

Class III Wells

EPA Region 6

Brian Graves

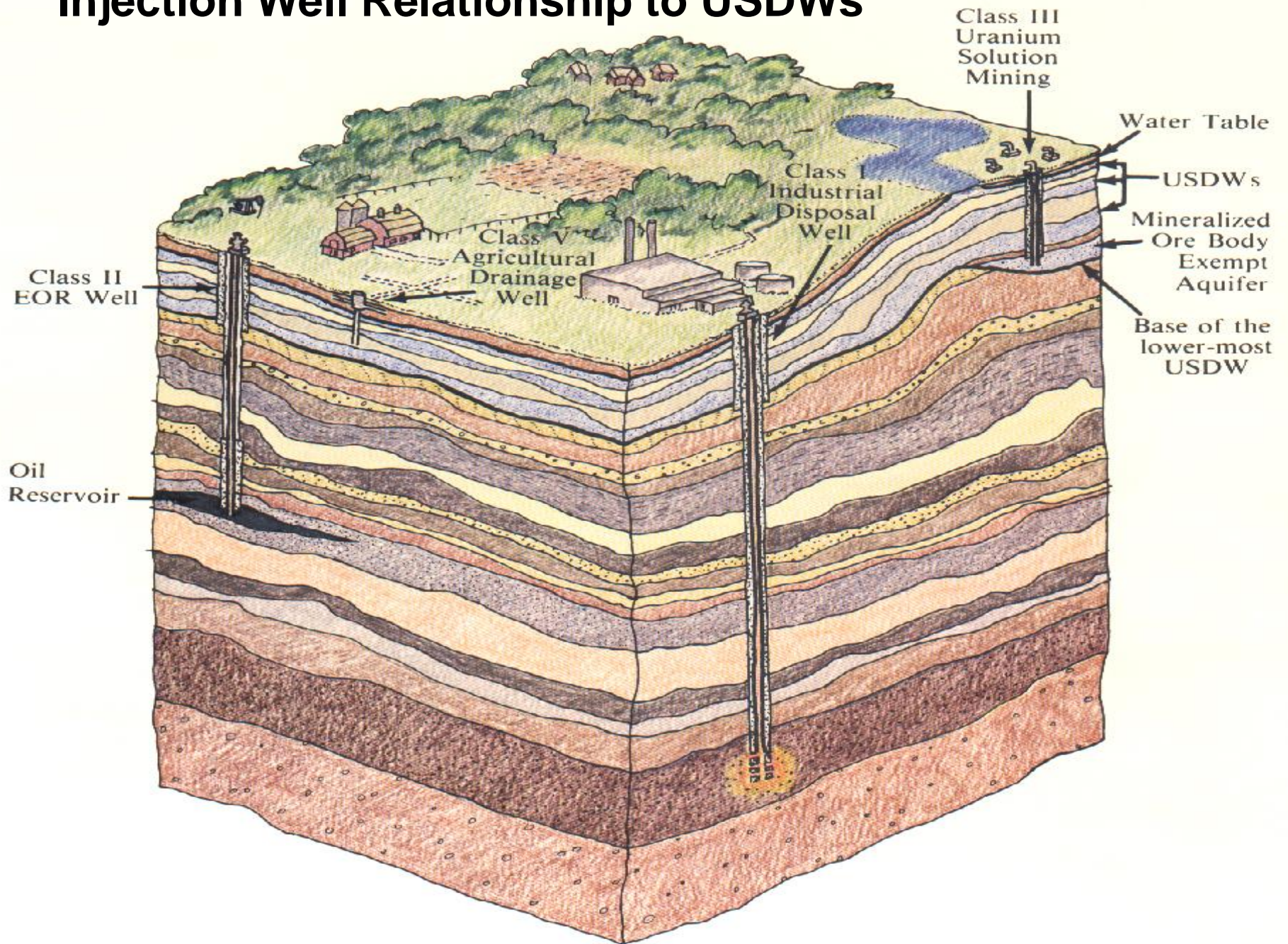
UIC Land Ban Coordinator

(214) 665-7193

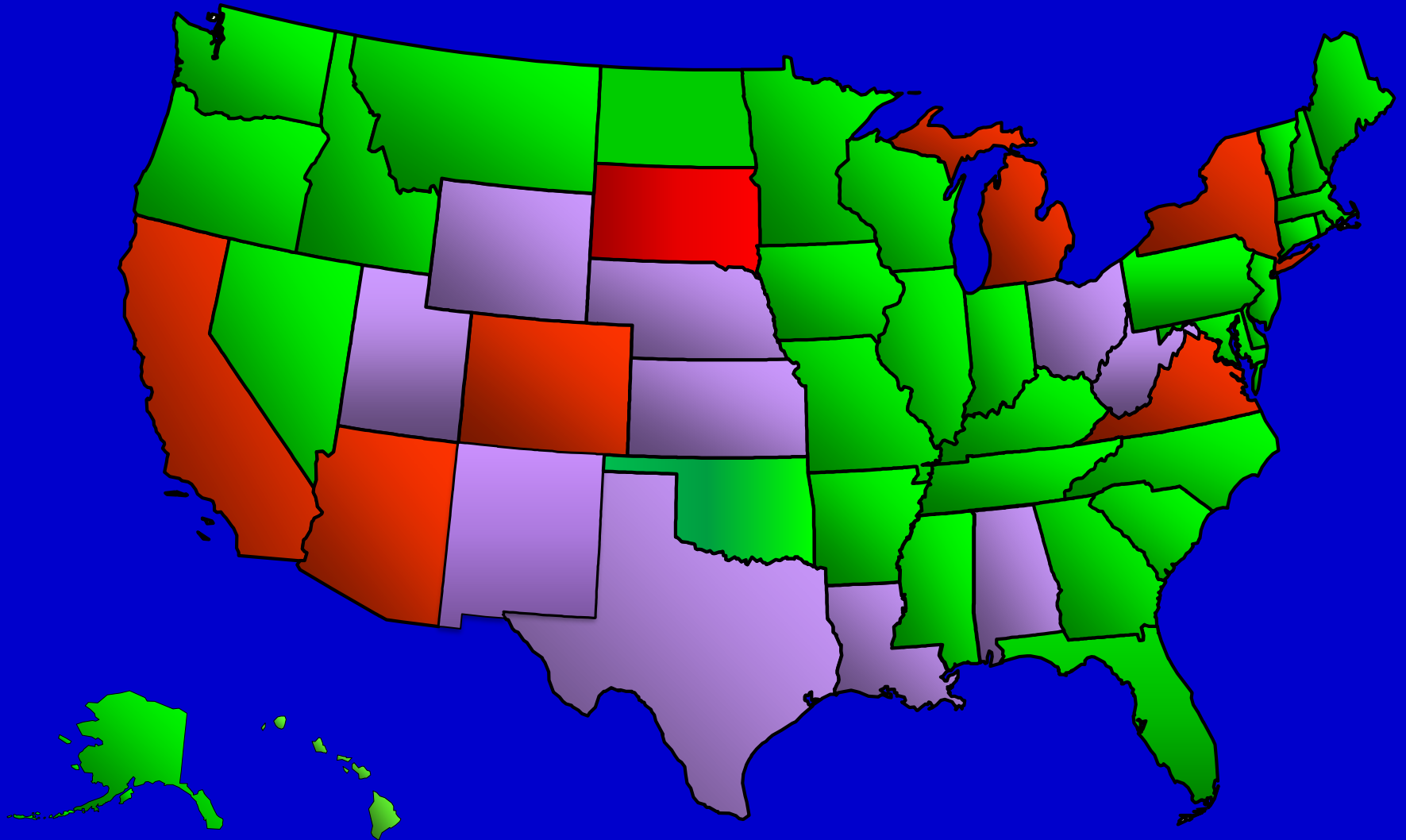
graves.brian@epa.gov




Injection Well Relationship to USDWs




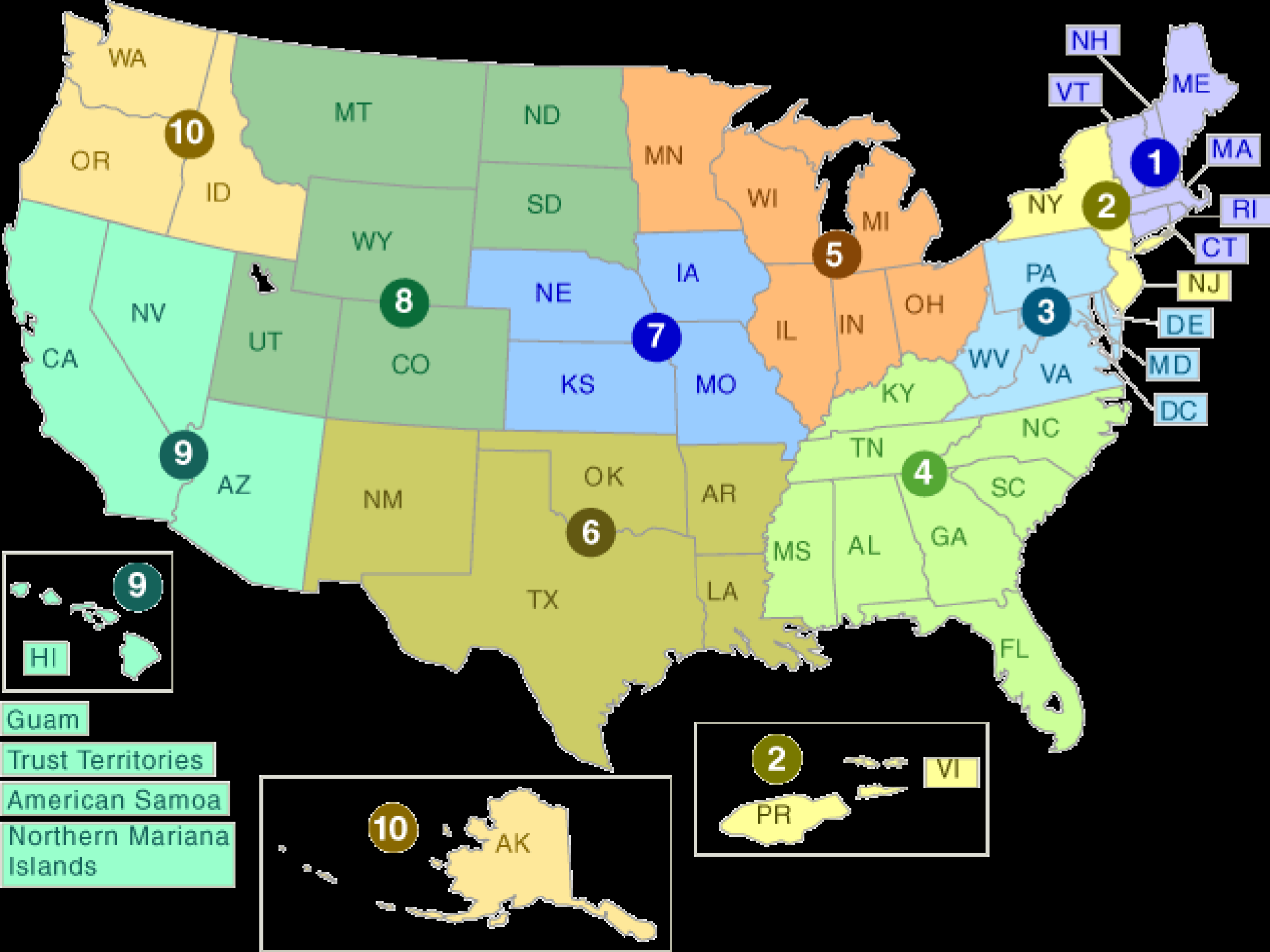
States With Class III Injection Wells



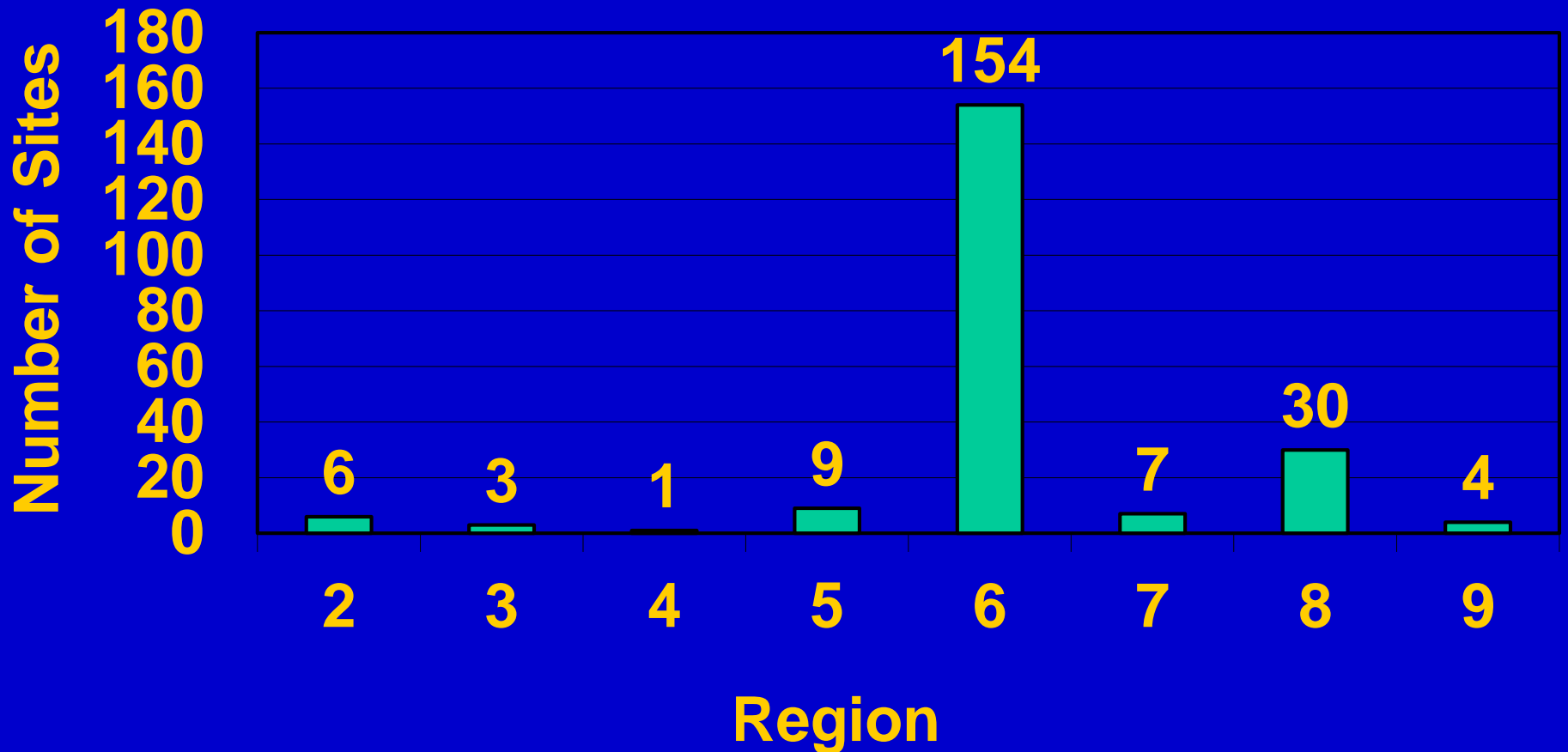
 **Primacy States
with Class III
Injection Wells**

 **Direct Implementation
States with Class III
Injection Wells**

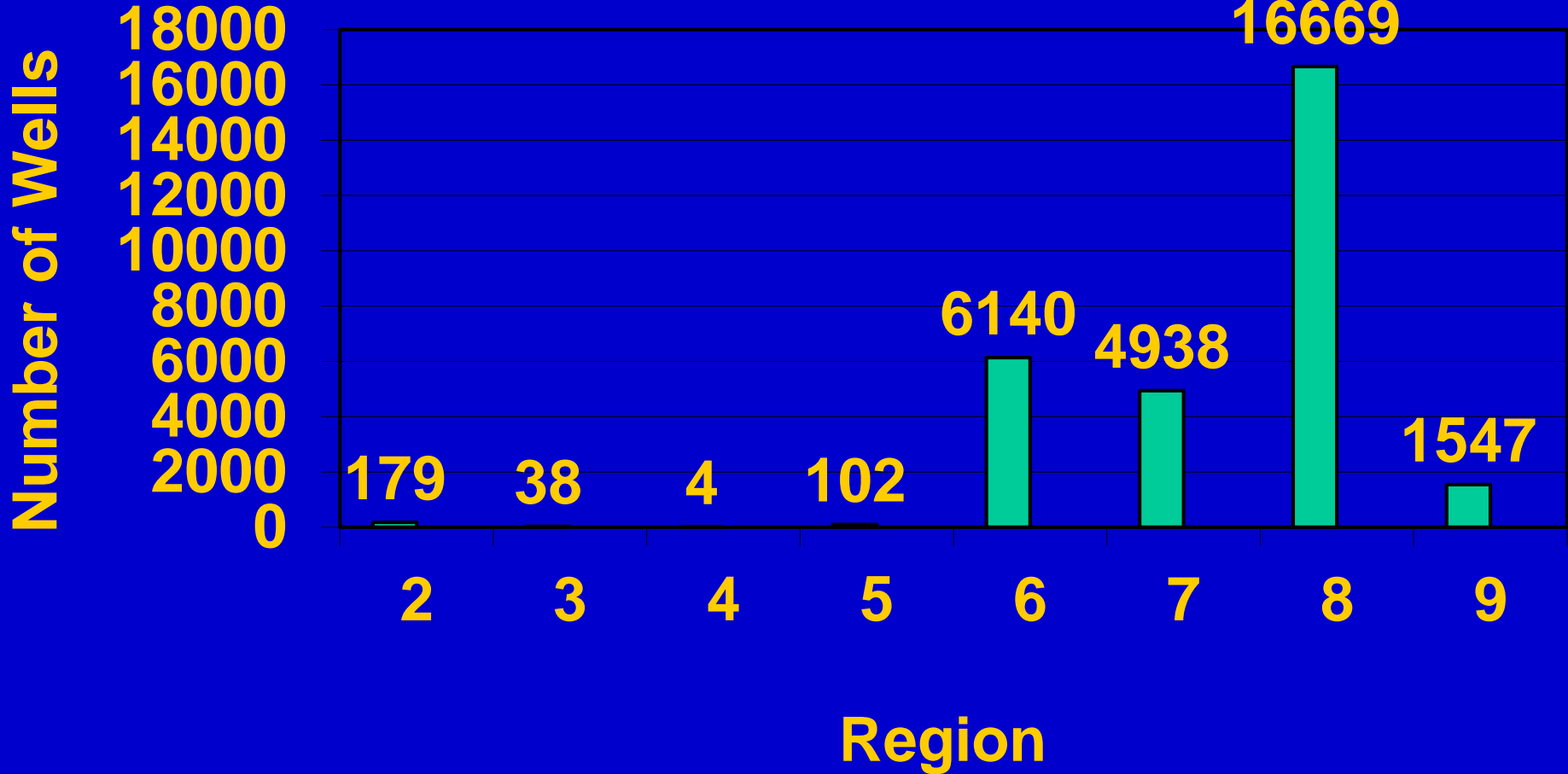
 **States with no
Class III
Injection Wells**



