PIT CLOSURE



NEW MEXICO ÉNERGY, MINERALS & NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Jennifer A. Salisbury CABINET SECRETARY

Oil Conservation Div. Environmental Bureau 2040 S. Pacheco Santa Fe, NM 87505

Memorandum of Meeting or Conversation

Telephone __X___ Personal _____ E-Mail _____

Time: 9:05 am-9:41am Date: March 22, 2000

505-622-2012

Originating Party: Clayton Barnhill- Consultant for Elk Oil Co.

Other Parties: Wayne Price-OCD

Subject: Elk Oil Co. Pit Closure located in Sec 7-Ts11s-R33E

Discussion:

Mr. Barnhill notified me that he is working on the pit closure for Elk Oil Co. He indicated he had drilled the center of the pit and at a approximate depth of 18 feet they collected a split spoon soil sample and the analytical results of the samples revealed the BTEX to be non-detect, TPH DRO Was 21 ppm and chlorides was 3600 mg/kg. Mr. Barnhill wanted to know if OCD would accept this as a closure. I informed Mr. Barnhill that Elk Oil shall submit documentation that demonstrates the vertical migration of chlorides has not and will not impact groundwater. He indicated groundwater was 130 feet deep, I asked him if he would like me look up the estimated groundwater depth in that area, it was 48-53 feet deep.

Mr. Barnhill began to get upset and became very argumentative and repeatedly demanded OCD demonstrate we have the authority to have ELK Oil perform this demonstration. I referred to New Mexico Oil and Gas Act and Rule 19. I ask Mr. Barnhill to submit the information along with any regulatory questions and we would evaluate it as we could answer their questions in one letter. Mr. Barnhill demanded to have OCD demonstrate that the vadose zone background levels of chlorides were lower than what he had found below the pit. Mr. Barnhill also became very abusive in his tone of language and also demanded that I tell him my experience in the Oilfield

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION - DISTRICT | Hobbs - P.O. Box 1980 - Hobbs, NM 88241-1980 - (505) 393-6161 FAX (505) 393 - 0720

and he wanted to know which companies I had worked for. I informed him the conversation was not going anywhere and once again asked him to submit the information and the OCD would evaluate the Elk Oil Co. proposal just as we do other pit closures. Mr. Barnhill wanted to continue his argument that we had no authority since we had allowed past practices like this to occur. I asked him if the pit was lined and he said no they were not required to. I informed him it is the companies liability if groundwater has been contaminated and it would have to be addressed. Mr. Barnhill would not end the conversation and I had no other choice but to politely say have a good day and I hung up.

Conclusions or Agreements:

Signed:

CC: Roger Anderson-Environmental Bureau Chief.



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS & NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 2040 South Pacheco Street Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505 (505) 827-7131

November 10, 1999

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT NO. P 410 425 204

Joseph J. Kelly Elk Oil Co. P.O. Box 310 Roswell, NM 88202-0310

Re: Pit Closure RR St#1 UL I Sec 7-Ts11s-R33e

Dear Mr. Kelly:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD) is in receipt of the site investigation report dated September 28, 1999 for the above captioned site submitted by CMB Environmental & Geological Services. The report indicates there are contaminants remaining that exceed the guideline levels and the fact there is shallow groundwater reported to be 50 to 60 feet below ground surface in this area. Therefore, the NMOCD has the following requirements in order to evaluate the site for closure:

- 1. Please demonstrate the vertical extent of the contamination. At a minimum, please collect one bottom hole soil sample from approximately in the center of the pit, to be taken three feet below the bottom of the existing pit. Please sample for BTEX (8021), TPH (418.1 or 8015) and Chlorides.
- 2. Notify the OCD Santa Fe office and the OCD District office at least 48 hours in advance of all scheduled activities such that the OCD has the opportunity to witness the events and/or split samples during OCD's normal business hours.

If you require any further information or assistance please do not hesitate to write or call me at (505-827-7155).

Sincerely Yours,

filme

Wayne Price-Pet. Engr. Spec. Environmental Bureau

cc: OCD Hobbs Office



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS & NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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If you require any further information or assistance please do not hesitate to write or call me at (505-827-7155).

l also wish to receive the follow SENDER: side Sincerely Yours, Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services ing services (for an extra fee): the reverse Complete items 3, 4a, and 4b. □ Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so that we can return this card to you.
 □ Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back if space does not 1. Addressee's Address VAUNe Vin 2.
Restricted Delivery permit. U Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the article number. The Return Receipt will show to whom the article was delivered and the date Wayne Price-Pet. Engr. Spec delivered. 3. Article Addressed to: Article Number completed **Environmental Bureau** 1410 425 204 ELK OIL CO. 4b. Service Type P.O. BOX 310 Certified K Registered **OCD Hobbs Office** cc: RETURN ADDRESS Express Mail Insured ROSWELL, NM 88202-0310 📋 Return Receipt for Merchandise 🛛 COD 7. Date of Delivery Atl: JOE KELLY 5. Received By: (Raint Name) 8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid) 6. Signature (Addressee or Agent) *s* PS Form 3811, December 1994 102595-99-B-0223 Domestic Return Receipt \mathbb{N} 41 I 1 -i 11 1



JOSEPH J. KELLY PRESIDENT BOX 310 ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO 88202 (505) 623-3190

October 1, 1999

New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department Oil Conservation Division 2040 South Pacheco Street Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Attention: Wayne Price, Pet. Engr. Spec.

Re: Pit Closure RR State #1 Sec 7-T11S-R33E Lea County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find environment site report on the RR State #1 well, located in Section 7, Township 11 South, Range 33 East, Lea County, New Mexico.

After review by your office, please issue Elk Oil Company a pit closure compliance letter.

If there are any questions please call.

Thank you for handling this matter.

Yours very truly,

ELK OIL COMPANY

foseph J-Kelly President

JJK/jgb Enc. Elk Oil Company Environmental Site Investigation Unlined Surface Impoundment RR State #1, Unit Letter I, Section 7, Township 11 South Range 33 East Lea County, New Mexico

September 28, 1999

By:

Clayton M. Barnhill, Consultant Environmental and Geological Services PO Box 2304 Roswell, New Mexico 88202-2304 (505) 622-2012 Fax: (505) 622-2012



Environmental & Geological Services



Environmental & Geological Services

Clayton M. Barnhill CMB Environmental & Geological P.O. Box 2304 Roswell, NM 88202-2304 Tel (505) 622-2012 Fax (505) 622-1711

September 28, 1999

Mr. Joeseph Kelly. Elk Oil Company PO Box 310 Roswell, New Mexico 88202-22304

Re: Environmental Site Investigation Unlined Surface Impoundment RR State #1 Unit I Sec. 7 T. 11 S. R. 33 E., NMPM Lea County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Our report presenting the findings of an Environmental Site Investigation of the referenced property is presented herein. This report includes discussions concerning our assessment methods, the scope of the work performed, the history of the development of the site, a description of soil and groundwater conditions on or near the subject property, and results of the site investigation. If you have any questions during your review of this report please contact us at your convenience.

Clayton M. Barnhill is pleased to have been able to conduct this Site Investigation for you and looks forward to the opportunity to provide additional environmental services in the future. Thank you.

<u>,</u>

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Claytor/M. Barnhill, CPG Consulting Geologist

Copies: Addressee (3)

Table of Contents

1.0	General Information		Page 1
1.1.1	Purpose of the Report		Page 1,2
1.2	Background Information		Page 2
1.2.1	Activities at Site Which May Have Caused Hazardous Substance Discharge		Page 2
2.0	Results of the Site Investigation		Page 3
2.1	Depth to Groundwater		Page 3
2.2	Well head Protection Area	Page	4
2.3	Distance to Nearest Surface Water Body		Page 4
2.4	Unsaturated Soils	Page	4,5,67,
2.5	Discussion of Analytical Results	Page	8, 9
3.0	Summary & Conclusions		Page 9, 10
State	ment of Qualifications, Clayton M. Barnhill	— ,	

Appendix 1: Site Location Map, Topographic Map, Mud log, Electric Log, Scout Tickets, Drilling Report RR State #1 Appendix 2: Soil Map, Soil descriptions, Log of Water Well Appendix 3: Lab Analysis, Field Notes



Environmental & Geological Services

1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION:

This section of the report contains subsections that discuss general information, the purpose of the report, the NMOCD Unlined Surface Impoundment Closure Guideline Requirements, NMOCD classification of the unlined surface impoundments, background information, environmental response activities taken to date, methods of investigation, results of the site investigation, and conclusions.

