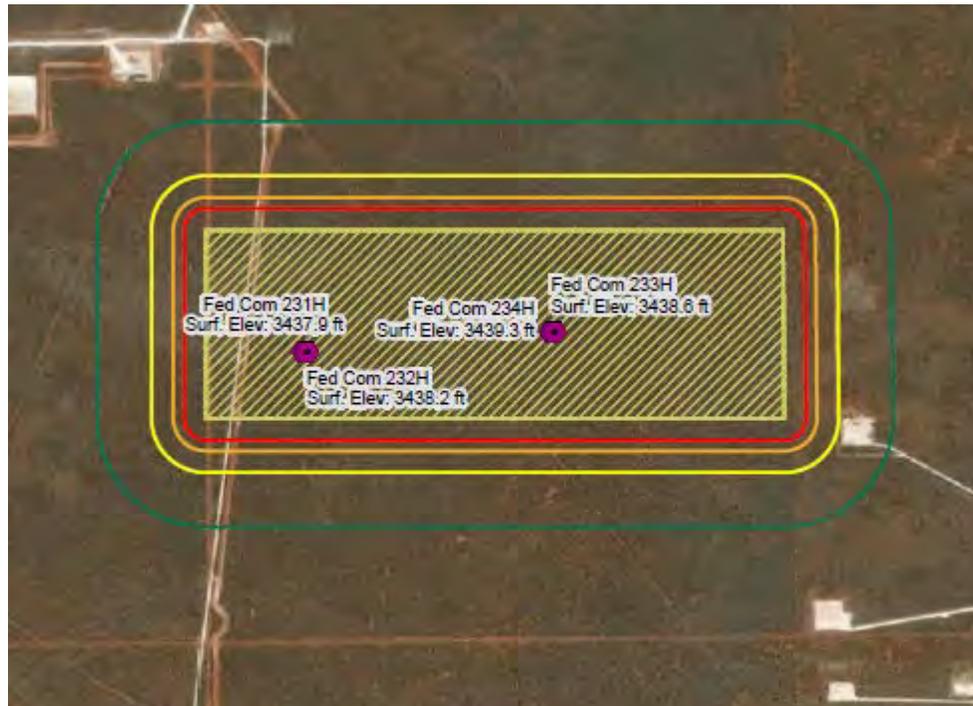


**Volume 1 – Form C-144 and C-102 for  
CHINCOTEAGUE 8 5 FEDERAL COM 23%  
and  
CHINCOTEAGUE 8 5 FEDERAL COM 23&  
Temporary Drilling Pit  
Section 16, T23S R32E, Lea County**



**Prepared for  
Devon Energy Production Co. LP  
Oklahoma City, OK**

**Prepared by  
R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd.  
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

# R. T. HICKS CONSULTANTS, LTD.

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901 Rio Grande Blvd NW ▲ Suite F-142 ▲ Albuquerque, NM 87104 ▲ 505.266.5004 ▲ Since 1996  
Artesia ▲ Carlsbad ▲ Durango ▲ Midland

April 37, 2019

Mr. Jim Griswold  
Mr. Paul Kautz  
OCD District II  
1625 N. French Dr.  
Hobbs, NM 88240  
*VIA EMAIL*

RE: Devon Energy Production Co., LP, C-144 Temporary (Reserve)Pit for  
CHINCOTEAGUE 8 5 FEDERAL COM 231H

Dear Mr. Griswold and Mr. Kautz:

On behalf of Devon Energy, LP, Hicks Consultants is pleased to submit a drilling pit permit application for the above-referenced well. The pit will also serve the adjacent CHINCOTEAGUE 8 5 FEDERAL COM 232H. The application is separated into 3 (short) packages.

Volume 1 consists of.

- The signed C-144 as the first section of Volume 1. Attached to the C-144 is the reserve pit design for this location.
- A C-102 and survey of the location with driving directions is the second section of Volume 1. The location of the reserve pit on the pad is part of the C-102.

Volume 2 is the Siting Criteria Demonstration for the lower half of Units E, F, G & H and the upper half of Units I, J, K & L of Section 8. In this area Devon has staked numerous wells in this area. Drilling pits are proposed for many of these future wells. Thus, OCD can conduct a one-time review of this Volume and reduce the time and effort to conduct the review for future pits within the area.

Volume 3 should not require detailed review as it contains previously approved variances to the Pit Rule that will be used for this permit application. These are:

- Allowing the use of EPA Method 8015M in lieu of 418.1 for analysis of TPH (December 18, 2014) and 8015 will be used for this closure.
- Allowing EPA 300.0 or SM4500 for the analysis of chloride (see Rule 29).
- A request for temporary restoration of a portion of the pit footprint to a production pad.
- Permit notification of the surface owner via email in lieu of US Mail
- The following previously-approved plans and designs from TOMB RAIDER 12 FED 213H
  - Design/Construction Plan
  - Liner Specifications for the temporary pit
  - Operations Plan
  - Closure Plan

April 37, 2019

Page 2

While the exact geometry of the pit may change slightly based upon site conditions, the footprint of the pit will remain within the proposed area of disturbance. The design and construction protocols, operations, and closure methods are exactly the same as previously-approved reserve pits.

Attachment A to this letter provides photographs of the central area of Section 8, in which several reserve pits are anticipated.

The US Government is the surface owner and this application is provided to the BLM via email.

Sincerely,  
R.T. Hicks Consultants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randall H", written in a cursive style.

Randall Hicks  
Principal

Copy: Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
BLM, Carlsbad, NM

## Attachment A- Site Photographs



**Figure A-1 Chincoteague 231H, the westernmost Devon staked well in Section 8 (32.14528, -103.70291). The area is characterized by low sand dunes that are stabilized by vegetation.**



**Figure A-2 Chincoteague 521H is about 400 feet north of Chincoteague 231H.**

## Attachment A- Site Photographs



Figure A-3- Chincoteague 522H is southeast of Chincoteague 521H and northeast of 231H (32.14575, -103.70136)



## Attachment A- Site Photographs

Figure A-4 Chincoteague 235H is about 250 feet south of 522H



Figure A-5 Chincoteague 523H is near the center of Section 8 (32.14577, -103.69619)



Figure A-6 View to the east of stakes for Chincoteague 233H in foreground and 234H, which is located 30-feet east. The area is characterized by low dunes and sheet sand that is stabilized by grasses and shrubs

## Attachment A- Site Photographs



Figure A-7 Chincoteague 524H is about 250 feet north of Chincoteague 238H on the eastern edge of Section 8.



Figure A-8 Chincoteague 238H is the easternmost Devon well in Section 8 (32.14536, -103.69076)

FORM C-144

District I  
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240  
District II  
811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410  
District IV  
1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
Energy Minerals and Natural Resources  
Department  
Oil Conservation Division  
1220 South St. Francis Dr.  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Form C-144  
Revised June 6, 2013

**For temporary pits, below-grade tanks, and multi-well fluid management pits**, submit to the appropriate NMOCD District Office.  
**For permanent pits** submit to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office and provide a copy to the appropriate NMOCD District Office.

Pit, Below-Grade Tank, or  
Proposed Alternative Method Permit or Closure Plan Application

- Type of action:  Below grade tank registration  
 Permit of a pit or proposed alternative method  
 Closure of a pit, below-grade tank, or proposed alternative method  
 Modification to an existing permit/or registration  
 Closure plan only submitted for an existing permitted or non-permitted pit, below-grade tank, or proposed alternative method

**Instructions: Please submit one application (Form C-144) per individual pit, below-grade tank or alternative request**

Please be advised that approval of this request does not relieve the operator of liability should operations result in pollution of surface water, ground water or the environment. Nor does approval relieve the operator of its responsibility to comply with any other applicable governmental authority's rules, regulations or ordinances.

1.  
Operator: Devon Energy Production Company, LP. OGRID #: 6137  
Address: 333 W. Sheridan, Oklahoma City, OK 73102-8260  
Facility or well name: CHINCOTEAGUE 8 5 FEDERAL COM No. 231H  
API Number: 3002545699 (231H) 3002545700 (CHINCOTEAGUE 8 5 FEDERAL COM No. 232) OCD Permit Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
U/L or Qtr/Qtr E Section 8 Township 25S Range 32E County: Lea  
Center of Proposed Design **is about 140 feet north of:** Latitude 32.1453073 Longitude -103.7029134 NAD:  1927  1983  
Surface Owner:  Federal  State  Private  Tribal Trust or Indian Allotment

2.  
 **Pit:** Subsection F, G or J of 19.15.17.11 NMAC  
Temporary:  Drilling  Workover  
 Permanent  Emergency  Cavitation  P&A  Multi-Well Fluid Management Low Chloride Drilling Fluid  yes  no  
 Lined  Unlined Liner type: Thickness 20 mil  LLDPE  HDPE  PVC  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 String-Reinforced  
Liner Seams:  Welded  Factory  Other \_\_\_\_\_ Volume: See Plate 1 and 2 Dimensions: See Plate 1 and 2

3.  
 **Below-grade tank:** Subsection I of 19.15.17.11 NMAC  
Volume: \_\_\_\_\_ bbl Type of fluid: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tank Construction material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Secondary containment with leak detection  Visible sidewalls, liner, 6-inch lift and automatic overflow shut-off  
 Visible sidewalls and liner  Visible sidewalls only  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Liner type: Thickness \_\_\_\_\_ mil  HDPE  PVC  Other \_\_\_\_\_

4.  
 **Alternative Method:**  
Submittal of an exception request is required. Exceptions must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval.

5.  
**Fencing:** Subsection D of 19.15.17.11 NMAC (Applies to permanent pits, temporary pits, and below-grade tanks)  
 Chain link, six feet in height, two strands of barbed wire at top (Required if located within 1000 feet of a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or church)  
 Four foot height, four strands of barbed wire evenly spaced between one and four feet  
 Alternate. Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

6.

**Netting:** Subsection E of 19.15.17.11 NMAC (*Applies to permanent pits and permanent open top tanks*)

- Screen  Netting  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Monthly inspections (If netting or screening is not physically feasible)

7.

**Signs:** Subsection C of 19.15.17.11 NMAC

- 12"x 24", 2" lettering, providing Operator's name, site location, and emergency telephone numbers
- Signed in compliance with 19.15.16.8 NMAC

8.

**Variations and Exceptions:**

Justifications and/or demonstrations of equivalency are required. Please refer to 19.15.17 NMAC for guidance.

**Please check a box if one or more of the following is requested, if not leave blank:**

- Variance(s): Requests must be submitted to the appropriate division district for consideration of approval.
- Exception(s): Requests must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval

All proposed variances have been previously-approved by OCD. .

9.

**Siting Criteria (regarding permitting):** 19.15.17.10 NMAC

**Instructions:** *The applicant must demonstrate compliance for each siting criteria below in the application. Recommendations of acceptable source material are provided below. Siting criteria does not apply to drying pads or above-grade tanks.*

**General siting**

**Ground water is less than 25 feet below the bottom of a low chloride temporary pit or below-grade tank.**

- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search;  USGS;  Data obtained from nearby wells

- Yes  No
- NA

**Ground water is less than 50 feet below the bottom of a Temporary pit, permanent pit, or Multi-Well Fluid Management pit.**

NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells **See Figures 1 & 2**

- Yes  No
- NA

Within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field covered under a municipal ordinance adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks) See Figure 3**

- Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained from the municipality

- Yes  No

Within the area overlying a subsurface mine. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks) See Figure 4**

- Written confirmation or verification or map from the NM EMNRD-Mining and Mineral Division

- Yes  No

Within an unstable area. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks) See Figure 5**

- Engineering measures incorporated into the design; NM Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources; USGS; NM Geological Society; Topographic map

- Yes  No

Within a 100-year floodplain. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks) See Figure 6**

- FEMA map

- Yes  No

**Below Grade Tanks**

Within 100 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, significant watercourse, lake bed, sinkhole, wetland or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).

- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

- Yes  No

Within 200 horizontal feet of a spring or a fresh water well used for public or livestock consumption;

- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

- Yes  No

**Temporary Pit using Low Chloride Drilling Fluid** (maximum chloride content 15,000 mg/liter)

Within 100 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or any other significant watercourse or within 200 feet of any lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark). (Applies to low chloride temporary pits.)

- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

- Yes  No

Within 300 feet from a occupied permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.

- Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image

- Yes  No

Within 200 horizontal feet of a spring or a private, domestic fresh water well used by less than five households for domestic or stock watering purposes, or 300feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in existence at the time of the initial application.

NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

- Yes  No

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Within 100 feet of a wetland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site</li> </ul>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No            |
| <p><b><u>Temporary Pit Non-low chloride drilling fluid</u></b></p>   |   |
| <p>Within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or any other significant watercourse, or within 200 feet of any lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark). <b>See Figure 7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site</li> </ul>   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p>Within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image. <b>See Figure 8</b></li> </ul>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p>Within 500 horizontal feet of a spring or a private, domestic fresh water well used by less than five households for domestic or stock watering purposes, or 1000 feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in the existence at the time of the initial application;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site<br/><b>See Figures 1 &amp; 2 and 7 (springs)</b></li> </ul> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p>Within 300 feet of a wetland. <b>See Figure 9</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site</li> </ul>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p><b><u>Permanent Pit or Multi-Well Fluid Management Pit</u></b></p>  |   |
| <p>Within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or 200 feet of any other significant watercourse, or lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site</li> </ul>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No            |
| <p>Within 1000 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image</li> </ul>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No            |
| <p>Within 500 horizontal feet of a spring or a fresh water well used for domestic or stock watering purposes, in existence at the time of initial application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site</li> </ul>   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No            |
| <p>Within 500 feet of a wetland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site</li> </ul>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No            |

10.

**Temporary Pits, Emergency Pits, and Below-grade Tanks Permit Application Attachment Checklist:** Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC

**Instructions:** Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

- Hydrogeologic Report (Below-grade Tanks) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (4) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
- Hydrogeologic Data (Temporary and Emergency Pits) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (2) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
- Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC
- Design Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC
- Closure Plan (Please complete Boxes 14 through 18, if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC

Previously Approved Design (attach copy of design) API Number: \_\_\_\_\_ or Permit Number: \_\_\_\_\_

11.

**Multi-Well Fluid Management Pit Checklist:** Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC

**Instructions:** Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

- Design Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC
- A List of wells with approved application for permit to drill associated with the pit.
- Closure Plan (Please complete Boxes 14 through 18, if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Hydrogeologic Data - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (4) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
- Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC

Previously Approved Design (attach copy of design) API Number: \_\_\_\_\_ or Permit Number: \_\_\_\_\_

12. **Permanent Pits Permit Application Checklist:** Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC

**Instructions:** Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

- Hydrogeologic Report - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (1) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
- Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC
- Climatological Factors Assessment
- Certified Engineering Design Plans - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Dike Protection and Structural Integrity Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Leak Detection Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Liner Specifications and Compatibility Assessment - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Quality Control/Quality Assurance Construction and Installation Plan
- Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC
- Freeboard and Overtopping Prevention Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Nuisance or Hazardous Odors, including H<sub>2</sub>S, Prevention Plan
- Emergency Response Plan
- Oil Field Waste Stream Characterization
- Monitoring and Inspection Plan
- Erosion Control Plan
- Closure Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC

13. **Proposed Closure:** 19.15.17.13 NMAC

**Instructions:** Please complete the applicable boxes, Boxes 14 through 18, in regards to the proposed closure plan.

- Type:  Drilling  Workover  Emergency  Cavitation  P&A  Permanent Pit  Below-grade Tank  Multi-well Fluid Management Pit  
 Alternative
- Proposed Closure Method:  Waste Excavation and Removal  
 Waste Removal (Closed-loop systems only)  
 On-site Closure Method (Only for temporary pits and closed-loop systems)  
 In-place Burial  On-site Trench Burial  
 Alternative Closure Method

14. **Waste Excavation and Removal Closure Plan Checklist:** (19.15.17.13 NMAC) **Instructions:** Each of the following items must be attached to the closure plan. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

- Protocols and Procedures - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Confirmation Sampling Plan (if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number (for liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings)
- Soil Backfill and Cover Design Specifications - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

15. **Siting Criteria (regarding on-site closure methods only):** 19.15.17.10 NMAC

**Instructions:** Each siting criteria requires a demonstration of compliance in the closure plan. Recommendations of acceptable source material are provided below. Requests regarding changes to certain siting criteria require justifications and/or demonstrations of equivalency. Please refer to 19.15.17.10 NMAC for guidance.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Ground water is less than 25 feet below the bottom of the buried waste.<br>- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> NA |
| Ground water is between 25-50 feet below the bottom of the buried waste<br>- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> NA |
| Ground water is more than 100 feet below the bottom of the buried waste.<br>- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> NA |
| Within 100 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or 200 feet of any other significant watercourse, lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).<br>- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                                |
| Within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.<br>- Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                                |
| Within 300 horizontal feet of a private, domestic fresh water well or spring used for domestic or stock watering purposes, in existence at the time of initial application.<br>- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                                |
| Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained from the municipality   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                                |
| Within 300 feet of a wetland.<br>US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                                |
| Within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field covered under a municipal ordinance   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                                |

adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended.

- Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained from the municipality

Yes  No

Within the area overlying a subsurface mine.

- Written confirmation or verification or map from the NM EMNRD-Mining and Mineral Division

Yes  No

Within an unstable area.

- Engineering measures incorporated into the design; NM Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources; USGS; NM Geological Society; Topographic map

Yes  No

Within a 100-year floodplain.

- FEMA map

Yes  No

16.

**On-Site Closure Plan Checklist:** (19.15.17.13 NMAC) *Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the closure plan. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.*

- Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC
- Proof of Surface Owner Notice - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection E of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Construction/Design Plan of Burial Trench (if applicable) based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection K of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Construction/Design Plan of Temporary Pit (for in-place burial of a drying pad) - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Protocols and Procedures - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Confirmation Sampling Plan (if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Waste Material Sampling Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number (for liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings or in case on-site closure standards cannot be achieved)
- Soil Cover Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

17.

