

1R - 425-19

**APPROVALS**

**YEAR(S):**

2012

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# RICE *Operating Company*

122 West Taylor • Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

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

April 17, 2012

RECEIVED

APR 20 2012

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

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

RE: Termination Request  
Vacuum Southwestern "VC" EOL (1R425-19): UL/L, Sec. 36, 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 Southwestern "VC" EOL junction box as part of the system abandonment. The site is located in UL/L, Sec. 36, T17S, R35E. NM OSE records indicate that groundwater would likely be encountered at a depth of approximately 52 +/- feet. The site was delineated using a backhoe to collect soil samples at regular intervals, creating an 8x3x12-ft deep excavation. Each sample was field titrated for chlorides and field screened using a PID for hydrocarbons, resulting in low concentrations of each. The 12-ft sample was sent to a commercial laboratory for analysis of chloride and TPH, resulting in a chloride concentration of 79.2 mg/kg, and concentrations of gasoline range organics (GRO) and diesel range organics (DRO) below detectable limits. The excavated soil was returned to the excavation to ground surface 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", written in a cursive style.

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	Southwestern "VC" EOL	L	36	17S	35E	Lea	none--System abandonment		

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

Depth to Groundwater 52 feet NMOCD SITE ASSESSMENT RANKING SCORE: 10

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

Soil Excavated 10.6 cubic yards Excavation Length 8 Width 3 Depth 12 feet

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

FINAL ANALYTICAL RESULTS: Sample Date 8/11/2005 Sample Depth 12 ft

TPH and chloride laboratory test results completed by using an approved lab and testing procedures pursuant to NMOCD guidelines.

CHLORIDE FIELD TESTS

Sample Location	PID ppm	GRO mg/kg	DRO mg/kg	Chloride mg/kg
GRAB @ 12 ft BGS	0.3	<10.0	<10.0	79.2

LOCATION	DEPTH (ft)	ppm
vertical trench at junction box	1	4391
	2	1721
	3	193
	4	227
	5	257
	6	285
	7	294
	8	446
	9	367
	10	280
	11	357
	12	304

General Description of Remedial Action: This end-of-line (EOL) junction box was abandoned with the Vacuum SWD System abandonment. After NORM decontamination, the box lumber was removed and a delineation trench was made at the former junction site using a backhoe. Chloride field tests and PID screenings were performed on soil samples collected from the trench every vertical foot of depth to 12 ft BGS. Chloride concentrations exhibited a conclusive trend of decline with depth and all PID levels were well below 100 ppm. Laboratory analysis on the 12-ft sample yielded TPH concentrations below detection limits (<10 mg/kg), meeting NMOCD guidelines. The trench was backfilled with the excavated soil and leveled 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.

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.

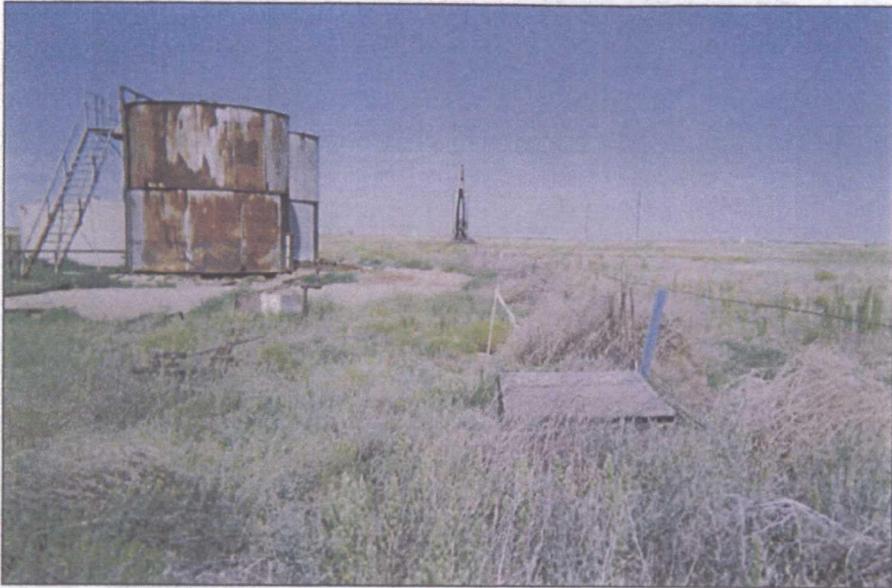
SITE SUPERVISOR Jorge Hernandez SIGNATURE not available COMPANY RICE Operating Company

