

**BW - \_\_\_\_\_031\_\_\_\_\_**

**PERMITS,  
RENEWALS,  
& MODS**

District I  
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240  
District II  
1301 W. Grand Avenue, Artesia, NM 88210  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410  
District IV  
1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Oil Conservation Division  
1220 South St. Francis Dr.  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Revised June 10, 2003

Submit Original  
Plus 1 Copy  
to Santa Fe  
Copy to Appropriate  
District Office

RECEIVED  
2011 JUL 21 AM 11:52

**DISCHARGE PLAN APPLICATION FOR BRINE EXTRACTION FACILITIES**

(Refer to the OCD Guidelines for assistance in completing the application)

☐ New ☒ Renewal

- I. Facility Name: H.R.C. Brine Facility – Schubert 7 Well #1
- II. Operator: H.R.C., Inc.  
Address: P.O. Box 5102 Hobbs, NM 88241  
Contact Person: Gary M. Schubert Phone: 575-393-3194
- III. Location: NW /4 SE /4 Section 7 Township 19S Range 39E  
Submit large scale topographic map showing exact location.
- IV. Attach the name and address of the landowner of the facility site.
- V. Attach a description of the types and quantities of fluids at the facility.
- VI. Attach a description of all fluid transfer and storage and fluid and solid disposal facilities.
- VII. Attach a description of underground facilities (i.e. brine extraction well).
- VIII. Attach a contingency plan for reporting and clean-up of spills or releases.
- IX. Attach geological/hydrological evidence demonstrating that brine extraction operations will not adversely impact fresh water.
- X. Attach such other information as is necessary to demonstrate compliance with any other OCD rules, regulations and/or orders.
- XI. CERTIFICATION:

*I hereby certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.*

Name: GARY M. SCHUBERT

Title: PRES.

Signature: Gary M. Schubert

Date: 7/18/11

E-mail Address: GARYMSCHUBERT@GMAIL.COM

**H.R.C. BRINE FACILITY**  
**DISCHARGE PLAN RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR**  
**BRINE EXTRACTION FACILITY**

- I. H.R.C. Brine Facility – Schubert 7 Well #1
- II. H.R.C., Inc.  
P.O. Box 5102  
Hobbs, NM 88241  
Gary M. Schubert (575) 393-3194
- III. Brine Well Location:  
NW ¼ of SE ¼ Section 7 Township 19S Range 39E  
Fluid Transfer and Storage Facility:  
SE ¼ of SE ¼ Section 26 Township 19S Range 38E
- IV. Landowner:  
Gary M. and Marcia Schubert  
P.O. Box 5102  
Hobbs, NM 88241  
Lea County tax and ownership records attached.
- V. This facility will store brine water produced from the underground salt formation at the site. No other fluids will be stored at the facility. Salt brine will be recovered up the tubing from the Schubert 7 Well #1 and stored in 500 bbl., above ground tanks. These tanks will be located atop polyethylene with a dike system surrounding them. The diked area will conform to regulations by being capable of holding 133% of the brine tanks combined capacity. The volume of brine production will be determined by demand in association with oil and gas drilling activities, and will vary from month to month. Based on activity at other associated facilities, this volume could be 12,000 to 15,000 barrels per month..
- VI. Fluid Transfer and Storage:  
Treated effluent water (City of Hobbs) will be received at the brine well for injection from the S & H Enterprises Inc. Farm water supply system via polyethylene pipe, the connection to the system is approximately 4 miles south of the Shubert 7 Well #1. The fresh water line will be connected to the suction side of a pump which will pump fresh water down the annulus of the well casing at a rate of approximately 60 barrels per hour and a normal operating pressure from 200-250 psi. Brine water will be produced through the tubing and delivered to the 500 bbl. tanks by polyethylene piping. All piping is low pressure with tank head pressure less than 50 psi. All piping will be above ground and visible for inspection and on site leak detection.

Brine water will is transported from the site by tanker truck for sale and use in oil and gas drilling/production operations. Tanker trucks are positioned inside a polyethylene lined diked loading area to retain fluids in the event of an accidental discharge or

spill. Brine water flows from the storage tanks to the header system by piping positioned above the poly liner. The header system and loading area has been reconfigured to accommodate more trucks with ease of access and more attention to detail concerning spills and leaks as a result of loading. Tank trucks connect to the header valve by hose and the truck pumps pull brine from the storage tanks and discharge into the tanker. When loading is completed, Operators of the trucks will close the header valve and continue to empty the hose. This should prevent any leaks or spills, however, as an additional precaution; above ground drip tanks are located at each valve to mitigate any spillage or drips. During the loading of brine, the station is never unattended as the operator must also fill out a run ticket with volume and destination of the product. These tickets are used for billing and for monitoring the volume of fresh water and brine production.

A meter is installed at the fresh water connection. This meter is used by S & H Farms for billing purposes and by H.R.C. in calculating volumes. The brine well injection pump is a positive displacement system. The pump generally pumps at the same flow rate. A pressure gauge is installed on the pump discharge which records operating pressure and run time. Run time multiplied by pump flow rate gives an indication of water volume pumped into the formation and brine water recovered. Tank gauges, fresh water meter readings, pump run time and product run tickets are all compared to assess the integrity of the operation. The volume of fresh water injected and the volume of brine produced will be recorded monthly and submitted to the OCD office in Santa Fe on a quarterly schedule.

Tanks and piping are above ground for leak detection and quick response. Diked areas prevent storm water run-off. Any water that does accumulate will be vacuumed up and hauled to an OCD approved disposal facility. H.R.C. makes daily inspections of the facility for leaks and damaged equipment, with these records being kept on file, including any corrections or repairs to the facility.