1.1 General Information:

Clayton M. Barnhill, CMB Environmental and Geological Services, (CMB) has prepared this Site Investigation Report for Elk Oil Company, the owner of the property upon which the work was conducted. The location of the subject property, the operator, and the consultant involved in the project are listed below:

Site Location:

Elk Oil Company Unlined Surface Impoundment RR State #1, 1874' FSL & 766' FEL Unit Letter I, Section 7, T. 11 S. R. 33 E., NMPM Lea County, New Mexico

Operator:

Elk Oil Company PO Box 310, Roswell, New Mexico 88202-0310 (505) 623-3190 Contact Mr. Joseph Kelly, President of Elk Oil Company

Consultant:

CMB Environmental & Geological Services Contact: Clayton M. Bamhill, PG P. O. Box 2304 Roswell, New Mexico 88202-2304 (505) 622-2012 Phone & Fax E-mail: cmbenviro @dfn.com

The site is shown in Figure 1 on the USGS 7.5-minute topographic map (Caprock & Soldier Hill 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Maps) 1 " = 2000 feet. Figure 2 is a surface land ownership map, with the site location highlighted.

1.1.1 Purpose of the Report

The threefold purpose of this report is to:

- Provide ongoing compliance on behalf of the owner's legal obligation under New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Guidelines and Codes to restore the environment to the extent practicable.
- Describe investigative work that has been performed at this site.
- Document the site investigation activities in a manner suitable for owner and regulatory agency review and provide the basis for Unlined Surface Impoundment Final Closure Approval.

1.2 Background Information

This section of the report describes activities at or near the site that may have caused contamination, previous discharges of hazardous substances, and response activities taken to date.

1.2.1 Activities at and near the Site Which May Have Caused Alleged Hazardous Substance Discharges and History of Property Use

In November of 1984, Manzano Oil Company drilled the 1 Sunburst "A" State Com., located in unit letter I of section 7 of Township 11 South Range 33 East, NMPM, 1874'FEL & 766 FSL. Manzano Oil Company attempted completion of the Sunburst State "A " Com. # 1, as an oil well in December of 1984, determined the well to be dry, and plugged and abandoned the well. A copy of the mud log, electric log, and scout ticket of the well, located in appendix 1, show that the mud type used in the well was a salt gel / with oil added. The drill cuttings were placed in an unlined surface impoundment on site. Oil and diesel fuel are frequently added to drilling mud while drilling through the Abo Formation in the area. The Abo Formation is known to cause drilling mud to control well bore sloughing and caving while drilling. The addition of oil and diesel fuel to drilling mud tends to inhibit those adverse reactions. The drilling mud added to the unlined surface impoundment would therefore have detectable levels of hydrocarbons, particularly of the DRO range (Diesel Range / Motor Oil Range Organic Hydrocarbons.)

In February of 1996, Elk Oil Company re-entered the #1 Sunburst "A" State Com., renamed the well RR State # 1, and completed the well in Pennsylvanian age rock formations. A portion of the former Manzano Oil Company unlined surface impoundment was used for drilling mud fluid circulation. During the course of the work over and re-completion work by Elk Oil Company, a minimum of 50 barrels of Oil was added to the drilling mud. (See RR State #1 drilling report, day of 3/5/96, appendix 1) This oil / drilling mud combination added to the unlined surface impoundment would therefore have detectable levels of hydrocarbons (particularly in the DRO / TPH range).

The unlined surface impoundment was not closed immediately. Elk Oil Company did not want to cover the pit until all drilling mud and associated fluids dried up completely. After

several complaints by the surface landowner, Elk Oil covered the pit. All visible trash and rubbish were removed. Allowing drilling fluids and mud to dry before closing surface impoundments is a common oil field practice and procedure. The pit was covered in February of 1997. Due to the pressure put on Elk Oil from the surface owner to close the pit; the fluids and drilling mud in the pit were never allowed to fully and completely dry.

In March of 1997, Rickey Pearce, of Pearce Trust Ranch (the surface owner), sought assistance from Mr. Wayne Price, Environmental Engineer of the Hobbs District OCD Office, for inspection of oil and gas operations on or near his ranch. Mr. Pearce's primary concern was protection of his ranch groundwater, stock, and wildlife. Mr. Price conducted a field inspection of the pit on March 6, 1997. Soil sampling of the pit, by Mr. Price, less *than one month after the pit was covered*, revealed free water and oil and a soil sample photoionization detector headspace reading of 1225-PPM TPH. There was no EPA Certified Laboratory analysis confirmation of these field samples taken by Mr. Price. The NMOCD District I Office, in an Inter-Office Correspondence, deferred this pit closure to Mr. Bill Olson of the NMOCD Environmental Bureau. Mr. Olson is handling the closure of this pit. (See Elk Oil Section of Inter-Office Correspondence dated March 13,1997 from Wayne Price to Jerry Sexton, District 1 Supervisor, NMOCD District 1 Office, appendix 1) *Since Mr. Price's field examination of the pit, the well has been plugged and abandoned and additional clean up of the site has occurred*,

Clayton M. Barnhill, CMB Environmental & Geological Services, preformed a site examination on, July 6, 1999 and took seven soil samples of the closed pit. The results of the site examination and analytical results of the soils are discussed in this report.

2.0 RESULTS OF THE SITE INVESTIGATION

The following subsections contain discussions of the site investigation, site soils, site environmental setting, and discussion of analytical laboratory results of the site sampling activities.

On July 6, 1999 Clayton M. Barnhill, CMB Environmental Services, met Mr. Rocky Ray, Field Superintendent of Elk Oil Company, and Ms. Donna Williams MNOCD District I Environmental Engineer, at the former location of the RR State #1 well.

The former pit is located in Unit Letter I of Township 11 South Range 33 East, NMPM. Pit dimensions are 75 feet in length by 45 feet in width.

General Site Characteristics:

2.1 Depth to Ground Water

A new water well was drilled on the Pearce Ranch on 6/5/98 in the SW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 7, Township 11 South Range 33 East NMPM. (State Engineer's Office, Roswell District Office, well location described as 11.33.7.4330) Glenn's Water Well Service of Tatum, New Mexico, drilled the well. Total well depth is 125 feet. Water producing sand interval was encountered at 65'-122' feet. According to the drilling Log; 0'-27' feet was

soil and caliche, 28'-65' feet was sand, 65'-122' feet water sand, and at 122' –125' feet was red clay. The casing was perforated from 65'-125' feet. (See Appendix 2, Water Well Record)

Depth to ground water in the area is greater than 50 feet.

The above-described water well is greater than 1000 feet from the pit location.

2.2 Wellhead Protection Area

The horizontal distance of the closed pit from all water sources and private, domestic water sources is greater than 1000 feet. (See Figure 1, Location Map)

2.3 Distance to the Nearest Surface Water Body

The horizontal distance of the closed pit form downgradient surface water bodies is greater than 1000 feet. (See Figure 1, Location Map)



Soil / Waste Characteristics

2.4 Unsaturated Soils:

The former pit area is 75' feet by 45' feet. A 6' –10' foot ridge of fine drilling mud is concentrated in the middle of the former pit. This is the area where Mr. Price took his samples on his field visit in March of 1997, as the drilling mud was concentrated in this area and still wet. The pit area is very rocky with abundant gravel, cobbles and small boulders. The surface soil is brown gravelly loam to about 6 inches in depth underlain by hard-indurated caliche. There were no areas of gross surface hydrocarbon

staining. There were no areas of stressed vegetation. There was no visible trash or rubbish in the former pit area. Native grass is growing on the former pit location.

According to the US Soil Conservation Service, the soils located in the former pit area are of the Kimbrough Series of Soils. The Kimbrough Series is defined as follows: The Kimbrough Series of soils consists of well-drained loams, gravelly loams, or gravelly fine sandy loams overlying indurated caliche. (See Appendix 2, Soil Descriptions from US Soil Conservation Service map showing location of pit.)

Seven Soil Samples were taken by CMB on 7/6/99 and analyzed for TPH GRO/DRO by EPA Method Modified 8015 and for BTEX by EPA Method 8020. Hall Analytical Laboratory located in Albuquerque, New Mexico, performed lab analysis of the soil samples. The soil samples were collected using an AMS Soil Recovery Hand Auger. The auger was de-contaminated using a water- alconox sop solution and then rinsed with potable water between sample collections. Samples were placed in clean, air tight, 4-ounce soil sample jars, properly labeled, and placed in an ice chest and cooled to 4 degrees Celsius. The samples were promptly shipped to the laboratory for analysis.

The samples were field screened for TPH Using a MiniRae PID field calibrated to 100-PPM Isobutylene. A grab soil sample from each of the individual soil sample auger locations was placed in a clean Ziploc baggie, labeled with sample location and collection time, and allowed to be solar irradiated for a minimum of 30 minutes before headspace reading was collected. A composite sample of all locations was placed in a clean five gallon bucket, rolled, and then placed in a clean glass jar and Ziploc baggie for field screen and lab analysis. The highest field screen using the PID was in sample location #1, which had a field reading of 1068- PPM TPH. (See Lab Analysis, Appendix 3.)