Class III Well Sites



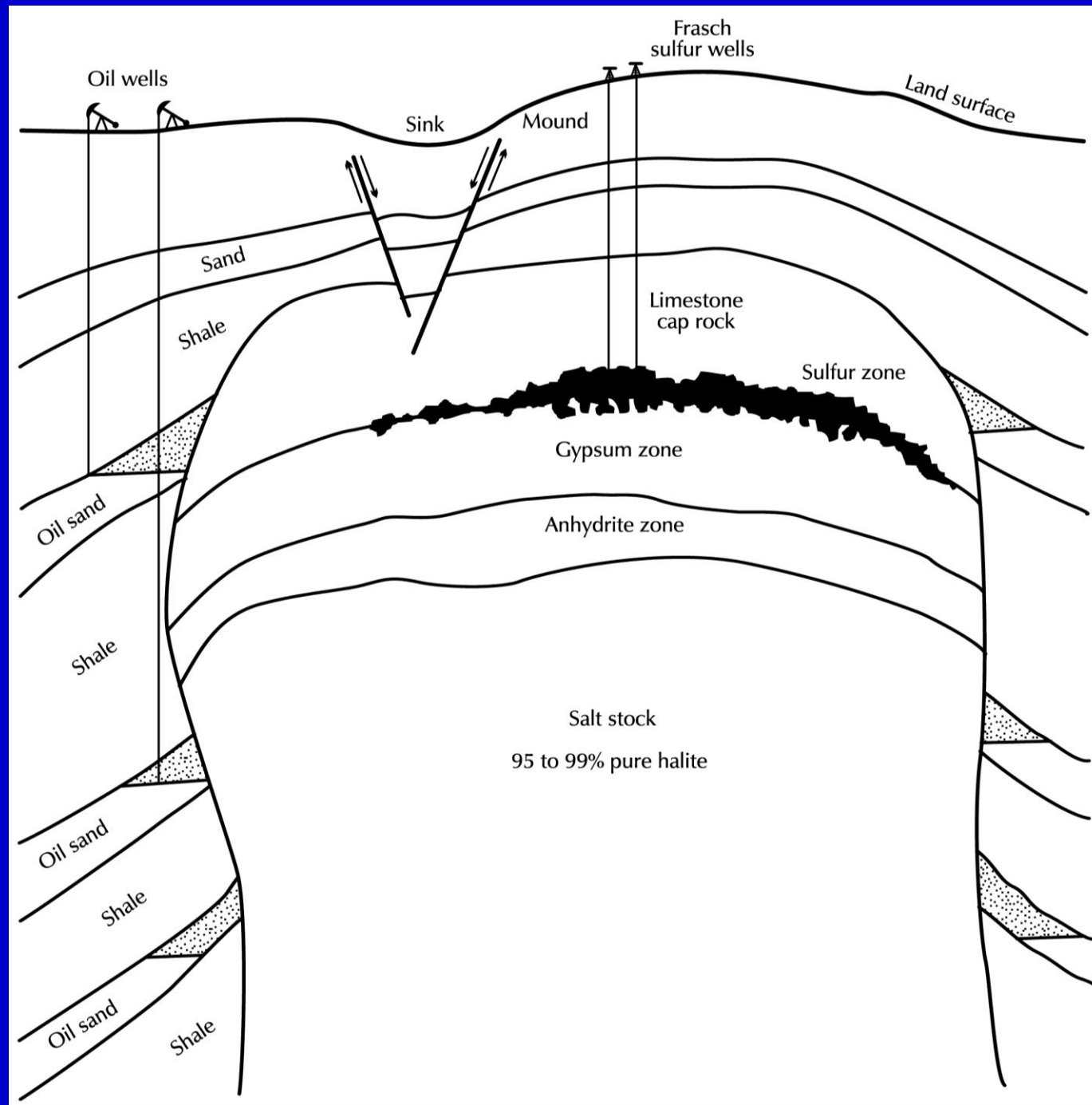
Class III Wells

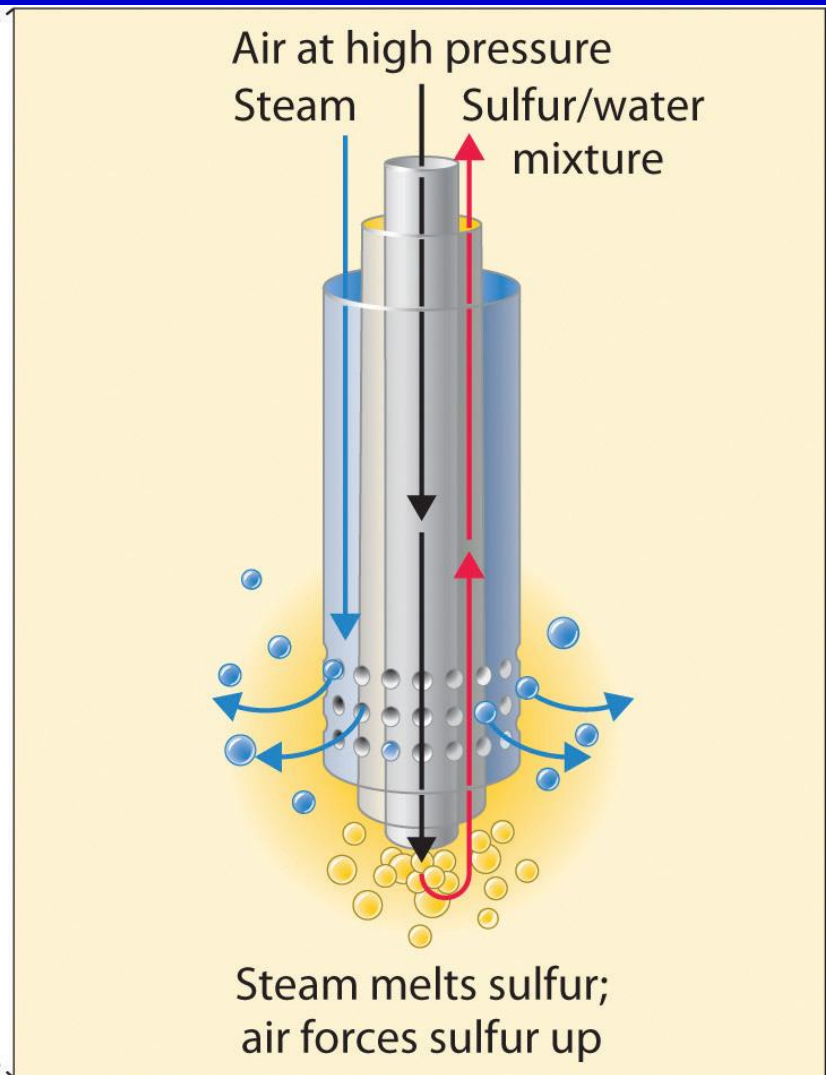
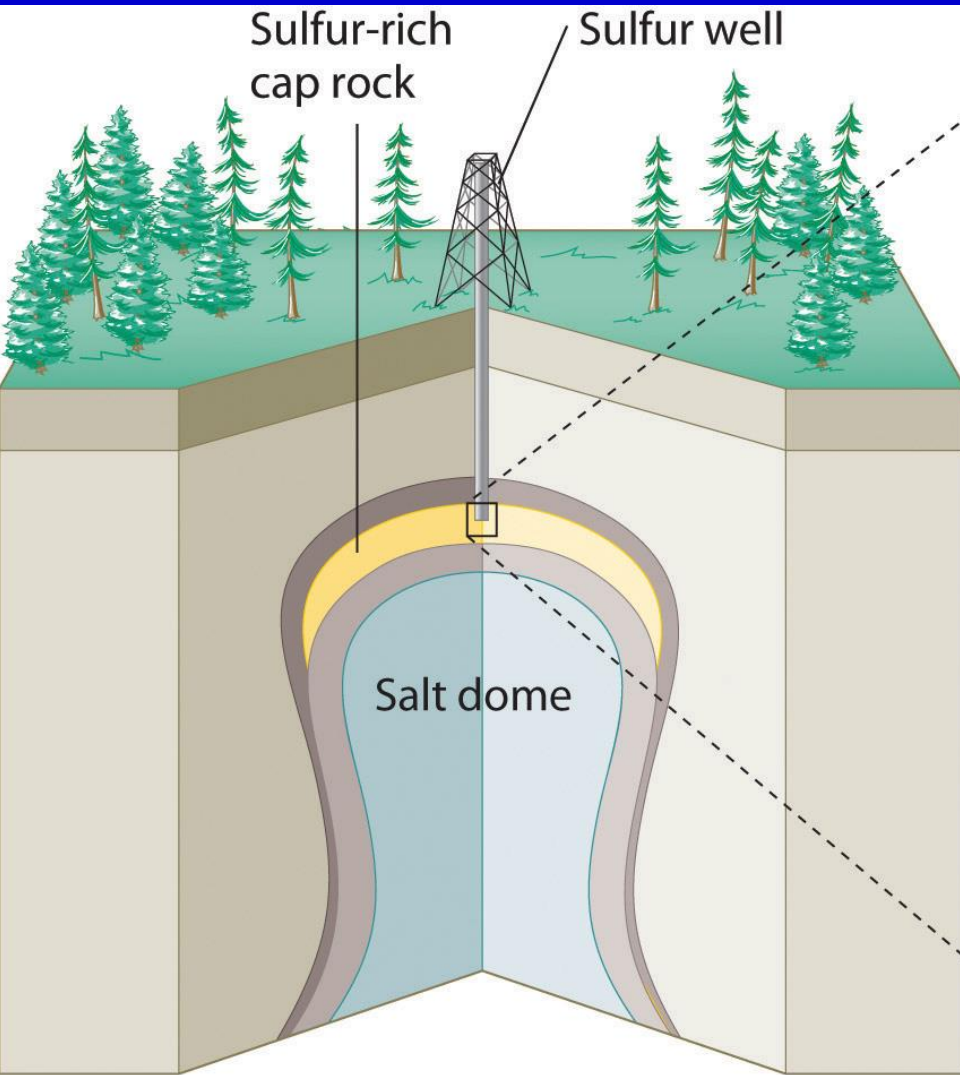