After original approval the casing was pressure tested for integrity. The MIT testing schedule has remained in effect for the 5 year schedule. The tubing-casing formation test is still conducted annually to insure integrity.

No fluids or solids are disposed of on site. All brine fluids will be sold for use or stored in tanks. In the event it becomes necessary to dispose of brine fluids, they will be taken to an OCD approved facility for disposition. Any solids requiring disposal will also be taken to an OCD approved facility.

#### Closure Plan:

In the event it becomes necessary to abandon this facility, the well will be properly plugged and abandoned according to the specifications recommended by the OCD at the time of closure, and will meet the groundwater protection requirements of the WQCC. All fluids and solids that remain will be transported to an OCD approved waste facility for disposition. After all surface equipment is removed; the area will be remediated and graded in a manner to reflect its original condition.

VII. Description of Underground Facilities:

The brine well's construction and piping are the only underground facilities. A schematic of the completion and its existing status are included.

The well contains 8 5/8" production casing set at approximately 1600' with cement circulated to surface. 2 7/8" production tubing drilled into salt cavity and set approximately 2400'.

General operation is to pump fresh water down the tubing casing annulus and produce brine up the tubing. Once a month the flow is reversed for 24 hours to dissolve any buildup in the tubing.

Mechanical integrity tests are conducted on the well and salt dome foundation as OCD designates. The well and formation are pressured up to one and one half times the normal operating pressure and shut in for four hours with pressure recorded on a pressure chart. The OCD notifies H.R.C. of the date and time for testing so it can be witnessed.

Cavity configuration tests will be conducted as required by OCD to determine size and orientation of the mined cavity. Although the Cavity Configuration Test is due this year, H.R.C. would respectfully request that it be deferred till a later date. Supporting evidence of this request includes the references to all fresh and brine water is metered, all MIT initiated by the OCD have been passed and this particular facility is relatively new in its operation in comparison to the fiscal responsibility of the test to be conducted.

The OCD office will be notified for approval prior to any drilling, deepening, or plug back operations, as well as any remedial work, altering the well or if a plugging procedure has been initiated, using the appropriate forms and notification channels.

VIII. Reporting and Cleanup of Spills:

All above ground piping and tanks are visually inspected for leaks by company personnel during each site visit. Any associated problems with leaks or damage to equipment, or well abnormality will be taken to the attention of H.R.C. supervisor immediately. The supervisor will assess the problem and proceed with proper notification and corrective actions to resolve the issue as required by rule 116.

IX. Site Characteristics:

The brine storage facility is located southeast of Hobbs, NM adjacent to county road #56. The area is relatively flat with only slight differences in elevation. There is no surface water within close proximity to the site. Average rainfall for this area is 12 to 15 inches annually. The last recorded 100 year flood was in 1990, where 10 inches of rain was recorded in a 24 hour period. In normal conditions, rain soaks in and is absorbed into the soil as fast as it precipitates. With the present facility design, it is highly unlikely any run off or run on of the property would occur. If, in the future, problems were to occur, revisions to the discharge plan for this facility would be incorporated.

Hydrology:

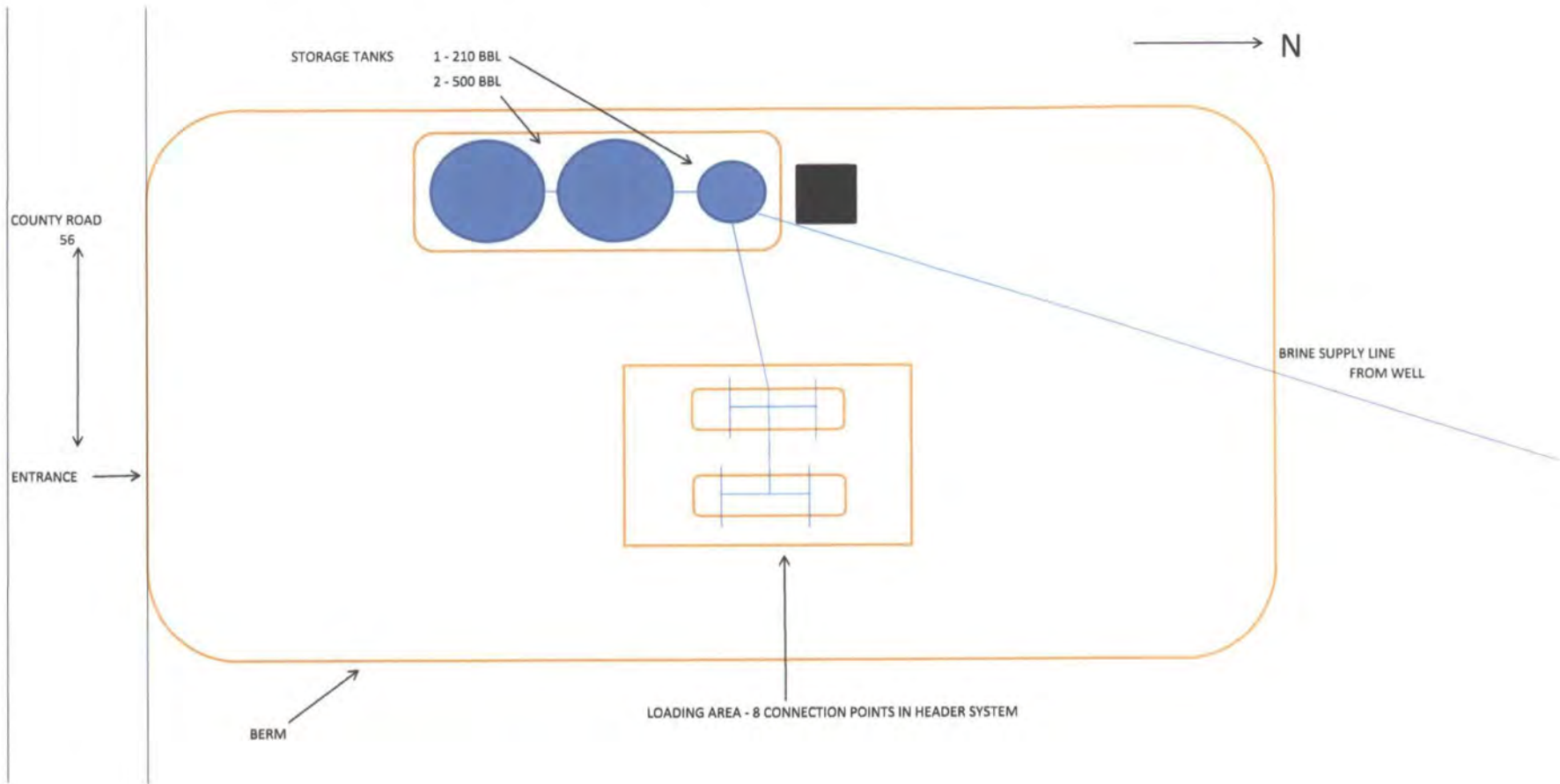
Underground aquifers in this area are the Ogallala and Quaternary Alluvium formations. The groundwater in these formations is unconfined where the underlying red beds are relatively impermeable. This underlying layer prevents further downward or upward movement. From information reviewed, the groundwater flow from the Ogallala flows to the south, southeast and ranges in water level from 50' to 70' below ground surface, with the average depth of water supply wells being 150'. Please find attached a list of wells within the general area and analytical results from one of them.