All sample locations were identified using a Garmin GPS. At each sample location, brown gravelly, cobblely, loam was the soil type, underlain by hard thick layer of caliche. (See Appendix 3, Field Notes)

FIELD DESCRIPTION

Auger Refusal @ 1.3' Depth, Old Drilling Mud with Oil added while drilling. Hit Old Oily Glove with auger!!! Sample location # 1

Auger Refusal @ 0.6' Depth, 10 % sandy silty topsoil with 10% caliche and 80% gravel, cobbles and boulders. Sample Location # 2

Auger Refusal @ 0.8' Depth, 10 % sandy silty topsoil with 10% caliche and 80% gravel, cobbles and boulders. Sample Location # 3

Auger Refusal @ 0.8' Depth, 10 % sandy silty topsoil with 10% caliche and 80% gravel, cobbles and boulders. Sample Location # 4

Auger Refusal @ 0.8' Depth, 10 % sandy silty topsoil with 10% caliche and 80% gravel, cobbles and boulders. Sample Location # 5

No Oil Stained Gloves or Soil Staining. Sampled 3.5' feet due east of sample location # 1, Auger Refusal @ 1.3 10% Tan Brown Sandy Silty Topsoil with 30% caliche, 60% Rock, consisting of gravel, cobble, and boulders. Sample Location # 6 Site Investigation Report

Elk Oil Company RR State # 1

	UTM COORDINATES	FIELD PID READING	
SAMPLE ID / LOCATION	<u>VIA GPS</u>	<u>TPH IN PPM</u>	
	13S 0625771 UTM		
Grab Location # 1	3694073	1068 PPM	
	13S 0625777 UTM		
Grab Location # 2	3694074	490.3 PPM	
	13S 0625755 UTM	•	
Grab Location # 3	3694056	11.3 PPM	
	13S 0625737 UTM		
Grab Location # 4	3694082	25.8 PPM	
	13S 0625788 UTM		
Grab Location # 5	3694015	27.4 PPM	
	3.5' FEET EAST OF		
Grab Location # 6	GRAB # 1	85.5 PPM	

	Compiled & Rolled in 5	NO PID FIELD
COMPOSITE ALL LOCATIONS	gallon bucket	SCREEN

Field Soil Vapor Headspace PID is a MiniRae, Field Calibrated To 100 PPM Isobutylene

PID HEADSPACE
 ACCEPTABLE RANGE
 100 PPM TPH

Site Investigation Report

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Ţ	SAMPLE ID / LOCATION	BENZENE	TOULENE	<u>ETHYLBENZENE</u>	TOTAL XYLENES	<u>MTBE</u>	_
	Grab Location # 1	ND	0.16 PPM	0.12 PPM	1.5 PPM	ND	
ł	Grab Location # 2	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	
	Grab Location # 3	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	
	Grab Location # 4	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	
	Grab Location # 5	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	
	Grab Location # 6	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	
	Grab Location # 7	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	
	COMPOSITE ALL LOCATIONS	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	
-							

Sample Matrix: Soil UNITS: PPM mg/kg ND =Non Detection

Sample Matrix: Soil UNITS: PPM mg/kg ND =Non Detection

BTEX ACCEPTABLE RANGE 100 PPM SOILS

TPH ACCEPTABLE RANGE 100 PPM SOILS

SAMPLE ID / LOCATION <u>GRO</u> **DRO** TPH: GRO + DRO DATE SAMPLED DATE ANALYZED Grab Location # 1 **28 PPM** 850 PPM 850 PPM 7/6/99 7/14/99 Grab Location # 2 6.5 PPM 1900 PPM 1900 PPM 7/6/99 7/14/99 Grab Location # 3 ND **46 PPM 46 PPM** 7/6/99 7/14/99 Grab Location #4 ND 23 PPM 23 PPM 7/6/99 7/14/99 Grab Location # 5 ND **39 PPM 39 PPM** 7/6/99 7/14/99 Grab Location #6 ND ND ND 7/6/99 7/14/99 COMPOSITE ALL 240 PPM LOCATIONS ND 240 PPM 7/6/99 7/14/99

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2.5 Discussion of Analytical Results:

On July 6, 1999 Clayton M. Barnhill sampled the Elk Oil Company RR State # 1 former pit area and found hydrocarbon concentrations generally less than 100 - PPM TPH. In two outlier samples (where an oily glove was encountered while augering), less than 2000-PPM TPH was found. The TPH concentrations were validated in the field by the field Photoionization Detector and later confirmed by the analytical laboratory. From the operator's drilling and completion records, it is documented that the former pit had oil added during the original Manzano Oil Company's drilling and Elk Oil's completion of the TPH Concentrations of 10000-PPM are common in old drilling or production well. pits where oil was added to the drilling mud during drilling, completion, and production of oil and natural gas. Soils in the pit area are brown silty loam with significant gravel, cobbles and boulders. A hard caliche layer exists under the pit at less than two feet in depth. There were no areas of grossly oil stained soil or stressed vegetation on or near the pit area. Native grass is growing over the pit area. The pit has been ripped by heavy equipment to the hard caliche layer and subsequently covered. All trash and surface rubbish have been removed.

Two samples were above 100-PPM TPH. (Sample Location Number #1, and Sample Location # 2.) Both these samples were taken in an area where an oily glove was encountered during hand augering and sampling of the pit. Sample # 6, taken 3.5 feet east of sample location #1 Lab analyzed at 39-PPM TPH, showing that there is no widespread contamination on the site, or horizontal migration of TPH concentration values. The hard caliche layer and nature of the soils in the area restrict vertical migration. Soil sample # 1 had concentrations of BTEX of 1.5 PPM. (Five Soil Samples, including the composite sample, were Non—Detect for BTEX). The Volatile Organic Compound components analyzed for in the soils are not present and therefore are not a threat to groundwater. There is no great threat of horizontal or vertical migration of the TPH / DRO concentrations encountered.

In 1998, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ruled that wastes associated with exploration, development, and production of crude oil or natural gas were exempt form regulation under Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Along with this ruling the, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency created lists of wasted related to oil and natural gas exploration, development, and production that were exempt from Subtitle C regulation. The key defining criteria as to where a given waste is exempt or not exempt lies in the waste's application to the exploration, development, or production of oil or natural gas. Common examples of exempt Oil and Gas wastes are as follows (Modified from EPA, 1995):

Produced water, drill cuttings, rigwash materials, drilling fluids, well completion, treatment, and stimulation fluids, workover wastes, pit sludges, waste crude oil from primary field operations, and production well blowdown ejection wastes.

11 B. 12 T.S.

The high TPH concentrations of two of the samples from the pit area were intrinsically associated with the exploration, development, and production of the RR State #1 Well by Elk Oil Company and are exempt form RCRA Subtitle C Regulation.

3.0 SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

The former pit of the RR State #1 has been closed since 1997. The drilling mud and associated wastes have had time to significantly dry up. With the exception of significant rainfall event, the pit area is generally dry.

The area is clean. There is no visible surface trash, or rubbish. There are no areas of gross surface oil staining or stressed vegetation. Native grass is growing on the former pit.

Soils in the pit area are brown silty loam with significant gravel, cobbles and boulders. A hard caliche layer exists under the pit at less than two feet in depth

On July 6, 1999 Clayton M. Barnhill sampled the Elk Oil Company RR State # 1 former pit area and found hydrocarbon concentrations generally less than 100 -PPM TPH. In two outlier samples (where an oily glove was encountered while augering), less than 2000-PPM TPH was found. The TPH concentrations were validated in the field by the field Photoionization Detector and later confirmed by the analytical laboratory. From the various operators' drilling and completion records, it is documented that the former pit had oil added during the completion of the well. TPH Concentrations of 10000-PPM are common in old drilling or production pits where oil was added to the drilling mud during drilling, completion, and production of oil and natural gas.

Two samples were above 100-PPM TPH. (Sample Location Number #1, and Sample Location # 2.) Both these samples were taken in an area where an oily glove was encountered during hand augering and sampling of the pit. Sample # 6, taken 3.5 feet east of sample location #1 analyzed at 39-PPM TPH showing that there is no widespread contamination on the site, or horizontal migration of TPH concentration values. None of the soil samples obtained had any concentrations of BTEX greater than 1.5 PPM. (Seven samples, including the composite sample, were Non-Detect for BTEX) There is no great threat of horizontal or vertical migration of the TPH / DRO concentrations encountered

A new water well was drilled on the Pearce Ranch on 6/5/98 in the SW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 7, Township 11 South Range 33 East NMPM. (State Engineer's Office, Roswell District Office, well location described as 11.33.7.4330) Gienn's Water Well Service of Tatum, New Mexico, drilled the well. Total depth is 125 feet. Water producing sand interval was encountered at 65'-122' feet. According to the drilling Log:; 0'-27' feet was soil and caliche, 28'-65' feet was sand, 65'-122' feet water sand and 122' –125 feet was red clay. The casing was perforated from 65'-125' feet. The Pearce Ranch Trust drilled this new water after Mr. Pearce's request for assistance from the NMOCD District 1 Office, Mr. Price's field examination of the property in 1997, and subsequent pit closure. The horizontal distance of the closed pit from all water sources and private, domestic water sources is greater than 1000 feet.

