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**RENEWAL APPLICATION  
CHAPTER L**

**WIPP GROUNDWATER DETECTION MONITORING PROGRAM PLAN**



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**List of Abbreviations/Acronyms**

1		
2		
3	ASER	Annual Site Environmental Report
4	<del>AR/VR</del>	<del>Approval/Variation Request</del>
5	Bell Canyon	Bell Canyon Formation
6	bgs	below ground surface
7	Castile	Castile Formation
8	cm	centimeter(s)
9	Culebra	Culebra Member of the Rustler Formation
10	CofC	Chain of Custody
11	°C	degree(s) Celsius
12	%C	percent completeness
13	DI	deionized
14	DMP	Detection Monitoring Program
15	<u>Dewey Lake</u>	<u>Dewey Lake Redbeds Formation</u>
16	DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
17	DQO	data quality objectives
18	EM	Environmental Monitoring
19	EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
20	<del>ES&amp;H</del>	<del>Environment, Safety, and Health Department</del>
21	FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
22	ft	foot (feet)
23	ft <sup>2</sup>	square foot (square feet)
24	g/cm <sup>3</sup>	gram per cubic centimeter
25	GWSP	Groundwater Surveillance Program
26	HWDU	hazardous waste disposal unit(s)
27	km	kilometer(s)
28	km <sup>2</sup>	square kilometer(s)
29	lb/in. <sup>2</sup>	pound(s) per square inch
30	LCS	laboratory control samples
31	LD	limit of detection
32	LWA	Land Withdrawal Act
33	m	meter(s)
34	M&DC	monitoring and data collection
35	m <sup>2</sup>	square meter(s)
36	mg/L	milligram(s) per liter
37	mi	mile(s)
38	mi <sup>2</sup>	square mile(s)
39	MOC	Management and Operating Contractor
40	MPa	megapascal(s)
41	mV	millivolt(s)
42	NIST	National Institute for Standards and Technology
43	NMAC	New Mexico Administrative Code
44	NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
45	<del>PRS</del>	<del>Project Records Services</del>

1	QA	Quality Assurance
2	<u>QAPD</u>	<u>Quality Assurance Program Description</u>
3	QA/QC	quality assurance/quality control
4	QC	quality control
5	RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
6	RFA	request for analysis
7	RIDS	Records Inventory and Disposition Schedule
8	RPD	relative percent difference
9	Rustler	Rustler Formation
10	%R	percent recovery
11	Salado	Salado Formation
12	SC	specific conductance
13	SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
14	STLB	sample tracking logbook
15	TDS	total dissolved solids
16	TOC	total organic carbon
17	TOX	total organic halogens
18	TRU	transuranic
19	TSDf	treatment, storage, and disposal facilities
20	TSS	total suspended solids
21	VOC	volatile organic compound
22	WIPP	Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
23	WLMP	WIPP Groundwater Level Monitoring Program
24	WQSP	Water Quality Sampling Program
25	µg/L	microgram(s) per liter
26	µm	micrometers

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**RENEWAL APPLICATION  
CHAPTER L**

**WIPP GROUNDWATER DETECTION MONITORING PROGRAM PLAN**

L-1 Introduction

Disposal of **transuranic (TRU)** TRU mixed waste in the **Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)** WIPP facility is subject to regulation under Title 20 of the New Mexico Administrative Code (**NMAC**), Chapter 4, Part 1, **Section 500** Subpart V (20.4.1.500 NMAC). As required by 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.601), the Permittees shall demonstrate that the environmental performance standards for a miscellaneous unit, which are applied to the hazardous waste disposal units (**HWDUs**) in the underground, will be met.

The WIPP site is located in Eddy County in southeastern New Mexico (Figure L-1) within the Pecos Valley section of the southern Great Plains physiographic province (~~Powers et al., 1978~~). The site is 26 miles (mi) (42 kilometers [km]) east of Carlsbad, New Mexico in an area known as Los Medaños (the dunes). Los Medaños is a relatively flat, sparsely inhabited plateau with little water and limited land uses.

The WIPP site (Figure L-2) consists of 16 sections of Federal land in Township 22 South, Range 31 East. The 16 sections of Federal land were withdrawn from the application of public land laws by the WIPP Land Withdrawal Act (**LWA**), Public Law 102-579. The WIPP LWA transferred the responsibility for the administration of the 16 sections from the Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, to the U.S. Department of Energy (**DOE**). This law specified that mining and drilling for purposes other than support of the WIPP project are prohibited within this 16 section area with the exception of Section 31. Oil and gas drilling activities are restricted in Section 31 from the surface down to 6,000 feet.

The **WIPP** Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (**WIPP**) is a geologic repository for the disposal of **transuranic (TRU)** TRU waste. The disposal horizon is located 2,150 feet (ft) (655 meters [m]) below the land surface in the bedded salt of the Salado Formation (~~hereinafter referred to as the Salado~~). At WIPP, water-bearing units occur both above and below the disposal horizon. Groundwater monitoring of the uppermost aquifer below the facility is not proposed at WIPP because that water-bearing unit (the Bell Canyon Formation (**Bell Canyon**)) is not considered a credible pathway for a release from the repository. This is because the **disposal** repository horizon and water-bearing sandstones of the Bell Canyon Formation are separated by over 2000 ft (610 m) of very low-permeability evaporite sediments (**Renewal Application Addendum L1** Appendices E1 and D6 of the RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b)). No natural credible pathway has been established for contaminant transport to aquifers below the **disposal** repository horizon, as there is no hydrologic communication between the repository and underlying aquifer. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (**EPA**) concluded in 1990 that natural vertical communication does not exist based on their review of numerous studies (EPA, 1990). Furthermore, drilling boreholes for groundwater monitoring through the Salado and the

1 Castile Formation (~~hereinafter referred to as the~~ **Castile**) into the Bell Canyon aquifer would  
2 compromise the isolation properties of the repository medium.

3 Groundwater monitoring at WIPP in the past has focused on the Culebra mMember (**Culebra**) of  
4 the Rustler Formation (**Rustler**) (~~hereinafter referred to as the Culebra~~) because it represents the  
5 most significant hydrologic contaminant migration pathway to the accessible environment. The  
6 Culebra is the most significant water-bearing unit lying above the repository. Modeling of  
7 groundwater movement in the Culebra, based on the concept of a groundwater basin, is discussed  
8 in detail in **Renewal Application Addendum L1, Section L1-2a, Appendix D6, Section D6-2a(1),**  
9 ~~of the WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b).~~

10 This monitoring plan addresses requirements for sample collection, groundwater surface  
11 elevation monitoring, groundwater flow direction, data management, and reporting of  
12 groundwater monitoring data. It also identifies analytical parameters selected to assess  
13 groundwater quality, and establishes personnel responsibilities for the WIPP groundwater  
14 detection monitoring program (**DMP**). Because quality assurance is an integral component of  
15 the groundwater sampling, analysis, and reporting process, quality assurance/quality control  
16 (**QA/QC**) elements and associated data acceptance criteria are included in this plan.

17 Instructions for performing field activities that will be conducted in conjunction with this  
18 sampling and analysis plan are provided in field operating procedures, referenced throughout this  
19 plan. Procedures are required for each aspect of the groundwater sampling process, including  
20 groundwater surface elevation measurement, groundwater flow direction, sampling equipment  
21 installation and operation, field water-quality measurements, and sample collection. These  
22 procedures prescribe proper field sampling techniques. Samples will be collected by trained  
23 personnel under the supervision and direction of qualified engineers, scientists, or other technical  
24 personnel.

## 25 L-1a Geologic and Hydrologic Characteristics

### 26 L-1a(1) Geology

27 The WIPP site is situated within the Delaware Basin which is part of the larger Permian Basin,  
28 located in the south-central region of North America. During the Permian period, ~~which came to~~  
29 ~~a close about 245 million years ago,~~ ancient seas covered the basin. Their later evaporation  
30 resulted in the deposition of a thick sequence of evaporites. ~~Appendix D6 of the WIPP RCRA~~  
31 ~~Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b) presents a detailed discussion of the regional geologic~~  
32 ~~history.~~ Three major evaporite-bearing formations were deposited in the Delaware Basin (see  
33 Figures L-3, ~~and L-4,~~ **and L-5** **and Renewal Application Addendum L1, Section L1-1 for more**  
34 **detail**):

- 35 • The Castile, which formed through evaporation of the Permian Sea, consists of  
36 interbedded anhydrites and halite. Its upper boundary is at a depth of about 2,825 ft  
37 (861 m) below ground surface (**bgs**), and its thickness at the WIPP facility is 1,250 ft  
38 (381 m) (~~see Appendix D6 of the WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE,~~  
39 ~~1997b)).~~

- 1       • The repository is located in the Salado, which overlies the Castile and resulted from  
2 prolonged desiccation that produced predominantly halite, with some carbonates,  
3 anhydrites, and clay seams. Its upper boundary is at a depth of about 850 ft (259 m) bgs,  
4 and it is about 2,000 ft (610 m) thick in the repository area (see Appendix D6 of the  
5 WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b)).
- 6       • The Rustler Formation (hereinafter referred to as the Rustler) was deposited in a lagoonal  
7 environment during a major freshening of the basin and consists of carbonates,  
8 anhydrites, and halites. Its beds consist of clay and anhydrite and contain small amounts  
9 of brine. The Rustler's upper boundary is about 500 ft (152 m) bgs, and it ranges up to  
10 350 ft (107 m) in thickness in the repository area (see Appendix D6 of the WIPP RCRA  
11 Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b)).

12 These evaporite-bearing formations lie between two other formations significant to the geology  
13 and hydrology of the WIPP site. The Dewey Lake Redbeds Formation (Dewey Lake) overlying  
14 the Rustler is dominated by nonmarine sediments and consists almost entirely of mudstone,  
15 claystone, siltstone, and interbedded sandstone (Renewal Application Addendum L1, Section  
16 L1-1c(6) Appendix D6 of the WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b)). This  
17 formation forms a 500-ft- (152-m) thick barrier of fine-grained sediments that retard the  
18 downward percolation of water into the evaporite units below.<sup>1</sup> The Bell Canyon Formation  
19 (hereinafter referred to as the Bell Canyon)—the first water-bearing unit below the  
20 facility repository (Renewal Application Addendum L1, Section L1-1c(2) Appendix D6 of the  
21 WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b))—is confined by the thick evaporite  
22 sequences of the Castile above. The Bell Canyon it consists of 1,200 ft (366 m) of interbedded  
23 sandstone, shale, and siltstone.

24 The Salado was selected to host the WIPP repository for several reasons. First, it is regionally  
25 extensive, underlying an area of more than 36,000 square mi (mi<sup>2</sup>) (93,240 square kilometers  
26 [km<sup>2</sup>]). Second, its permeability is extremely low. Third, salt behaves mechanically in a plastic  
27 manner under pressure (the pressure at the disposal horizon is approximately 2,200 more than  
28 2,000 pounds per square inch [lb/in.<sup>2</sup>] or 13.8 14.9 megapascals [MPa]) and eventually moves to  
29 fill any opening (referred to as creep). Fourth, any fluid remaining in small fractures or openings  
30 is saturated with salt, is incapable of further salt dissolution, and has probably remained in place  
31 for millions of years. Finally, the Salado lies between the Rustler and the Castile (Figure L-45),  
32 which contain very low permeability layers that help confine and isolate waste within and keep  
33 water outside of the WIPP repository (Renewal Application Addendum L1, Sections L1-1c(5)  
34 and L1-1c(3) Appendix D6 of the WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b)).

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<sup>1</sup> While there may be some uncertainty over the amount of vertical recharge occurring within the Rustler, the issue is only of significance to long-term performance calculations in which releases from the repository occur through the creation of a migration pathway resulting from drilling (inadvertently) in the WIPP area. The consequences of vertical recharge are bounded in the modeling by assuming that under future climate conditions (which are assumed to be cooler and wetter), the groundwater surface elevation (water table) raises near ground surface, at which time the water table tends to mimic topography.

1 L-1a(2) Groundwater Hydrology

2 The general hydrogeology of the area surrounding the WIPP facility is described in this section  
3 starting with the first geologic unit below the Salado. Renewal Application Addendum L1,  
4 Section L1-1-2a Appendix D6 of the WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b)  
5 provides more detailed discussions of the local and regional hydrogeology. Relevant  
6 hydrological parameters for the various rock units above the Salado at WIPP facility are  
7 summarized in Table L-1.

8 L-1a(2)(i) The Castile

9 The Castile is a basin-filling evaporite sequence of sediments surrounded by the Capitan Reef.  
10 The Castile represents a major regional groundwater aquitard that effectively prevents upward  
11 migration of water from the underlying Bell Canyon. Fluid present in the Castile is very  
12 restricted because evaporites do not readily maintain pore space, solution channels, or open  
13 fractures at depth. Drill-stem tests conducted in the Castile during construction of the WIPP  
14 facility found its permeability to be lower than detection limits; however, the hydraulic  
15 conductivity has been conservatively estimated to be less than  $10^{-8}$  ft ( $3 \times 10^{-9}$  m) per day. A  
16 description of the Castile brine reservoirs outside the WIPP area is provided in Renewal  
17 Application Addendum L1, Section L1-2a(2)(b) Appendix D6 of the WIPP RCRA Part B Permit  
18 Application (DOE, 1997b).

19 L-1a(2)(ii) The Salado

20 The Salado is an evaporite sequence that filled the remainder of the Delaware Basin and lapped  
21 extensively over the Capitan Reef and the back-reef sediments beyond. The Salado consists of  
22 approximately 2,000 ft (610 m) of bedded halite, with interbeds or seams of anhydrite, clay, and  
23 polyhalite. It acts hydrologically as a regional confining bed. The porosity of the Salado is very  
24 low and interconnected pores are probably nonexistent in halite at the depth of the disposal  
25 horizon. Fluids associated with the Salado occur mainly as very small fluid inclusions in the  
26 halite crystals and also occur between crystal boundaries (interstitial fluid) of the massive  
27 crystalline salt formation; fluids also occur in clay seams and anhydrite beds. Permeabilities  
28 measured from the surface in the area of the WIPP facility range from 0.01 to 25 microdarcies.  
29 The most reliable value, 0.3 microdarcy, was obtained from well DOE-2. The results of  
30 permeability testing at the disposal horizon are within the range of 0.001 to 0.01 microdarcy. As  
31 a comparison, the permeability of the Salado is roughly a thousand times less than that of a lower  
32 clay liner required of surface impoundments and landfills, ~~assuming similar thicknesses.~~

33 L-1a(2)(iii) The Rustler

34 The Rustler has been the subject of extensive characterization activities because it contains the  
35 most transmissive hydrologic units overlying the Salado (specifically, the Culebra ~~Member,~~  
36 ~~hereafter referred to as the Culebra~~). Within the Rustler, five members have been identified. Of  
37 these, the Culebra is the most transmissive and has been the focus of most of the Rustler  
38 hydrologic studies.

1 The Culebra is the first continuous water-bearing zone above the Salado and is up to  
2 approximately ~~38.1~~30 ft (~~11.69~~ m) thick. Water in the Culebra is usually present in fractures and  
3 is confined by overlying gypsum or anhydrite and underlying clay and anhydrite beds. The  
4 hydraulic gradient within the Culebra in the area of the WIPP facility is approximately 20 ft per  
5 mi (3.8 m per km) and becomes much flatter south and southwest of the site (Figure L-6).  
6 Culebra transmissivities in the Nash Draw range up to 1,250 square ft (ft<sup>2</sup>) (116 square m [m<sup>2</sup>])  
7 per day; closer to the WIPP facility, they are as low as 0.007 to 74 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.00065 to 7.0 m<sup>2</sup>) per  
8 day. ~~The Culebra is hydrologically confined.~~

9 The two primary types of field tests that are being used to characterize the flow and transport  
10 characteristics of the Culebra are hydraulic tests and tracer tests.

11 The hydraulic tests consist of pump, injection, and slug testing of wells across the study area (~~see~~  
12 ~~Renewal Application Addendum L1, L1-2a(3)(a)(ii)~~ e.g., ~~Beauheim, 1987a~~). The most detailed  
13 hydraulic test data exist for the WIPP hydropads (e.g., H-19). The hydropads generally comprise  
14 a network of three or more wells located within a few tens of meters of each other. Long-term  
15 pumping tests have been conducted at hydropads H-3, H-11, and H-19 and at well WIPP-13 (~~see~~  
16 ~~Renewal Application Addendum L1, L1-2a(3)(a)(ii)~~ ~~Beauheim, 1987b, 1987e~~). These pumping  
17 tests provided transient pressure data both at the hydropad and over a much larger area. Tests  
18 often included use of automated data-acquisition systems, providing high-resolution (in both  
19 space and time) data sets. In addition to long-term pumping tests, slug tests and short-term  
20 pumping tests have been conducted at individual wells to provide pressure data that can be used  
21 to interpret the transmissivity at that well (~~see Renewal Application Addendum L1, L1-~~  
22 ~~2a(3)(a)(ii)~~ ~~Beauheim, 1987a~~). (Additional short-term pumping tests have been conducted in the  
23 Water Quality Sampling Program (WQSP) wells (~~see Renewal Application Addendum L1,~~  
24 ~~L1-2a(3)(a)(ii)~~ ~~Stensrud, 1995~~). Detailed cross-hole hydraulic testing has recently been  
25 conducted at the H-19 hydropad (~~see Renewal Application Addendum L1, L1-2a(3)(a)(ii)~~ ~~Kloska~~  
26 ~~et al., 1995~~).

27 The hydraulic tests are designed to yield pressure data for estimation of hydrologic  
28 characteristics such as transmissivity, permeability, and storativity. The pressure data from long-  
29 term pumping tests and the interpreted transmissivity values for individual wells are used for  
30 input to flow modeling. Some of the hydraulic test data and interpretations are also important for  
31 the interpretation of transport characteristics. For instance, the permeability values interpreted  
32 from the hydraulic tests at a given hydropad are needed for interpretations of tracer test data at  
33 that hydropad.

34 There is strong evidence that the permeability of the Culebra varies spatially and varies  
35 sufficiently that it cannot be characterized with a uniform value or range over the region of  
36 interest to WIPP. The transmissivity of the Culebra varies spatially over six orders of magnitude  
37 from east to west in the vicinity of WIPP ~~site~~ (see Figure D6-30 in the RCRA Part B Permit  
38 Application). ~~Over the site, Culebra transmissivity varies over three to four orders of magnitude.~~  
39 ~~Figure D6-30 shows variation in transmissivity in the Culebra in the WIPP region.~~  
40 Transmissivities have been calculated at  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  square feet per day ( $1 \times 10^{-9}$  square meters per

1 second) at well P-18 east of the WIPP site to  $1 \times 10^3$  square feet per day ( $1 \times 10^{-3}$  square meters  
2 per second) at well H-7 in Nash Draw ([see Renewal Application Addendum L1, L1-2a\(3\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)).

3 Transmissivity variations in the Culebra are believed to be controlled by the relative abundance  
4 of open fractures rather than by primary (that is, depositional) features of the unit. Lateral  
5 variations in depositional environments were small within the mapped region, and primary  
6 features of the Culebra show little map-scale spatial variability, according to Holt and Powers,  
7 1988. Direct measurements of the density of open fractures are not available from core samples  
8 because of incomplete recovery and fracturing during drilling, but observation of the relatively  
9 unfractured exposures in the WIPP shafts suggests that the density of open fractures in the  
10 Culebra decreases to the east. ~~Qualitative correlations have been noted between transmissivity  
11 and several geologic features possibly related to open fracture density, including (1) the  
12 distribution of overburden above the Culebra, (2) the distribution of halite in other members of  
13 the Rustler, (3) the dissolution of halite in the upper portion of the Salado, and (4) the  
14 distribution of gypsum fillings in fractures in the Culebra.~~

15 ~~Measured matrix porosities of the Culebra vary from 0.03 to 0.30. Fracture porosity values have  
16 not been measured directly, but interpreted values from tracer tests at the H-3, H-6, and H-11  
17 hydropads vary from  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  to  $3 \times 10^{-3}$ . Data are insufficient to determine whether the average  
18 porosity of the matrix and fractures varies significantly on a regional scale.~~

19 Geochemical and radioisotope characteristics of the Culebra have been studied. There is  
20 considerable variation in groundwater geochemistry in the Culebra. The variation has been  
21 described in terms of different hydrogeochemical facies that can be mapped in the Culebra. A  
22 halite-rich hydrogeochemical facies exists in the region of the WIPP site and to the east,  
23 approximately corresponding to the regions in which halite exists in units above and below the  
24 Culebra, and in which a large portion of the Culebra fractures are gypsum filled. An anhydrite-  
25 rich hydrogeochemical facies exists west and south of the WIPP site, where there is relatively  
26 less halite in adjacent strata and where there are fewer gypsum-filled fractures. Radiogenic  
27 isotopic signatures suggest that the age of the groundwater in the Culebra is on the order of  
28 10,000 years or more (see [Renewal Application Addendum L1](#)), for example, Lambert, 1987;  
29 Lambert and Carter, 1987; and Lambert and Harvey, 1987).

30 The radiogenic ages of the Culebra groundwater and the geochemical differences provide  
31 information potentially relevant to the groundwater flow directions and groundwater interaction  
32 with other units and are important constraints on conceptual models of groundwater flow.  
33 Previous conceptual models of the Culebra (see [Renewal Application Addendum L1](#)) for  
34 example, Chapman, 1986; Chapman, 1988; LaVenue et al., 1990) have not been able to  
35 consistently relate the hydrogeochemical facies, radiogenic ages, and flow constraints (that is,  
36 transmissivity, boundary conditions, etc.) in the Culebra.

37 However, ~~the~~ ~~Permittees~~ ~~use~~ ~~have~~ ~~proposed~~ ~~a~~ ~~new~~ conceptualization of groundwater flow that  
38 ~~could~~ ~~explain~~ ~~s~~ observed geochemical facies and groundwater flow patterns. The ~~new~~  
39 conceptualization, referred to as the groundwater basin model, offers a three dimensional

1 approach to treatment of Supra-Salado rock units, and assumes vertical leakage (albeit very  
2 slow) between rock units of the Rustler exists (where hydraulic head is present).

3 Flow in the Culebra is considered transient. This differs from previous interpretations, wherein  
4 no-flow was assumed between Rustler units. The current model assumes that the groundwater  
5 system is dynamic and is responding to the drying of climate that has occurred since the late  
6 Pleistocene period. The Permittees assumed that recharge rates during the late Pleistocene  
7 period were sufficient to maintain the water table near land surface, but has since dropped  
8 significantly. Therefore, the impact of local topography on groundwater flow was greater during  
9 wetter periods, with discharge from the Rustler to the west; flow is dominated by more regional  
10 topographic effects during drier times, with flow to a more southerly direction.

11 ~~Four hydrogeochemical facies within the Culebra in the WIPP area (DOE, 1997a) have been~~  
12 ~~identified:~~

- 13 ~~• Zone A—saline (2-3 molal) NaCl brines, Mg/Ca ratio of 1.2 to 2;~~
- 14 ~~• Zone B—dilute (<0.1 molal) CaSO<sub>4</sub>—rich groundwater;~~
- 15 ~~• Zone C—variable composition (0.3-1.6 molal); Mg/Ca ratio 0.3 to 1.2; and~~
- 16 ~~• Zone D—high salinities (3-7 molal); K/Na weight ratios (0.2).~~

17 ~~Facies A groundwater flow is slow, has not changed over the last 14,000 years, and probably~~  
18 ~~recharged more than 600,000 years ago. Vertical leakage occurs to Facies A, and both lateral~~  
19 ~~and vertical groundwater flow rates are extremely low. Facies B occurs in an area with greater~~  
20 ~~vertical fracturing in the Culebra, and therefore exhibits more vertical infiltration and more rapid~~  
21 ~~lateral flow in the Culebra. Flow in Facies B is currently to the south (it may mix with Facies C~~  
22 ~~water to the southeast) but was more toward the west during wetter climates; vertical infiltration~~  
23 ~~from the Dewey Lake to the Culebra Facies B is assumed by the Permittees to have occurred~~  
24 ~~during wetter climates in an area south of the WIPP site. Facies C water was not diluted to~~  
25 ~~create Facies B water. Facies C occurs “in between” Facies A and B, and groundwater flow~~  
26 ~~entered the Culebra prior to the climate change (to drier conditions) 14,000 years ago. Facies C~~  
27 ~~groundwater flow is to the south at WIPP, where the Permittees theorized that it joins with a~~  
28 ~~small amount of Facies A solute being transported from the east. Groundwater flow rate in~~  
29 ~~Facies C is faster than in A but slower than in B, and the proposed recharge area from the Dewey~~  
30 ~~Lake to the Culebra was to the northeast of the WIPP site. Facies C groundwater infiltrated into~~  
31 ~~the Dewey Lake and then interacted with anhydrite and halite along its path to the Culebra,~~  
32 ~~wherein it mixed with smaller amounts of Facies A water. The Permittees concluded that the~~  
33 ~~presence of anhydrite within Rustler units does not preclude slow downward infiltration (DOE,~~  
34 ~~1997a).~~

1 Using data from 22 wells, Siegel, Robinson, and Myers (1991) originally defined four  
2 hydrochemical facies (A, B, C, and D) for Culebra groundwater based primarily on ionic  
3 strength and major constituents. With the data now available from 59 wells, Domski and  
4 Beauheim (2008) defined transitional A/C and B/C facies, as well as a new facies E for high-  
5 moles per kilogram (molal) Na-Mg Cl brines.

