



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION VI
1201 ELM STREET
DALLAS, TEXAS 75270

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AUSTIN, TEXAS

March 29, 1982

Jerry Mullican
Director of Underground Injection Control
Texas Railroad Commission
Oil and Gas Division
P. O. Drawer 12967, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

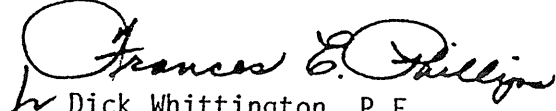
Dear Mr. Mullican:

Thank you for meeting with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Headquarters and Regional staff in Washington, D.C. on March 26, 1982, to discuss the Texas Railroad Commission's (TRC) application for the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program under section 1425 of the Safe Drinking Water Act. As a result of this meeting, it is my understanding that the following practices will be implemented regarding aquifer exemptions:

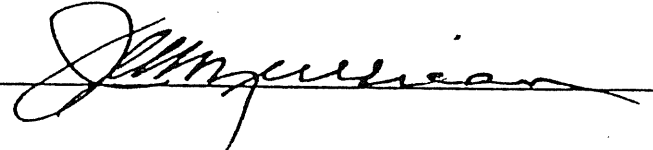
- (1) EPA will recognize and approve aquifer exemptions for all existing production zones with the initial program approval. As stated in your letter of March 21, 1982, you will supply maps of the productive zones.
- (2) If any expansion of current production zones necessitates the extension of an exempted aquifer in the same horizon, the TRC will send the permit application for any proposed injection into this extended area to EPA Region 6 for concurrence prior to issuance of the permit.
- (3) EPA will take action on any application submitted under item #2 above within five working days.
- (4) Extension of aquifer exemptions for production zones will not be granted if the area proposed for exemption is currently being used as a drinking water source. This will be examined in the area of review for any proposed injection well in the area proposed for exemption.
- (5) Aquifer exemptions for any new production fields, or for any non-producing zones, will be submitted for EPA concurrence as outlined in 40 CFR 122.35 (b).

Please inform me immediately of your concurrence or nonconcurrence with the above points. Your letters of March 10, and March 21, 1982, satisfied all other concerns, and your concurrence with the above points will enable us to move forward with full approval of your program.

Sincerely yours,

fr 
Dick Whittington, P.E.
Regional Administrator

cc: Alan Levin, WH-550

CONCUR:  Date: 4/1/82

NONCONCUR: _____ Date: _____