



# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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

30-045-26305

**Lori Wrotenbery**  
Director  
Oil Conservation Division

August 26, 2003

Ms Brittany Benko  
BP America Production Company  
200 South Amoco Court  
Farmington, NM 87401

RE: Pits at GCU 213E (P&A Ell)

Dear Ms Benko:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has reviewed a submittal from Blagg Engineering dated August 20, 2003. The submittal describes BP America Production Company's (BP) difficulty with a private surface owner in gaining access to a P&A well site for sampling of an earthen pit. The well site is the Gallegos Canyon Unit 213E, M-8-T28N-R12W, that is located outside the defined vulnerable area. The earthen pit was covered without remediation during reclamation activities.

The OCD does not require approved closure for earthen pits outside the defined vulnerable area. Please note that OCD approval does not relieve BP of liability should contamination pose a future threat to surface water, ground water, human health or the environment. OCD approval does not relieve BP of compliance with other federal, state, tribal or local laws and regulations.

Yours truly,

Denny G. Foust  
Environmental Geologist  
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DGF/mk

CC: Bill Olson OCD, Santa Fe  
Ray Sanchez BLM, Farmington  
DGF File  
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