6 • Zone B - Dilute (ionic strength  $<0.1$  molal)  $\text{CaSO}_4$ -rich groundwater, from southern high-  
7 T area. Mg/Ca molar ratio 0.32 to 0.52

8 • Zone B/C - Ionic strength 0.18 to 0.29 molal, Mg/Ca molar ratio 0.4 to 0.6

9 • Zone C - Variable composition waters, Ionic strength 0.3 to 1.0 molal, Mg/Ca molar ratio  
10 0.4 to 1.1

11 • Zone A/C - Ionic strength 1.1 to 1.6 molal, Mg/Ca molar ratio 0.5 to 1.2

12 • Zone A - Ionic strength  $>1.66$  molal, up to 5.3 molal, Mg/Ca molar ratio 1.2 to 2.4

13 • Zone D - Defined based on inferred contamination related to potash refining operations.  
14 Ionic strength 3 molal, K/Na weight ratios of  $\sim 0.2$

15 • Zone E - Wells east of the mudstone-halite margins, ionic strength 6.4 to 8.6, Mg/Ca  
16 molar ratio 4.1 to 6.6

17 The low-ionic-strength ( $<0.1$  molal) facies B waters contain more sulfate than chloride, and are  
18 found southwest and south of the WIPP site within and down the Culebra hydraulic gradient  
19 from the southernmost closed catchment basins mapped by Powers (2006) in the southwest arm  
20 of Nash. These waters reflect relatively recent recharge through gypsum karst overlying the  
21 Culebra. However, with total dissolved solids (TDS) concentrations in excess of 3,000 mg/L, the  
22 facies B waters do not in any way represent modern-day precipitation rapidly reaching the  
23 Culebra. They must have residence times in the Rustler sulfate units of thousands of years  
24 before reaching the Culebra.

25 The higher-ionic-strength (0.3–1 molal) facies C brines have differing compositions,  
26 representing meteoric waters that have dissolved  $\text{CaSO}_4$ , overprinted with mixing and localized  
27 processes. Facies A brines (ionic strength 1.6–5.3 molal) are high in NaCl and are clustered  
28 along the M3-H3 halite margin. Facies A represents old waters (long flow paths) that have  
29 dissolved halite and/or mixed with connate brine from facies E. The facies D brines, as  
30 identified by Siegel, Robinson, and Myers, are high-ionic-strength solutions found in western  
31 Nash Draw with high K/Na ratios representing waters contaminated with effluent from potash  
32 refining operations. Similar water is found at shallow depth ( $<36$  ft (11 m)) in the upper Dewey  
33 Lake at SNL-1, just south of the Intrepid East tailings pile (see below). The newly defined facies  
34 E waters are very high ionic strength (6.4–8.6 molal) NaCl brines with high Mg/Ca ratios. The  
35 facies E brines are found east of the WIPP site, where Rustler halite is present above and below

1 the Culebra, and halite cements are present in the Culebra. They represent primitive brines  
2 present since deposition of the Culebra and immediately overlying strata.

3 Previously, the Permittees and others believed the geochemistry of Culebra groundwater was  
4 inconsistent with flow directions. This was based on the premise that Facies C water must  
5 transform to facies B water (e.g. become “fresher”), which is inconsistent with the observed flow  
6 direction. It is now believed that the observed geochemistry and flow directions can be  
7 explained with different recharge areas and Culebra travel paths (Renewal Application  
8 Addendum L1) (DOE, 1997a).

9 Head distribution in the Culebra (see Renewal Application Addendum L1 Appendix D6 of the  
10 WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b)) is consistent with groundwater basin  
11 modeling results indicating that the generalized groundwater flow direction in the Culebra is  
12 currently north to south. However, the fractured nature of the Culebra, coupled with variable  
13 fluid densities, can cause localized flow patterns to differ from general flow patterns.

14 ~~Groundwater levels in the Culebra in the WIPP region have been measured for several decades.~~  
15 ~~Water level rises have been observed in the WIPP region and are possibly related to recovery~~  
16 ~~from impacts caused by shaft installation, response to potash effluent discharge, or are~~  
17 ~~unexplained, as discussed below. The extent of water level rise observed at a particular well~~  
18 ~~depends on several factors, but the proximity of the observation point to the potential cause of~~  
19 ~~the water level rise appears to be a primary factor.~~

20 ~~In the vicinity of the WIPP site, water level rises are believed to be caused by recovery from~~  
21 ~~drainage into the shafts. Drainage into shafts has been reduced by a number of grouting~~  
22 ~~programs over the years, most recently in 1993 around the Air Intake Shaft. Northwest of the~~  
23 ~~site, in and near Nash Draw, water levels appear to fluctuate in response to effluent discharge~~  
24 ~~from potash mines. Correlation of water level fluctuation with potash mine discharge, however,~~  
25 ~~cannot be proven definitively because sufficient data on the timing and volumes of discharge are~~  
26 ~~not available. Water level rises in the vicinity of the H-9 hydropad, about 6.5 miles south of the~~  
27 ~~site, are thought to be caused by neither WIPP activities nor potash mining discharge. They~~  
28 ~~remain unexplained. The Permittees continue to monitor groundwater levels throughout the~~  
29 ~~region.~~

30 Groundwater levels in the Culebra in the WIPP region have been measured continuously in  
31 numerous wells. Water-level rises have been observed in the WIPP region and are attributed to  
32 causes discussed in the Renewal Application Addendum L1, Section L1-2a(3)(a)(ii). The extent  
33 of water-level rise observed at a particular well depends on several factors, but the proximity of  
34 the observation point to the cause of the water-level change appears to be a primary factor.

35 Hydrological investigations conducted from 2003 through 2007 provided new information, some  
36 of it confirming long-held assumptions and others offering new insight into the hydrological  
37 system around the WIPP site. A Culebra monitoring network optimization study was completed  
38 by McKenna (2004) to identify locations where new Culebra monitoring wells would be of  
39 greatest value and to identify wells that could be removed from the network with little loss of  
40 information.

1 As discussed in Renewal Application Addendum L1, Section L1-2a(3)(a)(ii), extensive  
2 hydrological testing has been performed in the new wells. This testing has involved both single  
3 well tests, which provide information on local transmissivity and heterogeneity, and long term  
4 (19 to 32 days) pumping tests that have created observable responses in wells up to 5.9 mi (9.5  
5 km) away.

6 Inferences about vertical flow directions in the Culebra have been made from well data collected  
7 by the Permittees. Beauheim (1987a) reported flow directions towards the Culebra from both the  
8 underlying Los Medaños ~~unnamed lower member~~ Member of the Rustler (Los Medaños) and the  
9 overlying Magenta ~~member of the Rustler~~ in the vicinity of over the WIPP site, indicating that the  
10 Culebra acts as a drain for the units around it. This is consistent with results of groundwater  
11 basin modeling. ~~Recent simulations to enhance the conceptual understanding of the~~  
12 ~~geohydrology of the Rustler can be found in Corbet and Knupp, 1996.~~

13 Use of water from the Culebra in the WIPP area is quite limited because of its varying yields and  
14 high salinity. The Culebra is not used for water supply in the immediate WIPP site vicinity. Its  
15 nearest use is approximately 7 mi (11 km) southwest of the WIPP facility, where salinity is low  
16 enough to allow its use for livestock watering. ~~(shown, for example, as Well H-8 in Figure L-7).~~  
17 ~~However, the Permittees identified the Culebra as potential aquifer in the Compliance~~  
18 ~~Certification Application (DOE, 1996b). Because of this, the Culebra will be the focus of future~~  
19 ~~groundwater monitoring at WIPP as it is also the most transmissive continuous water bearing~~  
20 ~~zone at WIPP and is the most likely pathway for contaminant migration.~~

## 21 L-2 General Regulatory Requirements

22 Because geologic repositories such as the WIPP facility are defined under the Resource  
23 Conservation and Recovery Act (**RCRA**) as land disposal facilities and as miscellaneous units,  
24 the groundwater monitoring requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR 264,  
25 Subpart X §§264.600 through 264.603) shall be addressed. 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40  
26 CFR 264, Subpart F §§264.90 through 264.101) applies to miscellaneous unit treatment, storage,  
27 and disposal facilities (**TSDF**) only if groundwater monitoring is needed to satisfy 20.4.1.500  
28 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR 264, Subpart X §§264.601 through 264.603) environmental  
29 performance standards.

30 The New Mexico Environment Department (**NMED**) has concluded that groundwater  
31 monitoring in accordance with 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264, Subpart F) at  
32 WIPP is necessary to meet the requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR 264,  
33 Subpart X §§264.601 through 264.603).

## 34 L-3 WIPP Groundwater Detection Monitoring Program (DMP)—Overview

### 35 L-3a Scope

36 The Permittees have established a RCRA “~~Groundwater~~ Detection Monitoring Program (DMP)  
37 Plan” to define and protect groundwater resources at WIPP. One of the objectives of the WIPP  
38 DMP is to establish, by means of groundwater sampling and analysis, an accurate and  
39 representative groundwater database that is scientifically defensible and demonstrates regulatory

1 compliance. In addition, the DMP will be has been used to determine background or existing  
2 conditions of groundwater quality and quantity, including groundwater surface elevation and  
3 direction of flow, around the WIPP facility area.

4 This plan governs all groundwater sampling events conducted to meet the requirements of  
5 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR 264, Subpart F and Subpart X §§264.90 through  
6 ~~264.101~~), and ensures that all such data are gathered in accordance with these and other  
7 applicable requirements. The groundwater quality data generated by monitoring activities will  
8 provide a comprehensive background database against which future analytical results can be  
9 compared during the DMP.

10 Groundwater monitoring at the WIPP site has been historically conducted by several programs  
11 ~~including the WIPP Site Characterization Program, the WIPP WQSP, and recently the WIPP~~  
12 ~~Groundwater Surveillance Program (GWSP), and the DMP.~~ Groundwater quality and  
13 ~~groundwater surface elevation data have been collected by these programs for over 12~~ 20 years  
14 at WIPP. Data from the ~~WQSP~~ WIPP groundwater wells (which are widely distributed across  
15 the area, see Figure L-~~7~~8) will be are used to continually define changes in the area's  
16 potentiometric surface and groundwater flow directions. ~~New monitoring wells included in the~~  
17 ~~WIPP GWSP (Wells WQSP wells 1-6~~ Aa, Figure L-8) were constructed to the specifications  
18 provided in the RCRA Ground Water Monitoring Technical Enforcement Guidance Document  
19 (TEGD) (EPA, 1986) and constitute the RCRA groundwater monitoring network specified in  
20 this DMP as required by 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §§264.90 through 264.101).  
21 These wells are being used to establish measure background groundwater quality and establish  
22 groundwater surface elevations and flow directions in accordance with 20.4.1.500 NMAC  
23 (incorporating 40 CFR §§264.97(f) and (g) and 264.98(e)). Justification for the locations of  
24 these wells (3 upgradient and 4 downgradient) is presented below.

#### 25 L-3b ~~Current WIPP~~ Detection Monitoring Well Network ~~DMP~~

26 The WQSP wells 1 through ~~6~~ Aa constitute the RCRA DMP for WIPP (~~Figure L-9 and Renewal~~  
27 ~~Application Chapter O, Figure A2-3~~) during detection monitoring as required by 20.4.1.500  
28 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §§264.90 through 264.101). ~~This monitoring plan is a~~  
29 ~~continuation of the current WIPP GWSP, and these wells will serve as the monitoring locations~~  
30 ~~during background water quality characterization and the RCRA DMP (Figure L-~~8~~9 and~~  
31 ~~Renewal Application Chapter O, Figure A2-3).~~

32 Wells WQSP-1, WQSP-2, and WQSP-3 were located directly upgradient of the WIPP shaft area.  
33 The locations of the three upgradient wells were selected to be representative of the flow vectors  
34 of groundwater moving downgradient onto the WIPP site. The location of these well were based  
35 on Figure 34 of Davies, 1989, which shows the simulation of direction and magnitude of  
36 groundwater flow. The upgradient wells were located based on the flow vectors resulting from  
37 this model simulation. ~~The original WQSP~~ To the extent they are available, older observation  
38 wells, as well as those in the RCRA DMP, ~~have been and~~ will continue to be used as piezometer  
39 wells to support collection of groundwater surface elevation and groundwater flow modeling  
40 data to demonstrate regulatory compliance. Well location surveys for each of the seven WQSP

1 wells were performed by the Permittees' survey personnel using the State Plane Coordinates-  
2 North American Datum Model 27 method. Results of the surveys are on file with the New  
3 Mexico State Engineers Department along with the associated extraction permits for each well.

4 Wells WQSP-4, WQSP-5, and WQSP-6 were located downgradient of the WIPP shaft area in  
5 concert with the flow vectors shown by Davies this model simulation. Well WQSP-6 A was  
6 installed in the Dewey Lake ~~Formation~~ at the WQSP-6 location to assess groundwater conditions  
7 at this location. All three Culebra downgradient wells (WQSP-4, 5, and 6) were sited based on  
8 the greatest velocity magnitude of groundwater flow leaving the shaft area as shown on  
9 ~~Figure 34 of~~ in Davies, (1989), and upgradient of the WIPP LWA boundary. Well WQSP-4 was  
10 also specifically located to monitor the zone of higher transmissivity around wells DOE-1 and H-  
11 11, which may represent faster flow path away from the WIPP shaft area to the LWA boundary  
12 (Renewal Application Addendum L1, Section L1-2a(3)(a)(ii)) ~~(DOE, 1996b)~~.

13 The Culebra has been selected for the focus of the DMP due to it being regionally extensive and  
14 exhibiting the most significant transmissivity of the water-bearing units at WIPP. The Culebra  
15 has been extensively studied during all past hydrologic characterization programs and found to  
16 be the most likely hydrologic pathway to the accessible environment or compliance point for any  
17 potential contamination.

18 The compliance point is defined in 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.95) as the  
19 vertical plane immediately downgradient of the hazardous waste management unit area (i.e., at  
20 the downgradient footprint of the WIPP repository). ~~Permit Module V specifies the~~ The point of  
21 compliance is "the vertical surface located at the hydraulically downgradient limit of the  
22 Underground HWDUs that extends to the Culebra ~~Member of the Rustler Formation.~~" The  
23 RCRA groundwater monitoring network was not installed immediately downgradient of this  
24 plane. However, because the Underground HWDUs at WIPP are Subpart X units, and due to the  
25 relatively unique containment and transport aspects of the site, monitoring at the proposed  
26 locations will allow for detection of releases prior to release of these contaminants to the general  
27 public at the LWA boundary.

28 The DMP wells were located to intercept flow vectors downgradient away from the WIPP shafts  
29 area based on current density corrected potentiometric surfaces (Figure L-~~69~~9). Based on natural  
30 contours of the potentiometric surface (~~Figure L-9~~) the selected well placement locations are  
31 downgradient of the general flow direction from the shaft area. Transport modeling of  
32 contaminant migration throughout the Culebra to the Land Withdrawal Act boundary suggests  
33 that travel times could be on the order of thousands of years if, under worst case conditions,  
34 hazardous constituents could migrate from the sealed repository. If contaminants were to  
35 migrate from the disposal facility, they would be detected by the DMP wells located midway  
36 between the shafts and LWA such that samples from wells could detect these contaminants long  
37 before they could reach the LWA boundary.

38 Potentiometric surfaces and groundwater flow directions defined prior to large-scale pumping in  
39 the WIPP area and the excavation of WIPP shafts suggests that flow was generally to the south-  
40 southeast from the waste disposal and shaft areas (Mercer, 1983; Davies, 1989). ~~Recent~~

1 ~~(December 1996)~~ potentiometric Potentiometric surface maps of the Culebra adjusted for density  
2 differences show very similar characteristics (Figure L-69). Wells WQSP-4, WQSP-5, and  
3 WQSP-6 have been located downgradient of the waste emplacement areas according to present-  
4 day adjusted potentiometric surfaces.

5 ~~Potentiometric surfaces that have not been corrected for density differences and that contain~~  
6 ~~transient relics of previous pumping drawdown events do not reflect accurate natural~~  
7 ~~groundwater flow directions and should not be used to assess the adequacy of groundwater~~  
8 ~~monitoring locations. Previous potentiometric surface maps showing a potentiometric low and~~  
9 ~~hydrologic gradient toward the area between WQSP 3 and WQSP 4 had not been adjusted to~~  
10 ~~freshwater head equivalents, and had also been influenced by the long term pumping at well~~  
11 ~~H 19. Hence, some historic maps may not represent natural Culebra flow directions or gradients,~~  
12 ~~and appropriateness of the RCRA monitoring network cannot be definitively evaluated using~~  
13 ~~these data.~~

14 L-3b(1) DMP Well Construction Description Specification

15 L-3b(1)(i) WQSP-1

16 Well WQSP-1 was drilled between September 13 and 16, 1994, to a total depth of 737 ft (225 m)  
17 bgs. The borehole was drilled through the Culebra and extends ~~15 ft (5 m)~~ into the Los Medaños  
18 ~~unnamed lower member of the Rustler~~. The well was drilled to a depth of 693 ft (211 m) bgs  
19 using compressed air as the drilling fluid. The interval from 693 to 737 ft (225 to 211 m) bgs  
20 (the total depth) was drilled using air mist with a foaming agent as the drilling fluid. Well  
21 WQSP-1 was drilled to 695.6 ft (212 m) bgs using a 9/8-in. drill bit and was cored from 695.6 to  
22 737 ft (212 to 225 m) bgs using a 5/4-in. core bit to cut 4-in.- (0.1-m) diameter core. After  
23 coring, WQSP-1 was reamed to 9/8 in. (0.3 m) in diameter to total depth. Well WQSP-1 was  
24 cased from the surface to 737 ft (224.6 m) bgs with 5-in. (0.1-m) (0.28-in. [0.7-centimeter (cm)]  
25 wall) blank fiberglass casing with in-line 5-in.- (0.1-m) diameter fiberglass 0.02-in. (0.1-cm)  
26 slotted screen ~~across the Culebra interval~~ in the Culebra from 702 to 727 ft (214 to 222 m) bgs.  
27 The annulus between the borehole wall and the casing/screen is packed with sand from 640 to  
28 651 ft (195 to 198 m) bgs and with 8/16 Brady gravel from 651 to 737 ft (198 to 225 m) bgs.  
29 Based on core log results, the Culebra is located from 699 to 722 ft (213 to 220 m) bgs (see  
30 Figure L-910).

31 L-3b(1)(ii) WQSP-2

32 Well WQSP-2 was drilled between September 6 and 12, 1994, to a total depth of 846 ft  
33 (2587.9 m) bgs. The borehole was drilled through the Culebra and extends ~~12.3 ft (3.7 m)~~ into  
34 the Los Medaños ~~unnamed lower member of the Rustler~~. The well was drilled to a depth of  
35 800 ft (244 m) bgs with a 9/8-in. drill bit using compressed air as the drilling fluid. The interval  
36 from 800 to 846 ft (244 to 258 m) bgs (the total depth) was drilled with a 5/4-in. core bit to cut 4-  
37 in.- (0.1-m) diameter core using air mist with a foaming agent as the drilling fluid. After coring,  
38 WQSP-2 was reamed to 9/8 in. (0.3 m) in diameter to total depth. Well WQSP-2 was cased from  
39 the surface to 846 ft (258 m) bgs with 5-in. (0.1-m) (0.28-in. [0.7-cm] wall) blank fiberglass  
40 casing with in-line 5-in.- (0.1-m) diameter fiberglass 0.02-in. (0.1-cm) slotted screen across the

1 Culebra interval from 811 to 836 ft (247 to 255 m) bgs. The annulus between the borehole wall  
2 and the casing/screen is packed with sand from 790 to 793 ft (241 to 242 m) bgs and with  
3 8/16 Brady gravel from 793 to 846 ft (242 to 258 m) bgs. Based on core log results, the Culebra  
4 is located from 810-1 to 834.7 ft (247 to 254 m) bgs (see Figure L-1011).

5 L-3b(1)(iii) WQSP-3

6 Well WQSP-3 was drilled between October 21 and 26, 1994, to a total depth of 880 ft (268 m)  
7 bgs. The borehole was drilled through the Culebra and extends 10 ft (3.1 m) into the Los  
8 Medaños ~~unnamed lower member of the Rustler~~. The well was drilled to a depth of 880 ft  
9 (268 m) bgs using compressed air as the drilling fluid. The borehole was cleaned using air mist  
10 with a foaming agent. Well WQSP-3 was drilled to 833 ft (254 m) bgs using a 9/8-in. drill bit  
11 and was cored from 833 to 879 ft (254 to 268 m) bgs using a 5 1/4-in. core bit to cut 4-in.- (0.1-m)  
12 diameter core. After coring, WQSP-3 was reamed to 9/8 in. (0.3 m) in diameter to total depth of  
13 880 ft (268 m) bgs. Well WQSP-3 was cased from the surface to 880 ft (268 m) bgs with 5-in.  
14 (0.1-m) (0.28-in. [0.7-cm] wall) blank fiberglass casing with in-line 5-in.- (0.1-m) diameter  
15 fiberglass 0.02-in. (0.1-cm) slotted screen across the Culebra interval from 844 to 869 ft (257 to  
16 265 m) bgs. The annulus between the borehole wall and the casing/screen is packed with sand  
17 from 827 to 830 ft (252 to 253 m) bgs and with 8/16 Brady gravel from 830 to 880 ft (253 to  
18 268 m) bgs. Based on core log results, the Culebra is located from 844 to 870 ft (257 to 265 m)  
19 bgs (see Figure L-1112).

20 L-3b(1)(iv) WQSP-4

21 Well WQSP-4 was drilled between October 5 and 10, 1994, to a total depth of 800 ft (244 m)  
22 bgs. The borehole was drilled through the Culebra and extends 9.2 ft (2.8 m) into the Los  
23 Medaños ~~unnamed lower member of the Rustler~~. The well was drilled to a depth of 740 ft  
24 (226 m) bgs with a 9/8-in. drill bit using compressed air as the drilling fluid. The interval from  
25 740.5 to 798 ft (225.7 to 243 m) bgs was cored with a 5 1/4-in. (0.13-m) core bit to cut 4-in.- (0.1-  
26 m) diameter core using air mist with a foaming agent as the drilling fluid. After coring, WQSP-4  
27 was reamed to 9/8 in. (0.3 m) in diameter to total depth of 800 ft (244 m) bgs. Well WQSP-4  
28 was cased from the surface to 800 ft (244 m) bgs with 5-in. (0.1-m) (0.28-in. [0.7-cm] wall)  
29 blank fiberglass casing with in-line 5-in.- (0.1-m) diameter fiberglass 0.02-in. (0.1-cm) slotted  
30 screen across the Culebra interval from 764 to 789 ft (233 to 241 m) bgs. The annulus between  
31 the borehole wall and the casing/screen is packed with sand from 752 to 755 ft (229 to 230 m)  
32 bgs and with 8/16 Brady gravel from 755 to 800 ft (230 to 244 m) bgs. Based on core log  
33 results, the Culebra is located from 766 to 791.8 ft (233 to 241 m) bgs (see Figure L-1213).

34 L-3b(1)(v) WQSP-5

35 Well WQSP-5 was drilled between October 12 and 19, 1994, to a total depth of 681 ft (208 m)  
36 bgs. The borehole was drilled through the Culebra and extends into the Los Medaños ~~unnamed~~  
37 ~~lower member of the Rustler~~. The well was drilled to a depth of 676 ft (206 m) bgs using  
38 compressed air as the drilling fluid. The borehole was cleaned using air mist with a foaming  
39 agent. Well WQSP-5 was drilled to 648 ft (198 m) bgs using a 9/8-in. drill bit and was cored  
40 from 648 to 676 ft (198 to 206 m) bgs using a 5 1/4-in. core bit to cut 4-in.- (0.1-m) diameter core.

1 After coring, WQSP-5 was reamed to 9 $\frac{7}{8}$  in. (0.3 m) in diameter to total depth of 681 ft (208 m)  
2 bgs. Well WQSP-5 was cased from the surface to 681 ft (208 m) bgs with 5-in. (0.1-m) (0.28-in.  
3 [0.7-cm] wall) blank fiberglass casing with in-line 5-in.- (0.1-m) diameter fiberglass 0.02-in.  
4 (0.1-cm) slotted screen across the Culebra interval from 646 to 671 ft (197 to 205 m) bgs. The  
5 annulus between the borehole wall and the casing/screen is packed with sand from 623 to 626 ft  
6 (190 to 191 m) bgs and with 8/16 Brady gravel from 626 to 681 ft (191 to 208 m) bgs. Based on  
7 core log results, the Culebra is located from 648 to 674.4 ft (198 to 205.6 m) bgs (see Figure L-  
8 1314).

