

P.O. Box 10640 Bozeman, Montana 59719

(406) 460-0903

TO: Randy Pancheco, APWS; Jim Griswold, NMOCD

FROM: Curtis Shuck, Chairman

DATE: January 2, 2023

RE: Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) Orphan Well Post-Plugging Methane Monitoring

## **TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**

The Well Done Foundation, Inc. (WDF) performing contract professional services methane monitoring for A-Plus Well Services, Inc. (APWS) for the State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department – Oil Conservation Division (OCD) under Purchase Order #52100-0000007292 for Orphan Oil & Gas Wells in Lea County, NM.

The site conditions found at Fowler Hair #001 by the WDF Measure 1 Field Team on December 14, 2022, at 5:15 P.M. revealed a cement plugged orphan well with an open wellbore. The WDF Measure 1Team took site photographs, performed field gas measurements and collected a gas sample for immediate laboratory analysis.



Image 1.1 - Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) Orphan Well near the City of Jal in Lea County, NM

The Pre-Plugging Methane Flow Monitoring Test on November 12, 2022, using Ventbuster™ Instruments VB100-056 Ultra-Low Flow Meter with GPS, resulted in 0.82 cubic meters per day of total measured wellhead emissions. A composite gas sample collected at the wellhead by WDF during the flow test established a methane gas concentration level measured at 336,330 ppm, pursuant to Test ID 2022060200 performed by Laboratory Services of Hobbs, NM. Therefore, the adjusted average methane gas emission measured at this wellhead is calculated at **6.37 grams per hour (g/hour)**.¹

The State of New Mexico used the methane flow data collected by WDF to prioritize the Fowler Hair #001 orphan well plugging under the IIJA Program and began mobilizing a contractor to location on December 5, 2022. A-Plus Well Service, Inc. of Farmington, NM was awarded the plugging contract. A-Plus completed the orphan well plugging on Monday December 12, 2022 and recorded cement to the surface.

WDF arrived at the Fowler Hair #001 location on December 14, 2022 to perform post-plugging orphan well methane testing and sampling on behalf of the State of New Mexico. WDF post plugging field gas tests revealed 0.00% of methane or H2s gasses. The post plugging collected gas samples, analyzed by Laboratory Services, Inc. confirmed 0.00 ppm or methane gas and 0.00 ppm of H2s gas. THEREFORE, the total Methane Gas Emissions Reduction is: 6.37 g/hour.

<sup>• 1</sup> Methane Calculation: 554 grams CH4 per cubic meter (554 x 1.60 = 886.40 g/day total /24 = 36.93 g/hour x 0.556580 (methane concentration) = **20.56** g/hour CH4). Methane, gas weighs 0.000554 gram per cubic centimeter or 0.554 kilogram per cubic meter, i.e. density of methane, gas is equal to 0.554 kg/m³; at 0°C (32°F or 273.15K) at standard atmospheric pressure. In Imperial or US customary measurement system, the density is equal to 0.0346 pound per cubic foot [lb/ft³], or 0.0003202 ounce per cubic inch [oz/inch³].

Received by OCD: 1/6/2023 6:29:28 AM Inis orphan well did exceed the >1 g/hour federal program reporting requirements for methane emissions reductions as described in Section 40601 (Orphaned well site plugging, remediation, and restoration) of Title V (Methane Reduction)

described in Section 40601 (Orphaned well site plugging, remediation, and restoration) of Title V (Methane Reduction Infrastructure) of the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL; Public Law 117-58)<sup>2</sup>.

