

1R - 425-08

**APPROVALS**

**YEAR(S):**

2012

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**Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD**

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**From:** Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2012 11:12 AM  
**To:** 'Hack Conder'  
**Cc:** Leking, Geoffrey R, EMNRD; 'Katie Jones'; 'Laura Pena'; 'Scott Curtis'  
**Subject:** Remediation Plan (1R425-08) Termination - ROC Vacuum Jct J-26-2 Site

**RE: Termination Request  
for the Rice Operating Company's  
Vacuum Jct J-26-2 Site  
Unit Letter J, Section 26, T17S, R35E, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico  
Remediation Plan (1R425-08) Termination**

Dear Mr. Conder:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has received Rice Operating Company's report and request to close the above-referenced site, dated April 4, 2012 (received April 9, 2012). The report is acceptable to the OCD.

The above-referenced report, submitted in accordance with 19.15.29 NMAC (Rule 29; formally, Rule 116), indicates that Rice Operating Company has met the requirements of 19.15.29 NMAC; therefore, the OCD approves the report and hereby notifies you that the remediation plan (1R425-08) is terminated in accordance with 19.15.29 NMAC.

Please be advised that OCD approval of this report does not relieve the owner/operator of responsibility should operations pose a threat to ground water, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve the owner/operator of responsibility for compliance with any OCD, federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 505-476-3489.

Edward J. Hansen  
Hydrologist  
Environmental Bureau

# RICE *Operating Company*

122 West Taylor • Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

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

April 4, 2012

RECEIVED

Mr. Edward Hansen  
New Mexico Energy, Minerals, & Natural Resources  
Oil Conservation Division, Environmental Bureau  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

APR - 5 2012

Oil Conservation Division  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: Termination Request  
Vacuum Jct. J-26-2 (1R425-08): UL/J, Sec. 26, T17S, R35E  
RICE Operating Company – Vacuum SWD System

Mr. Hansen:

Rice Operating Company (ROC) is the service provider (agent) for the abandoned Vacuum Saltwater Disposal (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**

In 2005, ROC initiated work on the former J-26-2 junction box as part of the system abandonment. The site is located in UL/J, Sec. 26, T17S, R35E. NM OSE records indicate that groundwater would likely be encountered at a depth of approximately 55 +/- feet. The site was delineated using a backhoe to collect soil samples at regular intervals, creating an 8x3x7-ft deep excavation. Each sample was field titrated for chlorides and field screen using a PID for hydrocarbons, resulting in low concentrations of each. The 7-ft sample was sent to a commercial laboratory for analysis of chloride and TPH, resulting in a chloride concentration of 79.1 mg/kg, and concentrations of gasoline range organics (GRO) and diesel range organics (DRO) below detectable limits. The excavated soil was blended on site and returned to the excavation and contoured to the surrounding area. On 11/23/2005, the site was seeded with a blend of native vegetation and is expected to return to a productive capacity at a normal rate. The junction box final report, photo documentation, laboratory analysis, and PID sheet are attached.

## **Recommendations**

Site investigation demonstrates that residual chloride and hydrocarbons in the vadose zone will not with reasonable probability contaminate groundwater in excess of NMOCD

standards. This site meets the requirements of the NMOCD-approved Revised Junction Box Upgrade Work Plan (July 16, 2003). As such, ROC request termination of the regulatory file, or similar closure status.

Please contact me at (575)393-9174 if you have any questions or wish to discuss this site. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
RICE Operating Company

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Conder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Hack Conder  
Environmental Manager

enclosures

**RICE OPERATING COMPANY  
JUNCTION BOX FINAL REPORT**

**BOX LOCATION**

SWD SYSTEM	JUNCTION	UNIT	SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE	COUNTY	BOX DIMENSIONS - FEET		
							Length	Width	Depth
Vacuum	jct. J-26-2	J	26	17S	35E	Lea	no box--System abandonment		

LAND TYPE: BLM \_\_\_\_\_ STATE X FEE LANDOWNER \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

Depth to Groundwater 55 feet NMOCD SITE ASSESSMENT RANKING SCORE: 10

Date Started 8/4/2005 Date Completed 11/23/2005 NMOCD Witness no

Soil Excavated 6 cubic yards Excavation Length 8 Width 3 Depth 7 feet

Soil Disposed 0 cubic yards Offsite Facility n/a Location n/a

**FINAL ANALYTICAL RESULTS:** Sample Date 8/8/2005 Sample Depth 7 ft

5-point composite sample of bottom and 4-point composite sample of excavation sidewalls. TPH and chloride laboratory test results completed by using an approved laboratory and testing procedures pursuant to NMOCD guidelines.