9 L-3b(1)(vi) WQSP-6

10 Well WQSP-6 was drilled between September 26 and October 3, 1994, to a total depth of  
11 617~~6.6~~ ft (188~~7.9~~ m) bgs. The borehole was drilled through the Culebra and extends 9.7 ft  
12 (3 m) into the Los Medaños ~~unnamed lower member of the Rustler~~. The well was drilled to a  
13 depth of 367 ft (112 m) bgs using compressed air as the drilling fluid. The interval from 367 to  
14 617~~6~~ ft (112 to 188 m) bgs (the total depth) was drilled using brine as the drilling fluid. Well  
15 WQSP-6 was drilled to 568 ft (173 m) 4-in.- (0.1-m) ft bgs using a 9 $\frac{7}{8}$ -in. drill bit and was cored  
16 from 568 to 616 ft (173 to 188 m) bgs using a 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. core bit to cut 4-in.- (0.1-m) diameter core.  
17 After coring, WQSP-6 was reamed to 9 $\frac{7}{8}$  in. (0.3 m) in diameter to total depth of 617~~6.6~~ ft  
18 (188 m) bgs. Well WQSP-6 was cased from the surface to 617~~6.6~~ ft (188 m) bgs with 5-in. (0.1-  
19 m) (0.28-in. [0.7-cm] wall) blank fiberglass casing with in-line 5-in.- (0.1-m) diameter fiberglass  
20 0.02-in. (0.1-cm) slotted screen across the Culebra interval from 581 to 606 ft (177 to 185 m)  
21 bgs. The annulus between the borehole wall and the casing/screen is packed with sand from  
22 567 to 570 ft (173 to 173.7 m) bgs and with 8/16 Brady gravel from 570 to 617~~6.6~~ ft (174 to  
23 188 m) bgs. Based on core log results, the Culebra is located from 582 to 607~~6.9~~ ft (177 to  
24 185 m) bgs (see Figure L-1415).

25 L-3b(1)(vii) WQSP-6A

26 Well WQSP-6A was drilled between October 31 and November 1, 1994, to a total depth of  
27 225 ft (69 m) bgs. It is located immediately west of WQSP-6. The borehole was drilled through  
28 a water-producing zone in the Dewey Lake ~~Redbeds~~ that had been previously encountered while  
29 drilling well WQSP-6. The well was drilled to a depth of 225 ft (69 m) bgs using compressed air  
30 as the drilling fluid. The borehole was cleaned using air mist with a foaming agent. Well  
31 WQSP-6A was drilled to 160 ft (49 m) bgs using a 9 $\frac{7}{8}$ -in. drill bit and was cored from 160 to  
32 220 ft (49 to 67 m) bgs using a 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. core bit to cut 4-in.- (0.1-m) diameter core. After coring,  
33 WQSP-6A was reamed to 9 $\frac{7}{8}$  in. (0.3 m) in diameter to total depth of 225 ft (69 m) bgs. Well  
34 WQSP-6A was cased from the surface to 225 ft (69 m) bgs with 5-in. (0.1-m) (0.28-in. [0.7-cm]  
35 wall) blank fiberglass casing with in-line 5-in.- (0.1-m) diameter fiberglass 0.02-in. (0.1-cm)  
36 slotted screen from 190 to 215 ft (58 to 66 m) bgs. The annulus between the borehole wall and  
37 the casing/screen is packed with sand from 172 to 175 ft (52 to 53 m) bgs and with 8/16 Brady  
38 gravel from 175 to 225 ft (53 to 69 m) bgs (see Figure L-1516).

1 L-4 Detection Monitoring Program Description

2 The WIPP DMP has been designed to meet the groundwater monitoring requirements of  
3 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR 264, Subpart F and Subpart X §§264.90 through  
4 264.104). The following sections of the monitoring plan specify the components of the DMP.

5 L-4a Monitoring Frequency

6 The seven RCRA monitoring wells have been sampled on a semiannual basis since their  
7 installation in 1995 to establish background groundwater quality in accordance with 20.4.1.500  
8 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §§264.97 and 264.98). ~~This has included at least two full rounds~~  
9 ~~of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264) Appendix IX analysis for samples from each~~  
10 ~~of the proposed RCRA detection monitoring wells. In addition, groundwater~~ Groundwater  
11 ~~samples were collected from the DMP wells (from March 1997~~ 1995 ~~until waste emplacement)~~  
12 ~~at a frequency of~~ two samples and two sample duplicates semi-annually ~~four sample replicates~~  
13 ~~collected semiannually from each well for the indicator parameters of pH, specific conductance~~  
14 ~~(SC), total organic carbon (TOC), and total organic halogen (TOX) to further establish~~  
15 ~~background groundwater quality until detection monitoring in accordance with 20.4.1.500~~  
16 ~~NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.~~ Subpart F ~~98) becomes applicable. A total of four rounds~~  
17 ~~of Appendix IX analysis will be conducted for samples from each well for use in background~~  
18 ~~groundwater quality determinations.~~

19 ~~Detection monitoring will start~~ began November 1999 ~~when the Permittees emplace waste and~~  
20 ~~will~~ continue through the post-closure phase as required by 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating  
21 40 CFR §264.90[c]). During detection monitoring, one sample and one sample duplicate will be  
22 collected semiannually from each well in the RCRA detection monitoring network. As shown in  
23 Table L-2, the DMP will continue to collect groundwater quality samples for all seven wells on a  
24 semiannual basis during the life of the DMP. New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management  
25 Regulations, 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.97[g][2] Subpart F) provides that  
26 an alternate sampling frequency ~~to that provided in 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR~~  
27 ~~§264.98)~~ may be proposed by the Permittees. Given the nature and rate of groundwater flow in  
28 the area surrounding WIPP, collecting and analyzing ~~one sample~~s semiannually will be  
29 protective of human health and the environment because any hazardous constituent leaving the  
30 underground disposal facility will not have the potential to migrate beyond the groundwater  
31 monitoring network in a one-year time frame. Groundwater flow characteristics in the Culebra  
32 are presented in detail in Renewal Application Addendum L1, Section L1-2a ~~Appendices D6 and~~  
33 ~~E1 of the RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b).~~

34 Groundwater surface elevations will be monitored in each of the seven DMP wells on a monthly  
35 basis. The groundwater surface elevation in each DMP well will also be measured prior to each  
36 sampling event. Groundwater surface elevation measurements in the other existing WQSP well  
37 sites will also be monitored on a monthly basis to supplement the area water-level database and  
38 to help define regional changes in groundwater flow directions and gradients. The characteristics  
39 of the RCRA DMP (frequency, location) will be evaluated if significant changes are observed in  
40 the groundwater flow direction or gradient. If any change occurs which could affect the ability

1 of the DMP to fulfill the requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264  
2 Subpart F), the Permittees shall promptly notify NMED in writing and apply for a permit  
3 modification, if appropriate.

#### 4 L-4b Analytical Parameters

5 The analytes of interest measured to establish background groundwater quality prior to  
6 emplacement of waste include all indicator parameters and all other parameters listed in  
7 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264) Appendix IX). Field measurements of pH, SC,  
8 temperature, chloride, Eh, total iron, and alkalinity ~~were~~ are also measured during background  
9 sampling.

10 The DMP ~~was~~ will be initiated upon waste emplacement, at which time the semiannual DMP  
11 samples will be analyzed for the parameters listed in Table L-3. ~~This list includes the parameters~~  
12 ~~of interest identified by the Permittees in the Waste Analysis Plan, Table C-3, of the RCRA Part~~  
13 ~~B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b).~~ Parameters to be analyzed by the contract laboratory such  
14 as specific conductance, total dissolved solids, total suspended solids, density, pH, total organic  
15 carbon, and total organic halogens were included as indicator parameters because of their  
16 universal commonality to groundwater. Parameters such as chloride, alkalinity, calcium,  
17 magnesium, and potassium were included as matrix-specific general indicator parameters.  
18 ~~Calcium, magnesium, potassium, chloride, and iron may be deleted during detection monitoring,~~  
19 ~~with prior approval of NMED.~~ Organic and inorganic compounds on the right hand side of  
20 Table L-3 were chosen because they will occur in the waste to be disposed at the WIPP facility.  
21 Additional parameters may be identified by certified characterization programs as they  
22 characterize waste for disposal at the WIPP facility through the tentatively identified compound  
23 ~~(TIC) process specified in the Waste Analysis Plan, Permit Chapter B.~~ If compounds are  
24 identified, ~~these~~ they will be evaluated for addition added to the DMP list, ~~unless the~~ by the  
25 Permittees, ~~provide justification for their omission, and this omission is approved by NMED.~~

#### 26 L-4c Groundwater Surface Elevation Measurement, Sample Collection and Laboratory Analysis

27 Groundwater surface elevations will be measured in each well prior to groundwater sample  
28 collection. Groundwater will be extracted using serial and final sampling methods. Serial  
29 samples will be collected until groundwater field indicator parameters stabilize, after which the  
30 final sample for complete analysis will be collected. Final samples will then be analyzed for the  
31 DMP analytical suite.

#### 32 L-4c(1) Groundwater Surface Elevation Monitoring Methodology

33 The WIPP groundwater level monitoring program (**WLMP**) is a subprogram of the DMP. The  
34 quality assurance activities of the WLMP are in strict accordance with WP 13-1, and the quality  
35 assurance implementing procedure specific to groundwater surface elevation monitoring is WIPP

1 Procedure WP 02-EM1014<sup>2</sup>. Current versions of both WP 13-1 and WP 02-EM1014 are  
2 maintained in the WIPP Operating Record on file at the WIPP facility.

3 Groundwater surface elevation monitoring is in progress now and will continue through the post-  
4 closure care period ~~specified in Permit Module VI~~. This section of the plan addresses the  
5 activities of the WLMP during the ~~preoperational and~~ operational phases of WIPP.

6 ~~Collection of groundwater surface elevation data is required by 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating~~  
7 ~~40 CFR §264.97(f)). These data also provide:~~

- 8 ~~• Data collection as required by the Environmental Monitoring Plan.~~
- 9 ~~• A means to fulfill commitments made in the Final Environmental Impact Statement~~  
10 ~~(FEIS).~~
- 11 ~~• A means to comply with future groundwater inventory and monitoring regulations.~~
- 12 ~~• Input for making land use decisions, (i.e., designing long term active and passive~~  
13 ~~institutional controls for the site).~~
- 14 ~~• Assistance in understanding any changes to readings from the water pressure transducers~~  
15 ~~installed in each of the shafts to monitor water conditions behind the liners.~~
- 16 ~~• An understanding of whether or not the horizontal and vertical gradients of flow are~~  
17 ~~changing over time.~~

18 The objective of the WLMP is to extend the documented record of groundwater surface elevation  
19 fluctuations in the Culebra and Magenta members of the Rustler in the vicinity of the WIPP  
20 facility and to meet the requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.97(f)).  
21 Groundwater surface elevation data will be collected from each well of the RCRA DMP.  
22 Groundwater surface elevation data will also be collected from other Culebra wells, as well as  
23 monitoring wells completed in other water-bearing zones overlying and underlying the WIPP  
24 disposal repository horizon (see Figure L-718) when access to those zones is possible. This  
25 includes, but is not limited to, the Bell Canyon, the Forty-niner, the contact zone between the  
26 Rustler and Salado, and the Dewey Lake.

27 Groundwater surface elevation measurements will be taken monthly in at least one accessible  
28 completed interval at each available well pad. At well pads with two or more wells completed in  
29 the same interval, quarterly measurements will be taken in the redundant wells (well locations

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<sup>2</sup> WP 02-EM1014 “Groundwater Level Measurements” is a technical procedure that specifies the steps followed by Environmental Monitoring (EM) personnel for making manual ground-water level measurements in groundwater wells in the vicinity of the WIPP facility. The procedure provides general instructions including prerequisites, safety precautions, performance frequency, quality assurance, and records. Specific instructions are included for using the water level measurement electrical conductance probe and data management.

1 are shown in Figure L-7(18). Groundwater surface elevation measurements will be taken  
2 monthly at each of the seven DMP wells, as well as prior to each sampling event. If a  
3 cumulative groundwater surface elevation change of more than 2 feet is detected in any DMP  
4 well over the course of one year which is not attributable to site tests or natural stabilization of  
5 the site hydrologic system, the Permittees will notify NMED in writing and discuss the origin of  
6 the changes in the report ~~specified in Permit Module V~~. Abnormal, unexplained changes in  
7 groundwater surface elevation may indicate changes in site recharge/discharge which could  
8 affect ~~the assumptions regarding~~ DMP well placement and constitute new information as  
9 specified in 20.4.1.900 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §270.41(a)(2)).

10 Groundwater surface elevation monitoring will continue through the post-closure care period  
11 ~~specified in Permit Module VI~~. The Permittees may temporarily increase the frequency of  
12 monitoring to effectively document naturally occurring or artificial perturbations that may be  
13 imposed on the hydrologic systems at any point in time. This will be conducted in selected key  
14 wells by increasing the frequency of the manual groundwater surface elevation measurements or  
15 by monitoring water pressures with the aid of electronic pressure transducers and remote data-  
16 logging systems. The Permittees will include such additional data in the reports specified in  
17 Section L-5.

18 Interpretation of groundwater surface elevation measurements and corresponding fluctuations  
19 over time is complicated at the WIPP facility by spatial variation in fluid density both vertically  
20 in well bores and ~~areally~~ from well to well. To monitor the hydraulic gradients of the hydrologic  
21 flow systems at the WIPP facility accurately, actual groundwater surface elevation measurements  
22 will be monitored at the frequencies specified in Table L-2, and the densities of the fluids in the  
23 well bores will be measured d annually. When both of these parameters are known, equivalent  
24 freshwater heads will be calculated. ~~The concept of freshwater head is discussed in Lusezynski~~  
25 ~~(1961).~~

26 ~~A discussion explaining the calculation of freshwater heads from mid-formation depth at WIPP~~  
27 ~~can be found in Haug, et al. (1987).~~ Freshwater heads are useful in identifying hydraulic  
28 gradients in aquifers of variable density such as those existing at the WIPP site. Freshwater head  
29 at a given point is defined as the height of a column of freshwater that will balance the existing  
30 pressure at that point (~~Lusezynski, 1961~~).

31 Measured groundwater surface elevation data can be converted to equivalent freshwater head  
32 elevation from knowledge of the density of the borehole fluid, ~~using the following formula:~~

$$p = \rho g h$$

33  
34  
35 where

36  
37 p = freshwater head (pressure)  
38  $\rho$  = average specific gravity of the borehole fluid (unitless)  
39 g = freshwater density (mass/volume)  
40 h = fluid column height above the datum (length)  
41

1 If the **The** freshwater density is assumed to be 1.000 gram per cubic centimeter ( $\text{g/cm}^3$ ), **and** then  
2 the equivalent freshwater head is equal to the fluid column height times the average borehole  
3 fluid density (expressed as specific gravity).

4 L-4c(1)(i) Field Methods and Data Collection Requirements

5 To obtain an accurate groundwater surface elevation measurement, a calibrated water-level  
6 measuring device will be lowered into a test well and the depth to water recorded from a known  
7 reference point. When using an electrical conductance probe, the depth to water will be  
8 determined by reading the appropriate measurement markings on the embossed measuring tape  
9 when the alarm is activated at the surface. WIPP Procedure WP 02-EM1014 specifies the  
10 methods to be used in obtaining groundwater-level measurements. A current revision of this  
11 procedure will be maintained ~~in the WIPP Operating Record~~ **on file at the WIPP facility**.

12 L-4c(1)(ii) Groundwater Surface Elevation Records and Document Control

13 All incoming data will be processed in a timely manner to assure data integrity. The data  
14 management process for groundwater surface elevation measurements will begin with  
15 completion of the field data sheets. Date, time, tape measurement, equipment identification  
16 number, calibration due date, initial of the field personnel, and equipment/comments will be  
17 recorded on the field data sheets. If, for some unexpected reason, a measurement is not possible  
18 (i.e., a test is under way that blocks entry to the well bore), then a notation as to why the  
19 measurement was not taken will be recorded in the comment column. Personnel will also use the  
20 comment column to report any security observations (i.e., well lock missing).

21 Data recorded on the field data sheets and submitted by field personnel will be subject to  
22 guidelines outlined in WIPP Procedures WP 02-EM3001<sup>3</sup> and WP 02-EM1014<sup>4</sup>. Current copies  
23 of these procedures are maintained **on file at the WIPP facility** ~~within the WIPP Operating~~  
24 ~~Record~~. These procedures specify the processes for administering and managing such data. The  
25 data will be entered onto a computerized work sheet. The work sheet will calculate groundwater  
26 surface elevation in both feet and meters relative to the top of the casing and also relative to  
27 mean sea level. The work sheet will also adjust groundwater surface elevations to equivalent  
28 freshwater **elevations** heads.

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<sup>3</sup> WP 02-EM3001 “Administrative Processes for Environmental Monitoring Programs” is a management control procedure to provide the administrative guidance to be used by Environmental Monitoring (EM) personnel to maintain quality control (QC) associated with EM sampling activities and to assure that data acquired under the WIPP Environmental Monitoring Program are valid. The precautions and limitations portion of this procedure assure that only qualified personnel acquire samples under the EM program, that cross contamination of sampling equipment is prevented, and that sample hold times are not exceeded. The Performance portion of the procedure provides step-by-step instructions for Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) implementation, the use of data sheets and sample tracking logbooks, sample tacking from collection to submittal, and actions to take if sample results indicate the potential for exceeding a regulatory limit.

<sup>4</sup> WP 02-EM1014 “Groundwater Level Measurement”, is a technical procedure which lists the equipment required and the operational checks necessary to perform groundwater level measurements. This procedure as well as WP 02-EM3001 also provides information on performing validation and verification of laboratory data.

1 A check print will be made of the work sheet printout. The check print will be used to verify that  
2 data taken in the field was properly reported on the database printout. A minimum of 10 percent  
3 of the spreadsheet calculations will be randomly verified on the check print to ensure that  
4 calculations are being performed correctly. If errors are found, the work sheet will be corrected.  
5 The data contained on the computerized work sheet will be translated into a database file. A  
6 printout will be made of the database file. The data each month will then be compiled into report  
7 format and transmitted to the appropriate agencies as requested by the Permittees. Groundwater  
8 surface elevation data and equivalent freshwater elevations heads for all Culebra wells will be  
9 transmitted to NMED one month after data are collected.

10 A computerized database file will be maintained for all groundwater surface elevation data.  
11 Monthly and quarterly data will be appended into a yearly file. Upon verification that the yearly  
12 database is free of errors, it will be appended into the project database file. A printed copy of the  
13 current project database (through December of the preceding year) will be kept in ~~the~~  
14 ~~Environment, Safety and Health Department (ES&H)-EM a~~ fire-resistant storage area.

#### 15 L-4c(2) Groundwater Sampling

#### 16 L-4c(2)(i) Groundwater Pumping and Sampling Systems

17 The water-bearing units at WIPP are highly variable in their ability to yield water to monitoring  
18 wells. The Culebra, the most transmissive hydrologic unit in the WIPP area, exhibits  
19 transmissivities that range many orders of magnitude across the site area and is the primary focus  
20 of the DMP.

21 The groundwater pumping and sampling systems used to collect a groundwater sample from the  
22 seven ~~new~~ DMP wells will provide continuous and adequate production of water so that a  
23 representative groundwater sample can be obtained. The wells used for groundwater quality  
24 sampling vary in yield, depth, and pumping lift. These factors affect the duration of pumping as  
25 well as the equipment required at each well.

26 The type of pumping and sampling system to be used in a well depends primarily on the aquifer  
27 characteristics of the Culebra and well construction. The DMP wells will be individually  
28 equipped with dedicated submersible pumping assemblies. Each well has a specific type of  
29 submersible pump, matched to the ability of the well to yield water during pumping. The down  
30 hole submersible pumps will be controlled by a variable electronic flow controller to match the  
31 production capacity of the formation at each well.

32 The electronic flow controller allows personnel collecting samples to control the rate of  
33 discharge during well purging to minimize the potential for loss of volatiles from the sample. As  
34 recommended in the "RCRA Ground-Water Monitoring Technical Enforcement Guidance  
35 Document" (EPA, 1986) the wells will be purged a minimum of three well bore volumes at a rate  
36 that will minimize the agitation of recharge water. This will be accomplished by monitoring  
37 formation pressure and matching the rate of discharge from the well as nearly as possible to the

1 rate of recharge to the well. WIPP Procedure WP 02-EM1002<sup>5</sup> specifies the methods used for  
2 controlling flow rates and monitoring formation pressure. A current version of this document  
3 will be maintained ~~in the WIPP Operating Record~~ on file at the WIPP facility. Well purging  
4 requirements will be used in conjunction with serial sampling to determine when the  
5 groundwater chemistry stabilizes and is therefore representative of undisturbed groundwater.

6 The DMP wells will be cased and screened through the production interval with materials that do  
7 not yield contamination to the aquifer or allow the production interval to collapse under stress  
8 (high epoxy fiberglass). Details of well construction are presented in Section L-3b(1). An  
9 electric, submersible pump installation without the use of a packer will be used in this instance.  
10 The largest amount of discharge from the submersible pump will take place from a discharge  
11 pipe. In addition to this main discharge pipe a dedicated Teflon<sup>®</sup> sample line, running parallel to  
12 the discharge pipe, will also be used. Flow through the pipe will be regulated on the surface by a  
13 flow control valve and/or variable speed drive controller. Cumulative flow will be measured  
14 using a totalizing flow meter. Flow from the discharge pipe will be routed to a discharge tank  
15 for disposal.

16 The dedicated Teflon<sup>®</sup> sampling line will be used to collect the water sample that will undergo  
17 analysis. By using a dedicated Teflon<sup>®</sup> sample line, the water will not be contaminated by the  
18 metal discharge pipe. The sample line will branch from the main discharge pipe a few inches  
19 above the pump. Flow from the sample line will be routed into the sample collection area. Flow  
20 through the sample collection line will be regulated by a flow-control valve. The sample line  
21 will be insulated at the surface to minimize temperature fluctuations.

## 22 Pressure Monitoring Systems

23 The DMP wells do not require the installation of a packer because sample biases due to well  
24 construction deficiencies are not present. However, pressures will be monitored using down hole  
25 automatic air line bubblers in the formation to maintain the water level above the pump intake.  
26 Pressure transducers may be used in line with bubblers to provide continual electronic  
27 monitoring through data acquisition systems. WIPP Procedure WP 02-EM1002 provides  
28 instructions for monitoring formation pressure using automatic airline bubblers in conjunction  
29 with pressure transducers and data acquisition systems. A current version of this document will  
30 be on file at the WIPP facility ~~be maintained in the WIPP Operating Record~~.

31 The mobile field laboratory provides a work place for conducting field sampling and analyses.  
32 The laboratory will be positioned near the wellhead, will be climate controlled, and will contain

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<sup>5</sup> WP 02-EM1002 “Electric Submersible Pump Monitoring System Installation and Operation” is a technical procedure that provides step-by-step instructions for acquiring ground-water samples using electric submersible pumps (ESPs). The procedure addresses the equipment in general, lists precautions and limitations which assure that only qualified individuals operate the equipment, prerequisite actions which assure the correct installation and operation. The procedure details how to install the various subsystems such as the surface discharge and pressure monitoring system and the pressure monitoring bubbler and how to start up and shut down the ESP.

1 the necessary equipment, reagents, glassware, and deionized water for conducting the various  
2 field analyses.

### 3 Sampling Overview

4 Two types of water samples will be collected: serial samples and final samples. Serial samples  
5 will be taken at regular intervals and analyzed in the mobile field laboratory for various physical  
6 and chemical parameters (called field indicator parameters). The serial sample data will be used  
7 to determine whether the sample is representative of undisturbed groundwater as a direct  
8 function of the stabilization of field indicator parameters and the volume of the water being  
9 pumped from the well. Interpretation of the serial sampling data will enable the Team Leader  
10 (see Section L-7) to determine when conditions representative of undisturbed groundwater are  
11 attained in the pumped groundwater.

12 Final samples will be collected when the serially sampled field indicator parameters have  
13 stabilized and are therefore representative of undisturbed groundwater.

### 14 L-4c(2)(ii) Serial Samples

15 Serial sampling is the collection of sequential samples for the purpose of determining when the  
16 groundwater chemistry stabilizes and is therefore representative of undisturbed groundwater.  
17 The Permittees will consider a serial sample representative of undisturbed groundwater when the  
18 majority of field indicator parameter measurements have stabilized within  $\pm 5$  percent of the  
19 average of analytical results for the field indicator parameter from the background groundwater  
20 quality for each DMP well. Nonstabilization of one or two field indicator parameters attributable  
21 to matrix interferences, instrument drift, or other unforeseen reasons will not preclude the  
22 collection of final samples, provided the volume of purged water exceeds three well bore  
23 volumes. The Permittees will report, in the operating record, any final samples collected when  
24 field indicator parameters were not stabilized, and will provide an explanation of why the sample  
25 was collected when field indicator parameters were not stabilized.

26 Serial samples will be collected and analyzed to detect and monitor the chemical variation of the  
27 groundwater as a function of the volume of water pumped. Once serial sampling begins, the  
28 frequency at which serial samples are collected and analyzed will be left to the discretion of the  
29 Team Leader (see Section L-7), but will be performed a minimum of three times during a  
30 sampling round.

31 The Permittees will use appropriate field methods to identify stabilization of the following field  
32 indicator parameters: chloride, divalent cations (hardness), alkalinity, total iron, pH, Eh,  
33 temperature, specific conductance, and specific gravity.