Sulfur

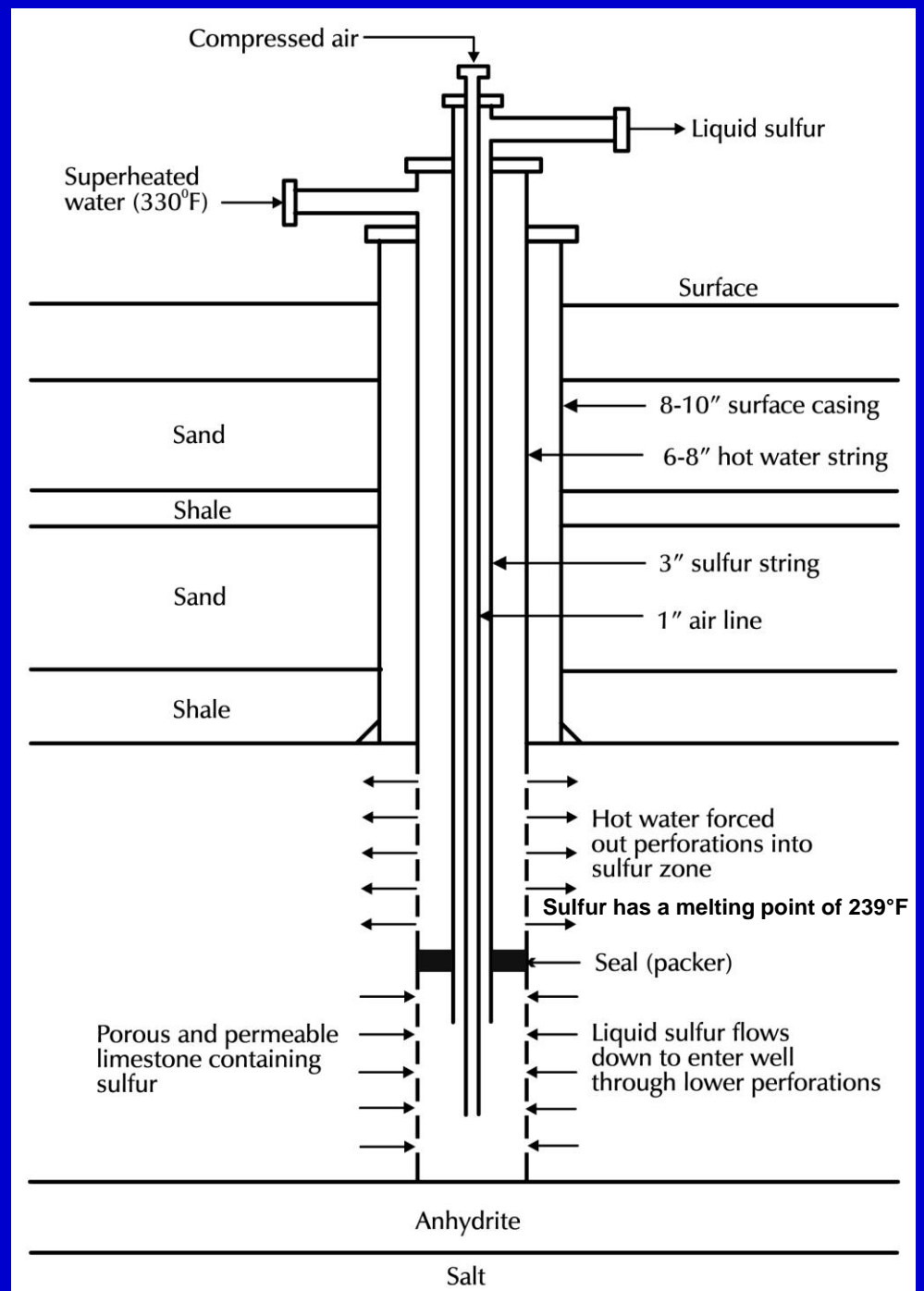
Mining

Generalized Cross Section of a Salt Dome



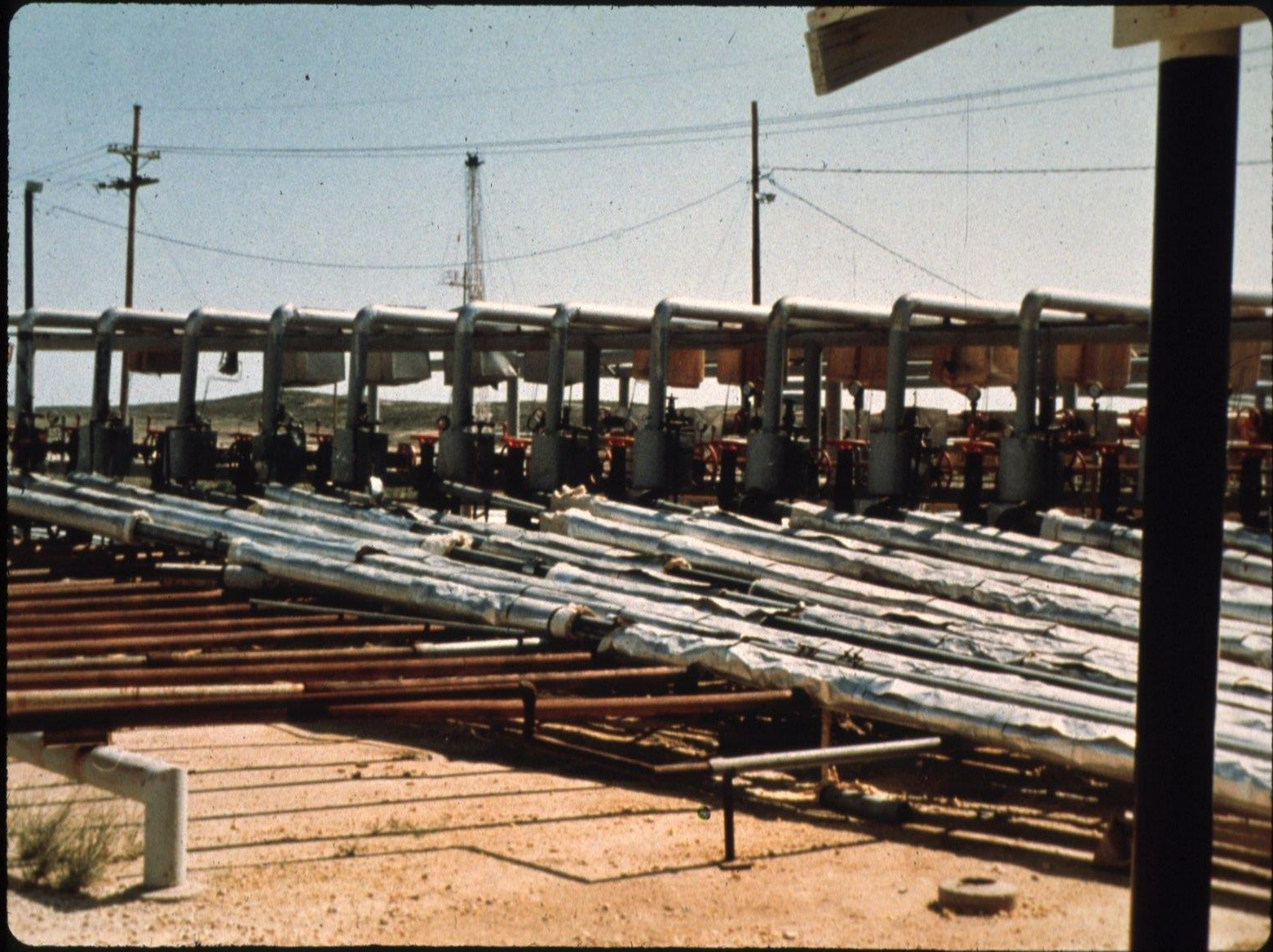


Frasch Sulfur Well



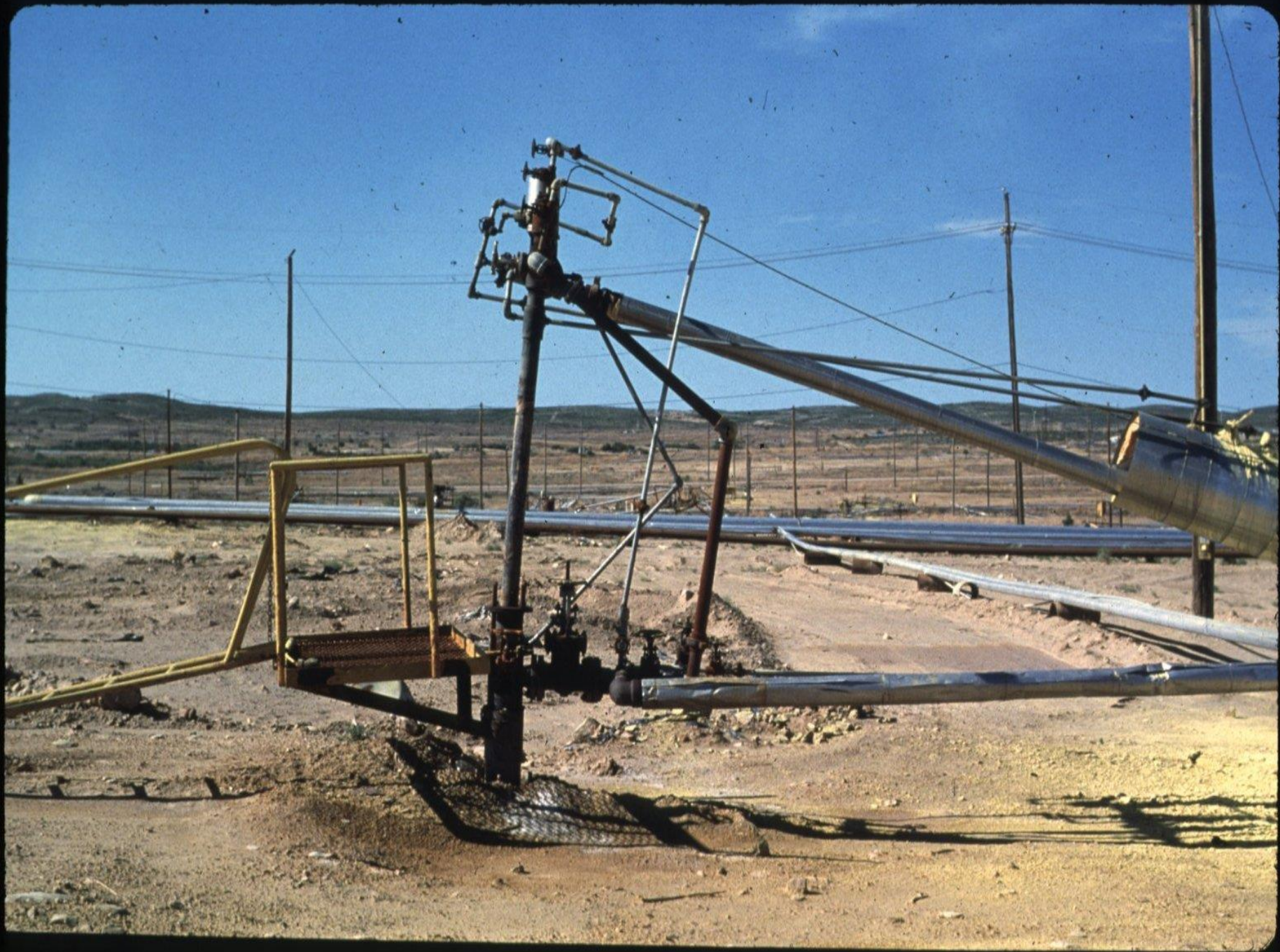














Surface Subsidence of 53 feet



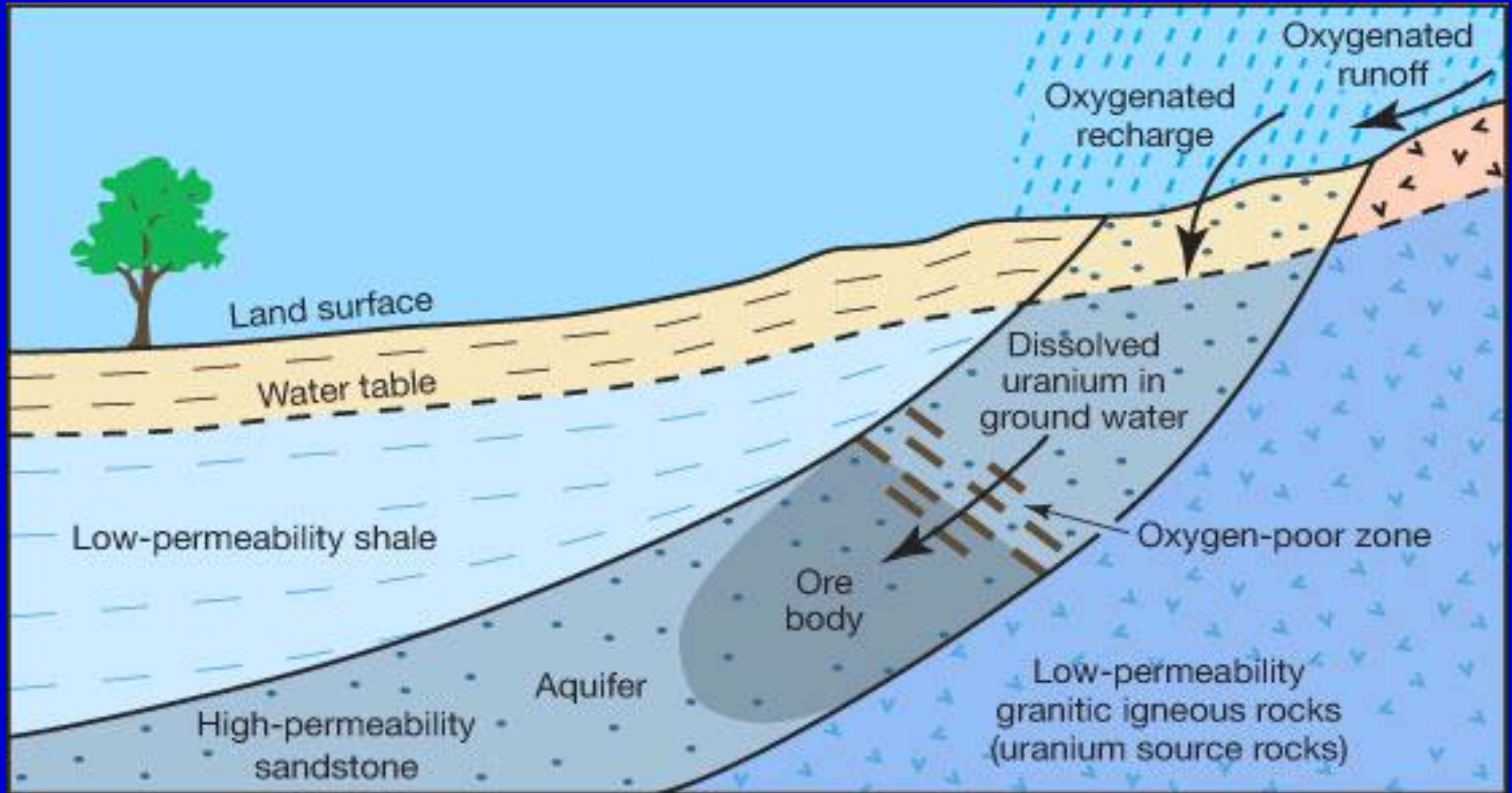
Processed Sulfur in Several Forms



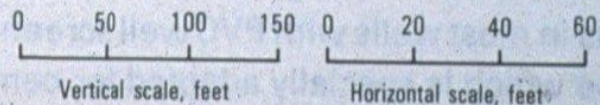
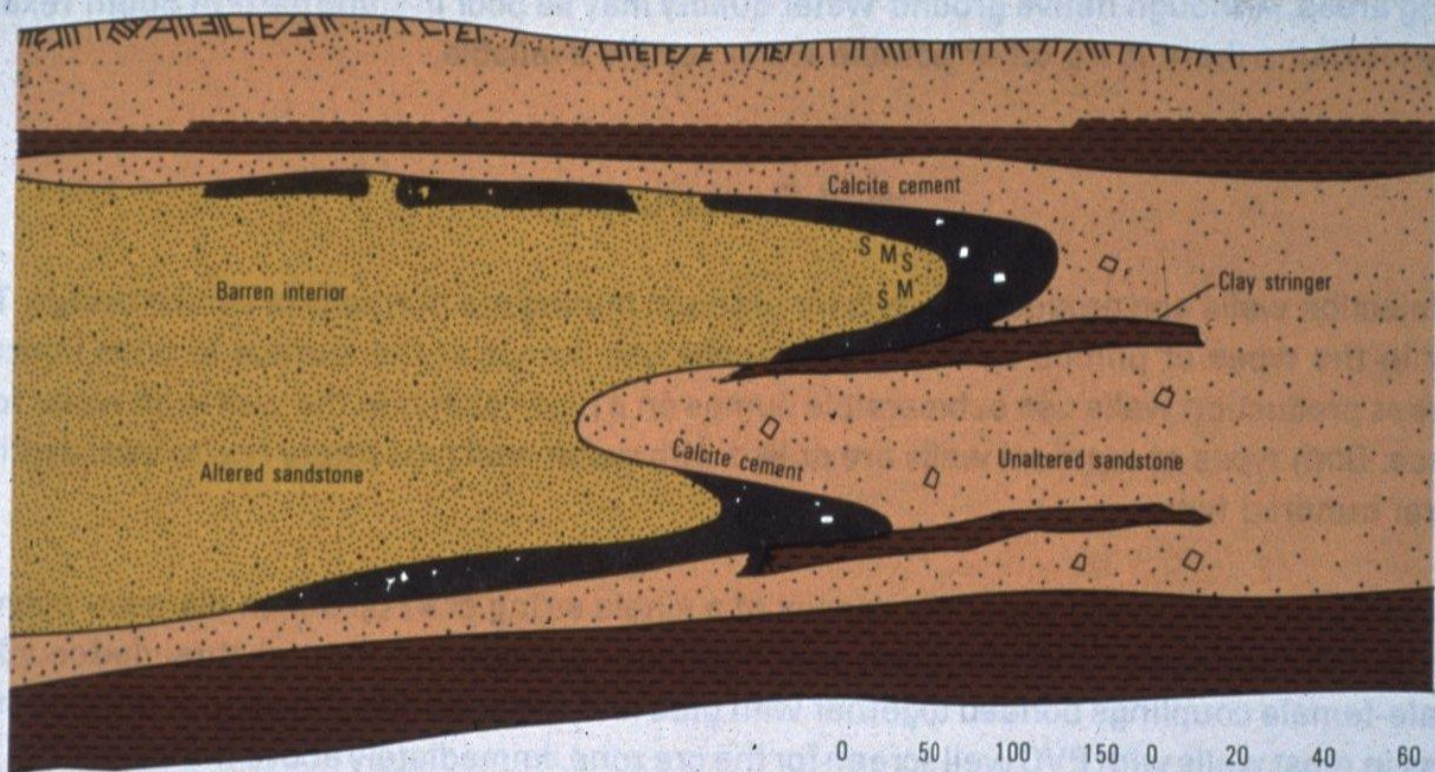
Uranium





Mining

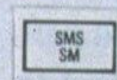
Uranium Deposition



IDEALIZED URANIUM ROLL FRONT DEPOSITS

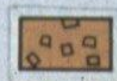


-  Oxidized Barren Interior
-  Unaltered Sandstone
-  Siltstone or Claystone
-  Uranium Mineralization



