

1R - 425-11

**APPROVALS**

**YEAR(S):**

2012

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**Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD**

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**From:** Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 18, 2012 4:11 PM  
**To:** 'Hack Conder'  
**Cc:** Leking, Geoffrey R, EMNRD; 'Katie Jones'; 'Laura Pena'; 'Scott Curtis'  
**Subject:** Remediation Plan (1R425-11) Termination - ROC Vacuum Jct K-30 Site

**RE: Termination Request  
for the Rice Operating Company's  
Vacuum Jct K-30 Site  
Unit Letter K, Section 30, T17S, R35E, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico  
Remediation Plan (1R425-11) Termination**

Dear Mr. Conder:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has received Rice Operating Company's report and request to close the above-referenced site, dated April 4, 2012 (received April 9, 2012). The report is acceptable to the OCD.

The above-referenced report, submitted in accordance with 19.15.29 NMAC (Rule 29; formally, Rule 116), indicates that Rice Operating Company has met the requirements of 19.15.29 NMAC; therefore, the OCD approves the report and hereby notifies you that the remediation plan (1R425-11) is terminated in accordance with 19.15.29 NMAC.

Please be advised that OCD approval of this report does not relieve the owner/operator of responsibility should operations pose a threat to ground water, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve the owner/operator of responsibility for compliance with any OCD, federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 505-476-3489.

Edward J. Hansen  
Hydrologist  
Environmental Bureau

# RICE *Operating Company*

122 West Taylor • Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

Phone: (575) 393-9174 • Fax: (575) 397-1471

April 4, 2012

RECEIVED

Mr. Edward Hansen  
New Mexico Energy, Minerals, & Natural Resources  
Oil Conservation Division, Environmental Bureau  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

APR - 5 2012

Oil Conservation Division  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: Termination Request  
Vacuum Jct. K-30 (1R425-11): UL/K, Sec. 30, T17S, R35E  
RICE Operating Company – Vacuum SWD System

Mr. Hansen:

Rice Operating Company (ROC) is the service provider (agent) for the abandoned Vacuum Saltwater Disposal (SWD) System and has no ownership of any portion of the pipeline, well, or facility. The System is owned by a consortium of oil producers, System Parties, who provide all operating capital on a percentage ownership/usage basis.

## **Background**

In 2005, ROC initiated work on the former K-30 junction box as part of the system abandonment. The site is located in UL/K, Sec. 30, T17S, R35E. NM OSE records indicate that groundwater would likely be encountered at a depth of approximately 96 +/- feet. The site was delineated using a backhoe to collect soil samples at regular intervals, creating an 8x3x7-ft deep excavation. Each sample was field titrated for chlorides and field screened using a PID for hydrocarbons, resulting in low concentrations of each. The 7-ft sample was sent to a commercial laboratory for analysis of chloride and TPH, resulting in a chloride concentration of 139 mg/kg, and concentrations of gasoline range organics (GRO) and diesel range organics (DRO) below detectable limits. The excavated soil was blended on site then returned to the excavation to ground surface and contoured to the surrounding area. On 11/23/2005, the site was seeded with a blend of native vegetation and is expected to return to a productive capacity at a normal rate. The junction box final report, photo documentation, laboratory analysis, and PID sheet are attached.

**Recommendations**

Site investigation demonstrates that residual chloride and hydrocarbons in the vadose zone will not with reasonable probability contaminate groundwater in excess of NMOCD standards. This site meets the requirements of the NMOCD-approved Revised Junction Box Upgrade Work Plan (July 16, 2003). As such, ROC request termination of the regulatory file, or similar closure status.

Please contact me at (575)393-9174 if you have any questions or wish to discuss this site. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
RICE Operating Company

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Conder", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hack Conder  
Environmental Manager

enclosures

**RICE OPERATING COMPANY  
JUNCTION BOX FINAL REPORT**

**BOX LOCATION**

SWD SYSTEM	JUNCTION	UNIT	SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE	COUNTY	BOX DIMENSIONS - FEET		
Vacuum	jct. K-30	K	30	17S	35E	Lea	Length	Width	Depth
							no box--System abandonment		

LAND TYPE: BLM \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ FEE LANDOWNER Pearce Trust OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

Depth to Groundwater 96 feet NMOCD SITE ASSESSMENT RANKING SCORE: 10

Date Started 9/7/2005 Date Completed 11/23/2005 NMOCD Witness no

Soil Excavated 6 cubic yards Excavation Length 8 Width 3 Depth 7 feet

Soil Disposed 0 cubic yards Offsite Facility n/a Location n/a

**FINAL ANALYTICAL RESULTS:** Sample Date 9/7/2005 Sample Depth 7 ft

TPH and chloride laboratory test results completed by using an approved laboratory and testing procedures pursuant to NMOCD guidelines.

