30-025-41330 HOBBS OCD

# PECOS DISTRICT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

AUG 1 3 2013

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Standard Conditions of Approval (COA) apply to this APD. If any deviations to these standards exist or special COAs are required, the section with the deviation or requirement will be checked below.

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## I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The approval of the Application For Permit To Drill (APD) is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations: 43 Code of Federal Regulations 3160, the lease terms, Onshore Oil and Gas Orders, Notices To Lessees, New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD) Rules, National Historical Preservation Act As Amended, and instructions and orders of the Authorized Officer. Any request for a variance shall be submitted to the Authorized Officer on Form 3160-5, Sundry Notices and Report on Wells.

## II. PERMIT EXPIRATION

If the permit terminates prior to drilling and drilling cannot be commenced within 60 days after expiration, an operator is required to submit Form 3160-5, Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells, requesting surface reclamation requirements for any surface disturbance. However, if the operator will be able to initiate drilling within 60 days after the expiration of the permit, the operator must have set the conductor pipe in order to allow for an extension of 60 days beyond the expiration date of the APD. (Filing of a Sundry Notice is required for this 60 day extension.)

## III. ARCHAEOLOGICAL, PALEONTOLOGY & HISTORICAL SITES

Any cultural and/or paleontological resource discovered by the operator or by any person working on the operator's behalf shall immediately report such findings to the Authorized Officer. The operator is fully accountable for the actions of their contractors and subcontractors. The operator shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the Authorized Officer. An evaluation of the discovery shall be made by the Authorized Officer to determine the appropriate actions that shall be required to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values of the discovery. The operator shall be held responsible for the cost of the proper mitigation measures that the Authorized Officer assesses after consultation with the operator on the evaluation and decisions of the discovery. Any unauthorized collection or disturbance of cultural or paleontological resources may result in a shutdown order by the Authorized Officer.

## IV. NOXIOUS WEEDS

The operator shall be held responsible if noxious weeds become established within the areas of operations. Weed control shall be required on the disturbed land where noxious weeds exist, which includes the roads, pads, associated pipeline corridor, and adjacent land affected by the establishment of weeds due to this action. The operator shall consult with the Authorized Officer for acceptable weed control methods, which include following EPA and BLM requirements and policies.

## VI. CONSTRUCTION

#### A. NOTIFICATION

The BLM shall administer compliance and monitor construction of the access road and well pad. Notify the Carlsbad Field Office at (575) 234-5909 at least 3 working days prior to commencing construction of the access road and/or well pad.

When construction operations are being conducted on this well, the operator shall have the approved APD and Conditions of Approval (COA) on the well site and they shall be made available upon request by the Authorized Officer.

#### B. TOPSOIL

The operator shall stockpile the topsoil in a low profile manner in order to prevent wind/water erosion of the topsoil. The topsoil to be stripped is approximately 6 inches in depth. The topsoil will be used for interim and final reclamation.

## C. CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM

Tanks are required for drilling operations: No Pits.

The operator shall properly dispose of drilling contents at an authorized disposal site.

#### D. FEDERAL MINERAL MATERIALS PIT

Payment shall be made to the BLM prior to removal of any federal mineral materials. Call the Carlsbad Field Office at (575) 234-5972.

#### E. WELL PAD SURFACING

Surfacing of the well pad is not required.

If the operator elects to surface the well pad, the surfacing material may be required to be removed at the time of reclamation.

The well pad shall be constructed in a manner which creates the smallest possible surface disturbance, consistent with safety and operational needs.

## F. EXCLOSURE FENCING (CELLARS & PITS)

#### **Exclosure Fencing**

The operator will install and maintain exclosure fencing for all open well cellars to prevent access to public, livestock, and large forms of wildlife before and after drilling operations until the pit is free of fluids and the operator initiates backfilling. (For

examples of exclosure fencing design, refer to BLM's Oil and Gas Gold Book, Exclosure Fence Illustrations, Figure 1, Page 18.)

#### G. ON LEASE ACCESS ROADS

#### Road Width

The access road shall have a driving surface that creates the smallest possible surface disturbance and does not exceed fourteen (14) feet in width. The maximum width of surface disturbance, when constructing the access road, shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet.

## **Surfacing**

Surfacing material is not required on the new access road driving surface. If the operator elects to surface the new access road or pad, the surfacing material may be required to be removed at the time of reclamation.

Where possible, no improvements should be made on the unsurfaced access road other than to remove vegetation as necessary, road irregularities, safety issues, or to fill low areas that may sustain standing water.