The horizontal distance of the closed pit from downgradient surface water bodies is greater than 1000 feet.

The high TPH concentrations of two of the samples from the pit area were intrinsically associated with the exploration, development, and production of the RR State #1 Well by Elk Oil Company and are exempt form RCRA Subtitle C Regulations.

The Ranking score for NMOCD Unlined Surface impoundment Closure Guidelines for pit closure is 10.

The Pit Closure Report for RR State # 1 should be filed and the pit immediately closed by the NMOCD.

No further remedial action is warranted or needed.

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS:

Clayton M. Barnhill, Consulting Geologist / Hydrogeologist

EDUCATION:

40 Hour OSHA Health and Safety Training 8 Hour Hazardous Materials Refresher / Supervisor Confined Space Entrant / Attendant

Oklahoma State University Graduate School of Geology 9 Graduate Credit Hours Ground-Water Hydrology and Contamination Program, 1993 3.7 GPA

University of Arizona

B.Sc. Geochemistry, 1980

REGISTRATION:

American Institute of Professional Geologists, Certified Professional Geologist # 7145 New Mexico Environment Department UST Bureau Certified Scientist # 246 Wisconsin Division of Safety & Buildings (Petroleum Environmental Cleanup Fund) PECFA Consultant # 261265 State of Wyoming Professional Geologist No. PG-3072

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Mr. Barnhill has 18 years of total geological experience, domestically and internationally, supervising exploration and drilling programs for minerals, oil and gas. and environmental site assessment and remediation. Mr. Bamhill completed Oklahoma State University's, graduate school program, Practical Approaches to Ground-Water Hydrology and Contamination, in August of 1993. Since that time, Mr. Barnhill has prepared several Phase I, II, and III reports, and completed several Phase II and III investigative and redmediation environmental drilling and recovery projects under the guidelines of the New Mexico and Texas Environment Departments and the US EPA in southeast New Mexico and west Texas. Various clients include; Cypress Engineering Services, Freese and Nichols, Berry Land and Cattle Company, The Alamo Band Navajo Nation, Hi - Pro Feeds, Queen Oil and Gas Company, Enron Oil and Gas Company, Transwestern Pipeline Company, Navajo Refining Company, Amoco Pipeline Company, The NMED, The FAA, The Town of Silver City, Waide Construction Company, Wakefield Oil Company, Tri-City Landfill Grant County, NM, Nations Bank, First Federal Savings Bank, Camp Dresser, & Mckee, Intera, Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Souder Miller & Associates, MBF Services, Clayton Environmental Services., Soil Investigations, Inc., Harding Lawson Associates, Century 21 Real Estate, US Army Corp. of Engineers, Nature's Dairy, Baca Linda Dairy, Break-Away-Dairy, Sundance Dairies, Sand Creek Consultants, Bascor Environmental, RESPEC / Inc., SEMS Inc., and Coldwell Bankers.

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ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION HOBBS DISTRICT OFFICE

> POST OFFICE BOX 1980 HOBBS. NEW MEXICO 85241-1980 (505) 393-6161

CLI A. AMERICA

NMOCD INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:Jerry Sexton-NMOCD District I SupervisorFrom:Wayne Price=Environmental EngineerDate:March 13, 1997Reference:Field Trip Report on February 21, 1997Subject:Pearce Trust Ranch- Rickey Pearce operator/owner

Comments:

Mr. Pearce had requested assistance from the NMOCD District I office to sample ground water from some of the ranch water wells and to inspect some of the oil & gas operations in and near the area of his ranch operations.

As indicated to me, Mr. Pearce's primary concern is ground water contamination from oil & gas activities which will or have affected his ranch operations and future value of his property. He is requesting that the NMOCD ask the operators to clean up their leaks and spills to protect his ground water and to protect his stock and wildlife in the area.

Please find below my findings, conclusions, and recommendations for this area.

Pearce Ranch Water Wells:

- 1. se/4 nw/4 9-11-33; Sampled old well bore using PE bailer. Water is clear, no olfactory, TDS values were 1400-1700 umhos, Chlorides were 710 ppm. Depth to water is approximately 30-40 feet deep. Well was not purged and only the top was sampled. According to Mr. Pearce this well was contaminated a number of years ago and they had to quit using it as a stock tank.
- 2. Second well sampled was located west of the above well. Sampled with PE Bailer. Depth to water is approximately 30-33ft deep. This water was contaminated with black suspended solids with a strong sewage smell. There was also some hair found in this water, possibly from a dead animal. The TDS was measured and found to be around 600 umhos.

I recommend that NMOCD copy Mr. Pearce on this correspondence or provide him information as how me may obtain this information for his records.

ELK Oil-Location:

Mr. Pearce showed me an active open unlined pit (un-netted) at the Elk Oil Co. RR St. #1 sec 7-Ts11s-R33e. This pit contained oil, BS&W, and solid debris, buckets, etc. Mr. Pearce indicated this is a relative new pit. The usage of this type of pit appears to violate NMOCD rule 18. Took Pictures.

On February 27, 1997 I received a call from Mr. Pearce indicating a contractor was covering the pit as is without removing any of the oily material.

On March 6, 1997 I inspected the covered pit. I took a sample three feet below the surface of the pit using an EPA type trier sample device and found free water/oil. Ran a BTEX headspace test using a PID (photoionization detector) and the results were 1225 ppm which is twelve times the limits set in the guidelines. As noted in the water well sampling the ground water in this area is quite shallow.

Conclusions/recommendations:

The NMOCD District I office has deferred this pit closure to the NMOCD Environmental Bureau. It is my understanding that Mr. Olson of the NMOCD Environmental Bureau is handling the closure of this pit. Mr. Olson can be contacted at 505-827-7154.

cc: Rickey Pearce-Ranch Owner Gary Wink-NMOCD District I Field Rep. II Roger Anderson-Environmental Bureau Chief Bill Olson-NMOCD Hydrogeologist-Environmental Bureau NMOCD Environmental files

attachments-2 spill reports. copy of pictures.





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ELK OIL 1 RR STATE (API 30-025-29004-0001)

LOC'N: SEC 7 T11S R33E 1874 FSL 766 FEL SEC, 4 MI SE CAPROCK, NM ; (VERTICAL) OWWO: OLD INFO: FORMERLY MANZANO OIL 1 SUNBURST A STATE CO. ELEV 4314 GR. SPUD 11/2/84. 13 3/8 @ 373 W/375 SX, 8 5/8 @ 3710 W/1600 SX. LOG TOPS: WOLFCAMP 8490, PENNSYLVANIAN 9608, STRAWN 10148 OTD 10450. COMP 12/12/84. D&A; WELL ID CHANGES: LEASE NAME CHGD FROM STATE

SPUD: 02/26/96 COMP: 05/13/96 EL: 4314 GR DTD: 10450 (STRAWN) PBTD: 10443 CONTR: NOT RPTD

CSG/LNR/TBG: 5 1/2 @ 10450 W/600 SX, 2 7/8 @ 10307;

RESULT: IPF 46 BO, 45 MCFGPD, 200 BWPD. GTY 42, GOR 1000 PROD ZONE -PERMO-PENNSYLVANIAN 10081-10373 NO CORES OR TESTS RPTD

COMP INFO: DRLG COMMENTS: DO 10 10450 CSG 5 1/2 CSG PRODUCING INTERVAL(S) DATA: PERF (PENNSYLVANIAN): 10081-10373. W/28 SHOTS, ACID (10081-10373) W/ 3000 GALS, 20% NEFE, RESV: PERMO-PENNSYLVANIAN

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DATE 07/01/96CARD #00005-N MEX

Cores; DST (Penn) 10,205-450', rec 372' HO&GCM + 1302' FW (Splr rec 1600 cc's wtr + 50 cc's oil), times and pressures NR;DST Tops: (EL) Rustler 1750', Salt 1830', Yates 2450', Queen 3100' San Andres 3700', Glorieta 5122', Blinebry 5200', Tubb 6542' FW + 347' HGCM w/tr oil, times & pressures not reported; No (SP) (Penn) 10,292-302', rec 280' GCM w/tr oil, times & pressures NR; Ran CNL, CDL, GRL, DLL, MLAT; C/WEK Drlg. #2. A Drinkard 6685', Abo 7366', Wolfc 8490', Penn 9608', Strawn Comp Info: DST (Wolfc) 9425-9530', rec 20' SOCM + 440' Mud, BAGLEY, N. FIELD Loch: 4 mi SE/Caprock; SEc 7-11S-33E; 1874; FSL 766' FEL of Sec; Spud:11-2-84; Comp:12-12-84; Elev:4314'Grd; TD:10,450'Strawn; Times & Pressures NR; DST (Penn) 10,164-10,218', rec 180' Result: D&A Casing: 3-3/8"6373'/375sx; 8-5/8"3710'/1600sx; Well: MANZANO OIL 1 Sunburst "A" State Com. NEW MEXICO Petroleum Information® componation A subsidiary of A.C. Niesen Company API No: 30-025-29004 LEA COUNTY 10,148'. OCOPYRIGHTED 1965. REPRODUCTION PROVIETED

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Kermit-Wink complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes (KE).— This soil complex is about 70 percent Kermit fine sand, about 20 percent Wink fine sand, and about 10 percent nelusions of Active dune land, Maljamar, Palomas, Berino, Cacique, and Pyote soils.

