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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30333

July 21, 1980



Director, Division of Waste Management  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Sir:

We have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Bison Basin Project, Ogle Petroleum, Inc., Fremont County, Wyoming. Our comments represent those of the Public Health Service. Because of their special programmatic interests, the Food and Drug Administration will be responding directly to you.

In discussing the monitor wells for the evaporation ponds, the EIS stated that these well's will be sampled quarterly. This would ordinarily be acceptable in view of the leak detection monitoring system that will be employed. However, in the event water is found in the standpipes of the leak detection system, the sampling frequency of the monitoring wells should be increased until water is no longer found in the standpipes.

The proposed disposal of evaporation pond wastes, including the plastic liner, radioactive residue, and any other radioactive materials, in a shallow pit in the middle of each pond is a questionable procedure. The final EIS should contain a plan for disposal of these wastes at a licensed waste disposal site.

The EIS does not address vector populations that may occur in either the evaporation ponds, intermittent playas and drainage channels near the project site, or other site areas. The final EIS should describe vector populations, potential health threats, proposed control methods that may be used, kinds and volumes of pesticides, and application procedures.

Thank you for the opportunity of reviewing this EIS. We would appreciate receiving a copy of the final EIS when it becomes available.

Sincerely yours,

Frank S. Lisella, Ph.D.  
Chief, Environmental Affairs Group  
Environmental Health Services Division  
Bureau of State Services

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