

# **RICE** *Operating Company*

112 West Taylor • Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

Phone: (575) 393-9174 • Fax: (575) 397-1471

**March 3, 2020**

## **Bradford Billings**

New Mexico Energy, Minerals, & Natural Resources

Oil Conservation Division, Environmental Bureau

1220 S. St. Francis Drive

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

**RE: Termination Request**

**Rice Operating Company – BD SWD System**

**BD Jct. K-20-2 (1R426-10): UL/K, Sec. 20, T21S, R37E**

Mr. Billings:

RICE Operating Company (ROC) submits the following to address potential environmental concerns at the above referenced site in the BD Salt Water Disposal (SWD) system. ROC is the service provider (agent) for the BD SWD System and has no ownership of any portion of the pipeline, well, or facility. The system is owned by a consortium of oil producers, System Parties, who provide all operating capital on a percentage ownership/usage basis.

## **Background and Previous Work**

The site is located approximately 2 miles northwest of Eunice, New Mexico at UL/K, Sec. 20, T21S, R37E as shown on the Geographical Location Map and Area Map (attached). NM OSE records and the drilling of SB-8 indicate that groundwater will be encountered at a depth deeper than 106.8 feet below ground surface (bgs).

In 2003, ROC initiated work on the former K-20-2 junction box. The site was delineated using a backhoe to form a 24x24x12-ft deep excavation and soil samples were screened at regular intervals for both hydrocarbon and chloride. Representative composite samples were sent a commercial laboratory for analysis. The 4-wall composite sample returned a chloride reading of 1,180 mg/kg, Gasoline Range Organics (GRO) and Diesel Range Organics (DRO) readings non-detect. The bottom composite sample returned a chloride reading of 567 mg/kg, GRO and DRO readings of non-detect. The excavation was backfilled to the ground surface and the site was contoured to the surrounding area. A new water-tight junction box was installed 36 feet northwest of this site.

## **Investigation and Characterization Plan (ICP) Report**

To further investigate the depth of chloride presence, eight soil bores were installed (see Soil Bore Installation Plat) on July 19 and 20, 2018, August 30, 2018, and April 23, 2019. As the soil bores were advanced, soil samples were collected at regular intervals and field tested for chloride and hydrocarbon. Representative samples were sent to a commercial laboratory for analysis. SB-1 resulted in chloride concentration of 2,560 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/Extended DRO (EXT-DRO)

March 3, 2020

concentrations of non-detect at 40 ft bgs. The 80 ft sample resulted in a chloride concentration of 1,380 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect. SB-2 resulted in chloride concentration of 2,040 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect in the 35 ft bgs sample. The 75 ft sample resulted in a chloride concentration of 464 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect. SB-3 resulted in chloride concentration of 1,310 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect in the 15 ft bgs sample. The 25 ft sample resulted in a chloride concentration of 384 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect. SB-4 resulted in chloride concentration of 2,120 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect at 30 ft bgs. The 90 ft sample resulted in a chloride concentration of 1,460 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect. SB-5 resulted in chloride concentration of 2,640 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect in the 25 ft bgs sample. The 40 ft sample resulted in a chloride concentration of 160 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect. SB-6 resulted in chloride concentration of 1,480 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect in the 10 ft bgs sample. The 25 ft sample resulted in a chloride concentration of 208 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect. SB-7 resulted in chloride concentration of 3,000 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect at 25 ft bgs. The 45 ft sample resulted in a chloride concentration of 336 mg/kg and GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations of non-detect. BTEX was also non-detect in SB-7. To verify depth to groundwater, SB-8 was drilled to a depth of 106.8 ft bgs. Soil samples were collected at regular intervals and each sample was evaluated for lithology. The soil bore was left open for 48 hours to allow for groundwater accumulation, and no groundwater was encountered throughout the borehole. This proves groundwater is deeper than 106.8 ft bgs. All eight of the entire boreholes were plugged with bentonite to the ground surface.

