

AP - 83

**GENERAL
CORRESPONDENCE**

YEAR(S):

2009

Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD

From: Hansen, Edward J., EMNRD
Sent: Friday, September 04, 2009 4:37 PM
To: 'Hack Conder'
Cc: Marvin Burrows; Scott Curtis; Johnson, Larry, EMNRD
Subject: Rescind Abatement Plan (AP-84)

**RE: Rice Operating Company's
EME C-16(2) Leak Site
Unit Letter C, Section 16, T20S, R37E, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico
Rescind Abatement Plan (AP-84) Submittal Requirement
Now Remediation Plan (1R-477)**

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 July 10, 2009). Since the site has been remediated in a timely matter, the OCD hereby rescinds the requirement for submittal of an abatement plan (AP-84) under 19.15.30 NMAC (Part 30; formally, Rule 19). Also, since the site has been remediated, the termination of the remediation plan (1R-477) will be approved in accordance with 19.15.29 NMAC (Part 29; formally, Rule 116) (under separate cover).

Please be advised that OCD approval of this rescindment 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

L. Peter Galusky, Jr. Ph.D., P.G.

Texerra

505 N Big Spring, Suite 404 Midland, Texas 79701

Tel: 432-634-9257 E-mail: lpg@texerra.com

March 30th, 2009

Mr. Brad Jones
New Mexico Energy, Minerals, & Natural Resources
Oil Conservation Division, Environmental Bureau
1220 S. St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

RE: Request for Suspension of BTEX Sampling
Rice Operating Company – EME SWD
C-16(1) Leak – NMOCD Case No. 1R0476
UL-C, Sec 16 T20S R37E

AP-83

Sent via E-mail and Certified Mail/Return Receipt No. 7006 0100 0001 2438 3920

Dear Mr. Jones:

We have been monitoring groundwater chloride and BTEX concentrations at the above-referenced site on a quarterly basis since December of 2006 (Figures 1, 2; Tables 1-3). Concentrations have on only one occasion exceeded the laboratory detection limits for BTEX: 0.001 ppm benzene in the up-gradient monitor well (MW-3) on August 4th, 2008 (see Table 3). We therefore respectfully request permission to cease the sampling for and analysis of BTEX at this location.

Please be advised, however, that we do plan to continue the quarterly sampling of groundwater chloride concentrations, pursuant to the Corrective Action Plan for this site.

ROC is the service provider (agent) for the EME Salt Water Disposal System and has no ownership of any portion of pipeline, well or facility. The EME SWD System is owned by a consortium of oil producers, System Partners, who provide all operating capital on a percentage ownership/usage basis.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



L. Peter Galusky, Jr. Ph.D.
Principal

Cc: Rice Operating Company, Edward Hansen (NMOCD)

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Figure 1 – EME C16(1) location.