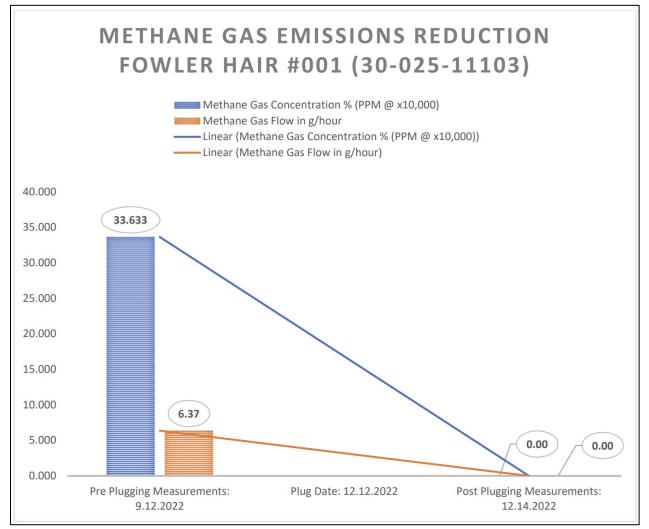


Image 2.1 – Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) Methane Gas Emissions Reduction Pre Plugging to Post Plugging

# **BACKGROUND**

The Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) Orphan Well is located near the City of Jal in Lea County, NM at Latitude 32.21926327332137, Longitude -103.14013450416097 was measured and monitored by the WDF Measure 1 Field Team on 11/12/2022 following a Safety Briefing. Per the WDF protocol, the well was photographed from four (4) compass point aspects and closeups capturing the wellhead, field gas analysis results and gas sampling and uploaded to the WDF Well Intel™ IoT site. A Field Gas Analysis was conducted to detect Methane and H2s gas presence and concentration levels using a Honeywell BW Quattro Multi Gas Meter, serial number: QA121-012211.

The WDF Measure 1 Field Team collected Gas Sample #1 using a 1 Liter Tedlar/TO-Plus Gas Sampling Bag from the 2-3/8" production tubing which was flowing gas past the valve and at the 4" casing port at the beginning of the Flow Test at approximately 12:58 P.M. MDT on 11.12.2022 as the well was being prepared for the Flow Measurement. Gas Sample #2 was collected in the same 1 Liter Tedlar Bag on 11.13.2022 before the Flow Test was concluded 10:08 A.M. MDT.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> These April 11, 2022 Guidelines were developed to meet the federal program reporting requirements for methane emissions reductions as described in Section 40601 (Orphaned well site plugging, remediation, and restoration) of Title V (Methane Reduction Infrastructure) of the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL; Public Law 117-58).

**<sup>2</sup>** | Page

Received by OCD: 1/6/2023 6:29:28 AM confirmation for a minimum 12-Hour Methane Emission Test and began Test ID: e743d6e4, verifying a cellular signal, cloud link and GPS coordinates. WDF collected Gas Sample #2 in the same Tedlar/TO Plus Gas Sample Bag prior to the VB Test being concluded 21.2.1-hours later on 11.13.2022 to ensure the Methane Emission Flow was normalized. The collected Gas Sample was secured and placed in a storage cooler for transport to Laboratory Services, Inc. in Hobbs, NM.

WDF performed a 21.6-hour continuous flow methane monitoring test using VB100-056 to closely monitor the Pre-Plugging Methane Emission Flow Test. At the completion of the test, the WDF Team rigged the VB100-056 unit down and secured the wellhead as best as possible. A "Green Ribbon" was placed at the Wellhead indicating that WDF had concluded the Pre-Plugging Methane Flow testing.

The State of New Mexico reviewed the WDF provided Methane gas flow and concentration data and prioritized the Fowler Hair #001 plugging as part of their IIJA Orphan Well Program of Projects. A-Plus Well Services, Inc. of Farmington, NM was dispatched to plug the prioritized orphan well on December 2, 2022 and the orphan well plugging was completed, with cement to the surface on December 12, 2022.

The WDF Measure 1 Team arrived back on location on December 14, 2022 to measure Methane gas concentration and emissions. WDF found the cement to be -12.0" below the surface collar of the production casing. WDF performed field gas tests that established 0.00% Methane and collected a gas sample for laboratory analysis. Laboratory Services, Inc. of Hobbs, NM rushed the analysis of the collected gas sample, using Test ID: #2022061541 and the findings concluded on December 19, 2022 were **0.00 ppm Methane Gas** and **0.00 ppm H2s Gas**.

