# HOB3S OCD

MAY 2 0 2013

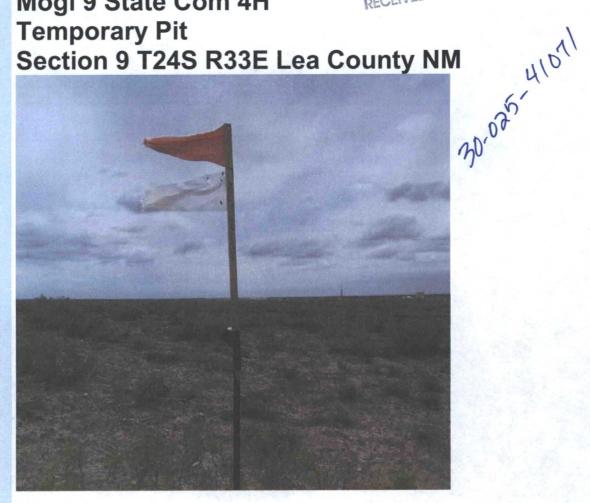
May 2013

RECEIVED

**Temporary Pit** Section 9 T24S R33E Lea County NM

**C-144 Permit Package for** 

Mogi 9 State Com 4H



**Prepared for** Murchison Oil and Gas, Inc. Plano, Texas

**Prepared by** R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd. Albuquerque, New Mexico

# R. T. HICKS CONSULTANTS, LTD.

901 Rio Grande Blvd NW 🛦 Suite F-142 🛦 Albuquerque, NM 87104 🛦 505.266.5004 🛦 Fax: 505.266-0745

May 17, 2013

Mr. Geoffrey Leking NMOCD District	HOEB	SOCD
1625 French Drive Hobbs, NM 88240 Via E-Mail and US Mail	MAY 2	0 2013
RE: Murchison Oil and Gas, Mogi 9 State Com 4H	REC	EIVED

Dear Geoff:

On behalf of Murchison Oil and Gas, R.T. Hicks Consultants submits the attached C-144 application for the above-referenced well. The current drilling schedule calls for a spud date in about 50 days. Please note the following:

- 1. The generic plans were recently approved by OCD.
- 2. We anticipate "in place" burial of stabilized solids.
- 3. This letter and application is copied to the State Land Office to notify the surface landowner of the operator's intent to use on-site burial
- 4. We certify that we conducted a site inspection to examine the conditions on the ground with respect to the siting criteria.

Note that this well is adjacent to Jackson Unit 11H, which is the subject of a separate C-144 application for a temporary pit. The figures and generic plans for both permit applications are identical. The site-specific information for each application varies by 2-4 words. Additionally, these locations share much the same environmental setting as the previously-submitted permit for Mogi 9 State Com 3H and the recently-approved Mogi 9 State Com 2H.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact me. As always, we appreciate your work ethic and attention to detail.

Sincerely, R.T. Hicks Consultants

Randall Hicks Principal

Copy: Murchison Oil and Gas NM State Land Office, Terry Warnell

District I	UOD	100	. 0	000	
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240	HOE	100	20	E	1
District II					
811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210		_			
District III	VAN	9	0	2013	
District III 1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410 District IV	VIAI	140	v	2010	
District IV					
1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87.	505				
	DE	-	113	/ED	
			112	a la la	

State of New Mexico nergy Minerals and Natural Resources Department Oil Conservation Division 1220 South St. Francis Dr. Santa Fe, NM 87505

For temporary pits, closed-loop systems, and below-grade tanks, submit to the appropriate NMOCD District Office. For permanent pits and exceptions submit to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office and provide a copy to the appropriate NMOCD District Office.

# Pit, Closed-Loop System, Below-Grade Tank, or Proposed Alternative Method Permit or Closure Plan Application

Type of action:

Permit of a pit, closed-loop system, below-grade tank, or proposed alternative method Closure of a pit, closed-loop system, below-grade tank, or proposed alternative method Modification to an existing permit

Closure plan only submitted for an existing permitted or non-permitted pit, closed-loop system,

below-grade tank, or proposed alternative method

#### Instructions: Please submit one application (Form C-144) per individual pit, closed-loop system, below-grade tank or alternative request

Please be advised that approval of this request does not relieve the operator of liability should operations result in pollution of surface water, ground water or the environment. Nor does approval relieve the operator of its responsibility to comply with any other applicable governmental authority's rules, regulations or ordinances.

Operator: Murchison Oil & Gas, Inc OGRID #: 15363
Address: 1100 Mira Vista Blvd., Plano, Texas 75093-4698
Facility or well name: Mogi 9 State Com 4H
API Number:         30-025-41071         OCD Permit Number:         P1-05938
U/L or Qtr/Qtr P Section 9 Township T24S Range R33E County: Lea
Center of Proposed Design: Latitude <u>321332.756"N</u> Longitude 103134'[8.542"W NAD: 1927 X 1983
Surface Owner: 🗌 Federal 🖾 State 🗋 Private 🗋 Tribal Trust or Indian Allotment
2.
Pit:       Subsection F or G of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
Temporary: 🛛 Drilling 🗌 Workover
Permanent Emergency Cavitation P&A
☐ Lined ☐ Unlined Liner type: Thickness <u>20</u> mil ☐ LLDPE ☐ HDPE ☐ PVC ☐ Other
String-Reinforced
Liner Seams: Welded Factory Other Volume: United bbl Dimensions: L_175'_ x W_150'_ x D_Drilling = 6-10 feet
3.         Closed-loop System:       Subsection H of 19.15.17.11 NMAC         Type of Operation:       P&A         Drilling a new well       Workover or Drilling (Applies to activities which require prior approval of a permit or notice of intent)         Drying Pad       Above Ground Steel Tanks       Haul-off Bins       Other         Lined       Unlined Liner type: Thickness       mil       LLDPE       HDPE       PVC       Other         Liner Seams:       Welded       Factory       Other
4. Below-grade tank: Subsection I of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
Volume:bbl Type of fluid:
Tank Construction material:
Secondary containment with leak detection 🗌 Visible sidewalls, liner, 6-inch lift and automatic overflow shut-off
□ Visible sidewalls and liner □ Visible sidewalls only □ Other
Liner type: Thickness mil HDPE PVC Other
5.
Alternative Methods
Alternative Method: Submittal of an exception request is required. Exceptions must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval.

Fencing: Subsection D of 19.15.17.11 NMAC (Applies to permanent pits, temporary pits, and below-grade tanks)

Chain link, six feet in height, two strands of barbed wire at top (*Required if located within 1000 feet of a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or church*)

Four foot height, four strands of barbed wire evenly spaced between one and four feet

Alternate. Please specify\_

Netting: Subsection E of 19.15.17.11 NMAC (Applies to permanent pits and permanent open top tanks)

Screen Netting Other

Monthly inspections (If netting or screening is not physically feasible)

Signs: Subsection C of 19.15.17.11 NMAC

12"x 24", 2" lettering, providing Operator's name, site location, and emergency telephone numbers

Signed in compliance with 19.15.16.8 NMAC

#### Administrative Approvals and Exceptions:

Justifications and/or demonstrations of equivalency are required. Please refer to 19.15.17 NMAC for guidance.

Please check a box if one or more of the following is requested, if not leave blank:

Administrative approval(s): Requests must be submitted to the appropriate division district or the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval.

Exception(s): Requests must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval.

10. Siting Criteria (regarding permitting): 19.15.17.10 NMAC

Instructions: The applicant must demonstrate compliance for each siting criteria below in the application. Recommendations of accumaterial are provided below. Requests regarding changes to certain siting criteria may require administrative approval from the approfice or may be considered an exception which must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of Applicant must attach justification for request. Please refer to 19.15.17.10 NMAC for guidance. Siting criteria does not apply to drabove-grade tanks associated with a closed-loop system.	ropriate district approval.
Ground water is less than 50 feet below the bottom of the temporary pit, permanent pit, or below-grade tank. - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells SEE FIGURE 1	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>Within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or 200 feet of any other significant watercourse or lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).</li> <li>Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site SEE FIGURE 3</li> </ul>	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>Within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application. (Applies to temporary, emergency, or cavitation pits and below-grade tanks)</li> <li>Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image. SEE FIGURE 4</li> </ul>	☐ Yes ⊠ No ☐ NA
<ul> <li>Within 1000 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.</li> <li>(Applies to permanent pits)</li> <li>Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image.</li> </ul>	☐ Yes ☐ No ⊠ NA
<ul> <li>Within 500 horizontal feet of a private, domestic fresh water well or spring that less than five households use for domestic or stock watering purposes, or within 1000 horizontal feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in existence at the time of initial application.</li> <li>NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site. SEE FIGURES 1&amp; 2</li> </ul>	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>Within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field covered under a municipal ordinance adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended. SEE FIGURE 5</li> <li>Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained from the municipality</li> </ul>	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>Within 500 feet of a wetland.</li> <li>US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site</li> <li>SEE FIGURE 6</li> </ul>	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>Within the area overlying a subsurface mine.</li> <li>Written confirmation or verification or map from the NM EMNRD-Mining and Mineral Division. SEE FIGURE 7</li> </ul>	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>Within an unstable area.</li> <li>Engineering measures incorporated into the design; NM Bureau of Geology &amp; Mineral Resources; USGS; NM Geological Society; Topographic map. SEE FIGURE 8</li> </ul>	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
Within a 100-year floodplain. - FEMA map. SEE FIGURE 9	🗌 Yes 🛛 No

II.       Temporary Pits, Emergency Pits, and Below-grade Tanks Permit Application Attachment Checklist:       Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC         Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.       Hydrogeologic Report (Below-grade Tanks) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (4) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC         Mydrogeologic Data (Temporary and Emergency Pits) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (2) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC         Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC         Design Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC         Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC         Closure Plan (Please complete Boxes 14 through 18, if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC         and 19.15.17.13 NMAC         Previously Approved Design (attach copy of design) API Number: or Permit Number: or Permit Number:
12.         Closed-loop Systems Permit Application Attachment Checklist:       Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC         Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.            Geologic and Hydrogeologic Data (only for on-site closure) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (3) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9            Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations (only for on-site closure) - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC            Design Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC            Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC            Closure Plan (Please complete Boxes 14 through 18, if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC            Previously Approved Design (attach copy of design) API Number:
above ground steel tanks or haul-off bins and propose to implement waste removal for closure)
13.         Permanent Pits Permit Application Checklist:       Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC         Instructions:       Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.         Hydrogeologic Report - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (1) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC         Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC         Climatological Factors Assessment         Certified Engineering Design Plans - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC         Dike Protection and Structural Integrity Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC         Leak Detection Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC         Quality Control/Quality Assurance Construction and Installation Plan         Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC         Freeboard and Overtopping Prevention Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC         Image: Difficult Waste Stream Characterization         Oil Field Waste Stream Characterization         Monitoring and Inspection Plan         Erosion Control Plan         Closure Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
14.         Proposed Closure:       19.15.17.13 NMAC         Instructions: Please complete the applicable boxes, Boxes 14 through 18, in regards to the proposed closure plan.         Type:       Drilling         Waste Excavation and Removal       Permanent Pit         Below-grade Tank       Closed-loop System         Alternative       Waste Excavation and Removal         Waste Removal (Closed-loop systems only)       On-site Closure Method (Only for temporary pits and closed-loop systems)         In-place Burial       On-site Trench Burial         Alternative Closure Method (Exceptions must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau for consideration)         15.         Waste Excavation and Removal Closure Plan Checklist:       (19.15.17.13 NMAC) Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the closure plan. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.         Protocols and Procedures - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC         Onfirmation Sampling Plan (if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection F of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
<ul> <li>Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number (for liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings)</li> <li>Soil Backfill and Cover Design Specifications - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> <li>Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> <li>Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection G of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> </ul>