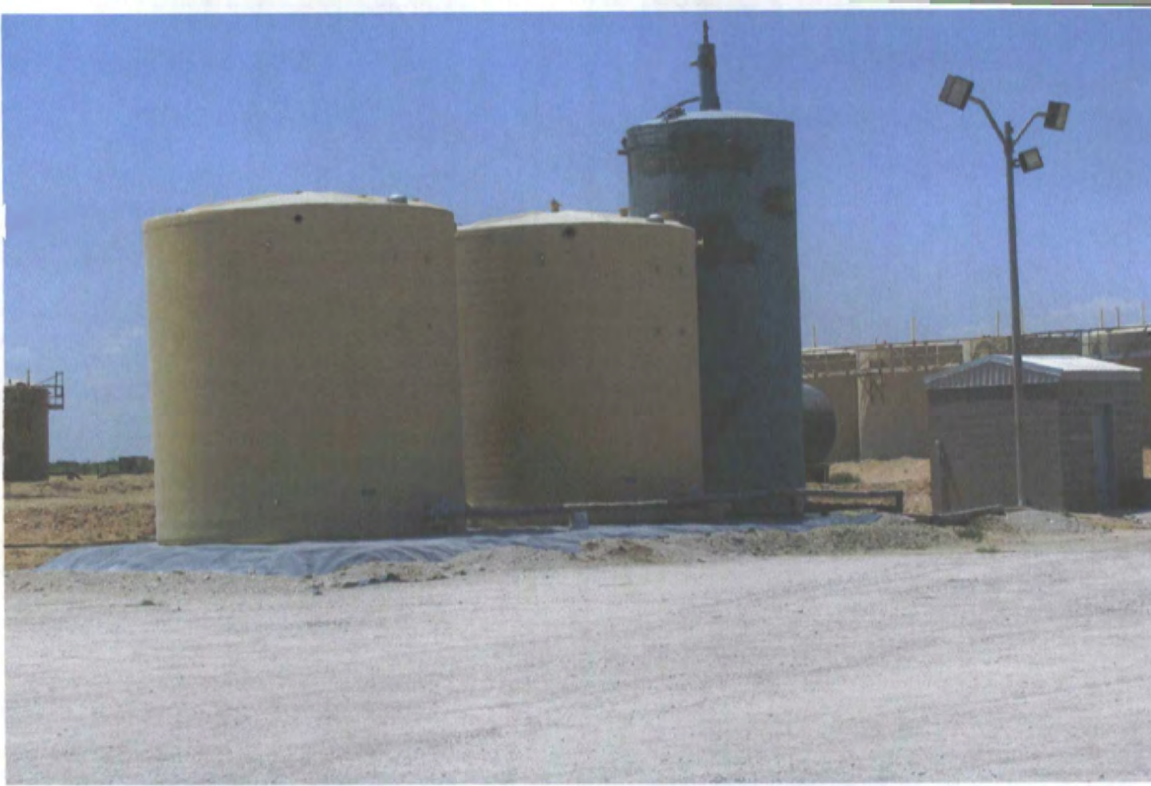
Geology:

The location of the facility is within the region known as the Central Basin Platform of the Permian Basin. The sub-surface formations are transitional between the Delaware Basin's back reef or shelf area and the platform. The brine product is from the Salado formation of the Ochoa series. This series is of upper Permian Age, and extends across the Delaware Basin, Central Basin Platform, thins and pinches out on the eastern shelf. Layers in this series are predominately evaporates which contain strings of dolomite, shale, siltstone, and sandstone. The thickness of the salt section averages around 1000'. The Triassic rock overlying the Permian formation is the Dockum group, and is divisible into the Santa Rosa sandstone and Chinle formation. The Tertiary rocks are represented by the Ogallala formation and ranges in thickness from 0' to 300' within this generalized area. Chiefly calcareous, unconsolidated sand, clay, silt and gravel, this formation is where most of Lea County obtains its drinking water from.