**Operator Application Certification:**

I hereby certify that the information submitted with this application is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

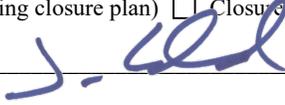
Name (Print): Jeff Walla Title: Field Land Supervisor

Signature:  Date: 04/35/19

e-mail address: Jeff.Walla@dvn.com Telephone: 405-394-4636

18.

**OCD Approval:**  Permit Application (including closure plan)  Closure Plan (only)  OCD Conditions (see attachment)

OCD Representative Signature:  Approval Date: April 29, 2019

Title: Environmental Bureau Chief OCD Permit Number: \_\_\_\_\_

19.

**Closure Report (required within 60 days of closure completion):** 19.15.17.13 NMAC

*Instructions: Operators are required to obtain an approved closure plan prior to implementing any closure activities and submitting the closure report. The closure report is required to be submitted to the division within 60 days of the completion of the closure activities. Please do not complete this section of the form until an approved closure plan has been obtained and the closure activities have been completed.*

Closure Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

20.

**Closure Method:**

- Waste Excavation and Removal  On-Site Closure Method  Alternative Closure Method  Waste Removal (Closed-loop systems only)
- If different from approved plan, please explain.

21.

**Closure Report Attachment Checklist:** *Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the closure report. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.*

- Proof of Closure Notice (surface owner and division)
- Proof of Deed Notice (required for on-site closure for private land only)
- Plot Plan (for on-site closures and temporary pits)
- Confirmation Sampling Analytical Results (if applicable)
- Waste Material Sampling Analytical Results (required for on-site closure)
- Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number
- Soil Backfilling and Cover Installation
- Re-vegetation Application Rates and Seeding Technique
- Site Reclamation (Photo Documentation)

On-site Closure Location: Latitude \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude \_\_\_\_\_ NAD:  1927  1983

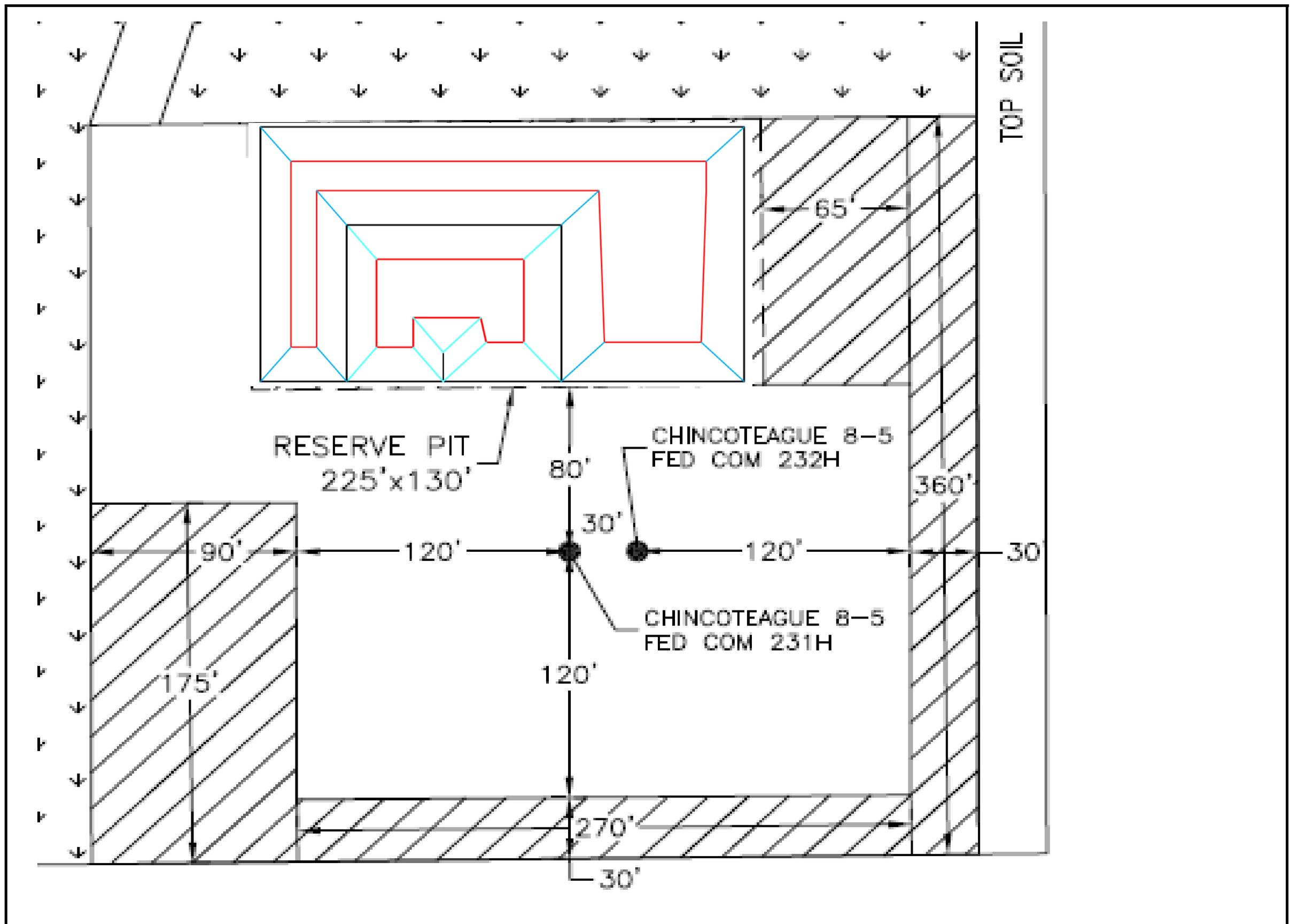
**Operator Closure Certification:**

I hereby certify that the information and attachments submitted with this closure report is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also certify that the closure complies with all applicable closure requirements and conditions specified in the approved closure plan.

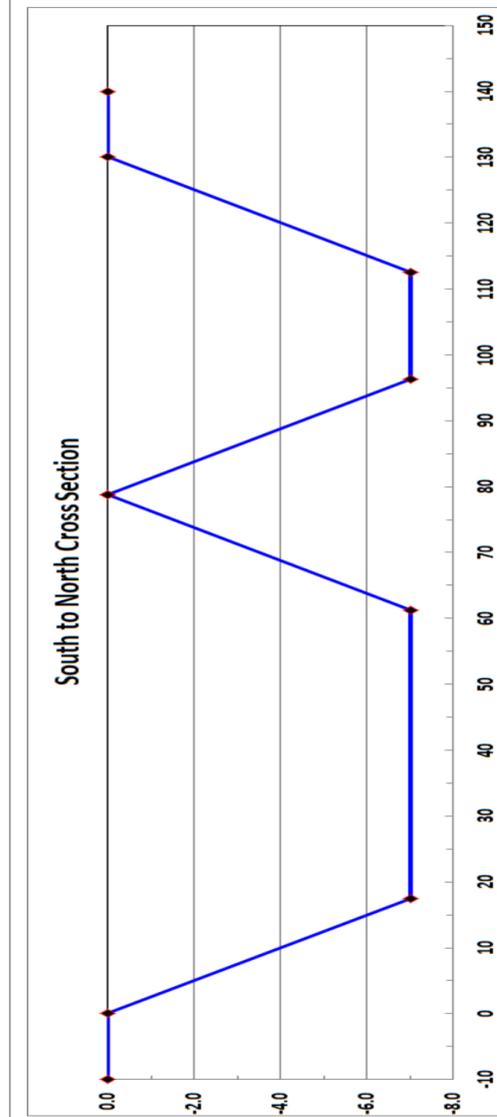
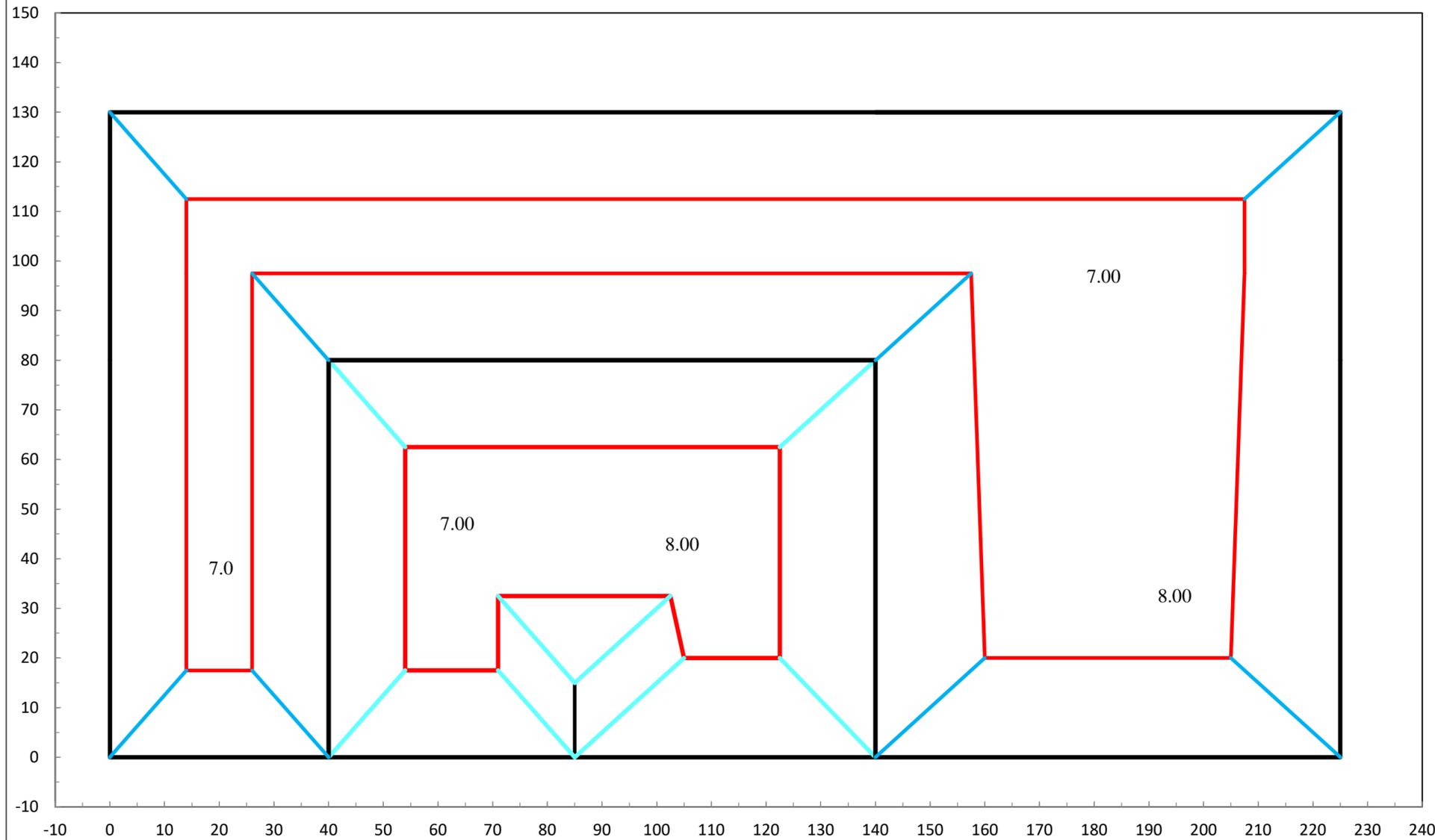
Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

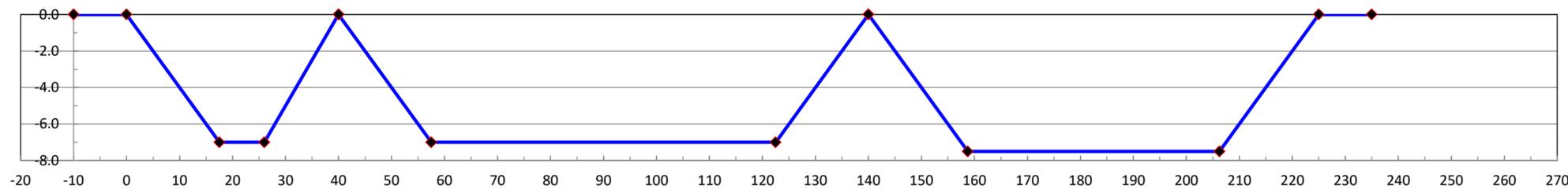
e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_



|   |  |                   |              |
|---|--|-------------------|--------------|
| <b>R.T. Hicks Consultants</b><br>901 Rio Grande Blvd. NW<br>Suite F-142<br>Albuquerque, N. M. 87104 | <b>Drawing of Temporary Pit and Well in Relation to Pad Boundary</b> | <b>Plate 1</b>    | NOT TO SCALE |
|   | <b>Chincoteague 8-5 231H/232H</b>                                    | <b>April 2019</b> |              |



**West to East Cross Section**



|                                 |        |                                 |       |   |      |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|-------|---|------|
| <b>Inner Horseshoe</b>          |        | <b>Outer Horseshoe</b>          |       | <b>Drilling Cell total width</b> 225.00   |      |
| total width (left right)        | 100.00 | width discharge side            | 85.00 | <b>Drilling Cell total length</b> 130.00  |      |
| total length (up down)          | 80.00  | width suction side              | 40.00 | <b>Common Dimensions</b>                  |      |
| width discharge side            | 55.00  | length far side (up down)       | 50.00 | Slopes of Pit Horizontal Distance         | 2.50 |
| Depth Discharge                 | 8.00   | Depth on Discharge Side         | 8.00  | Slopes of Pit Vertical Distance           | 1.00 |
| Depth Far Side(Discharge)       | 7.00   | Depth on Far Side (Discharge)   | 7.00  | Inner Outer horseshoe divider width at su | 0.00 |
| Depth Far Side(Suction)         | 7.00   | Depth on Far Side (Suction)     | 7.00  | <b>Inner Pit Suction Side</b>             |      |
| Depth Suction                   | 7.00   | Depth on Suction Side           | 7.00  | Slopes of Pit Horizontal Distance         | 2.00 |
| Length of Divider               | 15.00  | Capacity 2' Freeboard - bbls    | 10496 | Slopes of Pit Vertical Distance           | 1.00 |
| Divider Width                   | 0.00   | Capacity 4' Freeboard - cu. Ft. | 27760 | <b>Outer Pit Suction Side</b>             |      |
| Capacity 2' Freeboard - bbls    | 3861   |                                 |       | Slopes of Pit Horizontal Distance         | 2.00 |
| Capacity 4' Freeboard - cu. Ft. | 10706  |                                 |       | Slopes of Pit Vertical Distance           | 1.00 |

|                                       |       |          |         |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|----------|---------|-------|
| <b>Total Capacity</b>                 | 24722 | bbls     | 3.18649 | ac-ft |
| <b>Fluid Capacity (2' Freeboard)</b>  | 14357 | bbls     |         |       |
| <b>Solids Capacity (4' Freeboard)</b> | 38466 | cubic ft |         |       |
| <b>Solids Generated</b>               | 42619 | cubic ft |         |       |

|   |                                       |                |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>RT Hicks Consultants<br/>Albuquerque, NM</b> | <b>Pit Diagram</b>                    | <b>Plate 2</b> |
|   | Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com<br>231H/232H | April 2019     |

# FORM C-102

Page 1 shows latitude/longitude of surface location of well.

Page 2 shows detail of the ' - \$x ' \*\$foot ""ghya Ud"

DU Y' g\ck ghY\*SSl \*SS`]a ]hg'ZYfhk cf\_

DU Y( ]ghY=bhf]a FYWLa U]cb'6i ]XD'Ub

Page ) shows the location of the pit relative to the drilling pad.

Pageg\* and + provides directions to the site.

