

**SURFACE USE PLAN OF OPERATIONS**  
**MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY**

Jennings 27 A3AP Fed Com #1H  
185 FNL & 330 FEL (SHL)  
Sec. 27 – T25S-R32E  
Lea County, New Mexico

**Introduction**

This plan is submitted with Form 3160-3, Application for Permit to Drill, Covering the above described well. The purpose of this plan is to describe the location of the proposed well, the proposed construction activities and operations plan, the magnitude of the surface disturbance involved, and the procedures to be followed in restoring the surface so that a complete appraisal can be made of the environmental impact associated with the proposed operations.

**1. Existing Roads**

- a. The existing access road route to the proposed project is depicted on **Exhibit 3E**. Improvements to the driving surface will be done where necessary. No new surface disturbance will be done, unless otherwise noted in the New or Reconstructed Access Roads section of this surface use plan.
- b. The existing oil and gas roads utilized to access the proposed project will be maintained by crowning, clearing ditches, and fixing potholes. All existing structures on the entire access route such as cattleguards, other range improvement projects, culverts, etc. will be properly repaired or replaced if they are damaged or have deteriorated beyond practical use.
- c. Mewbourne Oil Co. will cooperate with other operators in the maintenance of lease roads.

**2. New or Reconstructed Access Roads**

- a. An access road will be needed for this proposed project. See the survey plat(s) for the location of the access road.
- b. The length of access road needed to be constructed for this proposed project is about **1730.02 feet**.
- c. The access road will be 14 feet wide and will be constructed with 6 inches of compacted caliche. A 20 foot wide area would be needed to construct the road.
- d. When the road travels on fairly level ground, the road will be crowned and ditched with a 2% slope from the tip of the road crown to the edge of the driving surface. The ditches will be 3 feet wide with 3:1 slopes.
- e. The access road will be constructed with a ditch on each side of the road.
- f. The maximum grade for the access road will be 5 percent.
- g. If the road is longer than 1,000 feet, turnouts will be constructed with an interval of 1,000 feet. Turnouts will be intervisible and will be 10 feet wide and 100 feet long.
- h. Low water crossings will be constructed where drainages cross the access road.

- i. Construction of new or reconstructed roads, on surface under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management will include ditching, draining, crowning and capping or sloping and dipping the roadbed as necessary to provide a well-drained and safe road.
- j. An appropriately sized cattle guard will be installed where the proposed access road crosses a fence line.
- k. A BLM right-of-way grant is needed for the construction of this access road and one will be acquired prior to construction.
- l. Lead-off ditches will be constructed for the proposed access road, but will not extend more than 15 feet outside the road edge.

### **3. Location of Existing Wells**

- a. Exhibit 4, 4A of the APD depicts all known wells within a one mile radius of the proposed well.

### **4. Location of Existing and/or Proposed Production Facilities**

- a. All permanent, lasting more than 6 months, above ground structures including but not limited to pumpjacks, storage tanks, pipeline risers, meter housing, etc. that are not subject to safety requirements will be painted a non-reflective paint color that blends in with the surrounding landscape. The paint color will be one of the colors from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors chart selected by the BLM authorized officer.
- b. All proposed production facilities that are located on the well pad will be strategically placed to allow for maximum interim reclamation, recontouring, and revegetation of the well location.
- c. Production from the proposed well will be located on the **East** edge of location.
- d. If any plans change regarding the production facility or other infrastructure (pipeline, electric line, etc.), we will submit a sundry notice or right of way (if applicable) prior to installation of construction.
- e. An electric line will be applied for through a sundry notice or BLM right of way at a later date.

### **5. Location and Types of Water**

- a. The well will be drilled with a combination of fresh water and brine water based mud systems. The water will be obtained from commercial suppliers in the area and/or hauled to the location by transport trucks over existing and proposed roads as identified above in this surface use plan.

### **6. Construction Materials**



- a. Construction material that will be used to build the well pad and road will be caliche.
- b. The construction contractor will be solely responsible for securing construction materials required for this operation and paying any royalties that may be required on those materials.
- c. Obtaining caliche: One way of obtaining caliche to build locations and roads will be by "turning over" the location. This means, caliche will be obtained from the actual well site. A caliche permit will be obtained from BLM prior to obtaining caliche. Amount of caliche will vary for each pad. The procedure below has been approved by BLM personnel:
  - i. The top 6 inches of topsoil is pushed off and stockpiled along the side of the location.
  - ii. An approximate 160' X 160' area is used within the proposed well site to remove caliche.
  - iii. Subsoil is removed and stockpiled within the surveyed well pad.
  - iv. When caliche is found, material will be stock piled within the pad site to build the location and road.
  - v. Then subsoil is pushed back in the hole and caliche is spread accordingly across entire location and road.
  - vi. Once well is drilled, the stock piled top soil will be used for interim reclamation and spread along areas where caliche is picked up and the location size is reduced.
  - vii. Neither caliche, nor subsoil will be stock piled outside of the well pad. Topsoil will be stockpiled along the edge of the pad as depicted in the Well Site Layout or survey plat.

