## Goetze, Phillip, EMNRD

From:	Goetze, Phillip, EMNRD
Sent:	Wednesday, July 5, 2017 10:51 AM
То:	Mike Pippin (mike@pippinllc.com)
Cc:	Jones, William V, EMNRD; McMillan, Michael, EMNRD; Lowe, Leonard, EMNRD
Subject:	Response Provided by HollyFrontier to Limerock's IPI Application
Attachments:	2017-06-27 Lime Rock Pressure Application Protest with attachments.pdf

RE: Federal T SWD No. 1 (API 30-015-26404) SWD-1135

Mr. Pippin:

As per our discussion, the attached document is HollyFrontier's written response regarding the IPI application for the referenced well. HollyFrontier has requested that the application be denied. The Division is currently considering the report submitted by HollyFrontier and will provide a decision in this matter shortly. Please contact me with any additional questions concerning this subject. PRG

Phillip Goetze, PG Engineering Bureau, Oil Conservation Division New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department 1220 South St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505 Direct: 505.476.3466 E-mail: phillip.goetze@state.nm.us





June 27, 2017

Mr. David Catanach Division Director NMOCD 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87501

Via Email and Federal Express

# RE: REQUEST BY HOLLYFRONTIER TO DENY LIME ROCK'S REQUEST TO INCREASE INJECTION PRESSURES AT FEDERAL T SWD#1 (API # 30-015-26404)

Dear Director Catanach,

On May 8, 2017 Lime Rock Resources II-A L.P. (Lime Rock) requested from the New Mexico Oil Conservation Department (NMOCD) an injection pressure increase for their existing permitted (Order SWD-1135, approved July 16, 2008) salt water disposal well (Federal T SWD #1; API # 3001526404). Their request asks for an increase from the original maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) of 1,480 psig to 2,681 psig. Lime Rock's injection pressure increase (IPI) request is based on and relies on the results of a step rate test performed on this well on May 3, 2017. For the reasons detailed below, HollyFrontier Navajo Refining LLC (HFNR) objects to the requested pressure increase and respectfully requests that NMOCD deny Lime Rock's request.

### **BACKGROUND**

On June 23, 2004 Navajo Refining Company (now HFNR) received from the NMOCD their Approval for Discharge Permit UIC-CLI-008-3 for a Class I non-hazardous waste disposal well (WDW-3; API # 3001526575) to dispose of wastewater from the Navajo Refinery in Artesia, New Mexico. This well is located 790 FSL and 2250 FWL of Section 1, T18S, R27E in Eddy County, New Mexico.

As seen in Figure 1, there are only approximately 2,500 feet separating HNFR's WDW-3 from Lime Rock's Federal T SWD #1, and both wells have completions in the same Cisco zone. The Federal T SWD #1 perforations in the Cisco Formation range from 7,685' to 8,060', and the WDW-3 Cisco perforations run from 7,666' to 8,620'. This overlap allows pressure fronts (and fluids) to migrate from the Lime Rock SWD to HNFR's WDW-3, potentially impairing the function of WDW-3.

HNFR's permit has a maximum allowable operational pressure (MAOP) of 1,550 psig, with no specific limit on the amounts of wastewater injected. From 2008 to 2016, the well (WDW-3; API# 3001526575) has injected an average of approximately 152,000 barrels of wastewater per month. The WDW-3 well is a group of three Class I wells operated by HNFR (WDW-1; API # 3001527592 and WDW-2; API # 3001520894) that also receive non-hazardous wastewater from the HFNR Refinery.

HollyFrontier Navajo Refining LLC 501 East Main • Artesia, NM 88210 (575) 748-3311 • <u>http://www.hollyfrontier.com</u> Mr. David Catanach June 27, 2017 Page 2

These three wells are the Refinery's approved method of disposing their non-hazardous wastewaters, and if reservoir capacity is reached, or pressures exceed MAOPs, HFNR would face significant curtailment of its operations at the plant or a possible shut down.

### **BASIS OF OBJECTIONS**

1: The May 2017 Step Rate Test (SRT) is Not Valid and Cannot Serve as Justification for the Requested IPI Because the Injection Zone in This Well was Extensively Hydrofractured in August 2008

NMOCD records show that on August 13, 2008 the zone from 7,893' to 8,060' was fractured with 5,040 gallons of 15% HCl, 120,372 gallons of Spectra Star 2500, and 167,552 pounds of propant (sand). On August 16, the zone from 7,758' to 8,060' was fractured with 4,500 gallons of 15% HCl, 119,255 gallons of Spectra Star 2500, and 106,750 pounds of sand (see Attachment A).

These fracture jobs are also noted in the well diagram submitted as part of Lime Rock's May 2017. pressure increase application (see Attachment B).

It is clear that the reason that Lime Rock observed that "The formation pressure did not break at a maximum surface pressure of 2681 psi (bottom hole pressure of 4140 psi)…" during their SRT is that the formation had already been broken during the hydrofracturing work done in 2008. For these reasons the step rate test results and conclusions are invalid and cannot form a defensible technical basis for Lime Rock's IPI request.