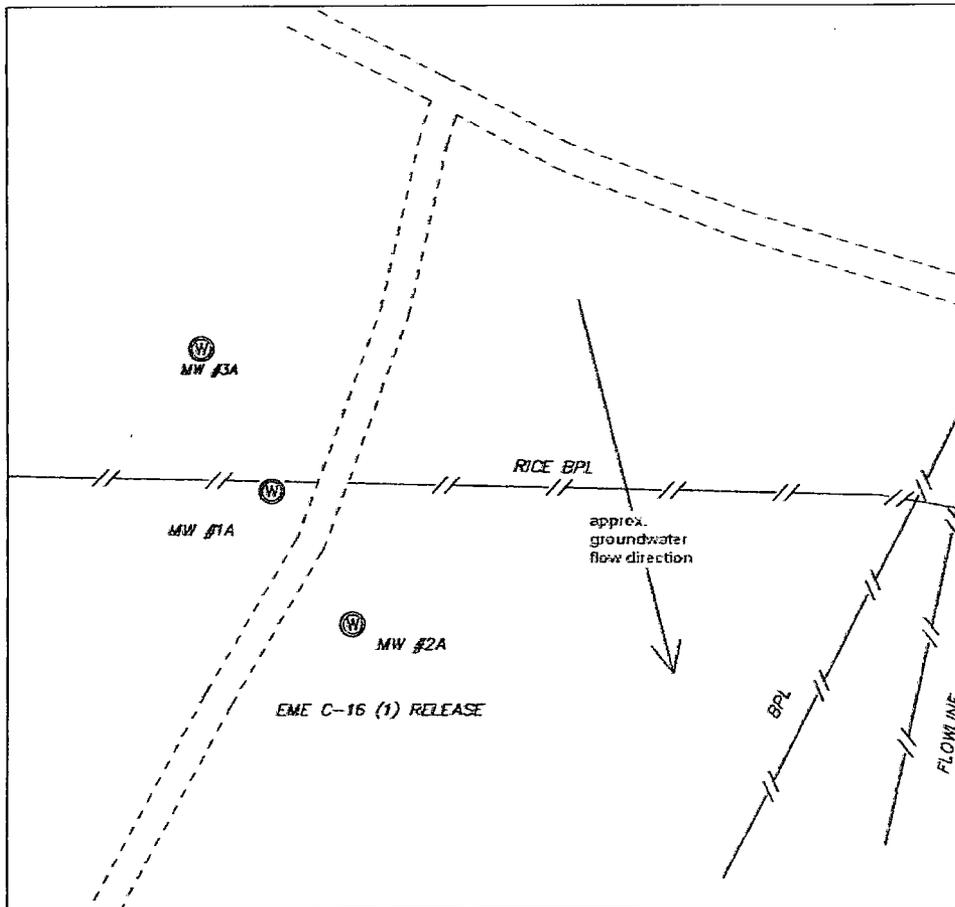


Figure 2 – EME C16(1) approximate locations of monitor well.
MW 1A is near the center of the release.

Texerra

MW	Depth to Water	Sample Date	Cl	TDS	Benzene	Toluene	Ethyl Benzene	Total Xylenes	Sulfate
1	18.13	12/22/2006	8810	13400	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1370
1		2/14/2007	9170	15400	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1420
1	17.67	5/30/2007	9100	18400	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1480
1	18.86	9/7/2007	8197	17967	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1501
1	18.32	10/23/2007	8100	17329	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.006	1580
1	18.22	3/6/2008	8000	15500	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.006	1400
1	18.16	5/9/2008	8100	17100	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.006	1690
1		8/4/2008	8000	16100	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1700
1		11/5/2008	7900	15900	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1820
1		2/9/2009	8200	17000	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1410

Table 1 – Groundwater monitoring (laboratory) data from monitor well, MW-1.

Texerra

MW	Depth to Water	Sample Date	Cl	TDS	Benzene	Toluene	Ethyl Benzene	Total Xylenes	Sulfate
2	21.09	12/22/2006	7760	12000	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1650
2		2/14/2007	8010	9650	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1680
2	20.67	5/30/2007	7310	16400	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1460
2	21.83	9/7/2007	7298	16619	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1496
2	21.34	10/23/2007	7300	15746	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.006	1700
2	21.24	3/6/2008	7300	14200	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.006	1610
2	21.17	5/9/2008	6900	14500	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.006	1410
2	22.02	8/4/2008	7400	14900	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1350
2	21.78	11/5/2008	7100	14200	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1510
2	21.68	2/9/2009	7300	15000	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1370

Table 2 – Groundwater monitoring (laboratory) data from monitor well, MW-2.

Texerra

MW	Depth to Water	Sample Date	Cl	TDS	Benzene	Toluene	Ethyl Benzene	Total Xylenes	Sulfate
3	21.07	10/23/2007	7900	16133	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.006	1260
3	20.44	3/6/2008	7800	14600	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.006	1080
3	20.86	5/9/2008	7900	16200	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.006	1270
3	21.74	8/4/2008	7800	15000	0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1440
3	21.49	11/5/2008	7500	14800	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1180
3	21.35	2/9/2009	7600	14600	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.003	1030

Table 3 – Groundwater monitoring (laboratory) data from monitor well, MW-3.