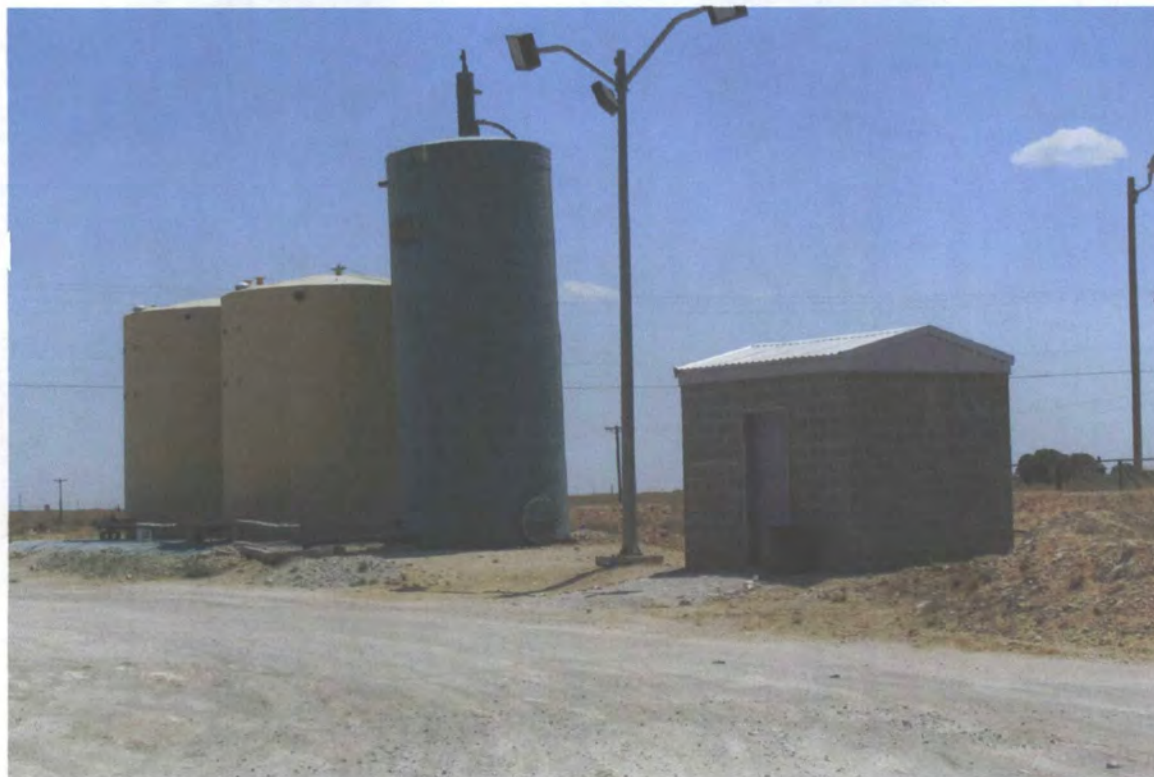
- X. H.R.C., Inc. will comply with any rule, regulation or order which the OCD currently has or any new rule and regulation that pertains to this type of facility that OCD may initiate in the future.

H.R.C., INC.  
BRINE STORAGE/LOADING FACILITY











Mr. Gary Schubert

May 29, 2002

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**ATTACHMENT TO THE DISCHARGE PLAN BW-031 APPROVAL**  
**H.R.C. Inc. Schubert '7' Well No.1 Brine Station (BW-031)**  
**DISCHARGE PLAN APPROVAL CONDITIONS**  
**June 22, 2006**

1. Payment of Discharge Plan Fees: The \$100.00 filing fee has been received by OCD. The \$1700.00 flat fee shall be submitted upon receipt of this approval. The required flat fee may be paid in a single payment due at the time of approval, or in equal annual installments over the duration of the plan, with the first payment due upon receipt of this approval.
2. Commitments: H.R.C. Inc. will abide by all commitments submitted in the discharge plan application, subsequent information supplied and these conditions for approval.
3. Production Method: Fresh water (City of Hobbs effluent) will be injected down the casing and brine shall be recovered up the tubing. Reverse flow will be allowed only once a month for up to 24 hours for clean out.
4. Maximum Injection Pressure: The maximum operating injection and/or test pressure at the well head will be such that the fracture pressure of the injection formation will not be exceeded and will not cause new fractures or propagate existing fractures or cause damage to the system.

**The maximum injection pressure will be limited to 250 psig and the maximum test pressure will not exceed 375 psig.**

5. Mechanical Integrity Testing: H.R.C. Inc. will conduct an annual open to formation pressure test by pressuring up the formation with fluids to 375 psig for four hours. However, no operator may exceed surface injection or test pressures that may cause formation fracturing (see item 4 above) or system failures. Systems requiring test pressures less than 300 psig or methods that use testing media other than fluids, i.e. gas, must be approved by OCD prior to testing. Brine supply wells operating with isolation packers will have to pressure test both the cavern formation and casing/tubing annuals.

At least once every five years and during well work-overs the cavern formation will be isolated from the casing/tubing annuals and the casing pressure tested at 300 psig for 30 minutes. All pressure test must be witnessed by OCD.