**CHLORIDE FIELD TESTS**

Sample Location	PID ppm	GRO mg/kg	DRO mg/kg	Chloride mg/kg
GRAB @ 7 ft BGS	0.0	<10.0	<10.0	139

LOCATION	DEPTH (ft)	ppm
vertical delineation trench at junction	2	187
	3	121
	4	104
	5	111
	6	131
	7	182

**General Description of Remedial Action:**

This junction box was addressed as

part of the Vacuum SWD System abandonment. After removal of the box materials, a delineation trench was made at the former junction site using a backhoe while soil samples were collected 2-7 ft BGS. Chloride field tests were conducted on the samples and exhibited very low concentrations similar to background level. PID screenings were also performed on each sample and VOC concentrations were also considerably low. A grab sample at 7 ft BGS was analyzed at a laboratory for confirmation of field tests. TPH was not present within the lab's detection limits (<10.0 ppm), meeting NMOCD guidelines. The excavated soil was blended on site and then backfilled into the trench and contoured to the surrounded terrain. The disturbed surface was seeded with a blend of native vegetation and is expected to return to productive capacity at a normal rate. Since the System is no longer active, a new junction box is not required.

enclosures: chloride graph, photos, lab results, PID field screenings

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION ABOVE IS TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.

SITE SUPERVISOR Roy Rascon SIGNATURE Roy R. Rascon COMPANY RICE Operating Company

REPORT ASSEMBLED BY Kristin Farris Pope SIGNATURE Kristin Farris Pope

DATE 12/13/2005 TITLE Project Scientist

# Vacuum jct. K-30

Unit 'K', Sec. 30, R17S, R35E



undisturbed junction box

6/1/2005



box removed

7/12/2005





delineation trench before backfilling

11/21/2005



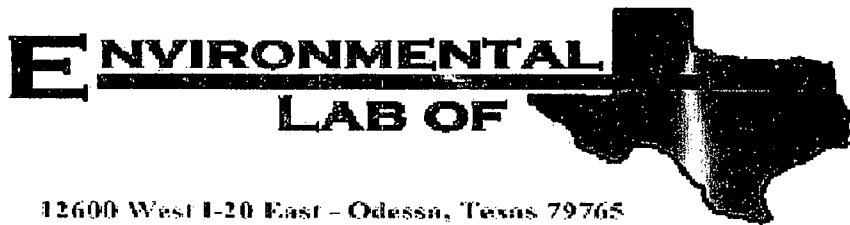
backfilling and compacting

11/21/2005



seeding

11/23/2005



COPY

## Analytical Report

**Prepared for:**

Roy Rascon  
Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs, NM 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. K-30  
Project Number: None Given  
Location: None Given

Lab Order Number: 5I09005

Report Date: 09/19/05



Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs NM, 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. K-30  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471  
**Reported:**  
09/19/05 10:20

**ANALYTICAL REPORT FOR SAMPLES**

Sample ID	Laboratory ID	Matrix	Date Sampled	Date Received
Vert.@ 7'	5I09005-01	Soil	09/07/05 14:48	09/09/05 07:30

Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs NM, 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. K-30  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471  
**Reported:**  
09/19/05 10:20

**Organics by GC**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Dilution	Batch	Prepared	Analyzed	Method	Notes
<b>Vert.@ 7' (5I09005-01) Soil</b>									
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	ND	10.0	mg/kg dry	1	EI50912	09/09/05	09/11/05	EPA 8015M	
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	ND	10.0	"	"	"	"	"	"	
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	ND	10.0	"	"	"	"	"	"	
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane</i>		<i>91.4 %</i>	<i>70-130</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane</i>		<i>81.8 %</i>	<i>70-130</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	

Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs NM, 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. K-30  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471  
**Reported:**  
09/19/05 10:20

**General Chemistry Parameters by EPA / Standard Methods**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Dilution	Batch	Prepared	Analyzed	Method	Notes
<b>Vert.@ 7' (5109005-01) Soil</b>									
<b>Chloride</b>	<b>139</b>	5.00	mg/kg	10	EI51507	09/14/05	09/14/05	EPA 300.0	
<b>% Moisture</b>	<b>9.9</b>	0.1	%	1	EI51214	09/09/05	09/13/05	% calculation	

Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs NM, 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. K-30  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471  
Reported:  
09/19/05 10:20

**Organics by GC - Quality Control**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Spike Level	Source Result	%REC	%REC Limits	RPD	RPD Limit	Notes
<b>Batch EI50912 - Solvent Extraction (GC)</b>										
<b>Blank (EI50912-BLK1)</b> Prepared: 09/09/05 Analyzed: 09/11/05										
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	ND	10.0	mg/kg wet							
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	ND	10.0	"							
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	ND	10.0	"							
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	50.7		mg/kg	50.0		101	70-130			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	46.8		"	50.0		93.6	70-130			
<b>LCS (EI50912-BS1)</b> Prepared: 09/09/05 Analyzed: 09/11/05										
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	398	10.0	mg/kg wet	500		79.6	75-125			
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	379	10.0	"	500		75.8	75-125			
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	777	10.0	"	1000		77.7	75-125			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	48.3		mg/kg	50.0		96.6	70-130			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	48.3		"	50.0		96.6	70-130			
<b>Calibration Check (EI50912-CCV1)</b> Prepared: 09/09/05 Analyzed: 09/12/05										
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	425		mg/kg	500		85.0	80-120			
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	412		"	500		82.4	80-120			
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	837		"	1000		83.7	80-120			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	51.0		"	50.0		102	0-200			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	61.1		"	50.0		122	0-200			
<b>Matrix Spike (EI50912-MS1)</b> Source: 5I09001-01 Prepared: 09/09/05 Analyzed: 09/11/05										
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	403	10.0	mg/kg dry	533	ND	75.6	75-125			
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	406	10.0	"	533	ND	76.2	75-125			
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	809	10.0	"	1070	ND	75.6	75-125			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	43.1		mg/kg	50.0		86.2	70-130			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	40.0		"	50.0		80.0	70-130			
<b>Matrix Spike Dup (EI50912-MSD1)</b> Source: 5I09001-01 Prepared: 09/09/05 Analyzed: 09/11/05										
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	403	10.0	mg/kg dry	533	ND	75.6	75-125	0.00	20	
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	402	10.0	"	533	ND	75.4	75-125	0.990	20	
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	805	10.0	"	1070	ND	75.2	75-125	0.496	20	
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	44.9		mg/kg	50.0		89.8	70-130			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	44.4		"	50.0		88.8	70-130			

Environmental Lab of Texas

The results in this report apply to the samples analyzed in accordance with the samples received in the laboratory. This analytical report must be reproduced in its entirety, with written approval of Environmental Lab of Texas.

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Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs NM, 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. K-30  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471  
**Reported:**  
09/19/05 10:20

**General Chemistry Parameters by EPA / Standard Methods - Quality Control**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Spike Level	Source Result	%REC	%REC Limits	RPD	RPD Limit	Notes
<b>Batch EI51214 - General Preparation (Prep)</b>										
<b>Blank (EI51214-BLK1)</b>				Prepared: 09/09/05 Analyzed: 09/13/05						
% Solids	100		%							
<b>Duplicate (EI51214-DUP1)</b>				Source: 5I08021-02 Prepared: 09/09/05 Analyzed: 09/13/05						
% Solids	95.3		%		95.5			0.210	20	
<b>Duplicate (EI51214-DUP2)</b>				Source: 5I09013-05 Prepared: 09/09/05 Analyzed: 09/13/05						
% Solids	99.2		%		99.0			0.202	20	
<b>Duplicate (EI51214-DUP3)</b>				Source: 5I09010-03 Prepared: 09/09/05 Analyzed: 09/13/05						
% Solids	90.9		%		90.2			0.773	20	
<b>Batch EI51507 - Water Extraction</b>										
<b>Blank (EI51507-BLK1)</b>				Prepared & Analyzed: 09/14/05						
Chloride	ND	0.500	mg/kg							
<b>LCS (EI51507-BS1)</b>				Prepared & Analyzed: 09/14/05						
Chloride	8.62		mg/L	10.0		86.2	80-120			
<b>Calibration Check (EI51507-CCV1)</b>				Prepared & Analyzed: 09/14/05						
Chloride	9.06		mg/L	10.0		90.6	80-120			
<b>Duplicate (EI51507-DUP1)</b>				Source: 5I09001-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 09/14/05						
Chloride	801	10.0	mg/kg		796			0.626	20	

Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs NM, 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. K-30  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471  
**Reported:**  
09/19/05 10:20

### Notes and Definitions

DET Analyte DETECTED  
ND Analyte NOT DETECTED at or above the reporting limit  
NR Not Reported  
dry Sample results reported on a dry weight basis  
RPD Relative Percent Difference  
LCS Laboratory Control Spike  
MS Matrix Spike  
Dup Duplicate

Report Approved By:

*Raland K Tuttle*

Date:

9/19/05

Raland K. Tuttle, Lab Manager  
Celey D. Keene, Lab Director, Org. Tech Director  
Peggy Allen, QA Officer

Jeanne Mc Murrey, Inorg. Tech Director  
LaTasha Cornish, Chemist  
Sandra Sanchez, Lab Tech.

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If you have received this material in error, please notify us immediately at 432-563-1800.

Environmental Lab of Texas

*The results in this report apply to the samples analyzed in accordance with the samples received in the laboratory. This analytical report must be reproduced in its entirety, with written approval of Environmental Lab of Texas.*

Page 6 of 6



Phone: 915-563-1800  
Fax: 915-563-1713

Project Manager: Roy Rascon  
Company Name: RICE Operating  
Company Address: 122 W. Taylor  
City/State/Zip: Hobbs, NM 88240  
Telephone No: (505) 393-9174 Fax No: (505) 397-1471  
Sampler Signature: Roy R. Rascon

Project Name: VAC. Jet K-30

Project #: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Loc: \_\_\_\_\_

PO #:

Sampler Signature:		Date		Time		Received by:		Date	Time
<i>[Signature]</i>		9-7-05		1650		<i>[Signature]</i>		9/8	16:00
Relinquished by:		Date	Time	Received by:		Date	Time		
<i>[Signature]</i>		9/9	7:00	<i>[Signature]</i>		9-9-5	6:30		

# Environmental Lab of Texas

## Variance / Corrective Action Report – Sample Log-In

Client: Rice Op.

Date/Time: 9/9/05 7:30

Order #: SI09005

Initials: UK

### Sample Receipt Checklist

Temperature of container/cooler?	Yes	No	0.5	C
Shipping container/cooler in good condition?	Yes	No		
Custody Seals intact on shipping container/cooler?	Yes	No	Not present	
Custody Seals intact on sample bottles?	Yes	No	Not present	
Chain of custody present?	Yes	No		
Sample Instructions complete on Chain of Custody?	Yes	No		
Chain of Custody signed when relinquished and received?	Yes	No		
Chain of custody agrees with sample label(s)	Yes	No		
Container labels legible and intact?	Yes	No		
Sample Matrix and properties same as on chain of custody?	Yes	No		
Samples in proper container/bottle?	Yes	No		
Samples properly preserved?	Yes	No		
Sample bottles intact?	Yes	No		
Preservations documented on Chain of Custody?	Yes	No		
Containers documented on Chain of Custody?	Yes	No		
Sufficient sample amount for indicated test?	Yes	No		
All samples received within sufficient hold time?	Yes	No		
VOC samples have zero headspace?	Yes	No	Not Applicable	

Other observations:

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### Variance Documentation:

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Contacted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Regarding: \_\_\_\_\_

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Corrective Action Taken:

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RICE OPERATING COMPANY  
122 WEST TAYLOR  
HOBBS, NEW MEXICO 88240  
PHONE: (505) 393-9174 FAX: (505) 397-1471  
**VOC FIELD TEST REPORT FORM**  
MINI RAE PLUS CLASSIC PHOTOIONIZATION GAS DETECTOR

MODEL NO: PGM 761S  
CALIBRATION GAS  
GAS COMPOSITION: ISOBUTYLENE  
AIR  
LOT NO: 04-2747  
EXP. DATE: 6-1-06  
METER READING  
ACCURACY: 100.0

SERIAL NO: 104412

100 PPM  
BALANCE  
FILL DATE: 2-1-06  
ACCURACY: ±1-2%

SYSTEM	JUNCTION	UNIT	SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE
VAC	K-30	K	30	17S	35E

Vert. @ Source

ft  
BGS

SAMPLE	PID RESULT	SAMPLE	PID RESULT
2'	0.0		
3'	16.1		
4'	0.5		
5'	0.0		
6'	0.0		
7'	0.0		

COPY

I certify that I have calibrated the above instrument in accordance to the manufacture operation manual.

Ray K. Larson  
Signature

9-7-05  
Date