

Treatment and Beneficial Uses of Produced Water

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Disclaimer: The New Mexico Produced Water Research Consortium at New Mexico State University is conducting independent, science-based research to evaluate potential environmental and health effects related to the reuse of treated produced water for fit-for-purpose applications. This work is designed to generate objective data under controlled conditions, without promoting or opposing any specific reuse practices. Our goal is to provide clear, reliable information that supports informed decision-making around the safe and responsible use of produced water in New Mexico and beyond.

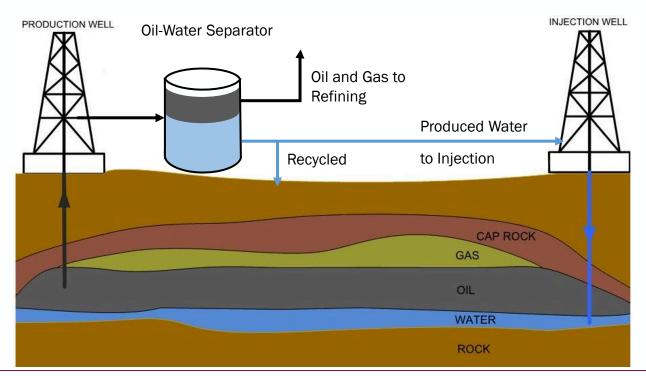
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What is Produced Water?

- Mostly natural water that has been trapped underground for millions of years
- It is usually much saltier than seawater and contains hydrocarbons, metals, and other compounds
- Because it comes up along with oil and gas, it's considered a byproduct

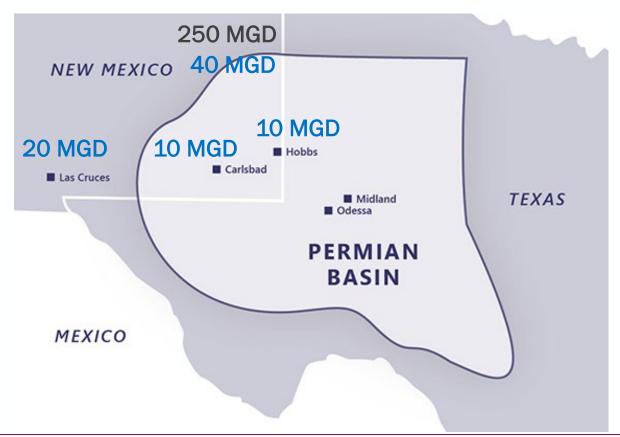






Produced Water Volumes and (Potential) Flows New Mexico's

- New Mexico is the 2nd largest oil producer in the United States and is among the top natural gas-producing states.
- How much produced water is generated in NM?







Terminology

Water Type





Clean Brine



Desal. PW



Pol. PW











Salinity

Extremely High (~120,000 mg/L TDS)

Extremely High (~120,000 mg/L TDS)

Low (< 500 mg/L TDS) Low (< 500 mg/L TDS)

Uses

None

Reuse Inside 0&G (Fracking) Reuse Outside 0&G*

Reuse *Outside* 0&G