**CHLORIDE FIELD TESTS**

Sample Location	PID ppm	GRO mg/kg	DRO mg/kg	Chloride mg/kg
GRAB @ 7 ft BGS	0.1	<10.0	<10.0	79.1

LOCATION	DEPTH (ft)	ppm
vertical delineation trench at junction	1	464
	2	152
	3	285
	4	142
	5	146
	6	144
	7	117

**General Description of Remedial Action:**

This junction box was addressed

as part of the Vacuum SWD System abandonment. After the box was removed, a delineation trench was made at the former junction site using a backhoe while soil samples were collected every ft of depth from 1 to 7 ft BGS. Chloride field tests yielded low concentrations and exhibited a conclusive trend of decline with depth. The soil samples did not exhibit any physical indications of hydrocarbon or chloride impact and PID screenings were also very low. A grab sample from 7 ft BGS was analyzed at a laboratory for confirmation of field tests. TPH concentrations were not present within the lab's detection limits (<10.0 ppm), meeting NMOCD guidelines. The excavated soil was blended on site and then backfilled into the trench and contoured to the surrounding surface. The disturbed surface was seeded with a blend of native vegetation and is expected to return to productive capacity at a normal rate. Since the Vacuum SWD System is no longer active, a new junction box is not required.

enclosures: chloride graph, photos, lab results, PID field screenings

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION ABOVE IS TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.

SITE SUPERVISOR Jorge Hernandez SIGNATURE not available COMPANY RICE Operating Company

REPORT ASSEMBLED BY: Kristin Farris Pope SIGNATURE Kristin Farris Pope

DATE 12/13/2005 TITLE Project Scientist

## Vacuum jct. J-26-2



undisturbed junction box

7/1/2005



delineation trench at former junction site

8/4/2005



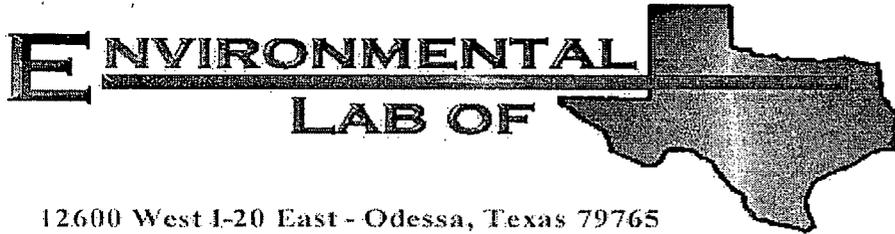
backfilling trench

11/21/2005



seeding backfilled site

11/23/2005



12600 West I-20 East - Odessa, Texas 79765

COPY

## Analytical Report

**Prepared for:**

Roy Rascon  
Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs, NM 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. J-26-2  
Project Number: None Given  
Location: None Given

Lab Order Number: 5H09009

Report Date: 08/17/05

Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs NM, 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. J-26-2  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471  
Reported:  
08/17/05 15:33

**ANALYTICAL REPORT FOR SAMPLES**

Sample ID	Laboratory ID	Matrix	Date Sampled	Date Received
Bottom Grab Sample@ 7'	5H09009-01	Soil	08/08/05 14:35	08/09/05 15:12

