36747	190	17.33.31	EMNRD	•	10/24/2004	Oil/Gas
16	30-025-36633	150	17.33.31	EMNRD		6/20/2004	Oil/Gas
17	30.025-36388	61/190**	17.33.31.13	EMNRD		12/12/2003	Oil/Gas
18	30-025-36494	61/190**	17.33.31.242	EMNRD		3/30/2004	Oil/Gas
19	Únknown	198	17.33.28 110	USGS GW Rep 6	5/11/1954		
20	Walter Williams	70	17 33.30.124	USGS GW Rep 6	7/29/1954		
21	Unknown	147.39	17.33 20 221443	BLM OFR 95	3/14/1961		Boring
22	Unknown	163.45	17.33.20.24143	BLM OFR 95	2/15/1971	1	Windmill
. 23	Unknown	198	17.33 28.110	BLM OFR 95	5/11/1954		None
24	Unknown	201.35	17.33.29.222221	BLM OFR 95	3/14/1961		Industrial
25	Unknown	61.43	17.33.29.34411	BLM OFR 95	2/16/1971		Oil/Gas
26	Unknown	69.14	17.33.30.12432	BLM OFR 95	2/16/1971		Domestic

\* indicates the log is an excerpt from Oil Conservation Commission files in Hobbs, N.M, and the logs did not indicate if water was encountered during drilling

\*\* well record indicates two depths to first water

- Blank fields indicate information not available

- Well completion date represents the date the OSE recived and typed the data from Oil Conservation Commission

Most of the well records obtained by SMA were for wells drilled prior to 1980, and the majority were for oil wells as opposed to water wells. Based on a conversation with Jerry W. Sherrell

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with Mack Energy Corporation, the depth to waters on the OCD permits are usually not the actual depth to water encountered during drilling, but the depth to water they obtain from OCD or OSE Waters database, thus, the reliability of this data is questionable at best. This includes the wells closest to the proposed site (13 through 18, Table 1). Well 20 (use unknown) and 26 (domestic) are located approximately one mile north of the site and indicated depths to water of 69 to 70 feet, based on data from 1954 and 1971, respectively. Well 25 (oil/gas), located approximately one mile east-southeast of the site, indicated a depth to water of 61 feet in 1971.

A water table contour map of Lea County was compiled by Geohydrology Associates Inc. on behalf of the BLM in 1978 in support of a BLM Environmental Impact Statement (Geohydrology Associates Inc., 1978). The report projected a shallow (<100 feet) depth to water in the area of the Concho Landfill. A review of this map indicates that water table contours were based on limited data in the Concho Landfill area.

On July 9, 2009, SMA installed a soil boring (Figure 3) to a depth of 150 feet bgs and did not encounter moist soils or water. The boring was advanced by air-rotary drilling. The boring was advanced through alluvium to 65 feet and red sediments from 65 feet to total depth of the boring. The boring was allowed to sit open overnight, and did not contain water on sounding the following day, indicating depth to water in excess of 150 feet. The boring was then plugged in accordance with the requirements of the OSE.

The discrepancy between reported historical depth to groundwater in the red beds proximal to the Concho Landfill and the boring advanced by SMA is likely due to drawdown of the water table over the last 30 years. Given the low productivity of the red bed aquifer, minimal pumping would cause rapid drawdown. As the red bed aquifer has low productivity and poor water quality, SMA estimates the depth to a productive aquifer at the site to be at least 1,200 feet, the depth of the Rustler Formation.

#### Surface Water Hydrology

Surface water in the Lea County is limited to ephemeral streams, playa lakes and small lakes that are a result of summer precipitation (Lea County Regional Water Plan, 2000). The Mescalero Ridge acts as a surface water flow divide; surface water to the west of the ridge is part of the Pecos River Valley. However due to the lack of an integrated stream network, water does not flow to the Pecos River (Nicholson and Clebsch, 1961). There are no surface water bodies (watercourse, lakebed, sinkhole or playa lake) within the siting criteria distance of 200 feet of the proposed site.

