

Jones, William V, EMNRD

From: Lowe, Leonard, EMNRD
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:36 AM
To: Jones, William V, EMNRD
Subject: FW: Pit Closure - State 2028 #201
Attachments: Revised Pit Design_2.jpg; Revised Pit Design_3.jpg

FYI

I'm working with Danny on this.

From: Danny Holcomb [<mailto:djholcomb75@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 7:45 AM
To: Lowe, Leonard, EMNRD
Cc: Kay Maddox; Robert McNaughton
Subject: Pit Closure - State 2028 #201

Leonard,

Last Friday (2/20), we discussed by telephone the scheduled pit closure of the subject wells. We were unable to close this pit on 2/16 as previously notified due to the mud pack needing additional solidification. So on 2/16, we added clean soil to the mud pack. Based on how wet it was after the soil was added, this pit will require additional trips there to add more clean soil for solidification before we can properly close this pit.

The subject well API number is 30-021-20645 and the drilling rig release date was 9/13/14. We will provide you with another 72 hour notice prior to our closing this pit.

As we discussed last Friday, Whiting made a pit design change in the middle of our drilling program last year. To facilitate a mud program change, we deepened the pits and added a weir dam in the back section of the pits. This weir dam was intended to hold back the majority of the solids to allow for improved water breakout and circulation to the recycle point during drilling operations. Unfortunately this new weir also is holding back the water that should be leaching out of the soil pack in preparation for closure. As a result, we will not be able to close these style of pits in a one day operation like we have been performing on the previous pit design. See weir in attached photos.

On these style of pits, we will have to start using a multiple step process to add clean fill dirt to the mud pack to dry/stabilize it over time. This new process will require additional time to stabilize the pit contents prior to closure. If we don't receive much rain or snow during the next few months, we should have enough time to complete this new process on most of the remaining pit closures within the 6 month window. There may be some pits that will require a closure extension in order to properly dry and stabilize the pit contents prior to closure.

As requested, the description above includes the proposed new scope of work and reason for the pit closure process change. Per your instructions, we will continue to provide you with 72 hour notice prior to the actual pit closure. If you need additional information or have other instructions, please let me know.

Thank you,

Danny Holcomb

Consultant for Whiting Oil & Gas