The Authorized Officer reserves the right to require surfacing of any portion of the access road at any time deemed necessary. Surfacing may be required in the event the road deteriorates, erodes, road traffic increases, or it is determined to be beneficial for future field development. The surfacing depth and type of material will be determined at the time of notification.

#### Crowning

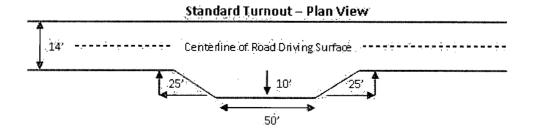
Crowning shall be done on the access road driving surface. The road crown shall have a grade of approximately 2% (i.e., a 1" crown on a 14' wide road). The road shall conform to Figure 1; cross section and plans for typical road construction.

#### Ditching

Ditching shall be required on both sides of the road.

#### **Turnouts**

Vehicle turnouts shall be constructed on the road. Turnouts shall be intervisible with interval spacing distance less than 1000 feet. Turnouts shall be constructed on all blind curves. Turnouts shall conform to the following diagram:



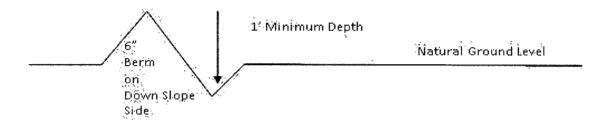
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## **Drainage**

Drainage control systems shall be constructed on the entire length of road (e.g. ditches, sidehill outsloping and insloping, lead-off ditches, culvert installation, and low water crossings).

A typical lead-off ditch has a minimum depth of 1 foot below and a berm of 6 inches above natural ground level. The berm shall be on the down-slope side of the lead-off ditch.

## Cross Section of a Typical Lead-off Ditch



All lead-off ditches shall be graded to drain water with a 1 percent minimum to 3 percent maximum ditch slope. The spacing interval are variable for lead-off ditches and shall be determined according to the formula for spacing intervals of lead-off ditches, but may be amended depending upon existing soil types and centerline road slope (in %);

#### Formula for Spacing Interval of Lead-off Ditches

Example - On a 4% road slope that is 400 feet long, the water flow shall drain water into a lead-off ditch. Spacing interval shall be determined by the following formula:

400 foot road with 4% road slope: 
$$\frac{400'}{4\%}$$
 + 100' = 200' lead-off ditch interval

#### **Culvert Installations**

Appropriately sized culvert(s) shall be installed at the deep waterway channel flow crossing.

#### **Cattleguards**

An appropriately sized cattleguard(s) sufficient to carry out the project shall be installed and maintained at fence crossing(s).

Any existing cattleguard(s) on the access road shall be repaired or replaced if they are damaged or have deteriorated beyond practical use. The operator shall be responsible for the condition of the existing cattleguard(s) that are in place and are utilized during lease operations.

A gate shall be constructed and fastened securely to H-braces.

## **Fence Requirement**

Where entry is required across a fence line, the fence shall be braced and tied off on both sides of the passageway prior to cutting.

The operator shall notify the private surface landowner or the grazing allotment holder prior to crossing any fence(s).

## **Public Access**

Public access on this road shall not be restricted by the operator without specific written approval granted by the Authorized Officer.

fürnöst 10' shoulder-100' Intervisible turnouts shall be constructed on all single lone roads on all blind curves with additional turnouts as needed to keep spacing below 1000 feet. Typical Turnout Plan embankment slope **Embankment Section** road type .03 - .05 h/h earth surface 02 - 04 ft/ft 02 - 03 ft/ft aggregate surface **Side Hill Section** travel surface (slope 2 - 4%) travel surface 4 (slope 2 – 4% ) **Typical Outsloped Section Typical Inslope Section** 

Figure 1 - Cross Sections and Plans For Typical Road Sections

## VII. DRILLING

## A. DRILLING OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS

The BLM is to be notified in advance for a representative to witness:

- a. Spudding well (minimum of 24 hours)
- b. Setting and/or Cementing of all casing strings (minimum of 4 hours)
- c. BOPE tests (minimum of 4 hours)