- 1 Protocols for collection of serial samples are specified in WIPP Procedure WP 02-EM1006<sup>6</sup>.  
2 Analysis of serial samples are specified in WIPP Procedure WP 02-EM1005<sup>7</sup>. Current versions  
3 of these procedures will be maintained on file at the WIPP facility in the ~~WIPP Operating~~  
4 ~~Record~~.
- 5 The three field indicator parameters of temperature, Eh, and pH will be determined by either an  
6 “in-line” technique, using a self-contained flow cell, or an “off-line” technique, in which the  
7 samples will be collected from a Teflon<sup>®</sup> sample line at atmospheric pressure. The iron, divalent  
8 cation, chloride, alkalinity, specific conductance, and specific gravity samples will be collected  
9 from the Teflon<sup>®</sup> sample line at atmospheric pressure. Because of the lack of sophisticated  
10 weights and measures equipment available for field density assessments, field density  
11 evaluations will be expressed in terms of specific gravity, which is a unitless measure. Density is  
12 expressed as unit weight per unit volume.
- 13 New polyethylene containers will be used to collect the serial samples from the Teflon<sup>®</sup> sample  
14 line. Serial sampling water collected for solute and specific conductance determinations will be  
15 filtered through a 0.45 micrometers (µm) membrane filter using a stainless-steel, in-line filter  
16 holder. Filtered water will be used to rinse the sample bottle prior to serial sample collection.  
17 Unfiltered groundwater will be used when determining temperature, pH, Eh, and specific gravity.  
18 Sample bottles will be properly identified and labeled.
- 19 The filtered sample collected for solute analyses will be immediately analyzed for iron and  
20 alkalinity because these two solution parameters are extremely sensitive to changes in the  
21 ambient water-sample pressure and temperature. A sample and duplicate of filtered water will  
22 be collected and analyzed for solute parameters (alkalinity, chloride, divalent cations, and iron).  
23 Temperature, pH, and Eh, when not measured in a flow cell, will be measured at the approximate  
24 time of serial sample collection. These samples will be collected from the unfiltered sample line.
- 25 Samples to be analyzed for chloride and divalent cations (after preservation with nitric acid and  
26 stored at 4°C) may be stored for one week prior to analysis with confidence that the analytical  
27 results will not be altered.

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<sup>6</sup> WP 02-EM1006 “Final Sample and Serial Sample Collection” is a technical procedure that provides step-by-step instructions for acquiring groundwater samples from the WQSP wells and from privately-owned wells in the vicinity of WIPP. The procedure addresses the equipment in general, lists precautions and limitations which assure that only qualified individuals operate the equipment, and prerequisite actions which assure the data quality. The procedure addresses collection of samples from private wells, collection of serial groundwater samples, the collection of final samples for submittal to the laboratory, and data review by the monitoring task leader.

<sup>7</sup> WP 02-EM1005 “Groundwater Serial Sample Analysis” is a technical procedure that provides step-by-step instructions for on site analysis of groundwater to determine groundwater stability prior to the collection of final samples for analysis. The procedure addresses the equipment in general, lists precautions and limitations which assure that only qualified individuals operate the equipment, prerequisite actions which assure data quality. The procedure addresses the field measurement of Eh, pH, temperature, specific gravity, specific conductance, alkalinity, chloride, divalent cation, and total iron as indicators of groundwater stability.

1 Upon completion of the collection of the last serial sample suite, the serial sample bottles  
2 accrued throughout the duration of the pumping of the well will be discarded. No serial sample  
3 bottles will be reused for sampling purposes of any sort. However, serial samples may be stored  
4 for a period of time depending upon the need. WIPP Procedure WP 02-EM1006 defines the  
5 protocols for the collection of final and serial samples. WIPP Procedure WP 02-EM1005 defines  
6 the protocols for serial sample analysis. Current versions of these procedures will be maintained  
7 on file at the WIPP facility ~~in the WIPP Operating Record.~~

8 During the ~~first two years of DMP well~~ serial sampling, the first sample will be analyzed as soon  
9 as possible after the pump is turned on and daily thereafter for a period of four days or until the  
10 field indicator parameters (chloride, divalent cations, alkalinity, and iron) stabilize. Eh, pH, and  
11 SC will be continually monitored by using a flow cell with ion-specific electrodes and a real-  
12 time readout. When detection monitoring begins, the serial sampling process may be modified  
13 and the decision to collect final samples would then be based on the number of well bore  
14 volumes purged and results of the analysis of chloride, temperature, specific gravity, pH, Eh, and  
15 SC. ~~Removal of serial sampling from the DMP will be accomplished through a permit~~  
16 ~~modification and a modification to this plan.~~

#### 17 L-4c(2)(iii) Final Samples

18 The final sample will be collected once the measured field indicator parameters have stabilized  
19 (refer to Section L-4(c)(2)(ii)). A serial sample will also be collected and analyzed for each day  
20 of final sampling to ensure that samples collected for laboratory analysis are still representative  
21 of stable conditions. Sample preservation, handling, and transportation methods will maintain  
22 the integrity and representativeness of the final samples.

23 Prior to collecting the final samples, the collection team shall consider the analyses to be  
24 performed so that proper shipping or storage containers can be assembled. Table L-4 presents  
25 the sample containers, volumes, and holding times for laboratory samples collected as part of the  
26 DMP.

27 The monitoring system will use dedicated pumping systems and sample collection lines from the  
28 sampled formation to the well head. Non-dedicated sample collection lines from the well head to  
29 the sample collection area will be discarded after each use.

30 Sample integrity will be ensured through appropriate decontamination procedures. Laboratory  
31 glassware will be washed after each use with a solution of nonphosphorus detergent and  
32 deionized (**DI**) water and rinsed in DI water. Sample containers will be new, certified clean  
33 containers that will be discarded after one use. Groundwater surface elevation measurement  
34 devices will be rinsed with fresh water after each use. Non-dedicated sample collection manifold  
35 assemblies will be rinsed with two gallons of fresh water, then rinsed with five gallons of 5  
36 percent nitric acid solution and rinsed with five gallons of DI water after each use. The exposed  
37 ends will be capped off during storage. Prior to the next use of the sampling manifold, it will be  
38 rinsed a second time with DI water and a blank rinsate sample will be collected to verify  
39 decontamination.

1 Water samples will be collected at atmospheric pressure using either the filtered or unfiltered  
2 Teflon<sup>®</sup> sampling lines branching from the main sample line. Detailed protocols, in the form of  
3 procedures, assure that final samples will be collected in a consistent and repeatable fashion.  
4 WIPP Procedure WP 02-EM1006 defines the requirements for collection of final samples for  
5 analyses. A current version of this procedure will be maintained on file at the WIPP facility in  
6 ~~the WIPP Operating Record.~~

7 Final samples will be collected in the appropriate type of container for the specific analysis to be  
8 performed. The samples will be collected in new and unused glass and plastic containers (refer  
9 to Table L-4). For each parameter analyzed, a sufficient volume of sample will be collected to  
10 satisfy the volume requirements of the analytical laboratory (as specified by laboratory Standard  
11 Operating Procedures ~~(SOPs)~~). This includes an additional volume of sample water necessary  
12 for maintaining quality control standards. All final samples will be treated, handled, and  
13 preserved as required for the specific type of analysis to be performed. Details about sample  
14 containers, preservation, and volumes required for individual types of analyses are found in the  
15 applicable procedures generated, approved, and maintained by the contract analytical laboratory.

16 Before the final sample is taken, all plastic and glass containers will be rinsed with the pumped  
17 groundwater, either filtered or unfiltered, dependent upon analysis protocol. When the rinsing  
18 procedure is completed the final sample will be collected.

19 Final samples will be sent to contract laboratories and analyzed for general chemistry,  
20 radionuclides, metals, and selected ~~VOCs~~ organics that are specific to the waste anticipated to  
21 arrive at WIPP. Table L-3 presents the specific analytes for the DMP.

22 ~~WIPP has not accepted TRU mixed waste for disposal prior to issuance of a hazardous waste  
23 disposal permit, and previous WQSP sample analyses have shown that requested hazardous  
24 constituents have not been introduced to the groundwater in the vicinity of WIPP by other  
25 activities. Appendix D18, Chapter A, of the RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997b)  
26 presented analytical data obtained from WQSP wells 1-6 which indicated that, for the Appendix  
27 IX parameters analyzed for, none of the anticipated waste constituents presented on Table L-3  
28 were present in sampled groundwater at WIPP.~~

29 Duplicates of the final sample will be provided to WIPP oversight agencies as requested by the  
30 Permittees or NMED.

31 Resulting wastes are disposed of in accordance with the WIPP Procedure WP 02-RC.01<sup>8</sup>. A  
32 current version of this procedure will be maintained on file at the WIPP facility in the WIPP  
33 ~~Operating Record.~~

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<sup>8</sup> WP 02-RC.01 "Site-Generated, Non-Radioactive Hazardous Waste Management Plan" is a step-by-step procedure that defines site-generate non-radioactive hazardous waste (SGNRHW) and lists responsibilities of waste management organizations including the generator, waste handlers, sampling personnel, safety personnel, and compliance personnel. In addition, the procedure defines training requirements, container marking requirements, spill response, and list prohibitions. A section of the procedure is focused on waste management practices including the management in satellite accumulation areas, the hazardous waste staging area for materials awaiting analysis, the establishment of accumulation times, and hazardous waste disposal.

1 L-4c(2)(iv) Sample Preservation, Tracking, Packaging, and Transportation

2 Many of the chemical constituents measured by the DMP are not chemically stable and require  
3 preservation and special handling techniques. Samples requiring acidification will be treated  
4 with either high purity hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, or sulfuric acid (ULTREX or equivalent),  
5 depending upon the standard method of treatment required for the particular parameter suite or as  
6 requested by contract laboratory SOPs (see Table L-4).

7 The contract laboratory receiving the samples will use procedures that prescribe the type and  
8 amount of preservative, the container material type, and the required sample volumes that shall  
9 be collected. This information will be recorded on the Final Sample Checklist for use by field  
10 personnel when final samples are being collected. The Permittees will follow the EPA "RCRA  
11 Ground-Water Monitoring Technical Enforcement Guidance Document," Table 4-1 (EPA,  
12 1986), if laboratory SOPs do not specify sample container, volume, or preservation requirements.

13 The sample tracking system at WIPP will use uniquely numbered chain of custody (**CofC**)  
14 Forms and request for analysis (**RFA**) Forms. The primary consideration for storage or  
15 transportation is that samples shall be analyzed within the prescribed holding times for the  
16 parameters of interest. WIPP Procedure WP 02-EM3001 provides instructions to ensure proper  
17 sample tracking protocol. A current revision of this procedure will be maintained ~~within the~~  
18 ~~WIPP Operating Record~~ on file at the WIPP facility.

19 Insulated shipping containers packaged with crushed ice or reusable ice packs will be used to  
20 keep the samples cool during transport to the contract laboratory. Holding times for specific  
21 analytical parameters require samples to be shipped by express air freight. The coolers will be  
22 packaged to meet Department of Transportation and International Air Transportation Association  
23 commercial carrier regulations.

24 L-4c(2)(v) Sample Documentation and Custody

25 To ensure the integrity of samples from the time of collection through reporting date, sample  
26 collection, handling, and custody shall be documented. Sample custody and documentation  
27 procedures for ~~EM~~ sampling and analysis activities are detailed in WIPP Procedure  
28 WP 02 EM3001. These procedures will be strictly followed throughout the course of each  
29 sample collection and analysis event. A current revision of this procedure will be maintained on  
30 file at the WIPP facility ~~in the WIPP Operating Record~~.

31 Standardized forms used to document samples will include sample identification numbers,  
32 sample labels, custody tape, the sample tracking log books, and the request for analysis/chain of  
33 custody (RFA and CofC) form. The forms are briefly defined in the following subsections.

34 All sample documentation will be completed for each sample and reviewed by the Team Leader  
35 or his/her designee for completeness and accuracy.

1 Sample Numbers and Labels

2 A unique sample identification number will be assigned to each sample sent to the laboratory for  
3 analysis. The Team Leader (see Section L-7) will assign the numbers prior to sample collection.  
4 The sample identification numbers will be used to track the sample from the time of collection  
5 through data reporting. Every sample container sent to the laboratory for analysis will be  
6 identified with a label affixed to it. Sample label information will be completed in permanent,  
7 indelible ink and will contain the following information: sample identification number with  
8 sample matrix type; sample location; analysis requested; time and date of collection;  
9 preservative(s), if any; and the sampler's name or initials.

10 Custody Seals

11 Custody seals will be used to detect unauthorized sample tampering from collection through  
12 analysis. The custody seals will be adhesive-backed strips that are destroyed when removed or  
13 when the container is opened. The seal will be dated, initialed, and affixed to the sample  
14 container in such a manner that it is necessary to break the seal to open the container. Seals will  
15 be affixed to sample containers in the field immediately after collection. Upon receipt at the  
16 laboratory, the laboratory custodian will inspect the seal for integrity; a broken seal will  
17 invalidate the sample.

18 Sample Tracking Logbook

19 A sample tracking logbook (**STLB**) form will be completed for each sample collected. The  
20 STLB will include the following information: CofC number; RFA No.; date sample(s) were sent  
21 to the lab; laboratory name; acknowledgment of receipt or comments; well name and round  
22 number. Sample codes will indicate the well location; the geologic formation where the water  
23 was collected from, the sampling round number; and the sample number. The code is broken  
24 down as follows:

25  $WQ6^1C^2R2^3N1^4$

- 26 <sup>1</sup> Well identification (e.g., WQSP-6 in this case)  
27 <sup>2</sup> Geologic formation (e.g., the Culebra in this case)  
28 <sup>3</sup> Sample round no. (Round 2)  
29 <sup>4</sup> Sample no. (N1)

30 To distinguish duplicate samples from other samples, a "D" is added as the last digit to signify a  
31 duplicate. **The** STLB information will be completed in the field by the sampling team and  
32 checked by the Team Leader. When samples are shipped, the STLB will remain in the custody  
33 of the **Permittees** ~~EM Section~~ for sample tracking purposes.

34 Request for Analysis and Chain of Custody

35 An RFA and CofC form will be completed during or immediately following sample collection  
36 and will accompany the sample through analysis and disposal. An example of the RFA and

1 CofC form is presented in Figures L-16-17a and L-17b. The RFA and CofC form will be signed  
2 and dated each time the sample custody is transferred. A sample will be considered to be in a  
3 person's custody if: the sample is in his/her physical possession; the sample is in his/her  
4 unobstructed view; and/or the sample is placed, by the last person in possession of it, in a  
5 secured area with restricted access. During shipment, the carrier's air bill number serves as  
6 custody verification. Upon receipt of the samples at the laboratory, the laboratory sample  
7 custodian acknowledges possession of the samples by signing and dating the RFA and CofC.  
8 The completed original (top page) of the RFA and CofC will be returned to the Permittees Team  
9 Leader with the laboratory analytical report and becomes part of the permanent record of the  
10 sampling event. The RFA and CofC form also contains specific instructions to the laboratory for  
11 sample analysis, potential hazards, and disposal instructions.

#### 12 L-4c(3) Laboratory Analysis

13 Analysis of samples will be performed by a commercial laboratory. Methods will be specified in  
14 procurement documents and will be selected to be consistent with EPA recommended procedures  
15 in SW 846 (EPA, 1996). Additional detail on analytical techniques and methods will be given in  
16 laboratory SOPs. Table L-3 presents the analytical parameters for the WIPP DMP.

17 The Permittees will establish the criteria for laboratory selection, including the stipulation that  
18 the laboratory follow the procedures specified in SW 846 and that the laboratory follow EPA  
19 protocols. The selected laboratory shall demonstrate, through laboratory SOPs, that it will  
20 follow appropriate EPA SW 846 requirements and the requirements specified by the EPA  
21 protocols. The laboratory shall also provide documentation to the Permittees describing the  
22 sensitivity of laboratory instrumentation. This documentation will be retained in the facility  
23 operating record and will be available for review upon request by NMED. Instrumentation  
24 sensitivity needs to be considered because of regulatory requirements governing constituent  
25 concentrations in groundwater and the complexity of brines associated with the WIPP repository.

26 Once the initial qualification criteria, as specified above, have been met, the Permittees will  
27 select a laboratory based upon competitive bid. The selected laboratory will perform analytical  
28 work for the Permittees for a predetermined period of time, as specified in the contract between  
29 the Permittees and the selected laboratory. As this period of performance comes to an end, a  
30 new laboratory selection/competitive bid process will be initiated by the Permittees. The same  
31 or a different laboratory may be selected for the new contract period. The SOPs for the  
32 laboratory currently under contract will be maintained in a file in the operating record by the  
33 Permittees. The Permittees will provide NMED with an initial set of applicable laboratory SOPs  
34 for information purposes, and provide NMED with any updated SOPs on an annual basis.

35 ~~Data validation will be performed on behalf of the Permittees by the Management and Operating~~  
36 ~~Contractor (MOC) Environmental Monitoring (EM). Data validation results are documented in~~  
37 ~~accordance with standard operating procedures, on an Approval/Variation Request (AR/VR)~~  
38 ~~form (Procedure WP-15-PC3041). If no discrepancies are found in the data will be approved, ;~~  
39 ~~the AR/VR form will be signed and the approved box will be checked. If however, discrepancies~~  
40 ~~are found, the AR/VR form will be signed and the disapproved or approved-on-condition box~~

1 ~~will be checked and the form will be returned to the team leader accompanied by an~~ disposition  
2 of the discrepancies will be documented and attached report discussing ~~to~~ the data validation  
3 results noting any anomalies and resolutions. Copies of the data validation report will be  
4 distributed to the EM Manager, QA Manager, the Team Leader, and the Contract Administrator.  
5 Copies of the data validation report will be kept on file at the WIPP facility in the EM records  
6 section for review upon request by NMED.

#### 7 L-4d Calibration

##### 8 L-4d(1) Sampling Equipment Calibration Requirements

9 The equipment used to collect data for the WQSP and this DMP will be calibrated in accordance  
10 with maintenance administrative procedures specified below. The ~~EM Section~~ Permittees will  
11 be responsible for calibrating needed equipment on schedule, in accordance with written  
12 procedures. The ~~EM Section~~ Permittees will also be responsible for maintaining current  
13 calibration records for each piece of equipment.

##### 14 L-4d(2) Groundwater Surface Elevation Monitoring Equipment Calibration Requirements

15 The equipment used in taking groundwater surface elevation measurements will be maintained in  
16 accordance with WIPP Procedure WP 10-AD3029<sup>9</sup> A current revision of this procedure will be  
17 kept on file at the WIPP facility ~~maintained in the WIPP Operating Record~~. The ~~EM Section~~  
18 Permittees will be responsible for calibrating the needed equipment on schedule in accordance  
19 with written procedures. The Permittees~~EM Section~~ will also be responsible for maintaining  
20 current calibration records for each piece of equipment.

##### 21 L-4e Statistical Analysis of Laboratory Data

22 ~~As required by 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §§264.97 and 264.98), data collected~~  
23 ~~to establish background groundwater quality and as part of the DMP will be evaluated using~~  
24 ~~appropriate statistical techniques.~~ The following specifies the statistical analysis to be performed  
25 in support of by the DMP. Statistical analysis of DMP data will conform to EPA guidance  
26 “Statistical Analysis of Ground-Water Monitoring Data at RCRA Facilities” (EPA, 1989) and  
27 “Statistical Analysis of Ground-Water Monitoring Data at RCRA Facilities, Addendum to  
28 Interim Final Guidance” (EPA, 1992).

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<sup>9</sup> WP 10-AD3029 “Calibration and Control of Monitoring and Data Collection Equipment” provides the step-by-step protocols for the establishment and maintenance of a master database of monitoring and data collection (M&DC) equipment, the recall process for equipment needing calibration, the performance of calibrations, the management of calibration results to determine the adequacy of recall frequencies, functional testing of M&DC equipment, and reporting including out-of-tolerance reporting and expired calibration reporting. In addition, the procedure provides step-by-step process for the storage of calibrated M&DC equipment and the use of rental equipment.

1 L-4e(1) Temporal and Spatial Analysis

2 Environmental parameters vary with space and time. The effect of one or both of these two  
3 factors on the expected value of a point measurement will be statistically evaluated through  
4 spatial analysis and time series analysis. These methods often require extensive sampling efforts  
5 that may exceed the practical limits of the DMP sampling procedures.

6 Spatial analysis may have limited use **for the** DMP during the operational period, although the  
7 effect of spatial auto-correlation on the interpretation of the data will be considered for each  
8 parameter. Spatial variability will be accounted for by the use of predetermined key sampling  
9 locations. Data analysis will be performed on a location-specific basis, or data from different  
10 locations will be combined only when the data are statistically homogeneous. Statistical  
11 homogeneity will be determined by evaluating mean values and variances from the residuals  
12 from the individual well data.

13 Time series analysis plays a more important role in data analysis for the DMP. Parameters will  
14 be reported as time series, either in tabular form or as time plots. For key time series parameters,  
15 these plots will be in the form of control charts on which control levels will be identified based  
16 on preoperational database, fixed standards, control location databases, or other standards for  
17 comparison. Where significant seasonal changes in the expected value of the parameter are  
18 identified in the preoperational database or in the control locations, corrections in the control  
19 levels which reflect the seasonal change will be made and documented.

20 L-4e(2) Distributions and Descriptive Statistics

21 For data sets which include more than ten data points that are homogeneous in space and time  
22 (including seasonal homogeneity) and have less than ten percent missing data, a test for  
23 conformance to the normal distribution will be performed. The test for normality of the data will  
24 be performed in accordance with the methodologies presented in "Statistical Analysis of Ground  
25 Water Monitoring Data at RCRA Facilities, Addendum to Interim Final Guidance" (EPA, 1992).

26 If normality is not met, the data will be log-transformed (or transformed using a suitable  
27 mathematical transformation, e.g., square root) and retested for normality. If the transformed  
28 data fit a normal distribution, the original data will be accepted as having lognormal or an  
29 otherwise mathematically-transformed normal distribution. If normality is still not found, two  
30 courses may be taken. One will be to continue to test the fit to standard families of distributions,  
31 such as the gamma, beta, and Weibull, with proper modifications to subsequent analyses based  
32 on these results. The other course will be to use nonparametric methods of data analysis.

33 For data sets smaller than ten, but homogeneous and complete, the lognormal distribution will be  
34 assumed. Data sets with more than ten percent missing data will be analyzed using  
35 nonparametric methods. Nonhomogeneous data sets will be subdivided into homogeneous sets  
36 and each of these analyzed individually.

37 Descriptive statistics will be calculated for each homogeneous data set. At a minimum, these  
38 include a central value and a range of variation. The central value is the arithmetic mean of the

1 untransformed data if the data are not censored at either end. If the data are censored, either a  
2 trimmed mean or the median will be used as the central value (which may be within the censored  
3 range). If the data set is greater than ten and is uncensored, the standard deviation will be  
4 calculated and used as a basis for the reported range in variation. If these criteria are not met, the  
5 range between the 0.25 and 0.75 ~~earliest~~ **percentiles** will be used.

#### 6 L-4e(3) Data Anomalies

7 Data anomalies include data points reported as being below the limit of detection (**LD**) or  
8 otherwise censored over a specific range of values, missing data points occurring randomly in  
9 the data set, and outliers that cannot be ascribed to a known source of variation.

10 Whenever possible, sample values which are reported below detection limits will be incorporated  
11 into the database as sample values measured at one-half the detection limit for statistical  
12 analysis. When values are not available, alternative methods of analysis, as specified in previous  
13 sections, will be used. In particular, the use of nonparametric statistics will be required.

14 Missing data points comprising less than 10 percent of the data set do not significantly affect  
15 data analyses. Results based on data in which more than 10 percent is missing will be identified  
16 as such at the time of reporting. Consideration of the potential effect of missing data shall be  
17 made when the majority of the data are missing from a discrete time span.

18 Formal testing for outliers will only be done in accordance with EPA guidance. The  
19 methodologies specified in Section 8.2 of the “Statistical Analysis of Ground-Water Monitoring  
20 Data at RCRA Facilities” (EPA, 1989) will be used to check for outliers.

21 If an outside source of variation is not identified to account for outliers in a data set, it will be  
22 included in the data set and all subsequent analyses. If the inclusion of such outliers is found to  
23 affect the final results of the analyses significantly, both results (with and without outliers) will  
24 be reported.

#### 25 L-4e(4) Comparisons and Reporting

26 ~~Prior to waste receipt, measurements will have been made of each background groundwater~~  
27 ~~quality parameter and constituent specified in Table L-3 at every DMP groundwater monitoring~~  
28 ~~well during each of the four background sampling events. If any background groundwater~~  
29 ~~quality parameter or constituent has not been measured prior to waste receipt, measurements will~~  
30 ~~be made for those parameters or constituents in hydraulically upgradient DMP groundwater~~  
31 ~~monitoring wells for a sequence of four sampling events. Following completion of the four~~  
32 ~~sampling events, the arithmetic mean and variance shall then be calculated by the field~~  
33 ~~supervisor or designee for each well. These measurements will then serve as a background value~~  
34 ~~against which statistical values for subsequent sampling events during detection monitoring will~~  
35 ~~be compared. Statistical analysis and comparison **to background values** will be accomplished~~  
36 using one of the five statistical tests specified in 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR  
37 §264.98(h)), which may include Cochran’s Approximation to the Behrens-Fisher students’ t-test  
38 at the 0.01 level of significance (described in Appendix IV to 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating

1 40 CFR §264). If the comparisons show a significant increase at any monitoring site (as defined  
2 in 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.98(f)), the well shall be resampled and an  
3 analysis performed as soon as possible, in accordance with 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40  
4 CFR §264.98(g)(2)). The results of the statistical comparison will be reported annually in the  
5 Annual Site Environmental Report (ASER), and will be reported to NMED as required under  
6 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.98(g)).