These are deep sandy soils subject to severe soil blowing. The landscape is one of hummocks and dunes, resulting from the accumulation and removal of sands. The Kermit soil is on stabilized sand dunes, and the Wink soil is in depressions.

Except for the narrower range in slope, the Kermit soil is similar to that in Kermit-Palomas fine sands, 0 to 12 percent slopes. The Wink soil is similar to Wink fine sand (see Wink Series) except that in places the surface layer and subsoil are eroded and the substratum of white, imy sandy loam is exposed.

This complex is used only as range and wildlife habitat. Kermit soil: Dryland capability unit VIIe-10; Sand Hills (SD) range site; wildlife habitat group H. Wink soil: Dryland capability unit VIIe-10; Deep Sand range site; wildlife habitat group H.

Kermit soils and Dune land, 0 to 12 percent slopes (KM).—This mapping unit is in the southern part of Lea County. It is about 45 percent Kermit soils, 45 percent Active dune land, and about 10 percent Maljamar, Palomas, Wink, and Pyote soils. The Kermit soil is hummocky and undulating and is adjacent to, or surrounds, the Dune land areas. Some areas consist almost entirely of Kermit soil, and some are mostly Dune land.

Dune land consists of large barren sand dunes, or hills and ridges of wind-deposited sands that actively shift and drift with the wind. It is described under the heading "Active Dune Land." The Kermit soil is similar to that in Kermit-Palomas fine sands, 0 to 12 percent

slopes, but its surface layer is fine sand to coarse sand. These soils are used as range, wildlife habitat, and recreational areas. Kermit soil: Dryland capability unit VIIe-10; Sand Hills (SD) range site; wildlife habitat group H. Dune land: Dryland capability unit VIIIe-1; vildlife habitat group A.

Kimbrough Series

The Kimbrough series consists of well-drained loams, gravelly loams, or gravelly fine sandy loams overlying indurated caliche at a depth of 6 to 20 inches. These soils formed in wind-deposited and water-deposited sediments on uplands in the northern half of Lea County. Slopes are 0 to 3 percent. The vegetation consists of short and mid grasses and shrubs. The average annual precipitation is 12 to 15 inches, the average annual air temperature is 58° to 60° F., and the frost-free season is 195 o 205 days. Elevations range from 3,600 to 4,200 feet. Kimbrough soils are associated with Lea, Stegall, Portales, and Arvana soils.

Typically, the surface layer is dark grayish-brown gravelly loam about 6 inches thick. In places it is loam. The substratum is white indurated caliche (fig. 6).

Kimbrough soils are used for range, wildlife, and limted irrigated farming. They are a source of crushed calithe for use in construction.

Kimbrough gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes (Kg).— This soil is on prairie uplands. It is known locally as "scabland." Included in mapping are areas of Stegall, Lea, Slaughter, and Arvana soils.

Representative profile of Kimbrough gravelly loam, on north edge of a caliche pit, SW4/NE4/2 sec. 16, T. 17 S., R. 37 E.:

- A11-0 to 2 inches, dark grayish-brown (10YR 4/2) gravelly loam, very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) when moist; moderate, thin, platy structure; slightly hard, friable when moist, sticky and slightly plastic when wet; few caliche fragments on the surface and intermixed; mildly alkaline (pH 7.8), slightly calcareous; abrupt boundary. 2 to 6 inches thick.
- A12-2 to 6 inches, dark grayish-brown (10YR 4/2) gravelly loam, very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) when moist; moderate, medium, subangular blocky structure; slightly hard, very friable when moist, sticky and slightly plastic when wet; many, sharp-angled, hard caliche fragments intermixed; mildly alkaline (pH 7.8), strongly calcareous; abrupt boundary. 4 to 10 inches thick.
- Ccam—6 inches, white (10YR 8/1), inducated caliche. fragmental and inducated to a depth of about 30 inches, grading to weakly cemented, white caliche below. Several feet to many feet thick.

The A horizon ranges from gravelly loam to gravelly fine sandy loam in texture and from 7.5YR to 10YR in hue. It is dark grayish brown when dry and very dark grayish brown when moist. In areas where this horizon is gravelly, the depth to indurated caliche is 6 to 16 inches. The caliche is either fragmentary or massive.

This soil is moderately permeable. Runoff is slow to medium. Water intake is moderate, and the available water holding capacity is 1 to 2 inches. Roots penetrate to a depth of 6 to 16 inches. Erosion is a slight hazard.

This soil is too shallow to be suitable for crops. It is used for range and wildlife. It is also a source of crushed caliche for use in construction. Dryland capability unit VIIs-1; Shallow (HP) range site; wildlife habitat group K.

Kimbrough gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes (KO).—This soil is on low ridges in the northern part of Lea County. Included in mapping are areas of Lea, Sharvana, Stegall, and Slaughter soils.

This soil is used as range and wildlife habitat. It is also a source of crushed caliche for use in construction. Dryland capability unit VIIs-1; Shallow (HP) range site; wildlife habitat group K.

Kimbrough loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes (Kb).—This soil is in narrow swales, in small playas, and on low broad ridges between swales. It forms a narrow border between Lea loam in the swales and the adjacent sloping Kimbrough gravelly loam. It is underlain by indurated caliche at a depth of 10 to 20 inches. Included in mapping and making up about 15 percent of the mapping unit are areas of Sharvana, Lea, and Stegall soils.

This soil is similar to Kimbrough gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, but its surface layer is loam about 16 inches thick. The available water holding capacity is 1.5 to 3.5 inches. Roots penetrate to a depth of 10 to 20 inches.

This soil is used as irrigated cropland, wildlife habitat, recreational areas, and range. Irrigated capability unit IVs-2; dryland capability unit VIs-2; Shallow (HP) range site; wildlife habitat group D.

Kimbrough loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes (Kc).—This soil is on slopes between ridges and swales in the northern



Figure 6.- (Profile of Kimbrough gravelly loam; 0 to 3 percent slopes. The thin surface layer rests on beds of white indurated caliche.

part of Lea County. Included in mapping are areas of Sharvana soils and Kimbrough gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes.

This soil is similar to Kimbrough gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, but its surface layer is loam about 12 inches thick. Runoff is medium. Available water holding capacity is 1.5 to 3 inches. Roots penetrate to a depth of 10 to 18 inches.

This soil is used as range and wildlife habitat. Dryland capability unit VIs-2: Shallow (HP) range site: wildlife habitat group K.

Kimbrough loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes (KN).—This soil is in the northern part of Lea County, Included in mapping are small areas of Sharvana, Lea, and Stegall soils and Kimbrough gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes.

This soil is similar to Kimbrough gravelly loam, 0 to

3 percent slopes, but its surface layer is loam about 14 inches thick. Available water holding capacity is 1.5 to 3.5 inches. Roots penetrate to a depth of 10 to 20 inches.

This soil is used as range and wildlife habitat. Dryland capability unit VIs-2; Shallow (HP) range site; wildlife habitat group K.

Kimbrough-Lea complex (0 to 3 percent slopes) (Kb).— This complex is about 60 percent Kimbrough gravelly loam, 25 percent Lea loam, 10 percent inclusions of Stegall and Arvana soils, and 5 percent inclusions of Slaughter and Sharvana soils. In places the Kimbrough and Lea soils are about equally distributed.

The generally dominant Kimbrough soil is on slightly convex areas or on low knolls. It is very shallow over a thick bed of inducated caliche. The Lea soil has a dark gravish-brown to brown surface layer and a gravishbrown to brown loam subsoil (see Lea Series). Indurated aliche is at a depth of 20 to 40 inches.