To determine if the residual chloride in the vadose zone pose a threat to groundwater quality, ROC ran the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Exposure Assessment Multimedia Model (MULTIMED Version 1.5, 2005). The model output concludes that the peak concentration of chloride in groundwater contributed by the vadose zone soils (based on boring data) would be approximately 135 mg/L in 199 years with a liner installation. Since the estimated increase in chloride concentrations in groundwater from residual chloride migration is below the WQCC standard of 250 mg/L, no action is warranted for the groundwater at this site.

### **Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Report**

A Corrective Action Plan (CAP) was submitted on the June 6, 2019 and was approved by the NMOCD on August 12, 2019. The CAP proposed installing a modified 95x89-ft, 20-mil reinforced liner at 5–4 ft bgs.

In order to inhibit the downward migration of residual constituents through the vadose zone, ROC excavated the site to a depth of 4.5 ft bgs and installed and properly seated a modified 95x89-ft, 20-mi reinforced liner. A representative composite sample was collected from the 4-

March 3, 2020

walls and was analyzed by a commercial laboratory for chloride and hydrocarbon. The composite sample resulted in a chloride concentration of 128 mg/kg, GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO concentrations below detectable limit, and BTEX concentrations below detectable limit. A total of 1,536 cubic yards of excavated soil were taken to a NMOCD approved facility for disposal. The top of the liner was padded with imported soil, and the excavation was backfilled to ground surface and contoured to the surrounding area. A sample of the imported soil was analyzed by a commercial laboratory for chloride and hydrocarbon, resulting in a concentration of chloride, GRO/DRO/EXT-DRO, and BTEX below detectable limits. The backfilled site was then seeded with a blend of native vegetation. Vegetation above the liner will also provide a natural infiltration barrier for the site, since plants capture water through their roots thereby reducing the volume of water moving through the vadose zone.

### **Recommendations**

ROC has completed the vadose zone remediation as approved by OCD in the CAP. The 20-mil reinforced liner will inhibit the migration of chloride through the vadose zone to groundwater. As such, ROC respectfully requests termination of the regulatory file. ROC acknowledges they have met the requirements of 19.15.29 NMAC and a final C-141 is attached.

ROC appreciates the opportunity to work with you on this project. Please call me at (575) 393-9174 or Edward Hansen at (505) 920-4965 if you have any questions or wish to discuss the site.