## **\( \)** Lea County

Call the Hobbs Field Station, 414 West Taylor, Hobbs NM 88240, (575) 393-3612

- 1. Hydrogen Sulfide has been reported as a hazard in formations deeper than the proposed depth. It is recommended that monitoring equipment be onsite for potential Hydrogen Sulfide. If Hydrogen Sulfide is encountered, report measurements and formations to the BLM.
- 2. Unless the production casing has been run and cemented or the well has been properly plugged, the drilling rig shall not be removed from over the hole without prior approval. If the drilling rig is removed without approval an Incident of Non-Compliance will be written and will be a "Major" violation.
- 3. Floor controls are required for 3M or Greater systems. These controls will be on the rig floor, unobstructed, readily accessible to the driller and will be operational at all times during drilling and/or completion activities. Rig floor is defined as the area immediately around the rotary table; the area immediately above the substructure on which the draw works is located, this does not include the dog house or stairway area.
- 4. The record of the drilling rate along with the GR/N well log run from TD to surface (horizontal well vertical portion of hole) shall be submitted to the BLM office as well as all other logs run on the borehole 30 days from completion. If available, a digital copy of the logs is to be submitted in addition to the paper copies. The Rustler top and top and bottom of Salt are to be recorded on the Completion Report.

## B. CASING

Changes to the approved APD casing program need prior approval if the items substituted are of lesser grade or different casing size. The Operator can exchange the components of the proposal with that of superior strength (i.e. changing from J-55 to N-80, or from 36# to 40#). Changes to the approved cement program need prior approval if the altered cement plan has less volume or strength or if the changes are substantial (i.e. Multistage tool, ECP, etc.).

Centralizers required on surface casing per Onshore Order 2.III.B.1.f.

Wait on cement (WOC) time prior to drilling out for a primary cement job will be a minimum 18 hours for a water basin, 24 hours in the potash area, or 500 pounds compressive strength, whichever is greater for all casing strings. DURING THIS WOC TIME, NO DRILL PIPE, ETC. SHALL BE RUN IN THE HOLE. Provide compressive strengths including hours to reach required 500 pounds compressive strength prior to cementing each casing string. IF OPERATOR DOES NOT HAVE THE WELL SPECIFIC CEMENT DETAILS ONSITE PRIOR TO PUMPING THE CEMENT FOR EACH CASING STRING, THE WOC WILL BE 30 HOURS. See individual casing strings for details regarding lead cement slurry requirements.

No pea gravel permitted for remedial or fall back remedial without prior authorization from the BLM engineer.

Possible water and brine flows in the Salado and Castile Groups. Possible lost circulation in the Delaware and Bone Springs. Abnormal pressure expected in the Wolfcamp.

- 1. The 13-3/8 inch surface casing shall be set at approximately 1400 feet (in a competent bed below the Magenta Dolomite, which is a Member of the Rustler) and cemented to the surface.
  - a. If cement does not circulate to the surface, the appropriate BLM office shall be notified and a temperature survey utilizing an electronic type temperature survey with surface log readout will be used or a cement bond log shall be run to verify the top of the cement. Temperature survey will be run a minimum of six hours after pumping cement and ideally between 8-10 hours after completing the cement job.
  - b. Wait on cement (WOC) time for a primary cement job is to include the lead cement slurry.
  - c. Wait on cement (WOC) time for a remedial job will be a minimum of 4 hours after bringing cement to surface or 500 pounds compressive strength, whichever is greater.
  - d. If cement falls back, remedial cementing will be done prior to drilling out that string.

Formation below the 13-3/8" shoe to be tested according to Onshore Order 2.III.B.1.i. Test to be done as a mud equivalency test using the mud weight necessary for the pore pressure of the formation below the shoe (not the mud weight required to prevent dissolving the salt formation) and the mud weight for the bottom of the hole. Report results to BLM office.

Intermediate casing to be kept fluid filled while running into hole to meet BLMs minimum collapse requirement.

- 2. The minimum required fill of cement behind the 9-5/8 inch intermediate casing is:
  - ☐ Cement to surface. If cement does not circulate see B.1.a, c-d above.

Formation below the 9-5/8" shoe to be tested according to Onshore Order 2.III.B.1.i. Test to be done as a mud equivalency test using the mud weight necessary for the pore pressure of the formation below the shoe (not the mud weight required to prevent dissolving the salt formation) and the mud weight for the bottom of the hole. Report results to BLM office.

- 3. The minimum required fill of cement behind the 5-1/2 inch production casing is:
  - Cement should tie-back at least 500 feet into previous casing string. Operator shall provide method of verification.
- 4. If hardband drill pipe is rotated inside casing, returns will be monitored for metal. If metal is found in samples, drill pipe will be pulled and rubber protectors which have a larger diameter than the tool joints of the drill pipe will be installed prior to continuing drilling operations.

