

**From:** DANIEL UHL [mailto:d\_uhl@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 11, 2007 12:38 PM  
**To:** Fesmire, Mark, EMNRD  
**Subject:** New pit rules for the oil and gas industry

Sir

I have worked in the gas industry in the Farmington area for 30 years. In that time I have seen a big change in the attitude of operators towards "Cleaning it up and Keeping it Clean". Currently I am a Drilling Consultant for one of the major companies in the Farmington area.

The word has filtered down that the first of the year everything in New Mexico will be "closed loop drilling systems" and the cuttings will have to be hauled to a land farm in Las Cruces.

If Closed loop drilling is coming and I believe there is no way around it, it should be phased in over a period of time so the industry can get the equipment to use and get any bugs worked out that come with the equipment. If this is not done 90% of the industry will shut down or move out of state. The closed loop equipment is not available in the quantities needed at this time. What will this do to the local and state economy?

Cuttings from the well should be land farmed on the location they came from. Pit remediation done in the past has shown that fertilizer mixed with oil soaked earth turns into fertile soil. After all, we are bringing dirt and rock out of the earth that is wet from water based mud systems that use biodegradable gels, the bacteria in the fertilizer breaks down the natural chemicals that are used.

The environmental groups in the state that are yelling the loudest about drilling, will be the first to complain about the cost of running their cars and heating their homes.

Thank you for your time.

Dan Uhl  
505 320-9232

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