Sincerely,



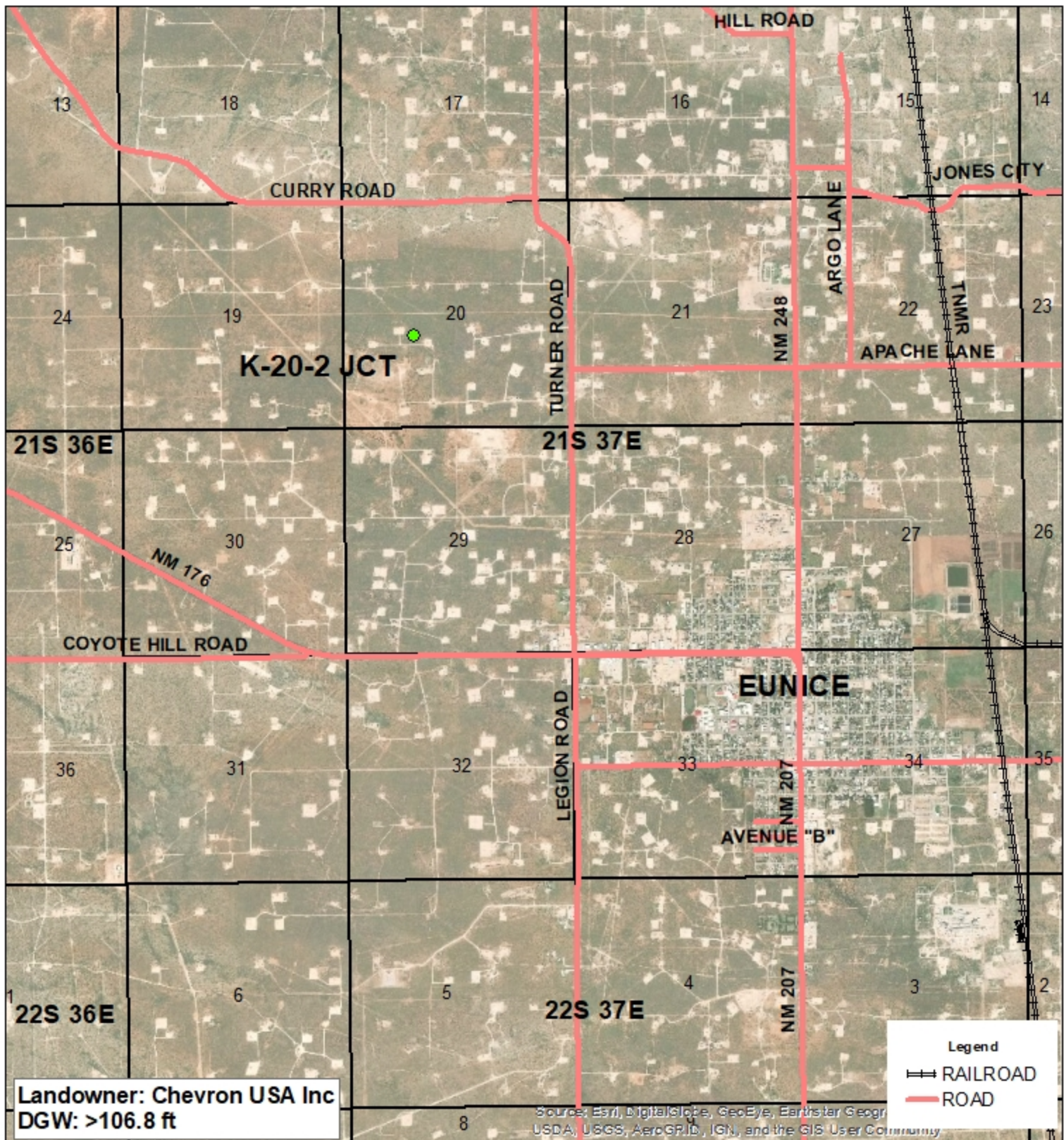
Katie Davis  
Environmental Manager  
RICE Operating Company