## 7 L-5 Reporting

### 8 L-5a Laboratory Data Reports

9 ~~Laboratory data will be provided in electronic and hard copy reports to the Permittees.~~  
10 Laboratory data reports will be forwarded to the Permittees ~~Team Leader~~ (see Section L-7) and  
11 NMED and will contain the following information for each analytical report:

- 12 • A brief narrative summarizing laboratory analyses performed, date of issue, deviations  
13 from the analytical method, technical problems affecting data quality, laboratory quality  
14 checks, corrective actions (if any), and the project manager's signature approving  
15 issuance of the data report.
- 16 • Header information for each analytical data summary sheet including: sample number  
17 and corresponding laboratory identification number; sample matrix; date of collection,  
18 receipt, preparation and analysis; and analyst's name.
- 19 • Analytical parameter, analytical result, reporting units, reporting limit, analytical method  
20 used.
- 21 • Results of QC sample analyses for all concurrently analyzed QC samples.

22 All analytical results will be provided to NMED.

### 23 L-5b Statistical Analysis and Reporting of Results

24 Analytical results from semi-annual groundwater sampling activities will be compared and  
25 interpreted ~~by the Team Leader~~ through generation of statistical analyses as specified in Section  
26 L-4e. The ~~Team Leader~~ Permittees will perform statistical analyses; the results will be included  
27 in the ASER in summary form, and will also be provided to NMED ~~as specified in Permit~~  
28 ~~Module V~~.

1 L-5c Annual Site Environmental Report

2 Data collected from this DMP will be reported to NMED ~~as specified in Permit Module V, and~~  
3 ~~to the EM Manager and NMED~~ in the ASER. The ASER will include all applicable information  
4 that may affect the comparison of background groundwater quality and groundwater surface  
5 elevation data through time. This information will include but is not limited to:

- 6 • Well configuration changes that may have occurred from the time of the last  
7 measurement (i.e., plug installation and removal, packer removal and reinstallation, or  
8 both; and the type and quantity of fluids that may have been introduced into the test  
9 wells).
- 10 • Any pumping activities that may have taken place since publication of the last annual  
11 report (i.e., groundwater quality sampling, hydraulic testing, and shaft installation or  
12 grouting activities).
- 13 • Radionuclide-specific data collected during the previous year.

14 The DMP monitoring, testing and analytical data used in generating the ASER will be  
15 maintained as part of the WIPP facility Operating Record and will be provided to NMED for  
16 review as specified in the permit.

17 L-6 Records Management

18 Records generated during groundwater sampling and groundwater surface elevation monitoring  
19 events will be maintained in the form project files in the Permittees EM Section. Project records  
20 will include, but are not limited to:

- 21 • Sampling and Analysis Plans (SAP)  
22 • SOPs  
23 • STLBs  
24 • RFA and CofC forms  
25 • Contract Analytical Laboratory Data Reports  
26 • Variance Logs and Nonconformance Reports  
27 • Corrective Action Reports.

28 These and all raw analytical records generated in conjunction with groundwater sampling and  
29 groundwater surface elevation monitoring will be stored in fire resistant cabinets ~~in~~ by the ~~EM~~  
30 ~~section~~ Permittees according to the Records Inventory and Disposition Schedule (**RIDS**) and will  
31 be made available for inspection upon request. The following records will be designated by the  
32 ~~transmitted to the Permittees' Project Records Services (PRS)~~ for long-term storage in  
33 accordance with the RIDS:

- 34 • Instrument maintenance and calibration records  
35 • QC sample data

- 1 • Control charts and calculation
- 2 • Sample tracking and control documentation
- 3 • Raw analytical results.

#### 4 L-7 Project Organization and Responsibilities

##### 5 L-7a Environmental Monitoring Manager

6 The EM Manager will be responsible for the overall design and implementation of the DMP.  
7 The EM Manager will develop and approve specific procedures ~~all~~ for DMP activities, and will  
8 review and approve programmatic reports. The EM Manager will provide oversight of  
9 appropriate levels of cooperation and consultation between the ~~Permittees~~ EM Section and the  
10 State of New Mexico regarding environmental monitoring and will revise the QA section of the  
11 DMP, if necessary, and submit revisions as permit modifications as specified in 20.4.1.900  
12 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §270.42).

13 The EM Manager and staff will be responsible for achieving and maintaining quality in the  
14 DMP. All DMP data will be reviewed and approved by the EM Manager, or designee, prior to  
15 release.

16 The EM Manager will establish minimum qualification criteria and training requirements for ~~all~~  
17 DMP personnel. The EM Manager will assure that position descriptions for assigned DMP  
18 personnel are adequately prepared. ~~The EM Manager and/or Team Leader~~ Permittees will assure  
19 that training is performed on an individual basis to maintain an acceptable level of proficiency by  
20 ~~all new or temporary DMP staff and by all permanent GWSP staff~~ personnel implementing the  
21 DMP. ~~The EM Manager~~ Permittees will assure that documents detailing ~~all~~ staff training are  
22 current and properly filed. Copies of training records will be on file for the Permittees in the  
23 MOC Technical Training Section (see Renewal Application Chapter H).

24 The EM Manager will appoint a DMP Team Leader and Field Team, and assign the following  
25 responsibilities specified below.

##### 26 L-7b Team Leader

27 The Team Leader will coordinate and oversee field sampling activities, ensuring that sampling  
28 and associated procedures will be followed and that QA/QC and safety guidelines will be met.  
29 The Team Leader will direct the DMP per written approved procedures, and initiate the review  
30 of programmatic plans and procedures. The Team Leader will review and evaluate sample data,  
31 prepare and review programmatic reports, and assure that appropriate samples will be collected  
32 and analyzed. The Team Leader will assure that adequate technical support is provided to the  
33 Quality Assurance (QA) Department, when required during audits of DMP-related vendor  
34 facilities. ~~Any~~ Nonconformances or project changes within the DMP program will be  
35 immediately communicated to the Team Leader.

1 L-7c Field Team

2 The field team ~~members will consist of one or more scientists, engineers, or technicians, who~~  
3 will be responsible for sample collection, handling, shipping, and preparation and maintenance  
4 of appropriate data sheets, and completion of sample tracking documentation under the direction  
5 of the Team Leader, in accordance with this DMP and associated field procedures. The field  
6 team will inspect, ~~maintain,~~ and ensure proper maintenance and calibration of equipment prior to  
7 use at each site, while ensuring that site health and safety requirements will be met ~~at all times~~.  
8 The field team will communicate ~~any~~ DMP-related nonconformances, malfunctions, or project  
9 changes to the Team Leader ~~immediately~~.

10 L-7d Safety Manager

11 The Safety Manager will be responsible for ensuring that the necessary requirements for the  
12 health and safety of personnel associated with sampling and analysis activities are met. ~~The~~  
13 ~~cognizant manager will be responsible for ensuring that field team members operate in a safe~~  
14 ~~manner and personnel have appropriate training.~~ The Safety Manager will ensure that periodic  
15 health and safety assessments are conducted and that ~~the cognizant manager will initiate~~  
16 ~~corrective actions~~ are initiated where to correct deficiencies ~~are identified~~.

17 L-7e Analytical Laboratory Management

18 Sample collection containers supplied by the laboratory will be certified as clean by either the  
19 laboratory or their supplier. ~~The Permittees will supply containers for radiological samples.~~ The  
20 analytical laboratory will be responsible for performing analyses in accordance with this DMP  
21 Plan and regulatory requirements. The laboratory will maintain documentation of sample  
22 handling and custody, analytical results, and internal QC data. Additionally, the laboratory will  
23 analyze QC samples in accordance with this plan and its own internal QC program for indicators  
24 of analytical accuracy and precision. Data generated outside laboratory acceptance limits will  
25 trigger an investigation and, if appropriate, corrective action, as directed by the EM Manager.  
26 The laboratory will report the results of the environmental sample and QC sample analyses and  
27 any necessary corrective actions that were performed. In the event that more than one analytical  
28 laboratory is used (e.g., for different analyses), each one will have the responsibilities specified  
29 above.

30 L-7f Quality Assurance (QA) Manager

31 The QA Manager will provide independent oversight of the DMP, ~~via the assigned cognizant QA~~  
32 ~~engineer,~~ to verify that quality objectives are defined and achieved. The QA Manager will  
33 ensure objective, independent assessments of the DMP quality performance and the quality  
34 performance of the contract analytical laboratory. The QA Manager has been delegated  
35 authority on behalf of the Permittees by the Management and Operating Contractor (MOC)  
36 General Manager and will have access to work areas, identify quality problems, and with regard  
37 to a quality problem, initiate or recommend corrective actions, verify implementation of  
38 corrective actions, and ensure that work will be controlled or stopped until adequate disposition  
39 of ~~an~~ the unsatisfactory condition has been implemented.

1 L-8 Quality Assurance Requirements

2 Specific Quality Assurance (QA) requirements for WIPP are defined in WIPP document  
3 WP 13-1, Quality Assurance Program Description (QAPD). A current revision of the QAPD  
4 is this document will be maintained in the WIPP Operating Record on file at the facility. The  
5 following requirements are provided to implement the QAPD for the DMP. Requirements  
6 specific to the DMP are presented in this section.

7 L-8a DMP QA Program—Overview

8 The DMP QA program was developed to assure that the integrity and quality of DMP  
9 activities will be maintained for all samples collected and that equipment and records will be  
10 maintained in accordance with EPA guidance. The DMP QA Program identifies data quality  
11 objectives (**DQO**), processes for assuring sample quality, and processes for generating and  
12 maintaining quality records.

13 L-8b DQOs

14 DQOs are qualitative and quantitative statements that specify the quality of data required to  
15 support project decisions. DQOs will be established to ensure that the data collected will be of a  
16 sufficient and known quality for their intended uses. The overall DQO for this project will be to  
17 collect accurate and defensible data of known quality that will be sufficient to assess the  
18 concentrations of constituents in the groundwater underlying the WIPP area. The data generated  
19 thus far by the DMP has been used to establish background groundwater quality. For the  
20 purpose of this DMP, DQOs for measurement data will be specified in terms of accuracy,  
21 precision, completeness, representativeness, and comparability. Measurements of data quality in  
22 terms of accuracy and precision will be derived from the analysis of QC samples generated in the  
23 field and laboratory. Appropriate QC procedures will be used so that known and acceptable  
24 levels of accuracy and precision will be maintained for each data set. This section defines the  
25 acceptance criteria for each QC analysis performed. The following subsections define each  
26 DQO.

27 L-8b(1) Accuracy

28 Accuracy is the closeness of agreement between a measurement and an accepted reference value.  
29 When applied to a set of observed values, accuracy is a combination of a random component and  
30 a common systematic error (bias) component. Measurements for accuracy will include analysis  
31 of calibration standards, laboratory control samples, matrix spike samples, and surrogate spike  
32 samples. The bias component of accuracy is expressed as percent recovery (**%R**). Percent  
33 recovery is expressed as follows:

34 
$$\%R = \frac{(\text{measured sample concentration})}{\text{true concentration}} \times 100$$

1 L-8b(1)(i) Accuracy Objectives for Field Measurements

2 Field measurements will include pH, SC, temperature, Eh, and static groundwater surface  
3 elevation. Field measurement accuracy will be determined using calibration check standards.  
4 Thermometers used for field measurements will be calibrated to the National Institute for  
5 Standards and Technology (**NIST**) traceable standard on an annual basis to assure accuracy.  
6 Accuracy of groundwater surface elevation measurements will be checked before each  
7 measurement period by verifying calibration of the device within the specified schedule. WIPP  
8 document WP 13-1 outlines the basic requirements for field equipment use and calibration.  
9 WIPP Procedure WP 10-AD3029 contains instructions that outline protocols for maintaining  
10 current calibration of groundwater surface elevation measurement instrumentation. A current  
11 revision of this document or procedure will be maintained ~~in the WIPP Operating Record~~ on file  
12 at the WIPP facility.

13 L-8b(1)(ii) Accuracy Objectives for Laboratory Measurements

14 Analytical system accuracy will be quantified using the following laboratory accuracy QC  
15 checks: calibration standards, laboratory control samples (**LCS**), laboratory blanks, matrix and  
16 surrogate spike samples. Single LCSs and matrix spike and surrogate spike sample analyses will  
17 be expressed as %R. Laboratory analytical accuracy is parameter dependent and will be  
18 prescribed in the laboratory SOP.

19 L-8b(2) Precision

20 Precision is the agreement among a set of replicate measurements without assumption or  
21 knowledge of the true value. Precision data will be derived from duplicate field and laboratory  
22 measurements. Precision will be expressed as relative percent difference (**RPD**), which is  
23 calculated as follows:

24 
$$RPD = \frac{|(\text{measured value sample 1} - \text{measured value sample 2})|}{\text{average of measured samples 1} + 2} \times 100$$

25 L-8b(2)(i) Precision Objectives for Field Measurements

26 Precision of field measurements of water-quality parameters will meet or exceed required  
27 reporting levels. SC, pH, temperature, and optionally Eh will be measured during well purging  
28 and after sampling. SC measurements will be precise to  $\pm 10\%$  pH to 0.10 standard unit, and  
29 temperature to 0.10 degrees Celsius ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), Eh to 10 millivolts (mV).

30 L-8b(2)(ii) Precision Objectives for Laboratory Measurements

31 Precision of laboratory analyses will be assessed by performing the same analyses twice on LCSs  
32 with each analytical batch assessed at a minimum frequency of 1 in 20 groundwater samples for  
33 nonradiological parameters and 1 in 10 for radiological parameters. The laboratory will  
34 determine analytical precision control limits by performing replicate analyses of control samples.

1 Precision measurements will be expressed as RPD. Laboratory analytical precision is also  
2 parameter dependent and will be prescribed in laboratory SOPs.

3 L-8b(3) Contamination

4 In addition to measurements of precision and bias, QC checks for contamination will be  
5 performed. QC samples including trip blanks, field blanks, and method blanks will be analyzed  
6 to assess and document contamination attributable to sample collection equipment, sample  
7 handling and shipping, and laboratory reagents and glassware. Trip blanks will be used to assess  
8 volatile organic compound (VOC) sample contamination during shipment and handling and will  
9 be collected and analyzed at a frequency of 1 sample per sample shipment. Field blanks will be  
10 used to assess field sample collection methods and will be collected and analyzed at a minimum  
11 frequency of one sample per 20 samples (five percent of the samples collected). Method blanks  
12 will be used to assess contamination resulting from the analytical process and will be analyzed at  
13 a minimum frequency of one sample per 20 samples, or five percent of the samples collected.  
14 Evaluation of sample blanks will be performed following U.S. EPA “National Functional  
15 Guidelines for Organic Data Review” (EPA, 1991) and “Functional Guidelines for Evaluating  
16 Inorganics Analyses” (EPA, 1988). Only method blanks will be analyzed via wet chemistry  
17 methods. The criteria for evaluating method blanks will be established as follows: If method  
18 blank results exceed reporting limits, then that value will become the detection limit for the  
19 sample batch. Detection of analytes of interest in blank samples may be used to disqualify some  
20 samples, requiring resampling and additional analyses on a case-by-case basis.

21 L-8b(4) Completeness

22 Completeness is a measure of the amount of usable valid data resulting from a data collection  
23 activity, given the sample design and analysis. Completeness may be affected by unexpected  
24 conditions that may occur during the data collection process.

25 Occurrences that reduce the amount of data collected include sample container breakage in the  
26 laboratory and data generated while the laboratory was operating outside prescribed QC limits.  
27 All attempts will be made to minimize data loss and to recover lost data whenever possible. The  
28 completeness objective for noncritical measurements (i.e., field measurements) will be 90  
29 percent and 100 percent for critical measurements (i.e., ~~compliance data~~ used to demonstrate  
30 compliance to the environmental performance standard). If the completeness objective is not  
31 met, the WIPP EM Manager will determine on behalf of the Permittees the need for resampling  
32 on a case-by-case basis. Numerical expression of the completeness (%C) of data is as follows:

33 
$$\%C = \frac{\text{number of accepted samples}}{\text{total number of samples collected}} \times 100$$

34 L-8b(5) Representativeness

35 Representativeness is the degree to which sample analyses accurately and precisely represent the  
36 media they are intended to represent. Data representativeness for this DMP will be

1 accomplished through implementing approved sampling procedures and the use of validated  
2 analytical methods. Sampling procedures will be designed to minimize factors affecting the  
3 integrity of the samples. Groundwater samples will only be collected after well purging criteria  
4 have been met. The analytical methods selected will be those that will most accurately and  
5 precisely represent the true concentration of analytes of interest.

#### 6 L-8b(6) Comparability

7 Comparability is the extent to which one data set can be compared to another. Comparability  
8 will be achieved through reporting data in consistent units and collection and analysis of samples  
9 using consistent methodology. Aqueous samples will consistently be reported in units of  
10 measures dictated by the analytical method. Units of measure include:

- 11 • Milligrams per liter (mg/L) for alkalinity, inorganic compounds and metals
- 12 • Micrograms per liter (µg/L) for VOCs.

13 Groundwater surface elevation measurements will be expressed as equivalent freshwater  
14 elevation in feet above mean sea level.

#### 15 L-8c Design Control

16 The ~~DMP groundwater monitoring system~~ was designed and will be maintained to meet  
17 specifications established in 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §§264, Subpart F and  
18 ~~Subpart X~~ 264.601 through 264.603).

#### 19 L-8d Instructions, Procedures, and Drawings

20 Provisions and responsibilities for the preparation and use of instructions and procedures at  
21 WIPP are outlined in ~~the QAPD~~ WIPP document WP 13-1. Any activities performed for  
22 groundwater monitoring that may affect groundwater will be performed in accordance with  
23 documented and approved procedures which comply with the Permit and the requirements of  
24 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264 Subpart F).

25 Technical procedures, as specified elsewhere in this DMP, have been developed for each quality-  
26 affecting function performed for ~~the DMP groundwater monitoring~~. The technical procedures  
27 unique to the DMP will be ~~prepared and~~ controlled ~~in accordance with the MOC document~~  
28 ~~control process~~ by the ES&H at WIPP. The procedures are sufficiently detailed and include,  
29 when applicable, quantitative or qualitative acceptance criteria.

30 ~~Procedures were prepared in accordance with requirements in WIPP document WP 13-1. A~~  
31 ~~current revision of this document will be maintained in the WIPP Operating Record.~~

1 L-8e Document Control

2 Document controls will ensure that the latest approved versions of procedures will be used in  
3 performing ~~DMP groundwater monitoring~~ functions and that obsolete materials will be removed  
4 from work areas.

5 L-8f Control of Work Processes

6 Process control requirements, defined in ~~the QAPD WIPP document WP 13-1~~ are met, and will  
7 continue to be met, for this DMP. A current revision of ~~the QAPD is this document~~ will be  
8 maintained in the WIPP Operating Record on file at the facility.

9 L-8g Inspection and Surveillance

10 Inspection and surveillance activities will be conducted in accordance with ~~as outlined in the~~  
11 QAPD WIPP document WP 13-1. The QA Department will be responsible for performing the  
12 applicable inspections and surveillance on the scope of work. The Permittees EM section  
13 personnel will be responsible for performance checks as defined in applicable procedures and  
14 ~~determined for the Permittees by MOC metrology laboratory personnel~~. Performance checks for  
15 the DMP will determine the acceptability of purchased items and assess degradation that occurs  
16 during use. A current revision of ~~the QAPD is this document~~ will be maintained in the WIPP  
17 Operating Record on file at the facility.

18 L-8h Control of Monitoring and Data Collection Equipment

19 The QAPD WIPP document WP 13-1 outlines the quality ~~basic~~ requirements for control and  
20 calibrating monitoring and data collection (M&DC) equipment. ~~M&DC equipment shall be~~  
21 ~~properly controlled, calibrated, and maintained according to WIPP Procedure WP 10-AD3029~~  
22 implements these requirements and is applied to DMP M&DC equipment to ensure continued  
23 accuracy of ~~DMP field groundwater monitoring~~ data. Results of calibrations, maintenance, and  
24 repair will be documented. Calibration records will identify the reference standard and the  
25 relationship to national standards or nationally accepted measurement systems. Records will be  
26 maintained to track uses of M&DC equipment. If M&DC equipment is found to be out of  
27 tolerance, the equipment will be tagged and it will not be used until corrections are made. A  
28 current revision of WIPP Procedure WP 10-AD3029 is this document will be maintained in the  
29 WIPP Operating Record on file at the facility.

30 L-8i Control of Nonconforming Conditions

31 The QAPD WIPP document WP 13-1 specifies ~~the system used at WIPP for ensuring that~~  
32 appropriate measures ~~be~~ are established to control nonconforming conditions. Detection  
33 Monitoring Program-related ~~Nonconforming~~ nonconforming conditions ~~connected to the DMP~~  
34 will be identified in and controlled by documented procedures. Equipment that does not  
35 conform to specified requirements will be controlled to prevent use. The disposition of defective  
36 items will be documented on records traceable to the affected items. Prior to final disposition,  
37 faulty items will be tagged and segregated. Repaired equipment will be subject to the original

1 acceptance inspections and tests prior to use. A current revision of the QAPD is this document  
2 will be maintained in the WIPP Operating Record on file at the facility.

3 L-8j Corrective Action

4 Requirements for the development and implementation of a system to determine, document, and  
5 initiate appropriate corrective actions after encountering conditions adverse to quality at WIPP  
6 are outlined in the QAPD WIPP document WP-13-1. Conditions adverse to acceptable quality  
7 will be documented and reported in accordance with corrective action procedures and corrected  
8 as soon as practical. Immediate action will be taken to control work performed under conditions  
9 adverse to acceptable quality and its results to prevent quality degradation. A current revision of  
10 the QAPD is this document will be maintained in the WIPP Operating Record on file at the  
11 facility.

12 L-8k Quality Assurance Records

13 The QAPD WIPP document WP-13-1 outlines the policy that will be used at WIPP regarding  
14 identification, preparation, collection, storage, maintenance, disposition, and permanent storage  
15 of QA records. A current revision of the QAPD is this document will be maintained in the WIPP  
16 Operating Record on file at the facility.

17 Records to be generated in the DMP will be specified by procedure. QA Quality Assurance and  
18 RCRA operating records will be identified. This will be the basis for the labeling of records as  
19 “QA” or “RCRA operating” on the EM RIDS Records Inventory and Disposition Schedule.

20 QA Quality Assurance records will document the results of the DMP implementing procedures  
21 and will be sufficient to demonstrate that all quality-related aspects are valid. The records will  
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- 31 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 1990. "Background Documentation for the U.S.  
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34 Washington, D.C.

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2 Monitoring Data at RCRA Facilities," U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C.
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- 8 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 1996. "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid  
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**TABLES**

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**TABLE L-1  
 HYDROLOGICAL PARAMETERS FOR ROCK UNITS  
 ABOVE THE SALADO AT WIPP**

Unit	Hydraulic Conductivity	Storage Coefficient	Transmissivity	Permeability	Thickness	Hydraulic Gradient	
Santa Rosa	<del>2.6</del> x 10 <sup>-8</sup> to <del>2 x 10<sup>-6</sup></del> 5.5 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> m/s (1) (2)	Specific capacity 0.029 to 0.041 l/s/m	6 x 10 <sup>-7</sup> to 6 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> m <sup>2</sup> /s (3)	10 <sup>-10</sup> m <sup>2</sup>	0 to 91 m	0.001 (5)	
Dewey Lake	10 <sup>-8</sup> m/s	Specific storage 1 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (1/m) (2)	2.8 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> to <del>2.83</del> 9 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> m <sup>2</sup> /s (4)	5.01 x 10 <sup>-17</sup> m <sup>2</sup>	152 m	0.001 (5)	
Rustler	Forty-niner	1 x 10 <sup>-13</sup> to 1 x 10 <sup>-11</sup> m/s (anhydrite) 1 x 10 <sup>-9</sup> m/s (mudstone) (2)	Specific storage 1 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (1/m) (2)	<del>8.3</del> x 10 <sup>-8</sup> to <del>8 x 10<sup>-9</sup></del> 8 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> m <sup>2</sup> /s	0 m <sup>2</sup>	<del>13 to 23</del> <u>20</u> m	NA (6)
	Magenta	1 x 10 <sup>-8.5</sup> to 1 x 10 <sup>-6.5</sup> m/s (2)	Specific storage 1 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (1/m) (2)	4 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> to 1 x 10 <sup>-9</sup> m <sup>2</sup> /s	6.31 x 10 <sup>-14</sup> m <sup>2</sup>	<del>7 to 8.5</del> <u>6</u> m	3 to 6
	Tamarisk	1 x 10 <sup>-13</sup> to 1 x 10 <sup>-11</sup> m/s (anhydrite) 1 x 10 <sup>-9</sup> m/s (mudstone) (2)	Specific storage 1 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (1/m) (2)	<2.7 x 10 <sup>-11</sup> m <sup>2</sup> /s	0 m <sup>2</sup>	26 to 56 m	NA (6)
	Culebra	1 x 10 <sup>-7.5</sup> to 1 x 10 <sup>-5.5</sup> m/s (2)	Specific storage 1 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (1/m) (2)	1 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> to 1 x 10 <sup>-9</sup> m <sup>2</sup> /s	2.1 x 10 <sup>-14</sup> m <sup>2</sup>	4 to 11.6 m	0.003 to 0.007 (5)
	Unnamed lower member <u>Los Medaños</u>	<del>6 x 10<sup>-15</sup> to 1 x 10<sup>-13</sup></del> m/s 1.5 x 10 <sup>-11</sup> to 1.2 x 10 <sup>-11</sup> m/s (basal interval)	Specific storage 1 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (1/m) (2)	<del>2.9 x 10<sup>-10</sup> to 2.2 x 10<sup>-13</sup></del> m <sup>2</sup> /s 2.9 x 10 <sup>-10</sup> to 2.4 x 10 <sup>-10</sup> m <sup>2</sup> /s (basal interval)	0 m <sup>2</sup>	29 to 38 m	NA (6)

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Matrix characteristics relevant to fluid flow include values used in this table such as permeability, hydraulic conductivity, gradient, etc.)