In the event that no caliche is found onsite, caliche will be hauled in from a BLM, state, or private mineral pit. A BLM mineral material permit will be acquired prior to obtaining any mineral material from BLM pits or land.

## **7. Methods of Handling Waste**

- a. The well will be drilled utilizing a closed loop system. Drill cuttings will be properly contained in steel tanks and taken to an NMOCD approved disposal facility.
- b. Drilling fluids and produced oil and water from the well during completion operations will be stored safely in closed containers and disposed of properly in an NMOCD approved disposal facility.
- c. Garbage and trash produced during drilling and completion operations will be collected in trash containers and disposed of properly at a state approved site. All trash on and around the well site will be collected for disposal.

- d. All human waste and grey water from drilling and completion operations will be properly contained and disposed of properly at a disposal facility.
- e. After drilling and completion operations, trash, chemicals, salts, frac sand and other waste material will be removed and disposed of properly at a disposal site, either CRI or Lea Land on Hwy 62-180.

## **8. Ancillary Facilities**

- a. No ancillary facilities will be needed for this proposed project.

## **9. Well Site Layout**

- a. The proposed drilling pad to be built was staked and surveyed by a professional surveyor. The attached survey plat of the well site depicts the drilling pad layout as staked.
- b. A title of a well site diagram is **Exhibit 5**. This diagram depicts the rig layout.
- c. In areas to be heavily disturbed, the top 6 inches of soil material, will be stripped and stockpiled on the perimeter of the well location to keep topsoil viable, and to make redistribution of topsoil more efficient during interim reclamation. Stockpiled topsoil should include vegetative material. Topsoil will be clearly segregated and stored separately from subsoils. Contaminated soil will not be stockpiled, but properly treated and handled prior to topsoil salvaging.

## **10. Plans for Surface Reclamation**

Within 90 days of cessation of drilling and completion operations, all equipment not necessary for production operations will be removed. The location will be cleaned of all trash and junk to assure the well site is left as aesthetically pleasing as reasonably possible.

### **a. Interim Reclamation (well pad)**

- i. Interim reclamation will be performed on the well site after the well is drilled and completed. **Exhibit 6** depicts the location and dimensions of the planned interim reclamation for the well site.
- ii. The well location and surrounding areas will be cleared of, and maintained free of, all materials, trash, and equipment not required for production.
- iii. In areas planned for interim reclamation, all the surfacing material will be removed and returned to the original mineral pit or recycled to repair or build roads and well pads.



- iv. The areas planned for interim reclamation will then be recontoured to the original contour if feasible, or if not feasible, to an interim contour that blends with the surrounding topography as much as possible. Where applicable, the fill material of the well pad will be backfilled into the cut to bring the area back to the original contour. The interim cut and fill slopes prior to re-seeding will not be steeper than a 3:1 ratio, unless the adjacent native topography is steeper. Note: Constructed slopes may be much steeper during drilling, but will be recontoured to the above ratios during interim reclamation.
- v. Topsoil will be evenly respread and aggressively revegetated over the entire disturbed area not needed for all-weather operations including cuts & fills. To seed the area, the proper BLM seed mixture, free of noxious weeds, will be used. Final seedbed preparation will consist of contour cultivating to a depth of 4 to 6 inches within 24 hours prior to seeding, dozer tracking, or other imprinting in order to break the soil crust and create seed germination micro-sites.
- vi. Proper erosion control methods will be used on the area to control erosion, runoff and siltation of the surrounding area.
- vii. The interim reclamation will be monitored periodically to ensure that vegetation has reestablished and that erosion and invasive/noxious weeds are controlled.

**b. Final Reclamation (well pad, buried pipelines, etc.)**

- i. Prior to final reclamation procedures, the well pad, road, and surrounding area will be cleared of material, trash, and equipment.
- ii. All surfacing material will be removed and returned to the original mineral pit or recycled to repair or build roads and well pads.
- iii. All disturbed areas, including roads, pipelines, pads, production facilities, and interim reclaimed areas will be recontoured to the contour existing prior to initial construction or a contour that blends indistinguishably with the surrounding landscape. Topsoil that was spread over the interim reclamation areas will be stockpiled prior to recontouring. The topsoil will be redistributed evenly over the entire disturbed site to ensure successful revegetation.
- iv. After all the disturbed areas have been properly prepared, the areas will be seeded with the proper BLM seed mixture, free of noxious weeds. Final seedbed preparation will consist of contour cultivating to a depth of 4 to 6 inches within 24 hours prior to seeding, dozer tracking, or other imprinting in order to break the soil crust and create seed germination micro-sites.
- v. Proper erosion control methods will be used on the entire area to control erosion, runoff and siltation of the surrounding area.

- vi. All unused equipment and structures including pipelines, electric line poles, tanks, etc. that serviced the well will be removed.
- vii. All reclaimed areas will be monitored periodically to ensure that revegetation occurs, that the area is not redisturbed, and that erosion and invasive/noxious weeds are controlled.

**11. Surface Ownership**

- a. The surface ownership of the proposed project is federal.

**12. Other Information**

- a. No other information is needed at this time.

**13. Operator's Representative**

- a. Through APD approval, drilling, completion and production operations:

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