Mr. Gary Schubert  
May 29, 2002  
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6. Production/Injection Volumes/Annual Report: The volumes of fluids injected (fresh water) and produced (brine) will be recorded monthly and submitted to the OCD Santa Fe Office in an annual report due on the thirty-first (31) day of January of each year.
7. Analysis of Injection Fluid and Brine: Provide an analysis of the injection fluid and brine with each annual report. Analysis will be for General Chemistry (Method 40 CFR 136.3) using EPA methods.
8. Drum Storage: All drums containing materials other than fresh water must be stored on an impermeable pad with curbing. All empty drums should be stored on their sides with the bungs in place and lined up on a horizontal plane. Chemicals in other containers such as sacks or buckets must also be stored on an impermeable pad with curbing.
9. Process Areas: All process and maintenance areas which show evidence that leaks and spills are reaching the ground surface must be either paved and curbed or have some type of spill collection device incorporated into the design.
10. Above Ground Tanks: All above ground tanks which contain fluids other than fresh water must be bermed to contain a volume of one-third more than the total volume of the largest tank or of all interconnected tanks. All new facilities or modifications to existing facilities must place the tank on an impermeable type pad within the berm.
11. Above Ground Saddle Tanks: Above ground saddle tanks must have impermeable pad and curb type containment unless they contain fresh water or fluids that are gases at atmospheric temperature and pressure.
12. Labeling: All tanks, drums, and other containers should be clearly labeled to identify their contents and other emergency information necessary if the tank were to rupture, spill, or ignite.
13. Below Grade Tanks/Sumps: All below grade tanks, sumps, and pits must be approved by the OCD prior to installation or upon modification and must incorporate secondary containment and leak-detection into the design. All pre-existing sumps and below-grade tanks must be tested to demonstrate their mechanical integrity no later than December 31, 2002 and every year from tested date, thereafter. Permittees may propose various methods for testing such as pressure testing to 3 pounds per square inch above normal operating pressure and/or visual inspection of cleaned out tanks and/or sumps, or other OCD approved methods. The OCD will be notified at least 72 hours prior to all testing. The test results will be submitted to OCD in the annual report.



Mr. Gary Schubert  
May 29, 2002  
Page 5

14. Underground Process/Wastewater Lines: All underground process/wastewater pipelines must be tested to demonstrate their mechanical integrity no later than December 31, 2002 and every 5 years, from tested date, thereafter. Permittees may propose various methods for testing such as pressure testing to 3 pounds per square inch above normal operating pressure or other means acceptable to the OCD. The OCD will be notified at least 72 hours prior to all testing. The test results will be submitted to OCD in the first annual report.
15. Class V Wells: No Class V wells that inject non-hazardous industrial wastes or a mixture of industrial wastes and domestic wastes will be approved for construction and/or operation unless it can be demonstrated that groundwater will not be impacted in the reasonably foreseeable future. Leach fields and other wastewater disposal systems at OCD regulated facilities which inject non-hazardous fluid into or above an underground source of drinking water are considered Class V injection wells under the EPA UIC program. Class V wells that inject domestic waste only must be permitted by the New Mexico Environment Department.
16. Well Work Over Operations: OCD approval will be obtained from the Director prior to performing remedial work, pressure test or any other Work over. Approval will be requested on OCD Form C-103 "Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells" (OCD Rule 1103.A.) with appropriate copies sent to the OCD Hobbs District Office.
17. Housekeeping: All systems designed for spill collection/prevention, and leak detection will be inspected daily to ensure proper operation and to prevent overtopping or system failure. All spill collection and/or secondary containment devices will be emptied of fluids within 48 hours of discovery. A record of inspections will be retained on site for a period of five years.
18. Spill Reporting: All spills/releases shall be reported pursuant to OCD Rule 116. and WQCC 1203. to the OCD Hobbs District Office.
19. Waste Disposal: All wastes will be disposed of at an OCD approved facility. Only oilfield exempt wastes shall be disposed of down Class II injection wells. Non-exempt oilfield wastes that are non-hazardous may be disposed of at an OCD approved facility upon proper waste determination per 40 CFR Part 261. Any waste stream that is not listed in the discharge plan will be approved by OCD on a case-by-case basis.
20. Rule 712 Waste: Pursuant to Rule 712, disposal of certain non-domestic waste is allowed at solid waste facilities permitted by the New Mexico Environment Department as long as the waste stream is identified in the discharge plan, and existing process knowledge of the waste stream does not change without notification to the Oil Conservation Division.

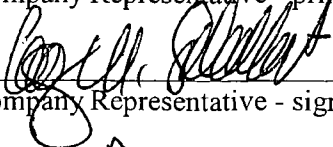
21. Transfer of Discharge Plan: The OCD will be notified prior to any transfer of ownership, control, or possession of a facility with an approved discharge plan. A written commitment to comply with the terms and conditions of the previously approved discharge plan must be submitted by the purchaser and approved by the OCD prior to transfer.
22. Closure: The OCD will be notified when operations of the facility are discontinued for a period in excess of six months. Prior to closure of the facility a closure plan will be submitted for approval by the Director. Closure and waste disposal will be in accordance with the statutes, rules and regulations in effect at the time of closure.
23. OCD Inspections: Additional requirements may be placed on the facility based upon results from OCD inspections.
24. Storm Water Plan: H.R.C. Inc. will submit in the first annual report a storm water run-off plan for OCD approval.
25. Capacity/ Cavity Configuration and Subsidence Survey: The operator shall provide information on the size and extent of the solution cavern and geologic/engineering data demonstrating that continued brine extraction will not cause surface subsidence, collapse or damage to property, or become a threat to public health and the environment. This information shall be supplied in each annual report. OCD may require the operator to perform additional well surveys, test, and install subsidence monitoring in order to demonstrate the integrity of the system. If the operator cannot demonstrate the integrity of the system to the satisfaction of the Division then the operator may be required to shut-down, close the site and properly plug and abandoned the well.
26. Monitor Well: The monitor well shall be located along the local groundwater flow direction and directly down-gradient of the brine well and situated within 50 feet of the brine well. The well shall be constructed, developed, purged and samples analyzed pursuant to approved EPA methods. Except for the initial well sampling event as proposed in the discharge plan, the monitor well shall be sampled and analyzed for general chemistry twice a year with the results submitted in the annual report. Discovery of groundwater contamination shall be reported pursuant to Item #18 above.
27. Area of Review: There are no wells located within the applicable area of review.
28. Well Construction / Recompletion: Prior to commencing operations, H.R.C. Inc. will recomplete the existing wellbore to include a water protection string of casing from surface to the "Red Beds". Additionally, the 8-5/8" casing will extend a minimum of 100 feet into the salt section with both strings cemented back to surface.