District I  
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240  
Phone: (575) 393-6161 Fax: (575) 393-0720  
District II  
811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210  
Phone: (575) 748-1283 Fax: (575) 748-9720  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410  
Phone: (505) 334-6178 Fax: (505) 334-6170  
District IV  
1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505  
Phone: (505) 476-3460 Fax: (505) 476-3462

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
1220 South St. Francis Dr.  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Form C-102  
Revised August 1, 2011  
Submit one copy to appropriate  
District Office  
 AMENDED REPORT

WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT

|                            |  |   |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| <sup>1</sup> API Number    | <sup>2</sup> Pool Code   | <sup>3</sup> Pool Name                  |
| <sup>4</sup> Property Code | <sup>5</sup> Property Name<br><b>CHINCOTEAGUE 8-5 FED COM</b>              |   |
| <sup>7</sup> OGRID No.     | <sup>8</sup> Operator Name<br><b>DEVON ENERGY PRODUCTION COMPANY, L.P.</b> | <sup>6</sup> Well Number<br><b>231H</b> |
|                            |  | <sup>9</sup> Elevation<br><b>3437.5</b> |

<sup>10</sup> Surface Location

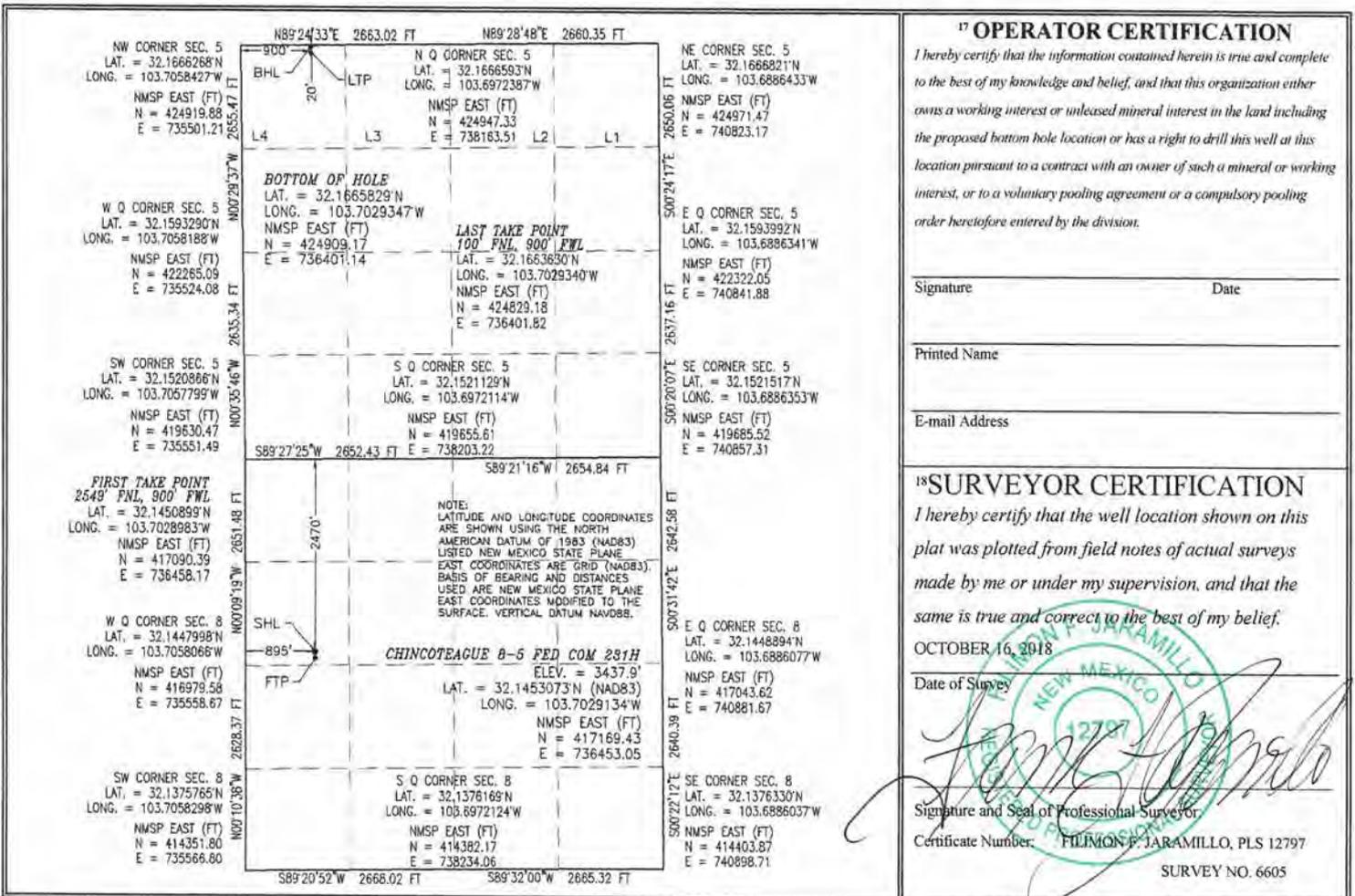
| UL or lot no. | Section | Township | Range | Lot Idn | Feet from the | North/South line | Feet from the | East/West line | County |
|---------------|---------|----------|-------|---------|---------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| E             | 8       | 25 S     | 32 E  |         | 2470          | NORTH            | 895           | WEST           | LEA    |

<sup>11</sup> Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface

| UL or lot no. | Section | Township | Range | Lot Idn | Feet from the | North/South line | Feet from the | East/West line | County |
|---------------|---------|----------|-------|---------|---------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| 4             | 5       | 25 S     | 32 E  |         | 20            | NORTH            | 900           | WEST           | LEA    |

|                               |                               |                                  |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <sup>12</sup> Dedicated Acres | <sup>13</sup> Joint or Infill | <sup>14</sup> Consolidation Code | <sup>15</sup> Order No. |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|

No allowable will be assigned to this completion until all interests have been consolidated or a non-standard unit has been approved by the division.



<sup>17</sup> OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that this organization either owns a working interest or unleased mineral interest in the land including the proposed bottom hole location or has a right to drill this well at this location pursuant to a contract with an owner of such a mineral or working interest, or to a voluntary pooling agreement or a compulsory pooling order heretofore entered by the division.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>18</sup> SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my belief.

OCTOBER 16, 2018

Date of Survey \_\_\_\_\_

Signature and Seal of Professional Surveyor \_\_\_\_\_

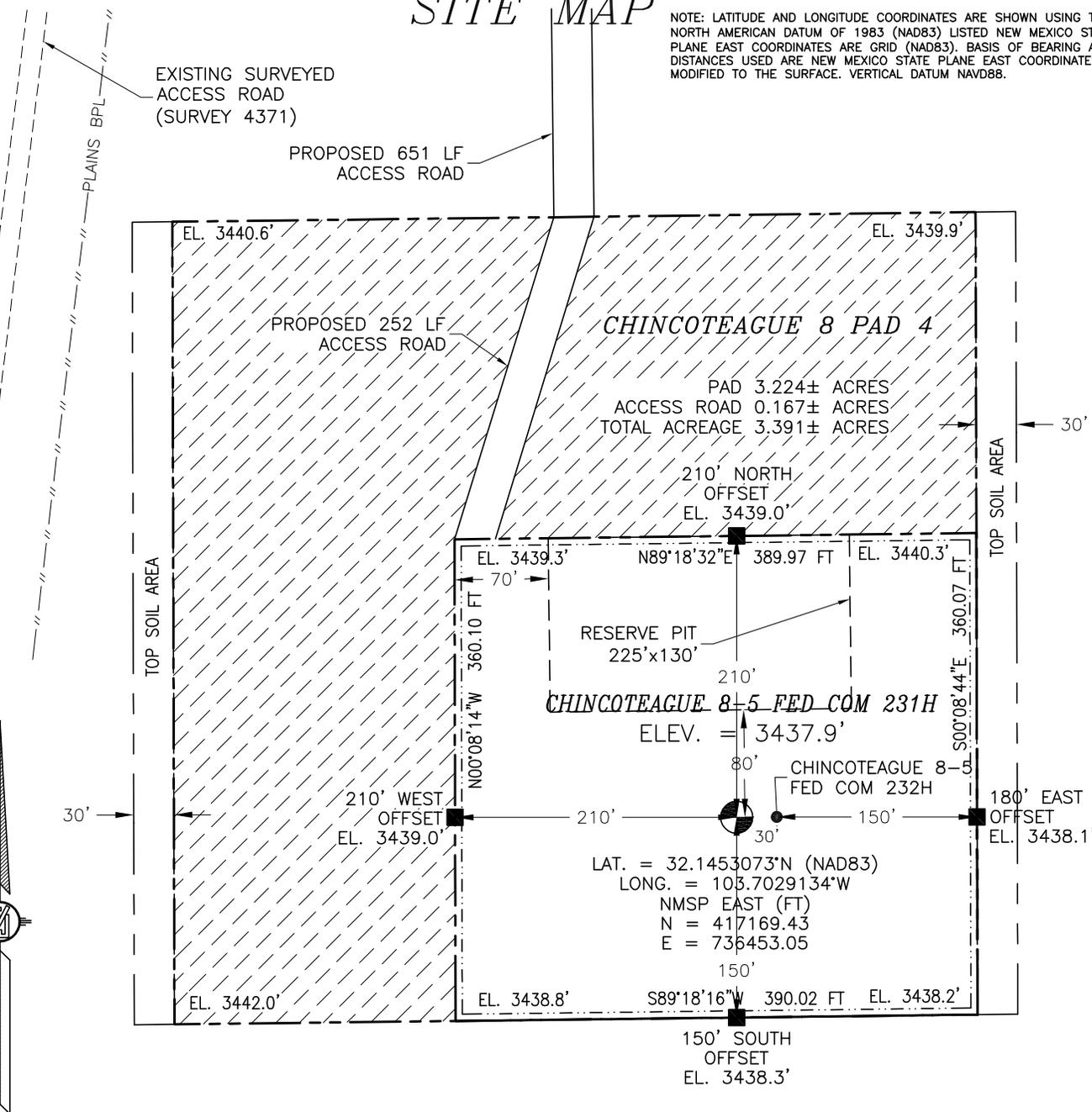
Certificate Number: FILIMON F. JARAMILLO, PLS 12797

SURVEY NO. 6605

SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH, RANGE 32 EAST, N.M.P.M.  
LEA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO

SITE MAP

NOTE: LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES ARE SHOWN USING THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (NAD83) LISTED NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE EAST COORDINATES ARE GRID (NAD83). BASIS OF BEARING AND DISTANCES USED ARE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE EAST COORDINATES MODIFIED TO THE SURFACE. VERTICAL DATUM NAVD88.

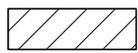
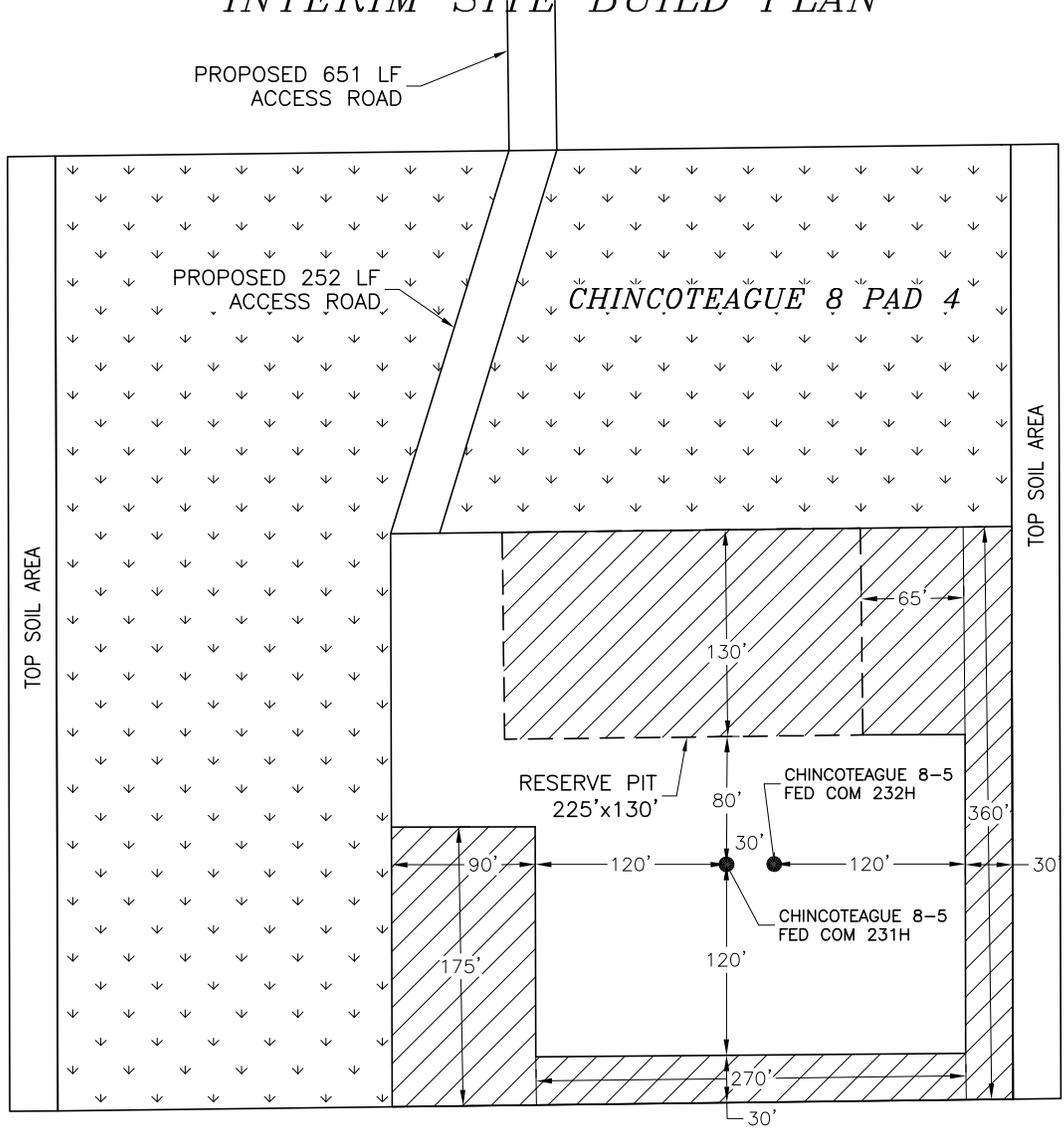


DEVON ENERGY PRODUCTION COMPANY, L.P.  
**CHINCOTEAGUE 8-5 FED COM 231H**  
LOCATED 2470 FT. FROM THE NORTH LINE  
AND 895 FT. FROM THE WEST LINE OF  
SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH,  
RANGE 32 EAST, N.M.P.M.  
LEA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
LAND STATUS: BLM

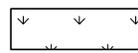
OCTOBER 16, 2018  
SURVEY NO. 6605

MADRON SURVEYING, INC. 301 SOUTH CANAL CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO  
(575) 234-3341

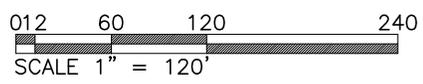
SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH, RANGE 32 EAST, N.M.P.M.  
 LEA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
 INTERIM SITE BUILD PLAN



DENOTES INTERIM PAD RECLAMATION AREA



DENOTES GRADING SITE RECLAMATION AREA



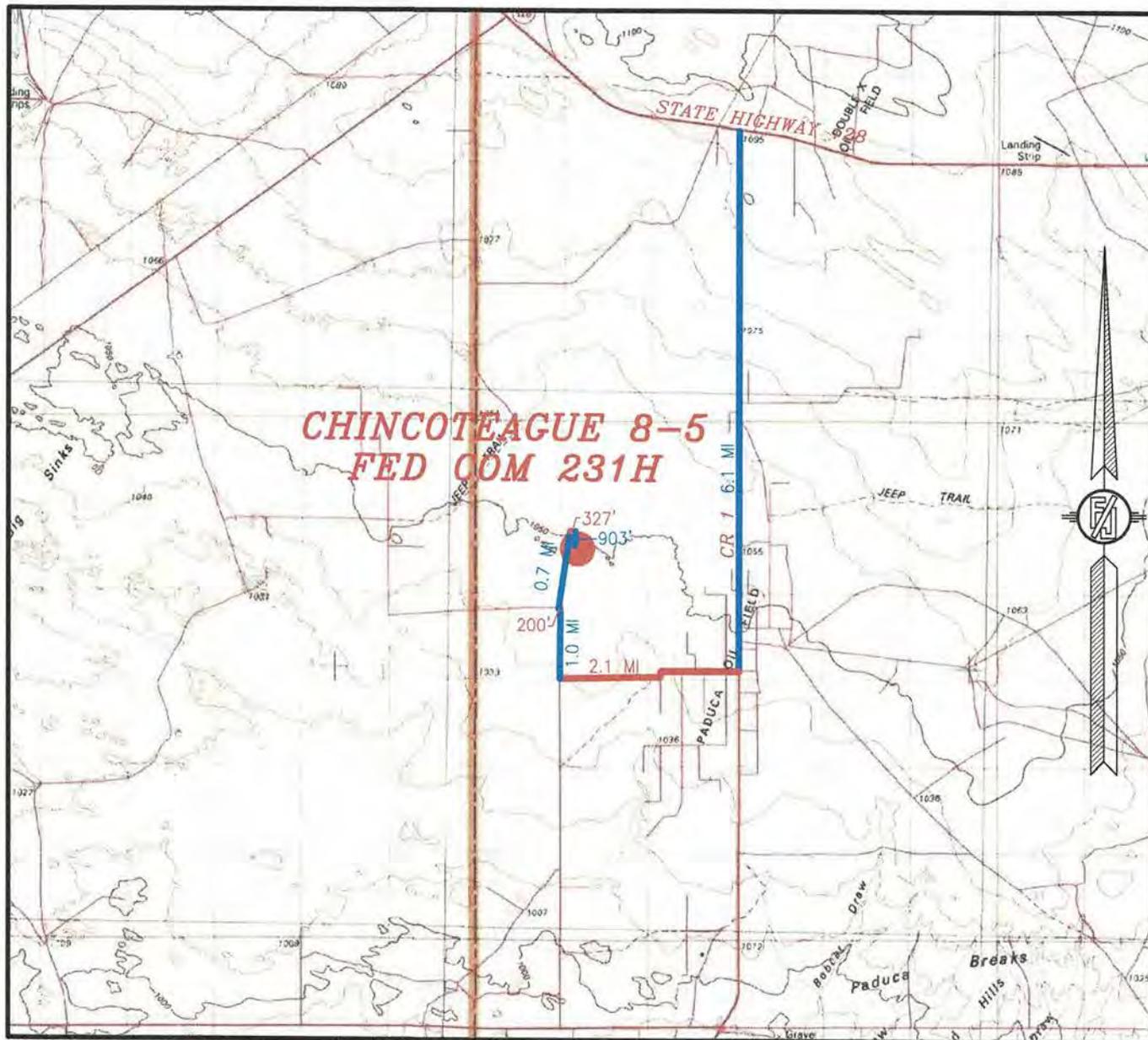
1.659± ACRES INTERIM PAD RECLAMATION AREA  
 4.875± ACRES GRADING SITE RECLAMATION AREA  
 1.731± ACRES NON-RECLAIMED AREA  
 8.265± ACRES CHINCOTEAGUE 8 PAD 4

DEVON ENERGY PRODUCTION COMPANY, L.P.  
**CHINCOTEAGUE 8-5 FED COM 231H**  
 LOCATED 2470 FT. FROM THE NORTH LINE  
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 RANGE 32 EAST, N.M.P.M.  
 LEA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
 LAND STATUS: BLM

OCTOBER 16, 2018  
 SURVEY NO. 6605

MADRON SURVEYING, INC. 301 SOUTH CANAL CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO  
 (575) 234-3341

SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH, RANGE 32 EAST, N.M.P.M.  
 LEA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
 VICINITY MAP



