

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

Form C-144
Revised October 11, 2022

Pit, Below-Grade Tank, or
Proposed Alternative Method Permit or Closure Plan Application

Type of action: ☐ Below grade tank registration
☐ Permit of a pit or proposed alternative method
☐ Closure of a pit, below-grade tank, or proposed alternative method
☐ Modification to an existing permit/or registration
☒ Closure plan only submitted for an existing permitted or non-permitted pit, below-grade tank, or proposed alternative method

BGT1
Existing BGT

Instructions: Please submit one application (Form C-144) per individual pit, below-grade tank or alternative request

Please be advised that approval of this request does not relieve the operator of liability should operations result in pollution of surface water, ground water or the environment. Nor does approval relieve the operator of its responsibility to comply with any other applicable governmental authority's rules, regulations or ordinances.

1.
Operator: Chuza Oil Company In the care of the Oil Conservation Division OGRID #: 279508
Address: P.O. Box 306, 2844 East Main Street Suite 106, Farmington, NM 87402
Facility or well name: Chuza Tank Battery
API Number: Facility #: fCS2500856447 OCD Permit Number: _____
U/L or Qtr/Qtr P Section 10 Township 30N Range 16W County: San Juan
Center of Proposed Design: Latitude 36.824701 Longitude -108.506601 NAD83
Surface Owner: ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ Private ☒ Tribal Trust or Indian Allotment

2.
☐ **Pit:** Subsection F, G or J of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
Temporary: ☐ Drilling ☐ Workover
☐ Permanent ☐ Emergency ☐ Cavitation ☐ P&A ☐ Multi-Well Fluid Management Low Chloride Drilling Fluid ☐ yes ☐ no
☐ Lined ☐ Unlined Liner type: Thickness _____ mil ☐ LLDPE ☐ HDPE ☐ PVC ☐ Other _____
☐ String-Reinforced
Liner Seams: ☐ Welded ☐ Factory ☐ Other _____ Volume: _____ bbl Dimensions: L _____ x W _____ x D _____

3.
☒ **Below-grade tank:** Subsection I of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
Volume: unknown bbl Type of fluid: unknown
Tank Construction material: fiber glass
☐ Secondary containment with leak detection ☐ Visible sidewalls, liner, 6-inch lift and automatic overflow shut-off
☐ Visible sidewalls and liner ☐ Visible sidewalls only ☐ Other _____
Liner type: Thickness _____ mil ☐ HDPE ☐ PVC ☐ Other _____

4.
☐ **Alternative Method:**
Submittal of an exception request is required. Exceptions must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval.

5.
Fencing: Subsection D of 19.15.17.11 NMAC (*Applies to permanent pits, temporary pits, and below-grade tanks*)
☐ Chain link, six feet in height, two strands of barbed wire at top (*Required if located within 1000 feet of a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or church*)
☐ Four foot height, four strands of barbed wire evenly spaced between one and four feet
☐ Alternate. Please specify _____

6.

Netting: Subsection E of 19.15.17.11 NMAC (*Applies to permanent pits and permanent open top tanks*)

- ☐ Screen ☐ Netting ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Monthly inspections (If netting or screening is not physically feasible)

7.

Signs: Subsection C of 19.15.17.11 NMAC

- ☐ 12"x 24", 2" lettering, providing Operator's name, site location, and emergency telephone numbers
- ☐ Signed in compliance with 19.15.16.8 NMAC

8.

Variances and Exceptions:

Justifications and/or demonstrations of equivalency are required. Please refer to 19.15.17 NMAC for guidance.

Please check a box if one or more of the following is requested, if not leave blank:

- ☐ Variance(s): Requests must be submitted to the appropriate division district for consideration of approval.
- ☐ Exception(s): Requests must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval.

9.

Siting Criteria (regarding permitting): 19.15.17.10 NMAC***Instructions: The applicant must demonstrate compliance for each siting criteria below in the application. Recommendations of acceptable source material are provided below. Siting criteria does not apply to drying pads or above-grade tanks.*****General siting****Ground water is less than 25 feet below the bottom of a low chloride temporary pit or below-grade tank.**

- ☐ NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; ☐ USGS; ☐ Data obtained from nearby wells

☐ Yes ☒ No

☐ NA

Ground water is less than 50 feet below the bottom of a Temporary pit, permanent pit, or Multi-Well Fluid Management pit .

NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ NA

Within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field covered under a municipal ordinance adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks)**

- Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained from the municipality

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within the area overlying a subsurface mine. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks)**

- Written confirmation or verification or map from the NM EMNRD-Mining and Mineral Division

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within an unstable area. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks)**

- Engineering measures incorporated into the design; NM Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources; USGS; NM Geological Society; Topographic map

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within a 100-year floodplain. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks)**

- FEMA map

☐ Yes ☒ No

Below Grade Tanks

Within 100 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, significant watercourse, lake bed, sinkhole, wetland or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).

- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 200 horizontal feet of a spring or a fresh water well used for public or livestock consumption;.

- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Temporary Pit using Low Chloride Drilling Fluid (maximum chloride content 15,000 mg/liter)

Within 100 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or any other significant watercourse or within 200 feet of any lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark). (Applies to low chloride temporary pits.)

- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 300 feet from a occupied permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.

- Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 200 horizontal feet of a spring or a private, domestic fresh water well used by less than five households for domestic or stock watering purposes, or 300feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in existence at the time of the initial application.

NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 100 feet of a wetland.

- US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Temporary Pit Non-low chloride drilling fluid

Within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or any other significant watercourse, or within 200 feet of any lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).

- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.

- Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 500 horizontal feet of a spring or a private, domestic fresh water well used by less than five households for domestic or stock watering purposes, or 1000 feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in the existence at the time of the initial application;

- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 300 feet of a wetland.

- US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Permanent Pit or Multi-Well Fluid Management Pit

Within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or 200 feet of any other significant watercourse, or lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).

- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 1000 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.

- Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 500 horizontal feet of a spring or a fresh water well used for domestic or stock watering purposes, in existence at the time of initial application.

- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within 500 feet of a wetland.

- US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

☐ Yes ☒ No

10.

Temporary Pits, Emergency Pits, and Below-grade Tanks Permit Application Attachment Checklist: Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC

Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

- ☐ Hydrogeologic Report (Below-grade Tanks) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (4) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
- ☐ Hydrogeologic Data (Temporary and Emergency Pits) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (2) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
- ☐ Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC
- ☐ Design Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- ☐ Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC
- ☐ Closure Plan (Please complete Boxes 14 through 18, if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC

☐ Previously Approved Design (attach copy of design) API Number: _____ or Permit Number: _____

11.

Multi-Well Fluid Management Pit Checklist: Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC

Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

- ☐ Design Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- ☐ Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC
- ☐ A List of wells with approved application for permit to drill associated with the pit.
- ☐ Closure Plan (Please complete Boxes 14 through 18, if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- ☐ Hydrogeologic Data - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (4) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
- ☐ Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC

☐ Previously Approved Design (attach copy of design) API Number: _____ or Permit Number: _____

12.

Permanent Pits Permit Application Checklist: Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC**Instructions:** Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

- ☐ Hydrogeologic Report - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (1) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
☐ Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC
☐ Climatological Factors Assessment
☐ Certified Engineering Design Plans - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
☐ Dike Protection and Structural Integrity Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
☐ Leak Detection Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
☐ Liner Specifications and Compatibility Assessment - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
☐ Quality Control/Quality Assurance Construction and Installation Plan
☐ Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC
☐ Freeboard and Overtopping Prevention Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
☐ Nuisance or Hazardous Odors, including H₂S, Prevention Plan
☐ Emergency Response Plan
☐ Oil Field Waste Stream Characterization
☐ Monitoring and Inspection Plan
☐ Erosion Control Plan
☐ Closure Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC

13.

Proposed Closure: 19.15.17.13 NMAC**Instructions:** Please complete the applicable boxes, Boxes 14 through 18, in regards to the proposed closure plan.

- Type: ☐ Drilling ☐ Workover ☐ Emergency ☐ Cavitation ☐ P&A ☐ Permanent Pit ☒ Below-grade Tank ☐ Multi-well Fluid Management Pit
☐ Alternative
- Proposed Closure Method: ☒ Waste Excavation and Removal
☐ Waste Removal (Closed-loop systems only)
☐ On-site Closure Method (Only for temporary pits and closed-loop systems)
☐ In-place Burial ☐ On-site Trench Burial
☐ Alternative Closure Method

14.

Waste Excavation and Removal Closure Plan Checklist: (19.15.17.13 NMAC) **Instructions:** Each of the following items must be attached to the closure plan. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

- ☒ Protocols and Procedures - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
☒ Confirmation Sampling Plan (if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
☒ Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number (for liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings)
☒ Soil Backfill and Cover Design Specifications - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
☒ Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
☒ Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

15.