### 2: HFNR Has Priority of use of this Shared Injection Zone in the Cisco Reservoir

Well WDW-3 was approved in June 2004 as a Class I non-hazardous well and began operations in January 2008. The well was originally spudded in December 1990 by Mewbourne Oil Company and was advanced to 10,120 feet and completed as a Morrow gas well. For economical reasons Mewbourne temporarily shut in the well in 1993. In September 2000 the wellbore was purchased by Navajo Refining as a potential disposal well. Following the 2004 approval of their Class I injection application, Navajo recompleted the well in October 2006 as an injection well, and commenced injection in January 2008. By the end of 2008, Navajo had injected approximately 2,021,000 barrels, and in 2009 over 2,385,000 barrels.

The Devon Federal T SWD #1 was approved as a SWD well in July 2008, over 4 years after the approval of WDW-3. This well was first spudded in June of 1990 Mewbourne Oil Company and was advanced to 10,141 feet and completed as a Morrow gas well. For economical reasons Mewbourne temporarily shut in this well in 1994. The well was acquired by Devon Energy Production in April of 2008, was approved as an SWD in Order SWD-1135 in July of 2008, and re-completed by Devon in August of 2008. Throughout 2008 Devon only injected a total of 190 barrels and in 2009 did not operate the well until September, and only injected 513,281 barrels in that year.

It is clear from this history that Navajo (now HFNR) received NMOCD approval to inject in the Wolfcamp, Cisco and Canyon zones in 2004, four years prior to the Devon (now Lime Rock) 2008 application. Further, HFNR commenced significant injection rates and volumes in January 2008, while Devon only began significant injection in September 2009, 20 months later.

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# 3: Significantly Higher Effort and Expense by the Regulators and the Operator are Required to Permit a Class I Non-Hazardous Well versus a Standard Class II SWD Well

The NMOCD, USEPA Region 6, and HFNR spent significant technical effort, professional time, and costs to perform the analyses required to permit this Class I non-hazardous injection well. This level of investment far exceeds the efforts required to permit a SWD such as Federal T SWD#1.

### 4: WDW-3 Is Critical to the HFNR Refinery Operations

HFNR operates, in addition to WDW-3, two additional Class I disposal wells (WDW-1 and WDW-2), all permitted under the NMOCD UIC program. These wells accept non-exempt, non-hazardous wastewaters from the Refinery, at average total amounts of approximately 15,000 barrels per day, roughly equally distributed among the 3 wells. HFNR has no other current options for disposing of this wastewater, and loss of service of even one of these wells would severely reduce refinery throughput leading to losses of jobs, and diminished revenues for HFNR, contracted operators, and the State.

### 5: Both the Lime Rock and HFNR Injection Wells Share the Same, Continuous Reservoir

Figure 2 is a cross-section showing the geology of injection zones of WDW-3 and Federal T SWD#1. There is clearly an overlap of the injection zones in the Cisco Formation, the lithologies of the Cisco are very similar, and it is clear that there are no stratigraphic or structural barriers between the wells. This direct connection will ensure that increased injection pressure in the Federal T SWD #1 will result in the migration of a pressure wave to WDW-3 that will negatively affect HFNR's ability to stay within their approved MAOP of 1,550 psig surface.

### 6: Increased Injection Pressure by Lime Rock will Raise Reservoir Pressure at WDW-3

Lime Rock proposes to increase the MAOP of their Federal T SWD #1 from 1,480 to 2,681 psig, an increase of approximately 1,200 psig, or over 180% of the current limit. Currently, the HFNR well WDW-3 has seen an annual injection average of 1,315 psig, only 235 psig below their MAOP of 1,550 psig. Only approximately 20% of Lime Rock's requested increase would push reservoir pressures above HFNR's MAOP, making WDW-3 inoperable. If the requested pressure increase is approved, the overlapping perforations in the Cisco Formation, 7,685' to 8,060' in the Federal T SWD #1, and 7,666' to 8,620' in the WDW-3, will allow pressure fronts (and fluids) to migrate from the Lime Rock SWD to HFNR's WDW-3, impairing or precluding successful injection in the WDW-3.

### CONCLUSIONS

In summary, HFNR respectfully requests the NMOCD deny Lime Rock's application for an injection pressure increase for their Federal T SWD #1 for the reasons detailed above. However, should NMOCD see fit to grant this pressure increase, HFNR requests that a corresponding pressure increase be immediately granted to wells WDW-1, WDW-2, and WDW-3, that are completed in the same injection zone.

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If you have any questions or require additional information regarding our request to deny Lime Rock's application please contact me at 575-746-5487 or our technical consultants on this matter Alberto Gutierrez, RG & James C. Hunter, RG at 505-842-8000.