Mr. Gary Schubert  
May 29, 2002  
Page 7

29. Certification: **H.R.C. Inc.** by the officer whose signature appears below, accepts this permit and agrees to comply with all terms and conditions contained herein. **H.R.C. Inc.** further acknowledges that these conditions and requirements of this permit may be changed administratively by the Division for good cause shown as necessary to protect fresh water, human health and the environment.

Conditions accepted by: **H.R.C. Inc.**

Gary M. Schubert  
Company Representative - print name

 Date 7/24/06  
Company Representative - signature

Title Pres.

HRC, INC.

Water Quality Management Fund

Discharge Permit

7/24/2006

1,700.00

First National Bank

Schubert 7 Well #1

1,700.00



Description		FUND	CES	DFA ORG	DFA ACCT	ED ORG	ED ACCT	AMOUNT	
1	CY Reimbursement Project Tax	064	01		2329	900000	2329134		1
5	Gross Receipt Tax	084	01		1806	900000	4169134		2
3	Air Quality Title V	092	13	1300	0696	900000	4989014		3
4	PRP Prepayments	248	14	1400	0696	900000	4989015		4
2	Climax Chemical Co.	248	14	1400	0696	900000	4989248		5
8	Circle K Reimbursements	248	14	1400	0696	900000	4169027		6
7	Hazardous Waste Permits	339	27	2700	1698	900000	4169339		7
8	Hazardous Waste Annual Generator Fees	339	27	2700	1698	900000	2329029	1700.00	8
10	Water Quality - Oil Conservation Division	341	29		2329	900000	4169029		9
11	Water Quality - GW Discharge Permit	341	29	2900	1696	900000	4169031		10
12	Air Quality Permits	631	31	2600	1696	900000	2919033		11
13	Payments under Protest	651	33		2919	900000	2349001		12
14	Xerox Copies	652	34		2349	900000	2349002		13
15	Ground Water Penalties	652	34		2349	900000	2439003		14
16	Witness Fees	652	34		2349	900000	2349004		15
17	Air Quality Penalties	652	34		2349	900000	2349005		16
18	OSHA Penalties	652	34		2349	900000	2349006		17
19	Prior Year Reimbursement	652	34		2349	900000	2349009		18
20	Surface Water Quality Certification	652	34		2349	900000	2349012		19
21	Jury Duty	652	34		2349	900000	2349014		20
22	CY Reimbursements ( i.e. telephone)	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989201		21
23	UST Owner's List	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989202		22
24	Hazardous Waste Notifiers List	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989203		23
25	UST Maps	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989205		24
26	UST Owner's Update	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989207		25
28	Hazardous Waste Regulations	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989208		26
29	Radiologic Tech. Regulations	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989211		27
30	Superfund CERCLIS List	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989213		28
31	Solid Waste Permit Fees	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989214		29
32	Smoking School	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989222		30
33	SWQB - NPS Publications	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989228		31
34	Radiation Licensing Regulation	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989301		32
35	Sale of Equipment	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989302		33
36	Sale of Automobile	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989814		34
37	Lust Recoveries	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989815		35
38	Lust Repayments	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989801		36
39	Surface Water Publication	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4989242		37
40	Exxon Release Drive Ruidoso - CAF	783	24	2500	0696	900000	4164032		38
41	Emerg. Hazardous Waste Penalties NOV	957	32	0600	1698	900000	4169005		39
42	Radiologic Tech. Certification	987	05	0500	1698	900000	4169020		40
44	Ust Permit Fees	988	20	3100	1696	900000	4169021		41
45	UST Tank Installers Fees	988	20	3100	1696	900000	4169026		42
46	Food Permit Fees	991	28	2600	1696	900000			43
43	Other								

Gross Receipt Tax Required

Site Name &amp; Project Code Required

TOTAL

1700.00

Contact Person:

Wayne Price

Phone:

476-3490

Date:

8/25/06

Received in ASD By:

Date:

RT #:

ST #:

FSB025

Revised 07/07/00

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT  
OF CHECK/CASH

I hereby acknowledge receipt of check No. [REDACTED] dated 7/24/06

or cash received on [REDACTED] in the amount of \$ 1700<sup>00</sup>

from HRC, Inc.

for BW-031

Submitted by: Lawrence Romero Date: 8/25/06

Submitted to ASD by: Lawrence Romero Date: 8/25/06

Received in ASD by: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]

Filing Fee [REDACTED] New Facility [REDACTED] Renewal [REDACTED]

Modification [REDACTED] Other [REDACTED]

Organization Code 521.07 Applicable FY 2004

To be deposited in the Water Quality Management Fund.