Siting Criteria (regarding on-site closure methods only): 19.15.17.10 NMAC**Instructions:** Each siting criteria requires a demonstration of compliance in the closure plan. Recommendations of acceptable source material are provided below. Requests regarding changes to certain siting criteria require justifications and/or demonstrations of equivalency. Please refer to 19.15.17.10 NMAC for guidance.

Ground water is less than 25 feet below the bottom of the buried waste. - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Ground water is between 25-50 feet below the bottom of the buried waste - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Ground water is more than 100 feet below the bottom of the buried waste. - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Within 100 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or 200 feet of any other significant watercourse, lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark). - Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application. - Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Within 300 horizontal feet of a private, domestic fresh water well or spring used for domestic or stock watering purposes, in existence at the time of initial application. - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained from the municipality	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Within 300 feet of a wetland. US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field covered under a municipal ordinance	

adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended.

- Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained from the municipality

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within the area overlying a subsurface mine.

- Written confirmation or verification or map from the NM EMNRD-Mining and Mineral Division

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within an unstable area.

- Engineering measures incorporated into the design; NM Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources; USGS; NM Geological Society; Topographic map

☐ Yes ☒ No

Within a 100-year floodplain.

- FEMA map

☐ Yes ☒ No

16. **On-Site Closure Plan Checklist:** (19.15.17.13 NMAC) *Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the closure plan. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.*

- ☐ Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC
- ☐ Proof of Surface Owner Notice - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection E of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- ☐ Construction/Design Plan of Burial Trench (if applicable) based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection K of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- ☐ Construction/Design Plan of Temporary Pit (for in-place burial of a drying pad) - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- ☐ Protocols and Procedures - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- ☐ Confirmation Sampling Plan (if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- ☐ Waste Material Sampling Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- ☐ Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number (for liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings or in case on-site closure standards cannot be achieved)
- ☐ Soil Cover Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- ☐ Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- ☐ Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

17.

Operator Application Certification:

I hereby certify that the information submitted with this application is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name (Print): Cory Smith

Title: OCD Environmental Projects Supervisor

Signature: 

Date: 4/29/2025

e-mail address: cory.smith@emnrd.nm.gov

Telephone: 505-419-2687

18.

OCD Approval: ☐ Permit Application (including closure plan) ☒ Closure Plan (only) ☐ OCD Conditions (see attachment)

OCD Representative Signature: Joel Stone Approval Date: 04/30/2025

Title: Environmental Scientist & Specialist-A

OCD Permit Number: BGT1

19.

Closure Report (required within 60 days of closure completion): 19.15.17.13 NMAC

Instructions: Operators are required to obtain an approved closure plan prior to implementing any closure activities and submitting the closure report. The closure report is required to be submitted to the division within 60 days of the completion of the closure activities. Please do not complete this section of the form until an approved closure plan has been obtained and the closure activities have been completed.

☐ Closure Completion Date: _____

20.

Closure Method:

- ☐ Waste Excavation and Removal ☐ On-Site Closure Method ☐ Alternative Closure Method ☐ Waste Removal (Closed-loop systems only)
- ☐ If different from approved plan, please explain.

21.

Closure Report Attachment Checklist: *Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the closure report. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.*

- ☐ Proof of Closure Notice (surface owner and division)
- ☐ Proof of Deed Notice (required for on-site closure for private land only)
- ☐ Plot Plan (for on-site closures and temporary pits)
- ☐ Confirmation Sampling Analytical Results (if applicable)
- ☐ Waste Material Sampling Analytical Results (required for on-site closure)
- ☐ Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number
- ☐ Soil Backfilling and Cover Installation
- ☐ Re-vegetation Application Rates and Seeding Technique
- ☐ Site Reclamation (Photo Documentation)

On-site Closure Location: Latitude _____ Longitude _____ NAD: ☐ 1927 ☐ 1983

22.

Operator Closure Certification:

I hereby certify that the information and attachments submitted with this closure report is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also certify that the closure complies with all applicable closure requirements and conditions specified in the approved closure plan.