Table Notes:

The Santa Rosa Formation is not present in the western portion of the WIPP site. It was combined with the Dewey Lake Red Beds in three-dimensional regional groundwater flow modeling (Corbet and Knupp, 1996), and the range of values entered here are those used in that study for the Dewey Lake/Triassic hydrostratigraphic unit.

- 1 Values or ranges of values given for these entries are the values used in three-dimensional regional groundwater  
2 flow modeling (Corbet and Knupp, 1996). Values are estimated based on literature values for similar rock types,  
3 adjusted to be consistent with site-specific data where available. Ranges of values include spatial variation over the  
4 WIPP site and differences in values used in different simulations to test model sensitivity to the parameter.
- 5 The range of values given here for transmissivity of the Santa Rosa is estimated for the center of the site.  
6 Transmissivity is the product of the thickness of the productive interval times its hydraulic conductivity. Thickness  
7 of the Santa Rosa is estimated to be 30 meters at the center of the WIPP site, and the range of derived transmissivities  
8 are based on the range of hydraulic conductivity values used by Corbet and Knupp (1996) for the combined Dewey  
9 Lake/Triassic unit.
- 10 The range of values given here by transmissivity of the Dewey Lake is estimated for the center of the site.  
11 Transmissivity is the product of the thickness of the productive interval times its hydraulic conductivity. Thickness  
12 of the Dewey Lake is estimated to be 140 meters at the center of the WIPP site, and the range of derived  
13 transmissivities are based on the range of hydraulic conductivity values used by Corbet and Knupp (1996) for the  
14 combined Dewey Lake/Triassic unit.
- 15 Hydraulic gradient is a dimensionless term describing change in the elevation of hydraulic head divided by  
16 change in horizontal distance. Values given in these entries are determined from potentiometric surfaces. The range  
17 of values given for the Culebra reflects the highest and lowest gradients observed within the WIPP site boundary.  
18 Values for the Dewey Lake and Santa Rosa are assumed to be the same as the gradient determined from the water  
19 table. Note that the Santa Rosa Formation is absent or above the water table in most of the controlled area, and that  
20 the concept of a horizontal hydraulic gradient is not meaningful for these regions.
- 21 Flow in units of very low hydraulic conductivity is slow, and primarily vertical. The concept of a horizontal  
22 hydraulic gradient is not applicable.
- 23 Sources: Beauheim, 1986; Domenico and Schwartz, 1990; Domski, Upton, and Beauheim, 1996; Earlough, 1977.

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**TABLE L-2**  
**WIPP GROUNDWATER DETECTION MONITORING PROGRAM**  
**SAMPLE COLLECTION AND GROUNDWATER SURFACE ELEVATION**  
**MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY**

Installation	Frequency
Groundwater Quality Sampling	
DMP monitoring wells	Semiannually
All other WIPP surveillance wells	On special request only
Groundwater Surface Elevation Monitoring	
DMP monitoring wells	Monthly and prior to sampling events
All other WIPP surveillance well sites	Monthly
Redundant wells at all other WIPP surveillance well sites	Quarterly

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**TABLE L-3  
 ANALYTICAL PARAMETER LIST FOR THE  
 WIPP DETECTION MONITORING PROGRAM**

Background Groundwater Quality	Operational Detection Monitoring Groundwater Quality		
<u>Indicator Parameters</u> pH, SC, TOC, TOH, TDS, TSS, density	<u>Indicator Parameters</u> pH, SC, TOC, TOH, TDS, TSS, density		
<u>Parameters Listed in</u> 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264) Appendix IX, Calcium, Magnesium, Potassium	<u>Organic Parameters</u> 1,1,1-trichloroethane      Hexachlorobenzene 1,1,2-trichloroethane      Hexachloroethane 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane      Isobutanol 1,1-dichloroethane      Methyl ethyl ketone 1,1-dichloroethylene      Methylene chloride 1,2-dichlorobenzene      Nitrobenzene 1,2-dichloroethane      Pentachlorophenol 1,4-dichlorobenzene      Pyridine 2,4-dinitrophenol      Tetrachloroethylene 2,4-dinitrotoluene      Toluene Carbon tetrachloride      trans-1,2-dichloroethylene Chlorobenzene      Trichloroethylene Chloroform      Trichlorofluoromethane cis-1,2-dichloroethylene      Vinyl Chloride Cresols      Xylenes		
<u>Field Analyses</u> pH, SC, temperature, chloride, Eh, alkalinity, total Fe, specific gravity	<u>Metals</u> Arsenic      Antimony      Calcium Barium      Beryllium      Magnesium Cadmium      Nickel      Potassium Chromium      Thallium Lead      Vanadium Mercury Selenium Silver		
	<u>Field Analyses</u> pH, SC, temperature, chloride, Eh, alkalinity, total Fe, specific gravity		

4 Note: Because of the lack of sophisticated weights and measures equipment available for field density assessment,  
 5 field density evaluations are expressed in terms of specific gravity, which is a unitless measure.

**TABLE L-4  
 ANALYTICAL PARAMETER AND SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS**

(10) PARAMETERS	(12) NO. OF BOTTLES	(13) VOLUME	(14) TYPE	(15) ACID WASH	(16) SAMPLE FILTER	(17) PRESERVATIVE	(18) HOLDING TIME
Indicator <sup>1</sup> Parameters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pH</li> <li>• SC</li> <li>• TOC</li> <li>• TOX</li> </ul>	- - 4 3	25 ml <sup>2</sup> 100 ml <sup>2</sup> 15 ml <sup>2</sup> 250 ml	Glass Glass Glass Glass	Field determined Field determined yes yes	No? No No No	Field determined Field determined HCl H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> , pH<2	None None 28 days <sup>2</sup> 7 days <sup>2</sup>
General Chemistry	1	1 Liter	Plastic	Yes	No	HNO <sub>3</sub> , pH<2	not specified in DMP
Phenolics	1	1 Liter	Amber Glass	Yes	No	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> , pH<2	not specified in DMP
Metals/Cations	2	1 Liter	Plastic	Yes	No	HNO <sub>3</sub> , pH<2	6 months <sup>2, 3</sup>
VOC	4	40 ml	Glass	No	No	HCL, ph<2	14 days <sup>2</sup>
VOC (Purgable)	2	40 ml	Glass	No	No	HCL, ph<2	14 days <sup>2</sup>
VOC (Non-Purgable)	2	40 ml	Glass	No	No	HCL, ph<2	14 days <sup>2</sup>
BN/As	1	½ Gallon	Amber Glass	Yes	No	None	
TCLP	1	1 Liter	Plastic	Yes	No	HNO <sub>3</sub> , pH<2	7 days <sup>2</sup>
Cyanide (Total)	1	1 Liter	Plastic	Yes	No	NaOH, pH>12	14 days <sup>2</sup>
Sulfide	1	250 ml	Amber Glass	Yes	No	NaOH + Zn Acetate	28 days <sup>2</sup>
Radionuclides	1	1 Gallon	Plastic Cube	Yes	Yes	HNO <sub>3</sub> , pH<2	6 months <sup>2</sup>

1 = RCRA Detection Monitoring Analytes

2 = As specified in Table 4-1 of the RCRA TEGD

3 = Reduced holding time of 1 week for WIPP-specific Divalent cation 2 samples noted in the GDM Program Plan

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, data are from DOE Procedure WP 02-EM1006 methods and are provided as information only.

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**FIGURES**

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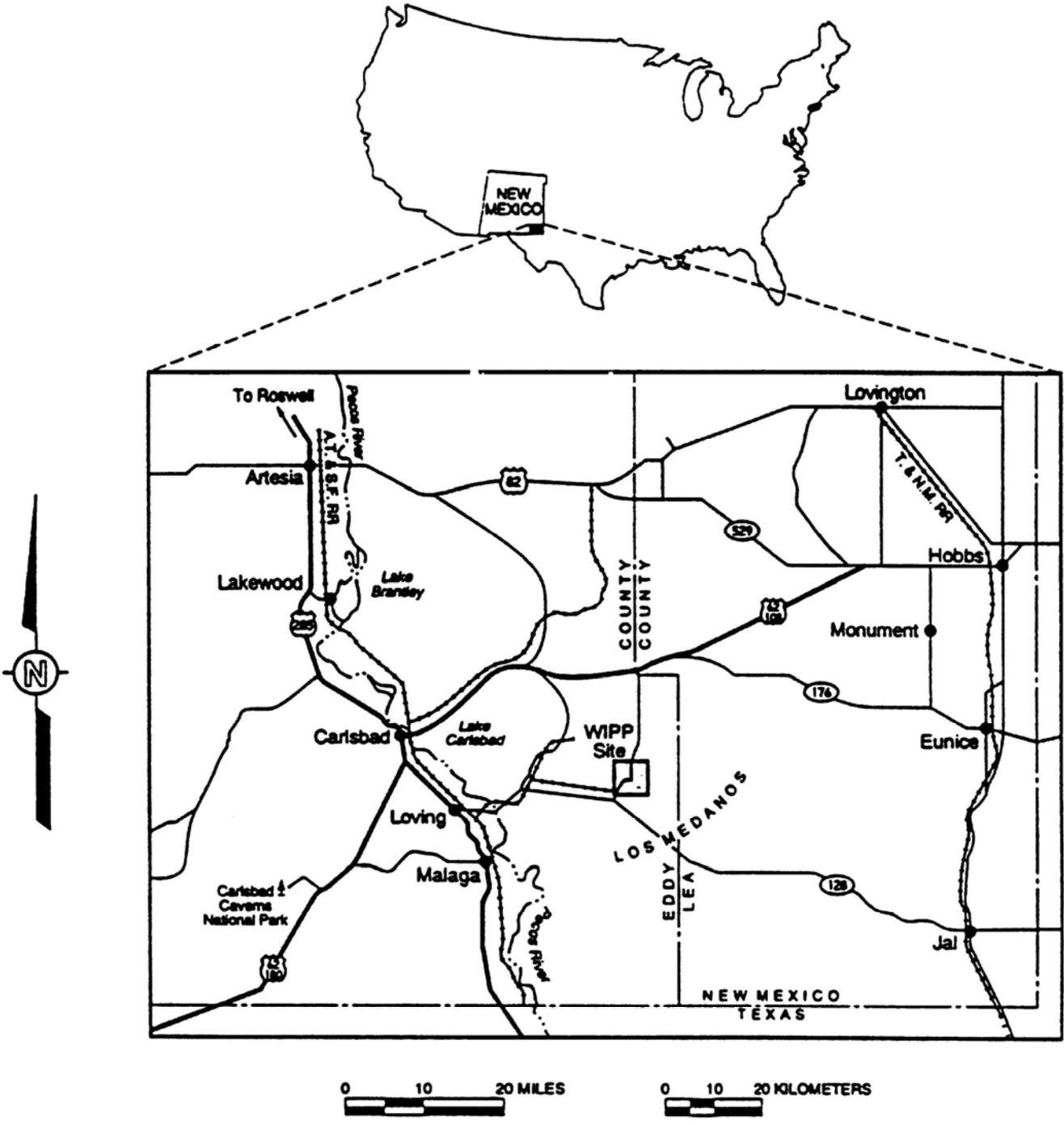


Figure L-1  
General Location of the WIPP Facility

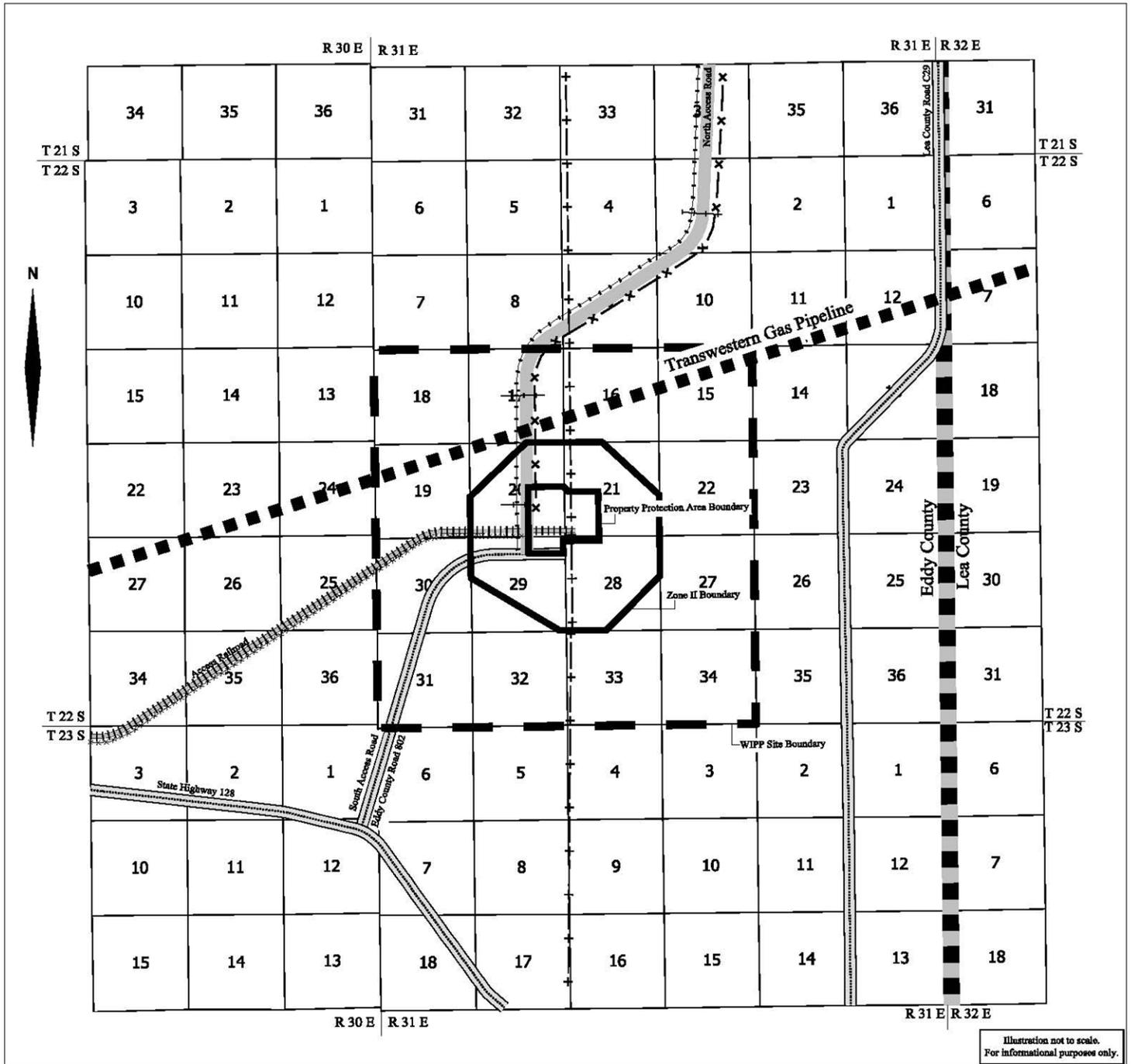
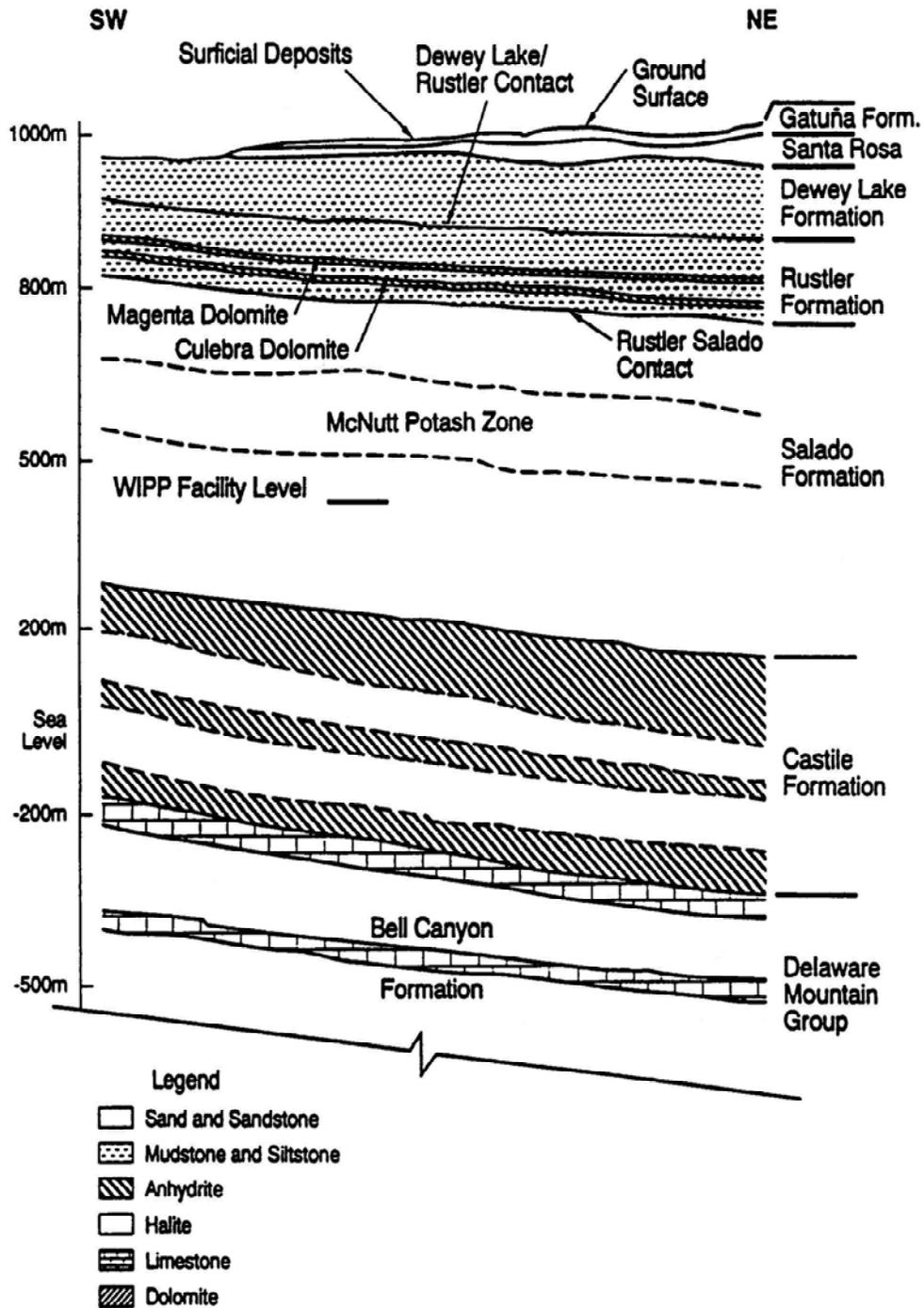


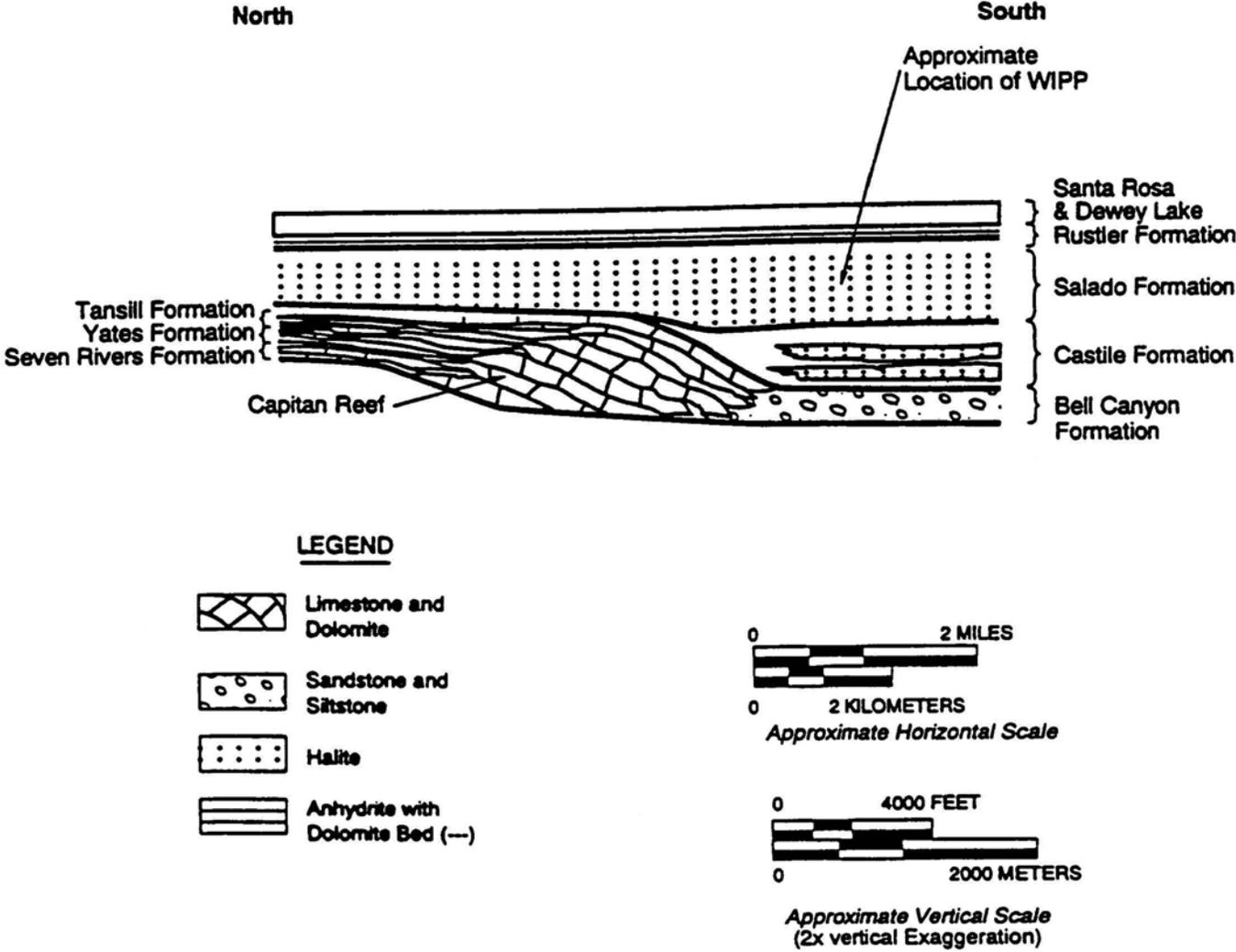
Figure L-2  
 WIPP Facility Boundaries Showing 16-Square-Mile Land Withdrawal Boundary

SYSTEM	SERIES	GROUP	FORMATION	MEMBER
RECENT	RECENT		SURFICIAL DEPOSITS	
QUATERNARY	PLEISTOCENE		MESCALERO CALICHE	
			GATUNA	
TERTIARY	MID-PLIOCENE		OGALLALA	
TRIASSIC		DOCKUM	SANTA ROSA	
<b>PERMIAN</b>	<b>OCHOAN</b>		<b>DEWEY LAKE</b>	
			<b>RUSTLER</b>	Forty-niner
				Magenta
				Tamarisk
				Culebra
				Unnamed <a href="#">Los Medaños</a>
	<b>SALADO</b>	Upper		
		McNutt Potash		
		Lower		
			<b>CASTILE</b>	
	<b>GUADALUPIAN</b>	<b>DELAWARE MOUNTAIN</b>	<b>BELL CANYON</b>	
			<b>CHERRY CANYON</b>	
			<b>BRUSHY CANYON</b>	

Figure L-3  
 Site Geologic Column



Hk wtg'N/6  
 I gpgtcrk gf "Ucwkj tr j le"Etquu"Ugevkp"Cdqxg"Dgm"Ecp{qp"Hqto cvkqp"cv"Y KRR"UKg



Hki vtg'N/7  
 Uej go ckle"P qtj /Uqwj 'Etquu'Ugevkqp"Vj tqwi j 'yj g'P qtj 'F gny ctg'Dculp

