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**Subject:** Stan 32 State 71H - nRM2004836746  
**Date:** Friday, March 6, 2020 4:25:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [\(C-141 Closure Denied\) nRM2004836746.pdf](#)

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To whom it may concern,

The OCD has denied the submitted Closure Request for the following reasons:

- Though the surface expression of the release appeared in Texas, the release originated in the subsurface of New Mexico. It is unclear at what depth the release originated, but based on correspondence from Stephanie Rabadue, XTO experienced a water flow at close to 6000' during drilling activities, and drilling continued until 6813'. An investigation to see if any groundwater source(s) were affected will need to take place.
- The OCD would also like to see the results of the surface delineation to ensure the surface was not affected in New Mexico.

The OCD would like to schedule a meeting at the OCD office, within the next 30 days, to discuss this incident in further detail and to develop a plan for investigation. We will need a detailed account of information obtained during drilling operations leading to and at the time of the incident, including lithology and hydrology information at this site. Any information XTO can supply ahead of time would be appreciated.

The OCD is opening an Albuquerque location on Friday next week. The address for this location is listed below. Please provide a date for which XTO can meet (preferably not a Wednesday) to discuss this incident.

**Oil Conservation Division**  
**5200 Oakland Avenue NE, Suite 100**  
**Albuquerque, New Mexico 87113**

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

**Cristina Eads**  
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*EMNRD – Oil Conservation Division*  
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**OCD approval does not relieve the operator of liability should their operations fail to adequately investigate and**

remediate contamination that may pose a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.