Sincerely,

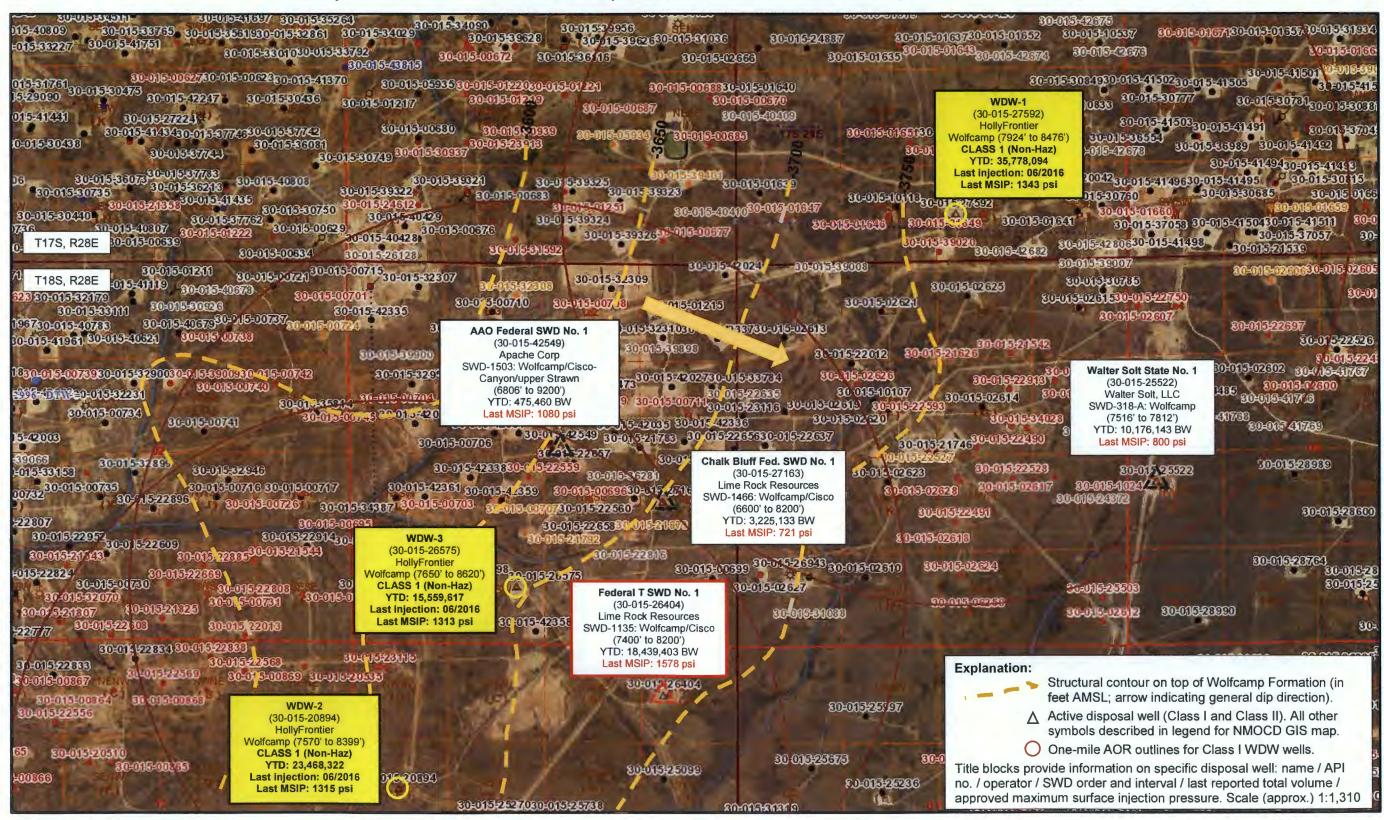
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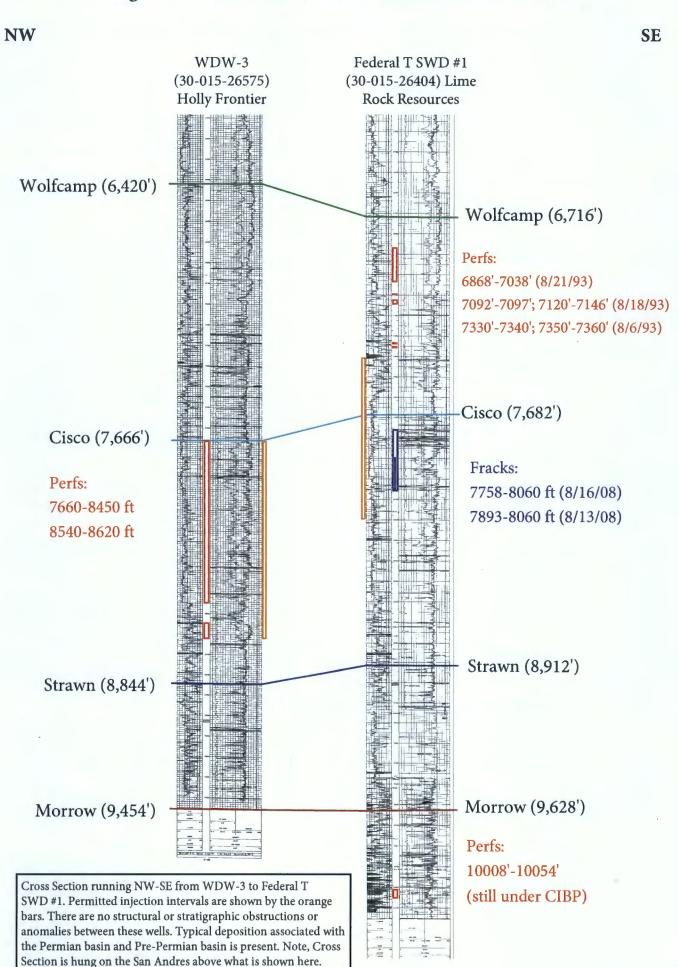
Scott M. Denton Environmental Manager HollyFrontier Navajo Refining LLC

