

P.O. Box 10640 Bozeman, Montana 59719

(406) 460-0903

TO: Jim Griswold, NMOCD

FROM: Curtis Shuck, Chairman

DATE: April 29, 2023

RE: Big Eddy #127 (30-015-27635) Orphan Well Post-Plugging Methane Monitoring

## **TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**

Well Done New Mexico LLC and the Well Done Foundation, Inc. (WDF) performing contract professional services methane monitoring for the State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department – Oil Conservation Division (OCD) under Purchase Order #52100-0000073985 for Orphan Oil & Gas Wells in Eddy County, NM.

The site conditions found at the Big Eddy #127 by the WDF Measure 1 Field Team on March 17, 2023, revealed a cement plugged orphan well with the cement to within -19'-4" of the top of casing. The WDF Measure 1Team took site photographs, performed field gas measurements and collected a gas sample for immediate laboratory analysis.



Image 1.1 - Big Eddy #127 (30-015-27635) Orphan Well in Eddy County, NM

The Pre-Plugging Methane Flow Monitoring Test on February 18, 2023, using Ventbuster™ Instruments VB100-038 Ultra-Low Flow Meter with GPS, resulted in 0.01 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 183,410 ppm, pursuant to Test ID 2023064264 performed by Laboratory Services of Hobbs, NM. Therefore, the adjusted average methane gas emission measured at this wellhead is calculated at **0.05 grams per hour (g/hour)**.¹

The State of New Mexico used the methane flow data collected by WDF to prioritize the Big Eddy #127 orphan well plugging under the IIJA Program and began mobilizing a contractor to location. A-Plus Well Service, Inc. of Farmington, NM was awarded the plugging contract.

WDF arrived at the Big Eddy #127 location on March 17, 2023, 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: 0.05 g/hour.

<sup>•</sup> ¹ Methane Calculation: 717 grams CH4 per cubic meter (717 x 0.01 m3/day = 7.17 g/day total /24 = 0.30 g/hour x 0.183410 (methane concentration) = **0.05 g/hour CH4**). **Methane, gas** weighs 0.000717 gram per cubic centimeter or 0.717 kilogram per cubic meter, i.e. density of methane, gas is equal to 0.717 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 0.044 pound per cubic foot [lb/ft³].

This 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 Infrastructure) of the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL; Public Law 117-58)<sup>2</sup>.

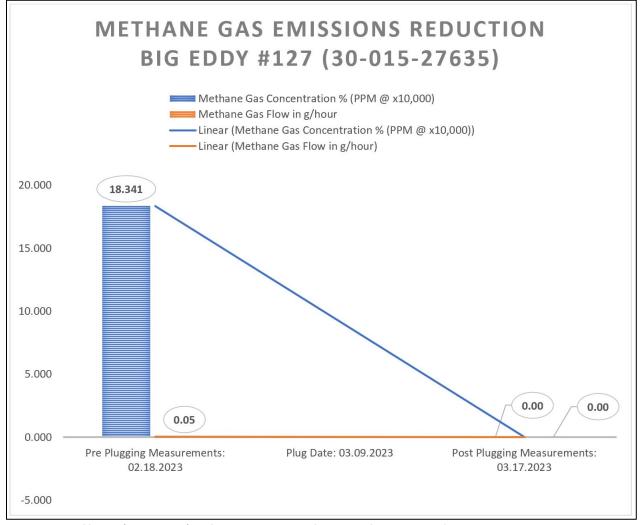


Image 2.1 – Big Eddy #127 (30-015-27635) Methane Gas Emissions Reduction Pre Plugging to Post Plugging

## **TECHNICAL FINDINGS**

Big Eddy #127 (30-015-27635):

- Total C1 through C6 Gas Concentration: 443,926 ppm
- Total Measured Wellhead Gas Emissions: 0.01 m3/day
- Methane Gas Concentration: 183,410 ppm
- Calculated Average Wellhead Methane Gas Emissions: 0.05 g/hour
- Post Plugging Methane Gas Concentration: 0.00 ppm
- Post Plugging Methane Flow: 0.00 g/hour

<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

## **CONCLUSIONS**

- The Big Eddy #127 (30-015-27635) was emitting Methane gas pre-plugging at the average rate of 0.05 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 Big Eddy #127 (30-015-27635) presented 0.00 ppm of Methane gas emissions from field gas tests and laboratory analysis of WDF collected gas samples.

## **FIELD NOTES**

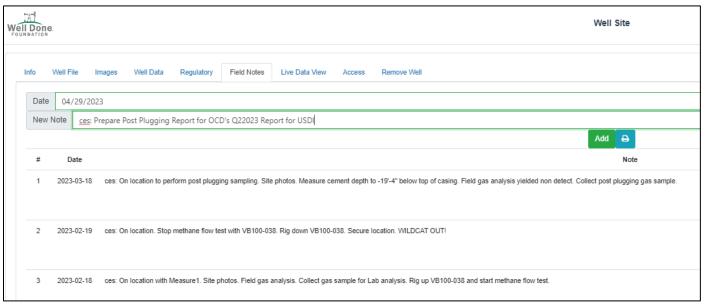


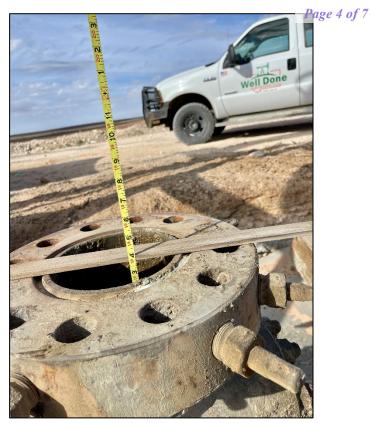
Image 3.1 – Big Eddy #127 (30-015-27635) Field Notes from WDF Well Intel™ Orphan Well Project Management IoT