The soils in this complex are used as range, wildlife habitat, and recreational areas. They are also a source of caliche for use in road construction. Kimbrough soil: Dryland capability unit VIIs-1; Shallow (HP) range ite; wildlife habitat group K. Lea soil: Dryland capability unit VIIs-1; Loamy range site; wildlife habitat group K.

Kimbrough-Lea complex (0 to 3 percent slopes) (KU).--n some areas this complex is about 50 percent Kimbrough gravelly loam and 25 percent Lea loam, and in a few about 40 percent Kimbrough soils and 40 percent ea soils. It is 20 to 25 percent inclusions of Stegall, rvana, Slaughter, and Sharvana soils. The Kimbrough soil is gently sloping and is on the tops and sides of low ridges. The Lea soil is nearly level and is in swales etween the ridges. The soils in this complex are used as range, wildlife

The soils in this complex are used as range, wildlife habitat, and recreational areas. They are also a source of caliche for use in construction. Kimbrough soil: Dryland apability unit VIIs-1; Shallow (HP) range site; wildfe habitat group K. Lea soil: Dryland capability unit VIIs-1; Loamy range site; wildlife habitat group K.

Kimbrough-Sharvana complex (0 to 3 percent slopes) (s).—This complex is on smooth broad prairies in assoiation with the Kimbrough-Lea complex in the northern part of Lea County. It is about 60 percent Kimbrough gravelly loam, 25 percent Sharvana fine sandy loam, and 5 percent inclusions of Slaughter, Stegall, and Arvana pils.

The Kimbrough soil is underlain by indurated caliche at a depth of 6 to 16 inches. The Sharvana soil is similar b Sharvana loamy fine sand (see Sharvana Series), but is surface layer is fine sandy loam about 6 inches thick.

These soils are eroded in places. Soil blowing has removed most of the original surface layer in old abanoned fields and exposed caliche at the surface, or it has xposed fragments of caliche and the reddish-brown sandy clay loam subsoil of the Sharvana soil. The Kimbrough soil is on slightly elevated level areas and has a ew small caliche pebbles on the mounds. The underlying aliche undulates irregularly near the surface. Runoff generally accumulates in small intermittent lakes and potholes.

These soils are used for range and wildlife and as a purce of caliche. Kimbrough soil: Dryland capability unit VIIs-1; Shallow (HP) range site; wildlife habitat group K. Sharvana soil: Dryland capability unit IIs-1; Sandy range site; wildlife habitat group K.

Kimbrough-Sharvana complex (0 to 3 percent slopes) (X1.—This complex is about 55 percent Kimbrough gravelly loam, 25 percent Sharvana fine sandy loam, and 0 percent inclusions of Slaughter, Stegall, and Arvana bils. The Kimbrough soil is gently sloping and is on the tops and sides of low ridges in the northern part of Lea County. The Sharvana soil is nearly level to gently loping and is between the ridges. It is similar to Sharana loamy fine sand, but its surface layer is fine sandy am about 6 inches thick.

The soils in this complex are used for range and wildfe and as a source of caliche. Kimbrough soil: Dryand capability unit VIIs-1; Shallow (HP) range site; wildlife habitat group K. Sharvana soil: Dryland capability unit VIIs-1; Sandy range site; wildlife habitat group K.

Largo Series

The Largo series consists of well-drained, calcareous soils that have a light loam surface layer underlain by loam to clay loam. These gently sloping soils are on alluvial fans below outcrops of Triassic materials, in the southern part of Lea County. They formed in calcareous loamy alluvium. Slopes are 0 to 3 percent. The vegetation is short and mid grasses, forbs, and shrubs. The average annual precipitation is 10 to 12 inches, the average annual air temperature is 60° to 62° F., and the frost-free season is 190 to 200 days. Elevations range from 3,200 to 3,700 feet. These soils are associated with Pajarito and Palomas soils.

Typically, the surface layer is brown light loam about 6 inches thick. The next layer is reddish-brown to yellowish-red stratified loam, light silty clay loam, and clay loam about 24 inches thick. The substratum, to a depth of about 60 inches, is weak red silty and clayey shale. These soils are calcareous throughout.

Largo soils are used as range, wildlife habitat, and recreational areas. Indian artifacts can be found in this area.

Largo-Pajarito complex (0 to 3 percent slopes) (LP).— The soils in this complex formed on alluvial fans and plains and on foot slopes having outcrops of Triassic red-bed material. This complex is about 45 percent Largo loam, about 40 percent Pajarito loamy fine sand, and 15 percent inclusions of Palomas and Maljamar soils. It occurs only in the Southern Desertic Basins, Plains, and Mountains Resource Area in the southern part of Lea County.

The Largo soil is on alluvial plains and lower alluvial fans near deep gullied channels or in valley-filled channels where overflow and flooding are common after torrential rains.

Representative profile of Largo loam in an area of Largo-Pajarito complex, one-half mile south of State Highway No. 128, northwest of Jal, about 0.3 mile east of Jal Dump grounds, sec. 24, T. 25 S., R. 36 E.:

- A11-0 to 1 inch, brown (7.5YR 5/4) fine sandy loam, dark brown (10YR 4/4) when moist; weak, thin, platy structure; slightly hard, very friable when moist, slightly sticky and slightly plastic when wet; many fine roots; many fine interstitial pores; few dark organic stains; mildly alkaline (pH 7.7), slightly calcareous; abrupt boundary. 0 to 1 inch thick.
 A12-1 to 6 inches, brown (7.5YR 5/5) light loam, dark
- A12-1 to 6 inches, brown (7.5YR 5/5) light loam, dark brown (10YR 4/4) when moist; moderate, thick, platy and weak, fine, granular structure; soft, very friable when moist, slightly sticky and slightly plastic when wet; few fine roots; few coarse tubular pores; few organic stains; few worm casts; few root channels; few mycelia; mildly alkaline (pH 7.7), slightly calcareous; abrupt boundary. 4 to 12 inches thick.
- AC1-6 to 13 inches, reddish-brown (5YR 5/4) loam, reddish brown (5YR 4/4) when moist; weak, coarse, subangular blocky and moderate, medium, granular structure; hard, firm when moist, sticky and plastic when wet; few fine roots; few small shale fragments intermixed; many worm casts; moderately alkaline (pH 7.9), strongly calcareous; clear boundary. 6 to 10 inches thick.



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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be executed in triplicate, preferably typewritten, and submitted to the appropriate district office of the State Engineer. All except Section 5, shall be answered as completely and accurately as possible when any well is drived, repaired or deeper completely in this form is used as a plugging record, only Section 1(a) and Section a need be completed.

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July 20, 1999

Hall Environmental Analysis Laboratory 4901 Hawkins NE, Ste. A Albuquerque, NM 87109

Elk Oil Company P. O. Box 310 Roswell, NM 88202-0310

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Enclosed are the results for the analyses that were requested. These were done according to EPA procedures or equivalent.

Detection limits are determined by EPA methodology. No determination of compounds below these (denoted by the ND or < sign) has been made.

Please don't hesitate to contact HEAL for any additional information or clarifications.

Sincerely,

Nancy McDuffie 7 Assistant Laboratory Manager

Project: 9907035/Pit Sampling Elk Oil Co. RR State #1

7	

Hall Environmental Analysis Laboratory

Elk Oil Company	Pit Sampling Elk Oil Co. RR #1	Joe Kelty	Pit Closure Sampling Elk Oil Co.
Client:	Project:	Project Manager:	Project Number:

66/9/2	7/8/99	Soil	7/8/99
Date Collected:	Date Received:	Sample Matrix:	Date Extracted:

EPA Method - 8021

Units: PPM mg/kg

	1							
Date Analyzed	1/9/99	719199	66/6/1	66/6/2	66/6/2	66/6/2	66/6/2	66/6/2
Dilution	-	-	-	-	-	•••	-	-
BFB % Recovery	120	108 108	8	3 3	95	97	97	95
Total Xylenes	1.5	g	QN	2	Q	Q	9	Q
Ethyl- benzene	0.12	Q	QN	Q	QN	QZ	Q	QN
Toluene	0.16	Q	Q	QN	QN	QN	P	QN
Benzene	Q	Q	Q	Q	0 Z	Q	Q	QN
MTBE	Q	g	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Ð
Sample ID	Grab Location #1	Grab Location #2	Grab Location #3	Grab Location #4	Grab Location #5	Composite all Locations	Grab Locations #6	,
HEAL LAB ID	9907035-1	9907035-2	9907035-3	9907035-4	9907035-5	9907035-6	9907035-7	Extraction Blank

0.1 0.05 0.05 0.05 0.05

MRL

Hall Environmental Analysis Laboratory

7

Client:Elk Oil CompanyProject:Pit Sampling Elk Oil Co. RR #1Project Manager:Joe KellyProject Number:Pit Closure Sampling Elk Oil Co.