Full Payment ☒ or Annual Increment [REDACTED]

HRC, INC.  
P.O. BOX 1606  
HOBBS, NM 88241  
(505) 393-3194

FIRST NATIONAL BANK  
600 W. BENDER (505) 392-9200  
P.O. BOX 460  
HOBBS, NM 88241  
95-43/1122

7/24/2006

PAY  
TO THE  
ORDER OF

Water Quality Management Fund

\$ \*\*1,700.00

One Thousand Seven Hundred and 00/100\*\*\*\*\*

DOLLARS

Water Quality Management Fund  
C/O Oil Conservation Dept.  
1220 S. Saint Francis Dr.  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

MEMO

Schubert 7 Well #1

[Signature]  
[Signature]  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE



# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

**BILL RICHARDSON**

Governor

**Joanna Prukop**

Cabinet Secretary

**Mark E. Fesmire, P.E.**

Director

**Oil Conservation Division**

June 22, 2006

Mr. Gary Schubert  
H.R.C. Inc.  
P.O. Box 5102  
Hobbs, New Mexico 88241

Re: Discharge Plan Application  
H.R.C. Inc. Schubert '7' Well No.1 Brine Well BW-031  
Lea County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Schubert:

The groundwater discharge plan for the Schubert '7' Well No.1 (API No.30-025-36781, formerly Sahara No.1) Brine Well and Station BW-031 operated by H.R.C. Inc. located 2313 feet FSL and 2313 feet FEL (NW/4 SE/4) of Section 7, Township 19 South, Range 39 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico **is hereby approved to construct and operate** under the conditions contained in the enclosed attachment. Enclosed are two copies of the conditions of approval. **Please sign and return one copy to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) Santa Fe Office within 30 working days of receipt of this letter.**

The discharge plan application was submitted on March 23, 2005. Subsequent data was requested by this office and received from H.R.C. Inc. on January 10, 2006. This application including attachments was submitted pursuant to Section 5101.B.3. of the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations. The discharge plan is issued pursuant to Section 5101.A. and 3109.C. Please note Section 3109.G., which provides for possible future amendment of the plan. Please be advised that approval of this plan does not relieve H.R.C. Inc. of liability should operations result in pollution of surface or ground waters, or the environment.

Please be advised that all exposed pits, including lined pits and open top tanks (exceeding 16 feet in diameter) shall be screened, netted, or otherwise rendered nonhazardous to wildlife including migratory birds.

Please note that Section 3104 of the regulations requires that "when a plan has been approved, discharges must be consistent with the terms and conditions of the plan." Pursuant to Section

Attachments: Approval Conditions  
C-101 - APD

**ATTACHMENT TO THE DISCHARGE PLAN BW-031 APPROVAL**  
**H.R.C. Inc. Schubert '7' Well No.1 Brine Station (BW-031)**  
**DISCHARGE PLAN APPROVAL CONDITIONS**  
**June 22, 2006**

1. Payment of Discharge Plan Fees: The \$100.00 filing fee has been received by OCD. The \$1700.00 flat fee shall be submitted upon receipt of this approval. The required flat fee may be paid in a single payment due at the time of approval, or in equal annual installments over the duration of the plan, with the first payment due upon receipt of this approval.
2. Commitments: H.R.C. Inc. will abide by all commitments submitted in the discharge plan application, subsequent information supplied and these conditions for approval.
3. Production Method: Fresh water (City of Hobbs effluent) will be injected down the casing and brine shall be recovered up the tubing. Reverse flow will be allowed only once a month for up to 24 hours for clean out.
4. Maximum Injection Pressure: The maximum operating injection and/or test pressure at the well head will be such that the fracture pressure of the injection formation will not be exceeded and will not cause new fractures or propagate existing fractures or cause damage to the system.

**The maximum injection pressure will be limited to 250 psig and the maximum test pressure will not exceed 375 psig.**

5. Mechanical Integrity Testing: H.R.C. Inc. will conduct an annual open to formation pressure test by pressuring up the formation with fluids to 375 psig for four hours. However, no operator may exceed surface injection or test pressures that may cause formation fracturing (see item 4 above) or system failures. Systems requiring test pressures less than 300 psig or methods that use testing media other than fluids, i.e. gas, must be approved by OCD prior to testing. Brine supply wells operating with isolation packers will have to pressure test both the cavern formation and casing/tubing annually.

At least once every five years and during well work-overs the cavern formation will be isolated from the casing/tubing annually and the casing pressure tested at 300 psig for 30 minutes. All pressure test must be witnessed by OCD.

6. Production/Injection Volumes/Annual Report: The volumes of fluids injected (fresh water) and produced (brine) will be recorded monthly and submitted to the OCD Santa Fe Office in an annual report due on the thirty-first (31) day of January of each year.
7. Analysis of Injection Fluid and Brine: Provide an analysis of the injection fluid and brine with each annual report. Analysis will be for General Chemistry (Method 40 CFR 136.3) using EPA methods.
8. Drum Storage: All drums containing materials other than fresh water must be stored on an impermeable pad with curbing. All empty drums should be stored on their sides with the bungs in place and lined up on a horizontal plane. Chemicals in other containers such as sacks or buckets must also be stored on an impermeable pad with curbing.
9. Process Areas: All process and maintenance areas which show evidence that leaks and spills are reaching the ground surface must be either paved and curbed or have some type of spill collection device incorporated into the design.
10. Above Ground Tanks: All above ground tanks which contain fluids other than fresh water must be bermed to contain a volume of one-third more than the total volume of the largest tank or of all interconnected tanks. All new facilities or modifications to existing facilities must place the tank on an impermeable type pad within the berm.
11. Above Ground Saddle Tanks: Above ground saddle tanks must have impermeable pad and curb type containment unless they contain fresh water or fluids that are gases at atmospheric temperature and pressure.
12. Labeling: All tanks, drums, and other containers should be clearly labeled to identify their contents and other emergency information necessary if the tank were to rupture, spill, or ignite.
13. Below Grade Tanks/Sumps: All below grade tanks, sumps, and pits must be approved by the OCD prior to installation or upon modification and must incorporate secondary containment and leak-detection into the design. All pre-existing sumps and below-grade tanks must be tested to demonstrate their mechanical integrity no later than December 31, 2002 and every year from tested date, thereafter. Permittees may propose various methods for testing such as pressure testing to 3 pounds per square inch above normal operating pressure and/or visual inspection of cleaned out tanks and/or sumps, or other OCD approved methods. The OCD will be notified at least 72 hours prior to all testing. The test results will be submitted to OCD in the annual report.