Selenium
Molybdenum

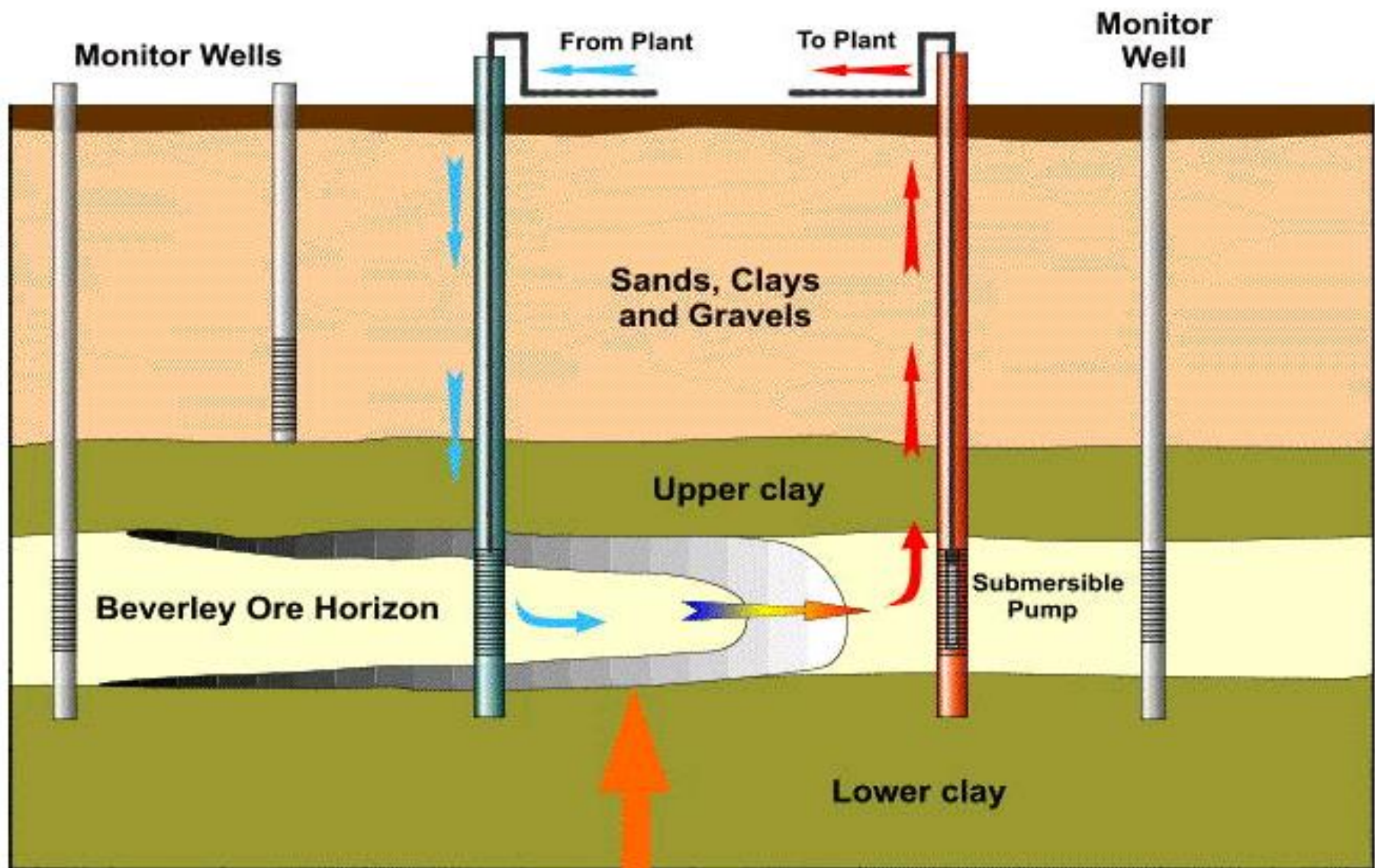
ERRATIC



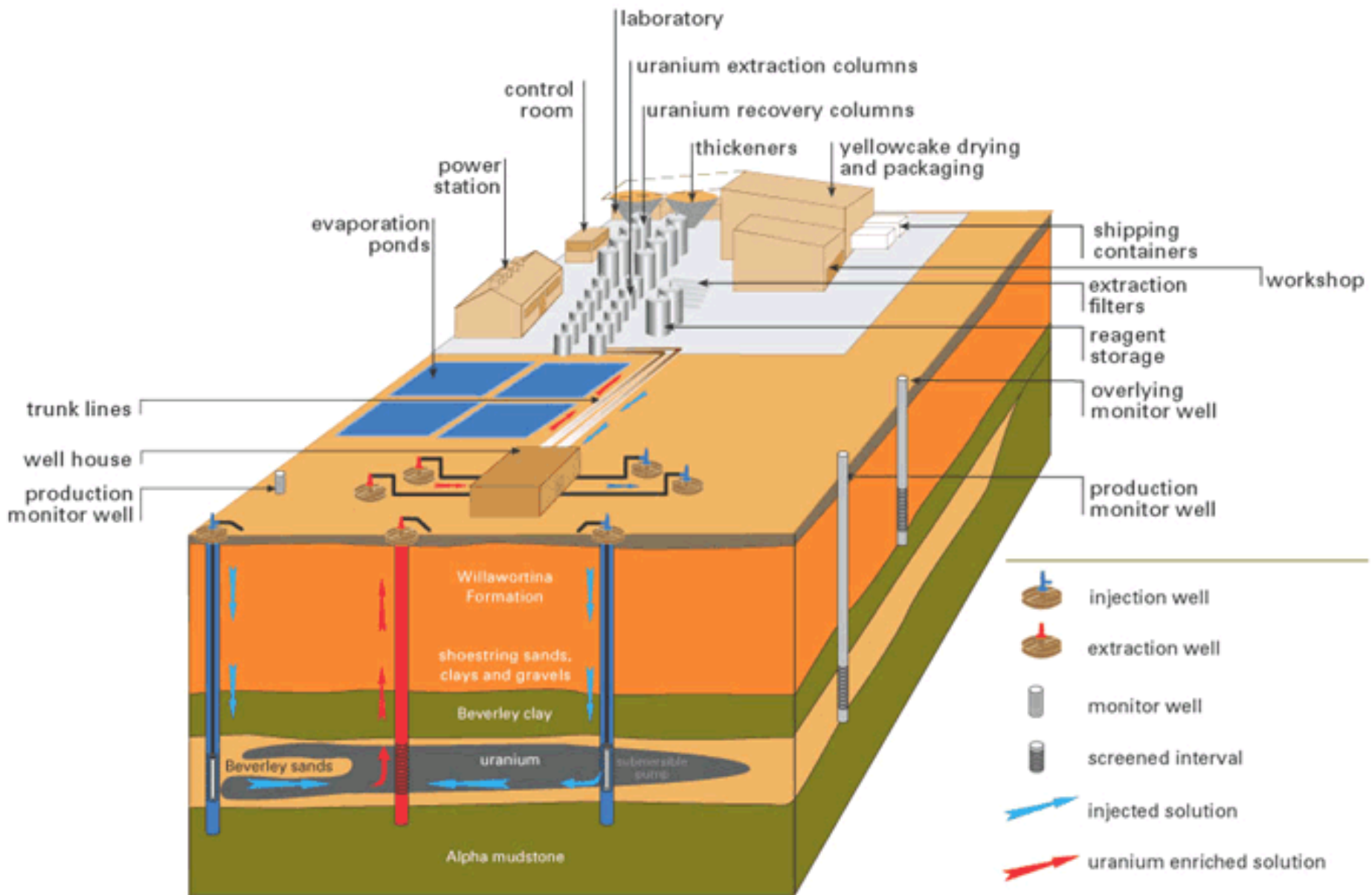
Pyrite

Roll Front Uranium Deposit





Uranium Deposit



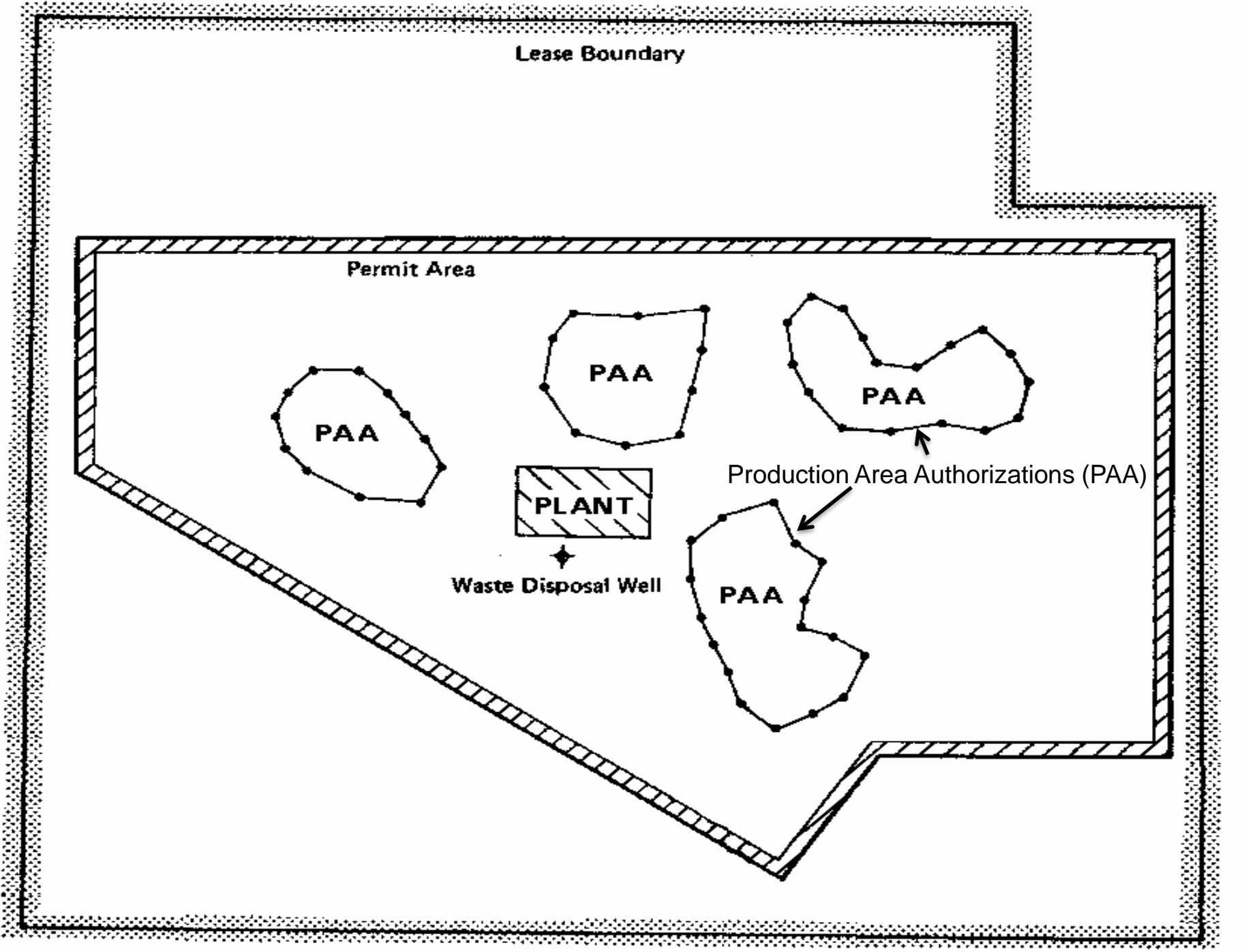
Lease Boundary

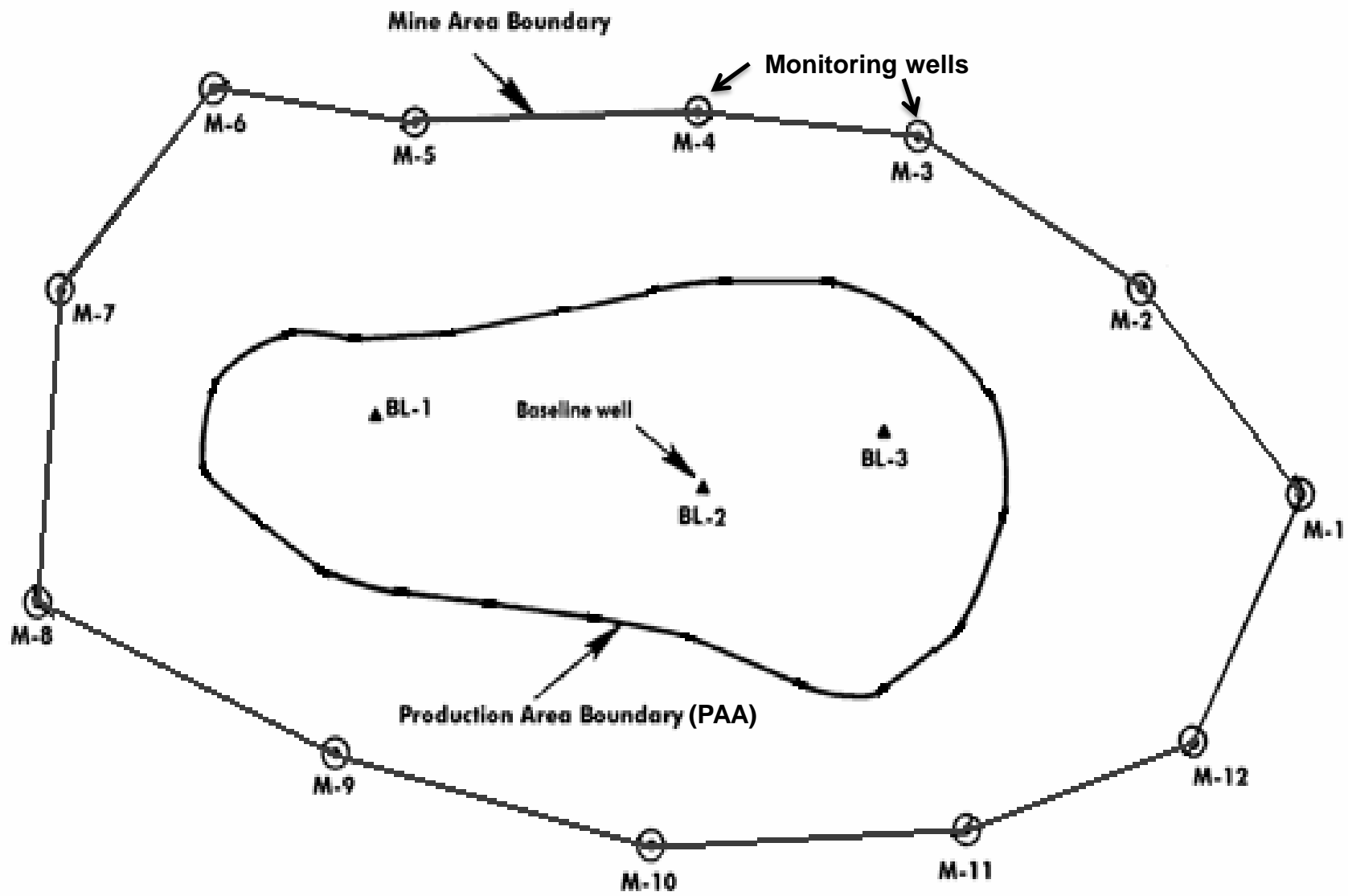
Permit Area



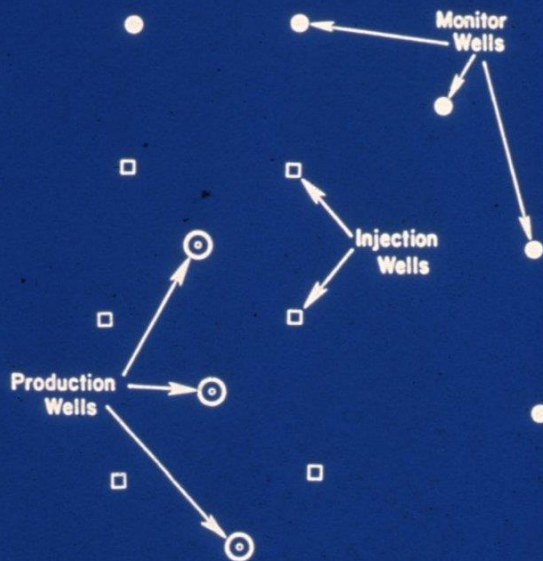
Production Area Authorizations (PAA)

Waste Disposal Well

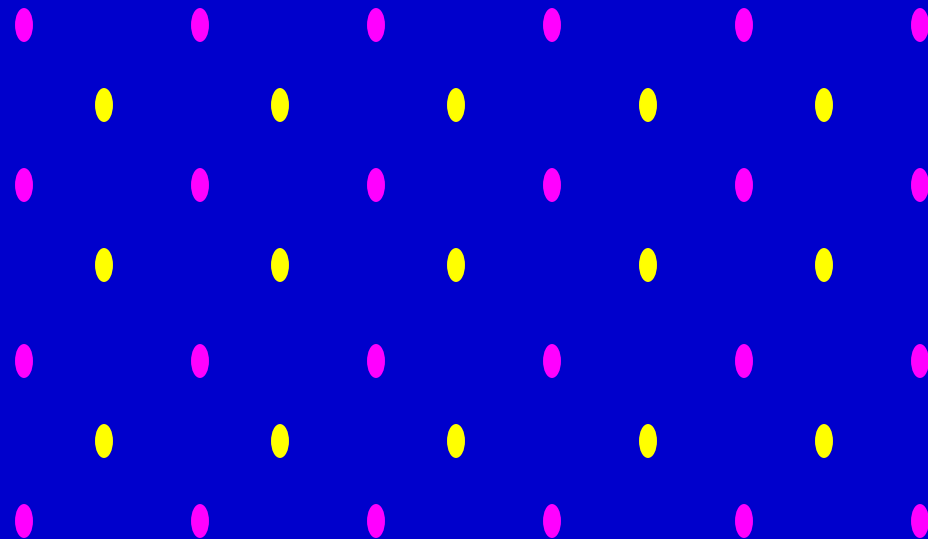
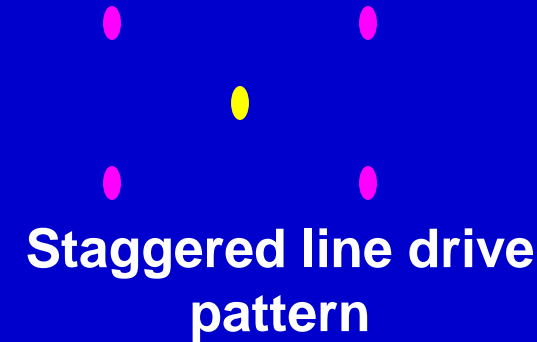
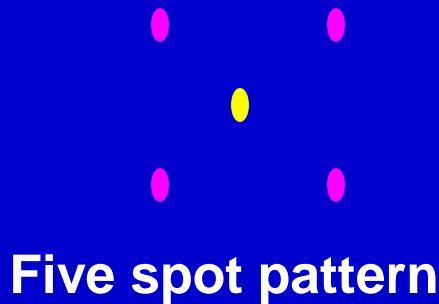