Date Collected:	7/6/99
Date Received:	7/8/99
Sample Matrix:	Soil
Extraction Date:	7/8/99

EPA Method - 8015B Modified GRO

	Units:	PPM mg/kg			
HEAL ID	Client ID	Dilution	Gasoline Range mg/kg	% BFB	Analysis Date
9907035-1	Grab Location #1	1	28	119	7/9/99
9907035-2	Grab Location #2	1	6.5	92	7/9/99
9907035-3	Grab Location #3	1	ND	97	7/9/99
9907035-4	Grab Location #4	1	ND	93	7/9/99
9907035-5	Grab Location #5	1	ND	95	7/9/99
9907035-6	Composite all Locations	1	ND	106	7/9/99
9907035-7	Grab Locations #6	1	ND	98	7/9/99
Extraction Blank		1	ND	96	7/9/99

			L	IRL	5	.0	
QA/QC: BS/BSD Sample ID: BS/BSD 7/9	Sample Amt <5.0	Spike 25.0	<u>Rec.</u> 24.1	<u>%</u> 96	<u>Dup.</u> 23.5	<u>%</u> 94	RPD 3

Hall Environmental Analysis Laboratory

Client: Elk Oil Co Project: Pit Sampi Project Manager: Joe Kelly Project Number: Pit Closur

Elk Oil Company Pit Sampling Elk Oil Co. RR #1 Joe Kelly Pit Closure Sampling Elk Oil Co.

Date Collected:	7/6/99
Date Received:	7/8/99
Sample Matrix:	Soil
Extraction Date:	7/13/99

EPA Method - 8015B Modified DRO

HEAL ID	Client ID	Dilution	Diesel Range (mg/kg)	Motor Oil Range (mg/kg)	% DNOP	Analysis Date
9907035-1	Grab Location #1	10	850	3,900	*	7/14/99
9907035-2	Grab Location #2	5	1,900	1,300	*	7/14/99
9907035-3	Grab Location #3	1	46	200	117	7/14/99
9907035-4	Grab Location #4	1	23	90	120	7/14/99
9907035-5	Grab Location #5	1	39	160	129	7/14/99
9907035-6	Composite all Locations	1	240	330	135	7/14/99
9907035-7	Grab Locations #6	1	ND	72	118	7/14/99
Extraction Blank	-	1	ND	ND	129	7/14/99

*Surrogate not recoverable due to sample dilution and matrix interferences.

				MRL	<u> </u>	5.0		50	
			L						
DA/QC: BS/BSD									
Sample ID:	Sample Amt.	Spike	Rec.	.%	Dup.	%	RPD		
BS/BSD 7/13	<5.0	50	55	110	55	110	0		



Client:Elk Oil CompanyDate Collected:NAProject:Pit Sampling Elk Oil Co. RR #1Date Received:NAProject Manager:Joe KellySample Matrix:SoilProject Number:Pit Closure Sampling Elk Oil Co.Date Extracted:NA

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8021 QC: BS/BSD 7/9

Compound	Sample Amount (mg/kg)	Spike	Recovery <u>% Rec</u>	<u>Dup</u>	<u>% Dup</u>	<u>RPD</u>
MTBE	<0.1	2.00	1.85 93	1.83	92	1
Benzene	<0.05	1.00	0.97 97	0.96	96	1
Toluene	<0.05	1.00	1.00 100	0.98	98	2
Ethylbenzene	<0.05	1.00	0.99 99	0.98	98	1
Total Xylenes	<0.05	3.00	2.94 98	2.94	98	0

	Project Name: PIT SAMPLL ING About Name: PIT SAMPLL ING So5.345.3975	FIL 016 COMPANY FAX 505.345.4107	Project # Project # ANALYSIS REQU	84mpL/NG Elk OIL Co. (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)	Project Manager. M.R. Jok KELLY (6351) (6357)	Sampler (11 (8021) Sampler (11 (8021) FPH (6 55 MO	Samples Cold?: PX (es D No H 11 L 151 N 412 Samples Cold?: PX (es D No H 12 H 14 H 151 H 151	Rimber/Writme Reservative LICEL MA H MA H MA H MA H MA H MA H MA H MA H		et/ Jac X 9907035-1 X										Hepeived By: (Stypetheol //// Remarks: 22, East 13:1/ 5/1/
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NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS & NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 2040 South Pacheco Street Santa Fe, New Mexico \$7505 (605) \$27-7131

iolil 99 called for MEMY closure Neport! JP

April 20, 1999

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT NO. Z 357 870 125

Joe Kelly Elk Oil Co. P.O. Box 310 Roswell, NM 88202-0310

Re: Pit Closure RR St#1 Sec 7-Ts11s-R33e

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Per our telephone conversation on April 20, 1999 and your request please find enclosed a copy of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division's (NMOCD) Field Trip Report conducted on February 21, 1997 and March 6, 1997 for the Pearce Trust Ranch Area. Please call Donna Williams in our Hobbs office at 505-393-6161 ext 113 in order to review typical pit closure projects in this area.

If you require any further information or assistance please do not hesitate to write or call me at (505-827-7155).

Sincerely Yours,

Unyvo Pinie

Wayne Price-Pet. Engr. Spec. Environmental Bureau

cc: OCD Hobbs Office

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t	de?	Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services.	I also wish to receive the
; 8) SI	Complete items 3, 4a, and 4b.	following services (for an
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Submit 3 Copies		Essaran	State of Mine	New Mexico	Denartment			Form C-103
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11.		Chec	k Appropriate Box	to Indicate Nat	ture of Notice, R	eport, or Other E	Data	
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OTHER:					OTHUR:			
12. Describe Pro	aposed or Complet 1103	od Operations (Cl	early state all petitions deta	ils. and give pertine	nt dates, including estin	nated state of statting at	iy proposed work)	
05/06/97:	SPOT 200	SXS @ 774	0' - 7180' AND TAG	,				
05/09/97;	SPOT 25 S	XS @ 6058'	- 5818'.					
0 5/09/97 :	SPOT 35 S	SXS @ 4522	- 4371' TAGGED, 8	PULLED 4450	OF 5 1/2" CASI	NG.		
05/09/97:	SPOT 35 S	XS @ 3727	- 3563' TAGGED.		•		A1127	·····
05/12/97:	SPOT 55 S	SXS @ 1624	- 1412'.		Post-It"	brand fax transm	ittal memo 7671	# of pages > /
05/12/97:	SPOT 25 S	5XS @ 382' ·	282'.		To WAY	INE PRICE	From Ja	E KELLY
05/12/97:	SPOT 10 S	5×S @ 30, • 5	SURFACE.		Co. 5774	TE OF NN	Co. ELA	COILCO.
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OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 2040 South Pacheco Street Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505 (505) 827-7131

April 10, 1999

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT NO. P 288 259 108

Elk Oil Co. P.O. Box 310 Roswell, NM 88202-0310

Re: Pit Closure RR St#1 Sec 7-Ts11s-R33e

Subject: Complaint from Landowner

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD) understands that Elk Oil Co. has closed a pit at the above location. Please provide to NMOCD a Pit Remediation and Closure Report.

If you require any further information or assistance please do not hesitate to write or call me at (505-827-7155).

Sincerely Yours,

Wayno / une

Wayne Price-Pet. Engr. Spec. Environmental Bureau

cc: OCD Hobbs Office Pearce Trust Ranch

ts	your B	ETURN		<u>SS</u> comp	oleted o	n the re	 ever	se side?	
PS.Form2811, December 1994	6. Signature: (Addressee or Agent)	5. Received By: (Print Name) 8. Addre and f	Ros WELL, NM 88202-03/0 T. Date	FLK OIL Co. PO. Box 3/0	3. Article Addressed to:	 Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the malipiece below the article number. The Return Receipt will show to whom the article was delivered and the date delivered. 	 Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back if space does not nermit 	SENDER:" • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, 4a, and 4b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so that we can return card to your	
Domestic Return Receipt	Th	see & Address (Only if requested	Delivery A	ered NM & Certified	288 259 /08	2. C Restricted Delivery Consult postmaster for fee.	1. Addressee's Address	I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee):	

CC+ R. ANDERSON



ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION HOBBS DISTRICT OFFICE

> POST OFFICE BOX 1980 HOBBS, NEW MEXICO 88241-1980 (505) 393-6161

NMOCD INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Jerry Sexton-NMOCD District I Supervisor

From: Wayne Price-Environmental Engineer

Wayned riv

Date: March 13, 1997

Reference: Field Trip Report on February 21, 1997.

