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STATE OF COLORADO

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC RULEMAKING HEARING BEFORE THE COLORADO WATER QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION

Roy Romer
Governor
Thomas M. Vernon, M.D.
Executive Director

SUBJECT:

For consideration of adoption of ground water quality classifications and standards for ground water in the vicinity of the Department of Energy's Rocky Flats Plant. The classifications and standards currently proposed by the Health Department staff, along with a proposed Statement of Basis, Specific Statutory Authority, and Purpose, are attached to this notice as Exhibit 1. An alternative proposal by the City of Westminster addressing points of compliance (attached as Exhibit 2) also will be considered. In addition, any other alternative proposals regarding classifications and standards for ground water in this vicinity, including proposals regarding points of compliance, will be considered.

HEARING SCHEDULE:

DATE: Monday, February 4, 1991
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Room 150
Colorado Department of Health
4210 East 11th Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80220

Oral testimony at the hearing will be limited. Direct testimony should primarily draw attention to written evidence. The hearing will emphasize Commission questioning of parties about their written prehearing submittals. Introduction of written material by parties at the hearing generally will not be permitted. Parties are prohibited from oral presentation of written material submitted to the Commission.

PARTY STATUS:

Participation as a "party" to this hearing will require compliance with the Procedural Rules, 2.1.0 (5 CCR 1002-1). It is not necessary to acquire party status in order to testify or comment. Written party status requests are due in the Commission Office on or before:

DATE: Thursday, November 29, 1990
TIME: 5:00 p.m.

DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION
REVIEW WAIVER PER
CLASSIFICATION OFFICE

ADMIN RECORD

A-SW-001710

EXHIBIT 1

PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION AND WATER QUALITY STANDARDS FOR GROUND WATER BENEATH THE ROCKY FLATS NUCLEAR WEAPONS PLANT

INTRODUCTION

The Water Quality Control Division proposes that the Water Quality Control Commission classify the unconfined ground water occurring in unconsolidated Quaternary alluvial, terrace, and colluvial deposits, in the Rocky Flats formation, and in the Arapahoe and Laramie-Fox Hills formations, within the specified area described below, and adopt the numerical standards described below.

CLASSIFICATION

The proposed classifications in accordance with the Colorado Water Quality Control Act, Basic Standards for Ground Water, Section 3.11.10 are: Domestic Use-Quality, Agricultural Use-Quality, and Surface Water Quality Protection for the unconsolidated Quaternary aquifer and Rocky Flats aquifer; and Domestic Use-Quality and Agricultural Use Quality for the Arapahoe and Laramie-Fox Hills aquifers.

SPECIFIED AREA

The specified area is the Rocky Flats plant facility bounded by the following highways and street: Colorado Highway 93 to the west, Colorado Highway 72 to the south, Colorado Highway 128 to the north, and Indiana Street to the east, as shown in figure 1.

WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

The division proposes that the water quality standards in Tables 1 through 4 of the Basic Standards for Ground Water 3.11.0 (5 CCR 1002-8) be adopted for the unconsolidated Quaternary aquifer and the Rocky Flats aquifer. In addition, the division proposes that the surface water quality standards adopted for Woman Creek and portions of Walnut Creek (Segment 4, Big Dry Creek; 3.8.0 5 CCR 1002-8) be adopted for the Surface Water Quality Protection classification of these aquifers. For those parameters which have different numerical standards in Tables 1-4 of the Basic Standards for Ground Water and in the Surface Water Quality Standards for Woman Creek and Walnut Creek (segment 4), the more stringent standard shall apply. For the Arapahoe and Laramie-Fox Hills aquifers, the Division proposes that the standards in tables 1-4 of the Basic Standards for Ground Water be adopted.

Woman Creek and portions of Walnut Creek (Segment 4, Big Dry Creek) to the shallow aquifers at Rocky Flats because they contribute water to those steams which the Commission recently protected with more stringent standards. It is also appropriate to specify the point of compliance for the Surface Water Quality Protection standards at the eastern boundary of the specified area because of the potential for these aquifers to contribute to surface water outside the specifed area. It is extremely difficult for the Commission to determine each regulatory setting in which the other standards may be applied. Therefore, points of compliance for standards other than those for Surface Water Quality Protection will be left unspecified.