#### C. PRESSURE CONTROL

- 1. All blowout preventer (BOP) and related equipment (BOPE) shall comply with well control requirements as described in Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2 and API RP 53 Sec. 17.
- 2. Minimum working pressure of the blowout preventer (BOP) and related equipment (BOPE) required for drilling below the surface casing shoe shall be 5000 (5M) psi. 5M system requires an HCR valve, remote kill line and annular to match. The remote kill line is to be installed prior to testing the system and tested to stack pressure.
- 3. The appropriate BLM office shall be notified a minimum of 4 hours in advance for a representative to witness the tests.

- a. In a water basin, for all casing strings utilizing slips, these are to be set as soon as the crew and rig are ready and any fallback cement remediation has been done. The casing cut-off and BOP installation can be initiated four hours after installing the slips, which will be approximately six hours after bumping the plug. For those casing strings not using slips, the minimum wait time before cut-off is eight hours after bumping the plug. BOP/BOPE testing can begin after cut-off or once cement reaches 500 psi compressive strength (including lead when specified), whichever is greater. However, if the float does not hold, cut-off cannot be initiated until cement reaches 500 psi compressive strength (including lead when specified).
- b. The tests shall be done by an independent service company utilizing a test plug **not** a **cup** or **J-packer**.
- c. The test shall be run on a 5000 psi chart for a 2-3M BOP/BOP, on a 10000 psi chart for a 5M BOP/BOPE and on a 15000 psi chart for a 10M BOP/BOPE. If a linear chart is used, it shall be a one hour chart. A circular chart shall have a maximum 2 hour clock.
- d. The results of the test shall be reported to the appropriate BLM office.
- e. All tests are required to be recorded on a calibrated test chart. A copy of the BOP/BOPE test chart and a copy of independent service company test will be submitted to the appropriate BLM office.
- f. The BOP/BOPE test shall include a low pressure test from 250 to 300 psi. The test will be held for a minimum of 10 minutes if test is done with a test plug and 30 minutes without a test plug. This test shall be performed prior to the test at full stack pressure.
- g. BOP/BOPE must be tested by an independent service company within 500 feet of the top of the **Wolfcamp** formation if the time between the setting of the intermediate casing and reaching this depth exceeds 20 days. This test does not exclude the test prior to drilling out the casing shoe as per Onshore Order No. 2.

#### D. DRILLING MUD

Mud system monitoring equipment, with derrick floor indicators and visual and audio alarms, shall be operating before drilling into the **Wolfcamp** formation, and shall be used until production casing is run and cemented.

## E. DRILL STEM TEST

If drill stem tests are performed, Onshore Order 2.III.D shall be followed.

## F. WASTE MATERIAL AND FLUIDS

All waste (i.e. drilling fluids, trash, salts, chemicals, sewage, gray water, etc.) created as a result of drilling operations and completion operations shall be safely contained and disposed of properly at a waste disposal facility. No waste material or fluid shall be disposed of on the well location or surrounding area.

Porto-johns and trash containers will be on-location during fracturing operations or any other crew-intensive operations.

#### CRW 080813

## VIII. PRODUCTION (POST DRILLING)

#### A. WELL STRUCTURES & FACILITIES

#### **Placement of Production Facilities**

Production facilities should be placed on the well pad to allow for maximum interim recontouring and revegetation of the well location.

## **Exclosure Netting (Open-top Tanks)**

Immediately following active drilling or completion operations, the operator will take actions necessary to prevent wildlife and livestock access, including avian wildlife, to all open-topped tanks that contain or have the potential to contain salinity sufficient to cause harm to wildlife or livestock, hydrocarbons, or Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976-exempt hazardous substances. At a minimum, the operator will net, screen, or cover open-topped tanks to exclude wildlife and livestock and prevent mortality. If the operator uses netting, the operator will cover and secure the open portion of the tank to prevent wildlife entry. The operator will net, screen, or cover the tanks until the operator removes the tanks from the location or the tanks no longer contain substances that could be harmful to wildlife or livestock. Use a maximum netting mesh size of 1 ½ inches. The netting must not be in contact with fluids and must not have holes or gaps.

## **Chemical and Fuel Secondary Containment and Exclosure Screening**

The operator will prevent all hazardous, poisonous, flammable, and toxic substances from coming into contact with soil and water. At a minimum, the operator will install and maintain an impervious secondary containment system for any tank or barrel containing hazardous, poisonous, flammable, or toxic substances sufficient to contain the contents of the tank or barrel and any drips, leaks, and anticipated precipitation. The operator will dispose of fluids within the containment system that do not meet applicable state or U. S. Environmental Protection Agency livestock water standards in accordance with state law; the operator must not drain the fluids to the soil or ground. The operator will design, construct, and maintain all secondary containment systems to prevent wildlife and livestock exposure to harmful substances. At a minimum, the operator will install effective wildlife and livestock exclosure systems such as fencing, netting, expanded metal mesh, lids, and grate covers. Use a maximum netting mesh size of 1½ inches.