Appendix

# Figures

**RICE Operating Company**  
112 West Taylor, Hobbs, NM 88240  
Phone 575.393.9174





**BD**  
**K-20-2 JCT**  
1R426-10

UL K SECTION 20  
T-21-S R-37-E  
LEA COUNTY, NM

GPS: 32.462971 -103.188216  
NAD83 STATE PLANE PROJECTION  
NM EAST ZONE

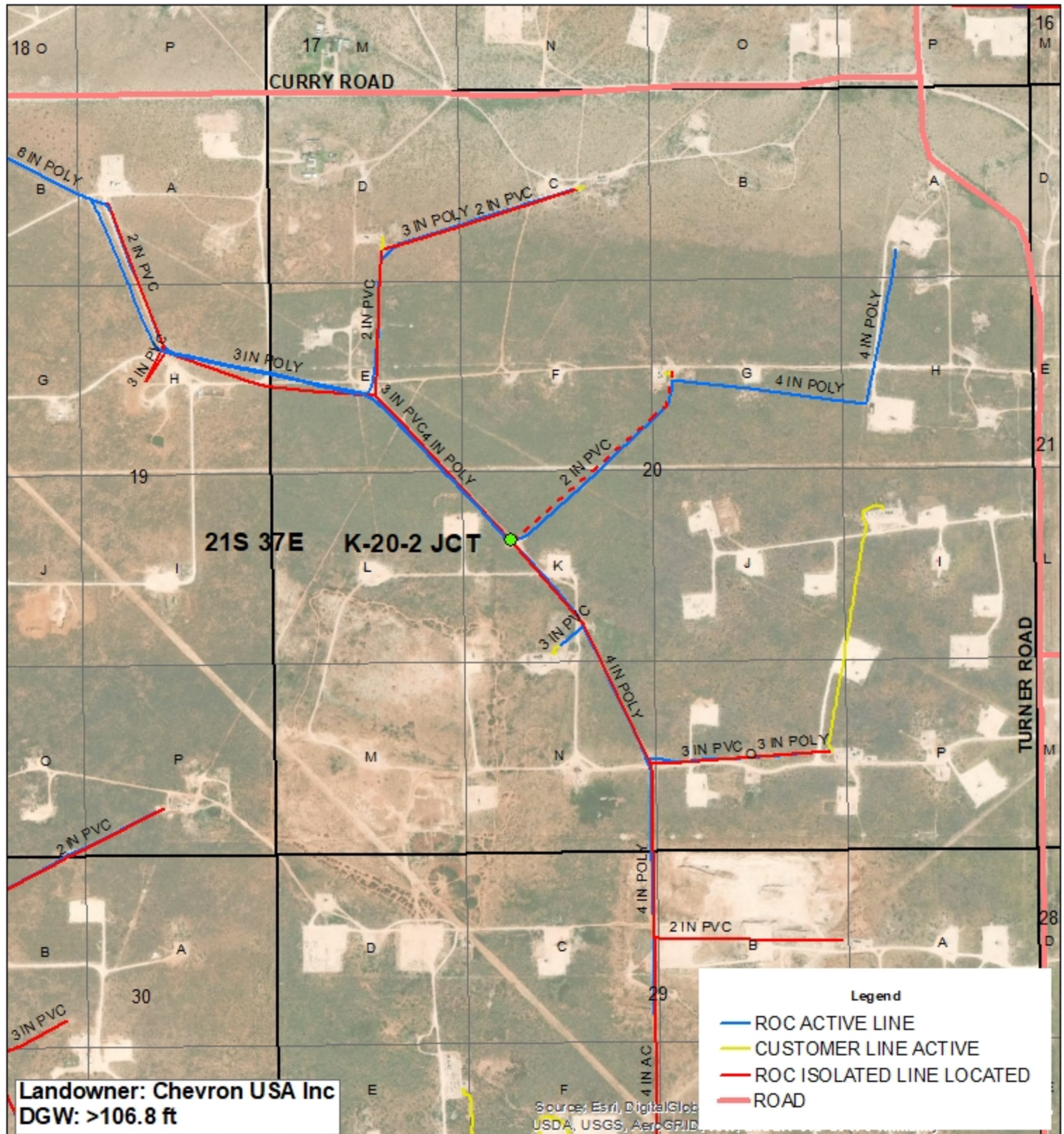
0 0.5 1  
Miles

Drawing date: 5/20/19  
Drafted by: T. Grieco





## Area Map



**BD**  
**K-20-2 JCT**  
 1R426-10

UL K SECTION 20  
 T-21-S R-37-E  
 LEA COUNTY, NM

GPS: 32.462971 -103.188216  
 NAD83 STATE PLANE PROJECTION  
 NM EAST ZONE

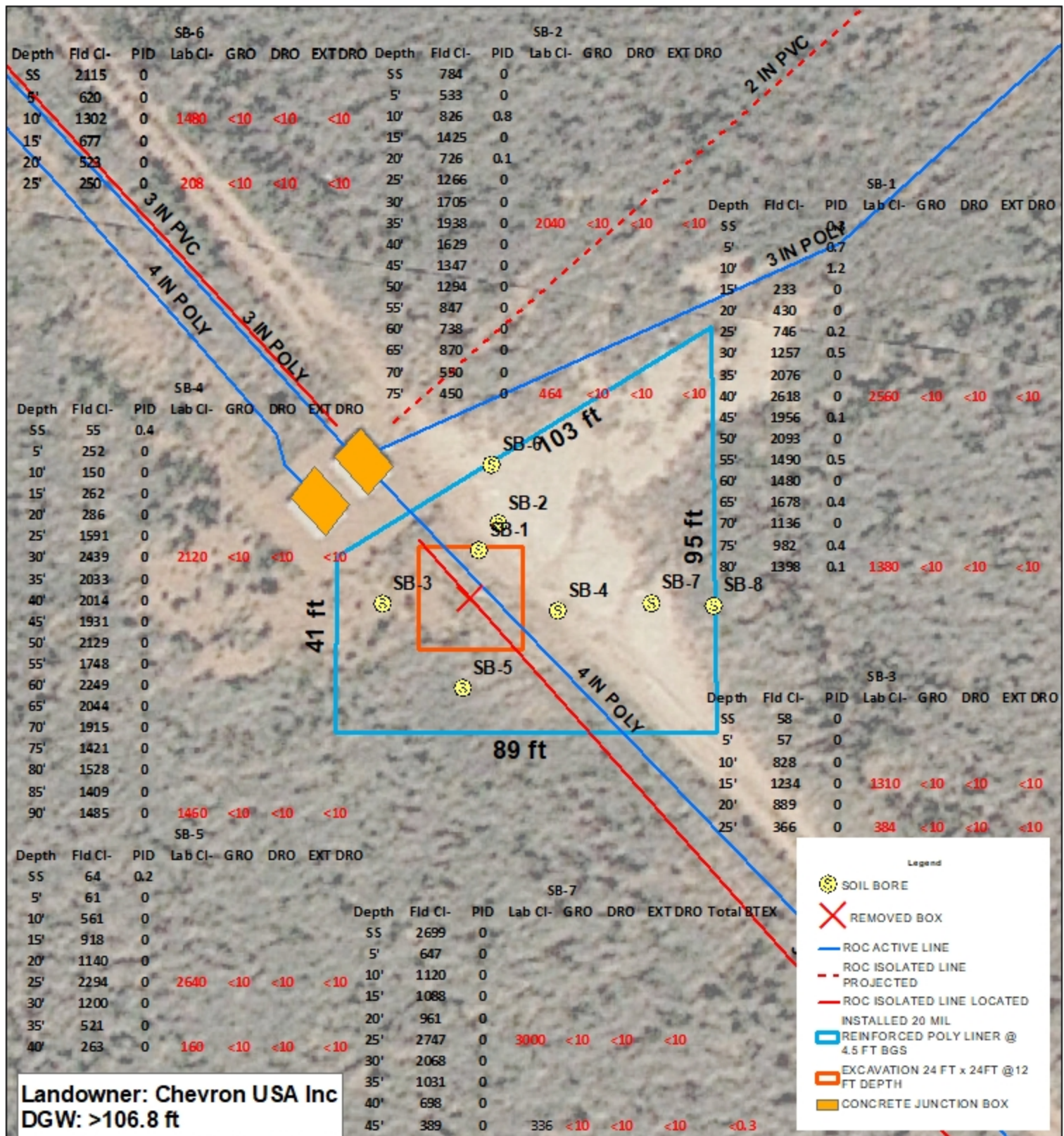
0 500 1,000  
 Feet

Drawing date: 5/30/19  
 Drafted by: T. Grieco





## Soil Bore Installation



**BD**  
**K-20-2 JCT**  
1R426-10

UL K SECTION 20  
T-21-S R-37-E  
LEA COUNTY, NM

GPS: 32.462971 -103.188216  
NAD83 STATE PLANE PROJECTION  
NM EAST ZONE

0 25 50  
Feet

GPS date: 7/24/18, 9/4/18 TG  
Drawing date: 2/14/20  
Drafted by: T. Grieco



# Excavation and Liner Installation

**RICE Operating Company**  
112 West Taylor, Hobbs, NM 88240  
Phone 575.393.9174





PHONE (575) 393-2326 ° 101 E. MARLAND ° HOBBS, NM 88240

---

September 30, 2019

KATIE JONES

Rice Operating Company

112 W. Taylor

Hobbs, NM 88240

RE: BD K - 20-2

Enclosed are the results of analyses for samples received by the laboratory on 09/27/19 12:35.

Cardinal Laboratories is accredited through Texas NELAP under certificate number T104704398-18-11. Accreditation applies to drinking water, non-potable water and solid and chemical materials. All accredited analytes are denoted by an asterisk (\*). For a complete list of accredited analytes and matrices visit the TCEQ website at [www.tceq.texas.gov/field/qa/lab\\_accred\\_certif.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/field/qa/lab_accred_certif.html).