16.	
<sup>10.</sup> Waste Removal Closure For Closed-loop Systems That Utilize Above Ground Steel Tanks or Haul-off Bins Only: (19.15.17.13. Instructions: Please indentify the facility or facilities for the disposal of liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings. Use attachment if facilities are required.	
Disposal Facility Name: Disposal Facility Permit Number:	
Disposal Facility Name: Disposal Facility Permit Number:	
Will any of the proposed closed-loop system operations and associated activities occur on or in areas that <i>will not</i> be used for future ser Yes (If yes, please provide the information below) No	vice and operations?
Required for impacted areas which will not be used for future service and operations:         Soil Backfill and Cover Design Specifications - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC         Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC         Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection G of 19.15.17.13 NMAC	С
<sup>17.</sup> <u>Siting Criteria (regarding on-site closure methods only)</u> : 19.15.17.10 NMAC Instructions: Each siting criteria requires a demonstration of compliance in the closure plan. Recommendations of acceptable sou provided below. Requests regarding changes to certain siting criteria may require administrative approval from the appropriate dist considered an exception which must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval. Just demonstrations of equivalency are required. Please refer to 19.15.17.10 NMAC for guidance.	trict office or may be
Ground water is less than 50 feet below the bottom of the buried waste. - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells	□ Yes ⊠ No □ NA
Ground water is between 50 and 100 feet below the bottom of the buried waste - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells	□ Yes ⊠ No □ NA
Ground water is more than 100 feet below the bottom of the buried waste. - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells	⊠ Yes □ No □ NA
<ul> <li>Within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or 200 feet of any other significant watercourse or lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).</li> <li>Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site</li> </ul>	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>Within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.</li> <li>Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image</li> </ul>	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
Within 500 horizontal feet of a private, domestic fresh water well or spring that less than five households use for domestic or stock watering purposes, or within 1000 horizontal feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in existence at the time of initial application. - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>Within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field covered under a municipal ordinance adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended.</li> <li>Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained from the municipality</li> </ul>	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
Within 500 feet of a wetland. - US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
Within the area overlying a subsurface mine. - Written confirmation or verification or map from the NM EMNRD-Mining and Mineral Division	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>Within an unstable area.</li> <li>Engineering measures incorporated into the design; NM Bureau of Geology &amp; Mineral Resources; USGS; NM Geological Society; Topographic map</li> </ul>	🗆 Yes 🛛 No
Within a 100-year floodplain. - FEMA map	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>18.</li> <li>On-Site Closure Plan Checklist: (19.15.17.13 NMAC) Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the closure play a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.</li> <li>Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC</li> <li>Proof of Surface Owner Notice - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection F of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> <li>Construction/Design Plan of Burial Trench (if applicable) based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC</li> <li>Construction/Design Plan of Temporary Pit (for in-place burial of a drying pad) - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> <li>Confirmation Sampling Plan (if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection F of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> <li>Waste Material Sampling Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection F of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> </ul>	

 Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number (for liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings or in case on
 Soil Cover Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number (for liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings or in case on-site closure standards cannot be achieved)

Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
 Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection G of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

19. Operator Application Certification:
I hereby certify that the information submitted with this application is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Name (Print):     Greg Boans     Title:     Production Superintendent
Signature: Date: May 17, 2013
e-mail address: <u>Gboans@jdmii.com</u> Telephone: <u>(575) 361-4962</u> ,
20. OCD Approval: Permit Application (including closure plan) Closure Plan (only) OCD Conditions (see attachment)
OCD Representative Signature: Approval Date:
Title:     OCD Permit Number:
<sup>21.</sup> <u>Closure Report (required within 60 days of closure completion)</u> : Subsection K of 19.15.17.13 NMAC Instructions: Operators are required to obtain an approved closure plan prior to implementing any closure activities and submitting the closure report. The closure report is required to be submitted to the division within 60 days of the completion of the closure activities. Please do not complete this section of the form until an approved closure plan has been obtained and the closure activities have been completed.
Closure Completion Date:
<ul> <li>22.</li> <li>Closure Method:</li> <li>Waste Excavation and Removal On-Site Closure Method Alternative Closure Method Waste Removal (Closed-loop systems only)</li> <li>If different from approved plan, please explain.</li> </ul>
<sup>23.</sup> <u>Closure Report Regarding Waste Removal Closure For Closed-loop Systems That Utilize Above Ground Steel Tanks or Haul-off Bins Only:</u> Instructions: Please indentify the facility or facilities for where the liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings were disposed. Use attachment if more than two facilities were utilized.
Disposal Facility Name: Disposal Facility Permit Number:
Disposal Facility Name: Disposal Facility Permit Number:
Were the closed-loop system operations and associated activities performed on or in areas that <i>will not</i> be used for future service and operations? Yes (If yes, please demonstrate compliance to the items below) No
Required for impacted areas which will not be used for future service and operations:         Site Reclamation (Photo Documentation)         Soil Backfilling and Cover Installation         Re-vegetation Application Rates and Seeding Technique
24.         Closure Report Attachment Checklist: Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the closure report. Please indicate, by a check         mark in the box, that the documents are attached.         Proof of Closure Notice (surface owner and division)         Proof of Deed Notice (required for on-site closure)         Plot Plan (for on-site closures and temporary pits)         Confirmation Sampling Analytical Results (if applicable)         Waste Material Sampling Analytical Results (required for on-site closure)         Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number         Soil Backfilling and Cover Installation         Re-vegetation Application Rates and Seeding Technique         Site Reclamation (Photo Documentation)         On-site Closure Location: Latitude Longitude NAD: [1927 ] 1983
25.
Operator Closure Certification: I hereby certify that the information and attachments submitted with this closure report is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also certify that the closure complies with all applicable closure requirements and conditions specified in the approved closure plan.
Name (Print):          Title:
Signature: Date:
e-mail address: Telephone:

# **Distance to Groundwater**

Figure 1, Figure 2, and the discussion presented below demonstrates that groundwater (fresh water as defined by NMOCD Rules) at the location is greater than 50 feet beneath the temporary pit.

Figure 1 is an area geologic and topographic map that shows:

- 1. The location of the temporary pit as an orange square.
- 2. The location of the Mogi 9 State 1H (Misc-68) and Brinninstool 4 State 3H (Misc 69), where we measured a dry hole in the 120-foot conductor casing borings. The cuttings from these auger borings were also dry.
- 3. Water wells from the OSE database as a blue triangle inside colored circles that indicate well depth. OSE wells are often miss-located in the WATERS database as older wells are plotted in the center of the quarter, quarter, quarter, of the Section Township and Range.
- 4. Water wells from the USGS database as large green triangles.
- 5. Water wells, which are not documented in the public databases but were identified by field inspection or other published reports as colored squares.
- 6. The depth-to-water from the most recent available measurement for each well is provided adjacent to the well symbol.

Figure 2 is an area topographic map that shows:

- 1. The location of the temporary pit as an orange square.
- 2. Water wells with the same symbols as those shown in Figure 1.
- 3. The date of the most recent depth-to-water measurement for each water well and the identifier number of the well. Note that Well Misc-15 shows a date of 12/12/9999 because Open File Report OF-95<sup>1</sup> does not report a date of water level measurement.

#### Geology

The proposed temporary pit is located on exposures of Quaternary Age eolian and piedmont deposits (Qe/Qp on Figure 1). These deposits are a thin covering of the underlying Tertiary Ogallala Formation or, in some places, the redbeds of the Dockum Group. The Ogallala Formation consists primarily of sand with some clay, silt and gravel, generally capped by caliche. Based on information from Ground-Water Report 6 (GWR-6) *Geology and Ground-Water Conditions in Southern Lea County, New Mexico* by Alexander Nicholson and Alfred Clebsch (1961), the top of the redbeds in the area is about 3550 above sea level (see Plate 1 of GWR-6). Because the location lies at an elevation of 3624, Ogallala Formation, if it is present, must be about 74 feet thick (3624-3550). This top of redbed/base of Ogallala estimate based upon published data. The data collected from the Mogi 9 State 1H rathole (see attached Mogi 9 State 1H Rat Hole Evaluation) suggest that the top of the redbed may be as shallow as 33 feet, where the auger penetrated a hard, dark purple shale.

Topographically, the site lies immediately outside of the southwestern boundary of the Bell Lake Sink, a 2-mile wide circular depression (see Figures 2 and 3). This and other nearby depressions have been described as an ancient collapse feature (breccia pipes) associated with the removal of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See <u>http://geoinfo.nmt.edu/publications/openfile/details.cfml?Volume=95</u>

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salt due to upward groundwater flow from the Capitan Reef<sup>2</sup>. Approximately 60 feet of topographic relief is present from the bottom of the sink to the proposed location of the well (3624-3563=61). The deepest point of the sink is approximately 1/2 mile to the north of the site and is about 200 feet north and 5 feet below the site of the Bell Lake Windmill on Figure 3.

#### Water Table Elevation

The 14 water wells identified on Figures 1 and 2 were used to determine the water table elevation below the temporary pit. We also employed data from the Mogi 9 State 1H rathole (Misc-68), located about 400 yards west of the proposed pit and the Brinninstool 4 State 3H rathole (Misc-69) located about 1 mile north of the proposed pit.

Four of these 14 wells appear on more than one database (yellow highlight on Table 1). Because a single well appears on multiple databases, Table 1 lists the "alias" of these four wells. The entries on Table 1 include IIII listings from the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (OSE) database. Three wells are derived from the USGS database (USGS 445 is also listed on the OSE database as C 2308 and in Open File Report 95 as Misc 18). Five wells described in Open File Report No. 95 (OFR-95) and GWR-6; two of these four are also listed in the OSE database and one is in the USGS database. Misc-61 is the same well as C 2312 and is listed in the miscellaneous database due to our recent water level measurement of this well. One well (Bell Lake Windmill on Figure 3) was inspected in the field as plugged and abandoned. Because no data exist for the Bell Lake Windmill, it is not listed on Table 1.