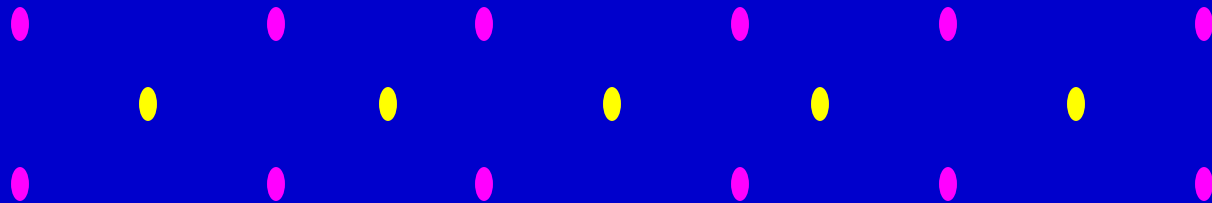
Generalized In-Situ Uranium Mine Plan



Common Patterns of Injection and Production Wells



Multiple five spot pattern



Multiple staggered line drive pattern



In situ wellfield with numerous injection and extraction wells



Open Pit Uranium Mine

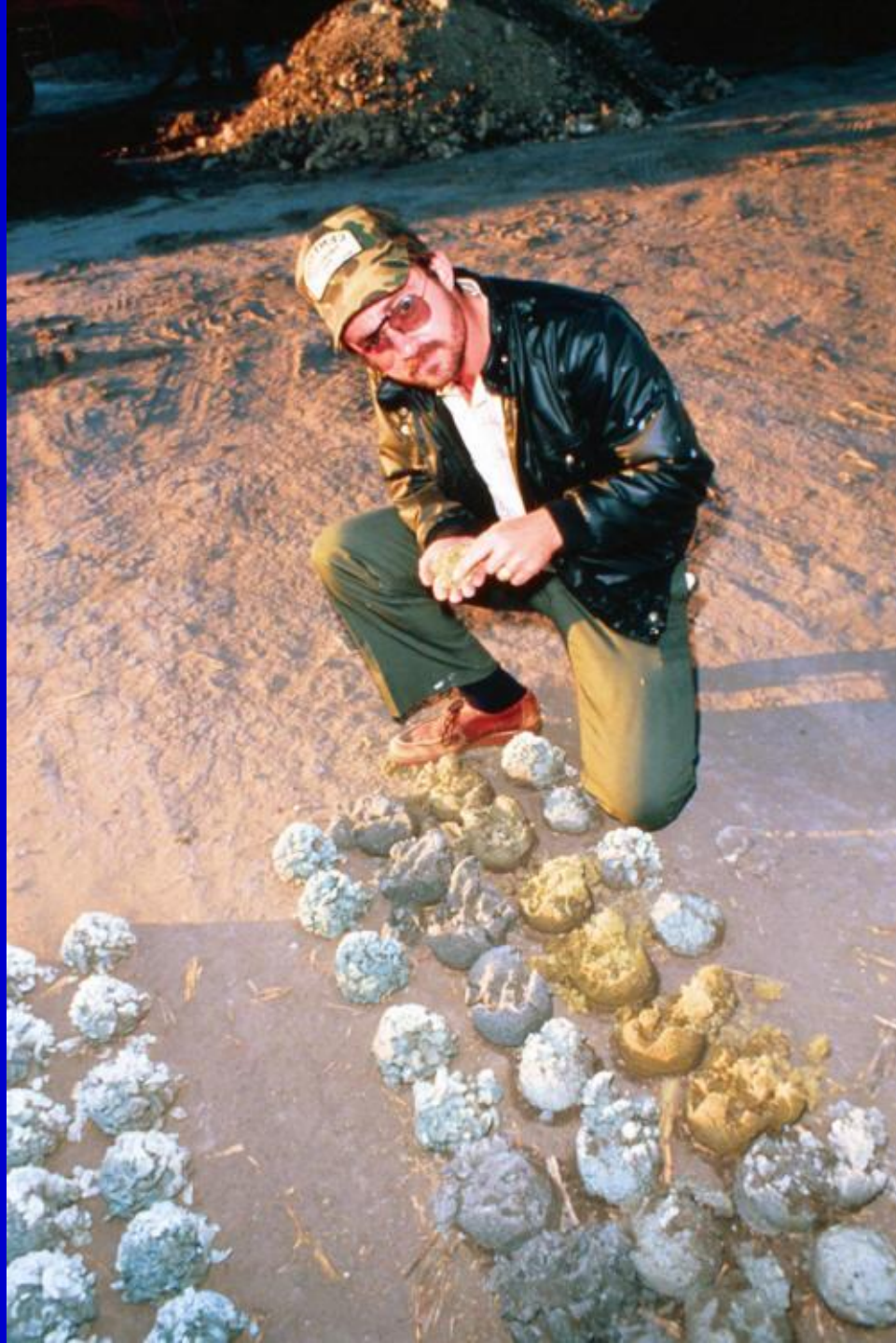


Drilling Rigs

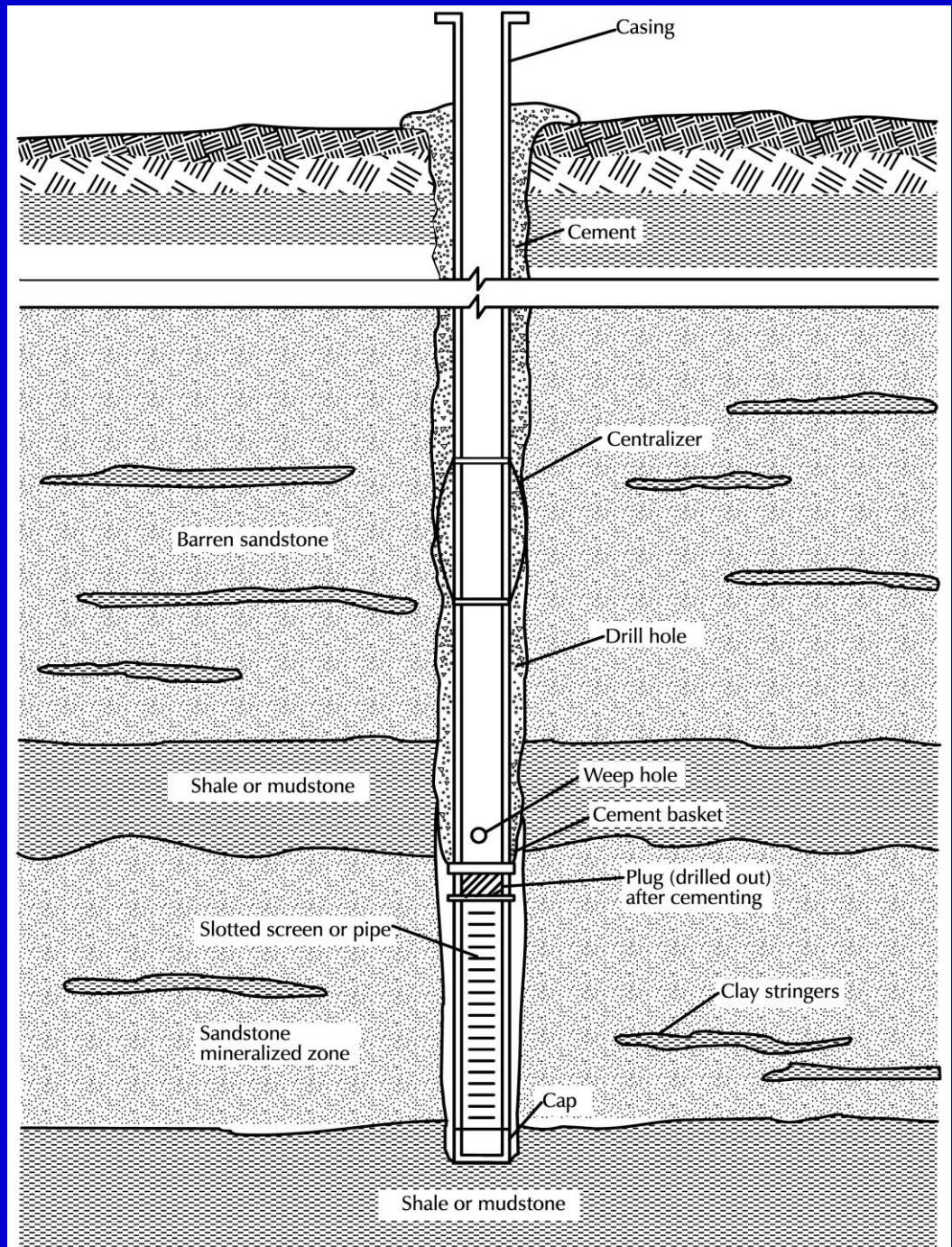
Well Core



Drill Cuttings



Uranium Mining Well











Single Point Resistivity wireline truck

Single Point Resistivity Test





**Testing a Well
to Make Sure it
Will Produce Water**



Flow Lines and Meters

Uranium Mining **Class III Injection** and **Production** Wells

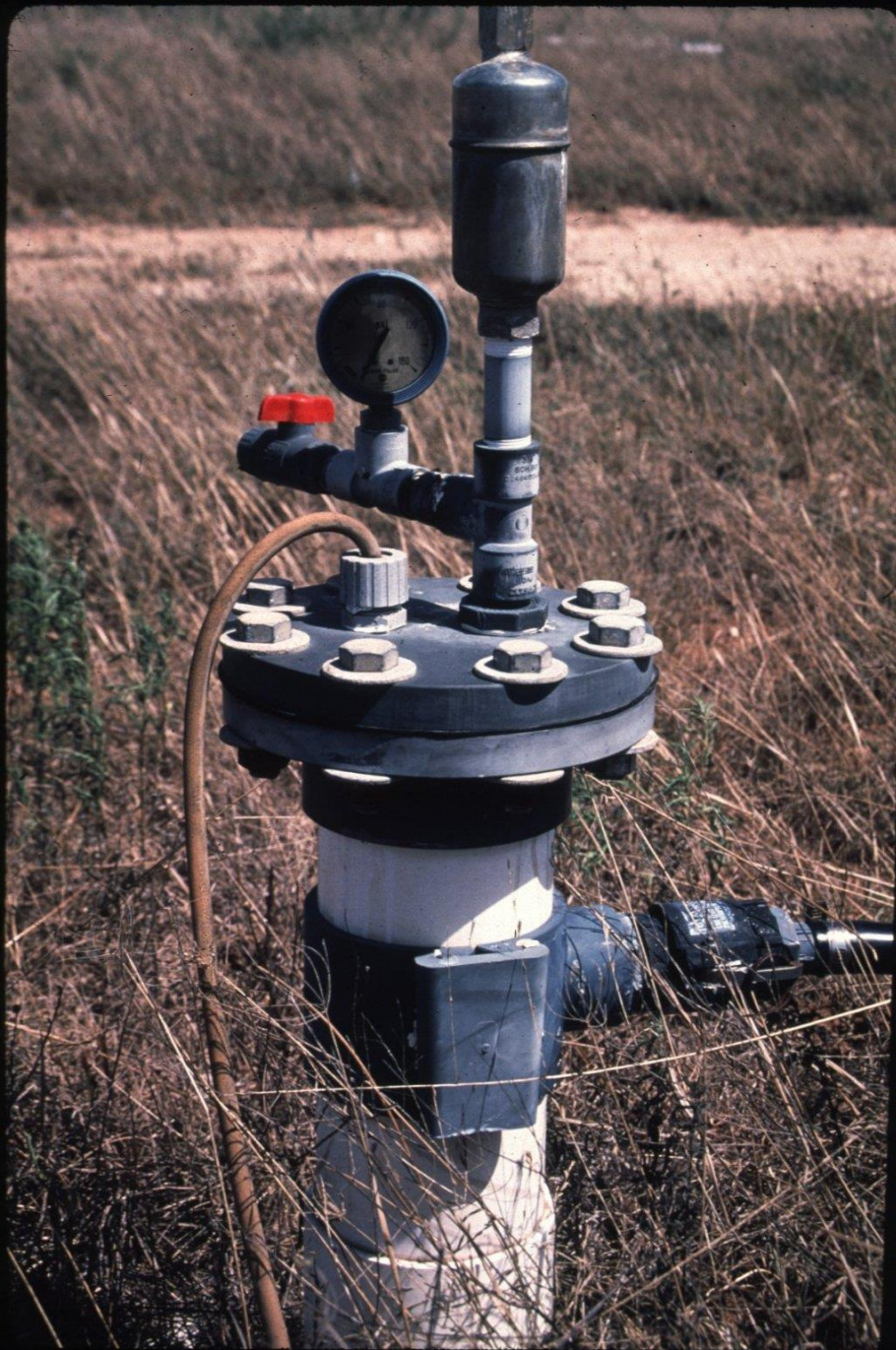




















DI 2542 CM







Reverse Osmosis Equipment

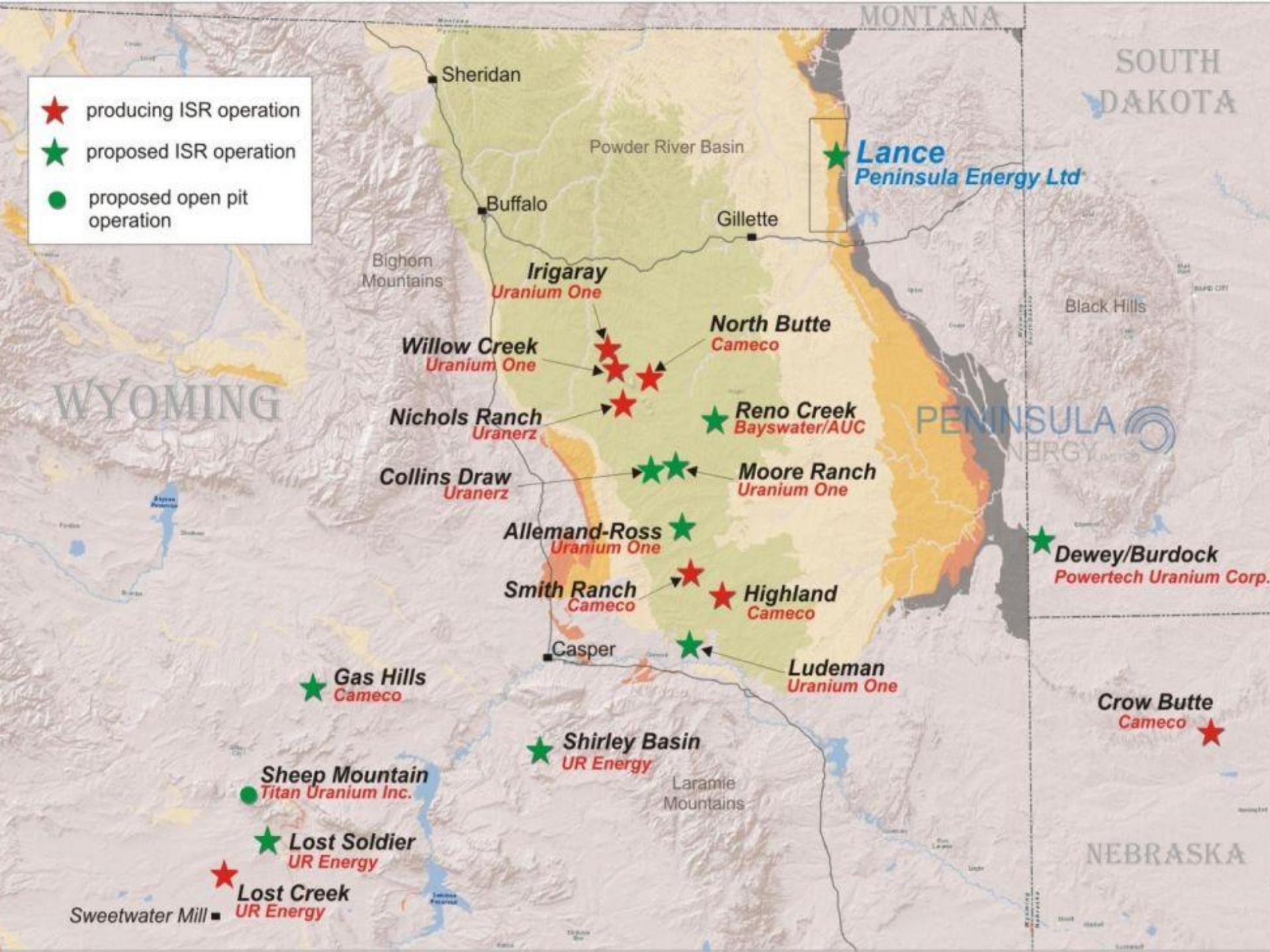
Liquid Oxygen Storage Tank







- ★ producing ISR operation
- ★ proposed ISR operation
- proposed open pit operation



Sheridan

Powder River Basin

Buffalo

Gillette

★ Lance Peninsula Energy Ltd

Bighorn Mountains

Irigaray Uranium One

North Butte Cameco

Willow Creek Uranium One

★ Reno Creek Bayswater/AUC

Nichols Ranch Uranerz

PENINSULA ENERGY

Collins Draw Uranerz

Moore Ranch Uranium One

Allemand-Ross Uranium One

★ Dewey/Burdock Powertech Uranium Corp.

Smith Ranch Cameco

★ Highland Cameco

Casper

Ludeman Uranium One

★ Gas Hills Cameco

Crow Butte Cameco ★

★ Shirley Basin UR Energy

Laramie Mountains

● Sheep Mountain Titan Uranium Inc.

★ Lost Soldier UR Energy

★ Lost Creek UR Energy

Sweetwater Mill

NEBRASKA

Crow Butte - Well field operations foreman monitors the flows from each of the ISR production wells from the well house.

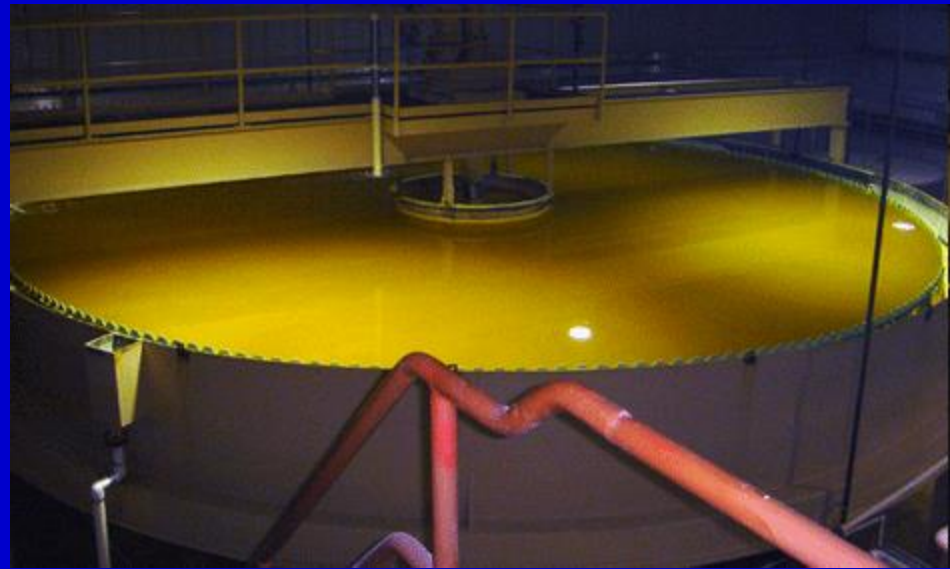


Smith Ranch Mine Integrity Test





Smith Ranch



Nichols Ranch Wellfield



Submersible Pumps



Monitoring Well



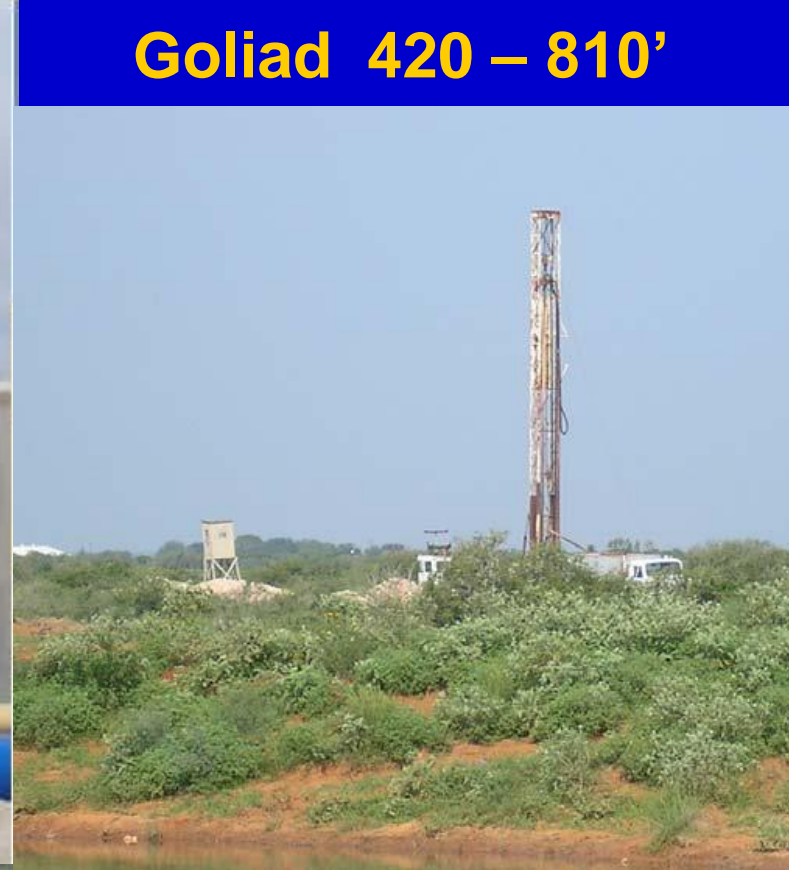


Kingsville Dome – Goliad 600 – 750' (1988)



The Alta Mesa ISR (2006)

Goliad 420 – 810'