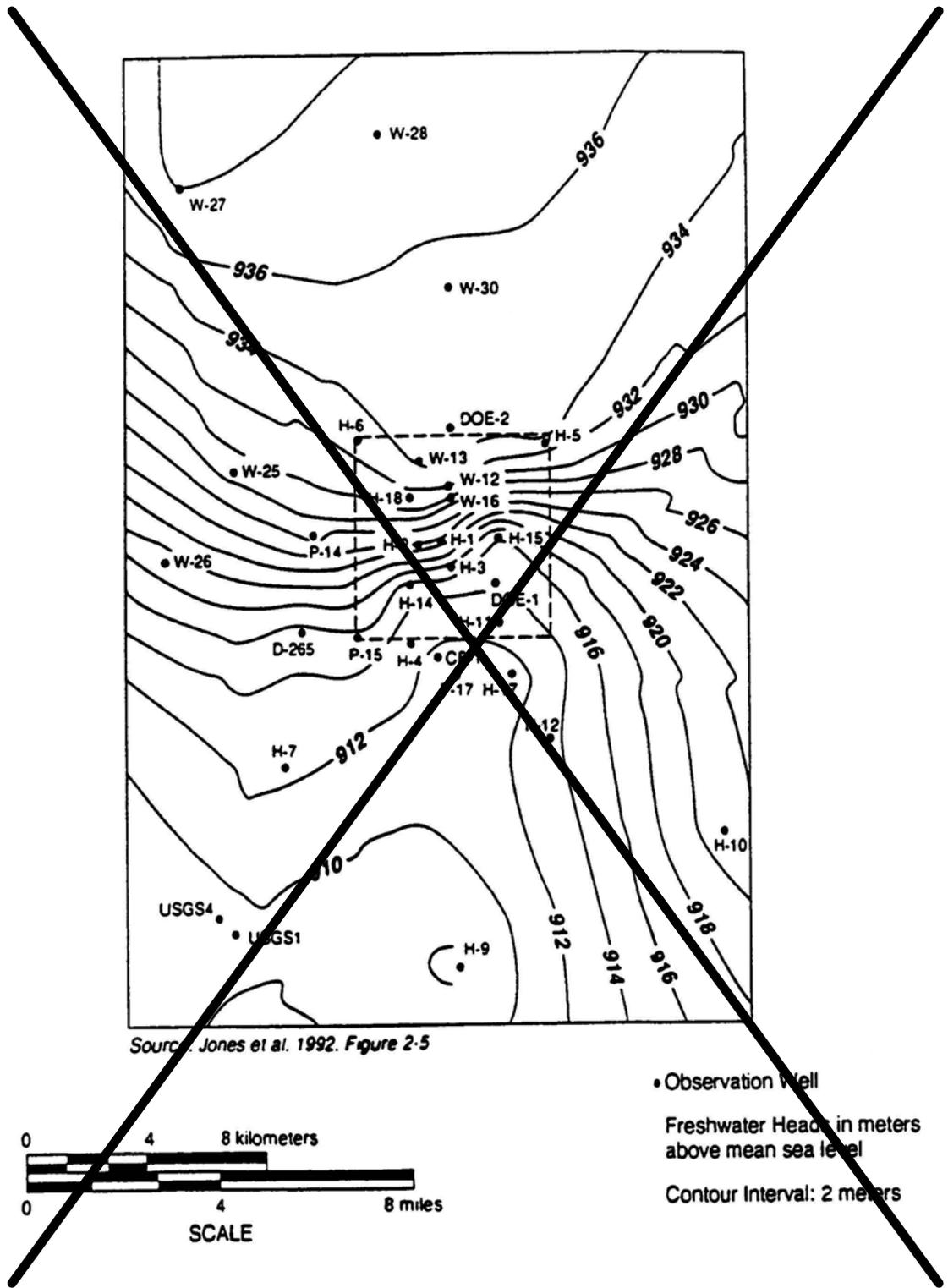
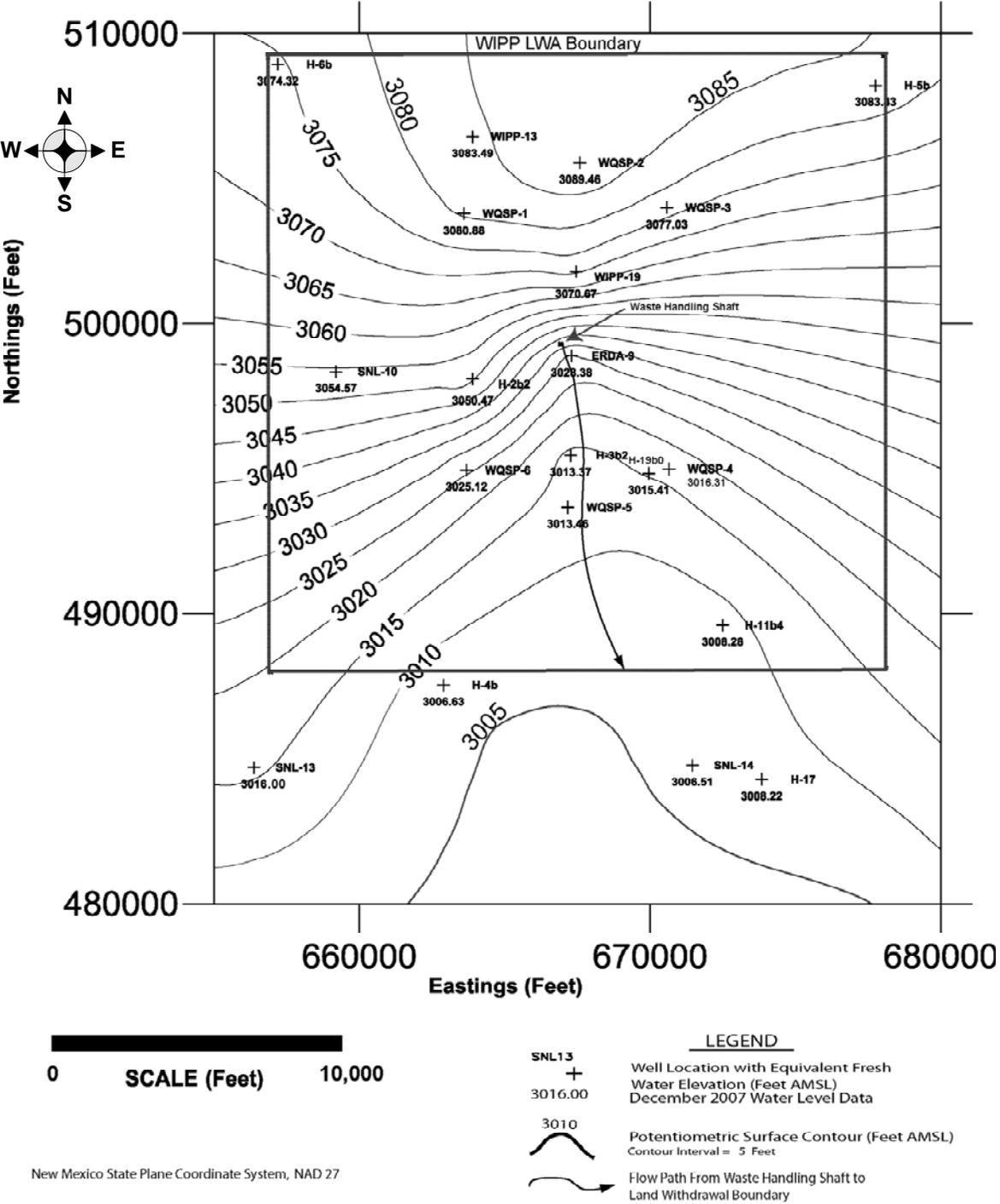


Figure L-6  
Culebra Freshwater-Head Contour Surface



**Figure L-6**  
Culebra Freshwater-Head Contour Surface

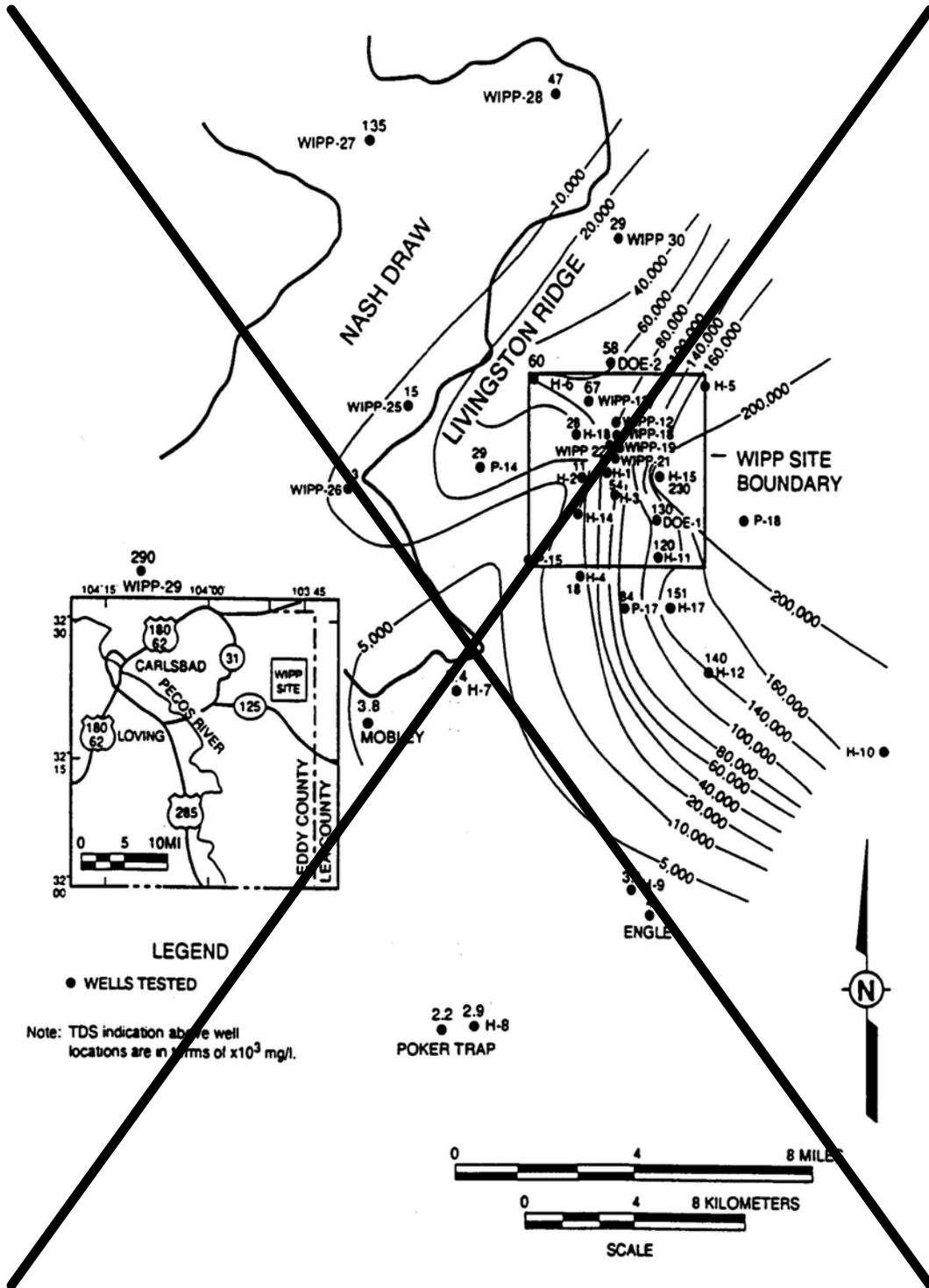
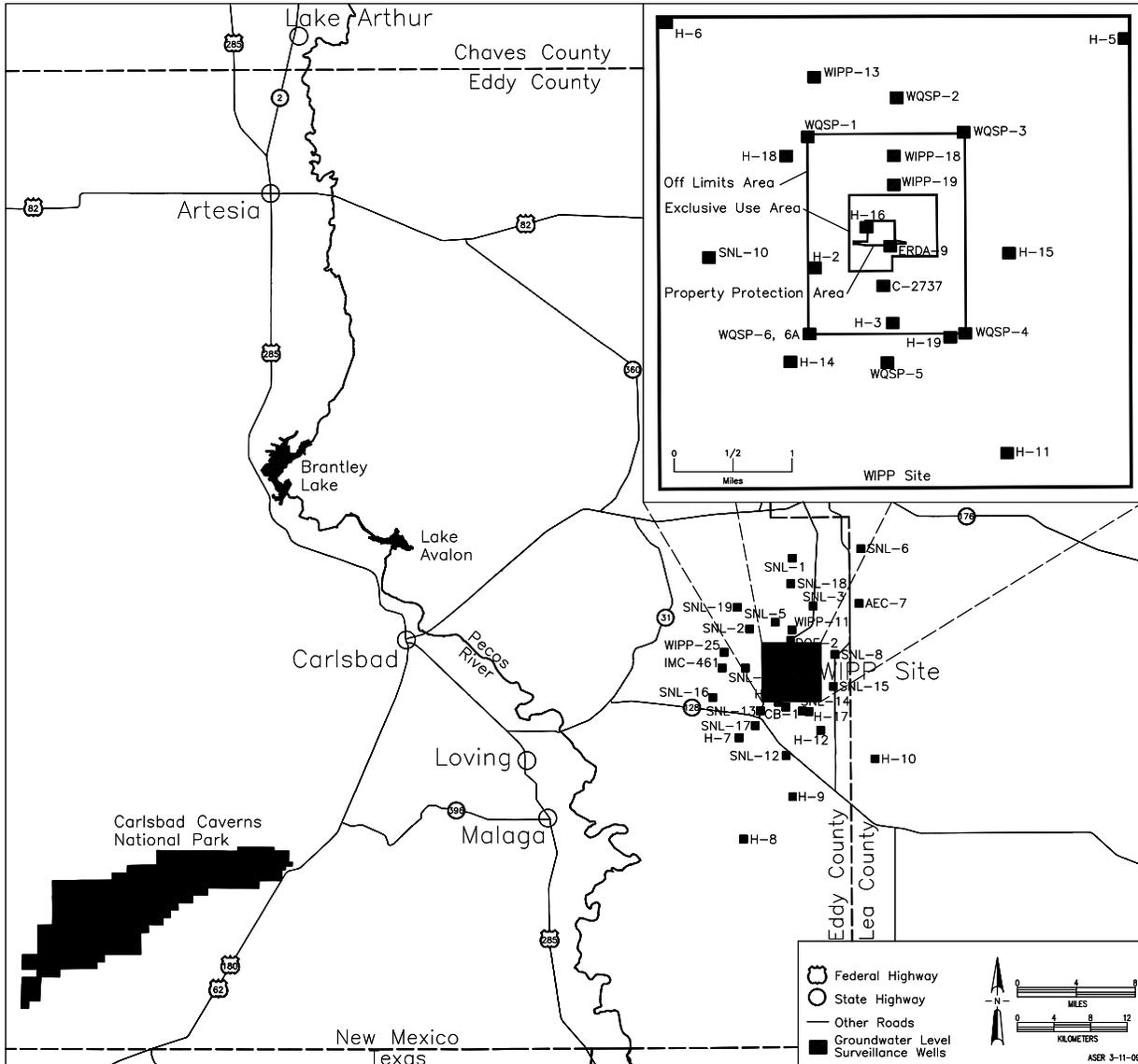


Figure L-7  
 Total Dissolved Solids Distribution in the Culebra



**Figure L-7**  
**Groundwater Level Surveillance Wells**  
 (insert represents the groundwater surveillance wells in WIPP Land Withdrawal Area)

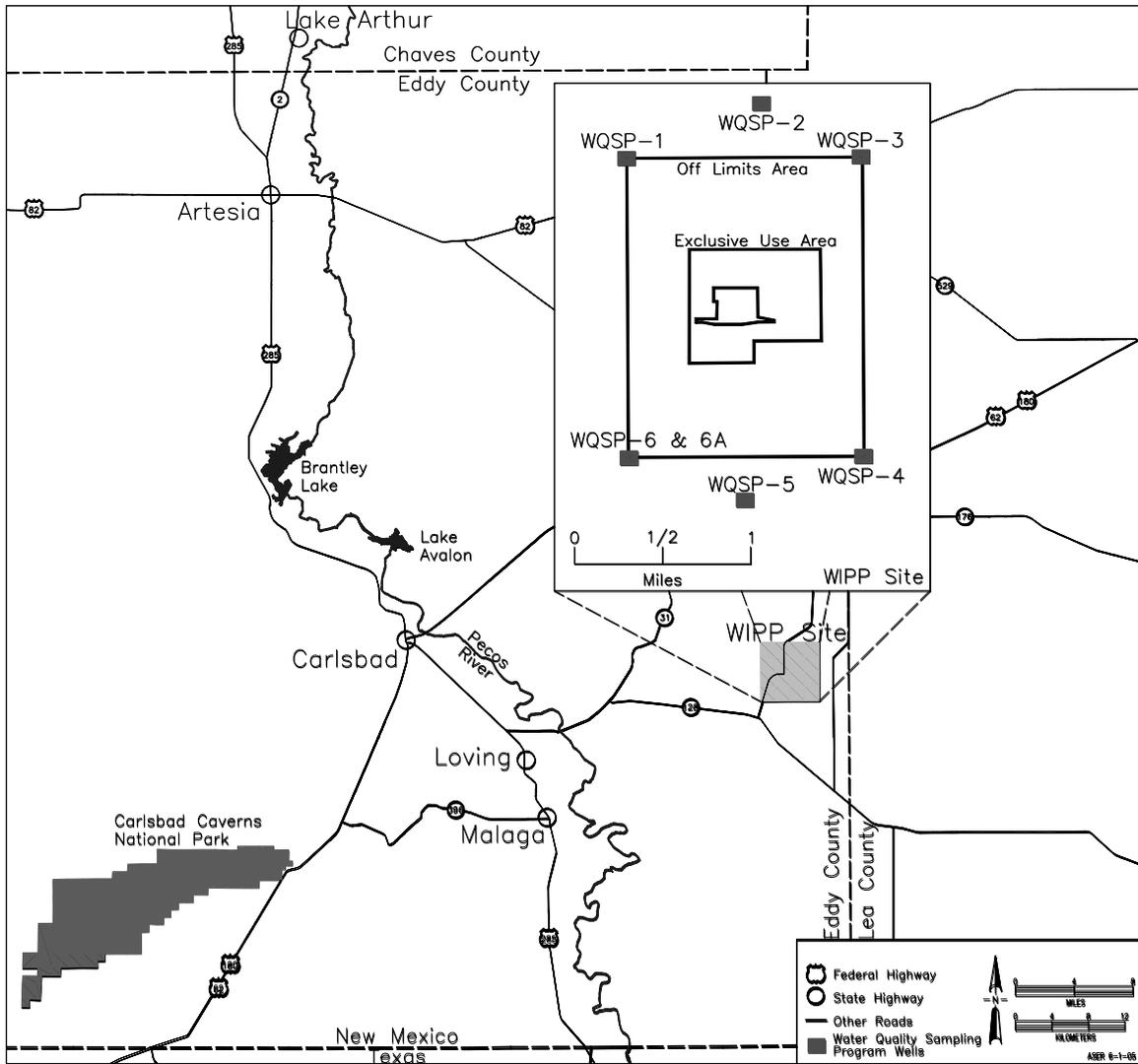
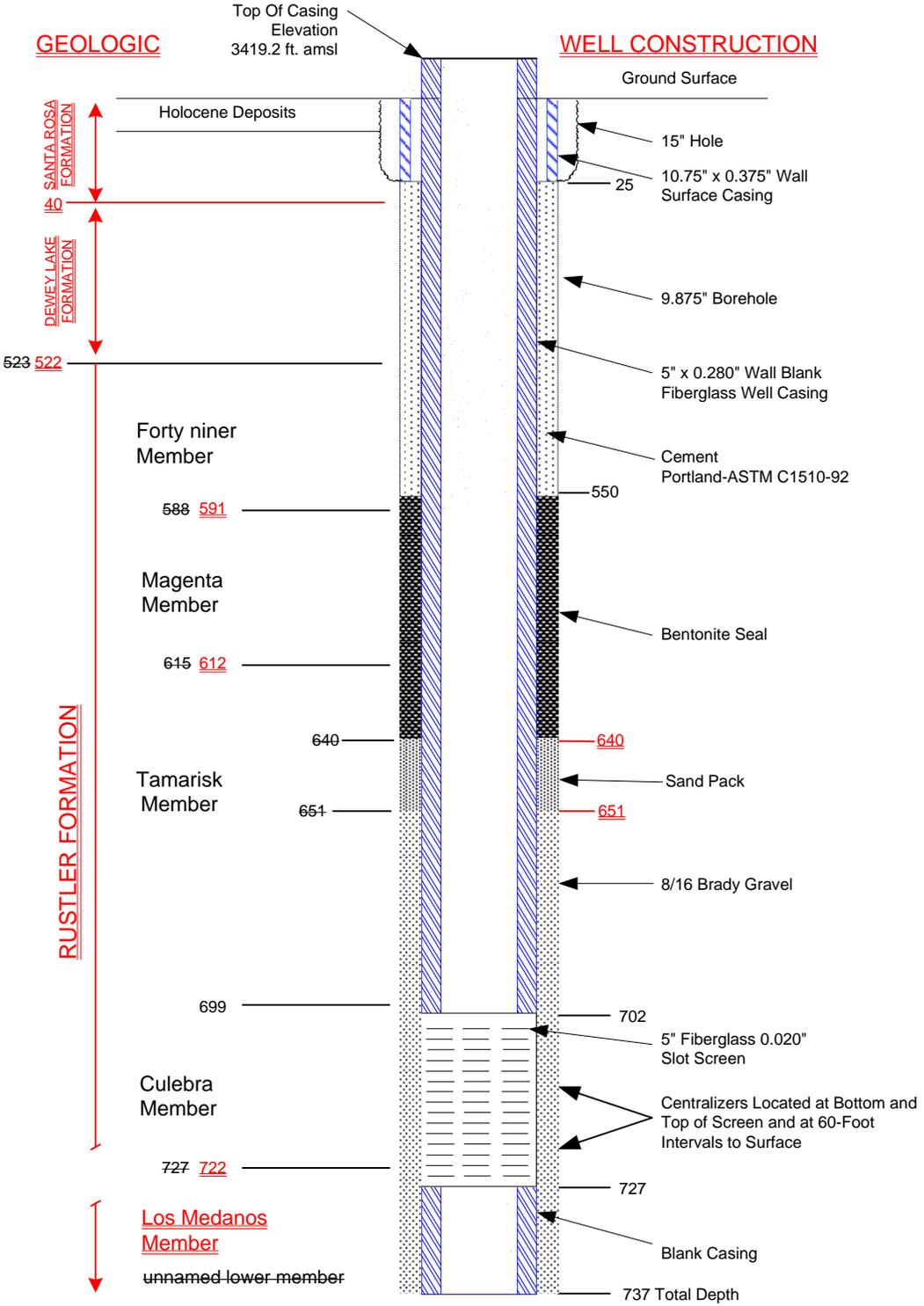
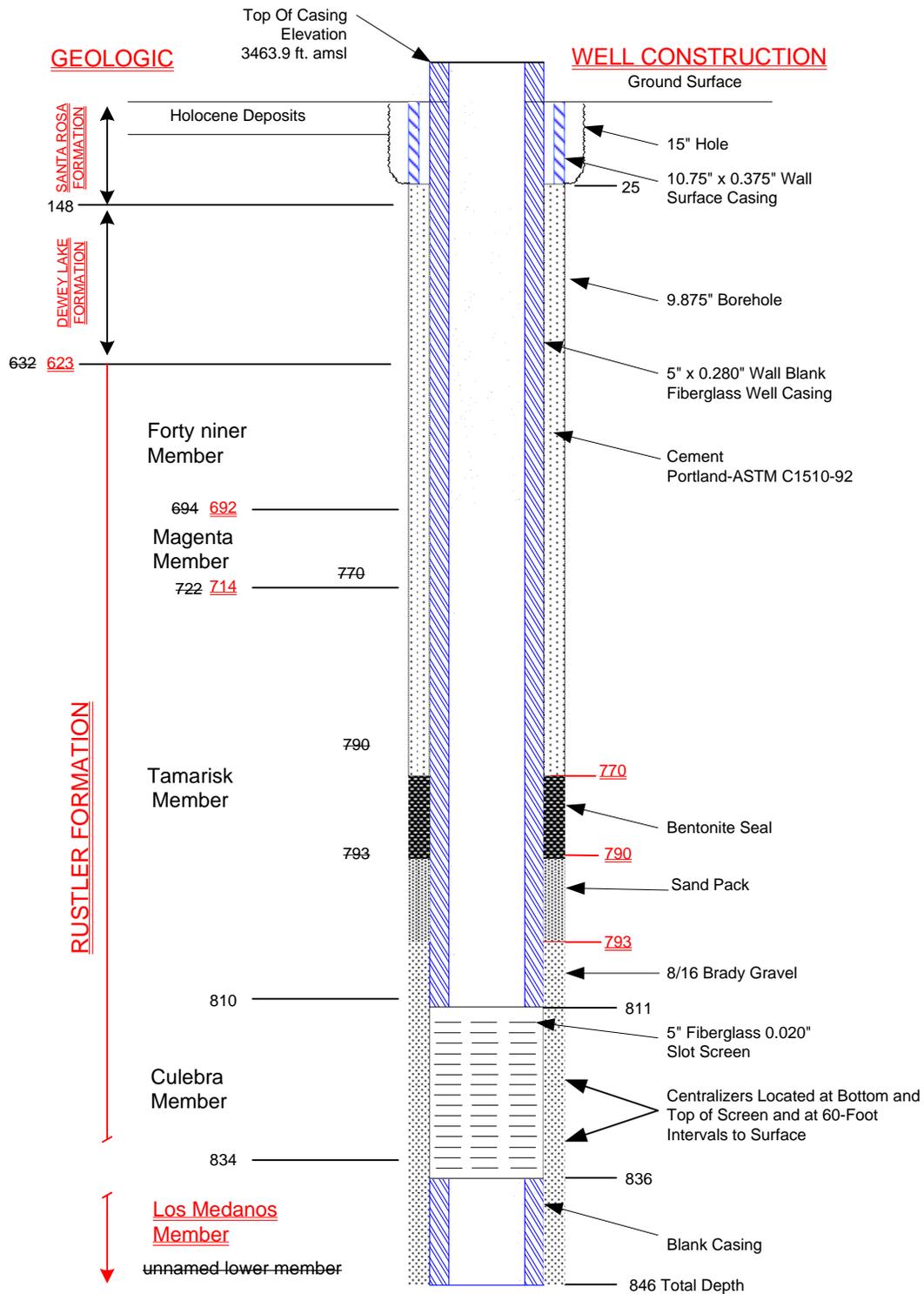


