



State of New Mexico  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

**Construction Programs Bureau**  
[www.nmenv.state.nm.us/cpb/cpbtop.html](http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/cpb/cpbtop.html)



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October 31, 2011

Guy Bralley, Water Resources Administrator  
Sandoval County  
P.O. Box 40  
Bernalillo, NM 87004

**RE: Preliminary Engineering Report for Sandoval County Desalination Treatment Facility  
SAP-09-3808-STB**

Mr. Bralley:

The New Mexico Environment Department Construction Programs Bureau (NMED-CPB) completed review of the revised Preliminary Engineering Report completed by Universal Asset Management. The previous comments from my letter dated 4-1-10 were addressed and the PER is complete and meets the requirements under the state grant language.

Please note that the completion of the PER under the state grant language does not imply concurrence with or approval of the proposed project by NMED-CPB. This review does not give Sandoval County approval to move forward with design of a desalination treatment facility, only approval to seek reimbursement under the state grant. There are many issues that the County should resolve before moving forward with design including but not limited to the following:

- Acquiring land for the treatment facility
- Ground Water Quality Bureau allowing direct injection of brine into an injection well
- Establish agreement with companies for the selling of the industrial salt and lime that will be generated from the facility
- Establish agreement with the landfill facility in Andrews, Texas to take hazardous waste that is generated from the facility
- State Engineer's office has not determined, to date, that an undeclared underground water basin exists anywhere in the state that meets the requirements of Subsection (A) of Section 72-12-25, that it contains such a deep non-potable aquifer

Should you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me at 505-222-9568 or by email at [stephanie.dubois@state.nm.us](mailto:stephanie.dubois@state.nm.us).

Sincerely,

Stephanie DuBois  
Project Manager

cc: Dianne Ross, Sandoval County  
Jim Chiasson PE, NMED-CPB Acting Bureau Chief