REPORT ASSEMBLED BY Kristin Farris Pope SIGNATURE *Kristin Farris Pope*

DATE 12-7-2005 TITLE Project Scientist

# Vacuum Southwestern VC EOL

Unit 'L', Sec. 36, T17S, R35E



undisturbed junction box

6/30/2005



delineation trench at former junction box site

8/11/2005



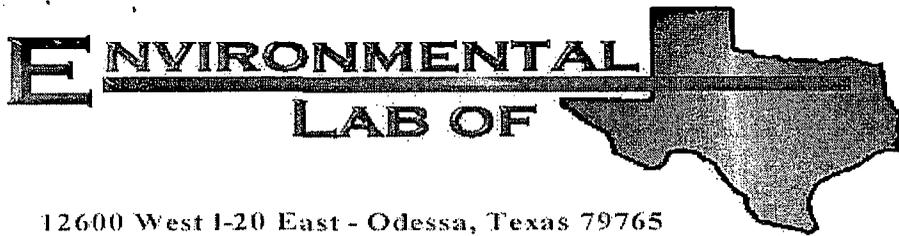
backfilling delineation trench

11/21/2005



seeding disturbed surface after backfill

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 Southwestern VC EOL  
Project Number: None Given  
Location: None Given

Lab Order Number: 5H15003

Report Date: 08/19/05

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

Project: Vacuum Southwestern VC EOL  
Project Number: None Given  
Project Manager: Roy Rascon

Fax: (505) 397-1471

Reported:  
08/19/05 09:49

**ANALYTICAL REPORT FOR SAMPLES**

Sample ID	Laboratory ID	Matrix	Date Sampled	Date Received
Bottom Grab Sample @ 12'	SH15003-01	Soil	08/11/05 14:45	08/12/05 17:45

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

Project: Vacuum Southwestern VC EOL  
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Project Manager: Roy Rascon

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Reported:  
08/19/05 09:49

**Organics by GC**  
**Environmental Lab of Texas**

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Dilution	Batch	Prepared	Analyzed	Method	Notes
<b>Bottom Grab Sample @ 12' (5H15003-01) Soil</b>									
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	ND	10.0	mg/kg dry	1	EH51502	08/15/05	08/15/05	EPA 8015M	
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	ND	10.0	"	"	"	"	"	"	
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	ND	10.0	"	"	"	"	"	"	
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane</i>		94.8 %	70-130		"	"	"	"	
<i>Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane</i>		111 %	70-130		"	"	"	"	

Rice Operating Co. 122 W. Taylor Hobbs NM, 88240	Project: Vacuum Southwestern VC EOL Project Number: None Given Project Manager: Roy Rascon	Fax: (505) 397-1471  Reported: 08/19/05 09:49
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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 @ 12' (5H15003-01) Soil</b>									
Chloride	79.2	5.00	mg/kg	10	EH51905	08/19/05	08/19/05	EPA 300.0	
% Moisture	8.2	0.1	%	1	EH51504	08/15/05	08/15/05	% calculation	

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**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 EH51502 - Solvent Extraction (GC)</b>										
<b>Blank (EH51502-BLK1)</b>					Prepared & Analyzed: 08/15/05					
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	"							
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	48.4		mg/kg	50.0		96.8	70-130			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	55.4		"	50.0		111	70-130			
<b>LCS (EH51502-BS1)</b>					Prepared & Analyzed: 08/15/05					
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	420	10.0	mg/kg wet	500		84.0	75-125			
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	457	10.0	"	500		91.4	75-125			
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	877	10.0	"	1000		87.7	75-125			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	49.1		mg/kg	50.0		98.2	70-130			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	49.6		"	50.0		99.2	70-130			
<b>Calibration Check (EH51502-CCV1)</b>					Prepared & Analyzed: 08/15/05					
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	453		mg/kg	500		90.6	80-120			
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	472		"	500		94.4	80-120			
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	925		"	1000		92.5	80-120			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	52.6		"	50.0		105	0-200			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	56.1		"	50.0		112	0-200			
<b>Matrix Spike (EH51502-MS1)</b>					Source: 5H15006-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 08/15/05					
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	527	10.0	mg/kg dry	613	ND	86.0	75-125			
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	660	10.0	"	613	90.0	93.0	75-125			
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	1190	10.0	"	1230	90.0	89.4	75-125			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	51.3		mg/kg	50.0		103	70-130			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	52.0		"	50.0		104	70-130			
<b>Matrix Spike Dup (EH51502-MSD1)</b>					Source: 5H15006-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 08/15/05					
Gasoline Range Organics C6-C12	511	10.0	mg/kg dry	613	ND	83.4	75-125	3.08	20	
Diesel Range Organics >C12-C35	627	10.0	"	613	90.0	87.6	75-125	5.13	20	
Total Hydrocarbon C6-C35	1140	10.0	"	1230	90.0	85.4	75-125	4.29	20	
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctane	51.2		mg/kg	50.0		102	70-130			
Surrogate: 1-Chlorooctadecane	57.6		"	50.0		115	70-130			