Ion exchange columns at a Texas ISR operation



Ion exchange resin beads used in the ISR process



Precipitation of uranium

Filter Press





Employee removing uranium from a filter press



**Zero-emission
Rotary Vacuum
Dryer**





**Uranium
Bearing
Sand**

**Barren
Lixiviant**

**Pregnant
Lixiviant**

**IX
Resin**

Eluate

**Unfiltered
Slurry**

**Filtered
Slurry**

**Yellow
Cake**

Yellowcake Uranium in Barrel for Shipping

One Barrel weighs about 1,000 pounds



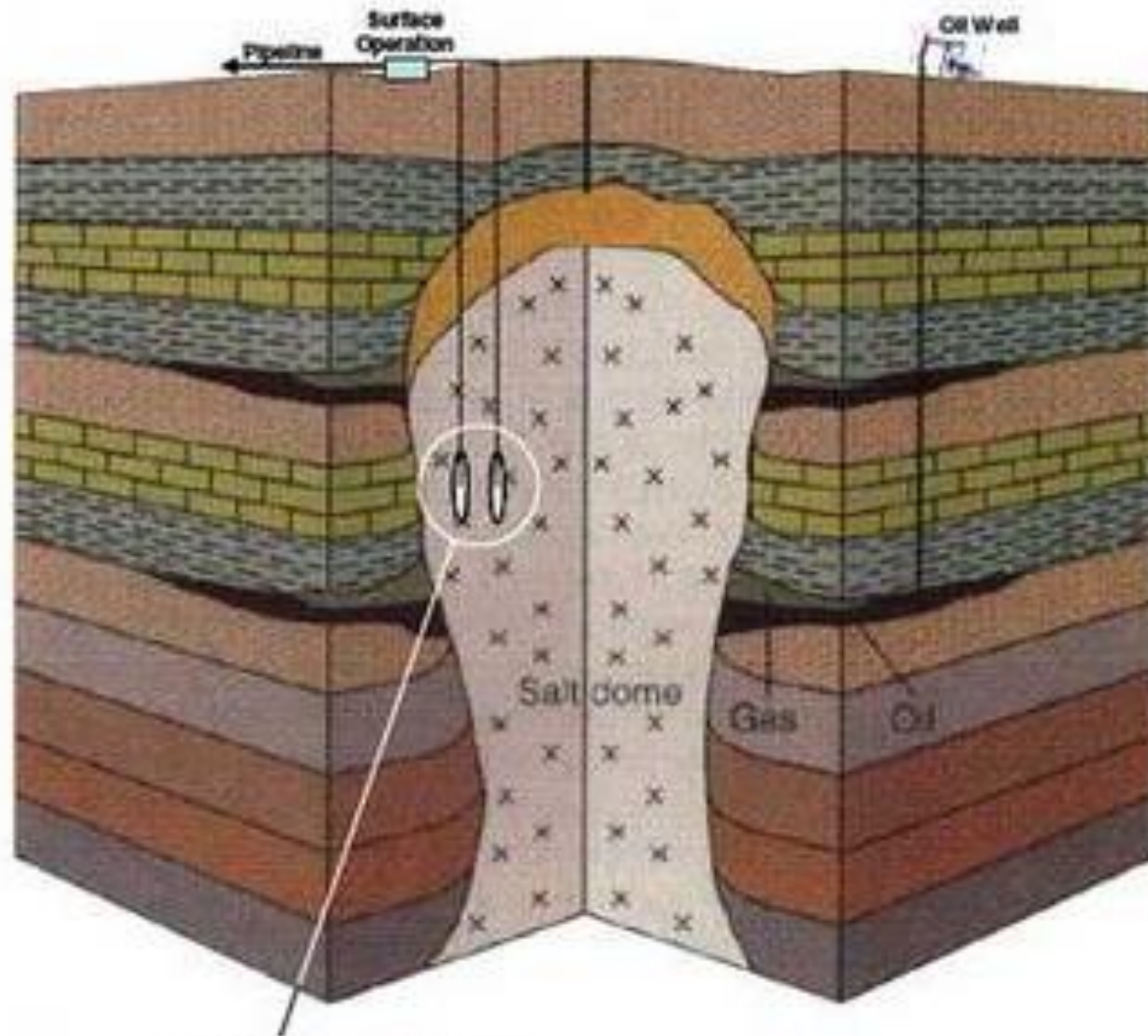


Class I Nonhazardous Disposal Well

Brine

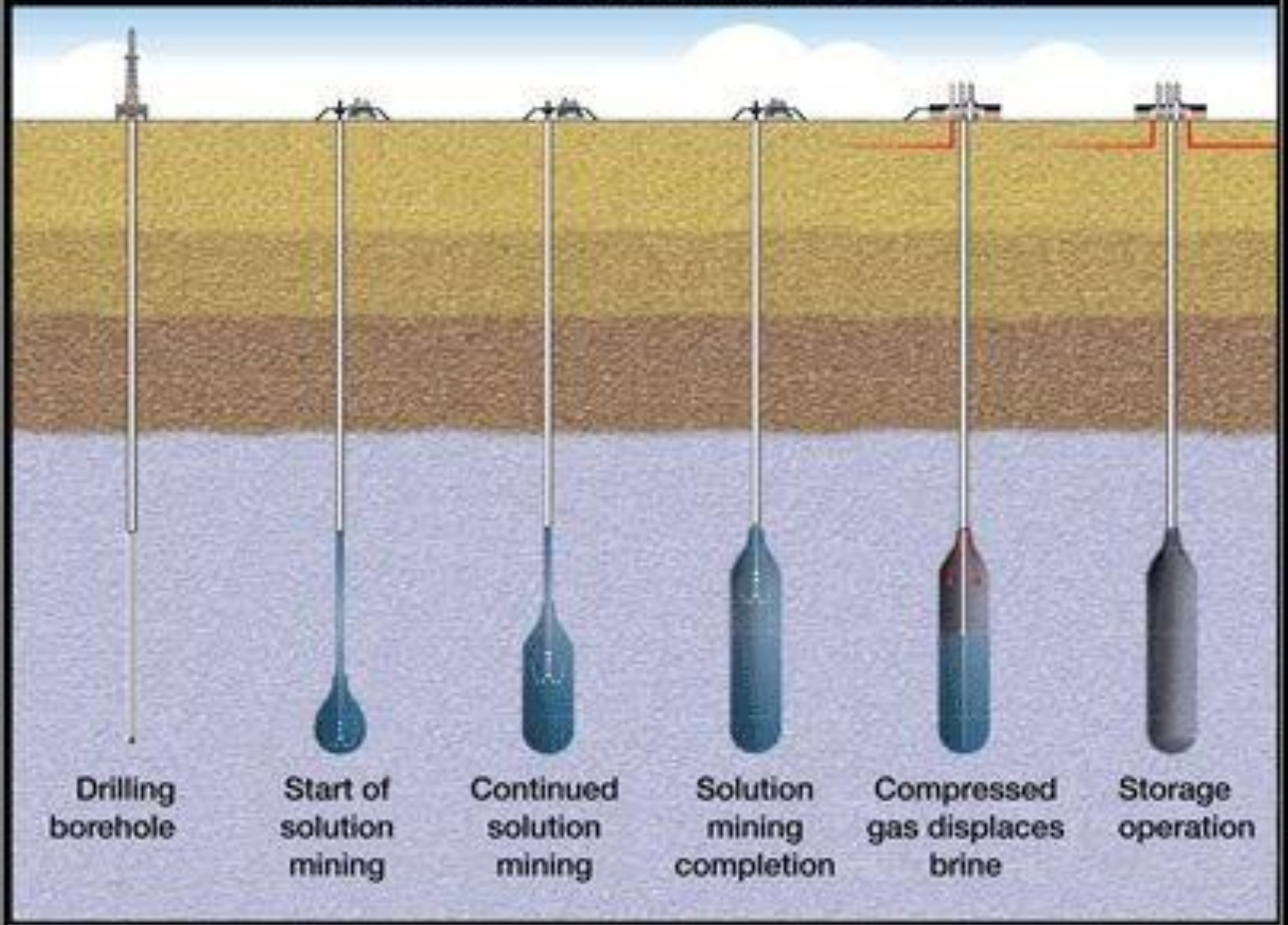
Mining

Solution Brine Mining

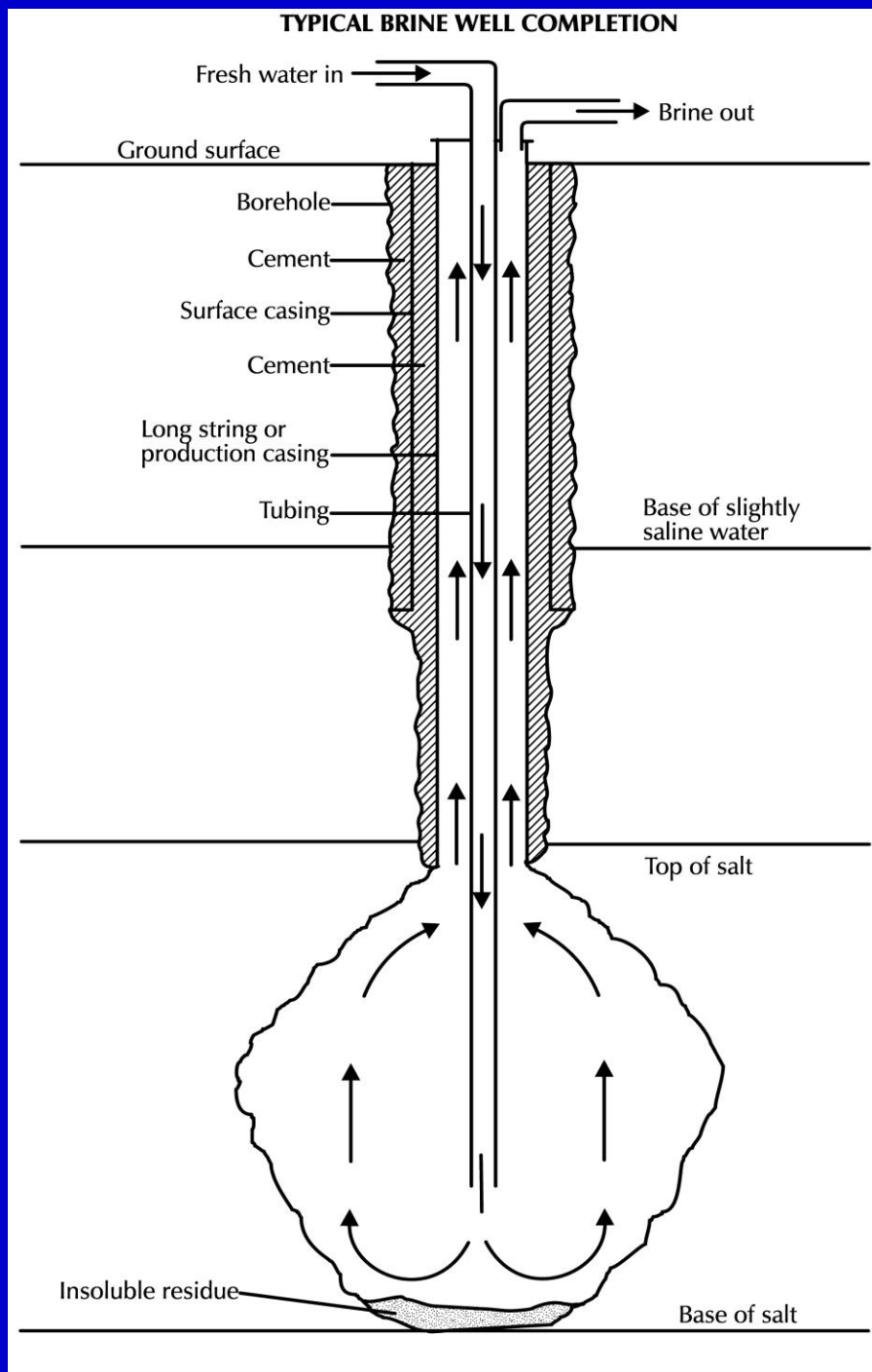


Salt Dome Caverns

The Solution Mining Process



Brine Mining Well



Brine Mine Wellhead



Point of View?
DANGER - TAKE CARE
SAFETY CHECKS CONSTRUCTION SITE
KEEP A SHORT DISTANCE BETWEEN
THIS NOTICE AND THE NEXT NOTICE



**TYPICAL SCHEMATIC OF A CONTEMPORARY
MANISTEE FRACTURED SALT GALLERY**

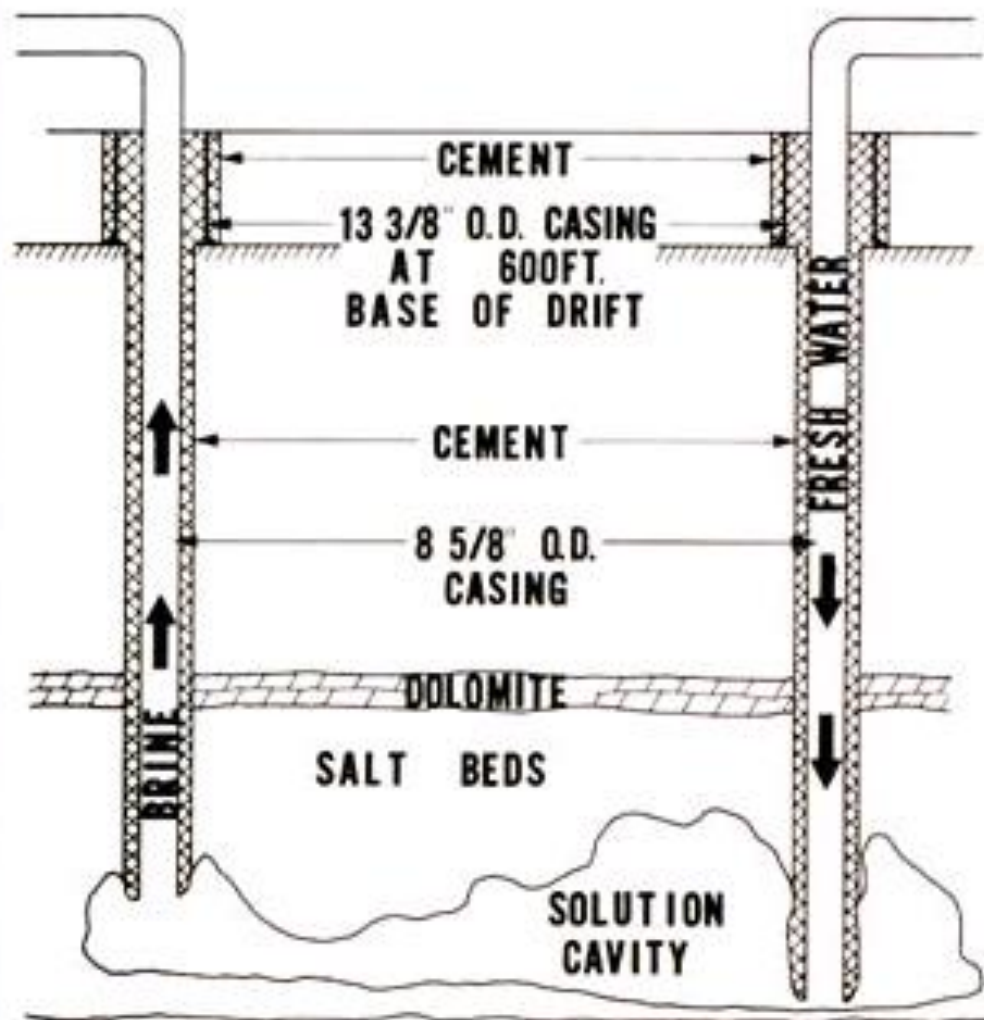
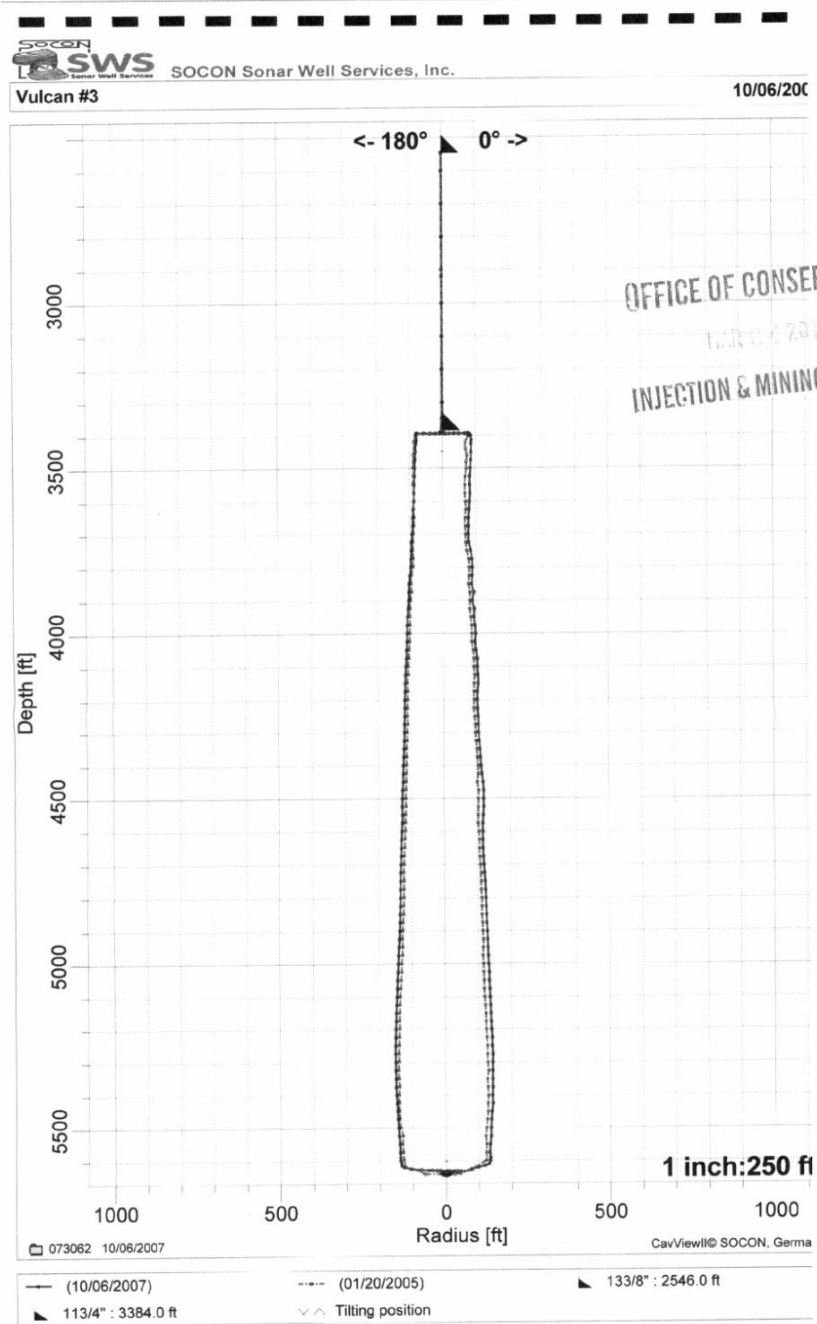