#### Mines

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SMA reviewed Bureau of Land Management (BLM), NMBGMR and EMNRD, Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) databases for mines within 2 miles of the proposed landfill. These searches indicated no mines (surface or underground), mills or quarries exist within a 2 mile radius. Additionally, SMA reviewed the USGS Dog Lake quadrangle topographic map, which includes the Concho Landfill site; for any mines, mills or quarries. The topographic map indicates that there are 4 gravel pits within a 2 mile radius (two are approximately 1.3 and 1.7 miles northwest of the site, the third gravel pit is approximately 0.95 miles east of the site and the fourth gravel pit is approximately one-half mile northeast of the site), however it is unknown

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if these pits are still active, and SMA does not believe their proximity will impact the permitting of the proposed landfill.

#### Wetlands

SMA reviewed National Wetlands Inventory Map published in 1984 by United States Fish and Wildlife Service to determine if there were any wetlands within 500 feet of the proposed landfill. This review indicated the closest wetland is approximately 1.2 miles northeast of the site, thus no wetlands occur within 500 feet of the proposed landfill.

#### Wellhead Protection/Floodplain

Wellhead protection areas are related to public water supply wells. As no public water supply wells exist within the area, the site is not within a wellhead protection area. At this time, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has not undertaken a study to determine if this area is within a 100 year flood zone, given its rural nature. Preliminary evaluation of the site indicates that it is not prone to flooding.

#### **Occupied Structures**

There are no occupied structures within a minimum distance of one mile of the site. The nearest permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or church is likely in Maljamar, New Mexico, approximately six miles to the northeast. Thus the site meets the siting criteria of no occupied structures within 500 feet.

#### **OCD Siting Requirements Compliance**

Based on the information summarized above, the proposed Concho Landfill site is in compliance with the siting requirements of 19.15.36 NMAC.

SMA appreciates the opportunity to provide environmental services to JM Consulting LLC. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 505.299.0942, on my cell at 505.220.6542, or to email me at scott.mckitrick@soudermiller.com.

Sincerely, SOUDER, MILLER & ASSOCIATES

Scott A. McKitrick, P.G. Senior Geoscientist / Environmental Services Manager

Attachments: Figures 1-3

#### References

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Depth		Coll Tra-	<u> </u>	Depth	Figur Page 2	2, Suite D 20 87107-11 293-3430 (
(feet)		Soll Type	Sample Description	(teet)		ria NE Mexic (505)
55			Gray caliche, dense, dry	55		3451 Candele. Albuquerque, New (505) 299–0942 / (
60			Gray caliche, dense, with red-tan sandy clay matrix, unconsolidated, dry	60		•
<u>65</u>			Red-brown clay with dense caliche fragments, unconsolidated, dry	<u>65</u>		<b>M</b> S <i>M</i>
<u>70</u>			Dark red-brown clay, unconsolidated, dry	70		
<u>75</u>			Dark red-brown clay, unconsolidated, dry	<u>75</u>	ıgram LLC 'exico	
80	Log Legend         Predominantly sond         Predominantly silt         Predominantly clay		Red clay unconsolidated dry	<u>_80</u>	ing Log Dia o Landfill I nty, New M	n LNK
<u>85</u>	Predominantly caliche			<u>_85</u>	Soil Bor Conch Lea Cou	Draw Cheol
<u>90</u>	Driller : Cox Drilling, WD1497 Date Completed: July 9, 2009 Borehole Diameter: 6 7/8 inches I D. Drilling Mathad Air Potany		Red clay, unconsolidated, dry	<u>90</u>		
<u>95</u>	Total Boring Depth: 151 feet bgs Depth to Water: >151 feet bgs bgs= below ground surface		. Red clay grading into brown-red clay,	<u>95</u>		ns 
100	Borehole Location Information: GPS Coordinates. N. 32.79205' W: 103.70063'		unconsolidated, dry	_100	e e	Rensio
105	Township, Range, Section: 175, 33E, 31		Brown clay, unconsolidated, dry	105		Date

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