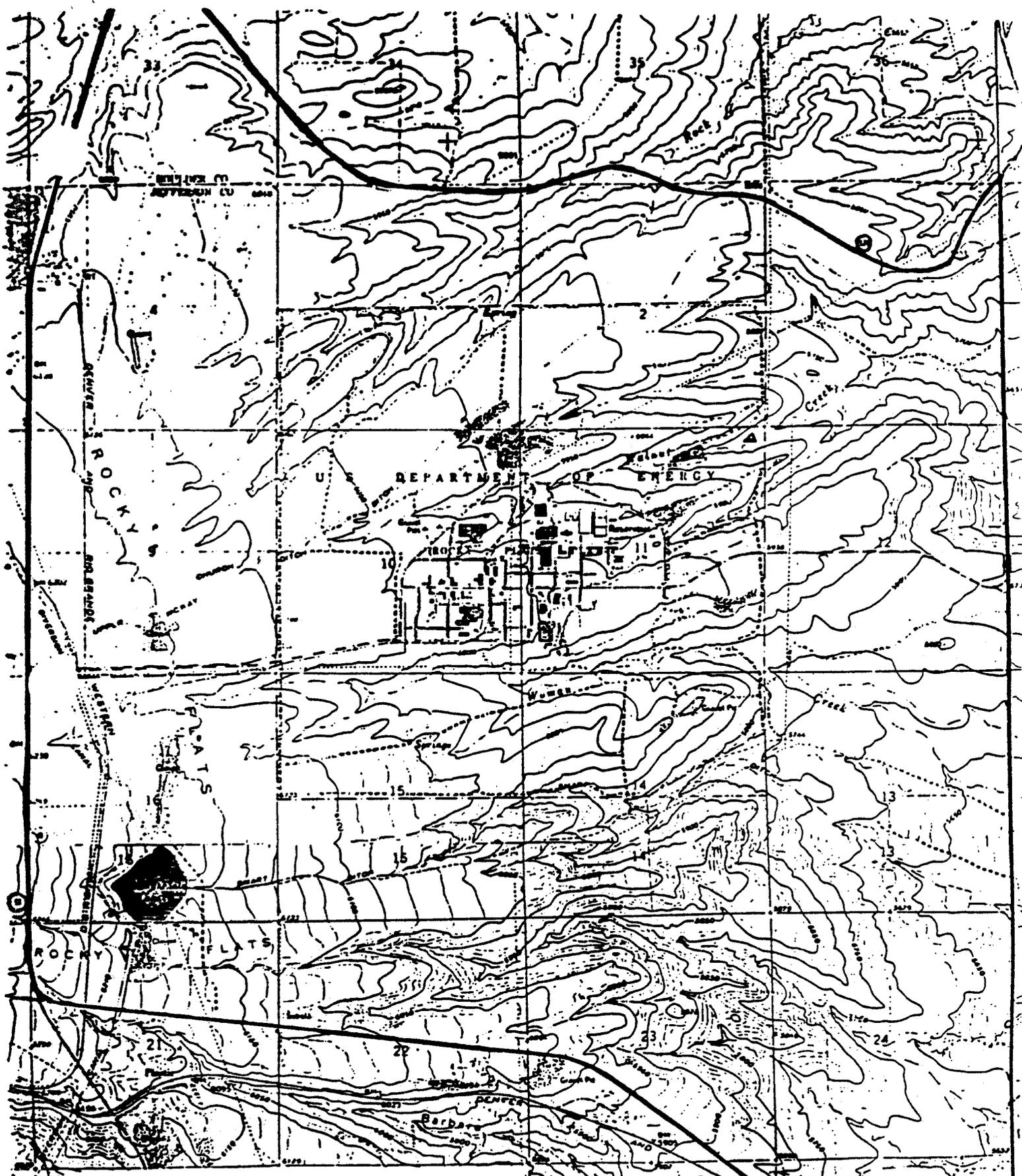


Figure 1.
Reduced from USGS Quadrangles
Louisville and Golden, Colorado.

EXHIBIT 2

The City of Westminster has proposed that the Division's proposal contained in Exhibit 1 be modified as follows:

POINTS OF COMPLIANCE

There shall be site specific points of compliance for the Surface Water Quality Protection Standards at each point where ground water reaches the surface of the ground, and at each point where ground water enters the alluvium or surface flow of a surface stream, and at the eastern boundary of the specified area (Indiana Street)."

STATEMENT OF BASIS AND PURPOSE

It is also appropriate to specify the point of compliance for the Surface Water Quality Protection standards as set forth in the Rule because of the potential for these aquifers to contribute to the surface water both inside and outside the specified area. It is extremely difficult for the Commission to determine each regulatory setting in which the other standards may be applied. Therefore, points of compliance for standards other than those for Surface Water Quality Protection will be left unspecified.