Name (Print): _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

e-mail address: _____ Telephone: _____

Chuza Tank Battery San Juan Basin Below Grade Tank Closure Plan

Facility ID: fCS2500856447
Name: Chuza Tank Battery
Operator: Chuza Oil Company
OGRID: 279508
OGRID Name: Chuza Oil Company
Lease SN: NMNM105445544
Description: Unit P, Section 10, Township 30N, Range 16W, San Juan County

In accordance with Rule 19.15.17.13 NMAC, the following information describes the closure requirements of the below grade tank at the former Chuza Tank Battery, located in San Juan County, New Mexico. The site location, including nearby surface waters and the below grade tank, are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

The Chuza Tank Battery was operated by Chuza Oil Company, a company which stopped operations in 2017, filed bankruptcy in 2018, and is no longer a registered company. As an abandoned tank battery, this facility was considered under New Mexico's Oil Conservation Division (OCD) orphan well clean-up program. Chuza Oil Company remains the listed facility operator but the site is now under care of OCD. The facility contains bulk storage tanks, including a below grade fiberglass waste tank. Souder, Miller & Associates (SMA) seeks closure of the below grade tank (BGT) as part of site remediation and reclamation. Note that SMA is not acting as agent or representing Chuza Oil Company in any legal or official capacity.

SMA will proceed with closure activities related to the Chuza Tank Battery BGT under OCD's Aztec Office (also referred to as "Division" within this Closure Plan).

General Plan

1. SMA will obtain approval of this Closure Plan prior to commencing closure of the below grade tank at this location, pursuant to 19.15.17.13.C (1) NMAC.
2. SMA will notify the surface owner (BLM) by certified mail, return receipt requested, that the SMA plans closure operations at least 72 hours, but no more than one week, prior to any closure operation. The notice will include:
 - a. Facility Name
 - b. Facility ID
 - c. Facility Location
3. SMA will notify OCD by email of closure plan operations at least 72 hours, but no more than one week, prior to any closure operation. The notice will include:
 - a. Facility Name

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Chuza Tank Battery

BGT Closure Plan

- b. Facility ID
 - c. Facility Location
- 4. SMA will oversee removal of liquids and sludge from below-grade tank prior to implementing a closure method. Disposal of the liquids and sludge will occur in a division-approved facility. Approved facilities and waste streams include:
 - a. Soils, tank bottoms, produced sand, pit sludge and other exempt wastes impacted by petroleum hydrocarbons will be disposed of at:
Envirotech: Permit #NM01-0011
 - b. Produced water/liquids will be disposed of at:
Basin Disposal: Permit # NM01-005
- 5. SMA will oversee removal of the below-grade tank and disposal of it in a Division-approved facility, or recycle, reuse, or reclaim it in a manner that the appropriate division district office approves. Equipment associated with the below-grade tank shall also be removed and properly disposed, recycled, reused, or reclaimed.
- 6. SMA will collect a closure sample of the soil beneath the location of the below grade tank that is being closed. The closure sample will consist of a five-point composite sample to include any obvious stained or wet soils, or other evidence of contamination. The closure sample will be analyzed for all constituents listed in Table I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC, below, including chlorides, TPH (GRO+DRO+MRO), BTEX, and benzene.
- 7. Depth to groundwater at the site is currently unknown. Therefore, SMA will compare the composite sample laboratory results to the limits associated with **<50' to groundwater**, as detailed in Table I.
 - a. In accordance with Rule 19.15.17.13.C(3)(b), if contaminant concentrations exceed the proposed limit and groundwater is found to be deeper than 50', SMA may elect to submit additional groundwater information to the Division and request a higher closure limit. SMA will submit the additional groundwater data via email documenting the depth to groundwater at the location. SMA will wait for approval of the groundwater data by the OCD, prior to completing closure activities at the site.
 - b. If a higher closure limit is submitted and approved by the Division, SMA will submit a copy of the request, the groundwater information and the received approval in their closure report.
- 8. If any contaminant concentration is higher than the parameters listed in Table I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC, the Division may require additional delineation and completion of Form C-141 *Release Notification and Corrective Action* upon review of the results.

If all contaminant concentrations are less than or equal to the parameters listed in Table I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC and with OCD approval, then SMA will proceed to oversee backfill of the pit with non-waste containing, uncontaminated, earthen material.