cc: NMOCD – P. Goetze Geolex – A. Gutierrez HFNR – R. Dade FIGURES

## Figure 1:

HollyFrontier Class 1 Wells: Active Disposal Wells Within One-Mile AORs (All three Class 1 wells)





## Figure 2: Cross Section between WDW-3 and Federal T SWD #1

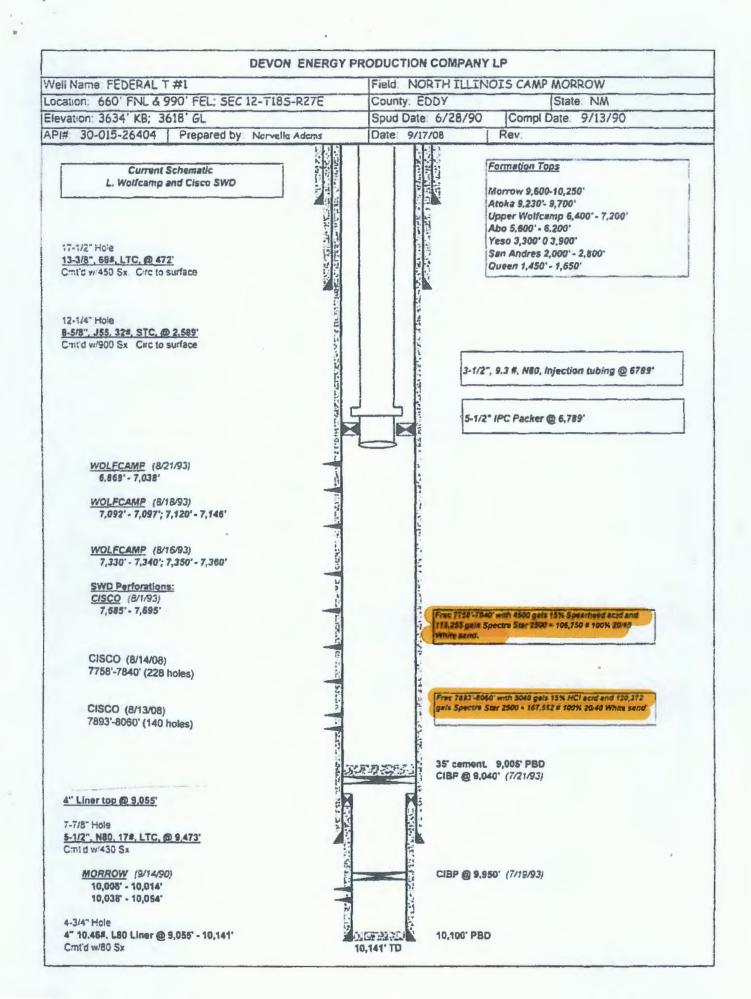
## ATTACHMENT A

BLM FORM 3160-5 REPORTING THE RECOMPLETION AND HYDROFRACTURING OF FEDERAL T SWD#1

Form 3160-5 UNITED STATES (February 2005) DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT	FORM APROVED OMB NO. 1004-0137 EXPIRES: March 31, 2007
SUNDRY NOTICES AND REPORTS ON WELLS	5 Lease Serial No
Do not use this form for proposals to drill or to re-enter an	NM-42410
abandoned well. Use Form 3160-3 (APD) for such proposals	6. If Indian, Allottee or Tribe Name
SUBMIT IN TRIPLICATE - Other instructions on page 2	7. Unit or CA Agreement Name and No.
1. Type of Well	
Oil Well Gas Well Other SWD conversion. Admin Order SWD-1135	5 8 Well Name and No
2. Name of Operator	Federal T 1
DEVON ENERGY PRODUCTION COMPANY, LP	9 API Well No
3a, Address 3b. Phone No. (include area	code) 30-015-26404
20 North Broadway, Oklahoma City, OK 73102 405-552-8198	10. Field and Pool, or Exploratory Area
4 Location of Well (Footage, Sec., T., R., M, or Survey Description)	L.Wolfcamp and Cisco
660 FNL 990 FEL A 12 18S 27E	11. County or Parish, State
	Eddy NM
12. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(es) TO INDICATE NATURE OF NOTI TYPE OS SUBMISSION	CE, REPORT OR OTHER DATA
Notice of Intent	Production (Start/Resume) Water Shut-Off
Alter Casing	Redamation Well Integrity
Subsequent Report Casing Repair New Construction	Recomplete Other
Final Abandonment Notice	Temporarily Abandon
Convert to Injection Plug Back     Describe Proposed or Completed Operations (Clearly state all pertinent details, and give pertinent dates, including estimated date	Water Disposal
<ul> <li>8/07/08 Ran step rate test; pumped 50 bbls at ½ bbl/min – 0# psi, pumped 50 bbls at 1 bbl/min -20# bbls at 3 bbls/min – 170# psi, pumped 50 bbls at 4 bbls/min – 250 psi.</li> <li>8/08/08 Trucked in and established injection in the Wolfcamp at 150 BWPD at 170 psi.</li> <li>8/11/08 Drilled cement retainers at 7745', and 7780'.</li> <li>8/12/08 Drilled cement retainers at 7780' and 8000'. Circulate hole and TOH with tubing and bit.</li> <li>8/13/08 Perforate Cisco from 7893' – 8060', total 140 holes. TIH and set packer at 7688'. Frac with 167,552 # 20/40 White sand.</li> <li>8/14/08 TIH with retrievable tool and latch onto packer. Release packer and TOOH with packer and 228 total holes</li> <li>8/15/08 TIH with packer and set at 7582'. NU frac valve.