Cardinal Laboratories is accredited through the State of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for:

Method EPA 552.2	Haloacetic Acids (HAA-5)
Method EPA 524.2	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)
Method EPA 524.4	Regulated VOCs (V1, V2, V3)

Accreditation applies to public drinking water matrices.

This report meets NELAP requirements and is made up of a cover page, analytical results, and a copy of the original chain-of-custody. If you have any questions concerning this report, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Celey D. Keene". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Celey D. Keene

Lab Director/Quality Manager



PHONE (575) 393-2326 ° 101 E. MARLAND ° HOBBS, NM 88240

**Analytical Results For:**

Rice Operating Company  
 KATIE JONES  
 112 W. Taylor  
 Hobbs NM, 88240  
 Fax To: (575) 397-1471

Received: 09/27/2019  
 Reported: 09/30/2019  
 Project Name: BD K - 20-2  
 Project Number: NONE GIVEN  
 Project Location: NOT GIVEN

Sampling Date: 09/26/2019  
 Sampling Type: Soil  
 Sampling Condition: Cool & Intact  
 Sample Received By: Tamara Oldaker

**Sample ID: 4 WALL COMPOSITE (H903323-01)**

BTEX 8021B		mg/L		Analyzed By: BF					
Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Analyzed	Method Blank	BS	% Recovery	True Value QC	RPD	Qualifier
Benzene*	<0.050	0.050	09/27/2019	ND	2.03	102	2.00	0.903	
Toluene*	<0.050	0.050	09/27/2019	ND	2.04	102	2.00	1.45	
Ethylbenzene*	<0.050	0.050	09/27/2019	ND	1.88	93.9	2.00	1.43	
Total Xylenes*	<0.150	0.150	09/27/2019	ND	5.57	92.8	6.00	1.11	
Total BTEX	<0.300	0.300	09/27/2019	ND					

Surrogate: 4-Bromofluorobenzene (PID) 83.1 % 81.3-128

Chloride, SM4500Cl-B		mg/kg		Analyzed By: AC						
Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Analyzed	Method Blank	BS	% Recovery	True Value QC	RPD	Qualifier	
Chloride	128	16.0	09/27/2019	ND	416	104	400	0.00		

TPH 8015M		mg/kg		Analyzed By: MS					
Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Analyzed	Method Blank	BS	% Recovery	True Value QC	RPD	Qualifier
GRO C6-C10*	<10.0	10.0	09/27/2019	ND	191	95.4	200	2.36	
DRO >C10-C28*	<10.0	10.0	09/27/2019	ND	193	96.3	200	2.12	
EXT DRO >C28-C36	<10.0	10.0	09/27/2019	ND					

Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane 97.3 % 41-142

Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane 99.1 % 37.6-147

Cardinal Laboratories

\*=Accredited Analyte

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Celey D. Keene, Lab Director/Quality Manager





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### Notes and Definitions

ND	Analyte NOT DETECTED at or above the reporting limit
RPD	Relative Percent Difference
**	Samples not received at proper temperature of 6°C or below.
***	Insufficient time to reach temperature.
-	Chloride by SM4500Cl-B does not require samples be received at or below 6°C Samples reported on an as received basis (wet) unless otherwise noted on report

Cardinal Laboratories

\*=Accredited Analyte

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. D. Keene", is written over a horizontal line.

Celey D. Keene, Lab Director/Quality Manager

**ARDINAL LABORATORIES**

101 East Marland, Hobbs, NM 88240 2111 Beechwood, Abilene, TX 79603  
(505) 393-2326 FAX (505) 393-2476 (325) 673-7001 FAX (325)673-7020

## CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY AND ANALYSIS REQUEST

RUS f

[illegible]

† Cardinal cannot accept verbal changes. Please fax written changes to 505-393-2476





PHONE (575) 393-2326 ° 101 E. MARLAND ° HOBBS, NM 88240

February 04, 2020

KATIE JONES

Rice Operating Company

112 W. Taylor

Hobbs, NM 88240

RE: K - 20 - 2 (BD)

Enclosed are the results of analyses for samples received by the laboratory on 01/30/20 15:10.

