


1R - 426-106

**GENERAL  
CORRESPONDENCE**

**YEAR(S):**

2008



# New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

**Joanna Prukop**  
Cabinet Secretary  
**Reese Fullerton**  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

**Mark Fesmire**  
Division Director  
Oil Conservation Division



**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT NO: 3929 4449**

August 12, 2008

Hack Conder  
Rice Operating Company  
122 West Taylor  
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

**RE: REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT ABATEMENT PLAN**

Dear Mr. Conder:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has determined after reviewing your Notification of Groundwater Impact for each of the following four sites:

- 1) Rice Justis E-1 Vent  
Unit E, Section 1, T25S, R37E  
Lea County, New Mexico  
OCD Case #1R0423-06
- 2) Rice BD P-26-1 Vent  
Unit P, Section 26, T21S, R37E  
Lea County, New Mexico  
OCD Case #1R0426-106
- 3) Rice BD P-26-2  
Unit P, Section 26, T21S, R37E  
Lea County, New Mexico  
OCD Case #1R0426-107
- 4) Rice Hobbs Jct. E-4 Vent  
Unit E, Section 4, T19S, R38E  
Lea County, New Mexico  
OCD Case #1R0428-71

Hack Conder  
August 12, 2008  
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that the Rice Operating Company (ROC) must submit for each of the four sites a separate Stage 1 Abatement Plan in accordance with OCD Rule 19 (19.15.1.19 NMAC) to investigate the ground water contamination at each of these sites. The Stage 1 Abatement Plans must be submitted to the OCD Santa Fe Office with a copy provided to the OCD Hobbs District Office and must meet of all the requirements specified in OCD Rule 19 (19.15.1.19 NMAC), including, but not limited to, the public notice and participation requirements specified in Rule 19G. The Stage 1 Abatement Plan is due sixty (60) days from the receipt by ROC of this written notice.

ROC's Stage 1 Abatement Plans must specifically meet all of the requirements specified in OCD Rule 19E.3, including, but not limited to, a site investigation work plan and monitoring program that will enable it to characterize the release using an appropriate number of isoconcentration maps and cross sections that depict the contamination that has been released from the sites and to provide the data necessary to select and design an effective abatement option. ROC may, if it chooses, concurrently submit a Stage 2 Abatement Plan that addresses appropriate proactive abatement options.

ROC should submit one paper copy and an electronic copy on CD for each of the Plans and for all future workplans and/or reports for each of the Plans. Please be sure to include the current corresponding OCD Case # on each of the respective Abatement Plans. An Abatement Plan # will be assigned as each of the Plans are submitted to the OCD. If you have any questions, please contact Edward J. Hansen of my staff at (505) 476-3489 or <mailto:edwardj.hansen@state.nm.us>.

Sincerely,



Wayne Price  
Environmental Bureau Chief

WP:EJH:ejh

cc: Chris Williams, OCD Hobbs District Supervisor  
Larry Johnson, OCD Hobbs