Subject: Pearce Trust Ranch- Rickey Pearce operator/owner

Comments:

Mr. Pearce had requested assistance from the NMOCD District I office to sample ground water from some of the ranch water wells and to inspect some of the oil & gas operations in and near the area of his ranch operations.

As indicated to me, Mr. Pearce's primary concern is ground water contamination from oil & gas activities which will or have affected his ranch operations and future value of his property. He is requesting that the NMOCD ask the operators to clean up their leaks and spills to protect his ground water and to protect his stock and wildlife in the area.

Please find below my findings, conclusions, and recommendations for this area.

Pearce Ranch Water Wells:

- 1. se/4 nw/4 9-11-33; Sampled old well bore using PE bailer. Water is clear, no olfactory, TDS values were 1400-1700 umhos, Chlorides were 710 ppm. Depth to water is approximately 30-40 feet deep. Well was not purged and only the top was sampled. According to Mr. Pearce this well was contaminated a number of years ago and they had to quit using it as a stock tank.
- 2. Second well sampled was located west of the above well. Sampled with PE Bailer. Depth to water is approximately 30-33ft deep. This water was contaminated with black suspended solids with a strong sewage smell. There was also some hair found in this water, possibly from a dead animal. The TDS was measured and found to be around 600 umhos.

3. Third well sampled was a well and stock tank located nearby (400 yds.) southeast of the first well sampled. This water from the well is very clear and potable. Sample was taken from the end of pipe. The TDS was measured at 300 umhos.

Conclusions/recommendations:

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The water well located in se/4 nW/4 of 9-11-33 appears to be contaminated. Therefore in keeping with our NMOCD procedure, I recommend that the NMOCD Environmental Bureau be notified and handle this ground water contamination case.

The second water well appears to have a bacteria contamination. I recommend that Mr. Pearce contact the NMED on how to properly clean this well for future use.

The third well requires no action, However this well appears to be down gradient of the first well that is contaminated and in close proximity (400 yds).

Tipperary Locations and Pits.

Several of the Tipperary locations were visited in the area. Most of these locations have unlined pits. Some of the pits have been covered with signs of oil seeping out of them. Some are still open. There were a few that was visited that showed signs of reentry for closure and three of the sites that had recent bore hole cuttings.

One Tipperary tank battery (St. NBN No. 1 se/sw sec 16-Ts 11s-R33e) showed signs of a recent leak. The soil was visually contaminated and had a mild to strong hydrocarbon odor. Took pictures.

Conclusions/recommendations:

Tipperary has been in the process of closing several pits in this area. Tipperary submitted pit closure information in December of 1996 and on February 22, 1997 the NMOCD District office received a copy of Tipperary's notification that they had encountered ground water in several of the soil borings during their site assessment.

Therefore per NM WQCC regulations the NMOCD Environmental Bureau will handle this remediation plan.

As for the contaminated soil found at the Tipperary battery st. NBN No. 1 se/sw sec 16-Ts 11s-R33e it is my recommendation that the District office ask tipperary to clean-up the site per NMOCD guidelines or another alternate method approved by the District Supervisor. (Spill report attached)

Burro Pipeline Corp.

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The Burro Pipeline Water Disposal System Satellite #1 located in NW/4 SW/4 sec 22-Ts 11s-R33e was visited. This system consist of pumps and a medium to large lined netted surface pit. The pit was approximately 20 % full of water. The net is in need of repair. Took picture.

Conclusions/recommendations:

I recommend this site be evaluated to determine if it should be permitted under NMOCD Rule 711.

Penroc Tank Battery Location: (Now Saga Petroleum LP Co.)

Mr. Pearce showed me the Cabot state C N0.1- well no.1 tank battery located in sw/4 nw/4 sec. 14-Ts11s-R33e. where there had been a spill. There was visual soil contamination inside of the dike area and outside. Took pictures.

Conclusions/recommendations:

The NMOCD District office has on record a spill report on 1/23/96 for this site. The spill report reflected that 329 bbls of crude oil was released with only 20 bbls recovered. It indicated "All fluids stayed inside Earthen Dike. Picked up 20 barrels of oil remaining soaked up in caliche." (Spill report attached)

It is my recommendation that the NMOCD District office ask the current owner to clean-up the site per NMOCD guidelines or another alternate method approved by the District Supervisor.

Old Abandon Site:

Mr. Pearce showed me an old abandon site which still has some debris on site such as concrete foundation, miscellaneous pipe, and an area which appears to be oily stained soil. Took pictures. Exact location was not identified at this time.

Conclusions/recommendations:

Mr. Pearce has had an ongoing discussion on this issue with Mr. Gary Wink NMOCD Field Supervisor. According to Mr. Pearce, Gary has obtained information that pre-dates Mr. Pearce's ownership of the ranch which reflects that the previous owner of the ranch had received compensation for this site. I recommend that NMOCD copy Mr. Pearce on this correspondence or provide him information as how me may obtain this information for his records.

ELK Oil Location:

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Mr. Pearce showed me an active open unlined pit (un-netted) at the Elk Oil Co. RR St. #1 sec 7-Ts11s-R33e. This pit contained oil, BS&W, and solid debris, buckets, etc. Mr. Pearce indicated this is a relative new pit. The usage of this type of pit appears to violate NMOCD rule 18. Took Pictures.

On February 27, 1997 I received a call from Mr. Pearce indicating a contractor was covering the pit as is without removing any of the oily material.

On March 6, 1997 I inspected the covered pit. I took a sample three feet below the surface of the pit using an EPA type trier sample device and found free water/oil. Ran a BTEX headspace test using a PID (photoionization detector) and the results were 1225 ppm which is twelve times the limits set in the guidelines. As noted in the water well sampling the ground water in this area is quite shallow.

Conclusions/recommendations:

The NMOCD District I office has deferred this pit closure to the NMOCD Environmental Bureau. It is my understanding that Mr. Olson of the NMOCD Environmental Bureau is handling the closure of this pit. Mr. Olson can be contacted at 505-827-7154.

cc: Rickey Pearce-Ranch Owner Gary Wink-NMOCD District I Field Rep. II Roger Anderson-Environmental Bureau Chief Bill Olson-NMOCD Hydrogeologist-Environmental Bureau NMOCD Environmental files

attachments-2 spill reports. copy of pictures.



DISTRICTI P.O.Box 1980, Hobbs, NM 88241-1980 DISTRICT II

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DISTRICT III

P.O. Drawer DD, Artesia, NM 88211-0719

1000 Rio Brazos Rd, Aztec, NM 87410

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

State of New Mexico

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088 SUBMIT 2 COPIES TO APPROPRIATE DISTRICT OFFICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 116 PRINTED ON BACK SIDE OF FORM

NOTIFICATION OF FIRE, BREAKS, SPILLS, LEAKS, AND BLOWOUTS

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State of New Mexico

Energy, Minerais and Namral Resources Department

P.O.Box 1980, Hobbs, NM 88241-1980 <u>DISTRICT II</u> P.O. Drawer DD, Artesia, NM 88211-0719 <u>DISTRICT III</u> 1000 Rio Brazos Rd, Azzec, NM 87410

DISTRICTI

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088

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NOTIFICATION OF FIRE, BREAKS, SPILLS, LEAKS, AND BLOWOUTS

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Roger Anderson

From:	Wayne Price
Sent:	Thursday, February 27, 1997 2:40 PM
То:	William Lemay
Cc:	Roger Anderson
Subject:	FW: Elk Oil Co. Pit Closure- RR St. #1 sec 7-Ts11s-R33 e.
Importance:	High

Dear Bill and Roger,

Jerry Sexton requested I forward this to you.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

From: Wayne Price To: Jerry Sexton; Gary Wink Cc: Roger Anderson Subject: Elk Oil Co. Pit Closure- RR St. #1 sec 7-Ts11s-R33 e. Date: Thursday, February 27, 1997 11:08AM Priority: High

Dear Jerry,

Just received a call from Ricky Pearce Ranch owner. He informed me that Elk Oil Co. is covering the pit I told you about during my field trip on Feb 21, 1997 in this area.

I recommend that we require Elk Oil provide closure information on this pit. I make this recommendation on the fact that ground water appears to be very shallow ,around 50 feet or less, and the fact that this pit had quite a bit of oil in it, plus non-exempt material, buckets etc. Also this pit is relative new and not an old pit. It is also unlined and un-netted.

Please let me what actions you want me to take in this matter.

Wayne Price

From: To: Cc: Subject: Date: Priority: Wayne Price Jerry Sexton; Gary Wink Roger Anderson Elk Oil Co. Pit Closure- RR St. #1 sec 7-Ts11s-R33 e. Thursday, February 27, 1997 11:08AM High

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Please let me what actions you want me to take in this matter.



SHOULD YOU HAVE TROUBLE RECEIVING THIS TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CALL (505) 393-6161.

TO:

COMPANY:

FROM:

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