Cardinal Laboratories is accredited through Texas NELAP under certificate number T104704398-19-12. Accreditation applies to drinking water, non-potable water and solid and chemical materials. All accredited analytes are denoted by an asterisk (\*). For a complete list of accredited analytes and matrices visit the TCEQ website at [www.tceq.texas.gov/field/qa/lab\\_accred\\_certif.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/field/qa/lab_accred_certif.html).

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Celey D. Keene". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'C' and 'K'.

Celey D. Keene

Lab Director/Quality Manager



PHONE (575) 393-2326 ° 101 E. MARLAND ° HOBBS, NM 88240

**Analytical Results For:**

Rice Operating Company  
 KATIE JONES  
 112 W. Taylor  
 Hobbs NM, 88240  
 Fax To: (575) 397-1471

Received:	01/30/2020	Sampling Date:	01/30/2020
Reported:	02/04/2020	Sampling Type:	Soil
Project Name:	K - 20 - 2 (BD)	Sampling Condition:	Cool & Intact
Project Number:	NONE GIVEN	Sample Received By:	Tamara Oldaker
Project Location:	NOT GIVEN		

**Sample ID: IMPORTED SOIL (H000296-01)**

BTEX 8021B		mg/kg		Analyzed By: MS					
Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Analyzed	Method Blank	BS	% Recovery	True Value QC	RPD	Qualifier
Benzene*	<0.050	0.050	02/01/2020	ND	2.00	99.8	2.00	2.72	
Toluene*	<0.050	0.050	02/01/2020	ND	2.05	103	2.00	1.43	
Ethylbenzene*	<0.050	0.050	02/01/2020	ND	1.97	98.4	2.00	1.71	
Total Xylenes*	<0.150	0.150	02/01/2020	ND	5.89	98.2	6.00	2.01	
Total BTEX	<0.300	0.300	02/01/2020	ND					

Surrogate: 4-Bromofluorobenzene (PID) 99.5 % 73.3-129

Chloride, SM4500Cl-B		mg/kg		Analyzed By: GM						
Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Analyzed	Method Blank	BS	% Recovery	True Value QC	RPD	Qualifier	
Chloride	<16.0	16.0	02/03/2020	ND	400	100	400	3.92		

TPH 8015M		mg/kg		Analyzed By: MS					
Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Analyzed	Method Blank	BS	% Recovery	True Value QC	RPD	Qualifier
GRO C6-C10*	<10.0	10.0	01/31/2020	ND	209	104	200	0.0651	
DRO >C10-C28*	<10.0	10.0	01/31/2020	ND	220	110	200	0.369	
EXT DRO >C28-C36	<10.0	10.0	01/31/2020	ND					

Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane 76.6 % 41-142

Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane 77.8 % 37.6-147

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\*=Accredited Analyte

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Celey D. Keene, Lab Director/Quality Manager





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Celey D. Keene, Lab Director/Quality Manager

**ARDINAL LABORATORIES**

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(505) 393-2326 FAX (505) 393-2476 (325) 673-7001 FAX (325) 673-7020

## CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY AND ANALYSIS REQUEST

Company Name: Rice Operating Project Manager: Katie Jones / Kyle Norman Address: City: State: Zip: Phone #: Fax #: Project #: Project Owner: Project Name: Project Location: K-20-2 (BD) Sampler Name: Karanja Lewis				<b>BILL TO</b> P.O. #: Company: Attn: Address: City: State: Zip: Phone #: Fax #:				<b>ANALYSIS REQUEST</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Chlorides</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">TPH 8015 M</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">BTEX</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Texas TPH</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Complete Cations/Anions</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">TDS</div> </div>																																			
FOR LAB USE ONLY																																											
Lab I.D.		Sample I.D.		(G)RAB OR (C)OMP. # CONTAINERS		MATRIX				PRESERV.		SAMPLING																															
						GROUNDWATER		WASTEWATER		SOIL		OIL		SLUDGE		OTHER:		ACID/BASE:		ICE / COOL		OTHER:		DATE		TIME																	
H000296		Imported Soil		9						✓										✓		1-30-20		12:15		✓		✓		✓													

† Cardinal cannot accept verbal changes. Please fax written changes to 505-393-2476



