

**2RF-168 -**

**DERRINGER  
FEDERAL RECYCLE  
FACILITY ID  
fVV2133637688**

**Correspondence / emails**

**[14744] MEWBOURNE OIL CO**

**December 12, 2021**

## Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD

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**From:** Bradley Bishop <bbishop@mewbourne.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 1, 2021 1:20 PM  
**To:** Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Derringer Federal Recycle Facility

Sounds good. I appreciate the information and look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks, Bradley

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**From:** Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD <Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 1, 2021 1:18:44 PM  
**To:** Bradley Bishop <bbishop@mewbourne.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Derringer Federal Recycle Facility

Good afternoon Mr. Bishop,

Regarding your question, for the sake of clarity and transparency, I like to keep a written record of any discussion on this or any other project. At the end of the evaluation, I will upload all communications related to this request to the facility file, as part of the administrative record for this project.

I am waiting for some clarifications from my supervisor and will contact you soon so that we can move this project forward.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Regards,

**Victoria Venegas** • Environmental Specialist

Environmental Bureau

EMNRD - Oil Conservation Division

811S. First St. | Artesia, NM 88210

(575) 909-0269 | [Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us](mailto:Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us)

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/OCD/>



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**From:** Bradley Bishop <bbishop@mewbourne.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 3:18 PM  
**To:** Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD <Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Derringer Federal Recycle Facility

Good afternoon – do you have time for a phone call? I would like to visit with you to see what the plan needs to be moving forward.

Thank You,



Bradley C Bishop  
Mewbourne Oil Company  
Phone: 575-393-5905  
Cell Phone: 575-390-6838  
Email: [Bbishop@mewbourne.com](mailto:Bbishop@mewbourne.com)

---

**From:** Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD <[Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us](mailto:Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 23, 2021 4:25 PM  
**To:** Bradley Bishop <[bbishop@mewbourne.com](mailto:bbishop@mewbourne.com)>; [dave@swgeophys.com](mailto:dave@swgeophys.com)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Derringer Federal Recycle Facility

Good afternoon Mr. Bishop, I'm sorry, but I have a couple of additional questions regarding the CAVE AND KARST SURFACE ASSESSMENT of August 18, 2021.

I am not an expert on this topic in any way, but I do not understand the conclusion of this study. How can the survey conclude that there are no cave or karst concerns when *'This evaluation includes only features apparent on the surface and does not include features which may exist sub-surface'*?

My main concern is the presence of karst features within the containment area. Even a small opening under the containment could, over time, compromise the liner system and the containment's integrity. Recycling containments are typically permitted for five years of operations

Finally, if you have the BLM rule for this type of recycling containment that you can share, it will be appreciated. I couldn't find that information on BLM's website.

Thanks you and have a good evening.

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**From:** Bradley Bishop <[bbishop@mewbourne.com](mailto:bbishop@mewbourne.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 10:07 AM

To: Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD <[Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us](mailto:Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Derringer Federal Recycle Facility

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Good morning, My name is Bradley Bishop, I am the regulatory manager for Mewbourne Oil Company. The email below has been passed along to me. Mewbourne conducted a pedestrian survey for the cave/karst on this project. I have attached a copy of the survey. We recently received approval from the surface owner (Bureau of Land Management) to begin construction on this pond. We will wait to begin construction until we have all approvals (NMOCD & BLM). The survey that is attached is what the BLM requires for their approval, which has been granted. Will the Geotechnical Survey including Ground Penetrating Radar survey still be necessary? I appreciate any assistance/guidance that you can offer. Feel free to call or email if you would like to discuss in more detail.

Thank You,

Bradley Bishop  
575-390-6838

From: Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD <[Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us](mailto:Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us)>

Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 3:11 PM

To: Bradley Bishop <[bbishop@mewbourne.com](mailto:bbishop@mewbourne.com)>; [twilliams@envirotechconsulting.com](mailto:twilliams@envirotechconsulting.com)

Cc: Kyle Mitchell <[kmitchell@Mewbourne.com](mailto:kmitchell@Mewbourne.com)>

Subject: [EXT] DERRINGER FEDERAL RECYCLE FACILITY PITS

#### DERRINGER FEDERAL RECYCLE FACILITY PITS

Good afternoon,

NMOCD is reviewing the recycling containment application and related documents, submitted by [14744] MEWBOURNE OIL CO, on 10/207/2021, for the proposed DERRINGER FEDERAL RECYCLE FACILITY PITS in Unit Letter B, Section 18, T-20S, R-29E, Eddy County, New Mexico.