DISTANCES IN MILES

NOT TO SCALE

DEVON ENERGY PRODUCTION COMPANY, L.P.  
**CHINCOTEAGUE 8-5 FED COM 231H**  
 LOCATED 2470 FT. FROM THE NORTH LINE  
 AND 895 FT. FROM THE WEST LINE OF  
 SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH,  
 RANGE 32 EAST, N.M.P.M.  
 LEA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
 LAND STATUS: BLM

**DIRECTIONS TO LOCATION**

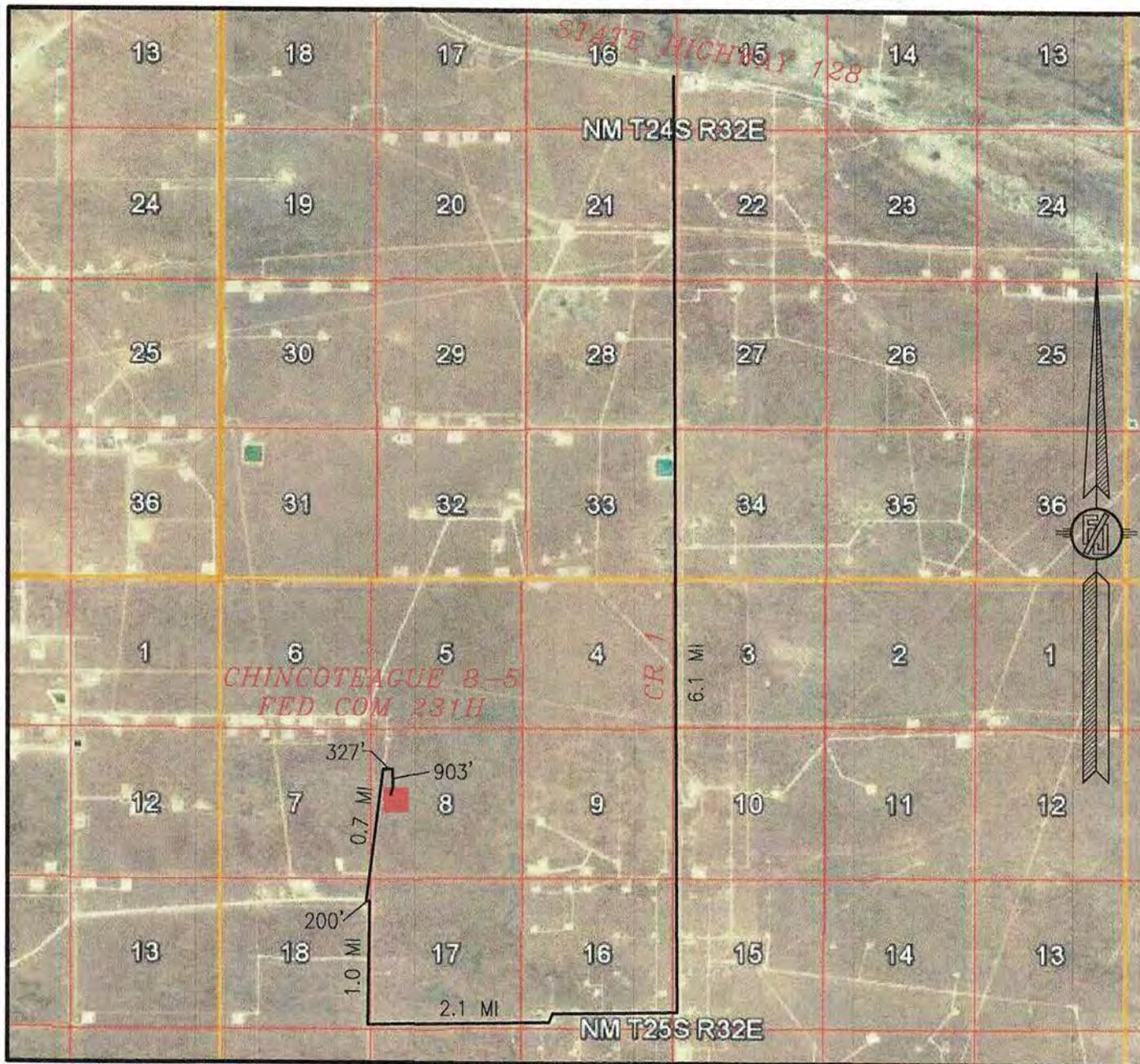
FROM THE INTERSECTION OF STATE HIGHWAY 128 & CR 1 (ORLA) GO SOUTH ON CR 1 6.1 MILES TO MONSANTO ROAD, TURN RIGHT (WEST) GO 2.1 MILES, TURN RIGHT (NORTH) GO 1.0 MILE, NORTH ROAD TURNS LEFT (WEST) GO 200' TO A LEASE ROAD ON RIGHT (NORTH) TURN NORTH GO 0.7 OF A MILE TO ROAD LATHS ON RIGHT (EAST) GO 327', TURN RIGHT GO SOUTH 903' TO THE NORTHWEST PAD CORNER FOR THIS LOCATION.

OCTOBER 16, 2018

SURVEY NO. 6605

MADRON SURVEYING, INC. 301 SOUTH CANAL CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO  
 (575) 234-3341

SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH, RANGE 32 EAST, N.M.P.M.  
 LEA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
 ACCESS AERIAL ROUTE MAP



NOT TO SCALE  
 AERIAL PHOTO:  
 GOOGLE EARTH  
 NOVEMBER 2017

DEVON ENERGY PRODUCTION COMPANY, L.P.  
**CHINCOTEAGUE 8-5 FED COM 231H**  
 LOCATED 2470 FT. FROM THE NORTH LINE  
 AND 895 FT. FROM THE WEST LINE OF  
 SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH,  
 RANGE 32 EAST, N.M.P.M.  
 LEA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
 LAND STATUS: BLM

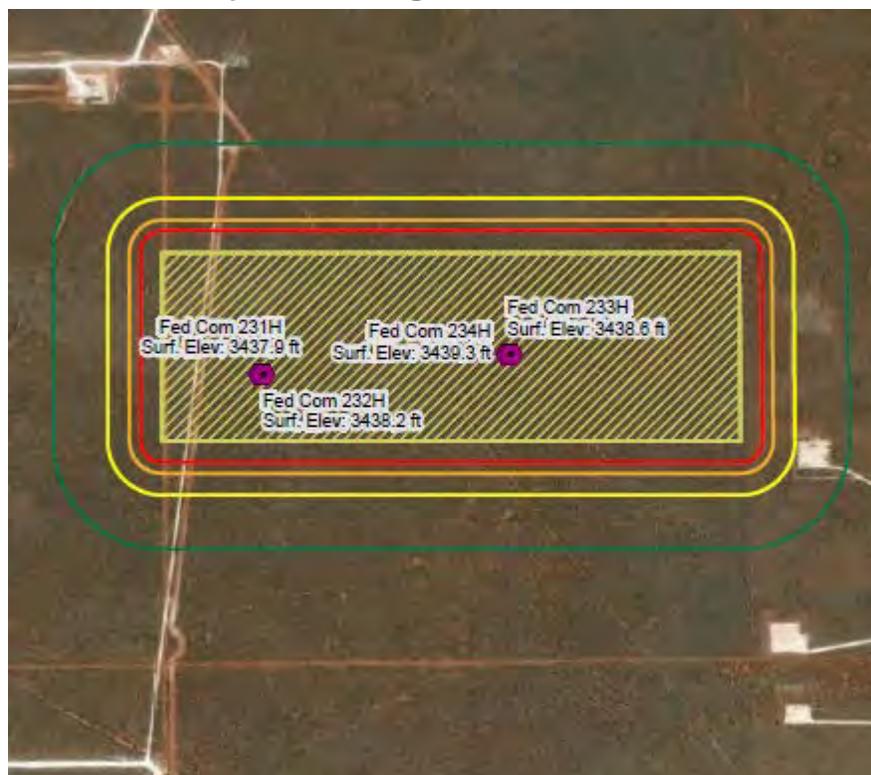
OCTOBER 16, 2018

SURVEY NO. 6605

MADRON SURVEYING, INC. 301 SOUTH CANAL CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO  
 (575) 234-3341

# Volume 2 – Siting Criteria for Chincoteague Wells, Section 8, T25S R32E, Lea County

## Temporary Drilling Pits



The Chincoteague wells are staked throughout the central portion of Section 8.

**Prepared for**  
**Devon Energy Production Co. LP**  
**Oklahoma City, OK**

**Prepared by**  
**R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd.**  
**Albuquerque, New Mexico**

# GENERAL SITING CRITERIA

9. **Siting Criteria (regarding permitting):** 19.15.17.10 NMAC  
*Instructions: The applicant must demonstrate compliance for each siting criteria below in the application. Recommendations of acceptable source material are provided below. Siting criteria does not apply to drying pads or above-grade tanks.*

## General siting

**Ground water is less than 25 feet below the bottom of a low chloride temporary pit or below-grade tank.**

- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search;  USGS;  Data obtained from nearby wells

Yes  No  
 NA

**Ground water is less than 50 feet below the bottom of a Temporary pit, permanent pit, or Multi-Well Fluid Management pit.**

- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained from nearby wells **See Figures 1 & 2**

Yes  No  
 NA

Within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field covered under a municipal ordinance adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks) See Figure 3**

- Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained from the municipality

Yes  No

Within the area overlying a subsurface mine. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks) See Figure 4**

- Written confirmation or verification or map from the NM EMNRD-Mining and Mineral Division

Yes  No

Within an unstable area. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks) See Figure 5**

- Engineering measures incorporated into the design; NM Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources; USGS; NM Geological Society; Topographic map

Yes  No

Within a 100-year floodplain. **(Does not apply to below grade tanks) See Figure 6**

- FEMA map

Yes  No

Numerous oil wells on several drilling pads are currently staked in the central portion of Section 8 as shown below. This part of the submission provides the siting criteria demonstration for all drilling pits that will be placed within the rectangle shown below. The first two reserve pits in this area are associated with the wells shown in the figure.



### Distance to Groundwater

Figure 1, Figure 2, and the discussion presented below demonstrates that groundwater (fresh water as defined by NMOCD Rules) at the location is greater than 100 feet beneath the temporary pits that will contain fluids that cannot be classified as “low-chloride.” Groundwater will be more than 50 feet below the bottom of the buried waste, meeting criteria for in-place closure.

Figure 1 is a geologic/ topographic map that shows:

1. The location of proposed reserve pit area that is the labeled rectangle shown on Figure 1.
2. The attached C-103 package shows the specific location of the pit on the pad for the submission.
3. Water wells from the OSE database as a blue triangle inside colored circles that indicate well depth. OSE wells are often miss-located in the WATERS database as older wells are plotted in the center of the quarter, quarter, quarter, of the Section Township and Range. Well numbers correspond to the identifiers in the OSE database. Well numbers with “no date” and “no DTW” are typically permits for wells that have not been drilled. All OSE wells identified on Figure 1 appear to be drilled wells.
4. Water wells from the USGS database as triangles. Well numbers correspond to an identifier in the USGS database.
5. Water wells, which are not documented in the public databases but were identified by field inspection or other published reports as colored squares. These well numbers correspond to the Hicks Consultants internal database.
6. The depth-to-water from the most recent available measurement for each well is provided adjacent to the well symbol.

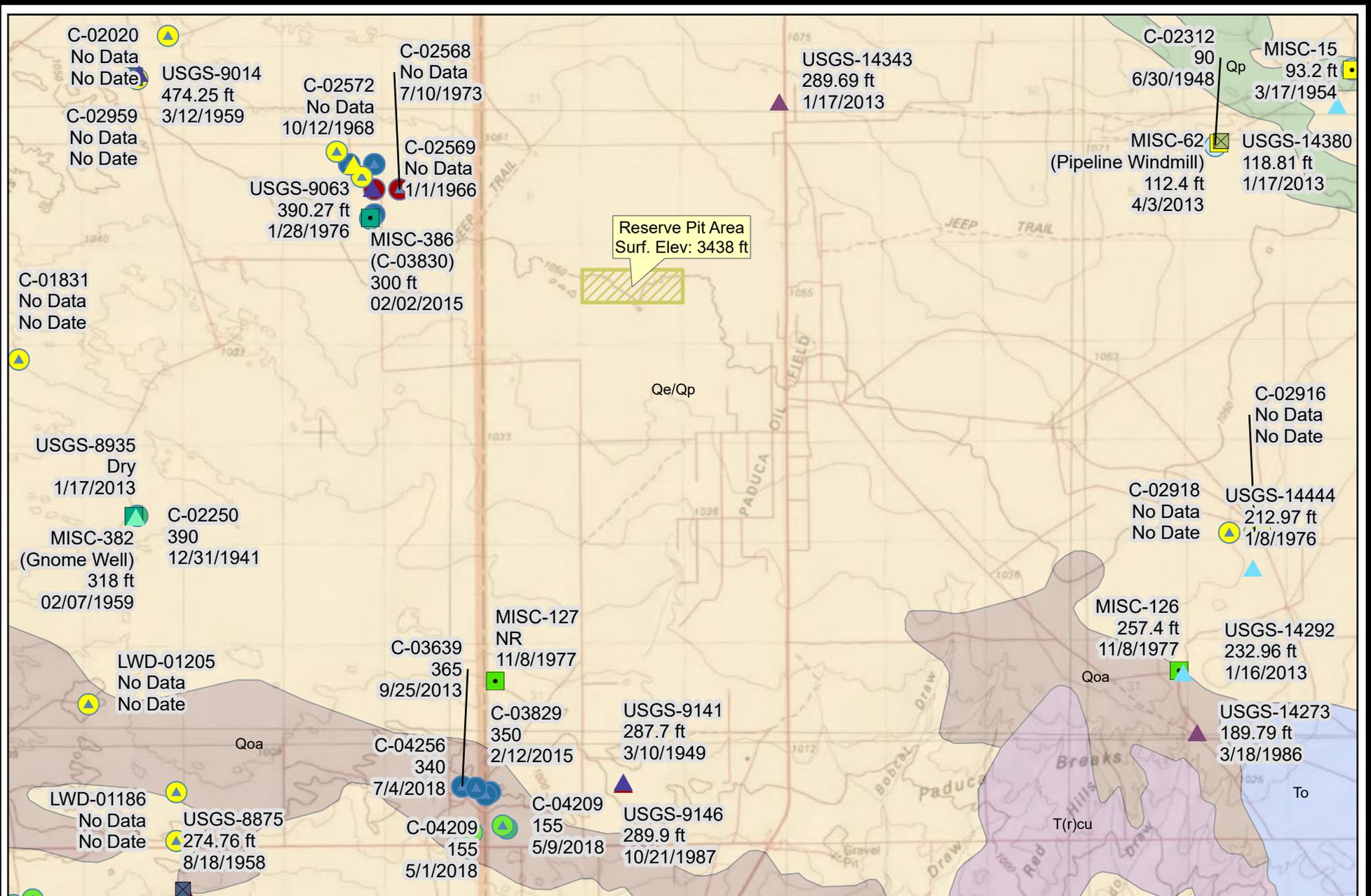
Figure 2 is an area topographic map that shows:

1. The location of the area of the proposed Chincoteague wells within the labeled rectangle.
2. Water wells measured by the USGS, the year of the measurement and the calculated elevation of the groundwater surface.
3. The six MISC wells in Figure 2 that have data are probably measured professionals. We obtained the data from public records, such as from USGS, DOE or NMBMMR Open File Reports.
4. Isocontour lines displaying the elevation of the groundwater surface are based upon these measurements made by professionals.

We relied upon the most recent data measured by the USGS to create the water table elevation map shown in Figure 2 and data from the Hicks Consultants database. Water level data from the OSE database rely upon observed water levels by drillers during the completion of the water well. The OSE dataset provides some useful data in certain areas. The area shown in Figure 2 contains sufficient high-quality data that we did not rely on OSE values.

