

**From:** [Eads, Cristina, EMNRD](#)  
**To:** ["BGrimes@btaoil.com"](#)  
**Cc:** [Mike EMNRD Bratcher \(mike.bratcher@state.nm.us\)](#); [Robert EMNRD Hamlet \(Robert.Hamlet@state.nm.us\)](#); [Victoria EMNRD Venegas \(Victoria.Venegas@state.nm.us\)](#)  
**Subject:** Closure Denial - Incident nCH183625127  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 3, 2020 3:00:00 PM

---

Ben,

The OCD has denied the submitted Closure Report C-141 for incident # NCH1836251271 for the following reasons:

- Soil samples were collected from only 10 points within the excavation spanning an area of more than 75,000 square feet. Please see **19.15.29.12 D. Closure Requirements**. Each samples should not represent more than 200 square feet unless a sampling plan has already been submitted to and approved by the division.
- Sidewall samples were not collected to confirm the horizontal extents of the release were addressed.
- Depth to groundwater is not adequately identified. When nearby wells are used to determine depth to groundwater, **the wells should be no further than ½ mile away from the site, and data should be no more than 25 years old**, and well construction information should be provided. If evidence of ground water within a ½ mile radius of the site cannot be provided, impacted soils will need to meet Table 1 Closure Criteria for ground water at a depth of 50 feet or less.
- The Closure page for the C-141 was not included with the report.

Please review and make the required corrections prior to resubmitting through the fee portal.

Thanks,

**Cristina Eads**

*Environmental Bureau*

*EMNRD – Oil Conservation Division*

1220 South St. Francis Drive

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

505.476.3084

email: [Cristina.Eads@state.nm.us](mailto:Cristina.Eads@state.nm.us)

**OCD approval does not relieve the operator of liability should their operations fail to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that may pose a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.**