</li> <li>8/16/08 Frac 7758'-8060' with 4500 gals 15% Spearhead acid + 119,255 gals Spectra 2500 + 106,75</li> <li>8/18/08 Release packer. TOOH with packer and tubing</li> <li>8/20/08 TIH with bailer and bailed sand. Bailed sand to 8460'. TOOH with tubing. ND BOP and NU</li> <li>9/15/08 TIH with packer and tubing. Set packer at 6789'. ND BOP and NU tree Ran MIT test to 50</li> <li>TOOH with tubing. RIH with 3 ½" IPC tubing and set at 6789'. Injection line installation in progress.</li> </ul>	5,040 gals 15% HCl + 120,372 gals Spectra Star 2500 + d tubing. RU wireline and perforate Cisco from 7758'-7840'; 50 # 20/40 100% White sand. RD, flange. Waiting on tubing.
14. I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct Name Norvella Adams Title Sr. Staff Engineering Tec	hniclan
1 al Da	
Signature Date 9/17/2008	
ACCEPTED FOR RECORMS SPACE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE O	FFICE USE
Approved by /S/ DAVID R. GLASS	
Title	Date
SEP 2 9 2008 Acce Conditions of approval, if any are attached. Approval of this notice does not warrant or certify that the applicant holds legal or equitable title to those holds in the subject lease which would entitle the applicant to control or operations thereon. Office	NMOCD
	and the second sec

## ATTACHMENT B

## WELL COMPLETION DIAGRAM PROVIDED IN LIME ROCK'S REQUEST FOR PRESSURE INCREASE SHOWNING ZONES OF HYDROFRACTURING IN FEDERAL T SWD#1



## Goetze, Phillip, EMNRD

From:	Goetze, Phillip, EMNRD
Sent:	Friday, May 19, 2017 11:33 AM
То:	Dade, Lewis (Randy)
Cc:	Chavez, Carl J, EMNRD; Mike Pippin (mike@pippinllc.com); Jones, William V, EMNRD;
	McMillan, Michael, EMNRD
Subject:	Lime Rock's IPI Application for the Federal T SWD No. 1
Attachments:	HollyFrontier Class I Renewals V2.pdf; Lime Rock IPI Appl_Fed T SWD #1.pdf

RE: Federal T SWD No. 1 (API 30-015-26404) SWD-1135

Greetings Mr. Dade:

Hope all is well with you. The Division is forwarding an application for injection pressure increase submitted by Lime Rock for its Federal T SWD No. 1. A copy of the application is attached. Lime Rock is requesting an increase of the surface injection to 2681 psi. The Division has not completed its evaluation of the test data; however, the Division is providing the opportunity for input by HollyFrontier regarding the application for this disposal well and the operation of HollyFrontier's Class I wells that are in proximity to the Federal T. The Division has identified the closest well as being the WDW-3 that is approximately 2,510 feet northwest of the Federal T.