		1	Vell L	ocatio	n		-	We	II Sou	rce In	forma	tion	-	Groundwater Elevation Data							
Well Numbers	Township (south)	Range (east)	Section	Qua (64,	rter Se 16,		NM-OSE Database	USGS Database	Open File Rpt. 95	GW Report No. 6	USGS Topo Sheet	Aerial Photograph	Field Verification	Surface Elevation (published)	Surface Elevation (Topo Sheet)	Well Total Depth (published)	Depth to Water (published)	Groundwater Elev. (published)	Groundwater Elev. (using topo elev.)	Gauging Date	Alias ID
Misc-15	23	33	28	3	4	4	Y		Y		Y	Y	Y	3675		575.0	500.0	3175.0	Sec. 1	12/12/1944	C 2279
C 02279	23	33	28	3	4	3	Y			100	Y	Y	Y	and the second	3675	650.0	400.0	12-11-22	3,025	12/31/1981	Misc. 15
C 02281	23	33	28	4	4	3	Y			1	-		Y		3685	545.0	400.0	1.84	3,140	12/31/1944	States and
USGS-461	23	34	32	1	4	4		Y		100	Y	Y		3573	3574		206.9	3366	3367	3/18/1996	States and states
USGS-378	24	32	33	2	2	4	5	Y		-		Y	1.10	3499	3499	1.11	288.7	3210	5.000	2/27/2001	o Constant Store
USGS-445	24	33	10	1	3	1	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	3589	3588	36	22.1	3567	(Analysis)	3/13/1996	C 2308, Misc. 18
Misc-18	24	33	10	1	3	1	Y	Y	Y		Y	11-12	Y	3589	and the state	40.0	22.0	3567.0		5/23/2012	USGS-445, C 2308
C 02308	24	33	10	1	3	1	Y	Y	Y		Y		Y	P. C. Frank	3589	40.0	20.0		3,549	6/30/1920	USGS-445, Misc. 18
C 02430	24	33	16	3	3	3	Y				Y	1	Υ	Sur.	3572	643.0	415.0	1.0	2,929	12/31/1982	Collins and the set
C 02431	24	33	17	4	4	4	Y				Y		Y		3572	525.0	415.0		3,047	12/31/1959	
C 02432	24	33	17	4	4	4	Y		100		Y		Y		3572	640.0	415.0		2,932	12/31/1980	
Misc-12	24	33	23	3	3	4			Y			Y		3558	3549	232.0	208.7	3326.0	3340.3	11/27/1953	14 1 1 1 1 2 4 S
Misc-13	24	33	24	4	4	4			Y	_	Y								-		- Miner Harry
C2309	24	33	25	2	2	2	Y				Y				3512	60	30		3482	6/30/1912	
C2311	24	33	33	1	3	2	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		3460	3465	-	93.2	3367	3372	3/17/1954	Misc-14
Misc-14	24	33	33	1	3	2	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		3460	3465		93.2	3367	3372	3/17/1954	C-2311
C 2310	24	33	33	1	3	2	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		3460	3465	120	70		3395	The second	1. 34 1 5 5 5 7 5 1 1
C 2312	25	33	5	2	2	1	Y			1.00	Y	Y	Y	3473	3473	150	90.0	3383.0	3383.0	6/30/1998	Misc-61
Misc-61	25	33	5	2	2	1	Y				Y	Y	Y	3473	3473	150	112.4	3360.6	3360.6	4/3/2013	C-2312

– Groundwater Data rable r

Visual inspections of questionable wells were performed to verify the information provided by the public records and published reports. Initially, an attempt was made to identify each well using USGS topographic maps. The surface elevations of wells identified on the maps were

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://nmgs.nmt.edu/publications/guidebooks/downloads/57/57\_p0233\_p0242.pdf

compared to the published surface elevation, if available. Wells that could not be verified using maps were searched for using current and historic satellite photographs in an effort to identify windmills, tanks, or roads associated with the well. Locations that could not be verified by maps or photographs were verified in the field. Attempts were also made to gauge wells during the field investigation when access was permitted. The results of the field inspections are summarized as follows:

- Seven of the 14 water wells were physically located by field inspection.
- Water well #18 (445, C2308) was accessed on October 10, 2012 and the depth-to-water was measured at 22 feet below ground surface.
- Water well #C2279 (#15) is a windmill at the Ranch Headquarters.
- Water wells C2281 is abandoned/plugged
- At the three-well cluster shown as C2430-C2432, we identified only one operational well in the field. The well owner reports that three wells do exist in this cluster.
- Depth to water in well C 2312 (Misc-61) was measured on April 3, 2013.
- Well Misc-12 is plugged and abandoned
- The Bell Lake Windmill, which is not on Table but is identified on Figure 3 is plugged

#### Hydrogeology

GWR-6 (1961) indicates that Ogallala groundwater is not present as a regional aquifer within the Bell Lake area. The Bell Lake Windmill and wells Misc-18/ USGS-432 obviously tap a shallow water table associated with the collapse features described above. The lack of a regional water table aquifer described in GWR-6 is borne out in the data from well #12, located about 2 miles east-southeast from the proposed pit. Here the water supply well spuds on Ogallala Formation (To), is drilled to a total depth of 232 feet and records a water level of 208.7 feet below land surface (see Table 1). The water elevation in well #12 (3326 feet asl) lies below the projected bottom of the Ogallala Formation (3400 feet asl at this location). All wells outside of ancient collapse features record water levels below the projected base of the Ogallala and tap water-bearing units within the red beds (Dockum Group). Based on the depth-to-water measurements (published and recent) the regional groundwater (Triassic Santa Rosa Formation) is present across the area at an elevation below 3,150 feet.

Within the Bell Lake Sink are two water supply wells (see Figure 3), the plugged Bell Lake Windmill and the abandoned (but open casing) Bell Well. The water level in the abandoned Bell Well is 22 feet below grade at a projected elevation of 3568 (3590-22). Obviously this water level is highly localized because the surface elevation at Bell Lake is 3562 (about 5-feet lower than the Bell Lake Windmill) and the lake holds no water. The horizontal limit of groundwater within the Bell Lake Sink is also documented by the hydrogeologic logging conducted at the Mogi 9 State 1H and Brinninstool 4 State 3H sites where the 120-foot deep borings were logged as dry sediments. At the Brinninstool 4 State 3H surface casing, lowering a water level probe to the total depth of the casing about 3 days after completion demonstrated that the hole remained dry. The attached Mogi 9 State 1H Rat Hole Evaluation describes in detail the findings at this nearby boring.

The hydrologic and geologic data demonstrate that groundwater within the Bell Lake Sink is highly localized. The fact that both water supply wells are abandoned also suggests that groundwater for beneficial use no longer exists in the Sink area. We conclude with a high degree of certainty that groundwater, as defined by OCD Rules, exists beneath the Mogi 9 State Com 4H site only in the Triassic Dockum Group redbeds at a depth of about 400 feet.

# **Distance to Surface Water**

Figure 3 and the site visit demonstrates that the location is not within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or 200 feet of any other significant watercourse or lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).

- The nearest topographic low area is the Bell Lake Sink located north of the location. Neither Bell Lake nor excavated areas south of Bell Lake contained surface water on the day of the inspection. Google Earth images suggest the excavated areas south of the lakebed contained water periodically from 1996 to 2012 (also see Figure 4). Bell Lake, however, did not exhibit evidence of surface water during this period.
- North of the proposed pit site is a shallow swale (see Figures 3 and 4). Our field examination of this swale identified no evidence of a watercourse.
- No watercourses or water bodies exist with 300-feet of the location
- The Bell Lake Sink is an ancient collapse feature but is not considered a sinkhole as typically used in NMOCD Rules.

# **Distance to Permanent Residence or Structures**

Figure 4 and the site visit demonstrates that the location is not within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, church, or other structure in existence at the time of initial application.

• The nearest structures are tank batteries and a corral.

# **Distance to Non-Public Water Supply**

Figures 1 and Figure 2 demonstrates that the location is not within 500 horizontal feet of a private, domestic fresh water well or spring that less than five households use for domestic or stock watering purposes, or within 1000 horizontal feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in existence at the time of initial application.

- Figure 1 and 2 show the locations of all area water wells, active or plugged/abandoned
- The nearest <u>active</u> water wells are located approximately 2 miles north and about ½ mile south. Plugged/abandoned wells do exist in the Bell Lake Sink (Bell Well and Bell Lake Windmill on Figure 3)
- There are no known domestic water wells located within 1000 feet of the location.
- No springs were identified within the mapping area (see Figure 3).

# **Distance to Municipal Boundaries and Fresh Water Fields**

Figure 5 demonstrates that the location is not within incorporated municipal boundaries or defined municipal fresh water well fields covered under a municipal ordinance adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended.

• The closest municipality is Jal, NM approximately 28 miles to the southeast.

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• The closest public well field is located approximately 50 miles to the west and/or 50 miles north.

# **Distance to Wetlands**

Figure 6 demonstrates the location is not within 500 feet of wetlands.

- The nearest designated wetland is a "freshwater emergent wetland" located approximately 1/2 mile to the north (Bell Lake area excavations).
- North of this emergent wetland is the excavation designated as a freshwater pond

# **Distance to Subsurface Mines**

Figure 7 and our general reconnaissance of the area demonstrate that the nearest mines are caliche pits.

• The nearest mapped caliche pit is located approximately 5 miles to the southwest.