#### **Open-Vent Exhaust Stack Exclosures**

The operator will construct, modify, equip, and maintain all open-vent exhaust stacks on production equipment to prevent birds and bats from entering, and to discourage perching, roosting, and nesting. (*Recommended exclosure structures on open-vent exhaust stacks are in the shape of a cone.*) Production equipment includes, but may not be limited to, tanks, heater-treaters, separators, dehydrators, flare stacks, in-line units, and compressor mufflers.

#### **Containment Structures**

Proposed production facilities such as storage tanks and other vessels will have a secondary containment structure that is constructed to hold the capacity of 1.5 times the

largest tank, plus freeboard to account for precipitation, unless more stringent protective requirements are deemed necessary.

#### **Painting Requirement**

All above-ground structures including meter housing that are not subject to safety requirements shall be painted a flat non-reflective paint color, **Shale Green** from the BLM Standard Environmental Color Chart (CC-001: June 2008).

#### B. PIPELINES

The Holder shall indemnify the United States against any liability for damage to life or property arising from the occupancy or use of public lands under this grant.

- 2. The Holder shall comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations existing or hereafter enacted or promulgated. In any event, the holder shall comply with the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 as amended, 15 USC 2601 et seq. (1982) with regards to any toxic substances that are used, generated by or stored on the right-of-way or on facilities authorized under this right-of-way grant. (See 40 CFR Part 702-799 and especially, provisions on polychlorinated biphenyls, 40 CFR 761.1-761.193.) Additionally, any release of toxic substances (leaks, spills, etc.) in excess of the reportable quantity established by 40 CFR Part 117 shall be reported as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, section 102b. A copy of any report required or requested by any Federal agency or State government as a result of a reportable release or spill of any toxic substances shall be furnished to the authorized officer concurrent with the filing of the reports to the involved Federal agency or State government.
- 3. The holder agrees to indemnify the United States against any liability arising from the release of any hazardous substance or hazardous waste (as these terms are defined in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. 9601, et seq. or the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C.6901, et seq.) on the Right-of-Way (unless the release or threatened release is wholly unrelated to the Right-of-Way holder's activity on the Right-of-Way), or resulting from the activity of the Right-of-Way holder on the Right-of-Way. This agreement applies without regard to whether a release is caused by the holder, its agent, or unrelated third parties.
- 4. If, during any phase of the construction, operation, maintenance, or termination of the pipeline, any oil or other pollutant should be discharged from the pipeline system, impacting Federal lands, the control and total removal, disposal, and cleaning up of such oil or other pollutant, wherever found, shall be the responsibility of holder, regardless of fault. Upon failure of holder to control, dispose of, or clean up such discharge on or affecting Federal lands, or to repair all damages resulting therefrom, on the Federal lands, the Authorized Officer may take such measures as he deems necessary to control and clean up the discharge and restore the area, including where appropriate, the aquatic environment and fish and wildlife habitats, at the full expense of the holder. Such action by the Authorized Officer shall not relieve holder of any responsibility as provided herein.

5. All construction and maintenance activity will be confined to the authorized right-of-way.
6. The pipeline will be buried with a minimum cover of <u>36</u> inches between the top of the pipe and ground level.
7. The maximum allowable disturbance for construction in this right-of-way will be $\underline{30}$ feet:
• Blading of vegetation within the right-of-way will be allowed: maximum width of blading operations will not exceed 20 feet. The trench is included in this area. (Blading is defined as the complete removal of brush and ground vegetation.)
• Clearing of brush species within the right-of-way will be allowed: maximum width of clearing operations will not exceed 30 feet. The trench and bladed area are included in this area. (Clearing is defined as the removal of brush while leaving ground vegetation (grasses, weeds, etc.) intact. Clearing is best accomplished by holding the blade 4 to 6 inches above the ground surface.)
• The remaining area of the right-of-way (if any) shall only be disturbed by compressing the vegetation. (Compressing can be caused by vehicle tires, placement of equipment, etc.)
8. The holder shall stockpile an adequate amount of topsoil where blading is allowed. The topsoil to be stripped is approximately6 inches in depth. The topsoil will be segregated from other spoil piles from trench construction. The topsoil will be evenly distributed over the bladed area for the preparation of seeding.
9. The holder shall minimize disturbance to existing fences and other improvements on public lands. The holder is required to promptly repair improvements to at least their former state. Functional use of these improvements will be maintained at all times. The holder will contact the owner of any improvements prior to disturbing them. When necessary to pass through a fence line, the fence shall be braced on both sides of the passageway prior to cutting of the fence. No permanent gates will be allowed unless approved by the Authorized Officer.
10. Vegetation, soil, and rocks left as a result of construction or maintenance activity will be randomly scattered on this right-of-way and will not be left in rows, piles, or berms, unless otherwise approved by the Authorized Officer. The entire right-of-way shall be recontoured to match the surrounding landscape. The backfilled soil shall be compacted and a 6 inch berm will be left over the ditch line to allow for settling back to grade.
11. In those areas where erosion control structures are required to stabilize soil conditions, the holder will install such structures as are suitable for the specific soil conditions being encountered and which are in accordance with sound resource management practices.