Figure L-8  
WQSP Monitoring Well Locations



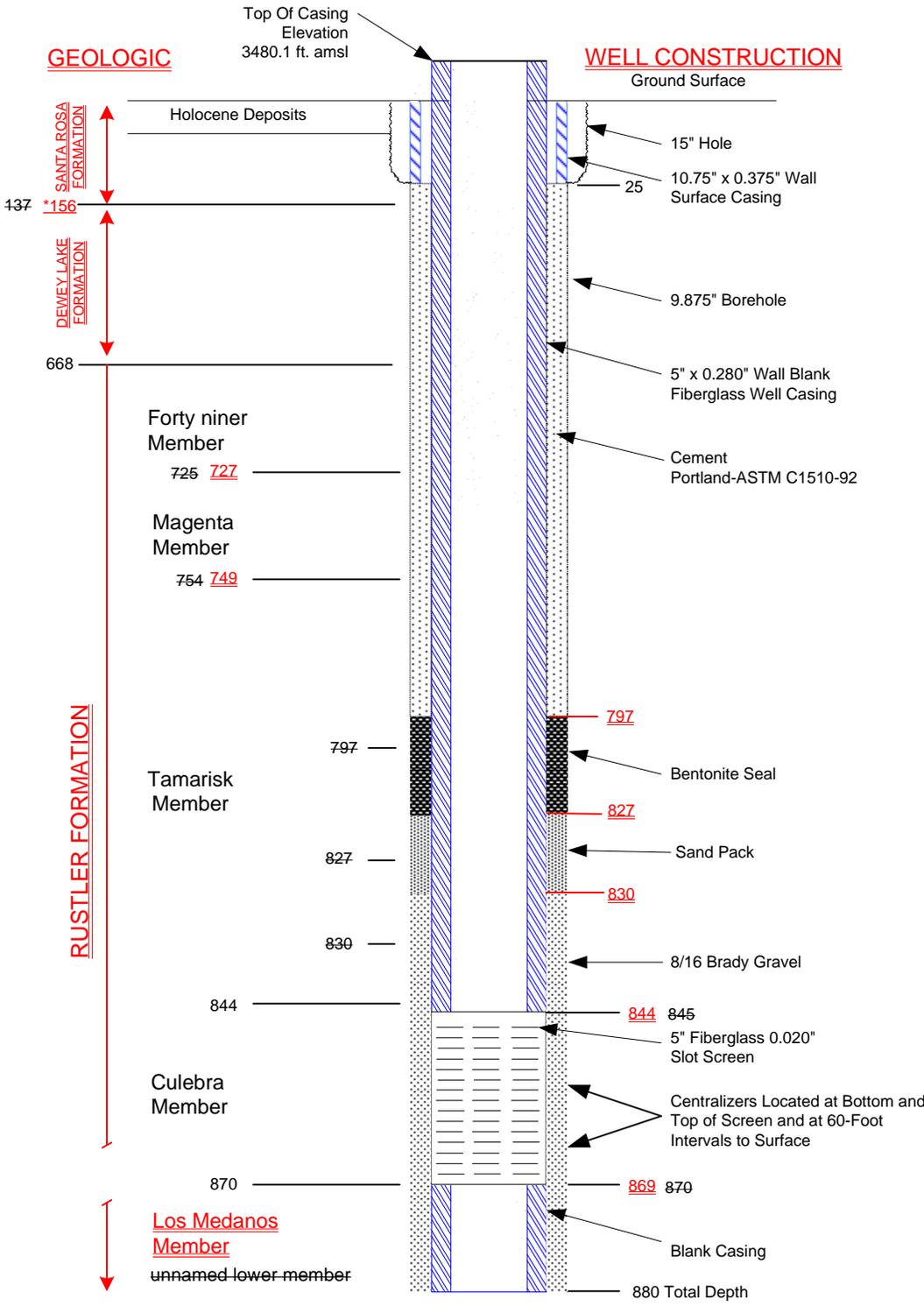
Note: Depths in feet bgs approximate  
 Not to Scale

Figure L-109  
 As-Built Configuration of Well WQSP-1



Note: Depths in feet bgs approximate  
 Not to Scale

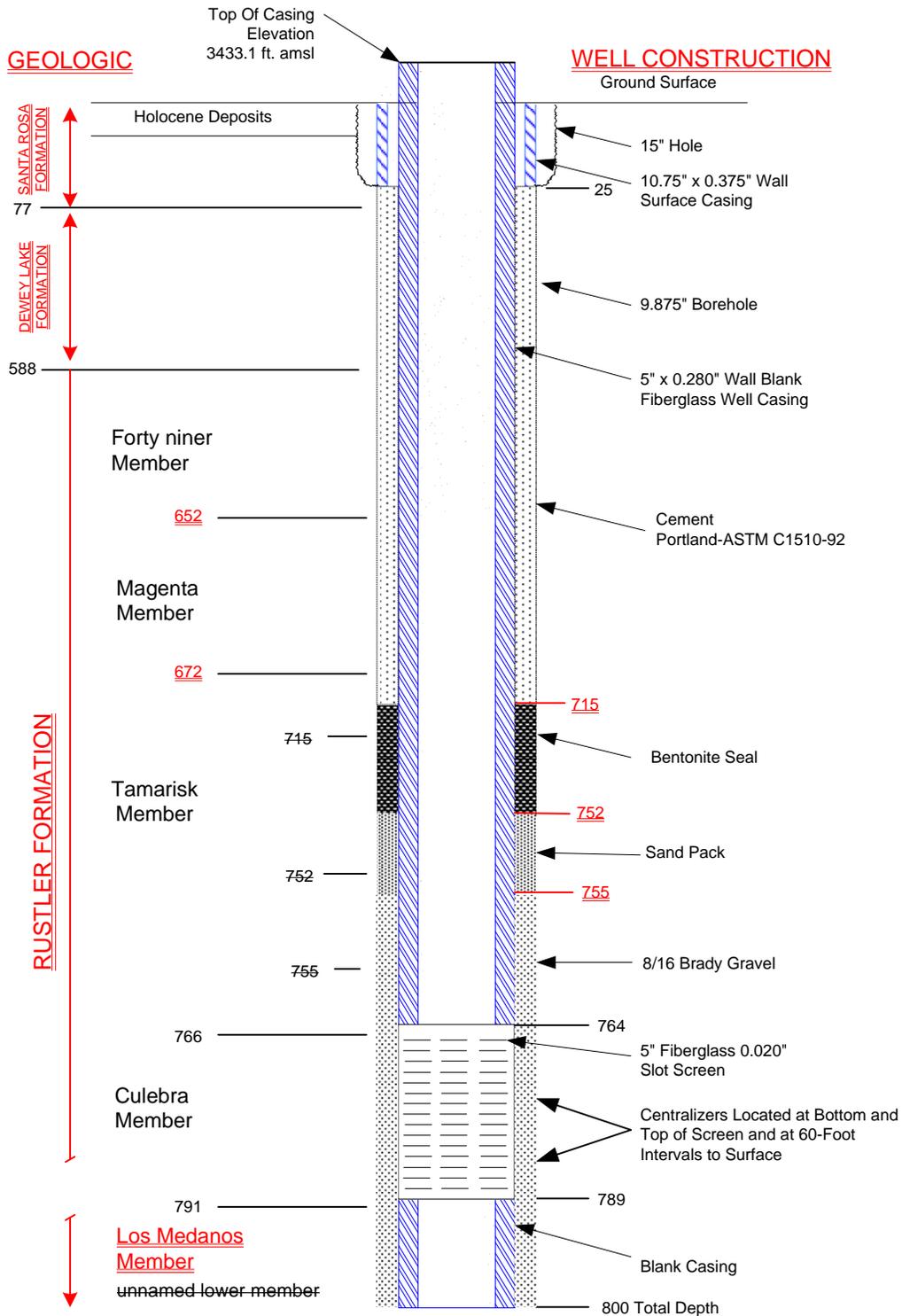
Figure L-41<sup>10</sup>  
 As-Built Configuration of Well WQSP-2



Note: Depths in feet bgs approximate  
 Not to Scale

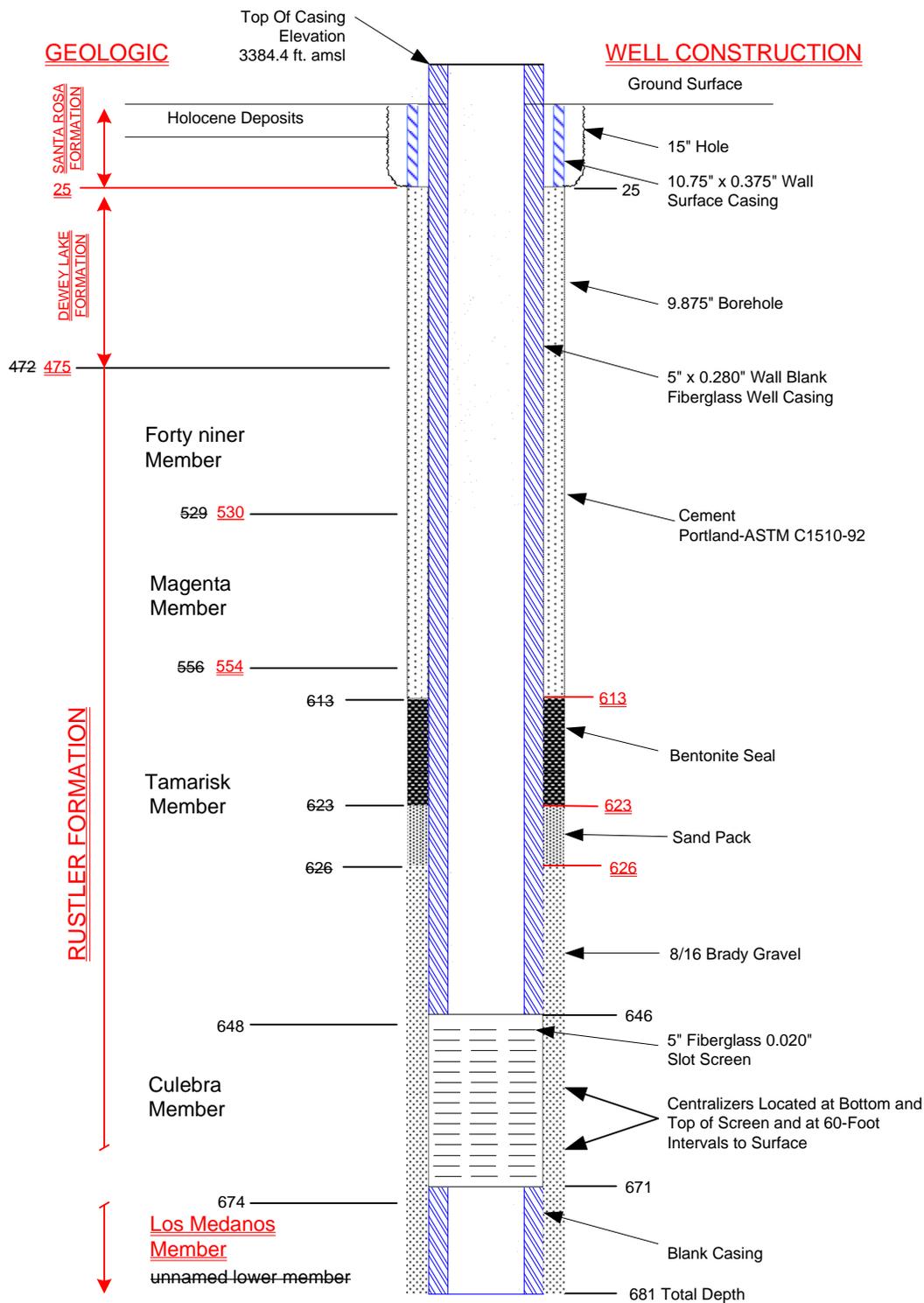
\*from DOE/WIPP-95-2154

Figure L-4211  
 As-Built Configuration of Well WQSP-3



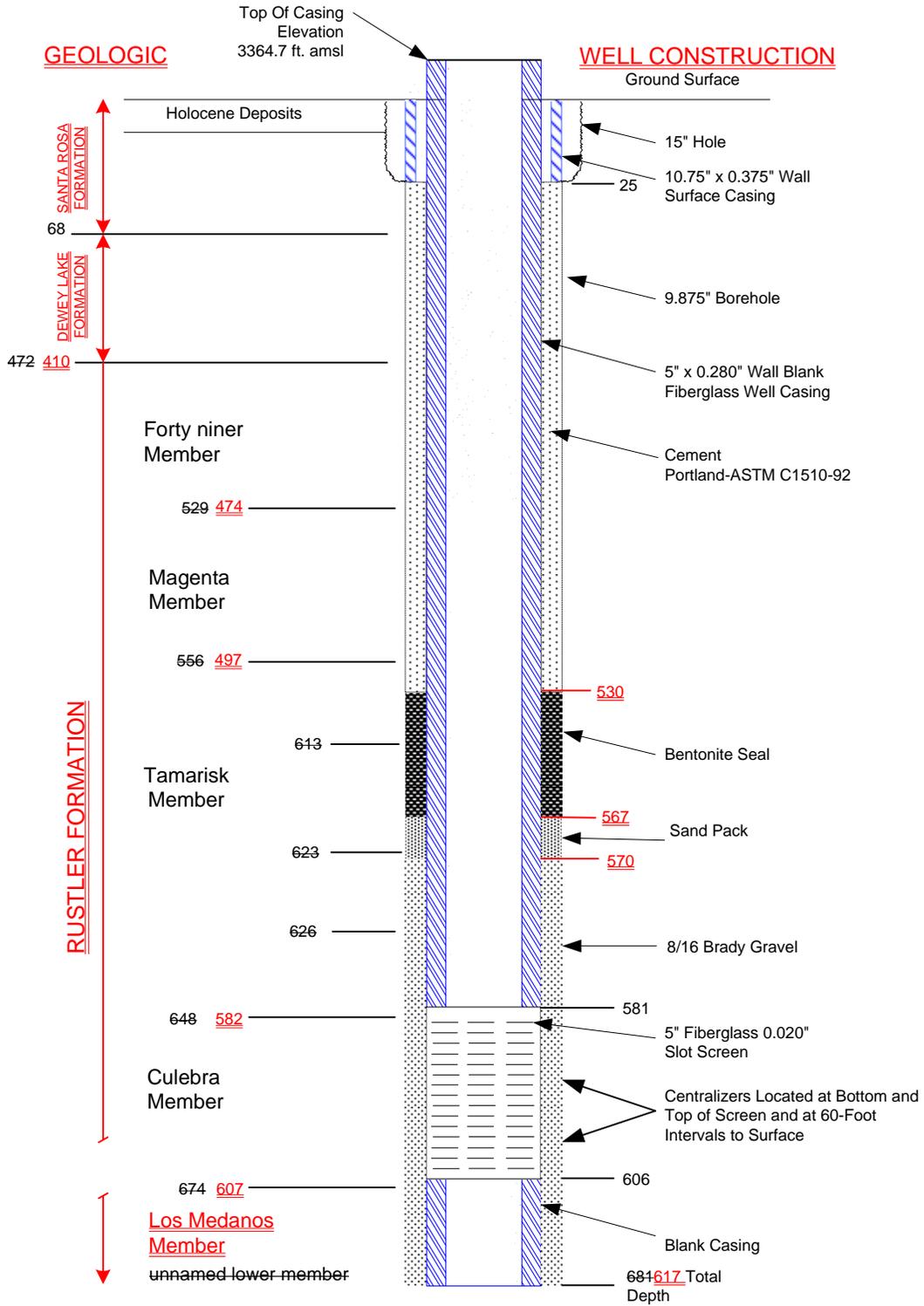
Note: Depths in feet bgs approximate  
 Not to Scale

Figure L-13<sup>12</sup>  
 As-Built Configuration of Well WQSP-4



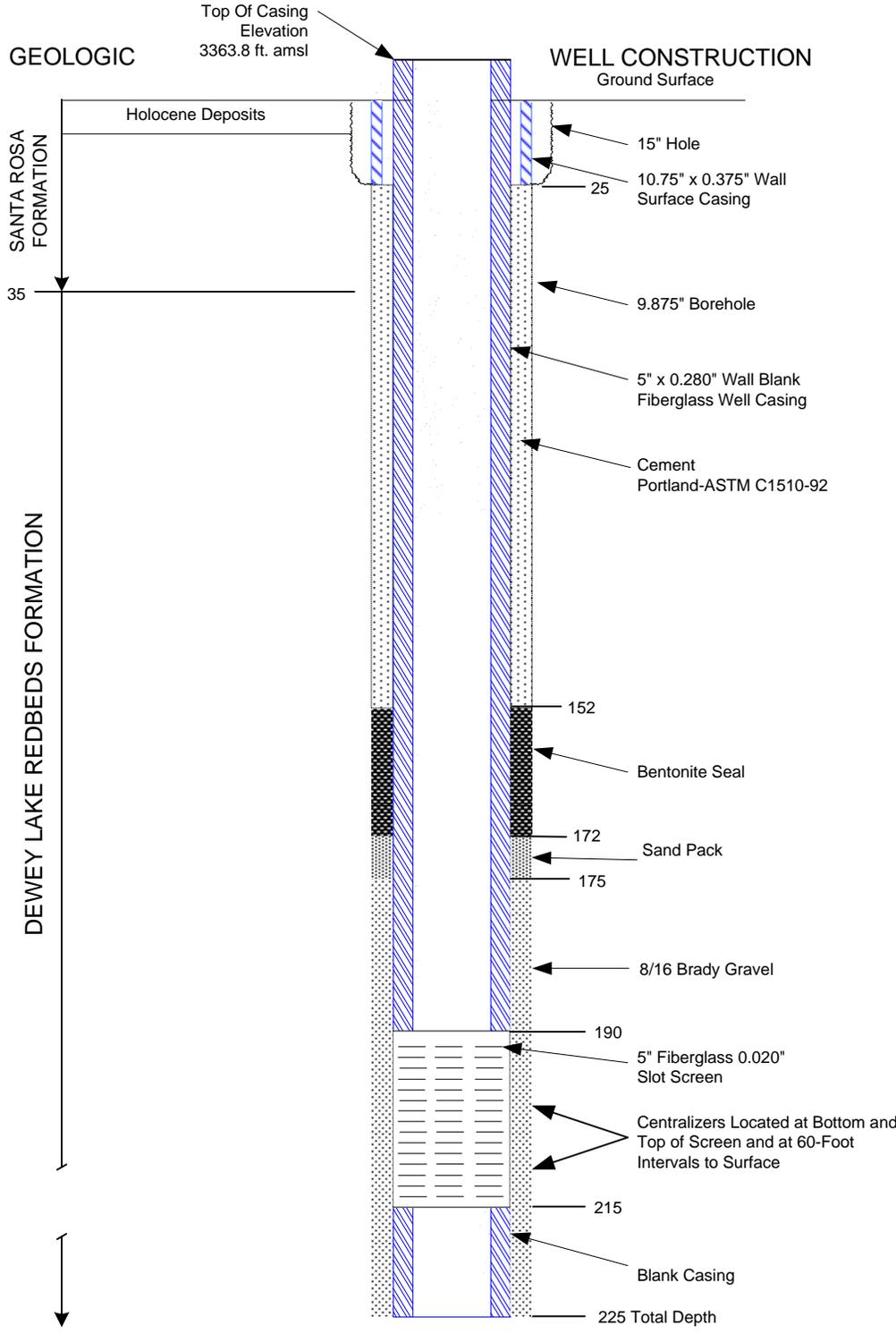
Note: Depths in feet bgs approximate  
 Not to Scale

Figure L-4413  
 As-Built Configuration of Well WQSP-5



Note: Depths in feet bgs approximate  
 Not to Scale

Figure L-1514  
 As-Built Configuration of Well WQSP-6



Note: Depths in feet bgs approximate  
 Not to Scale

Figure L-46<sup>15</sup>  
 As-Built Configuration of Well WQSP-6A



**REQUEST FOR ANALYSIS**

{MOC Name and Address} \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

R/A Control \_\_\_\_\_  
 C/C Control No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Sample Shipped \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lab Destination \_\_\_\_\_  
 Laboratory Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
 Send Lab Report To \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

VOC Monitoring Program \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Date Report Required \_\_\_\_\_  
 Project Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
 Project Contact Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase Order No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Serial No.	Sample No.	C-of-C No.	Sample Type	Sample Pressure	Preservative	Contract-Specific Testing	Special Instructions

TURNAROUND TIME REQUIRED: (Rush must be approved by appropriate Manager) NORMAL \_\_\_\_\_ RUSH \_\_\_\_\_ (Subject to rush surcharge)  
 POSSIBLE HAZARD IDENTIFICATION: (Please indicate if sample(s) are hazardous materials and/or contain high levels of hazardous substances.)  
 NONHAZARD \_\_\_\_\_ FLAMMABLE \_\_\_\_\_ SKIN IRRITANT \_\_\_\_\_ HIGHLY TOXIC \_\_\_\_\_ BIOLOGICAL \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE DISPOSAL (Please indicate disposition of sample following analysis.) RETURN TO CLIENT \_\_\_\_\_ DISPOSAL BY LAB \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Specify)

FOR LAB USE ONLY  
 RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE/TIME \_\_\_\_\_

Figure L-17b  
 Example Request for Analysis

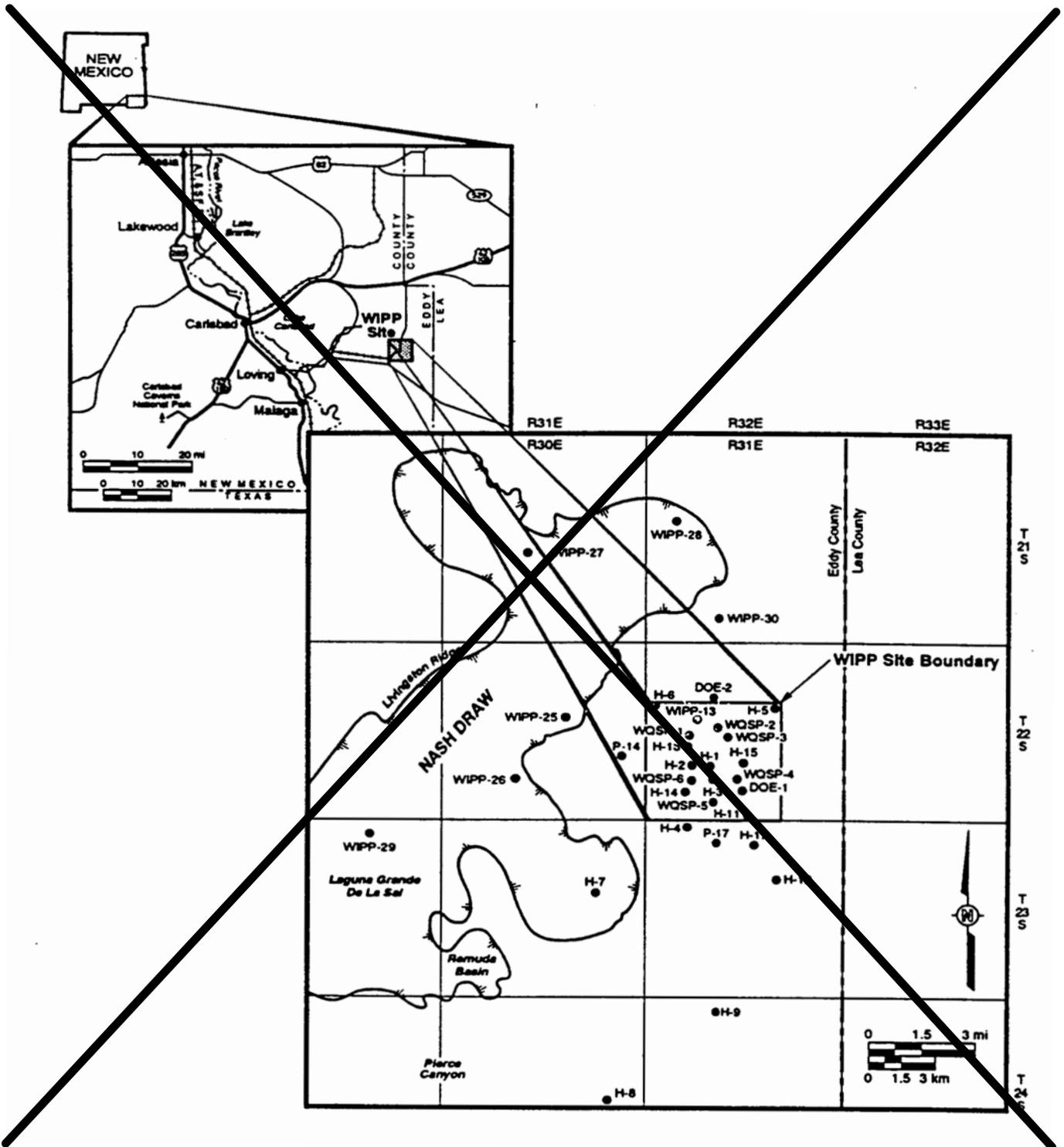


Figure L-18  
 Ground-water Surface Elevation Monitoring Locations