To continue with the evaluation of this application, [14744] MEWBOURNE OIL CO, will need to provide the following information:

1. Given the proposed recycling facility is in a high karst area, [14744] MEWBOURNE OIL CO, LLC, needs to conduct a Geotechnical Survey including Ground Penetrating Radar and submit to NMOCD the interpretation of results. Also, [14744] MEWBOURNE OIL CO, LLC would need to request a variance to 19.15.34.11.A.(8) NMAC.
2. The application states that *"In addition, groundwater was encountered on the site during the onsite borings at depths of 55-and 62-ft below ground surface. Therefore, the area of the proposed pit may require additional engineering design to achieve the required 50-ft of separation between the bottom of the containment and groundwater"*.  
Please clarify what type of engineering measures, in addition to those required by 19.15.34.12, have been included into the design.
3. Additionally, considering that the depth to groundwater is less than 50 feet below the bottom of the containment, [14744] MEWBOURNE OIL CO, LLC would need to request a variance to 19.15.34.11.A.(1) NMAC along with any supporting documentation. The request for variances shall include:
  - A detailed statement explaining the need for a variance; and
  - A detailed written demonstration that the variance will provide equal or better protection of fresh water, public health and the environment.

All documentation must be submitted via [OCD Online](#).

Please, let me know if you have any further questions or concerns.

Regards,

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Thank You,

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Mewbourne Oil Company  
Phone: 575-393-5905  
Cell Phone: 575-390-6838  
Email: [Bbishop@mewbourne.com](mailto:Bbishop@mewbourne.com)

**Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD**

---

**From:** Bradley Bishop <bbishop@mewbourne.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 29, 2021 10:58 AM  
**To:** Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Derringer Federal Recycle Facility

Below is what the BLM sent me. It seems they put the burden on the operator to report any voids/karst features discovered during construction by attaching mitigation measures or special stipulations. Let me know how NMOCD would like to proceed.

Hi Bradley,

**CONSTRUCTION MITIGATION-**

In order to mitigate the impacts from construction activities on cave and karst resources, the following Conditions of Approval will apply to this project:

- In the event that any underground voids are encountered during construction activities, construction activities will be halted and the BLM will be notified immediately.
- No Blasting to prevent geologic structure instabilities.
- Pad Berming to minimize effects of any spilled contaminants.

**MITIGATING MEASURES for ROADS:**

- Roads will be routed around sinkholes and other karst features to avoid or lessen the possibility of encountering near surface voids and to minimize changes to runoff or possible leaks and spills from entering karst systems.
- The BLM, Carlsbad Field Office, will be informed immediately if any subsurface drainage channels, cave passages, or voids are penetrated during construction and no further construction will be done until clearance has been issued by the Authorized Officer.
- Turnout ditches and drainage leadoffs will not be constructed in such a manner as to increase or decrease the natural flow of water into or out of cave or karst features.
- Special restoration stipulations or realignment may be required.
- All spills or leaks will be reported to the BLM immediately for their immediate and proper treatment.

**KARST MITIGATING MEASURES for BURIED PIPELINES, ETC.:**

- The BLM, Carlsbad Field Office, will be informed immediately if any subsurface drainage channels, passages, or voids are intersected by trenching, and no pipe will be laid in the trench at that point until clearance has been issued by the Authorized Officer.
- If a void is encountered alignments may be rerouted to avoid the karst feature and lessen; the potential of subsidence or collapse of karst features, buildup of toxic or combustible gas, or other possible impacts to cave and karst resources from the buried pipeline.
- Special restoration stipulations or realignment may be required at such intersections, if any.
- A leak detection plan will be submitted to the BLM Carlsbad Field Office for approval prior to pipeline installation. The method could incorporate gauges to detect pressure drops, siting valves and lines so they can be visually inspected periodically or installing electronic sensors to alarm when a leak is present. The leak

detection plan will incorporate an automatic shut off system that will be installed for proposed pipelines to minimize the effects of an undesirable event.

- Regular monitoring is required to quickly identify leaks for their immediate and proper treatment.

#### PRODUCTION MITIGATION

In order to mitigate the impacts from production activities and due to the nature of karst terrain, the following Conditions of Approval will apply to this APD:

- Tank battery liners and berms to minimize the impact resulting from leaks.
- Leak detection system to provide an early alert to operators when a leak has occurred.
- Automatic shut off, check valves, or similar systems will be installed for pipelines and tanks to minimize the effects of line failures used in production or drilling.

Tessa Cisneros  
Bureau of Land Management  
Lead Realty Specialist  
Carlsbad Field Office  
Office 575-234-5980  
Cell 575-706-5292  
[tcisnero@blm.gov](mailto:tcisnero@blm.gov)

Thank You,



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Thank You,

Bradley C Bishop

Mewbourne Oil Company

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Email: [Bbishop@mewbourne.com](mailto:Bbishop@mewbourne.com)

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**District II**  
811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210  
Phone:(575) 748-1283 Fax:(575) 748-9720

**District III**  
1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410  
Phone:(505) 334-6178 Fax:(505) 334-6170

**District IV**  
1220 S. St Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505  
Phone:(505) 476-3470 Fax:(505) 476-3462

**State of New Mexico**  
**Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources**  
**Oil Conservation Division**  
**1220 S. St Francis Dr.**  
**Santa Fe, NM 87505**

CONDITIONS

Action 65177

CONDITIONS

Operator: MEWBOURNE OIL CO P.O. Box 5270 Hobbs, NM 88241	OGRID: 14744
	Action Number: 65177
	Action Type: [C-147] Water Recycle Long (C-147L)

CONDITIONS

Created By	Condition	Condition Date
vvenegas	None	12/6/2021