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

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Reported:  
08/19/05 09:49

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

Analyte	Result	Reporting Limit	Units	Spike Level	Source Result	%REC	%REC Limits	RPD	RPD Limit	Notes
<b>Batch EH51504 - General Preparation (Prep)</b>										
<b>Blank (EH51504-BLK1)</b> Prepared & Analyzed: 08/15/05										
% Solids	100		%							
<b>Duplicate (EH51504-DUP1)</b> Source: 5H12003-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 08/15/05										
% Solids	70.6		%		72.0			1.96	20	
<b>Duplicate (EH51504-DUP2)</b> Source: 5H15007-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 08/15/05										
% Solids	96.8		%		96.9			0.103	20	
<b>Batch EH51905 - Water Extraction</b>										
<b>Blank (EH51905-BLK1)</b> Prepared & Analyzed: 08/19/05										
Chloride	ND	0.500	mg/kg							
<b>LCS (EH51905-BS1)</b> Prepared & Analyzed: 08/19/05										
Chloride	8.49		mg/L	10.0		84.9	80-120			
<b>Calibration Check (EH51905-CCV1)</b> Prepared & Analyzed: 08/19/05										
Chloride	8.88		mg/L	10.0		88.8	80-120			
<b>Duplicate (EH51905-DUP1)</b> Source: 5H15002-01 Prepared & Analyzed: 08/19/05										
Chloride	203	5.00	mg/kg		194			4.53	20	

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### 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: Roland K Tuttle Date: 8-19-05

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.

This material is intended only for the use of the individual (s) or entity to whom it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged and confidential.

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: Rice Op.

Date/Time: 8/12/05 17:45

Order #: SH15003

Initials: CR

**Sample Receipt Checklist**

Temperature of container/cooler?	Yes	No	<u>0.5</u> C
Shipping container/cooler in good condition?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Custody Seals intact on shipping container/cooler?	<u>Yes</u>	No	Not present
Custody Seals intact on sample bottles?	<u>Yes</u>	No	Not present
Chain of custody present?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Sample Instructions complete on Chain of Custody?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Chain of Custody signed when relinquished and received?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Chain of custody agrees with sample label(s)	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Container labels legible and intact?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Sample Matrix and properties same as on chain of custody?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Samples in proper container/bottle?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Samples properly preserved?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Sample bottles intact?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Preservations documented on Chain of Custody?	<u>Yes</u>	No	- -
Containers documented on Chain of Custody?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Sufficient sample amount for indicated test?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
All samples received within sufficient hold time?	<u>Yes</u>	No	
VOC samples have zero headspace?	<u>Yes</u>	No	Not Applicable

Other observations:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Variance Documentation:**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Corrective Action Taken:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# Rice Operating Company

HOBBS, NEW MEXICO 88240

PHONE: (505) 393-9174 FAX: (505) 397-1471

## VOC FIELD TEST REPORT FORM

MODEL NO: PGM 76IS  
 CALIBRATION GAS  
 GAS COMPOSITION: ISOBUTYLENE AIR

SERIAL NO: 104412

100 PPM  
 BALANCE  
 FILL DATE: 2-1-05  
 ACCURACY: ± 2%

LOT NO: 04-2747  
 EXP. DATE: 8-1-06  
 METER READING  
 ACCURACY: 100

SYSTEM	JUNCION	UNIT	SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE
<u>Valuum</u>	<u>Southwestern</u> <u>VC EOL</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>17S</u>	<u>35E</u>

SAMPLE	PID RESULT	SAMPLE	PID RESULT
<u>@ Source</u>	<u>1'</u>	<u>41.4</u>	<u>Grab Bottom Sample @ 12'</u>
	<u>2'</u>	<u>43.0</u>	<u>0.3</u>
	<u>3'</u>	<u>48.0</u>	
	<u>4'</u>	<u>36.1</u>	
	<u>5'</u>	<u>27.2</u>	
	<u>6'</u>	<u>20.6</u>	
	<u>7'</u>	<u>11.0</u>	
	<u>8'</u>	<u>0.9</u>	
	<u>9'</u>	<u>0.1</u>	
	<u>10'</u>	<u>0.7</u>	
	<u>11'</u>	<u>0.3</u>	
	<u>12'</u>	<u>0.1</u>	

← lab sample

I certify that I have calibrated the above instrument in accordance to the manufacture operation manual.