# **Distance to High or Critical Karst Areas**

Figure 8 shows the location of the temporary pits with respect BLM Karst areas

- The proposed temporary pit is located within a "low" potential karst area.
- The nearest "high" or "critical" potential karst area is located approximately 18 miles west of the site.
- No evidence of solution voids were observed near the site during the field inspection.
- No evidence of unstable ground was observed in Bell Lake Sink

# **Distance to 100-Year Floodplain**

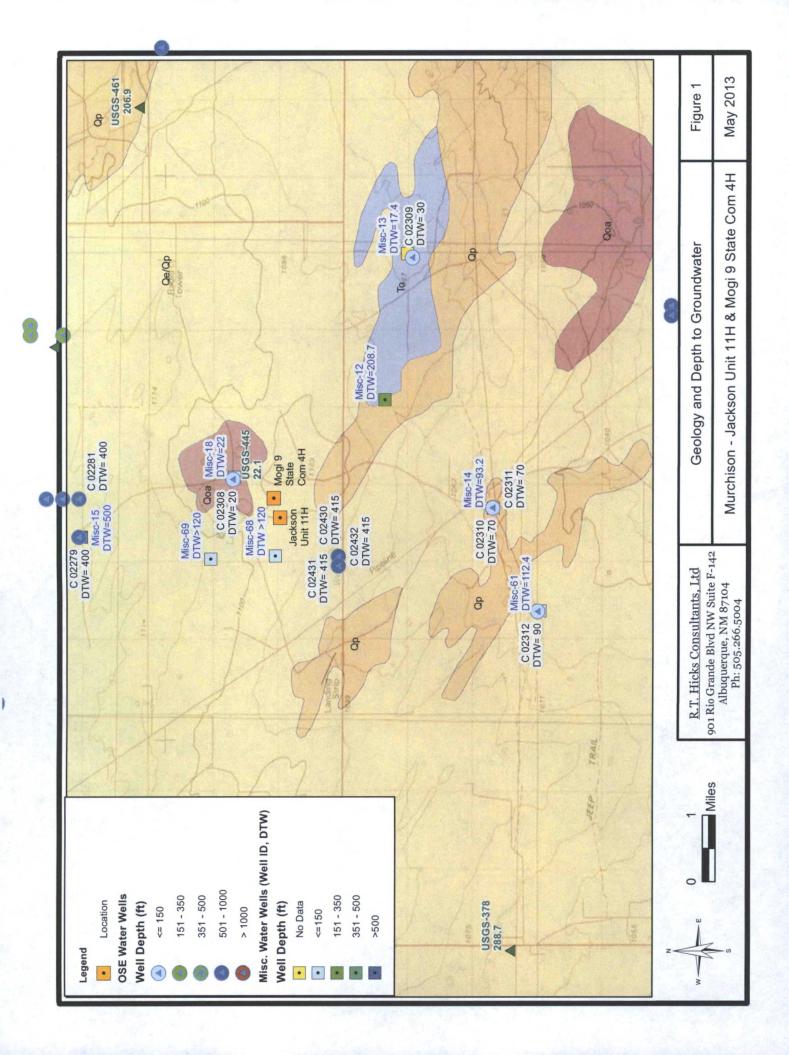
Figure 9 demonstrates that the location is within an area that has not yet been mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency with respect to the Flood Insurance Rate 100-Year Floodplain.

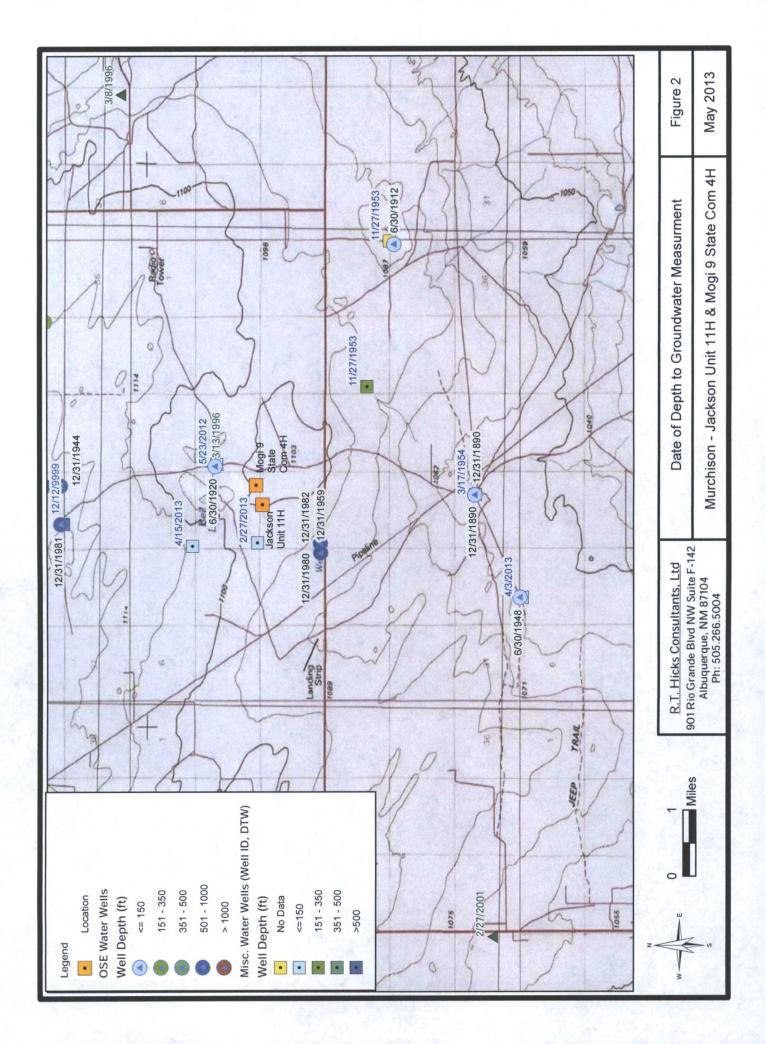
- Areas that are not mapped are generally considered minimal flood risk
- Our field inspection and examination of the topography permits a conclusion that the location is not within any floodplain

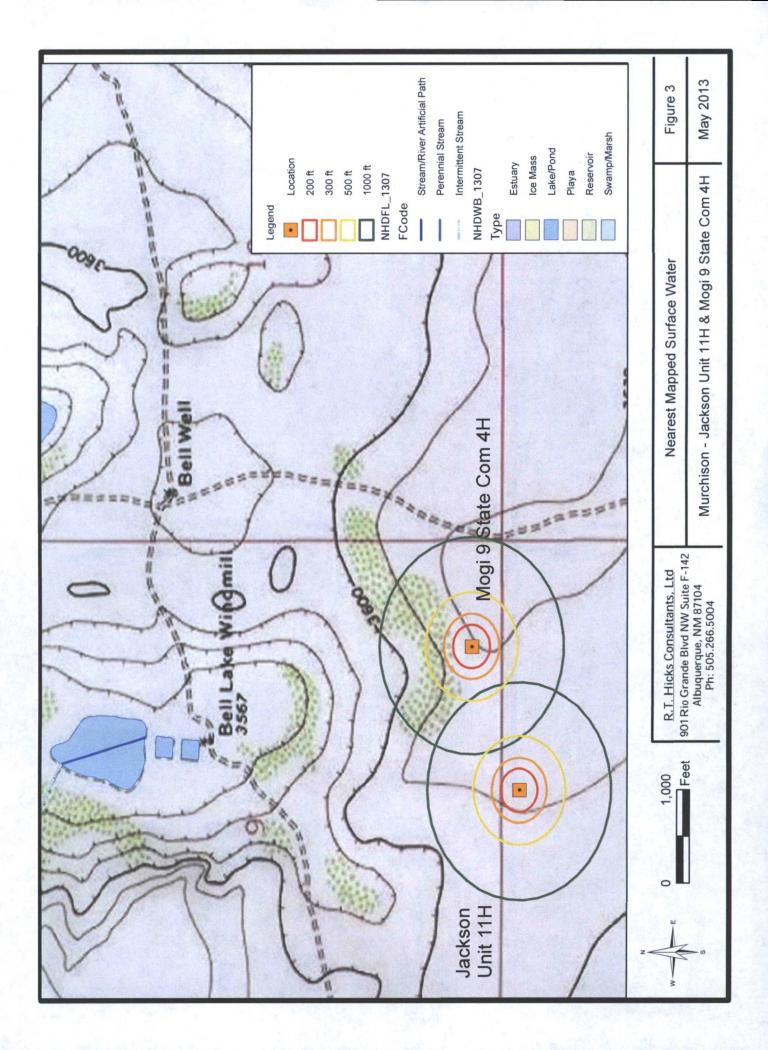
#### **Temporary Pit Design**

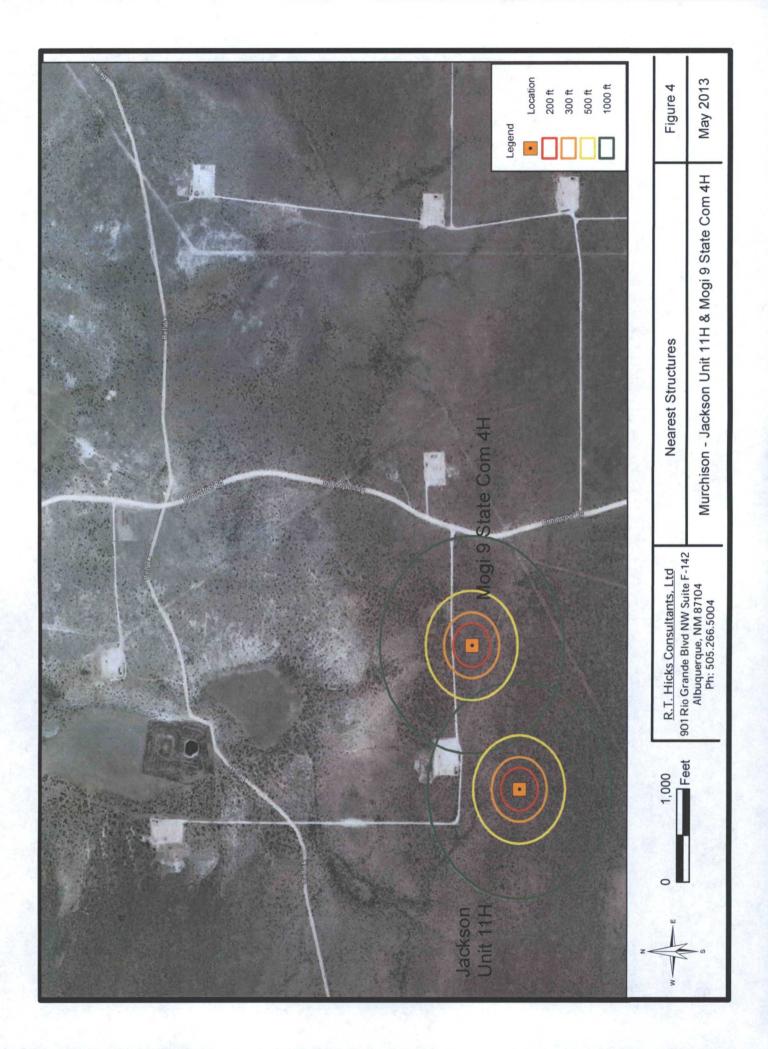
Please refer to Plates 1 and 2 for the design of the temporary pit and the Design and Construction Plan at the end of this application.