### **TECHNICAL FINDINGS**

Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103):

- Total C1 through C6 Gas Concentration: 582,170 ppm
- Total Measured Wellhead Gas Emissions: 0.82 m3/day
- Methane Gas Concentration: 336,330 ppm
- Calculated Average Wellhead Methane Gas Emissions: 6.37 g/hour
- Peak Methane Flow Measured at: 20.96 g/hour
- Post Plugging Methane Gas Concentration: 0.00 ppm
- Post Plugging Methane Flow: 0.00 g/hour

## **CONCLUSIONS**

- The Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) was emitting Methane gas pre-plugging at the average rate of 6.37 g/hour, which was above the Federal minimum threshold for reporting described in Section 40601 (Orphaned well site plugging, remediation, and restoration) of Title V (Methane Reduction Infrastructure) of the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL; Public Law 117-58) which is >1g/hour.
- Post Plugging, the Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) presented 0.00 ppm of Methane gas emissions from field gas tests and laboratory analysis of WDF collected gas samples.

# **FIELD NOTES**

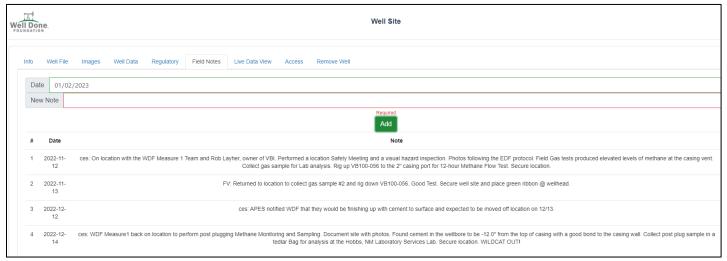


Image 4.2 - Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) Field Notes from WDF Well Intel™ Orphan Well Project Management IoT

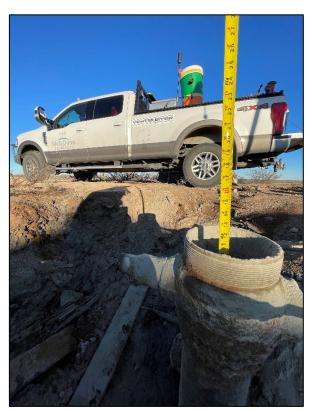
Appendix A - Post Plugging Site Photos for Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103)

**4** | Page

Received by QCD: 1/6/2023 6:29:28 AM



1) Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) - South Facing Post Plug



2) Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) - Cement Depth from Surface



3) Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) - Post Plug Gas Sample



4) Fowler Hair #001 (30-025-11103) - Post Plug Field Gas Analysis

www.permianls.com 575.397.3713 2609 W Marland Hobbs NM 88240



15514G Fowler Hair #1 Post			Closure For		Fowler Hair #	<sup>‡</sup> 1 Post Closure	
Sample Point Code			Sample Point Name			Sample Po	int Location
Laboratory Services		2022061541		Tedlar Bag		Curtis - Spot	
	Source Laboratory		Lab File No			Sampler	
USA		USA		USA		New Mexico	
District		Area Name		Field Name		Facility Name	
Dec 14, 2022 17:	30	Dec 14, 2022 17:30		[	Dec 16, 2022 10:47	Dec 16, 2022	
Date Sampled		Date Effective			Date Received	Da	te Reported
		Torran	ce				
Ambient Temp (°F)	Flow Rate (Mcf)	Analys	Analyst Press PSI @ Temp °F Source Conditions		•		
Well Done Found	ation					NG	
Operator						Lab Source Descri	ption
Common and	Normalized	Un-Normalized	CDM		Gross Heating Va	alues (Real, BTU/	′ft³)
Component	Mol %	Mol %	GPM	14.696 PSI @ 60.00 °F 14.73 PSI @ 60.00 °F		I @ 60.00 °F	
H2S (H2S)	0.0000	0		Dry 5.3	Saturated 6.1	Dry <b>5.3</b>	Saturated 6.1
Nitrogen (N2)	99.8610	99.86136		]   3.5			-
CO2 (CO2)	0.0350	0.03466		<b>-</b>	Calculated Total Sample Properties  GPA2145-16 *Calculated at Contract Conditions  Relative Density Real Relative Density Ideal  0.9696 0.9697  Molecular Weight		
Methane (C1)	0.0000	0		Reli			•
Ethane (C2)	0.0000	0	0.0000	<b>–</b>			.969/
Propane (C3)	0.0000	0	0.0000	<b>-</b>	28.0868		
I-Butane (IC4)	0.0000	0	0.0000	╡	C6+ Group Properties		
N-Butane (NC4)	0.0000	0	0.0000	Assumed Composition  C6 - 60.000%  C7 - 30.000%  C8 - 10.000%		C8 - 10.000%	
I-Pentane (IC5)	0.0000	0	0.0000	PROTREND ST		DATA S	
N-Pentane (NC5)	0.0000	0	0.0000	1	Passed By Validator on Dec 19, 2022 Imported  PASSED BY VALIDATOR REASON:  Close enough to be considered reasonable.		ed
Hexanes Plus (C6+)	0.1040	0.10398	0.0450				
TOTAL	100.0000	100.0000	0.0450	VALIDATOR: Brooke Rush			
Method(s): Gas C6+ - GPA 2261, Extended	ethod(s): Gas C6+ - GPA 2261, Extended Gas - GPA 2286, Calculations - GPA 2172				VALIDATOR COMMENTS: Ok		
	Analyzer Information						