This request is based on the injection interval being common between the HollyFrontier's WDW wells and the Federal T SWD No. 1. Additionally, since HollyFrontier's wells are classified as Class I (Non-Haz), the Division must consider the potential of an approval for a pressure increase and the limitations for Class I wells as stipulated in 40 CFR 146.13. Please submit these documents to your technical staff for consideration and comment. Please contact me with any questions regarding this matter. Thank you. PRG

## Phillip Goetze, PG

Engineering Bureau, Oil Conservation Division New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department 1220 South St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505 Direct 505.476.3466 E-mail: phillip.goetze@state.nm.us



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	[C]	Injection - Disposal - Press				
	[D]	Other: Specify				
]	NOTIFICAT [A]	ION REQUIRED TO: - Che			lot Apply	
	[B]	Offset Operators, Leas	eholders or Surface C	)wner	Po	0/
	[C]	Application is One W	nich Requires Publish	ed Legal Notice		
	[D]	Notification and/or Co U.S. Bureau of Land Management			6	WD'S WOLFOM CISCO 96136
	[E]	For all of the above, P	roof of Notification of	Publication is	Attached, and/	961 36 01,
	[F]	Waivers are Attached				

SUBMIT ACCURATE AND COMPLETE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO PROCESS THE TYPE [3] **OF APPLICATION INDICATED ABOVE.** 

[4] CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the information submitted with this application for administrative approval is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that no action will be taken on this application until the required information and notifications are submitted to the Division.

Note: Statement must be completed by an individual with managerial and/or supervisory capacity.

pin

Mike Pippin Print or Type Name

Signature

Petroleum Engineer ay 8, 2017 Title Date mike@pippinllc.com e-mail Address

## LIME ROCK RESOURCES II-A. L.P. Mike Pippin 3104 N. Sullivan Avenue Farmington, NM 87401 505-327-4573 (phone) mike@pippinllc.com

May 8, 2017

Phil Goetze New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505

#### Injection Pressure Increase Request RE: Administrative Order SWD-1135 FEDERAL T SWD #1 API#: 30-015-26404 Unit Letter "A" Section 12 T18S R27E Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Goetze,

By administrative order SWD-1135, dated July 16, 2008, the NMOCD authorized water injection into Federal T SWD #1 (API No. 30-015-26404) for the disposal of produced water. The order provides for a wellhead injection pressure of "no more than 1480 psi". On 9/16/08, this well was converted to SWD & soon started produced water injection. Lime Rock believes that this maximum pressure of 1480 psi is significantly below the formation frac pressure.

The disposal formation in this well is extremely tight. On 5/3/17, a step rate test was run to determine the actual formation frac pressure. The formation pressure did not break at a maximum surface pressure of 2681 psi (bottom hole pressure of 4140 psi), which indicates that the formation frac pressure was not exceeded at that point. Therefore, the actual formation frac pressure is higher than a surface pressure of 2681 psi. A summary of the step rate test data from Renegacle Services is attached along with a wellbore diagram.

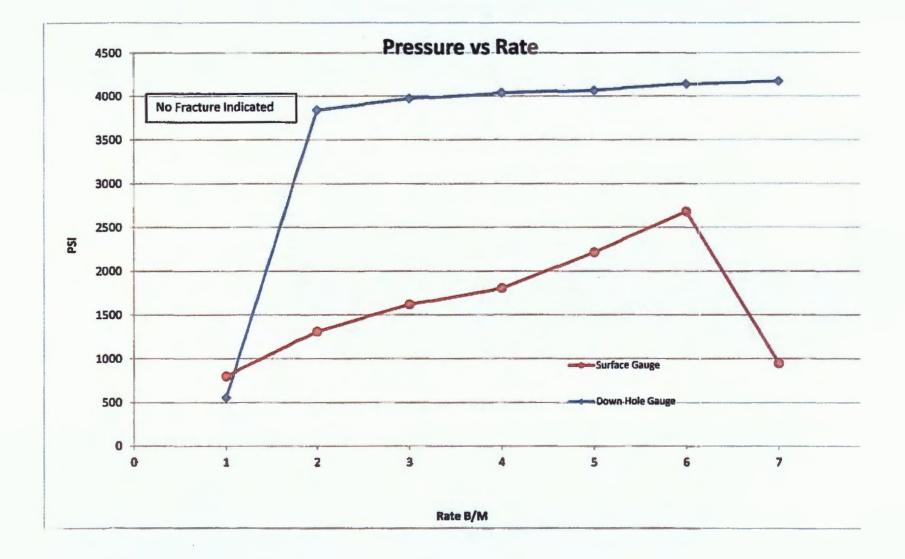
Line Rock: Resources therefore requests that the maximum wellhead injection pressure be increased to at least 2681 psi.

Please contact me at 505-327-4573 should you have any questions.