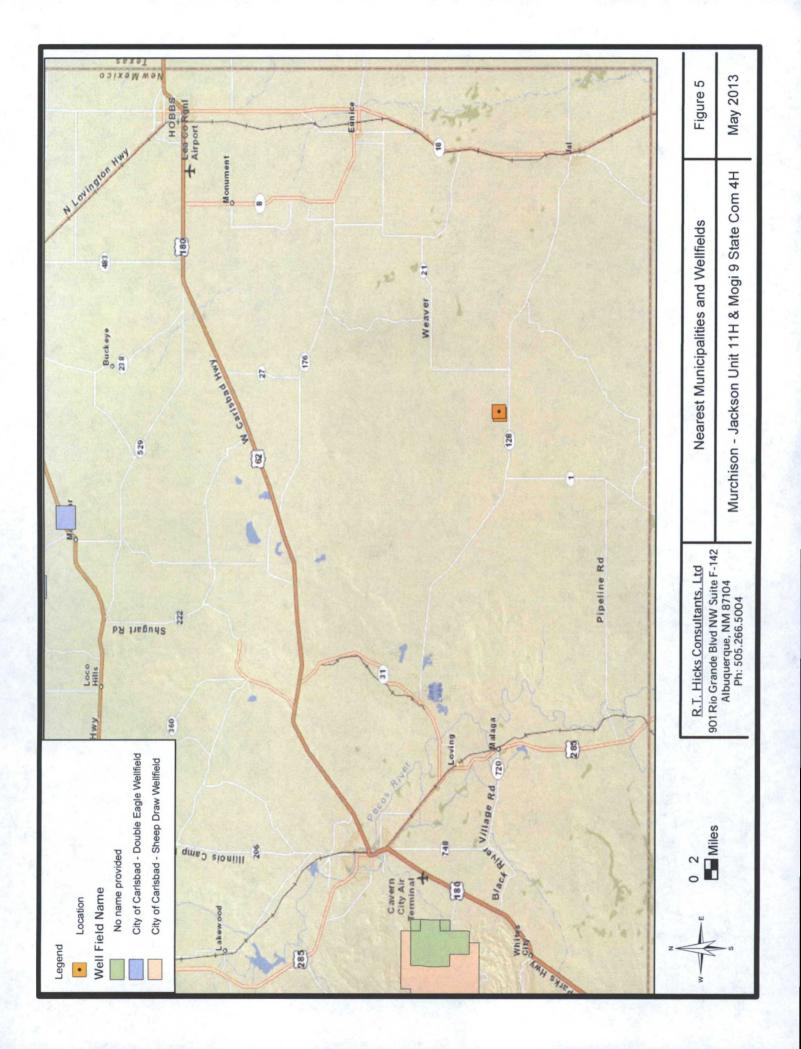
Note that this application requests administrative approval to employ pit slopes no steeper than 1.5H:1V. Other pits constructed in this area have an average slope of 2H:1V with certain sections of the pit showing a slope of 1.7H:1V. A slope only slightly steeper than 2H:1V creates a significantly smaller excavation footprint (which is important for these deep wells) and facilitates in-place closure of the pit.