From these data, we conclude:

- The USGS identified all wells on Figure 2 as producing from the Chinle Formation except for four wells. One is USGS 8935 southwest of the reserve pit area, which is labeled as completed within alluvium. The three other wells are on the eastern margin of Figure 1 and are considered Ogallala completions. Groundwater elevations these wells were employed in our interpretation of the potentiometric surface map.
- Based upon the groundwater map of the regional aquifers (permeable units in the upper Chinle/Dockum and the Ogallala to the east of the reserve pit area), the elevation of the groundwater surface beneath the proposed pits is between 3110 and 3150.
- No evidence exists to suggest the presence of perched, shallow groundwater zones within or near the area of proposed temporary pits.
- Water elevations vary between measurements. In the northeast corner of Figure 1, Misc 62 and USGS 14380 appear to be the same well and show a 6 foot difference between two measurements in 2013. Well Misc 125 and USGS 14482 in the southeast quadrant of Figure 2, appear to be the same well and in 1977 the elevation was 3147 and in 1981 the elevation was 3194- a rise of about 50 feet. In the southwest corner of Figure 2, USGS wells (8881 and 8875) varied by only 1 foot between 1958 and 1998.
- The *minimum* distance between the bottom of a 10-foot deep temporary pit and the potentiometric surface of the regional aquifer is approximately  $(3438-3110-10=)$  318 feet



0 0.5 1 Miles

R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd

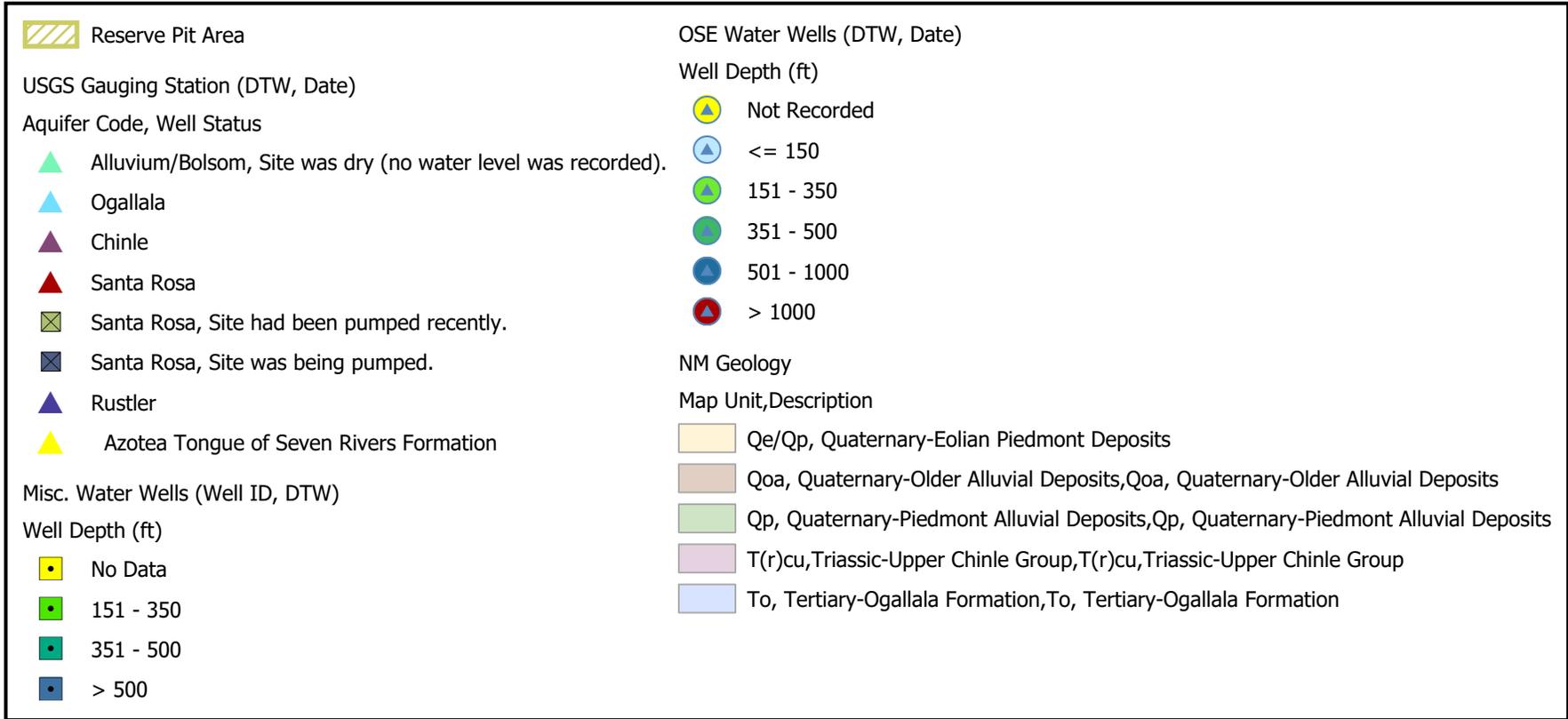
901 Rio Grande Blvd NW Suite F-142  
Albuquerque, NM 87104  
Ph: 505.266.5004

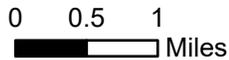
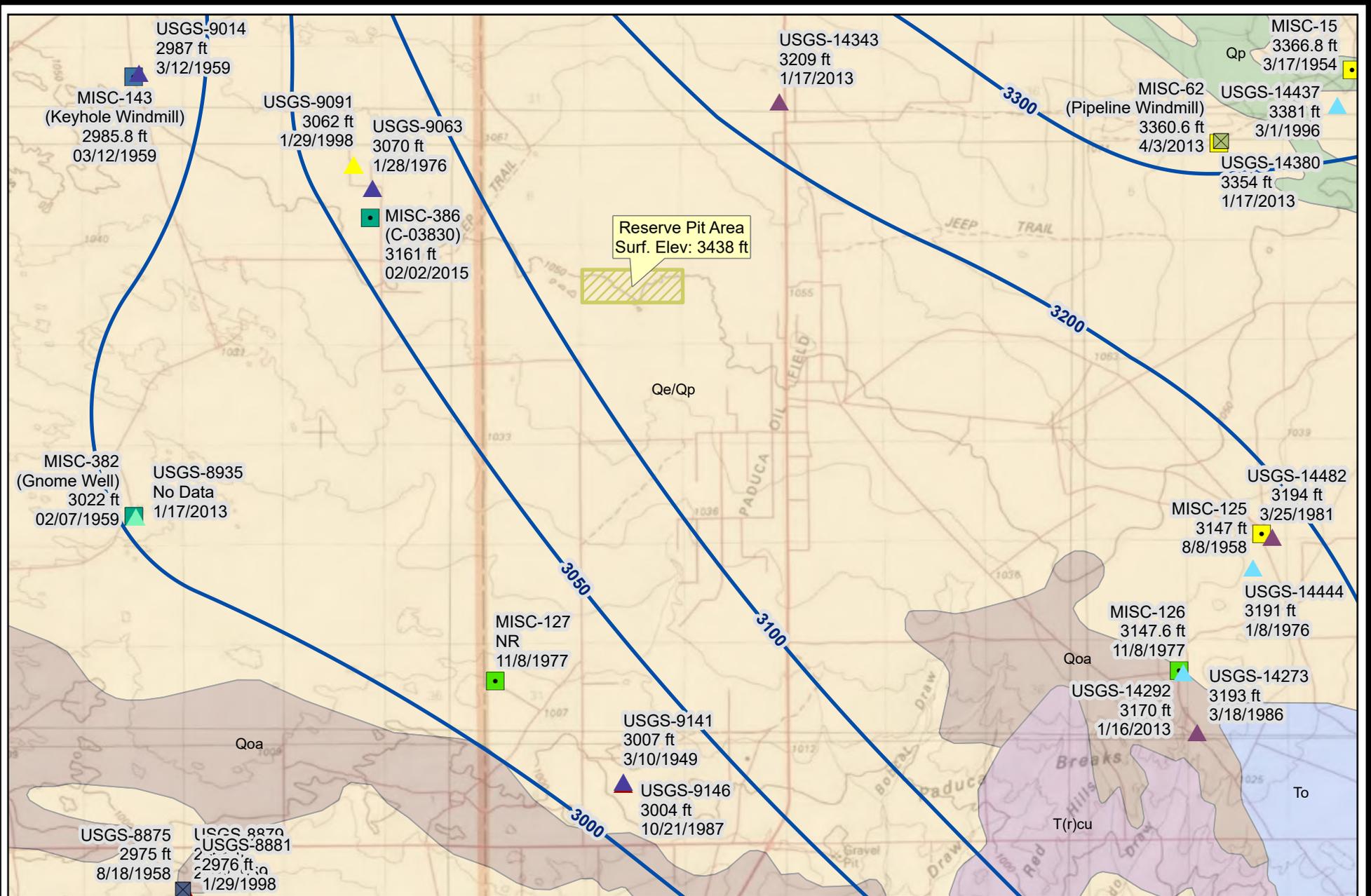
Depth to Water and Geology

Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area

Figure 1

March 2019

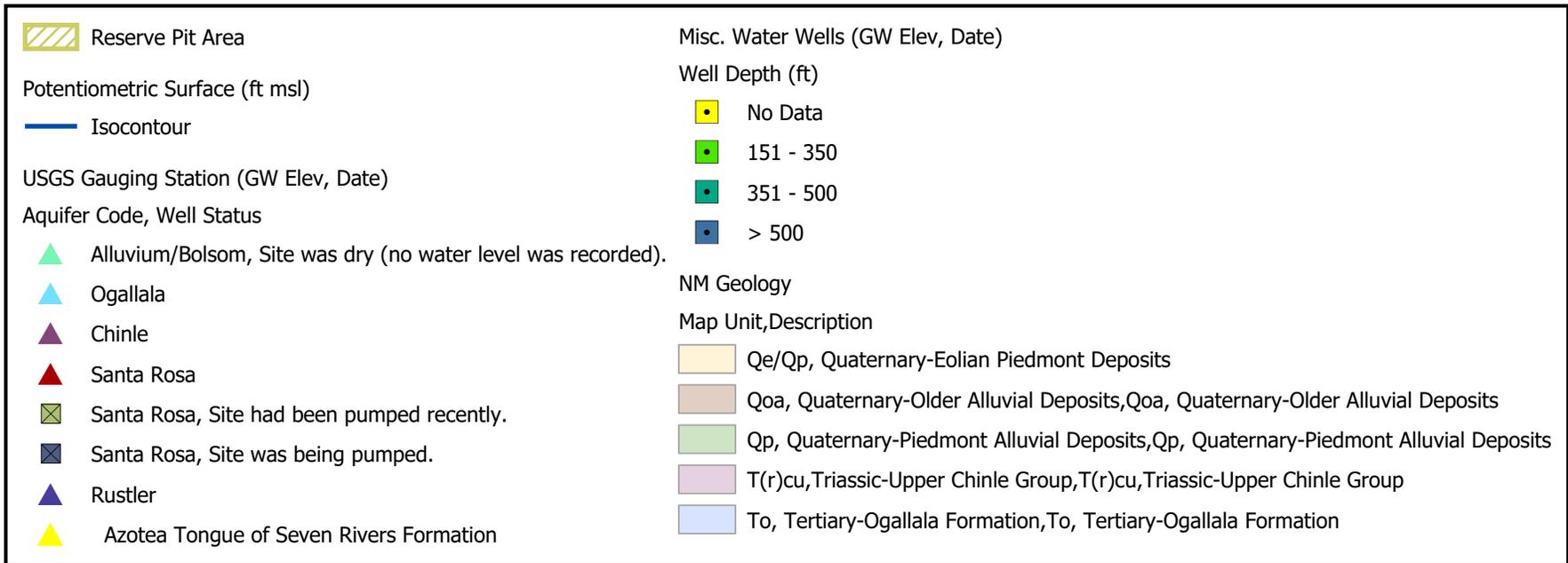




**R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd**  
901 Rio Grande Blvd NW Suite F-142  
Albuquerque, NM 87104  
Ph: 505.266.5004

Potentiometric Surface and Ground Water Elevation  
Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area

Figure 2  
March 2019



|   |  |                    |
|---|--|--------------------|
| <p>R.T. Hicks Consultants Ltd<br/>                 901 Rio Grande Blvd NWSuite F-142<br/>                 Albuquerque, NM 87104<br/>                 Ph: 505.266.5004</p> | Potentiometric Surface and Ground Water Elevation                                | Figure 2<br>Legend |
|   | Devon Energy Production Company, LP<br>Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area | March 2019         |

### **Distance to Municipal Boundaries and Fresh Water Fields**

Figure 3 demonstrates that the location is not within incorporated municipal boundaries or within defined municipal fresh water well fields covered under a municipal ordinance adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended. This also qualifies the location for burial trench or in-place closure.

- The closest municipalities are Loving and Jal, which are about 30 miles northwest and 40 miles east respectively.
- The closest public wells listed in the OSE database are in Jal. The Otis water system and the public wells of Loving are not identified in the OSE database but surely exist on the ground.

### **Distance to Subsurface Mines**

Figure 4 and our general reconnaissance of the area demonstrate that the nearest mines are caliche pits. This location is not within an area overlying a subsurface mine.

- The nearest mapped caliche pit is located approximately 2 miles to the southeast and inspection shows the pit is active.

### **Distance to High or Critical Karst Areas**

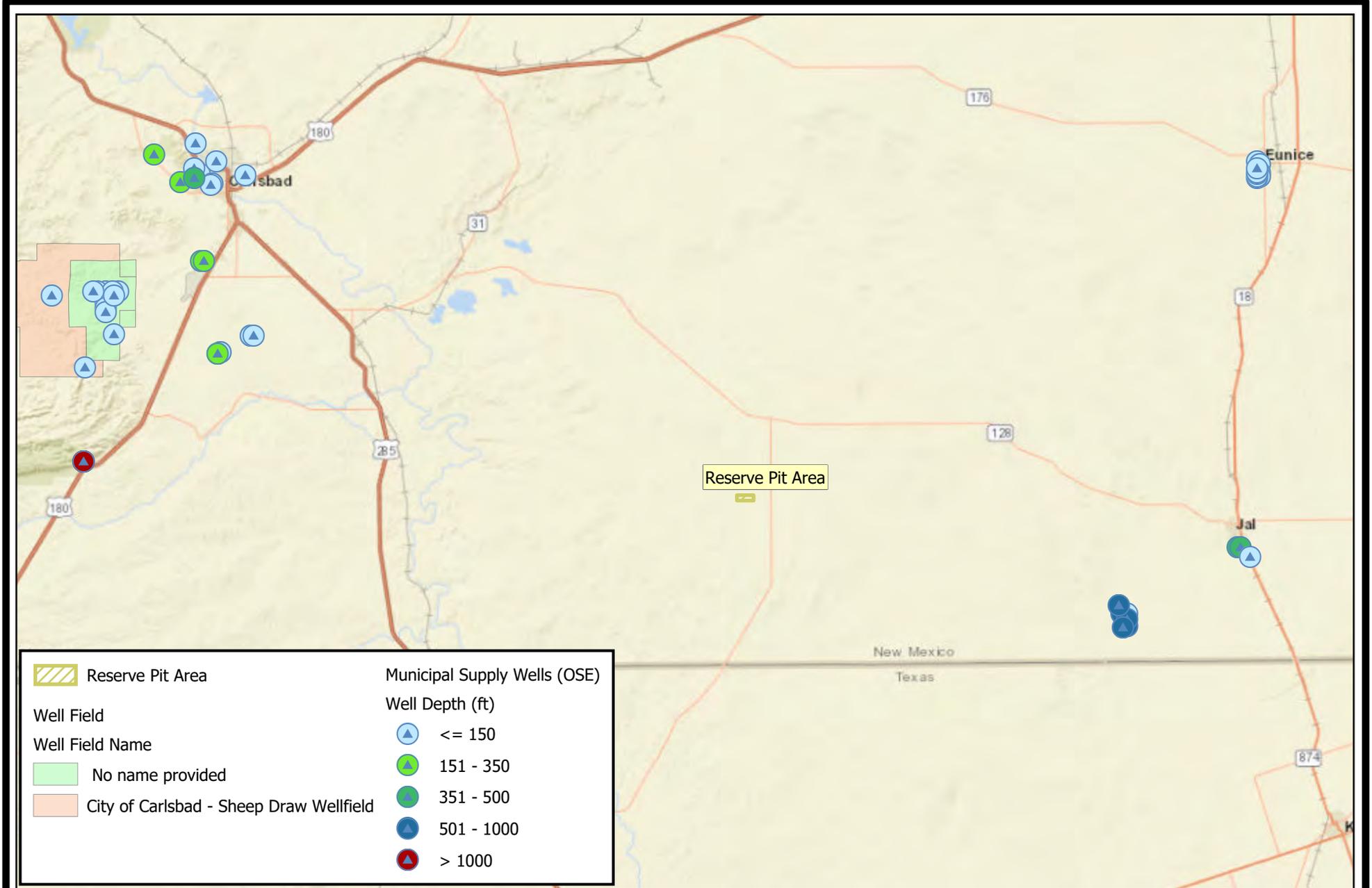
Figure 5 shows the location of the temporary pits with respect to BLM Karst areas.

- The proposed temporary pits are located within a “low” potential karst area.
- The nearest “moderate” potential karst area is located approximately 3.5 miles south of the reserve pit area.
- No evidence of solution voids were observed near the site during the field inspection.
- No evidence of unstable ground was observed.

### **Distance to 100-Year Floodplain**

Figure 6 demonstrates that the location is within Zone X as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency with respect to the Flood Insurance Rate 100-Year Floodplain.

