

C. Sewer, Wastewater Systems, and Storm Drainage

The sewer systems in Northwest New Mexico share many of the characteristics of the water systems in that all communities have serious problems. The majority of these systems are outdated and were constructed for smaller more centralized communities. The rapid increase in population has initially affected the communities by overflow of sewage into the street, substandard cesspool systems and leaking sewage ponds, all of which create serious health hazards.

Wastewater treatment plants in many communities cannot process the volumes of sewage that are presently transmitted through existing lines. Many improvements are needed. One problem is that of lead time planning. These projects need to be started now before the additional impact occurs."

IV. SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

"New Mexico is entering into an era of rapid energy resource development. Since the recent energy crisis, our nation's leaders have been debating methods for developing adequate energy supplies. Because of the recent natural gas shortages in the Northeast and Midwest, we can expect some decisions to be made in the very near future as to how Project Independence will be achieved. New Mexico will play a key role in these decisions. With 43% of the nation's uranium production and its large reserves of low sulphur