Rice Operating Co. 122 W. Taylor Hobbs NM, 88240	Project: Vacuum Jct. J-26-2 Project Number: None Given Project Manager: Roy Rascon	Fax: (505) 397-1471 Reported: 08/17/05 15:33
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**Organics by GC  
Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Dilution	Batch	Prepared	Analyzed	Method	Notes
<b>Bottom Grab Sample@ 7' (5H09009-01) Soil</b>									
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	ND	10.0	mg/kg dry	1	EH51018	08/10/05	08/10/05	EPA 8015M	
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	ND	10.0	"	"	"	"	"	"	
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	ND	10.0	"	"	"	"	"	"	
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane</i>		86.8 %	70-130	"	"	"	"	"	
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane</i>		97.6 %	70-130	"	"	"	"	"	

Rice Operating Co. 122 W. Taylor Hobbs NM, 88240	Project: Vacuum Jct. J-26-2 Project Number: None Given Project Manager: Roy Rascon	Fax: (505) 397-1471  Reported: 08/17/05 15:33
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**General Chemistry Parameters by EPA / Standard Methods  
Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Dilution	Batch	Prepared	Analyzed	Method	Notes
<b>Bottom Grab Sample@ 7' (5H09009-01) Soil</b>									
Chloride	79.1	5.00	mg/kg	10	EH51714	08/16/05	08/16/05	EPA 300.0	
% Moisture	5.7	0.1	%	1	EH51102	08/10/05	08/11/05	% calculation	

**Organics by GC - Quality Control**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Spike Level	Source Result	%REC	%REC Limits	RPD	RPD Limit	Notes
<b>Batch EH51018 - Solvent Extraction (GC)</b>										
<b>Blank (EH51018-BLK1)</b>					Prepared & Analyzed: 08/10/05					
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	ND	10.0	mg/kg wet							
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	ND	10.0	"							
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	ND	10.0	"							
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane</i>	42.5		mg/kg	50.0		85.0	70-130			
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane</i>	47.5		"	50.0		95.0	70-130			
<b>LCS (EH51018-BS1)</b>					Prepared & Analyzed: 08/10/05					
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	445	10.0	mg/kg wet	500		89.0	75-125			
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	458	10.0	"	500		91.6	75-125			
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	903	10.0	"	1000		90.3	75-125			
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane</i>	45.7		mg/kg	50.0		91.4	70-130			
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane</i>	54.0		"	50.0		108	70-130			
<b>Calibration Check (EH51018-CCV1)</b>					Prepared: 08/10/05 Analyzed: 08/11/05					
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	427		mg/kg	500		85.4	80-120			
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	447		"	500		89.4	80-120			
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	874		"	1000		87.4	80-120			
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane</i>	48.3		"	50.0		96.6	0-200			
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane</i>	55.5		"	50.0		111	0-200			
<b>Matrix Spike (EH51018-MS1)</b>					Source: 5H09008-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 08/10/05					
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	450	10.0	mg/kg dry	518	ND	86.9	75-125			
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	452	10.0	"	518	ND	87.3	75-125			
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	902	10.0	"	1040	ND	86.7	75-125			
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane</i>	46.0		mg/kg	50.0		92.0	70-130			
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane</i>	54.4		"	50.0		109	70-130			
<b>Matrix Spike Dup (EH51018-MSD1)</b>					Source: 5H09008-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 08/10/05					
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	464	10.0	mg/kg dry	518	ND	89.6	75-125	3.06	20	
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	469	10.0	"	518	ND	90.5	75-125	3.69	20	
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	933	10.0	"	1040	ND	89.7	75-125	3.38	20	
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane</i>	47.1		mg/kg	50.0		94.2	70-130			
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane</i>	56.5		"	50.0		113	70-130			

Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs NM, 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. J-26-2  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471