- Zone X is considered outside the 0.2% Annual Chance Floodplain
- Our field inspection and examination of the topography permits a conclusion that the location is not within any floodplain and has low risk for flooding.
- The FEMA map shows an area with a 1% chance of a flood hazard about 3 miles to the southwest.



|   |  |
|---|--|
|  Reserve Pit Area                        | Municipal Supply Wells (OSE)   |
| Well Field  | Well Depth (ft)  |
| Well Field Name   |  <= 150     |
|  No name provided                        |  151 - 350  |
|  City of Carlsbad - Sheep Draw Wellfield |  351 - 500  |
|   |  501 - 1000 |
|   |  > 1000     |

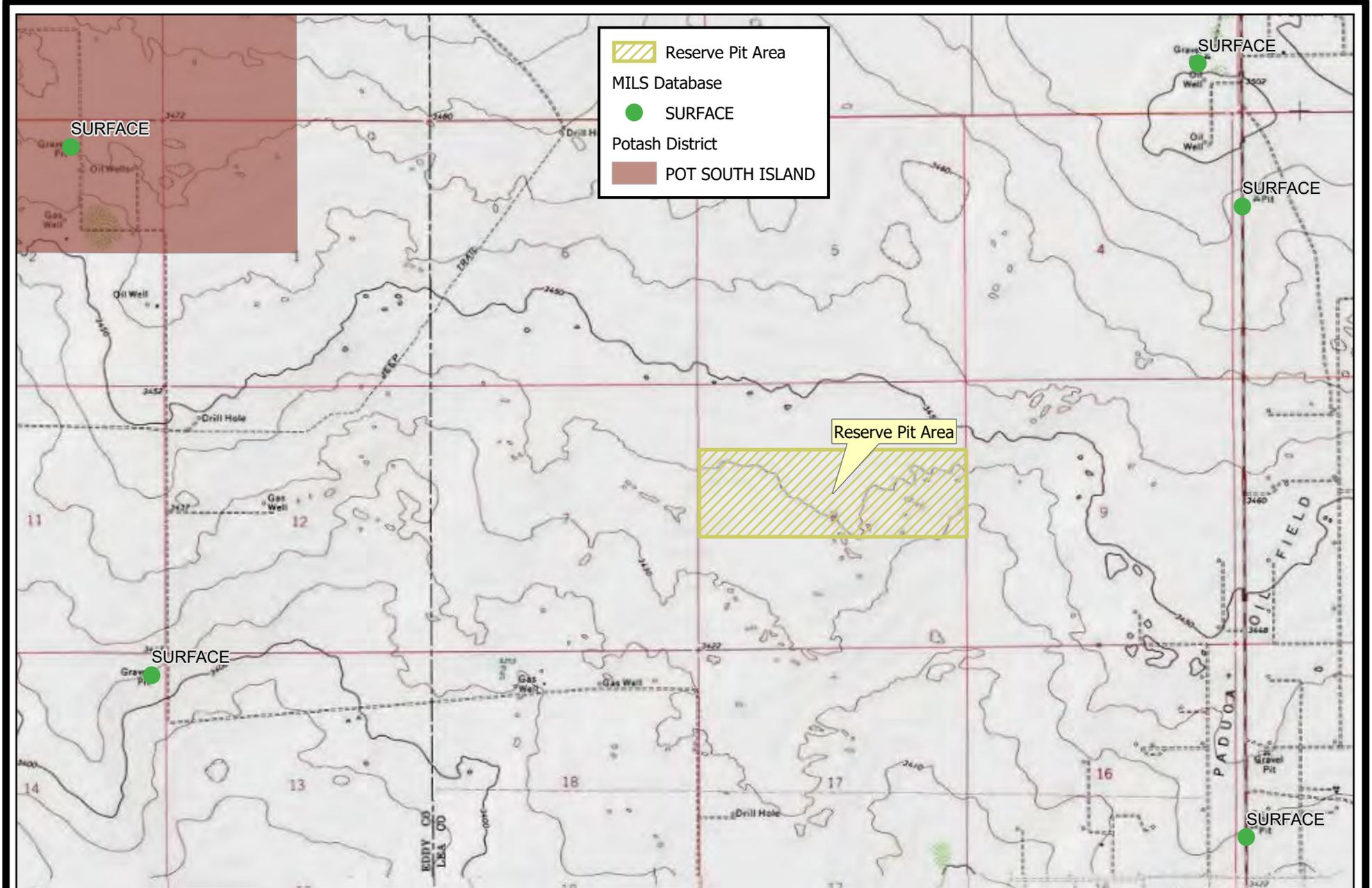


**R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd**  
 901 Rio Grande Blvd NW Suite F-142  
 Albuquerque, NM 87104  
 Ph: 505.266.5004

**Well Fields**

Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
 Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area

Figure 3  
 March 2019

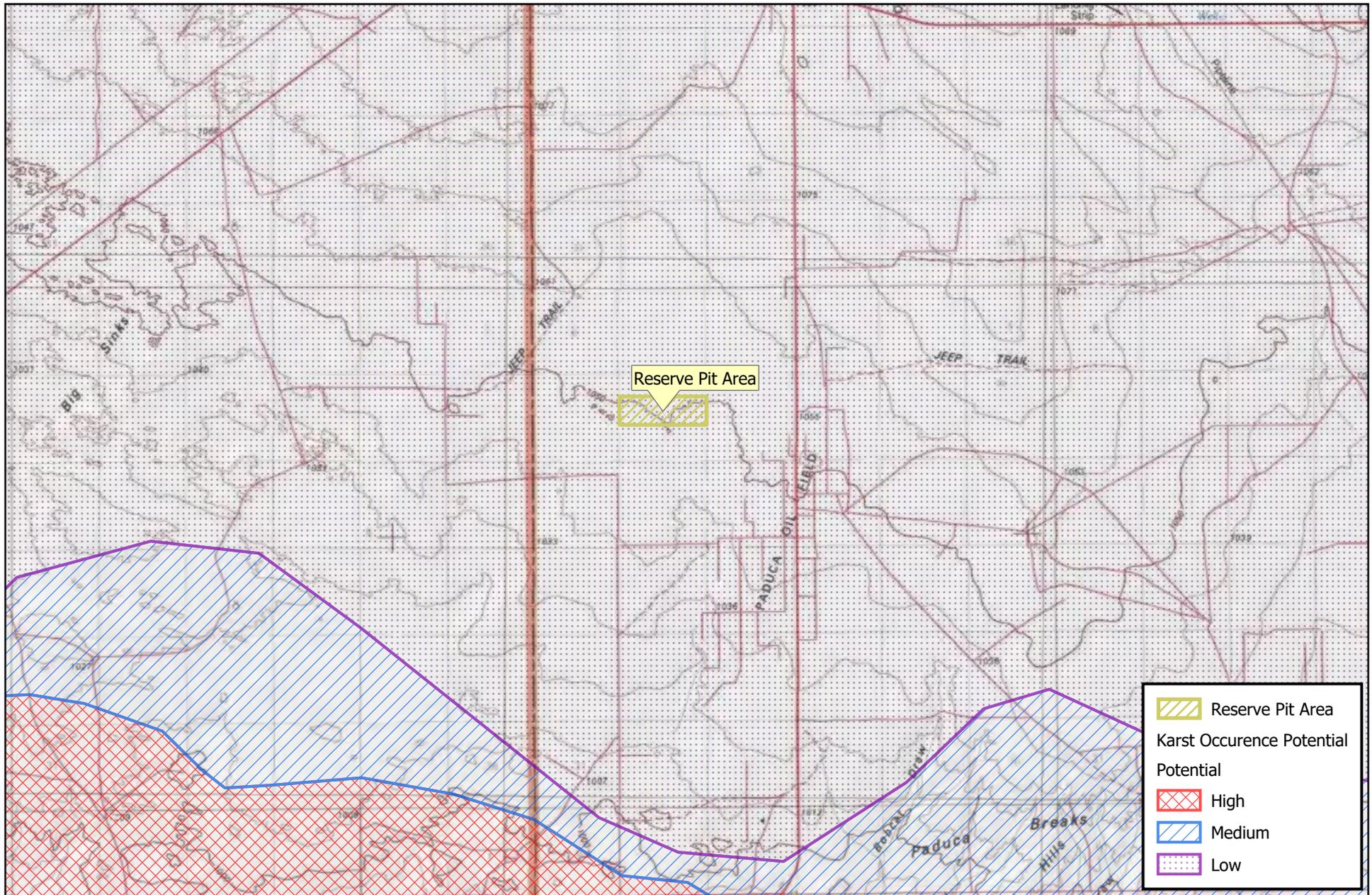


0 0.25 0.5  
Miles

R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd  
901 Rio Grande Blvd NW Suite F-142  
Albuquerque, NM 87104  
Ph: 505.266.5004

Mines and Minerals  
Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area

Figure 4  
March 2019

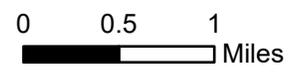
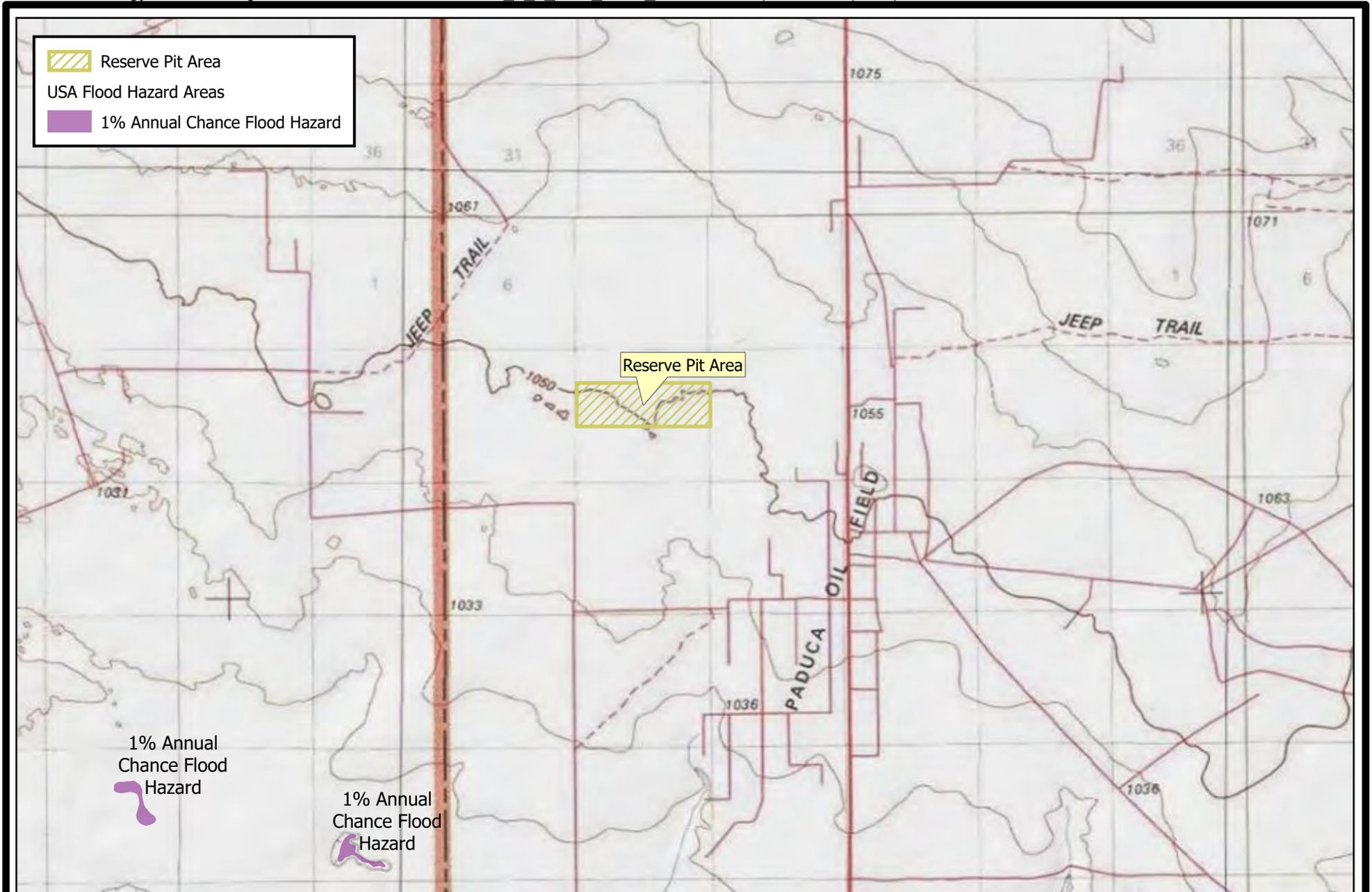


0 0.5 1  
Miles

**R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd**  
 901 Rio Grande Blvd NW Suite F-142  
 Albuquerque, NM 87104  
 Ph: 505.266.5004

**Karst Potential**  
 Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
 Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area

**Figure 5**  
 March 2019



R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd  
901 Rio Grande Blvd NW Suite F-142  
Albuquerque, NM 87104  
Ph: 505.266.5004

FEMA Flood Hazard Zone  
Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area

Figure 6  
March 2019

# ADDITIONAL SITING CRITERIA FOR PERMIAN BASIN RESERVE PITS

## Temporary Pit Non-low chloride drilling fluid

Within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or any other significant watercourse, or within 200 feet of any lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark). **See Figure 7**

- Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

Yes  No

Within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.

- Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image. **See Figure 8**

Yes  No

Within 500 horizontal feet of a spring or a private, domestic fresh water well used by less than five households for domestic or stock watering purposes, or 1000 feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in the existence at the time of the initial application;

- NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site  
**See Figures 1 & 2 and 7 (springs)**

Yes  No

Within 300 feet of a wetland. **See Figure 9**

- US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site

Yes  No

### **Distance to Surface Water**

Figure 7 and the site visit demonstrates that the location is not within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse or any other significant watercourse or 200 feet from lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark). This temporary pit will also qualify for in-place closure as the location is not within 100 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or 200 feet of any other significant watercourse or lakebed, sinkhole or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).

- No continuously flowing watercourses or other water bodies, as defined by NMOCD Rules, exist within the prescribed setback criteria for the pit or in-place closure of a temporary pit at this location.
- The nearest mapped watercourse lies about 2 miles to the south.
- The area around the location is characterized by low, vegetated sand dunes. No drainages were observed or expected in the area of the pits.
- The nearest mapped water bodies are lakes or ponds that are several miles from the proposed drilling pit area.
- No springs or seeps are identified on Figure 7.

### **Distance to Permanent Residence or Structures**

Figure 8 and the site visit demonstrates that the location is not within 300 feet from an occupied permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, church, or other structure in existence at the time of initial application. This also qualifies the location for in-place closure.

- The nearest structures are oil and gas wells.

### **Distance to Non-Public Water Supply**

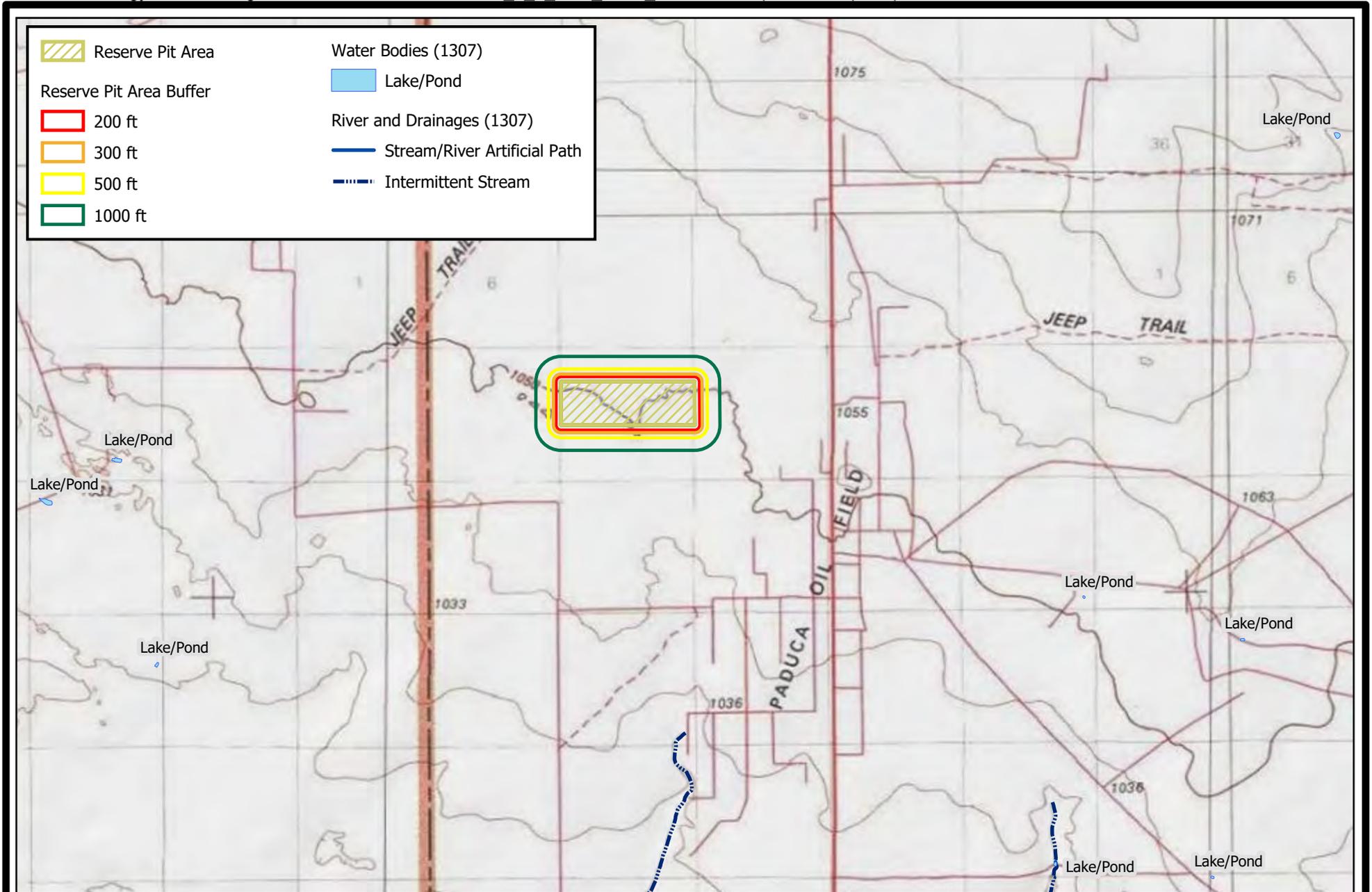
Figures 1 and Figure 2 demonstrates that the location is not within 500 horizontal feet of a private, domestic fresh water well or spring that less than five households use for domestic or stock watering purposes, or within 1,000 horizontal feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in existence at the time of initial application. Additionally, this location is also not within 300 feet of a spring or private, domestic fresh water well used for domestic or stock watering purposes, thus qualifying for in-place closure.

- Figure 1 shows the locations of all area water wells, active or plugged.
- The nearest active water wells are northwest of the area in Eddy County.
- There are no known domestic water wells located within 1,000 feet of the proposed pit.
- No springs were identified within the mapping area (see Figure 7).

### **Distance to Wetlands**

Figure 9 demonstrates the location is not within 300 feet of wetlands. This also qualifies the location for in-place closure.

