

El Paso Natural Gas Company

MAY 10 REC'D

El Paso, Texas 79978

May 2, 1973

Representative Teno Roncalio
1314 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sir:

The sponsors of Project Rio Blanco have agreed that El Paso Natural Gas Company can bring two busloads of Wyoming residents to the project observer site on the day of detonation. The observer site will be located near El Paso's Compressor Station No. 24, about 12 miles northeast of the wellsite where, as part of the development of a nuclear stimulation technology, three 30-kiloton nuclear explosives will be simultaneously detonated.

Ground motion at the observer site is expected to approximate the ground motion predicted to occur at Boulder, Wyoming under the present studies being conducted for Project Wagon Wheel in the Pinedale, Wyoming area.

The Rio Blanco detonation is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 1973. The wellsite is located about 30 air miles southwest of Meeker, Colorado.

Project Rio Blanco is sponsored by CER Geonuclear Corporation in cooperation with the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

The program will consist principally of a bus trip to the observer site and explanations of detonation day activities. The countdown will be broadcast, and observers will feel ground motion caused by the detonation. Current plans, which are subject to change, call for a bus tour of the wellsite after detonation. Warm, comfortable, field-type clothing is recommended.

El Paso Natural Gas Company will provide bus transportation for the Wyoming participants from Craig, Colorado to the observer site and return. All other expenses must be borne by observer program participants.

Buses will load at 5:45 a.m. on May 17 at the Continental Trailways bus depot in Craig, Colorado. Departure will be at 6 a.m. We expect to return to Craig late that same afternoon. Breakfast will be available at Craig restaurants. Lunch will be available for purchase at the observer area.

It is possible that the detonation date may be changed because of technical difficulties or severe weather conditions.

Because of your interest in Project Wagon Wheel, we are reserving a seat for you, or a member of your staff, on one of the two El Paso chartered buses. If a member of your staff will attend, please indicate his name on the enclosed postcard, or let us know by telephone at:

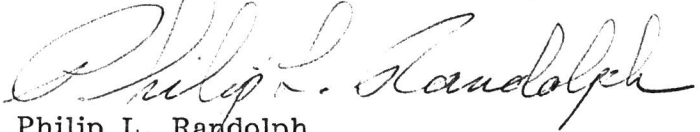
El Paso Natural Gas Company
P. O. Box 1492
El Paso, Texas 79978

Telephone: (915) 543-2600, Extension 5401

We are pleased to be able to provide this opportunity for you and a number of your Wyoming friends and neighbors to experience some of the activity that takes place in conjunction with a nuclear stimulation experiment. We hope that you will find it both interesting and informative.

Very truly yours,

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY


Philip L. Randolph
Manager, Nuclear Group

PLR:tc

Enclosure

P.S. A copy of this letter is being sent to your office in Cheyenne.