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Chuza Tank Battery

BGT Closure Plan

TABLE I: Closure Criteria for Soils Beneath Below-Grade Tanks, Drying Pads Associated with Close-Loop Systems and Pits where Contents are Removed (19.15.17.13)			
Depth Below bottom of pit to groundwater less than 10,000 mg/l TDS	Constituent	Method	Limit
≤ 50 Feet	Chloride	EPA 300.0	600 mg/kg
	TPH (GRO+DRO+MRO)	EPA SW-846 Method 418.1, or Method 8015M	100 mg/kg
	BTEX	EPA SW-846 Method 8021B or 8260B	50 mg/kg
	Benzene	EPA SW-846 Method 8021B or 8260B	10 mg/kg
51 feet - 100 feet	Chloride	EPA 300.0	10,000 mg/kg
	TPH (GRO+DRO+MRO)	EPA SW-846 Method 418.1, or Method 8015M	2,500 mg/kg
	GRO + DRO	EPA SW-846 Method 418.1, or Method 8015M	1,000 mg/kg
	BTEX	EPA SW-846 Method 8021B, or Method 8260B	50 mg/kg
	Benzene	EPA SW-846 Method 8021B, or Method 8015M	10 mg/kg
> 100 feet	Chloride	EPA 300.0	20,000 mg/kg
	TPH (GRO+DRO+MRO)	EPA SW-846 Method 418.1, or Method 8015M	2,500 mg/kg
	GRO + DRO	EPA SW-846 Method 418.1, or Method 8015M	1,000 mg/kg
	BTEX	EPA SW-846 Method 8021B, or Method 8260B	50 mg/kg
	Benzene	EPA SW-846 Method 8021B, or Method 8015M	10 mg/kg

9. After closure has occurred, SMA will oversee reclamation of the former BGT area by substantially restoring the impacted surface area to the condition that existed prior to oil and gas operations. SMA will oversee the construction of the soil cover to the site's existing grade and prevent ponding of water and erosion of the cover materials. The soil cover shall consist of the background thickness of topsoil, or one foot of suitable materials to establish vegetation at the site, whichever is greater. All areas will be reclaimed as early as practicable, and as close to their original condition or land use as possible. They shall be maintained in a way which controls dust and minimizes erosion.
10. SMA will oversee reclamation of all disturbed areas no longer in use when the ground disturbance activities at the site have been completed. The reseeding shall take place during the first favorable growing season after closure, or under the schedule directed by the Division. Reclamation activities will be considered completed when a uniform vegetative cover has been established that reflects a life-form ratio of plus or minus fifty percent (50%) of pre-disturbance levels, and a total percent plant cover of at least seventy percent (70%) of pre-disturbance levels, excluding noxious weeds.

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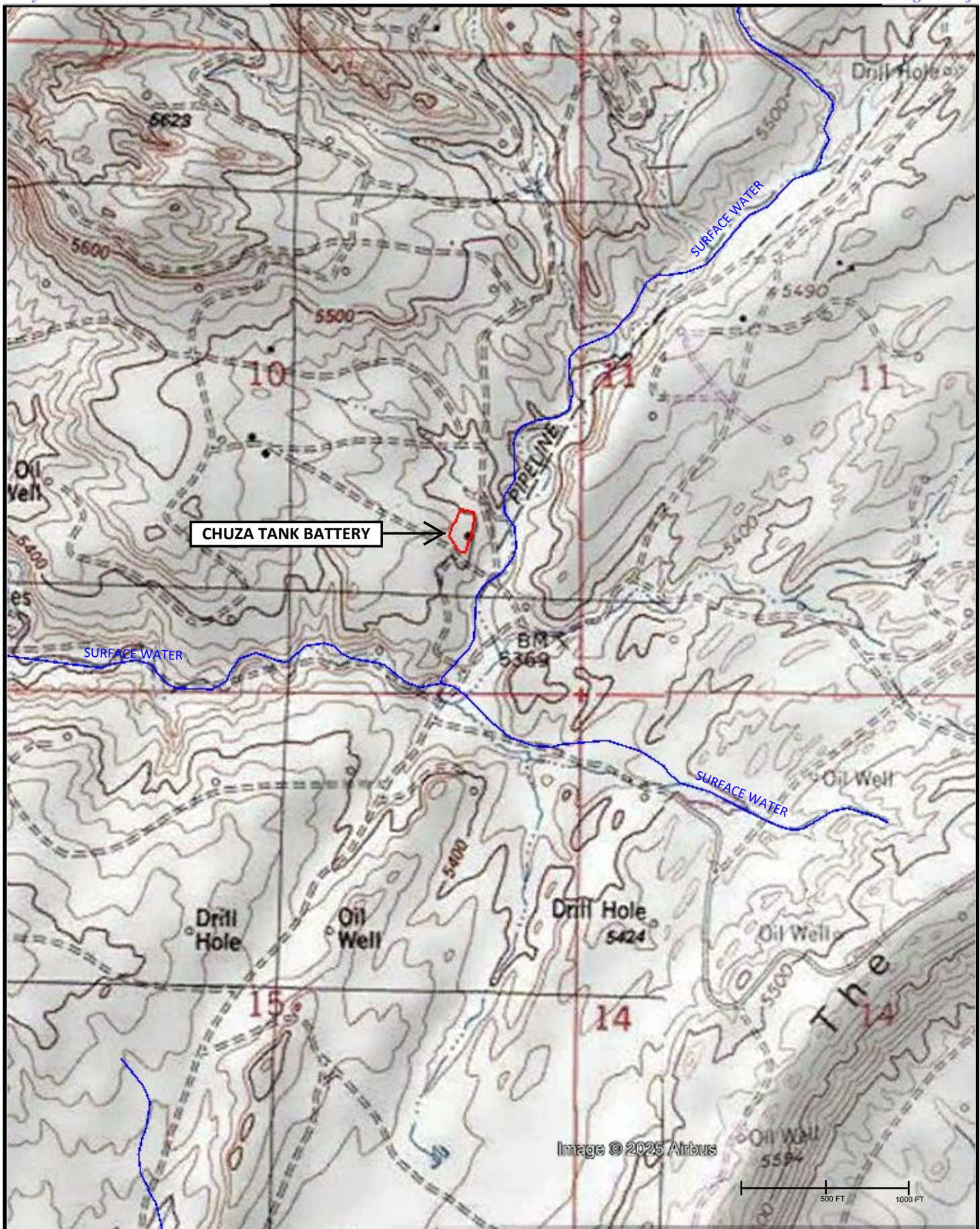
Chuza Tank Battery