Signature 

Date 8-11-05

## Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD

---

**From:** Laura Pena <lpena@riceswd.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 10, 2012 8:48 AM  
**To:** Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD  
**Cc:** Hack Conder; Katie Jones  
**Subject:** Vacuum Southwestern 'VC' EOL (1R425-19) Photo Documentation  
**Attachments:** Southwestern 'VC' EOL (1R425-19) Site Photo Documentation.pdf

Mr. Hansen,

Hack asked me to send you the photo documentation of the Vacuum Southwestern 'VC' EOL (1R425-19) site. Attached you will find photos of the site after the completion of the excavation in 2005 and photos of the site in 2012.

The excavated area does have vegetation; however, please note that the tanks present in the 2005 photos have been removed. Those areas do not exhibit signs of vegetation (locations are marked on the current photographs).

If you have any questions, please contact Hack Conder at (575)631-6432.

Thank you,  
Laura Peña

Southwestern 'VC' EOL (1R425-19)  
Unit L, Sec. 36, T17S, R35E



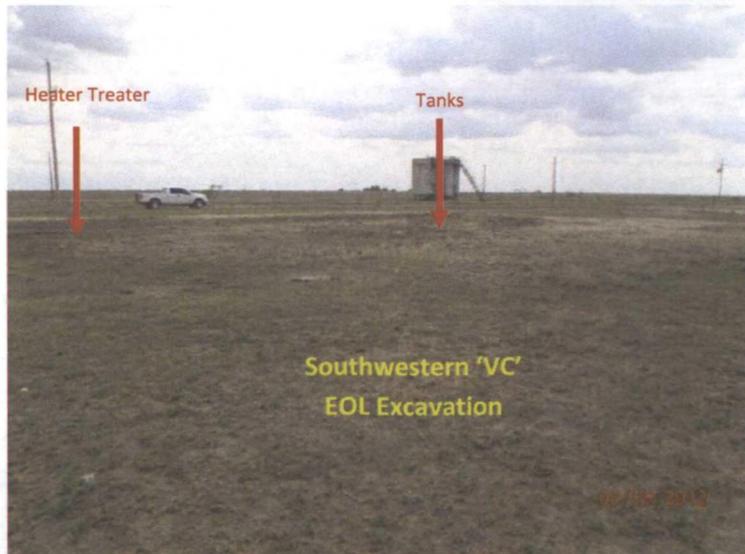
Facing south

11/23/2005



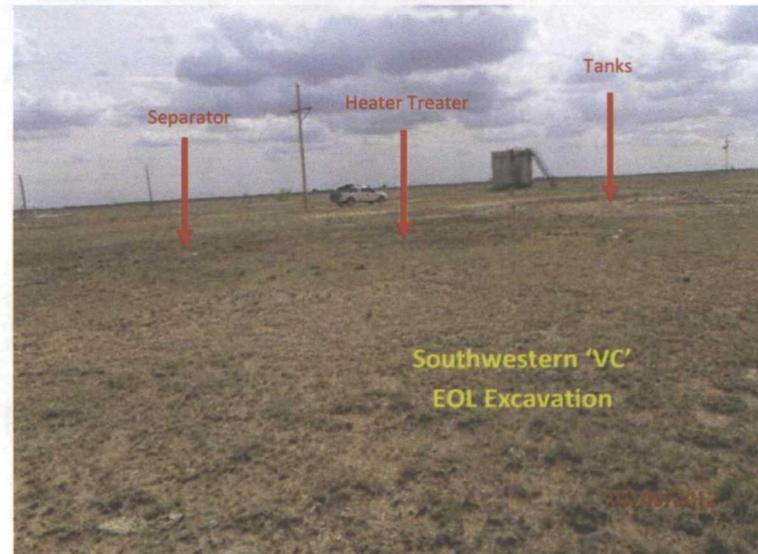
Facing east

11/23/2005



Facing south

5/9/2012



Facing south

5/9/2012