FIGURE NO. 2

Sonar Survey Of a Brine Mining Cavern



Bayou Corne - Louisiana



Before Bayou Corne Sinkhole

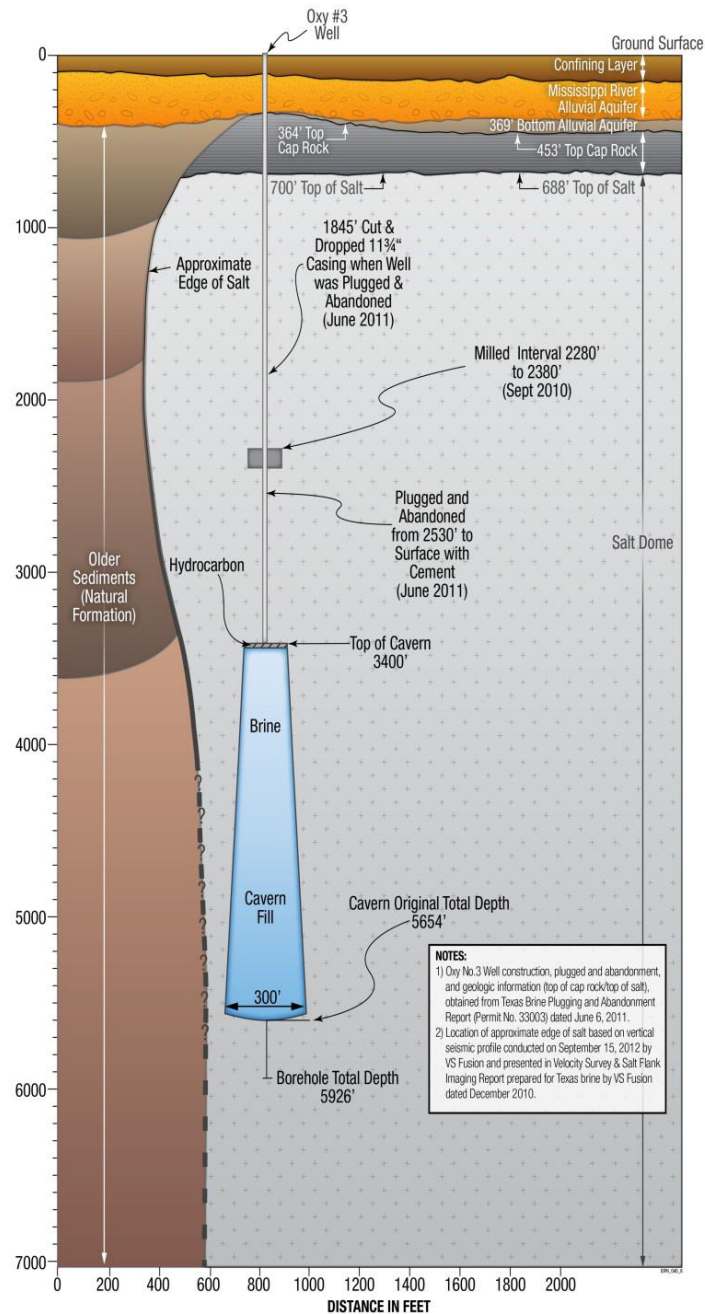


8/3/12

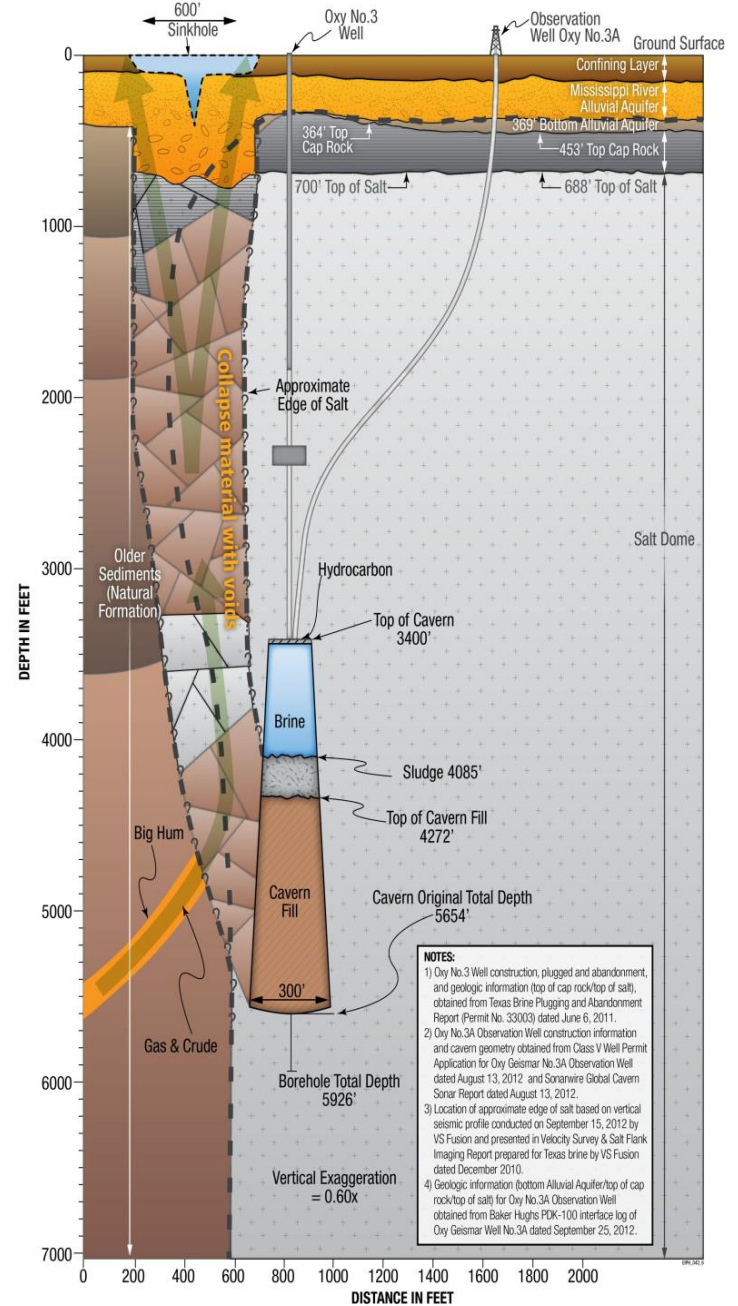
After



CONCEPTUAL MODEL PRIOR TO 08/02/2012



CONCEPTUAL MODEL OF CURRENT SITUATION

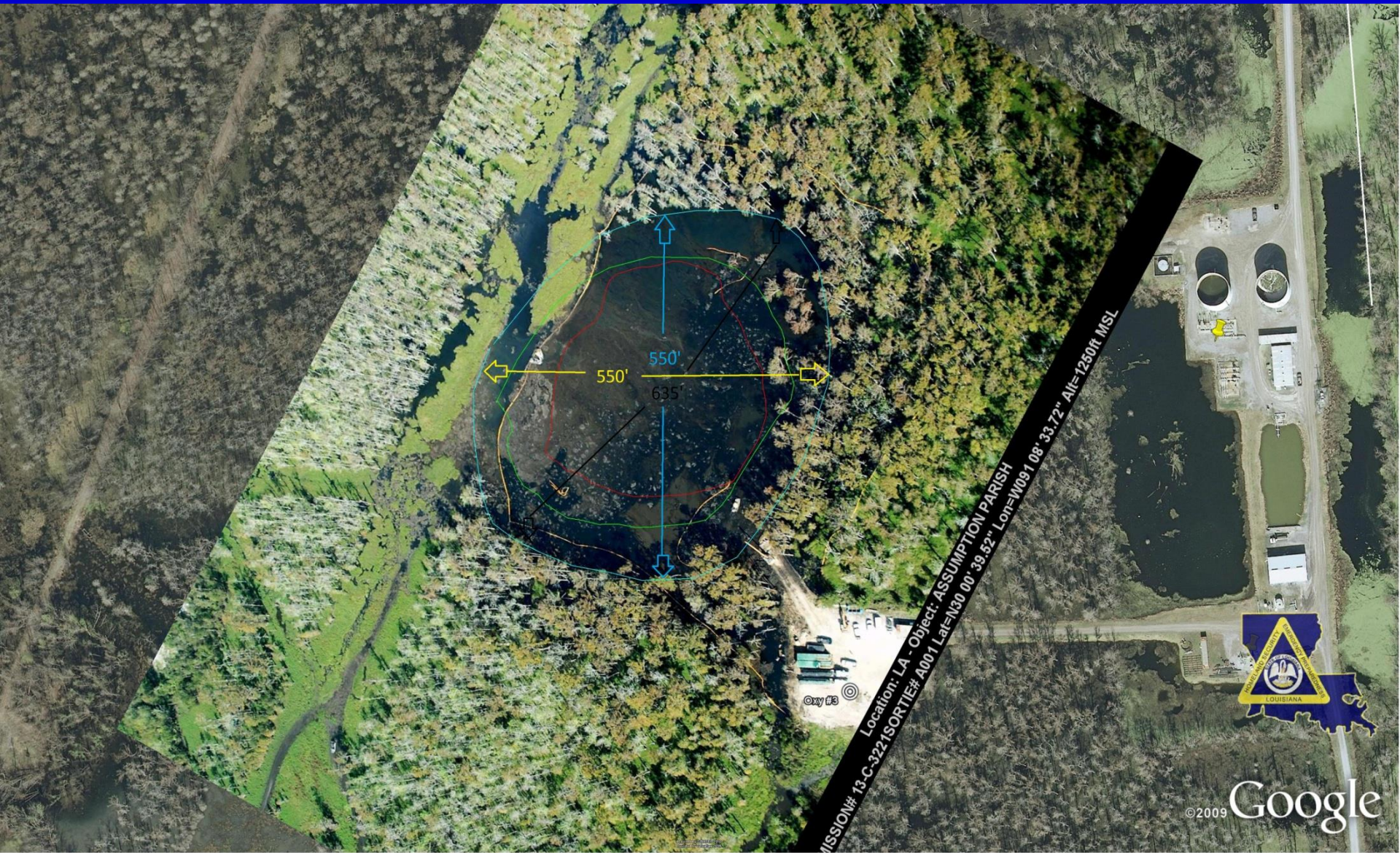






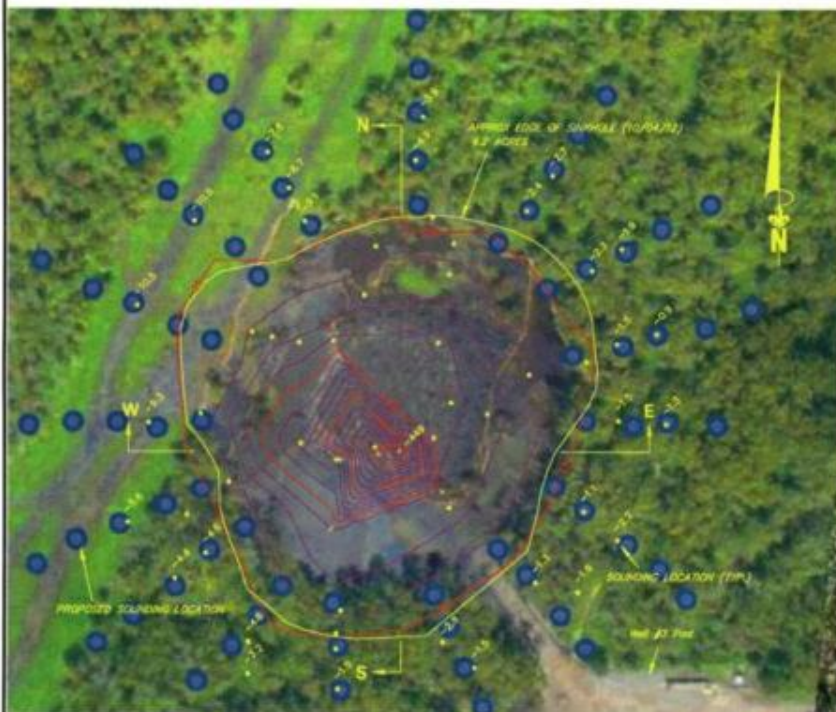
Assumption Parish OHSEP, 08/21/2012



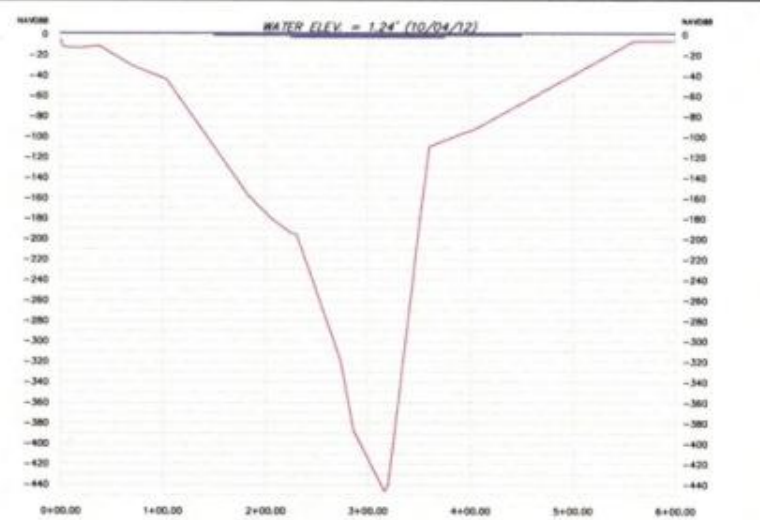


Sinkhole Dimensions 10-12-12

Oct

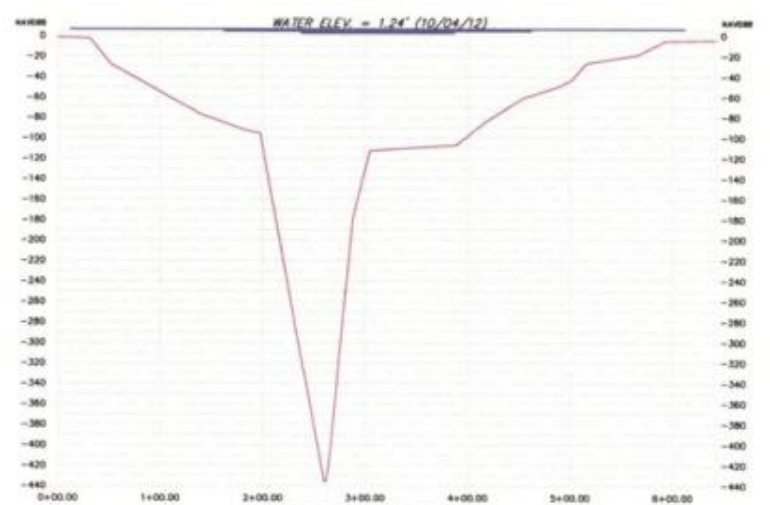


VOLUME CALCULATION:
 USING THE APPROXIMATE EDGE OF THE SINKHOLE AS SHOWN AND
 THE UPPER ELEVATION LIMIT OF 5.00', THE INTERNAL VOLUME MEASURES
 APPROXIMATELY 100,000 CU. YDS.



CROSS SECTION W-E

PROFILE:
 HORIZONTAL: 1"=100'
 VERTICAL: 1"=20'



CROSS SECTION S-N

PROFILE:
 HORIZONTAL: 1"=100'
 VERTICAL: 1"=20'



Miller Engineers & Associates, Inc.
 Consulting Engineers & Land Surveyors
 601 Main Street P.O. Box 223
 Franklin, La. 70538

TEXAS BRINE
 BAYOU CORNE/GRAND BAYOU SINKHOLE
 PLAN AND PROFILE

PLAN & PROFILE

Drawn: M. J. Fave, PLS
 Designer:
 Appraiser:
 Date: 10/04/2012
 Project No: 12012
 Scale: As Shown
 Release: RA
 Sheet 1 of 1



6/11/14 Flyover

Flyover 6/11/14



▶ ⏪ 🔊 1:50 / 2:04

Approximately 31 acres

**Jim's Water Service
New Mexico
July 2008**



Loco Hills New Mexico
November 2008







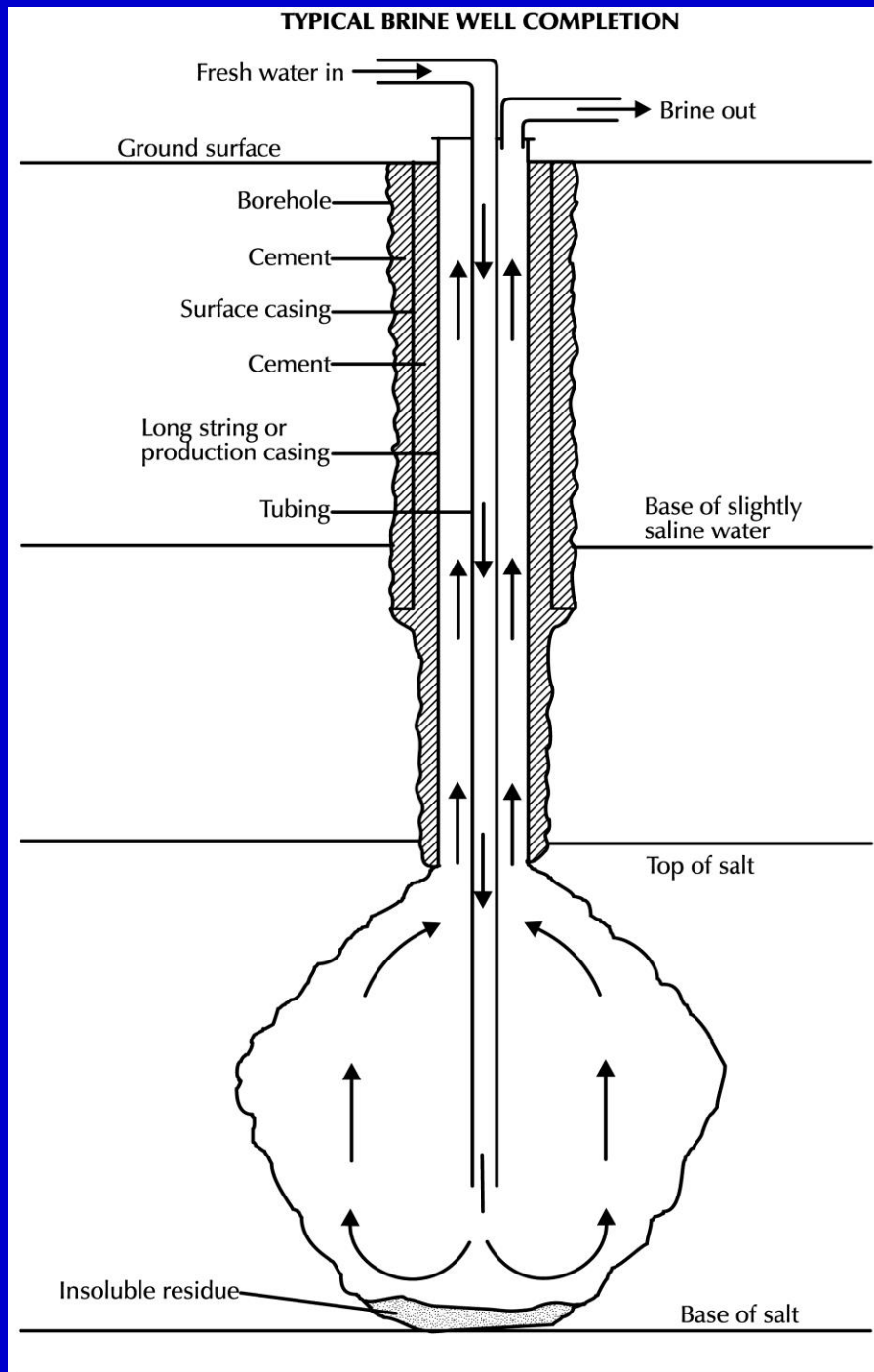


Denver City, Texas

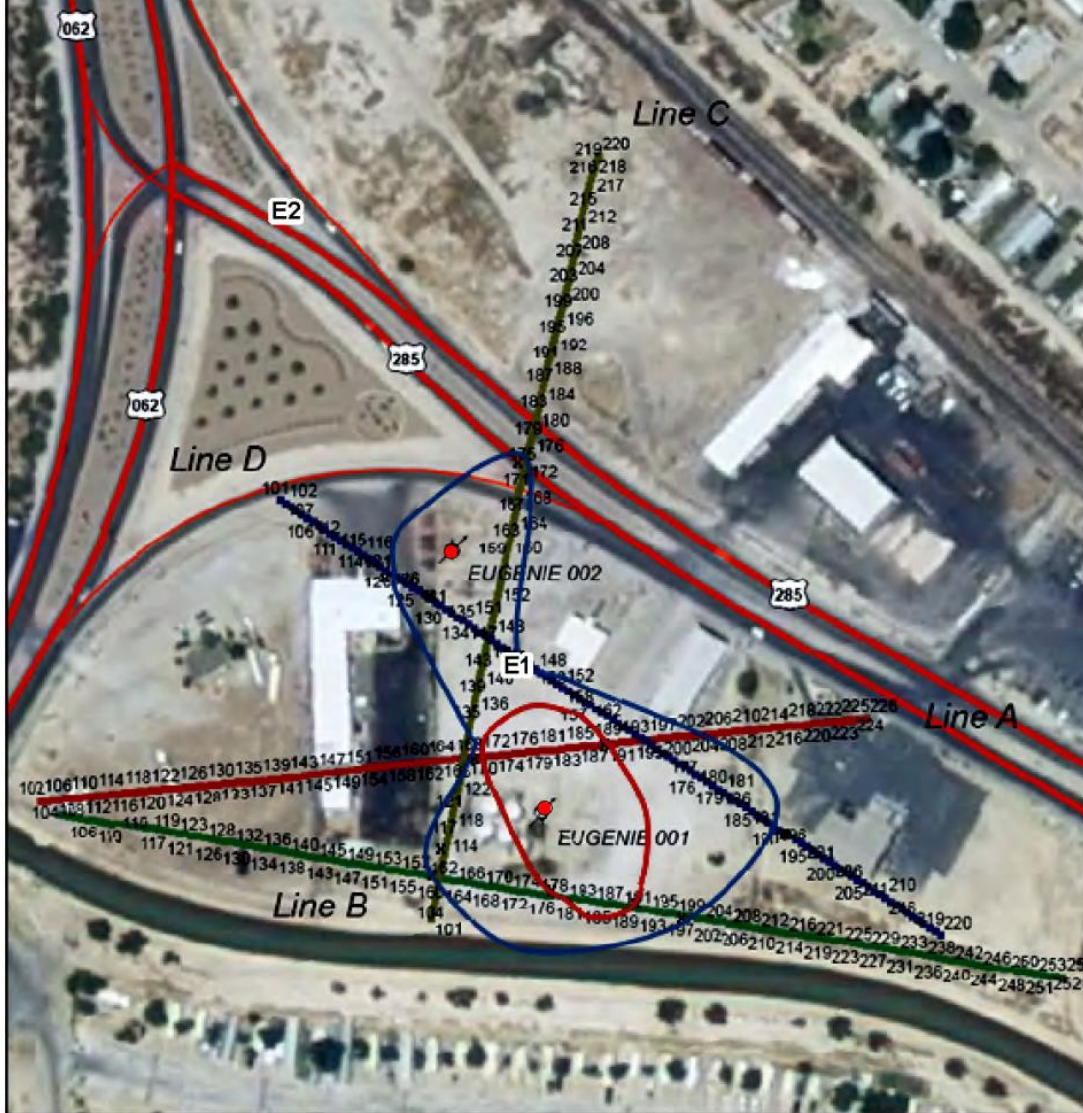


07/28/2009

Brine Mining Well



Carlsbad NM Brine Mine



Interpreted Cavern Shape	
New Mexico - OCD	
NAD 1983 New Mexico East	
DRAWN BY:	C. Hocking, RESPEC
DATE:	19 - Nov - 2009
FILENAME:	Carlsbad Caverns Earthquake