BGT Closure Plan

*Re-vegetation and reclamation obligations imposed by other applicable federal, state or tribal agencies on lands managed by those agencies shall supersede the above requirements, provided they provide equal or better protection of fresh water, human health, and the environment.

11. SMA will notify Aztec OCD by email when reclamation and closure activities are completed.
12. Within 60 days of closure, SMA will submit a Closure Report to OCD on Form *C-144 Pit, Below-Grade Tank, or Proposed Alternative Method Permit or Closure Plan Application*. The report will include the following:
 - a. Correspondences, including proof of closure notices to OCD and surface owner, confirmation sampling notification, etc.
 - b. Confirmation sampling analytical results
 - c. Closure criteria research documentation
 - d. Soil backfill and cover installation information
 - e. Site maps, including confirmation sampling locations
 - f. Photo documentation, including sampling, backfill, and site reclamation
 - g. (if needed) Alternative Table I groundwater criteria request, groundwater information and received approval.

FIGURES



SOUDER, MILLER & ASSOCIATES
 401 West Broadway Avenue
 Farmington, NM 87401-5907
 Phone (505) 325-7535 Toll-Free (800) 519-0098 Fax (505) 326-0045
 Serving the Southwest & Rocky Mountains
www.soudermiller.com

SITE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
CHUZA TANK BATTERY
SAN JUAN COUNTY, NM

Designed SAH	Drawn SAH	Checked SAH
Date: APRIL 24, 2025		
Scale: Horiz: Vert:		
Project No: 5133841		
Sheet: FIGURE 1		



0 FT 50 FT 100 FT



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SITE BGT MAP
 CHUZA TANK BATTERY
 SAN JUAN COUNTY, NM

Designed SAH	Drawn SAH	Checked SAH
Date: APRIL 24, 2025		
Scale: Horiz: Vert:		
Project No: 5133841		
Sheet: FIGURE 2		

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

CONDITIONS

Action 456856

CONDITIONS

Operator: CHUZA OIL COMPANY Pmb#306 2844 East Main Street Farmington, NM 87402	OGRID: 279508
	Action Number: 456856
	Action Type: [IM-SD] Facility File Support Doc (ENV) (IM-BFF)

CONDITIONS

Created By	Condition	Condition Date
jburdine	The Chuza Tank Battery was operated by Chuza Oil Company, a company which stopped operations in 2017, filed bankruptcy in 2018, and is no longer a registered company. As an abandoned tank battery, this facility was considered under New Mexico's Oil Conservation Division (OCD) orphan well clean-up program. Chuza Oil Company remains the listed facility operator, but the site is now under care of OCD. The facility contains bulk storage tanks, including a below grade fiberglass waste tank. Souder, Miller & Associates (SMA) seeks closure of the below grade tank (BGT) as part of site remediation and reclamation. Note that SMA is not acting as agent or representing Chuza Oil Company in any legal or official capacity. C-144 closure plan submitted by OCD Environmental Projects team per orphan well cleanup program guidelines.	4/29/2025