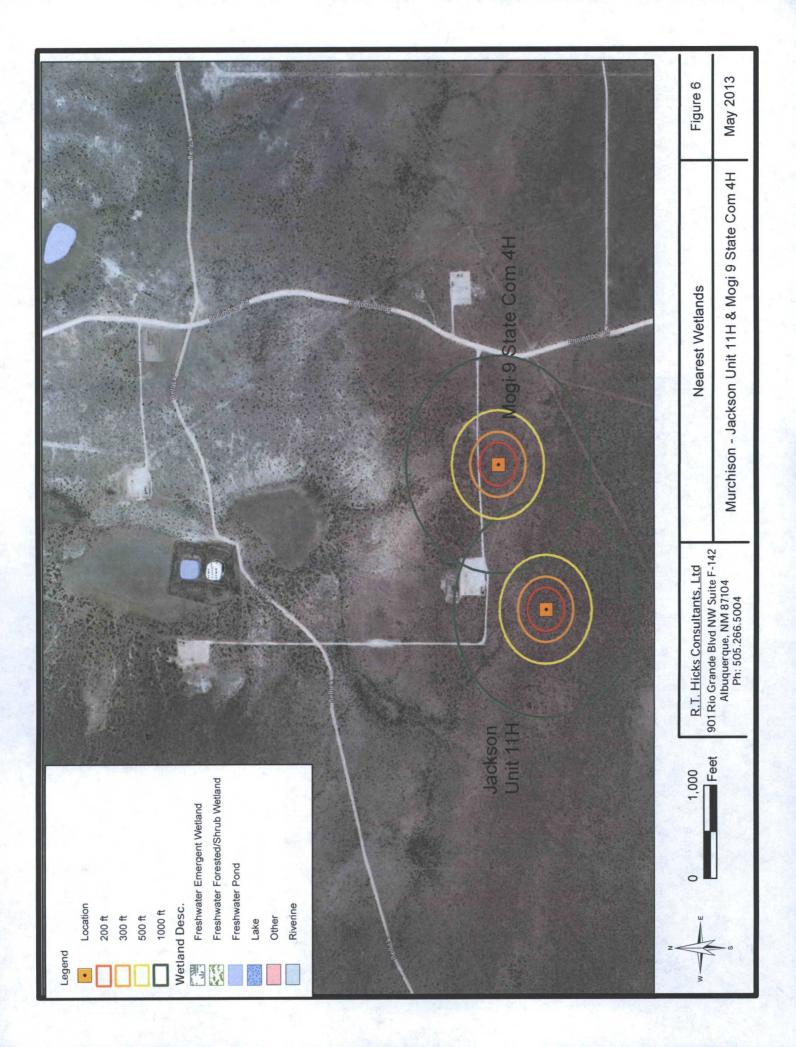


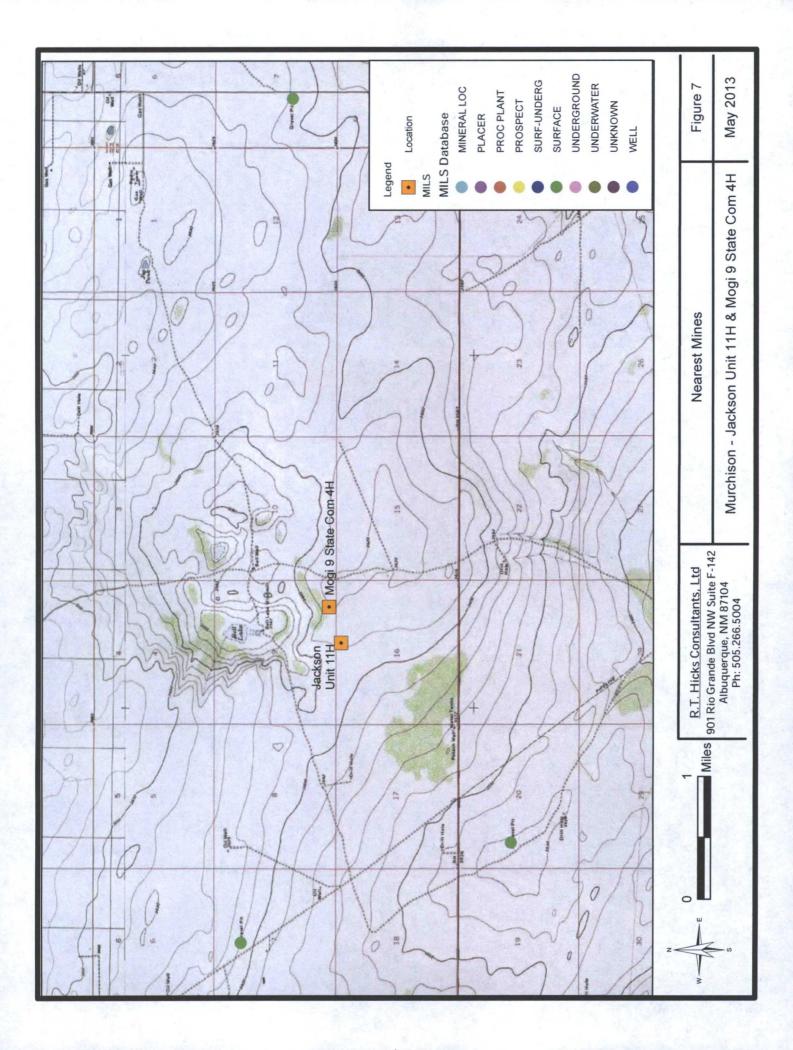


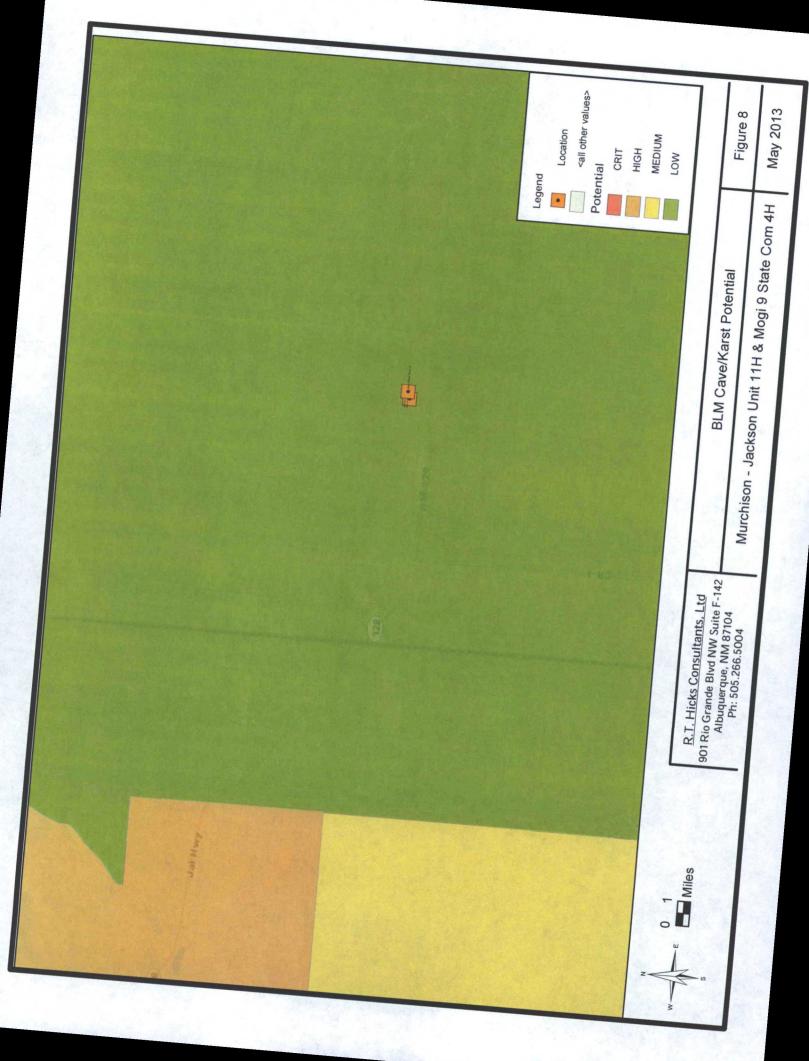




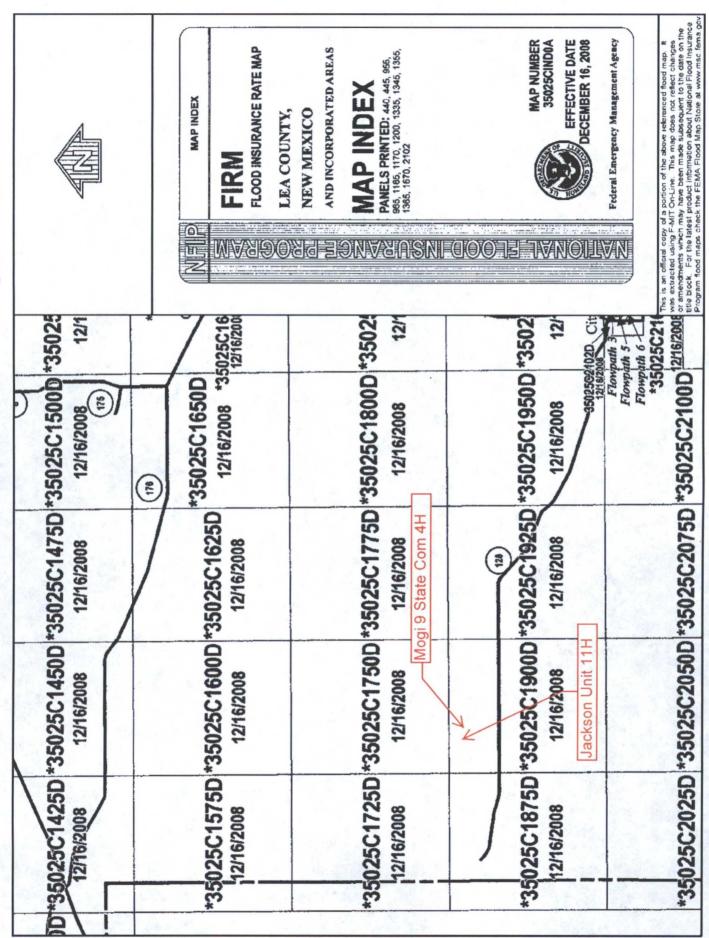










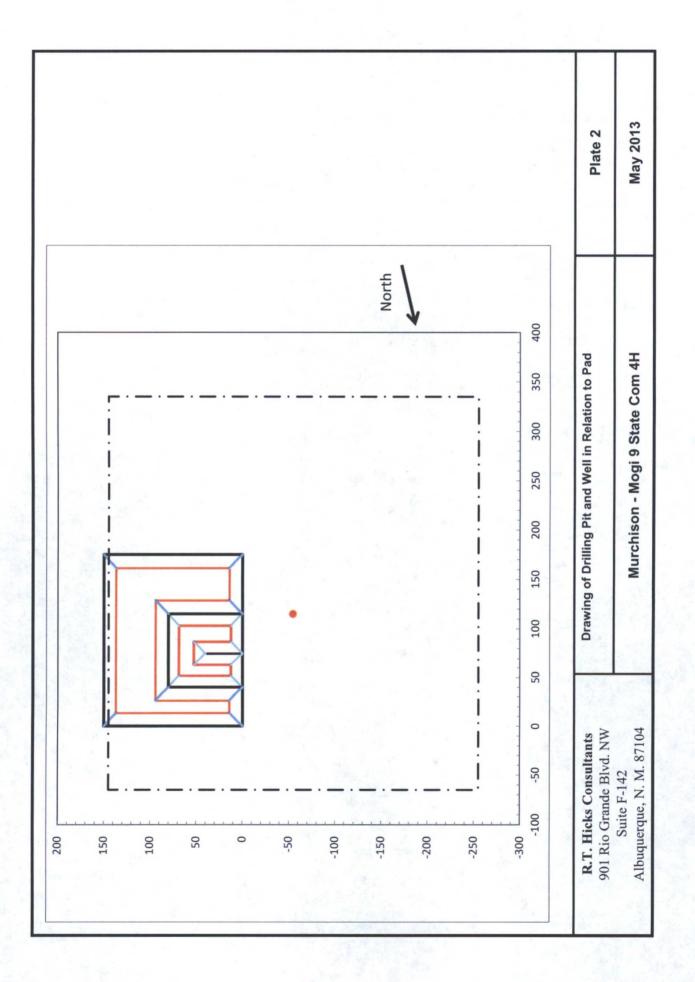


# Site Specific Information Plates

R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd. 901 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Suite F-142

Albuquerque, NM 87104

Drilling Cell Dimensions Drilling Cell Total Width 175.0 Drilling Cell Total Length 150.0	Slopes of Pit Horizontal Distance         1.70           Slopes of Pit Vertical Distance         1.00           Horseshoe divider width at surface         0.0	Inner Horseshoe Dimensions75.0Total Width (left right)75.0Total Length (up down)80.0Depth7.0Length of Divider40.0Divider Width0.0Width of discharge floor16.2Width of suction floor11.2	Outer Horseshoe DimensionsWidth Discharge SideWidth Discharge SideWidth Suction SideLength Far Side (up down)Vidth of discharge FloorWidth of Suction FloorWidth of Far Side floor (up-down dimension)12.8Width of Far Side floor (Up-down dimension)Depth of Discharge SideDepth of Suction Side0Depth of Suction Side000 <td< th=""><th>Fluids Cell Dimensions Width (left-right) 0.0 Length (up-down) 0.0 Depth 10.0</th><th></th><th>Plate 1</th><th>May 2013</th></td<>	Fluids Cell Dimensions Width (left-right) 0.0 Length (up-down) 0.0 Depth 10.0		Plate 1	May 2013
				100 125 150 175 200 225	Frac Cell Capacity 0 bbl Total Capacity 26531 bbl	Drawing of Drilling Cell	Murchison - Mogi 9 State Com 4H
	200 [ 175 ]	150	22 25 25 25	-25 -25 0 25 50 75	Inner Horseshoe Capacity 4823 bbl Outer Horseshoe Capacity 21708 bbl	<b>R.T. Hicks Consultants</b> 901 Rio Grande Blvd. NW	Suite F-142 Albuquerque, N. M. 87104



# R. T. HICKS CONSULTANTS, LTD.

901 Rio Grande Blvd NW ▲ Suite F-142 ▲ Albuquerque, NM 87104 ▲ 505.266.5004 ▲ Fax: 505.266-0745

February 28, 2013

#### Memo: Murchison Oil and Gas, Mogi 9 State Com 1H Rat Hole Evaluation

The Mogi 9 State Com #1H well site has an elevation of 3606 and located 1 mile due south of the Brinninstool 4 State 3H site. The Brinninstool 4 State 3H site is 30 feet higher, with an elevation of 3636.3. The Mogi 9 State Com #1H rat hole location is:

- Lower in elevation than the Brinninstool well site,
- Closer to the center of the Bell Lake depression area
- Closer to the closed topographic contour that defines the edge of the ancient collapse feature

Within the eastern portion of the Bell Lake Sink shallow (Ogallala or Alluvium) groundwater is known to be present at an elevation of 3,566 feet (see Table 1 and Figure 1 in the C-144 application). In the western portion of the Sink, groundwater is likely deeper, as the surface elevation of Bell Lake is about 3565 and the lake is dry. Based on this information it is expected that the shallow groundwater, if present at the Brinninstool 4 State 3H site would be approximately 50 to 70 feet below the surface.



On February 27, 2013 I witnessed the drilling of the rat hole at the Mogi 9 #1H site. Ready Drill LLC of Monahans, Texas performed the work using a track-mounted 30-inch auger drilling rig as shown in the adjacent photograph.

I arrived at the site at 10:30 am and found the operations shut down (waiting on fuel for the drilling rig) with the auger in the hole at a depth of approximately 70 feet. This provided an excellent opportunity to check for any

groundwater that may have accumulated in the bottom of the while the drilling rig was not operational.

At 11:25 am the rig had been re-fueled and the bottom 1 foot was cut, removed, and inspected for possible moisture. The photograph from the 70 to 71-foot depth interval (shown to the right) demonstrates that the soil cuttings were completely dry. Also, a mirror was used to reflect sunlight in to the boring in order to inspect the walls and bottom. There were no indications of water seeps in the walls or an accumulation of water at the total depth.



Over the next 2.5 hours the boring was advanced to a total depth of 120 feet by removing approximately 1 to 1.5 feet of material per trip into the hole. I carefully inspected each auger for the appearance moisture in the soil prior to it being spun off and removed from the drilling pad. Had the slightest indication of moisture been identified in the soil, the operation would have been suspended to allow for the accumulation of measurable water.

March 4, 2013 Page 2



The photograph to the left was taken from the soil recovered at a depth of 98 feet as it is being spun from the auger. This photograph demonstrates the lack of moisture in the cuttings. It is believed that any potential moisture from the bottom or walls of the boring would have been easily identified during the drilling process as each trip into the hole should contact wet soil if it is present at any depth.

During the drilling operations, soil samples

were collected and described as shown on the adjacent log. Based on the evaluation of the cuttings it appears that the Ogallala (or alluvium) is present at least seven feet above the Bell Lake well groundwater elevation. The top of the Triassic is identified by the hard purple shale at a depth of 33 feet and extends to the total depth of the boring.

In light of the geology observed from the rat hole samples and the absence of any detectable moisture throughout the drilling operation, it was determined that the additional costs associated with suspending the installation of the conductor pipe for 24 to 72 hours in order to allow the accumulation of potential groundwater was not justified at this site. Had any moisture been observed during drilling, or had porous rocks been present below the groundwater elevation observed in Bell Lake water wells, the installation of conductor pipe would have been suspended. Based on my observations, I am 100% certain that no groundwater is present at the Brinninstool 3H site to a depth of at least 120 feet below the surface (3,486 feet above sea level).



Based on the location of the two Murchison Brinninstool 3H well location, relative to the Bell Lake Depression, we conclude that no shallow groundwater is present at the Brininstool 4 State 3H site.