- Legend**
- I&W Wells
 - Cavern Shape
 - Seismic Signature of Cavern Effects
 - Area of Greatest Seismic Disruption

Sodium Sulfate Well

Sodium Sulfate is used in detergents and paper pulping



Sodium Sulphate Reservoir and Plant



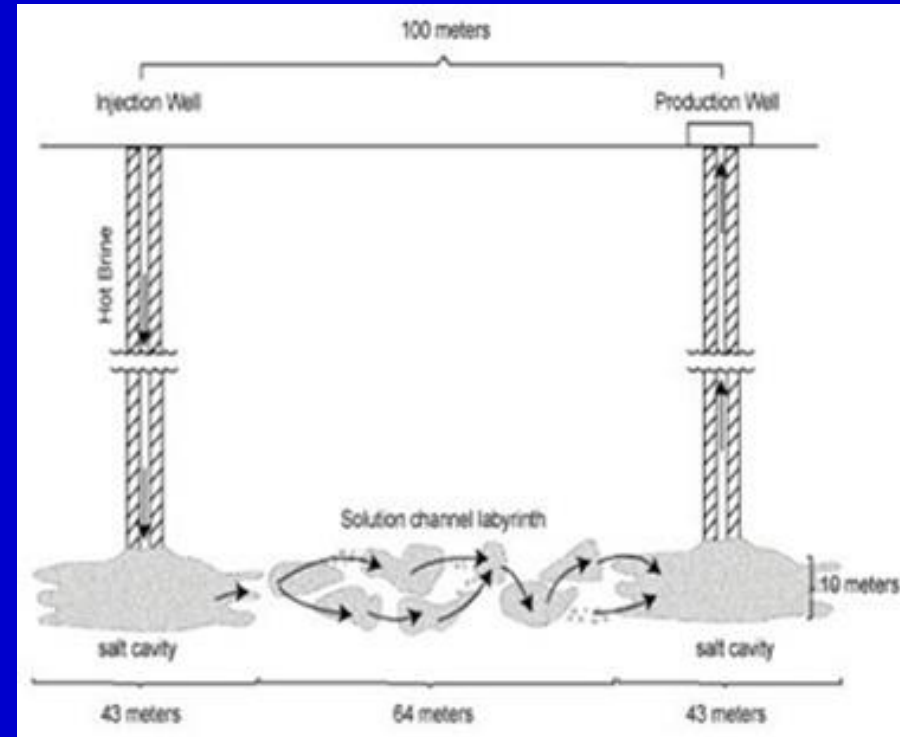
Nahcolite (NaHCO_3) (Sodium Bicarbonate) Mineralization



Nahcolite Solution Mining Wellhead



Potash Solution Mining



Potash refers to potassium compounds with the most common being potassium chloride (KCl). Potash is also used in fertilizers.





Potash Core Holbrook , AZ

Passport Potash, Inc's Holbrook Basin site visit.

PPI:TSX.V

C41-09
1677-3

Potash Core Holbrook , AZ

Passport Potash Quickly Advancing Holbrook Property

TSX.V : PPI
OTCQX : PPRTF



Copper Solution Mining

The proposed Florence Arizona Copper Project could produce as much as half of the 2.8 billion pounds of copper reserves at the 300 foot deep deposit.

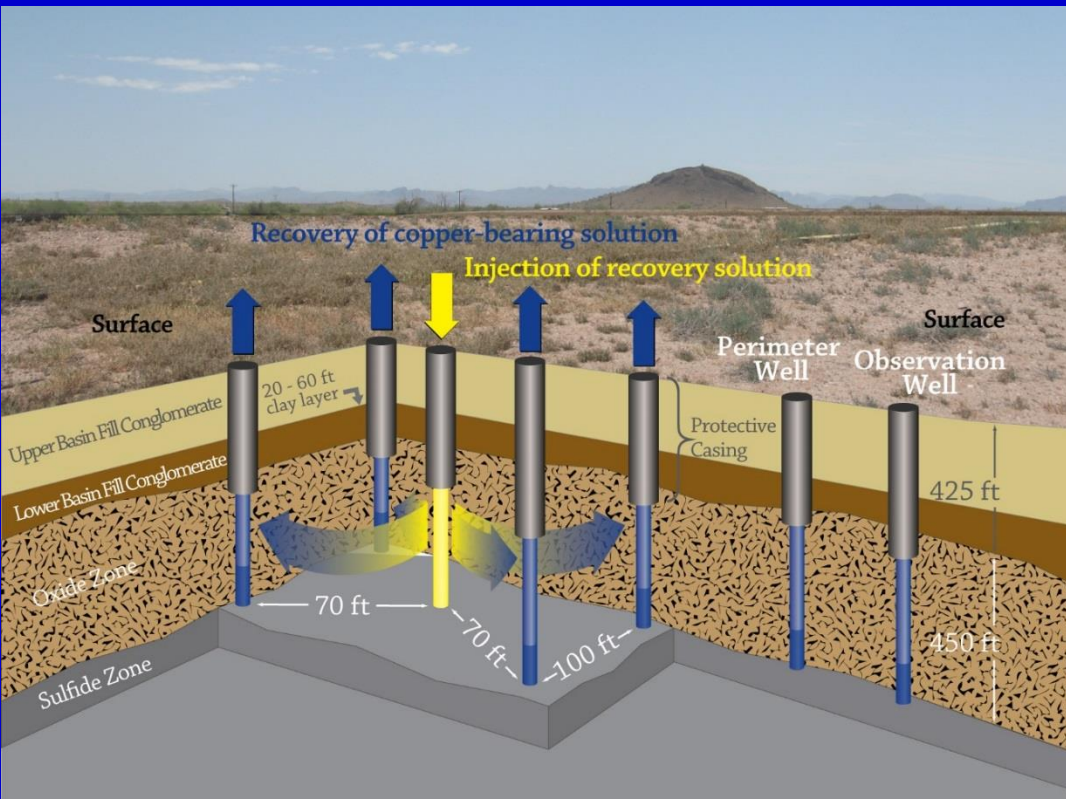
Dilute sulfuric acidic solutions are introduced to the copper-bearing ores, causing dissolution of soluble copper minerals

Florence Land Holdings & Site Infrastructure

- Curis Resources Ltd. Patented Land
- State Mineral Lease
- Outline of deposit @0.05% TCU Cut-off



H2O CURIS







Arizona



Class III Construction

- Cased and cemented to prevent fluid migration into or between USDWs
- Casing and cement designed for life expectancy of the well
- Information required for naturally water-bearing injection zone formations
 - Fluid pressure
 - Fracture pressure of the formation
 - Physical and chemical characteristics of the formation fluid

Class III Operation

- Can't inject between outermost casing protecting USDWs and the wellbore
- Maximum injection pressure must be below fracture pressure
- Pump test uranium mines

Class III Monitoring

- Mechanical integrity testing
 - Brine mining after initial test every 5 years
 - Uranium, sulfur – after an initial test, since theoretical well life < 5 years, no MIT required by regulation
- Monitoring injection zone
 - Fluid levels – semi-monthly
 - Ground water parameters – semi-monthly
- Monitoring wells monitored quarterly

Class III Inspection

- Look over general condition of wellfield
 - Transmission lines
 - Tanks
 - Wellheads
 - Ponds
 - Grass cut?
- Injection pressure (wellhead gauge) complies with permit (must be below fracture pressure)
- Monitor injection fluids frequently enough to determine characteristics
- Injection rate and volume comply with permit limits

Class III Inspection

- Evaporation and holding ponds
 - Adequate freeboard
 - Leak detection system
- Monitoring wells (if any)
 - Fluid levels and ground water parameters (excursions)

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ)
Critical Infrastructure Division
Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class III Permits Investigation Checklist

Permittee's Name and Mailing Address _____

Telephone information _____ Fax Information _____

Permittee's representative/ Title _____

Purpose and Scope of Inspection _____

Inspection Location(s) _____ Inspection Date (s) _____

Inspection Type Routine Pre-Permit Initial Special Announced Unannounced

Type of Permit _____ Permit No. _____

Date Issued/Amended _____ Type of Project _____

TCEQ Region _____ TCEQ Inspector(s)/Office _____

Inspector/Date/Results of Previous Inspection _____

Comments: _____

Results of this Inspection In Compliance Violation(s) Enforcement Action Needed

Recommendation(s)

Comments _____

Areas of Concern from previous inspection _____

Areas to receive special attention at the next inspection _____

Note: All information stated on this inspection checklist resulted from records inspection, the inspector's observations, and/or statements and representations made by the employees present at the time of inspection.

Inspector _____ Reviewed by _____

Date of Report _____ Date Reviewed _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

Site Security and Operating hours _____

Type of Processing and Description _____

No. of Production Area Authorization (PAA) / Average Depth of PAA _____

Average Depth of Injection/production Wells / Type of Casing _____

Average Depth of Monitor / Baseline Wells / Type of Casing _____

Current Status of Operations _____

Method of Wastewater Storage prior to Injection

_____ Surface Impoundment (Ponds) _____ Wastewater Storage Tank
No. of ponds No. of wastewater Storage tanks

Method of liquid Waste disposal Class I W/DW Irrigation Surface Discharge

Disposal Permit No. _____

Comments: _____

Method of solid waste disposal _____ on site _____ off site

On site solid waste pit(s)? _____ NA _____ Yes _____ No

Comments: _____

Does the permittee have a valid radioactive material license from TCEQ for covering the handling processing, and disposal of radioactive materials?

NA Yes No

Comments:

RECORDS

Are the current copies of the UIC rules, Class II Permit(s), and notices concerning previous inspection on file?

NA Yes No

Comments:

CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

New Class III wells since the last investigation? NA Yes No

Is the permittee in compliance with construction requirements (Casing and Cementing, Alterations to Construction Plans, Logs and Tests, Deviation Checks, Mechanical Integrity Tests, Additional Logs and Tests, Construction and Testing Supervision)? 30 TAC §331.82

NA Yes No

Comments:

OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

Describe method(s) used by the permittee for confining of mining solution in a production zone _____

Injection pressure at the wellhead in accordance with permit requirement? 30 TAC §331.82

NA Yes No

Maximum allowable injection pressure (0.4 psi/foot of well depth) marked on each injection well or on injection manifold? (This is a permit requirement)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Maximum allowable injection pressure at the wellhead in compliance with permit requirements?

NA Yes No

Comments:

Has the permittee injected between the outermost casing protecting USDWs and the well bore?
30 TAC §331.83(b)

NA Yes No

Comments:

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Parameter Chosen to measure water quality (Control Parameter) 30 TAC §331.84(c)

Uranium Sulfate Conductivity Chloride Alkalinity Other

Are the monitor wells completed in the injection zone monitored for fluid levels and chosen parameters twice a month at two weeks interval?

NA Yes No

Comments:

Is the permittee required to comply with the monitoring requirements specified in 30 TAC §331.82(h) (Construction Requirements) 30 TAC §331.84(f)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Are all monitor wells for permit/production areas sampled by the permittee at least twice a month at two weeks intervals?
30 TAC §331.84(g)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Are the water samples analyzed for control parameters by the second working day and reported as required in §331.85(a)?

NA Yes No

Comments:

Are the samples analyzed off site by a third party laboratory or on site by the permittee?

NA Off site On site

Name of the laboratory and location

Comments:

Are there any water wells within 1/4 mile of the injection site? 30 TAC §331.84(d)

NA Yes No

Is the permittee monitoring the specified wells within 1/4 mile of the injection site every three months? 30 TAC §331.84(d)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Injection fluid analyzed for physical and chemical characteristics with sufficient frequency? 30 TAC §331.84(a)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Are the injection pressure, injection volumes, and production volume recorded? 30 TAC §331.84(b)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Are pressure gauges on each injection well or on injection manifold? 30 TAC §331.84(c)

NA On each injection well on injection manifold

Comments: _____

Ponds/Waste Storage Tanks

Monitoring frequency:

Pond: Liner _____ Leak Detection System _____ Freeboard _____

Transmission lines _____

Tank condition _____ Level _____

Is permittee in compliance with the inspection requirements Yes No

Comments: _____

MONITOR WELL EXCURSION

Are there any excursions since the last investigation?

NA Yes No

(Monthly Remedial Action Report (30 TAC §331.65(f)), Groundwater Analysis Report (30 TAC §331.65(g) & 30 TAC §331.106(2)), Verifying Analysis (30 TAC §331.105(3)), Sampling Frequency when Mining Solutions present (30 TAC §331.105(4)), Remedial Action for Excursion (30 TAC §331.106), Notification (30 TAC §331.106(1)), Clean-Up (30 TAC §331.106 (A) and (B))

Is the permittee in compliance with the above requirements?

NA Yes No

Comments: _____

GROUNDRESTORATION

Are the PAAs for each mine area contain a restoration table?
30 TAC §331.107(a)

NA Yes No

Comments: _____

Has the permittee notified the Commission when the mining of a production area was completed?

30 TAC §331.107(b)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Has the aquifer/groundwater restoration conducted by the permittee after mining completion? 30 TAC §331.107(b)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Is the aquifer/groundwater restoration for each mine area accomplished in accordance with the timetable specified in currently approved mine plan? 30 TAC §331.107(c)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Are the semi-annual restoration progress reports submitted by the permittee to the commission?
30 TAC §331.107(d)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Is the stability sampling performed by the permittee during restoration as required?
30 TAC §331.107(e)

NA Yes

Comments:

Are the restoration values listed in the restoration table for a production area achieved by the permittee?
30 TAC §331.107(f)

NA Yes No

Comments:

Has the permittee submitted a restoration table amendment to the Commission?

NA Yes No

Comments: _____

CLOSURE STANDARDS / PLUGGING AND ABANDONMENT

Has the permittee plugged and abandoned any well since the last investigation?

NA Yes No

Is the permittee in compliance with the plugging and abandonment requirements?

(30 TAC §331.46(d), 30 TAC §331.46(i), 30 TAC §331.144; Approval of Plugging and Abandonment / Certification from the Owner or Operator and an Independent Registered Professional Engineer for Plugging and Abandonment)

NA Yes No

Comments: _____

SPILLS / INCIDENTS

Have there been any spill / incidents since the last investigation?

NA Yes No

Comments: _____

Is the permittee in compliance with spill / incidents reporting requirements to the Commission?

NA Yes

Comments: _____

Alarm System

Describe Permittee's Alarm System for the processing plant/production Areas _____

Frequency of Alarm Test by the Permittee _____

Date of recent Alarm Test and the results _____

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Is an updated map for all newly constructed or newly discovered wells submitted by the permittee annually to the Executive Director?

30 TAC §351.85(a) NA Yes

Comments:

Are results of required monitoring maintained on site?
30 TAC §331.85(b)

NA Yes

Comments:

Are results of mechanical integrity test and any other periodic test reported to the executive director?
30 TAC §331.85(c)

NA Yes

Comments:

Is monitoring reported on a project or field basis?
30 TAC §331.85(d)

NA Yes

Comments:

Are the monitoring data for monitor wells completed in the injection zone reported quarterly to the Executive Director no later than 10th day following report period?
30 TAC §331.85(e)

NA Yes

Comments:

REPORTS TO THE COMMISSION

Is the permittee in compliance with the reporting requirements to the Commission?

NA Yes No

Comments:

FINANCIAL ASSURANCE FOR CLASS III WELLS

Is the permittee in compliance with the financial assurance requirements?

30 TAC §331.15 (Financial Assurance for Class III Wells), 30 TAC §37.7301-7D51 (Financial Assurance for UIC Wells), 30 TAC §331.142 (Financial Assurance for Plugging and Abandonment), 30 TAC §331.143 (Cost Estimate for Plugging and Abandonment)

NA Yes No

Comments: _____

OBSERVATIONS DURING SITE AREA INSPECTION

Date and Company Representative (including Title) present during site inspection _____

Automatic Shutoff Systems for the processing plant/production areas NA Yes No

If yes, describe the system _____

PRODUCTION AREA S (PAs)/ WELL FIELDS

Condition of PAs:

Overgrown Vegetation (safety hazard); Well accessible for inspection/sampling, unwanted debris in the PAs, any activities (well construction, exploration activities, plugging activities, sampling etc.) in progress, while inspecting a PA, request the permittee to **demonstrate how the permittee confines the mining solution for a specific PA; include any other observations, including safety hazards.**

PRODUCTION / INJECTION / MONITOR WELLS/BASELINE Wells

Condition of wells:

Wells capped (include type of cap), cemented to the surface, labeled, integrity of the well (i.e, aboveground casing intact, wiggle to determine if the well is broken below the surface)

Comments: _____

Pressure gauges on each injection well or on injection manifold? _____
Maximum allowable injection pressure marked on each injection well or on injection manifold?

NA Yes No

Comments: _____

Maximum allowable injection pressure in compliance with rule/permit requirements?

NA Yes No

Comments: _____

TRANSMISSION LINES

Are transmission lines buried or above ground? _____

Type _____

Method of Monitoring: Visual inspection Other

Condition of transmission lines during the investigation? Leaks Broken Other

Comments: _____

Wastewater Storage Method

Pond Tanks

No. of Ponds No. of Tanks

Pond:

Depth in FT _____ Dimensions in FT _____

No. of Leak Detection System (LDS) _____ Type of LDS _____

Fluid detected Yes No (Permittee should check the LDS in presence of the investigator)

Single Liner Double Liner

Condition of the Liner _____

Pond Freeboard marked on the liner or on a stick located in the middle of the pond (describe)

Pond Freeboard in compliance with permit requirement Yes No

Comments: _____

Wastewater Storage Tank

Capacity in Gallons _____ Length in FT _____ Diameter in FT _____

Type _____

Tank Equipped with Level Indicator? Yes No

Alarm goes off when tank reaches certain level? Yes No

Tank level monitored from a control room? Yes No _____

Frequency of monitoring _____

Condition of tank(s) _____

Comments _____

Groundwater Sampling

Samples collected during the investigation?

NA Yes No

Sample Type _____ No. of samples _____

Sample Location

Comments: _____

Photos

Photos taken during the investigation?

NA Yes No

Comments: _____