Dec 19, 2022 9:04 a

Device Type:

Device Model:

Powered By ProTrend - www.criticalcontrol.com

Gas Chromatograph

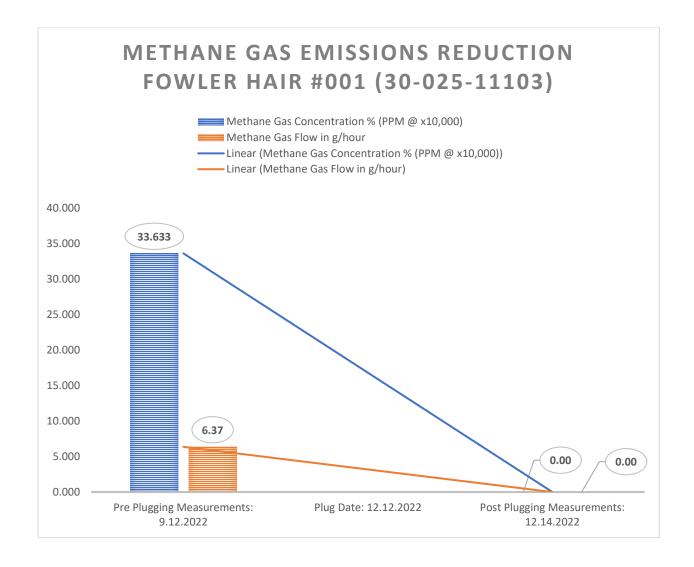
GC-2014

Device Make:

Last Cal Date:

Shimadzu

Sep 26, 2022



<u>District I</u> 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

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** 

QUESTIONS

Action 173287

# **QUESTIONS**

Operator:	OGRID:
PRIMAL ENERGY CORPORATION	154303
211 Highland Cross	Action Number:
Houston, TX 77073	173287
	Action Type:
	[UF-OMA] Post-Plug Methane Monitoring (UF-OMA-MMB)

### QUESTIONS

Prerequisites		
[OGRID] Well Operator	[154303] PRIMAL ENERGY CORPORATION	
[API] Well Name and Number	[30-025-11103] FOWLER HAIR #001	
Well Status	Reclamation Fund Approved	

Monitoring Event Information		
Reason For Filing	Post-Plug Methane Monitoring	
Date of monitoring	12/15/2022	

Monitoring Event Details		
Flow rate in cubic meters per day (m³/day)	0.00	
Test duration in hours (hr)	1.0	
Average flow temperature in degrees Celsius (°C)	5.0	
Average gauge flow pressure in kilopascals (kPag)	0.0	
Methane concentration in part per million (ppm)	0	
Methane emission rate in grams per hour (g/hr)	0.00	
Testing Method	Tedlar Bag	

Monitoring Contractor		
Name of monitoring contractor	Well Done Foundation, Inc.	