12. The holder will reseed all disturbed areas. Seeding will be done according to the attached seeding requirements, using the following seed mix.			
( ) seed mixture 1	( ) seed mixture 3		
(X) seed mixture 2	( ) seed mixture 4		
( ) seed mixture 2/LPC	( ) Aplomado Falcon Mixture		
13. All above-ground structures not subject to safety requirements shall be painted by the holder to blend with the natural color of the landscape. The paint used shall be color which simulates "Standard Environmental Colors" – <b>Shale Green</b> , Munsell Soil Color No. 5Y 4/2.			
way and at all road crossings. At a minimum, si	signs and information thereon will be posted in a		
15. The holder shall not use the pipeline route as a road for purposes other than routine maintenance as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer in consultation with the holder before maintenance begins. The holder will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that the pipeline route is not used as a roadway. As determined necessary during the life of the pipeline, the Authorized Officer may ask the holder to construct temporary deterrence structures.			
16. Any cultural and/or paleontological resources (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf, on public or Federal land shall be immediately reported to the Authorized Officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the Authorized Officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the Authorized Officer to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures will be made by the Authorized Officer after consulting with the holder.			
of operations. Weed control shall be required on which includes associated roads, pipeline corrid	or and adjacent land affected by the establishment onsult with the Authorized Officer for acceptable		
18. <u>Escape Ramps</u> - The operator will construct otherwise fenced, screened, or netted to prevent entrapped. At a minimum, the operator will con			

other methods of avian and terrestrial wildlife escape in the trenches according to the following criteria:

- a. Any trench left open for eight (8) hours or less is not required to have escape ramps; however, before the trench is backfilled, the contractor/operator shall inspect the trench for wildlife, remove all trapped wildlife, and release them at least 100 yards from the trench.
- b. For trenches left open for eight (8) hours or more, earthen escape ramps (built at no more than a 30 degree slope and spaced no more than 500 feet apart) shall be placed in the trench.

## C. FRAC POND and FRAC PIPELINES

FRAC POND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

A copy of the application (APD, Grant, or Sundry Notice) and attachments, including stipulations, survey plat and diagram, will be on location during construction. BLM personnel may request to see a copy of your permit during construction to ensure compliance with all conditions of approval.

Holder agrees to comply with the following conditions of approval to the satisfaction of the Authorized Officer:

- 1. The Holder shall indemnify the United States against any liability for damage to life or property arising from the occupancy or use of public lands under this permit.
- 2. The Holder shall comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations existing or hereafter enacted or promulgated.
- 3. Required Standard Conditions of Approval:

#### a. Notification

Contact the Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist, Jim Amos, at 575-234-5909 at least 24 hours prior to starting construction.

#### b. Freshwater Only

The frac pond will only be authorized to contain freshwater and testing of water quality is required. Additives are not allowed without consent of the authorized officer in writing.

## c. Contamination

If at any time the water in the frac pond becomes polluted with salts or other contaminants, use of the frac pond will cease and desist, and all liquids will be removed from the frac pond and disposed of properly. The operator will preclude releases of oil into open pits. The operator must remove any accumulation of oil, condensate, or contaminant in a pit within 48 hours of discovery.

#### d. Authorized Disturbance

Confine all construction and maintenance activity to the approved authorized area applied for in the application.

#### e. Facilities

Porto-johns and trash containers will be on-location during fracturing operations or any other crew-intensive operations. Grey-water, sewage, and trash shall be removed from the site and disposed of properly at a state approved facility.