Wery truly yours,

Mike Pippin P.E. Petroleum Engineer

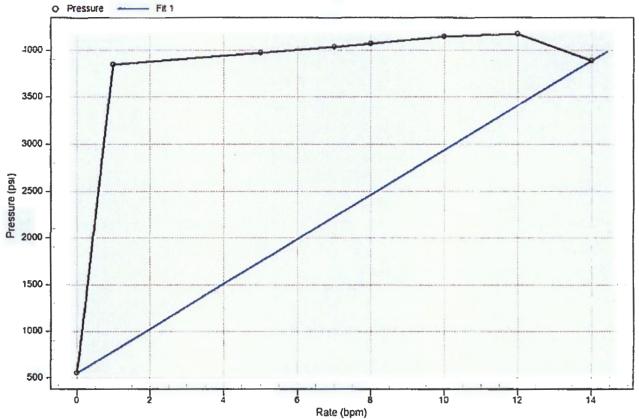
Enclosures



	KENE	SERVI	and the second se	STEP RATE	TEST	
	RATE B/D	Date	Time	BH PRESS	SURF. PRESS	Comments
Step 1	1	5/3/2017	11:20 AM	558.57	801.96	
Step 2	2	5/3/2017	12:01 PM	3842.09	1311.16	
Step 3	3	5/3/2017	1:09 PM	3970.7	1619.11	
Step 4	4	5/3/2017	1:37 PM	4035.19	1803.03	
Step 5	5	5/3/2017	1:56 PM	4066.6	2219.85	
Step 6	6	5/3/2017	2:13 PM	4140.96	2681.72	
Fall Off	Fall Off	5/3/2017	2:32 PM	4169.81	944.2	
	Company:	Lime Rock Resources			Recorded By:	J. Gable
	Well:	Federal T #001 SWD				
- /	Field:				Truck Number:	113
	County:	Eddy, County			District:	Levelland
	State:	New Mexico				
	Seat Nipple Depth:	N/A				
-	Perforations:				1	
Plug Back Depth						

## **JOB INFORMATION SHEET**

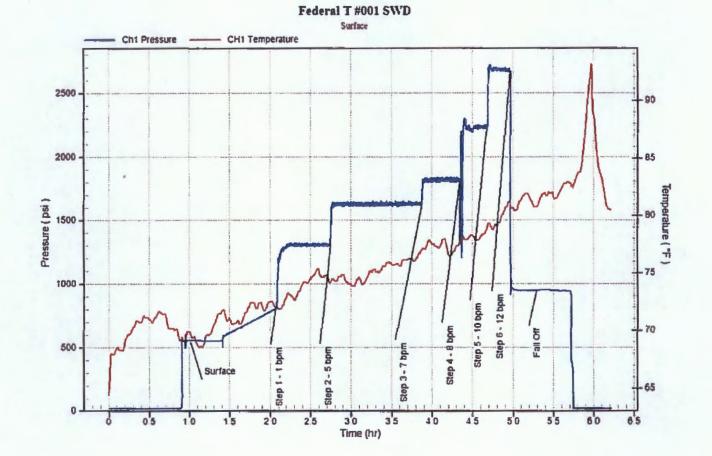
	Company Information	
Company Name:	Lime Rock Resources	
	Well Information	
Well Name:	Federal T #001 SWD	
Location:	Eddy County, NM	
Field - Pool.	Federal T	
Status:	SWD	
5890e	Test Information	
Type of Test:	Step Rate Test	
Gauge Depth:	6750 ft	
Temperature @ Run Depth	100.03 degF	
Surface Temperature:	68.51 degF	
	Gauge Information	
	Top Recorder	Bottom Recorder
Serial Number:	79810	
Calibration Date:	10/21/16	
Pressure Range:	10000 psi	
	Comments	