**Appendix A – Site Photos for Big Eddy #127 (30-015-27635)** 

Received by OCD: 12/17/2023 8:27:07 PM



1) Big Eddy #127 - Pre Plugging Methane Measurement



2) Big Eddy #127 - Cement Elevation



3) Big Eddy #127 - Post Plug Gas Sample



4) Big Eddy #127 - Post Plug Green Ribbon



16024G		Big Eddy Unit #127					Big Eddy Unit #127		
Sample Point Code			Sample Point Name				Sample I	Point Location	
Laboratory Services			2023066023		Tedlar Bag			CES - Spot	
Source Laboratory			Lab File No		Container Identity			Sampler	
USA			USA		USA			New Mexi	со
District			Area Name		Field Name			Facility Name	
Mar 17,	2023 16:3	7	Mar 17, 2023 16:37			Mar 24, 2023 08:19		Mar 24, 2023	
Date	e Sampled		Date Effective			Date Received		С	Date Reported
			Torrand	ce					
Ambient Temp (°F)	Ambient Temp (°F) Flow Rate (Mcf)		Analyst		Press PSI @ Temp °F Source Conditions				
Well Dor	ne Foundat	tion						NG	
(	Operator						L	ab Source Desc	ription
Component	t	Normalized Mol %	Un-Normalized Mol %	GPM			ross Heating Value @ 60.00 °F		J/ft³) PSI @ 60.00 °F
H2S (H2S)		0.0000	0		7	Dry	Saturated	Dry	Saturated
Nitrogen (N2	2)	99.9510	99.95127		<b>ऻ</b>	0.6	1.5	0.6	1.5
CO2 (CO2)	)	0.0370	0.03672		<b>1</b>		Calculated Total Sa GPA2145-16 *Calculated		
Methane (C1		0.0000	0		Relative Density Real Relative Density  0.9676  Molecular Weight				
Ethane (C2)	•	0.0000	0	0.0000				0.9677	
Propane (C3		0.0000	0	0.0000	┥╚	28.0	0271		
	-	0.0000	0	0.0000			C6+ Group Properties		
I-Butane (IC4)		<del>                                     </del>	+		Assumed Composition				
N-Butane (NC		0.0000	0	0.0000	┥╠╩	C6 - 60.000			C8 - 10.000%
I-Pentane (IC	(5)	0.0000	0	0.0000	4		Field I		
N-Pentane (N	C5)	0.0000	0	0.0000	<b>⊣</b>		<b>V</b>		
Hexanes Plus (0	C6+)	0.0120	0.01201	0.0050	PROTR	END STATUS	<u> </u>	DATA	SOURCE:
TOTAL		100.0000	100.0000	0.0050			or on Mar 27, 202	23 Impoi	rted
Method(s): Gas C6+ - GPA 22	61, Extended G	ias - GPA 2286, Calculi	ations - GPA 2172				TOR REASON: n @ this point, co	mposition lo	oks reasonable
	Д	nalyzer Informa	ation		VALIDA	<b>ATOR:</b> e Rush			
, ,		•	ce Make: Shimadzu Cal Date: Feb 13, 2023			e Rusn <b>ATOR COMM</b> I	ENTS:		
Device Model: GC-2	2014	Last C	al Date: Feb 13, 2	2023	Ј ок				
Source	Da	te	Notes						
Brooke Rush	Mar 27, 2	.023 2:30 pm	Methane = 0 PPM						

<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** 

DEFINITIONS

Action 295388

#### **DEFINITIONS**

Operator:	OGRID:
PRIMAL ENERGY CORPORATION	154303
211 Highland Cross	Action Number:
Houston, TX 77073	295388
	Action Type:
	[UF-OMA] Post-Plug Methane Monitoring (UF-OMA-MMB)

### **DEFINITIONS**

The Orphan Well Mitigation Activity (OMA) forms are a subset of the OCD's forms exclusively designed for activities related to State of New Mexico's contracted plugging and reclamation activities. Specifically, these forms are used for orphan wells or associated facilities which are in a "Reclamation Fund Approved" status. This status represents wells or facilities where the OCD has acquired a hearing order allowing the OCD to perform plugging or reclamation on wells and associated facilities that no longer have a viable operator to perform the necessary work. These forms are not to be utilized for any other purpose.

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QUESTIONS

Action 295388

# **QUESTIONS**

Operator:	OGRID:
PRIMAL ENERGY CORPORATION	154303
211 Highland Cross	Action Number:
Houston, TX 77073	295388
	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	[30-015-27635] BIG EDDY UNIT #127	
Well Status	Plugged (not released)	

Monitoring Event Information		
Please answer all the questions in this group.		
Reason For Filing	Post-Plug Methane Monitoring	
Date of monitoring	03/17/2023	
Latitude	32.47789	
Longitude	-103.99175	

Monitoring Event Details			
Please answer all the questions in this group.			
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)	12.0		
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	Steady State		

Monitoring Contractor			
	Please answer all the questions in this group.		
	Name of monitoring contractor	Well Done New Mexico LLC	