Please contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely, R.T. Hicks Consultants

Dal T. Littlesol

Dale Littlejohn

# **Survey Information**

R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd. 901 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Suite F-142

Albuquerque, NM 87104

District.1 1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs. NM 88240 Phone: (575) 393-6161 Fax: (575) 393-0720 District.11 811 S. First St., Artesia. NM 88210 Phone: (575) 748-1285 Fax: (575) 748-9720 District.111 1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec. NM 87410 Phone: (505) 334-6178 Fax: (505) 334-6170 District.1V 1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505 Phone: (505) 476-3460 Fax: (505) 476-3462

# State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 1220 South St. Francis Dr. Santa Fe, NM 87505

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Form C-102 Revised August 1, 2011 Submit one copy to appropriate District Office

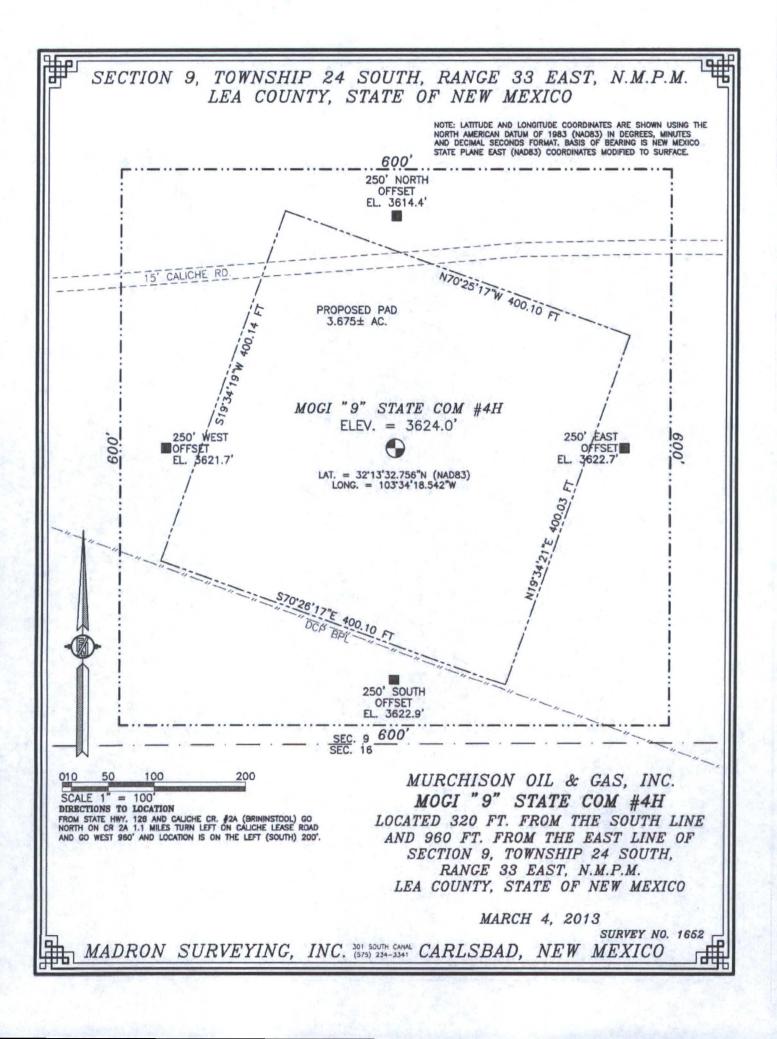
AMENDED REPORT

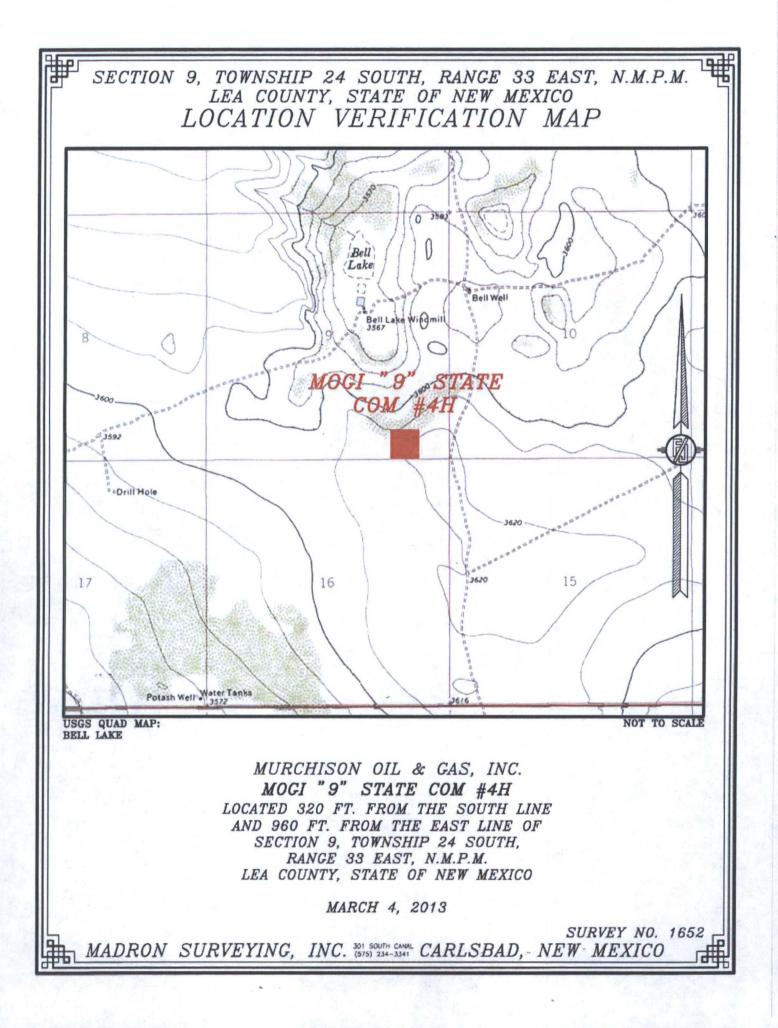
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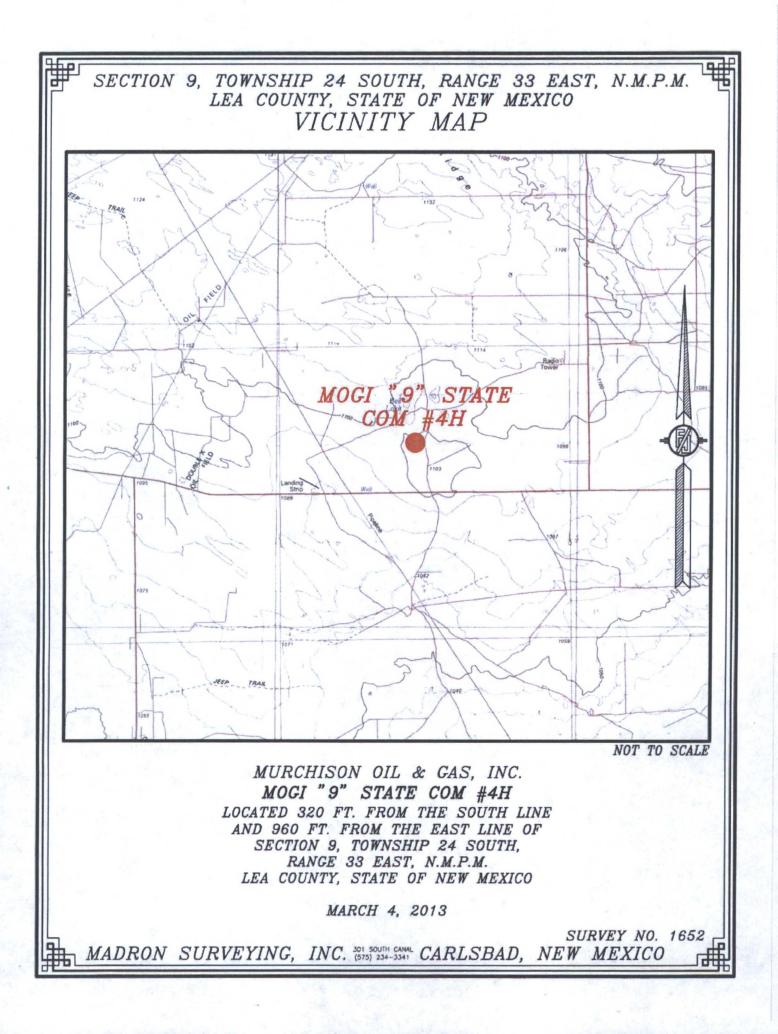
API Numbe	T		<sup>2</sup> Pool Code	<sup>2</sup> Pool Code <sup>3</sup> Pool Name								
* Property Code  * Property Name MOGI 9 STATE COM												
* Operator Name       363       MURCHISON OIL & GAS, INC.												
				<sup>10</sup> Surface	Location		and the state	1. 1.				
Section 9	Township 24 S	Range 33 E	Lot Ida	Feet from the 320	North/South line SOUTH	Feet from the 960	East/West line EAST	County				
191 - C. 1		" Bo	ottom Hol	le Location If	f Different From	n Surface						
Section 9	Township 24 S	Range 33 E	Lot Idn	Feet from the 330	North/South line NORTH	Feet from the 960	East/West line EAST	County				
	Code No. 3 Section 9 Section	No. 3 Section Township 9 24 S Section Township	Code No. 3 Section Township Range 9 24 S 33 E <sup>11</sup> Bo Section Township Range	Code No. 3 MUH Section Township Range Lot Ida 9 24 S 33 E <sup>11</sup> Bottom Hol Section Township Range Lot Ida	Code Section Township Range Lot Idn Feet from the Section Range	Code <sup>3</sup> Property Name       MOGI 9 STATE COM       No. <sup>8</sup> Operator Name       MURCHISON OIL & GAS, INC.       10     Surface Location       Section     Township     Range     Lot Ida     Feet from the     North/South line       9     24 S     33 E     320     SOUTH <sup>11</sup> Bottom Hole Location If Different Front       Section       Section Township       Range     Lot Idn       Feet from the       North/South line	Section       * Property Name         MOGI 9 STATE COM         * Operator Name         MURCHISON OIL & GAS, INC.         * Operator Name         Section         Section         * Operator Name         MURCHISON OIL & GAS, INC.         * Operator Name         * Operator Name         Section         Township       Range       Lot Idn       Feet from the       North/South line       Feet from the         Section       Township       Range       Lot Idn       Feet from the       North/South line       Feet from the         Section       Township       Range       Lot Idn       Feet from the       North/South line       Feet from the	Section       * Property Name         MOGI 9 STATE COM         No.       * Operator Name         MURCHISON OIL & GAS, INC.         10 Surface Location         Section       Feet from the       Feet from the         Section       Township       Range       Lot Idn       Feet from the       North/South line       Feet from the       East/West line         9       24 S       33 E       320       SOUTH       960       EAST         '' Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface         Section       Township       Range       Lot Idn       Feet from the       East/West line				