**BD Jct. K-20-2 (1R426-10)**

Unit Letter K, Section 20, T21S, R37E



Site prior to excavation, facing east 8/23/2019



Hand spotting line, facing south 9/4/2019



Excavating the site to a depth of 5 ft bgs, facing east 9/5/2019



Exporting excavated soil, facing south 9/5/2019



Installing and properly seating the 20-mil, reinforced liner, facing north 10/8/2019



Backfilling and padding the liner with imported soil, facing east 10/8/2019



**BD Jct. K-20-2 (1R426-10)**

Unit Letter K, Section 20, T21S, R37E



Importing and backfilling the excavation with top soil, facing southeast 10/9/2019



Backfilling and contouring the site, facing north 10/10/2019



Seeding site, facing northeast 10/28/2019



Tiling in the seed, facing west 10/28/2019



Site complete, facing west 10/28/2019



Site complete, facing northwest 10/28/2019

Final C-141

**RICE Operating Company**  
112 West Taylor, Hobbs, NM 88240  
Phone 575.393.9174

State of New Mexico  
Oil Conservation Division

Incident ID	
District RP	1R426-10
Facility ID	
Application ID	pEEM0432442609

## Closure

The responsible party must attach information demonstrating they have complied with all applicable closure requirements and any conditions or directives of the OCD. This demonstration should be in the form of a comprehensive report (electronic submittals in .pdf format are preferred) including a scaled site map, sampling diagrams, relevant field notes, photographs of any excavation prior to backfilling, laboratory data including chain of custody documents of final sampling, and a narrative of the remedial activities. Refer to 19.15.29.12 NMAC.

**Closure Report Attachment Checklist:** *Each of the following items must be included in the closure report.*

- ☒ A scaled site and sampling diagram as described in 19.15.29.11 NMAC
- ☒ Photographs of the remediated site prior to backfill or photos of the liner integrity if applicable (Note: appropriate OCD District office must be notified 2 days prior to liner inspection)
- ☒ Laboratory analyses of final sampling (Note: appropriate ODC District office must be notified 2 days prior to final sampling)
- ☒ Description of remediation activities

I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and understand that pursuant to OCD rules and regulations all operators are required to report and/or file certain release notifications and perform corrective actions for releases which may endanger public health or the environment. The acceptance of a C-141 report by the OCD does not relieve the operator of liability should their operations have failed to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that pose a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, OCD acceptance of a C-141 report does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations. The responsible party acknowledges they must substantially restore, reclaim, and re-vegetate the impacted surface area to the conditions that existed prior to the release or their final land use in accordance with 19.15.29.13 NMAC including notification to the OCD when reclamation and re-vegetation are complete.

Printed Name: Katie Davis Title: Env. Manager  
Signature: Katie Davis Date: 2/20/2020  
email: kjones@riceswd.com Telephone: 575-393-9174

**OCD Only**

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Closure approval by the OCD does not relieve the responsible party of liability should their operations have failed to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that poses a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health, or the environment nor does not relieve the responsible party of compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.

Closure Approved by: Bradford Billings Date: 08/12/2021  
Printed Name: Bradford Billings Title: Envi.Spec.A



**District I**  
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240  
Phone:(575) 393-6161 Fax:(575) 393-0720  
**District II**  
811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210  
Phone:(575) 748-1283 Fax:(575) 748-9720  
**District III**  
1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410  
Phone:(505) 334-6178 Fax:(505) 334-6170  
**District IV**  
1220 S. St Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505  
Phone:(505) 476-3470 Fax:(505) 476-3462

**State of New Mexico**  
**Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources**  
**Oil Conservation Division**  
**1220 S. St Francis Dr.**  
**Santa Fe, NM 87505**

CONDITIONS  
  
Action 4226

CONDITIONS

Operator: RICE OPERATING COMPANY 122 W Taylor Hobbs, NM 88240	OGRID: 19174
	Action Number: 4226
	Action Type: [C-141] Release Corrective Action (C-141)

CONDITIONS

Created By	Condition	Condition Date
bbillings	None	8/12/2021