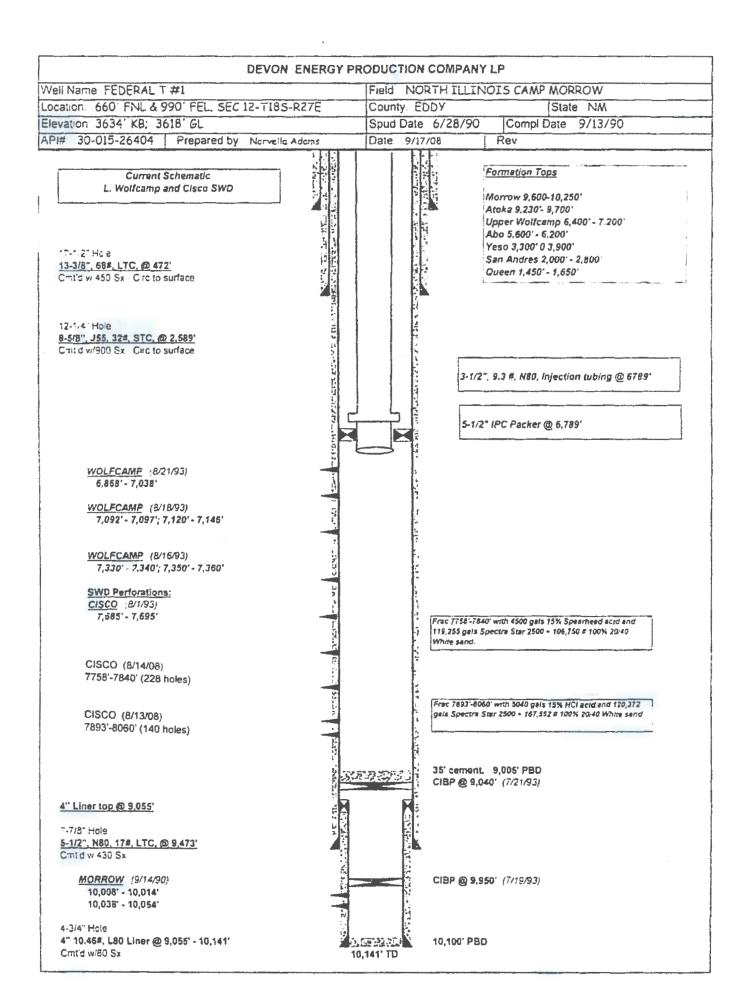


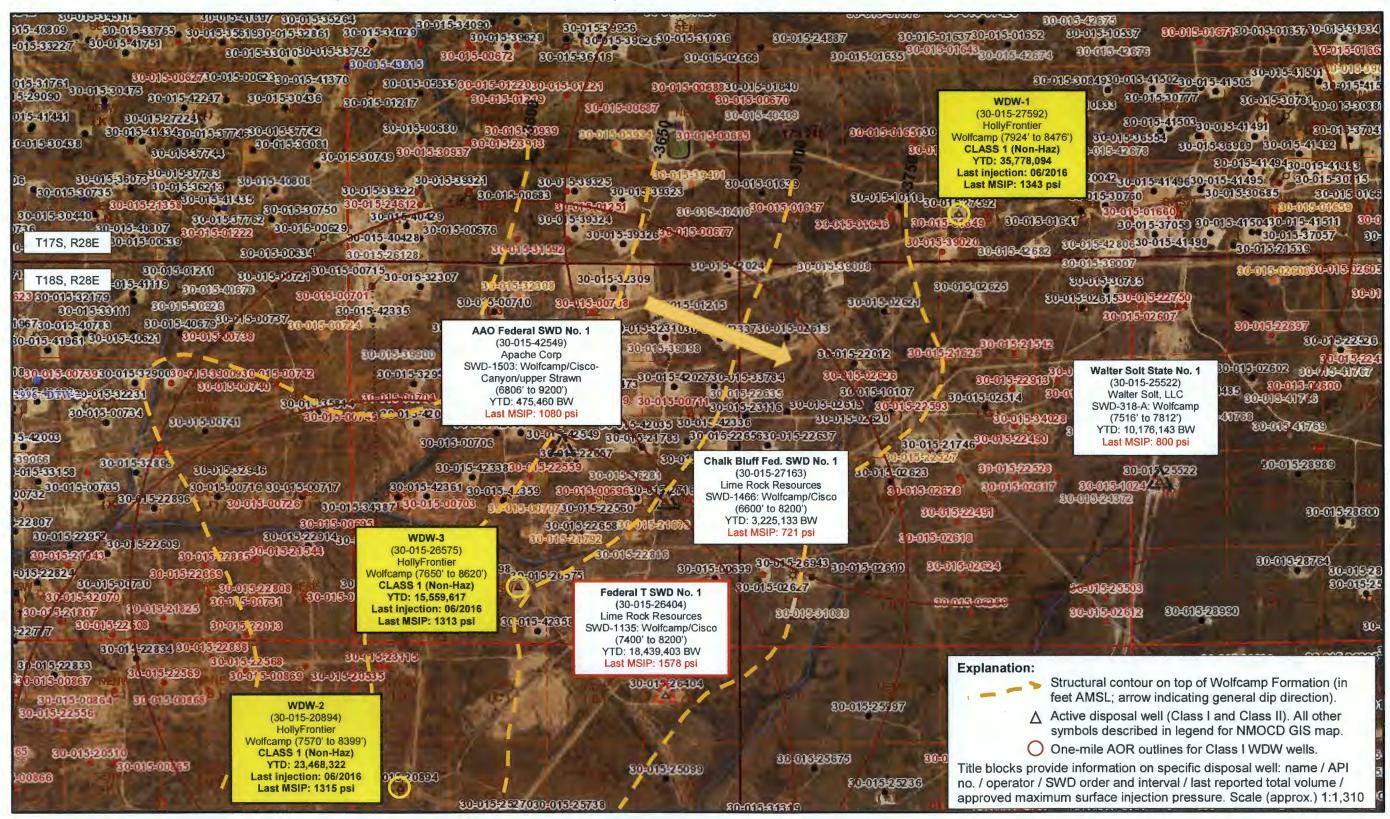
Pressure vs. Rate Federal T =001 SWD

10000

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HollyFrontier Class 1 Wells: Active Disposal Wells Within One-Mile AORs (All three Class 1 wells)