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| **NTL 92-1**  Notice to Lessees and Operators of Onshore Federal and Indian  Oil and Gas Leases Within the Jurisdiction  of the New Mexico State Office  (NTL 92-1 New Mexico)    **Waste Disposal**  *This notice is to inform lessee/operators of the Bureau of Land Management policy and requirements for the disposal of trash and debris generated at oil and gas lease sites. The permanent disposal of such waste will not be permitted on Federal and Indian oil and gas leases.*   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | I. Drilling Operations  Trash and debris generated during well drilling, completion and well workover operations may be stored in a covered container. Above ground containers are the required method of waste storage. Temporary pits shall not be used. Pit disposal of trash and debris is not acceptable- Wire cages, metal dumpsters, and rubber or fiberglass bins are examples of acceptable containers. Whichever container is used shall be covered with a screen or lid to prevent trash and debris from blowing out of the container. Trash or debris containers must be emptied when full, and the contents taken to an authorized landfill or other suitable disposal facility. Drilling reserve pits shall be kept free of trash and debris. At the conclusion of well completion operations, or plugging operation in the case of a dry hole, the trash and debris containers shall be removed from the location. Variances to the rule prohibiting such pits may be granted by the BLM Authorized Officer. If approval for a pit is granted, the pit shall be provided with a screen cover. At the conclusion of operations using such pits, the contents shall be removed and the pit filled in. In no case shall such waste be buried on location.  II. Producing Operations  Trash and debris generated during producing operations may be stored in acceptable above ground, covered containers. Examples of suitable containers are given in Part I. above. Pits are not allowed for the storage of trash and debris at production facilities. Trash and debris containers must be emptied when full, and the contents taken to an authorized landfill or other suitable disposal facility. When the production facility, or well, is to be abandoned, the trash and debris containers must be removed prior to or during site reclamation operations.  III. Compliance  The effective date of this notice is February 1, 1992. All Federal and Indian oil and gas operations must comply with the requirements of this notice by that date. Unacceptable waste disposal will be considered an act of noncompliance, and a notice of violation will be issued setting forth a reasonable time frame for corrective action. The reclamation of any pit approved in accordance with Part I. of this Notice must be witnessed by BLM. Failure to comply with this requirement is an act of non-compliance and may result in an order to exhume the pit to assure compliance with this Notice.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | APPROVED: | Date: 11-13-91 | Larry L. Woodard New Mexico State Director | | | |