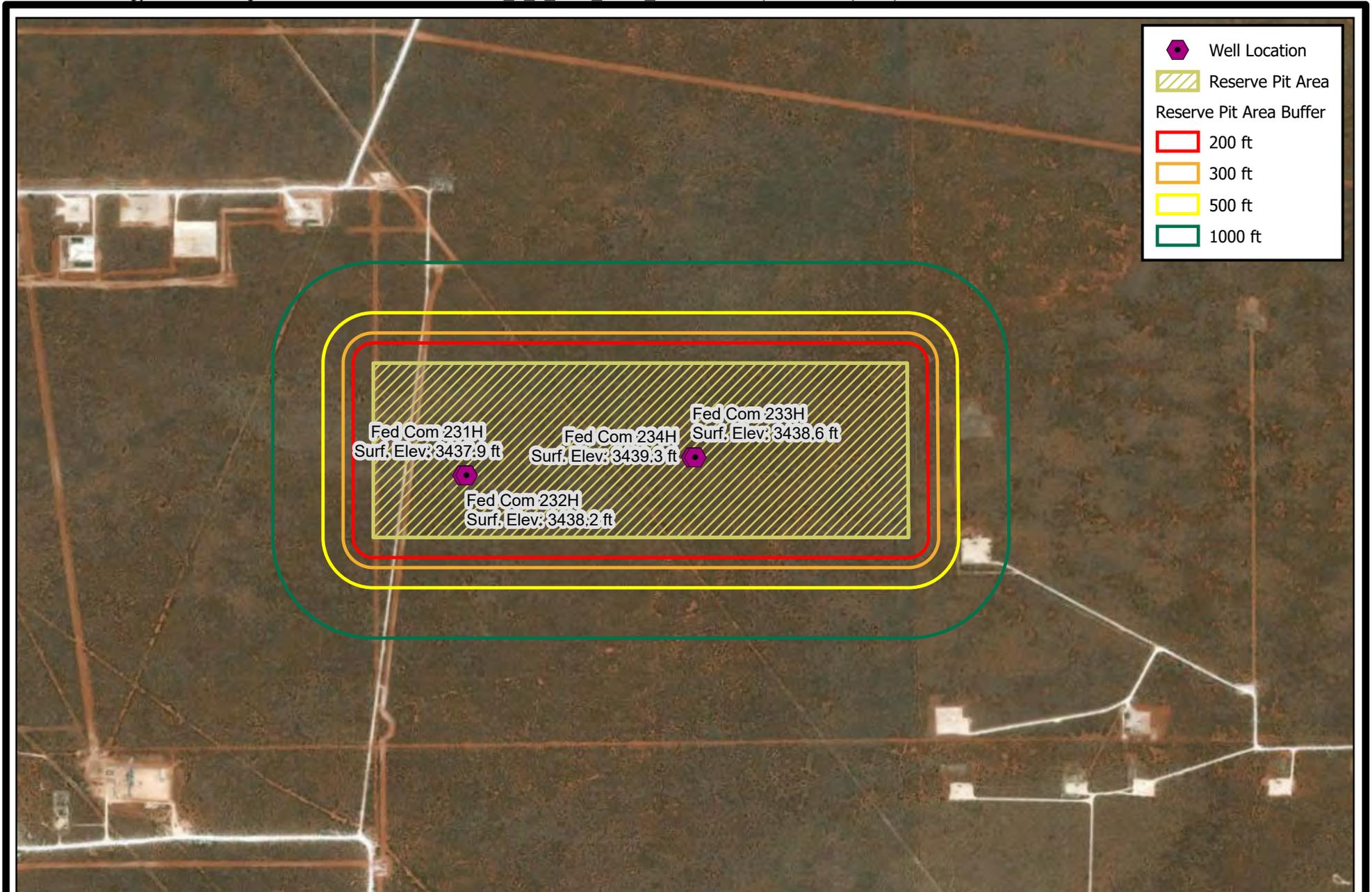
- The nearest designated wetlands are “freshwater pond” located about 1.5 miles south.
- No evidence of wetlands was observed during the site inspection.



R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd  
 901 Rio Grande Blvd NW Suite F-142  
 Albuquerque, NM 87104  
 Ph: 505.266.5004

Surface Water  
 Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
 Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area

Figure 7  
 March 2019



⬠ Well Location  
 Reserve Pit Area  
 Reserve Pit Area Buffer  
 200 ft  
 300 ft  
 500 ft  
 1000 ft

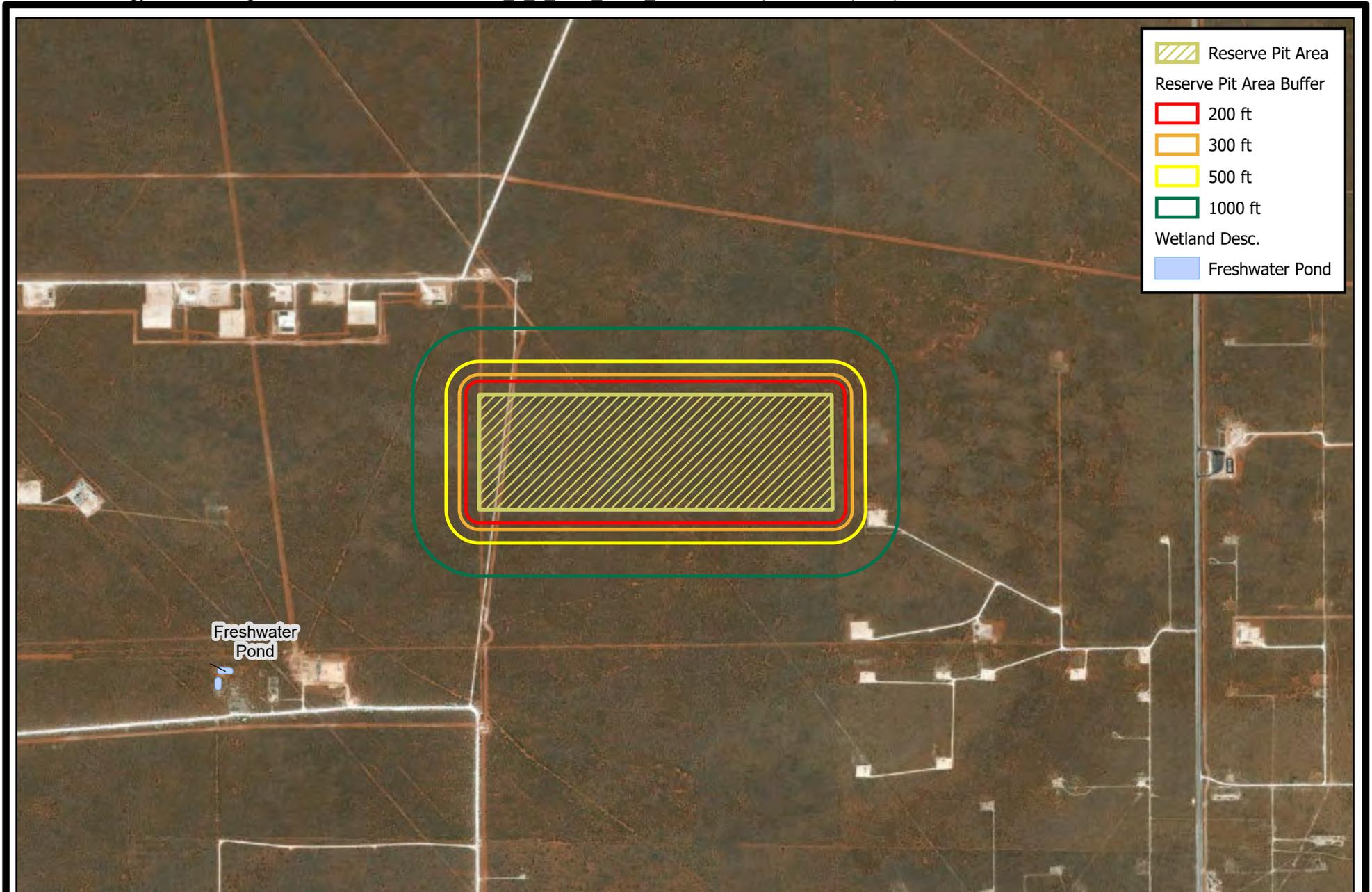
W  E  
 S

0    600    1,200  
 US Feet

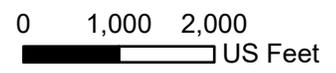
R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd  
 901 Rio Grande Blvd NW Suite F-142  
 Albuquerque, NM 87104  
 Ph: 505.266.5004

Nearby Structures  
 Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
 Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area

Figure 8  
 March 2019



|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
|  | Reserve Pit Area |
| Reserve Pit Area Buffer   |                  |
|  | 200 ft           |
|  | 300 ft           |
|  | 500 ft           |
|  | 1000 ft          |
| Wetland Desc.   |                  |
|  | Freshwater Pond  |



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 Ph: 505.266.5004

Wetlands  
 Devon Energy Production Company, LP  
 Chincoteague 8-5 Fed Com Reserve Pit Area

Figure 9  
 March 2019

## APPENDIX WELL LOGS

All water wells with logs are 5 miles south of  
Chincoteague area



# WELL RECORD & LOG

OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

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STATE ENGINEER OFFICE  
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

2018 MAY 21 AM 10:46

|   |   |                           |                 |                 |                     |  |              |
|---|---|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--|--------------|
| 1. GENERAL AND WELL LOCATION  | OSE POD NO. (WELL NO.)<br>C-4209-POD1     |                           | WELL TAG ID NO. |                 | OSE FILE NO(S)      |  |              |
|   | WELL OWNER NAME(S)<br>Baker Ranch         |                           |                 |                 | PHONE (OPTIONAL)    |  |              |
|   | WELL OWNER MAILING ADDRESS<br>P.O. Box 24 |                           |                 |                 | CITY<br>Silver City | STATE<br>NM                                | ZIP<br>88062 |
|   | WELL LOCATION (FROM GPS)                  | DEGREES<br>LATITUDE<br>32 | MINUTES<br>04   | SECONDS<br>02.5 | N                   | * ACCURACY REQUIRED: ONE TENTH OF A SECOND |              |
|   |   | LONGITUDE<br>103          | 43              | 08.8            | W                   | * DATUM REQUIRED: WGS 84                   |              |
| DESCRIPTION RELATING WELL LOCATION TO STREET ADDRESS AND COMMON LANDMARKS - PLSS (SECTION, TOWNSHIP, RANGE) WHERE AVAILABLE |   |                           |                 |                 |                     |  |              |

|                                  |   |   |                                     |  |   |                              |                                |                    |
|----------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2. DRILLING & CASING INFORMATION | LICENSE NO.<br>WD1706   | NAME OF LICENSED DRILLER<br>Bryce Wallace |                                     |  | NAME OF WELL DRILLING COMPANY<br>Elite Drillers Corporation |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  | DRILLING STARTED<br>4/28/18   | DRILLING ENDED<br>5/1/18                  | DEPTH OF COMPLETED WELL (FT)<br>360 | BORE HOLE DEPTH (FT)<br>360  | DEPTH WATER FIRST ENCOUNTERED (FT)<br>155                   |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  | COMPLETED WELL IS: <input type="checkbox"/> ARTESIAN <input type="checkbox"/> DRY HOLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHALLOW (UNCONFINED)                           |   |                                     |  | STATIC WATER LEVEL IN COMPLETED WELL (FT)<br>155            |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  | DRILLING FLUID: <input type="checkbox"/> AIR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUD ADDITIVES - SPECIFY:   |   |                                     |  |   |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  | DRILLING METHOD: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ROTARY <input type="checkbox"/> HAMMER <input type="checkbox"/> CABLE TOOL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER - SPECIFY: |   |                                     |  |   |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  | DEPTH (feet bgl)  |   | BORE HOLE DIAM (inches)             | CASING MATERIAL AND/OR GRADE (include each casing string, and note sections of screen) | CASING CONNECTION TYPE (add coupling diameter)              | CASING INSIDE DIAM. (inches) | CASING WALL THICKNESS (inches) | SLOT SIZE (inches) |
|                                  | FROM  | TO  |                                     |  |   |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  | +2  | 200                                       | 11                                  | PVC  | Spline  | 6                            | SDR 21                         |                    |
|                                  | 200   | 360                                       | 11                                  | PVC  | Spline  | 6                            | SDR 21                         | .032               |
|                                  |   |   |                                     |  |   |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  |   |   |                                     |  |   |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  |   |   |                                     |  |   |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  |   |   |                                     |  |   |                              |                                |                    |
|                                  |   |   |                                     |  |   |                              |                                |                    |

|                     |                  |     |                          |   |                     |                     |
|---------------------|------------------|-----|--------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| 3. ANNULAR MATERIAL | DEPTH (feet bgl) |     | BORE HOLE DIAM. (inches) | LIST ANNULAR SEAL MATERIAL AND GRAVEL PACK SIZE-RANGE BY INTERVAL | AMOUNT (cubic feet) | METHOD OF PLACEMENT |
|                     | FROM             | TO  |                          |   |                     |                     |
|                     | 0                | 25  | 11                       | Portland I/II   | 25                  | Slurry/Pour         |
|                     | 25               | 360 | 11                       | 8/16 Silica Sand  | 145                 | Pour                |
|                     |                  |     |                          |   |                     |                     |
|                     |                  |     |                          |   |                     |                     |
|                     |                  |     |                          |   |                     |                     |
|                     |                  |     |                          |   |                     |                     |

|                      |                |  |                 |         |             |
|----------------------|----------------|--|-----------------|---------|-------------|
| FOR OSE INTERNAL USE |                | WR-20 WELL RECORD & LOG (Version 06/30/17) |                 |         |             |
| FILE NO.             | C-4209         | POD NO.                                    | 1               | TRN NO. | 621334      |
| LOCATION             | 20S.32E.6.33.2 | EXPL                                       | WELL TAG ID NO. | N/A     | PAGE 1 OF 2 |





# WELL RECORD & LOG

OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

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STATE ENGINEER OFFICE  
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

2013 OCT 25 1P 7:45

|   |   |                                  |                         |   |  |                     |
|---|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|---------------------|
| 1. GENERAL AND WELL LOCATION  | OSE POD NUMBER (WELL NUMBER)<br><b>C-3639</b>               |                                  |                         | OSE FILE NUMBER(S)                          |  |                     |
|   | WELL OWNER NAME(S)<br><b>Jessie T Baker bda Baker Ranch</b> |                                  |                         | PHONE (OPTIONAL)<br><b>578 575-885-4195</b> |  |                     |
|   | WELL OWNER MAILING ADDRESS<br><b>1108 W Pierce St</b>       |                                  |                         | CITY<br><b>Carlsbad</b>                     | STATE<br><b>NM</b>                         | ZIP<br><b>88220</b> |
|   | WELL LOCATION (FROM GPS)                                    | DEGREES<br>LATITUDE <b>32 04</b> | MINUTES<br><b>24.21</b> | SECONDS<br><b>N</b>                         | * ACCURACY REQUIRED: ONE TENTH OF A SECOND |                     |
|   | LONGITUDE <b>103 43</b>                                     | <b>36.51</b>                     | <b>W</b>                | * DATUM REQUIRED: WGS 84                    |  |                     |
| DESCRIPTION RELATING WELL LOCATION TO STREET ADDRESS AND COMMON LANDMARKS - PLSS (SECTION, TOWNSHIP, RANGE) WHERE AVAILABLE<br><b>C.R-1 20 miles south; E/ Paso Pipeline Rd turn west 3.1 miles</b> |   |                                  |                         |   |  |                     |

|                                  |   |  |  |  |  |                              |                                |                     |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2. DRILLING & CASING INFORMATION | LICENSE NUMBER<br><b>1654</b>   | NAME OF LICENSED DRILLER<br><b>John Sieman</b> |  |  | NAME OF WELL DRILLING COMPANY<br><b>Sieman Drilling &amp; Const. LLC</b> |                              |                                |                     |
|                                  | DRILLING STARTED<br><b>9/23/13</b>  | DRILLING ENDED<br><b>9/25/13</b>               | DEPTH OF COMPLETED WELL (FT)<br><b>700'0</b> | BORE HOLE DEPTH (FT)<br><b>700'0</b>   | DEPTH WATER FIRST ENCOUNTERED (FT)<br><b>560'0</b>                       |                              |                                |                     |
|                                  | COMPLETED WELL IS: <input type="checkbox"/> ARTESIAN <input type="checkbox"/> DRY HOLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHALLOW (UNCONFINED)                           |  |  |  | STATIC WATER LEVEL IN COMPLETED WELL (FT)<br><b>365'0</b>                |                              |                                |                     |
|                                  | DRILLING FLUID: <input type="checkbox"/> AIR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUD <input type="checkbox"/> ADDITIVES - SPECIFY:  |  |  |  |  |                              |                                |                     |
|                                  | DRILLING METHOD: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ROTARY <input type="checkbox"/> HAMMER <input type="checkbox"/> CABLE TOOL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER - SPECIFY: |  |  |  |  |                              |                                |                     |
|                                  | DEPTH (feet bgl)  |  | BORE HOLE DIAM (inches)                      | CASING MATERIAL AND/OR GRADE (include each casing string, and note sections of screen) | CASING CONNECTION TYPE   | CASING INSIDE DIAM. (inches) | CASING WALL THICKNESS (inches) | SLOT SIZE (inches)  |
|                                  | FROM  | TO   |  |  |  |                              |                                |                     |
|                                  | <b>0</b>  | <b>600</b>                                     | <b>10"</b>                                   | <b>SDR-17 PVC</b>  | <b>Certa-Lok</b>   | <b>6"</b>                    | <b>DR-17</b>                   | <b>Blank</b>        |
|                                  | <b>600</b>  | <b>660</b>                                     | <b>10"</b>                                   | <b>SDR-17 PVC</b>  | <b>Certa-Lok</b>   | <b>6"</b>                    | <b>DR-17</b>                   | <b>0.032 screen</b> |
|                                  | <b>660</b>  | <b>700</b>                                     | <b>10"</b>                                   | <b>SDR-17 PVC</b>  | <b>Certa-Lok</b>   | <b>6"</b>                    | <b>DR-17</b>                   | <b>Blank</b>        |
|                                  | <b>700</b>  |  |  |  |  |                              |                                |                     |

|                     |                  |            |                          |   |                     |                               |
|---------------------|------------------|------------|--------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3. ANNULAR MATERIAL | DEPTH (feet bgl) |            | BORE HOLE DIAM. (inches) | LIST ANNULAR SEAL MATERIAL AND GRAVEL PACK SIZE-RANGE BY INTERVAL | AMOUNT (cubic feet) | METHOD OF PLACEMENT           |
|                     | FROM             | TO         |                          |   |                     |                               |
|                     | <b>0</b>         | <b>20</b>  | <b>10"</b>               | <b>3/8 hole plug</b>  | <b>8 bags</b>       | <b>gravity</b>                |
|                     | <b>120</b>       | <b>700</b> | <b>10"</b>               | <b>3/8 pea gravel</b>   | <b>4 yds</b>        | <b>gravity/water + tremie</b> |

|                      |               |            |  |  |                        |  |  |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|--|--|------------------------|--|--|
| FOR OSE INTERNAL USE |               |            |  | WR-20 WELL RECORD & LOG (Version 06/08/2012) |                        |  |  |
| FILE NUMBER          | <b>C-3639</b> | POD NUMBER |  | TRN NUMBER                                   | <b>527251</b>          |  |  |
| LOCATION             | <b>EXPL</b>   |            |  |  | <b>26S.31E.1.2-4-3</b> |  |  |