## f. Escape Ramps

The operator will construct and maintain frac ponds to prevent livestock, wildlife, and humans from becoming entrapped. At a minimum, the operator will construct and maintain escape ramps, ladders, or other methods of avian and terrestrial wildlife escape in frac ponds. Escape ramps must be installed at every corner of the frac pond and in the center of each side if that side exceeds 100 feet in length. Escape ramps must be in contact with the side of the frac pond, bottom of the frac pond, and the top of the frac pond berm. Escape ramps cannot be made of metal and cannot be steeper than a 3:1 slope (Horizontal Distance: Vertical Distance) or 30% slope. (Examples of escape ramps: 12" wide wooden planks wrapped in matting, felt lining, etc.)

## g. Frac Pond Pipelines

Temporary pipelines flowing from the frac pond to the target well will be laid along existing roadways unless an exception has been granted by the authorized officer in writing.

## h. Mineral Material from Excavation

Mineral materials extracted during construction of the frac pond will be stored on-location and/or used for constructing the frac pond.

## i. Frac Pond Liner

The frac pond will be lined with at least a 30 mil. plastic liner. The plastic lining will be removed prior to final abandonment.

#### j. Topsoil Stockpile

The operator shall strip at least the top 6 inches of soil (root zone) from the entire frac pond area and stockpile the topsoil approximately 25 feet outside the bermed perimeter of the pond in a low profile manner, reasonably protected from wind and water erosion. Topsoil shall not be used for constructing the frac pond. The topsoil will be used for final reclamation purposes only.

#### k. Frac Pond Fence

The operator will install and maintain exclosure fencing on all sides of the frac pond to prevent access to public, livestock, and large forms of wildlife. The fence shall be installed at the base of the berm and never on top of the berm. Construction of the fence shall consist of steel and/or wooden posts set firmly into natural ground. Hog panel or chain-link fencing must be used as the fence and tied securely to the fence posts. Barbed-wire fencing or electric fences shall not be used. The fence height shall not be shorter than six (6) feet. The erected fence shall be maintained in adequate condition until the frac pond is reclaimed.

## l. Erosion Prevention

Install earthen erosion-control structures as are suitable for the specific terrain and soil conditions.

#### m. Reclamation Start

- I. Reclamation efforts will commence immediately after the frac pond is no longer needed for the purpose of completing wells.
- II. Within 3 months of completion of frac operations on associated wells, all earthwork and final reclamation must be completed. This includes reclaiming and/or removal of:
  - i. Any roads approved for use with the pond
  - ii. Surface water lines
  - iii. Tanks, pumps, fencing etc.

## Requirements for Operations and Final Reclamation:

4. If, during any phase of the construction, operation, maintenance, or termination of the frac pond, any pollutant should be released from the contaminated frac pond, the control and total removal, disposal, and cleaning up of such pollutant, wherever found, shall be the responsibility of holder, regardless of fault.

Upon failure of holder to control, dispose of, or clean up such discharge, or to repair all damages resulting there-from, the Authorized Officer may take such measures as he deems necessary to control and clean up the discharge and restore the area, including where appropriate, the aquatic environment and fish and wildlife habitats, at the full expense of the holder. Such action by the Authorized Officer shall not relieve holder of any responsibility as provided herein.

- 5. Any cultural and/or paleontological resources (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf shall be immediately reported to the Authorized Officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the Authorized Officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the Authorized Officer to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures will be made by the Authorized Officer after consulting with the holder.
- 6. The operator shall be held responsible if noxious weeds become established within the areas of operations. Weed control shall be required on the disturbed land where noxious weeds exist, which includes the roads, pads, associated pipeline corridor, and adjacent land affected by the establishment of weeds due to this action. The operator shall consult with the Authorized Officer for acceptable weed control methods, which include following EPA and BLM requirements and policies.

- 7. After all disturbed areas have been satisfactorily contoured and prepared for seeding the location needs to be revegetated with the seed mixture provided. Seeding may need to be repeated until revegetation is successful. Operators shall contact Jim Amos, Supervisor, Environmental Protection (575)234-5909, **prior** to beginning surface reclamation operations.
- 8. Seeding is required: Use the following seed mix.

( ) seed mixture 1	( ) seed mixture 3
(x) seed mixture 2	( ) seed mixture 4
( ) LPC mixture	( ) Aplomado Falcon mix

Temporary Freshwater Pipelines (Drilling and Fracturing Operations)
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

## Must follow existing disturbance.

Maintain a copy of your temporary permit and your approved route diagram on location. BLM personnel may request to see a copy of your permit during construction to ensure compliance with all conditions of approval.

