Terrain (Cont.)

It is situated within a set of rolling hills on a sloping side of a hill. The elevation varies from 3673 to 3700 feet.

The soils encountered in the area are predominantly red sandy loams. Lithic inclusions within this soil consist of 25% caliche fragments and quartzite pebbles. Taxonomically, this soil can be classified as a member of the Paleorthid-Haplargid association.

Floristics

The Agency for Conservation Archaeology encountered a sparse floral assemblage in this vicinity. The density of the vegetation in the area is approximately 10%, consisting primarily of shrubs. Among the species present are: javelina bush (<u>Condalia ericoides</u>), mesquite (<u>Prosopis juliflora</u>), false buffalograss (<u>Munroa</u> <u>squarrosa</u>), and broom snakeweed (<u>Gutierrezia sarothrae</u>).

Cultural Resources

During the course of this reconnaissance, the Agency for Conservation Archaeology did not encounter any archaeological sites; however, three isolated manifestations were recorded:

- IM-1: is a purple quartzite utilized flake and was found 50 feet north of the pad center.
- IM-2: is a purple quartzite primary flake which was found 1000 feet west of the northwest corner of the pad on the centerline of the proposed access road.
- IM-3: is a utilized tool which was found 2590 feet west of the northwest corner of the pad, 5 feet north of the centerline of the proposed access road. It is a primary flake of chalcedony showing mild use wear.

A review of ACA's site files and the National Register did not show any properties listed for this location.

Recommendations

ACA recommends clearance for the proposed well pad and associated access right-of-way and suggests that construction be allowed to proceed as currently planned.

Caliche Pit for Green "B" No. 10

Location

The proposed caliche pit is located 5 miles west of Loco Hills, New Mexico, on the Nimenim Ridge complex. The pit measures 600 X 275 feet and is located in