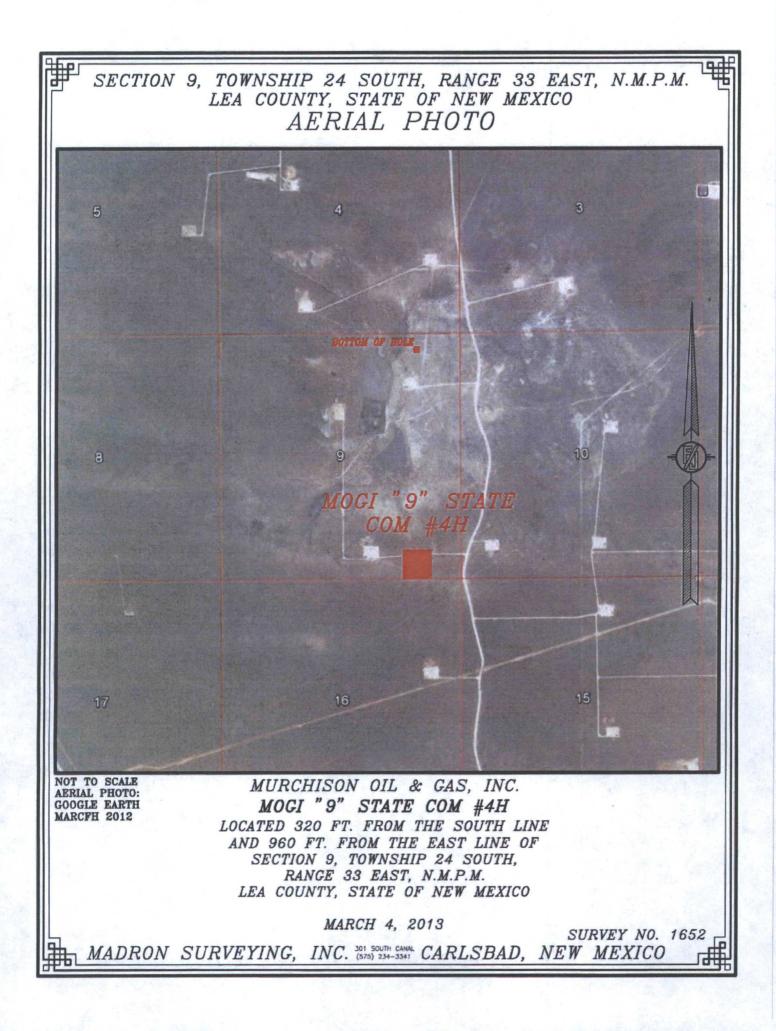
No allowable will be assigned to this completion until all interests have been consolidated or a non-standard unit has been approved by the division.

S00'25'11"E		<sup>17</sup> OPERATOR CERTIFICATION I hereby certify that the information contained herein is one and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that this organization either owns a working interest or unleased mineral interest in the land including the proposed bottom hole location or has a right to drill this well at this location pursuant to a contract with an owner of such a mineral or working interest, or to a voluntary pooling agreement or a compulsory pooling order heretofore entered by the division.
2640.03 FT	NOTE: LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES ARE SHOWN USING THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (NAD83) IN DEGRESS MINUTES DECIMAL SECONDS FORMAT. BASIS OF BEARING IS NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE EAST (NAD83) COORDINATES MODIFIED TO SURFACE.	Signature Date Printed Name E-mail Address
S00'25'	-LÁT. =-32-13'55.826"N LONG. = 103'35'08.854"W LONG. = 103'35'08.854"W	<sup>18</sup> SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my belief.
09"E 2640.53 FT	MOCI "9" STATE COM #4H ELEV. = 3624.0' SE CORNER SEC. 9 LAT. = 32'13'32.756"N (NAD83) LONG. = 103'34'18.542"W LONG. = 103'34'07.368"W G	MARCH 4. 2013 Date of Survey
	SW CORNER SEC. 9       S/4 CORNER SEC. 9       960'         LAT. = 32'13'29.702"N       LAT. = 32'13'29.634"N       N         LONG. = 103'35'08.843"W       LONG. = 103'34'38.121"W       O         N89'44'57"E 2639.61 FT       N89'44'44"E 2642'23 FT	Signature and Seal of Professional Surveyor Certificate Number: FILIMON F. JARAMILLO, PLS 12797 SURVEY NO. 1652









# **Temporary Pit Design Plan**

Plates 1 and 2 show the design of the temporary pit proposed for this project. Field conditions and the drilling rig layout will determine the final configuration of the pit cells, which will consists of the following:

- 1. A cell for drilling fluid circulation and cuttings storage consisting of:
  - a. An inner horseshoe for fresh water fluid and cuttings
  - b. An outer horseshoe for brine and cut brine fluid and cuttings
- 2. A cell for the storage of fresh water (drilling/stimulation) and stimulation flow-back water prior to re-use or disposal (OPTIONAL)

In addition to the commitments listed below, the operator will install a system that can drain water entrained in the drilling waste of the drilling pit. As described in the closure plan, this system of filtered perforated pipe and drainage mats cover much of the bottom of the drilling cell of the pit – the cut brine cell and the inner cell. The system will drain to the lowest corner of each cell, generally near the suction area. The exact location will be determined upon completion of the cells. Standpipes rise from the depression and can house a solar-powered pump. The drainage system for the brine-cut brine cell removes water to an above-ground tank, the fluids cell of the pit, or directly to a truck for re-use or disposal. The drainage system in the cut brine-brine cell may also be used to introduce water below the residual cuttings/mud, causing the introduced fluid to move upwards through the cuttings/mud and enhance the solids rinsing process. Introduced water to the cut brine-brine cell can be removed from the pit for re-use via a vacuum truck or recovered from the drainage system at the bottom.

The temporary storage of fluids, fluid reuse or fluid disposal will be conducted in a manner approved by division rules that prevents the contamination of fresh water and protects public health and the environment. This drainage and rinsing system allows the operator to:

- Recover clear water for possible re-use,
- Reduce the concentration of constituents of concern in the drilling waste by removing some water entrained in the drilling waste.

Precipitation and the possible addition of relatively fresh water (see closure plan) will rinse the solid drilling waste, causing additional reduction in the constituents of concern as the water is recovered for re-use or disposal.

For any temporary storage of fluids derived from the drilling pit and placed in an above-ground tank, the following will apply:

- 1. Construction, operation and maintenance of the temporary storage tank(s) will adhere to all applicable NMOCD Rules including but not limited to:
  - a. Safety stipulations
  - b. Protection from hydrogen sulfide mandates
  - c. Signage and identification requirements
  - d. Secondary containment requirements for temporary tanks

Generic Plans Approved 5/16/2013 – API 30-025-41093

#### C-144 Supplemental Documentation for Temporary Pit

- e. Applicable netting requirements
- 2. Any cleaning of the temporary tank(s) will adhere to NMOCD Rules relating to tank cleaning.
- 3. Transportation of water or drilling fluids derived from the drilling pit will adhere to all applicable NMOCD Rules relating to transportation.
- 4. Storage of water or drilling fluids in temporary above-ground tanks will also adhere to all applicable Federal mandates.

During final closure of the pit, the tanks and secondary containment system will be removed from the location and the area beneath the tank inspected for any leakage. If any leakage is suspected, the operator will sample the soil beneath the tanks and report any release pursuant to NMOCD Rules.

Finally, we intend to place any temporary tank used in conjunction with the pit drainage system on a 20-mil liner with a berm around it that would allow any inadvertently released fluids to drain or be pumped back into the pit.

#### Construction/Design Plan of Temporary Pit

- 1. The operator or qualified contractor will design and construct the pit to contain liquids and solids and prevent contamination of fresh water and protect public health and the environment.
- 2. Prior to constructing the pit the operator or qualified contractor will strip and stockpile the topsoil for use as the final cover or fill at the time of closure.
- 3. The operator will post an upright sign in compliance with 19.15.16.8 NMAC. The operator will post the sign in a manner and location such that a person can easily read the legend. The sign will provide the following information: the operator's name; the location of the site by quarter-quarter or unit letter, section, township and range; and emergency telephone numbers.
- 4. The operator will fence the pit in a manner that prevents unauthorized access and will maintain the fences in good repair. The operator will fence the pit to exclude livestock with a four-foot fence that has at least four strands of barbed wire evenly spaced in the interval between one foot and four feet above ground level. The pit will be completely fenced at all times excluding drilling and workover operations. During drilling or workover operations, the operator is not required to fence the edge of the pit adjacent to the drilling or workover rig.
- 5. The operator will design and construct the temporary pit to prevent unauthorized releases and ensure the confinement of liquids.
- 6. The temporary pit will have a properly constructed foundation and interior slopes consisting of a firm, unyielding base, smooth and free of rocks, debris, sharp edges or irregularities to prevent the liner's rupture or tear.
- The slopes of the pit will be no steeper than two horizontal feet to one vertical foot (2H:1V). Unless an alternate slope, protective to fresh water, public health and the environment, is proposed and approved by the appropriate division district office.
- 8. If necessary to address any concerns relating to the presence of karst and associated instability, during construction of the pit the contractor will compact the earth material

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that forms the foundation for the pit liner. An expected proctor density of greater than 90% will be achieved by

- a. Adding water to the earth material as appropriate,
- b. Compacting the earth by walking a crawler-type tractor down the sides and bottom of the pit
- c. Repeating this process with a second 6-inch lift of earth material if necessary
- 9. The operator will design and construct the temporary pit with a geomembrane liner. The geomembrane liner will consist of 20-mil string reinforced LLDPE or equivalent liner material that the appropriate division district office approves. The geomembrane liner will be composed of an impervious, synthetic material that is resistant to petroleum hydrocarbons, salts and acidic and alkaline solutions. The liner material will be resistant to ultraviolet light. Liner compatibility will comply with EPA SW-846 method 9090A.
- 10. The operator will minimize liner seams and orient them up and down, not across a slope. The operator will use factory-welded seams. Prior to any field seaming, the operator will overlap liners four to six inches and orient seams parallel to the line of maximum slope, *i.e.*, oriented along, not across, the slope. The operator will minimize the number of welded field seams in corners and irregularly shaped areas. Qualified personnel will weld Field seams.
- 11. Construction will avoid excessive stress-strain on the liner.
- 12. Geotextile will be placed under the liner where needed to reduce localized stress-strain or protuberances that may otherwise compromise the liner's integrity.
- 13. The operator and/or qualified contractor retained by the operator will anchor the edges of all liners in the bottom of a compacted earth-filled trench. The anchor trench will be at least 18 inches deep.
- 14. The operator and/or qualified contractor retained by the operator will ensure that the liner is protected from any fluid force or mechanical damage at any point of discharge into or suction from the lined temporary pit.
- 15. The operator and/or qualified contractor retained by the operator will design and construct the temporary pit to prevent run-on of surface water. As necessary, a berm or ditch will surround the temporary pit to prevent run-on of surface water.
- 16. The volume of the temporary pit (fluids cell plus drilling cell), including freeboard, does not exceed 10 acre-feet (77,583 bbls).

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