Holder agrees to comply with the following conditions of approval to the satisfaction of the Authorized Officer:

- 1. The Holder shall indemnify the United States against any liability for damage to life or property arising from the occupancy or use of public lands under this permit.
- 2. Standard Conditions of Approval:
  - Temporary pipelines must be removed within 30-45 days from this route unless granted in writing by the authorized officer.
  - Temporary pipelines flowing from the frac pond to the target well(s) will be laid along existing roadways unless an exception has been granted by the authorized officer.
  - Pipe will be hand-carried and hand-laid along any cross country portion of the approved route.
  - Areas impacted (disturbed greater than vegetation compaction) by your project may require full reclamation.

- Pipelines will be empty before disassembly. Flow water back to the pond whenever possible.
- Do not restrict traffic on existing roads. Place ramps where needed.
- Pipe will be placed not more than 2 feet off the edge of existing lease roads, 2-track roads, or buried pipeline corridors.
- All pumps will be placed on existing disturbance (pads, roads, etc.).
- 3. Any cultural and/or paleontological resources (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf shall be immediately reported to the Authorized Officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the Authorized Officer.

## IX. INTERIM RECLAMATION

During the life of the development, all disturbed areas not needed for active support of production operations should undergo interim reclamation in order to minimize the environmental impacts of development on other resources and uses.

Within six (6) months of well completion, operators should work with BLM surface management specialists (Jim Amos: 575-234-5909) to devise the best strategies to reduce the size of the location. Interim reclamation should allow for remedial well operations, as well as safe and efficient removal of oil and gas.

During reclamation, the removal of caliche is important to increasing the success of revegetating the site. Removed caliche that is free of contaminants may be used for road repairs, fire walls or for building other roads and locations. In order to operate the well or complete workover operations, it may be necessary to drive, park and operate on restored interim vegetation within the previously disturbed area. Disturbing revegetated areas for production or workover operations will be allowed. If there is significant disturbance and loss of vegetation, the area will need to be revegetated. Communicate with the appropriate BLM office for any exceptions/exemptions if needed.

All disturbed areas after they have been satisfactorily prepared need to be reseeded with the seed mixture provided below.

Upon completion of interim reclamation, the operator shall submit a Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells, Subsequent Report of Reclamation (Form 3160-5).

#### X. FINAL ABANDONMENT & RECLAMATION

At final abandonment, well locations, production facilities, and access roads must undergo "final" reclamation so that the character and productivity of the land are restored.

Earthwork for final reclamation must be completed within six (6) months of well plugging. All pads, pits, facility locations and roads must be reclaimed to a satisfactory revegetated, safe, and stable condition, unless an agreement is made with the landowner or BLM to keep the road and/or pad intact.

After all disturbed areas have been satisfactorily prepared, these areas need to be revegetated with the seed mixture provided below. Seeding should be accomplished by drilling on the contour whenever practical or by other approved methods. Seeding may need to be repeated until revegetation is successful, as determined by the BLM.

Operators shall contact a BLM surface protection specialist prior to surface abandonment operations for site specific objectives (Jim Amos: 575-234-5909).

Seed Mixture 2, for Sandy Sites

The holder shall seed all disturbed areas with the seed mixture listed below. The seed mixture shall be planted in the amounts specified in pounds of pure live seed (PLS)\* per acre. There shall be <u>no</u> primary or secondary noxious weeds in the seed mixture. Seed will be tested and the viability testing of seed will be done in accordance with State law (s) and within nine (9) months prior to purchase. Commercial seed will be either certified or registered seed. The seed container will be tagged in accordance with State law(s) and available for inspection by the authorized officer.

Seed will be planted using a drill equipped with a depth regulator to ensure proper depth of planting where drilling is possible. The seed mixture will be evenly and uniformly planted over the disturbed area (smaller/heavier seeds have a tendency to drop the bottom of the drill and are planted first). The holder shall take appropriate measures to ensure this does not occur. Where drilling is not possible, seed will be broadcast and the area shall be raked or chained to cover the seed. When broadcasting the seed, the pounds per acre are to be doubled. The seeding will be repeated until a satisfactory stand is established as determined by the authorized officer. Evaluation of growth will not be made before completion of at least one full growing season after seeding.

Species to be planted in pounds of pure live seed\* per acre:

Species	l <u>b/acre</u>
Sand dropseed (Sporobolus cryptandrus)	1.0
Sand love grass (Eragrostis trichodes)	1.0
Plains bristlegrass (Setaria macrostachya)	2.0

<sup>\*</sup>Pounds of pure live seed:

Pounds of seed x percent purity x percent germination = pounds pure live seed