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14. Underground Process/Wastewater Lines: All underground process/wastewater pipelines must be tested to demonstrate their mechanical integrity no later than December 31, 2002 and every 5 years, from tested date, thereafter. Permittees may propose various methods for testing such as pressure testing to 3 pounds per square inch above normal operating pressure or other means acceptable to the OCD. The OCD will be notified at least 72 hours prior to all testing. The test results will be submitted to OCD in the first annual report.
15. Class V Wells: No Class V wells that inject non-hazardous industrial wastes or a mixture of industrial wastes and domestic wastes will be approved for construction and/or operation unless it can be demonstrated that groundwater will not be impacted in the reasonably foreseeable future. Leach fields and other wastewater disposal systems at OCD regulated facilities which inject non-hazardous fluid into or above an underground source of drinking water are considered Class V injection wells under the EPA UIC program. Class V wells that inject domestic waste only must be permitted by the New Mexico Environment Department.
16. Well Work Over Operations: OCD approval will be obtained from the Director prior to performing remedial work, pressure test or any other Work over. Approval will be requested on OCD Form C-103 "Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells" (OCD Rule 1103.A.) with appropriate copies sent to the OCD Hobbs District Office.
17. Housekeeping: All systems designed for spill collection/prevention, and leak detection will be inspected daily to ensure proper operation and to prevent overtopping or system failure. All spill collection and/or secondary containment devices will be emptied of fluids within 48 hours of discovery. A record of inspections will be retained on site for a period of five years.
18. Spill Reporting: All spills/releases shall be reported pursuant to OCD Rule 116. and WQCC 1203. to the OCD Hobbs District Office.
19. Waste Disposal: All wastes will be disposed of at an OCD approved facility. Only oilfield exempt wastes shall be disposed of down Class II injection wells. Non-exempt oilfield wastes that are non-hazardous may be disposed of at an OCD approved facility upon proper waste determination per 40 CFR Part 261. Any waste stream that is not listed in the discharge plan will be approved by OCD on a case-by-case basis.
20. Rule 712 Waste: Pursuant to Rule 712, disposal of certain non-domestic waste is allowed at solid waste facilities permitted by the New Mexico Environment Department as long as the waste stream is identified in the discharge plan, and existing process knowledge of the waste stream does not change without notification to the Oil Conservation Division.

21. Transfer of Discharge Plan: The OCD will be notified prior to any transfer of ownership, control, or possession of a facility with an approved discharge plan. A written commitment to comply with the terms and conditions of the previously approved discharge plan must be submitted by the purchaser and approved by the OCD prior to transfer.
22. Closure: The OCD will be notified when operations of the facility are discontinued for a period in excess of six months. Prior to closure of the facility a closure plan will be submitted for approval by the Director. Closure and waste disposal will be in accordance with the statutes, rules and regulations in effect at the time of closure.
23. OCD Inspections: Additional requirements may be placed on the facility based upon results from OCD inspections.
24. Storm Water Plan: H.R.C. Inc. will submit in the first annual report a storm water run-off plan for OCD approval.
25. Capacity/ Cavity Configuration and Subsidence Survey: The operator shall provide information on the size and extent of the solution cavern and geologic/engineering data demonstrating that continued brine extraction will not cause surface subsidence, collapse or damage to property, or become a threat to public health and the environment. This information shall be supplied in each annual report. OCD may require the operator to perform additional well surveys, test, and install subsidence monitoring in order to demonstrate the integrity of the system. If the operator cannot demonstrate the integrity of the system to the satisfaction of the Division then the operator may be required to shut-down, close the site and properly plug and abandoned the well.
26. Monitor Well: The monitor well shall be located along the local groundwater flow direction and directly down-gradient of the brine well and situated within 50 feet of the brine well. The well shall be constructed, developed, purged and samples analyzed pursuant to approved EPA methods. Except for the initial well sampling event as proposed in the discharge plan, the monitor well shall be sampled and analyzed for general chemistry twice a year with the results submitted in the annual report. Discovery of groundwater contamination shall be reported pursuant to Item #18 above.
27. Area of Review: There are no wells located within the applicable area of review.
28. Well Construction / Recompletion: Prior to commencing operations, H.R.C. Inc. will recomplete the existing wellbore to include a water protection string of casing from surface to the "Red Beds". Additionally, the 8-5/8" casing will extend a minimum of 100 feet into the salt section with both strings cemented back to surface.



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29. Certification: **H.R.C. Inc.** by the officer whose signature appears below, accepts this permit and agrees to comply with all terms and conditions contained herein. **H.R.C. Inc.** further acknowledges that these conditions and requirements of this permit may be changed administratively by the Division for good cause shown as necessary to protect fresh water, human health and the environment.

Conditions accepted by: **H.R.C. Inc.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Representative - print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Representative - signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title