Reported:  
08/17/05 15:33

**General Chemistry Parameters by EPA / Standard Methods - Quality Control  
Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Spike Level	Source Result	%REC %REC	%REC Limits	RPD	RPD Limit	Notes
<b>Batch EH51102 - General Preparation (Prep)</b>										
<b>Blank (EH51102-BLK1)</b> Prepared & Analyzed: 08/11/05										
% Solids	100		%							
<b>Duplicate (EH51102-DUP1)</b> Source: 5H09008-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 08/11/05										
% Solids	95.5		%		96.5			1.04	20	
<b>Batch EH51714 - Water Extraction</b>										
<b>Blank (EH51714-BLK1)</b> Prepared & Analyzed: 08/16/05										
Chloride	ND	0.500	mg/kg							
<b>LCS (EH51714-BS1)</b> Prepared & Analyzed: 08/16/05										
Chloride	11.6		mg/L	10.0		116	80-120			
<b>Calibration Check (EH51714-CCV1)</b> Prepared & Analyzed: 08/16/05										
Chloride	10.3		mg/L	10.0		103	80-120			
<b>Duplicate (EH51714-DUP1)</b> Source: 5H09002-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 08/16/05										
Chloride	5040	50.0	mg/kg		5060			0.396	20	

Rice Operating Co.  
122 W. Taylor  
Hobbs NM, 88240

Project: Vacuum Jct. J-26-2  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471

Reported:  
08/17/05 15:33

### Notes and Definitions

DET Analyte DETECTED  
ND Analyte NOT DETECTED at or above the reporting limit  
NR Not Reported  
dry Sample results reported on a dry weight basis  
RPD Relative Percent Difference  
LCS Laboratory Control Spike  
MS Matrix Spike  
Dup Duplicate

Report Approved By:

Raland K Tuttle

Date:

8-17-05

Raland K. Tuttle, Lab Manager  
Celey D. Keene, Lab Director, Org. Tech Director  
Peggy Allen, QA Officer

Jeanne Mc Murrey, Inorg. Tech Director  
LaTasha Cornish, Chemist  
Sandra Sanchez, Lab Tech.

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If you have received this material in error, please notify us immediately at 432-563-1800.



**Environmental Lab of Texas  
Variance / Corrective Action Report – Sample Log-In**

Client: PICA OP.  
 Date/Time: 8/9/05 15:12  
 Order #: 5+1091009  
 Initials: CR

**Sample Receipt Checklist**

Temperature of container/cooler?	Yes	No	D. O C
Shipping container/cooler in good condition?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Custody Seals intact on shipping container/cooler?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	Not present
Custody Seals intact on sample bottles?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	Not present
Chain of custody present?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Sample Instructions complete on Chain of Custody?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Chain of Custody signed when relinquished and received?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Chain of custody agrees with sample label(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Container labels legible and intact?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Sample Matrix and properties same as on chain of custody?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Samples in proper container/bottle?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Samples properly preserved?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Sample bottles intact?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Preservations documented on Chain of Custody?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Containers documented on Chain of Custody?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Sufficient sample amount for indicated test?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
All samples received within sufficient hold time?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
VOC samples have zero headspace?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	Not Applicable

Other observations:

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**Variance Documentation:**

Contact Person: - \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Contacted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Regarding: \_\_\_\_\_

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Corrective Action Taken:

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**RICE OPERATING COMPANY**  
 122 WEST TAYLOR  
 HOBBS, NEW MEXICO 88240  
 PHONE: (505) 393-9174 FAX: (505) 397-1471  
**VOC FIELD TEST REPORT FORM**  
 MINI RAE PLUS CLASSIC PHOTOIONIZATION GAS DETECTOR

MODEL NO: PGM 761S SERIAL NO: 104412  
 CALIBRATION GAS 100 PPM  
 GAS COMPOSITION: ISOBUTYLENE BALANCE  
 AIR  
 LOT NO: \_\_\_\_\_ FILL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EXP. DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ACCURACY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 METER READING  
 ACCURACY: \_\_\_\_\_

SYSTEM	JUNCTION	UNIT	SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE
VAC	J-26-2	J	26	17S	35E

Vertical @ Source @ 7'

SAMPLE	PID RESULT	SAMPLE	PID RESULT
1'	48.4		
2'	3.4		
3'	2.8		
4'	5.1		
5'	0.4		
6'	0.9		
7'	0.1		

COPY

I certify that I have calibrated the above instrument in accordance to the manufacture operation manual.  
 \*Note: PID readings copied from field notes, Employee no longer w/ ROC. For R. Rascon  
 9-27-05

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date