# WELL RECORD & LOG

OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

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|  |   |          |               |                 |                  |                          |  |             |              |
|--|---|----------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. GENERAL AND WELL LOCATION   | OSE POD NO. (WELL NO.)<br>C-4209-POD2     |          |               | WELL TAG ID NO. |                  | OSE FILE NO(S)           |  |             |              |
|  | WELL OWNER NAME(S)<br>Baker Ranch         |          |               |                 |                  | PHONE (OPTIONAL)         |  |             |              |
|  | WELL OWNER MAILING ADDRESS<br>P.O. Box 24 |          |               |                 |                  | CITY<br>Silver City      |  | STATE<br>NM | ZIP<br>88062 |
|  | WELL LOCATION (FROM GPS)                  | LATITUDE | DEGREES<br>32 | MINUTES<br>04   | SECONDS<br>3.747 | N                        | * ACCURACY REQUIRED: ONE TENTH OF A SECOND |             |              |
|  | LONGITUDE                                 | 103      | 43            | 12.021          | W                | * DATUM REQUIRED: WGS 84 |  |             |              |
| DESCRIPTION RELATING WELL LOCATION TO STREET ADDRESS AND COMMON LANDMARKS -- PLSS (SECTION, TOWNSHIP, RANGE) WHERE AVAILABLE |   |          |               |                 |                  |                          |  |             |              |

|                                  |  |     |   |  |  |   |  |                                |                    |
|----------------------------------|--|-----|---|--|--|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2. DRILLING & CASING INFORMATION | LICENSE NO.<br>WD1706  |     | NAME OF LICENSED DRILLER<br>Bryce Wallace |  |  | NAME OF WELL DRILLING COMPANY<br>Elite Drillers Corporation |  |                                |                    |
|                                  | DRILLING STARTED<br>5/7/18   |     | DRILLING ENDED<br>5/9/18                  | DEPTH OF COMPLETED WELL (FT)<br>340  |  | BORE HOLE DEPTH (FT)<br>340                                 | DEPTH WATER FIRST ENCOUNTERED (FT)<br>155        |                                |                    |
|                                  | COMPLETED WELL IS: <input type="checkbox"/> ARTESIAN <input type="checkbox"/> DRY HOLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHALLOW (UNCONFINED)                            |     |   |  |  |   | STATIC WATER LEVEL IN COMPLETED WELL (FT)<br>155 |                                |                    |
|                                  | DRILLING FLUID: <input type="checkbox"/> AIR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUD ADDITIVES -- SPECIFY:   |     |   |  |  |   |  |                                |                    |
|                                  | DRILLING METHOD: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ROTARY <input type="checkbox"/> HAMMER <input type="checkbox"/> CABLE TOOL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER -- SPECIFY: |     |   |  |  |   |  |                                |                    |
|                                  | DEPTH (feet bgl)   |     | BORE HOLE DIAM (inches)                   | CASING MATERIAL AND/OR GRADE (include each casing string, and note sections of screen) |  | CASING CONNECTION TYPE (add coupling diameter)              | CASING INSIDE DIAM. (inches)                     | CASING WALL THICKNESS (inches) | SLOT SIZE (inches) |
|                                  | FROM   | TO  |   |  |  |   |  |                                |                    |
|                                  | +2   | 200 | 11  | PVC  |  | Spline  | 6  | SDR 21                         | 032                |
|                                  | 200  | 340 | 11  | PVC  |  | Spline  | 6  | SDR 21                         | 032                |
|                                  |  |     |   |  |  |   |  |                                |                    |

|                     |                  |     |                          |   |  |                     |                     |
|---------------------|------------------|-----|--------------------------|---|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| 3. ANNULAR MATERIAL | DEPTH (feet bgl) |     | BORE HOLE DIAM. (inches) | LIST ANNULAR SEAL MATERIAL AND GRAVEL PACK SIZE-RANGE BY INTERVAL |  | AMOUNT (cubic feet) | METHOD OF PLACEMENT |
|                     | FROM             | TO  |                          |   |  |                     |                     |
|                     | 0                | 25  | 11                       | Portland I/II   |  | 25                  | Slurry/Pour         |
|                     | 25               | 340 | 11                       | 8/16 Silica Sand  |  | 140                 | Pour                |
|                     |                  |     |                          |   |  |                     |                     |
|                     |                  |     |                          |   |  |                     |                     |

FOR OSE INTERNAL USE

WR-20 WELL RECORD & LOG (Version 06/30/17)

|          |                 |                 |      |         |             |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|------|---------|-------------|
| FILE NO. | C-4209          | POD NO.         | 2    | TRN NO. | 621334      |
| LOCATION | 26S.32E.6.3.3.2 | WELL TAG ID NO. | EXPL | N/A     | PAGE 1 OF 2 |



April 2019

# **Volume 3 – C-144 Previously-Approved Plans, Variances, and Designs for Devon Energy Drilling Pits**

## **Temporary Drilling Pits**

**Sections 7, 8, 17, 18, T23S, R32E, Lea County**

**Prepared for  
Devon Energy Production Co. LP  
Oklahoma City, OK**

**Prepared by  
R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd.  
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

## Request for Alternative to Re-Vegetation and Re-Contouring

The Pit Rule states:

19.15.17.13 H.1.(b) The operator may propose an alternative to the re-vegetation or re-contouring requirement if the operator demonstrates to the appropriate district office that the proposed alternative provides equal or better prevention of erosion, and protection of fresh water, public health and the environment. The proposed alternative shall be agreed upon by the surface owner. The operator shall submit the proposed alternative, with written documentation that the surface owner agrees to the alternative, to the division for approval.

and

19.15.17.13 H (5) Reclamation and re -vegetation.

(a) Reclamation of areas no longer in use. All areas disturbed by the closure of pits and below-grade tanks, except areas reasonably needed for production operations or for subsequent drilling operations, shall be reclaimed as early and as nearly as practicable to their original condition or their final land use and shall be maintained to control dust and minimize erosion to the extent practicable.

We do not believe a request for this proposed alternative constitutes a formal variance principally because the alternative is temporary in nature.

Devon proposes construction of a 1-foot thick production pad over the stabilized cuttings, capping liner and 3-feet of clean material. Upon plugging and abandonment of the wells on the pad, the entire location, including the pit sites, will be restored to meet the mandates of the Pit Rule.

The 1-foot thick surface of the production pad over the buried waste will be sloped to shed surface water and prevent ponding over the stabilized cuttings, liner and 3-feet of soil cover. Hicks Consultants maintains that a compacted caliche pad that is sloped to shed precipitation and minimize infiltration provides equal protection of the environment as re-vegetation and re-establishment of the sand dunes that characterize the area. The sloped caliche pad will cause less infiltration of precipitation than the sand dunes. Restoration of the location at plugging and abandonment of the wells will occur. Thus, Devon is requesting this alternative only for the time between present and P&A of the wells.

# PREVIOUSLY APPROVED VARIANCES /

8.

**Variations and Exceptions:**

Justifications and/or demonstrations of equivalency are required. Please refer to 19.15.17 NMAC for guidance.

*Please check a box if one or more of the following is requested, if not leave blank:*

- Variance(s): Requests must be submitted to the appropriate division district for consideration of approval.
- Exception(s): Requests must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval

All proposed variations have been previously-approved by OCD.

## Statement Explaining Why the Applicant Seeks a Variance

The prescriptive mandates of the Rule that are the subject of this variance request are the following subsections of 19.15.17.16 [emphasis added]:

19.15.17.13 CLOSURE AND SITE RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS:

D.(5) The operator shall collect, at a minimum, a five point composite of the contents of the temporary pit or drying pad/tank associated with a closed-loop system to demonstrate that, after the waste is solidified or stabilized with soil or other non-waste material at a ratio of no more than 3:1 soil or other non-waste material to waste, the concentration of any contaminant in the stabilized waste is not higher than the parameters listed in Table II of 19.15.17.13 NMAC.

The referenced Table II, which is reproduced in part below, notes the Method with asterisk signifying: “\*Or other test methods approved by the division”.

| Depth below bottom of pit to groundwater less than 10,000 mg/l TDS | Constituent | Method*                 | Limit**      |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| 25-50 feet   | Chloride    | EPA Method 300.0        | 20,000 mg/kg |
|  | TPH         | EPA SW-846 Method 418.1 | 100 mg/kg    |

After sampling solids of more than 50 drilling pits in the Permian Basin, we have observed and reported to OCD on numerous occasions significant problems with non-petroleum drilling additives (e.g. starch) interfering with the laboratory method 418.1. It is not surprising that in many instances we found no correlation between the laboratory results using 418.1 and the results using Method 8015.

We request a variance to substitute Method 8015 (GRO + DRO + MRO) for Method 418.1.

## Demonstration That the Variance Will Provide Equal or Better Protection of Fresh Water, Public Health and the Environment

The purpose of TPH analyses in the Pit Rule is to measure total petroleum hydrocarbons not all non-polar compounds, such as starch or cellulose that can interfere with Method 418.1. While Method 418.1 may provide some useful data for transportation of crude oil or condensate spills to disposal, the addition of non-polar organic materials in drilling fluids, especially for horizontal wells, renders Method 418.1 highly problematic to determine compliance with the Rule. Using Method 8015 for TPH (GRO+DRO+MRO) provides a better measurement of what we believe the Commission intended operators to measure.

**From:** [Oberding, Tomas, EMNRD](mailto:Oberding.Tomas.EMNRD)  
**To:** [Kristin Pope](mailto:Kristin.Pope)  
**Cc:** [ccottrell@jdmii.com](mailto:ccottrell@jdmii.com); [Chace Walls](mailto:Chace.Walls); [gboans@jdmii.com](mailto:gboans@jdmii.com); [Randy Hicks](mailto:Randy.Hicks); [Griswold, Jim, EMNRD](mailto:Griswold.Jim.EMNRD)  
**Subject:** RE: VARIANCE REQUEST: Murchison - Jackson Unit #17H  
**Date:** Thursday, December 18, 2014 8:16:05 AM

---

Aloha Ms. Pope et al,

Thank you for sending in this variance request.

After discussions, OCD approves the substitution of 8015 B, C, or D for 418.1. Hydrocarbons between C6 and C36 must be included in the results.

As 8015M appears to cover GRO+DRO+MRO- this too is an appropriate alternate methodology.

Thank you for continuing to work with the OCD.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

-Doc

Tomáš 'Doc' Oberding, PhD  
Senior Environmental Specialist  
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, District 1  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
(575) 393-6161 ext 111  
E-Mail: [tomas.oberding@state.nm.us](mailto:tomas.oberding@state.nm.us)

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 ground water, 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, local laws and/or regulations.

If you have any questions or concerns, and for notification, please contact me.

---

**From:** Kristin Pope [mailto:[kristin@rthicksconsult.com](mailto:kristin@rthicksconsult.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2014 7:51 AM  
**To:** Oberding, Tomas, EMNRD  
**Cc:** [ccottrell@jdmii.com](mailto:ccottrell@jdmii.com); [Chace Walls](mailto:Chace.Walls); [gboans@jdmii.com](mailto:gboans@jdmii.com); [Randy Hicks](mailto:Randy.Hicks); [Griswold, Jim, EMNRD](mailto:Griswold.Jim.EMNRD)  
**Subject:** VARIANCE REQUEST: Murchison - Jackson Unit #17H

Dr. Oberding:

Please find the attached variance request we discussed over the phone last week. During our phone call, I was mistaken on the closure deadline for this site; the closure deadline for this is January 14, 2015. Per our discussion, note that I've copied Jim Griswold on this submission.

Please let me know if we can assist NMOCD's review in any way. Thank you.

**Kristin Pope**  
**R.T. Hicks Consultants**

## Statement Explaining Why the Applicant Seeks a Variance

The prescriptive mandates of the Rule that are the subject of this variance request are the following subsections of 19.15.17.13.E:

**E. Closure notice.**

**(1) The operator shall notify the surface owner by certified mail, return receipt requested that the operator plans closure operations at least 72 hours, but not more than one week, prior to any closure operation. Notice shall include well name, API number and location. Evidence of mailing of the notice to the address of the surface owner shown in the county tax records is sufficient to demonstrate compliance with this requirement.**

Hicks Consultants includes the SLO or BLM by carbon copy of the closure notice emails sent to NMOCD. This eliminates a delay in receipt of the notice by SLO or BLM and facilitates real-time dialogue between the surface owner, NMOCD, Hicks Consultants, and the operator should any questions arise about the closure. On November 24, 2014, Ed Martin of SLO confirmed that email is an acceptable method of copy for the notices of closure. BLM routinely accepts such email notifications.

## Demonstration that the Variance Will Provide Equal or Better Protection of Fresh Water, Public Health and the Environment

Approval of an email copy of the closure notice for a temporary pit to substitute for one sent via U.S. Mail would offer a reduction of paper received and stored at the State Land Office and well as energy expended (carbon-emitted) to produce and ship the document. Lowering the carbon footprint provides better protection of the environment than compliance with the prescriptive mandate of the Rule.

**From:** [Oberding, Tomas, EMNRD](mailto:Oberding.Tomas.EMNRD)  
**To:** [Kristin Pope](mailto:Kristin.Pope)  
**Cc:** [ccottrell@jdmii.com](mailto:ccottrell@jdmii.com); [Randy Hicks](mailto:Randy.Hicks); [gboans@jdmii.com](mailto:gboans@jdmii.com); [Chace Walls](mailto:Chace.Walls); [Martin, Ed](mailto:Martin.Ed)  
**Subject:** RE: VARIANCE REQUEST: Email substitution for pit closure notices  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 07, 2015 10:13:08 AM

---

Ms. Pope,

This email is fine for OCD documentation, for the current site closure.

Mahalo

-Doc

Tomáš 'Doc' Oberding, PhD  
Senior Environmental Specialist  
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, District 1  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
(575) 393-6161 ext 111  
E-Mail: [tomas.oberding@state.nm.us](mailto:tomas.oberding@state.nm.us)

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 ground water, 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, local laws and/or regulations.

If you have any questions or concerns, and for notification, please contact me.

---

**From:** Kristin Pope [<mailto:kristin@rthicksconsult.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 31, 2014 1:35 PM  
**To:** Oberding, Tomas, EMNRD  
**Cc:** [ccottrell@jdmii.com](mailto:ccottrell@jdmii.com); [Randy Hicks](mailto:Randy.Hicks); [gboans@jdmii.com](mailto:gboans@jdmii.com); [Chace Walls](mailto:Chace.Walls); [Martin, Ed](mailto:Martin.Ed)  
**Subject:** VARIANCE REQUEST: Email substitution for pit closure notices

Dr. Oberding:

Please find the attached variance request for a substitution of email to SLO in lieu of temporary pit closure notices submitted via US Mail, return receipt requested. It is referenced for the Murchison – Jackson Unit #14H but I also submitted a closure report for the Jackson Unit #16H.

Please contact me with any questions about this upon your return to work. Thank you.

**Kristin Pope**  
**R.T. Hicks Consultants**  
**Carlsbad Field Office**  
575.302.6755

# RESERVE PIT Liner Specification

2.

**Pit:** Subsection F, G or J of 19.15.17.11 NMAC

Temporary:  Drilling  Workover

Permanent  Emergency  Cavitation  P&A  Multi-Well Fluid Management Low Chloride Drilling Fluid  yes  no

Lined  Unlined Liner type: Thickness 20 mil  LLDPE  HDPE  PVC  Other \_\_\_\_\_

String-Reinforced

Liner Seams:  Welded  Factory  Other \_\_\_\_\_ Volume: See Plate 1\_Dimensions: See Plate 1

## PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

GEO♦SKRIM® J24BDX1 is a unique, single-side textured reinforced gray/black geomembrane manufactured using high strength polyethylene resins. GEO♦SKRIM® J24BDX1 is designed with a textured gray surface to minimize thermal expansion while providing a cooler working surface. The black layer includes carbon black and thermal stabilizers to assure exposed longevity. Contrasting colors also provide a vital function for ease of damage detection during the installation.

GEO♦SKRIM® J24BDX1 is manufactured utilizing a cast extrusion process to achieve a consistent friction surface with uniform asperity heights and is reinforced with a tri-directional scrim reinforcement to maximize tear and puncture resistance. The SurGrip™ textured surface consists of a diagonal cross-hatch pattern with equally raised self-draining treads. GEO♦SKRIM® J-Series membranes are formulated with thermal and UV stabilizers to assure exceptional longevity. Custom colors are available based on minimum volume requirements.

## PRODUCT USE

GEO♦SKRIM® J24BDX1 is used in applications that demand exceptional tear and puncture strength, and resistance to thermal expansion. GEO♦SKRIM® J24BDX1 is manufactured from a chemically-resistant, linear-low-density polyethylene with excellent environmental stress crack resistance.

An aggressive cross-hatch raised texture on the gray side provides a non-skid surface for enhanced jobsite safety.

## SIZE & PACKAGING

GEO♦SKRIM® J24BDX1 is available in a variety of widths and lengths to meet the project requirements. Large diameter mill rolls are available to assure an efficient seaming process. Factory welded panels are produced in a quality controlled environment and are accordion folded and tightly rolled on a heavy-duty core for ease of handling and time saving installation.



Rig-site Pad Liner

## PRODUCT

## PART #

GEO♦SKRIM .....J24BDX1

## APPLICATIONS

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Waste Lagoon Liners   | Interim Landfill Covers |
| Floating Covers       | Remediation Covers      |
| Modular Tank Liners   | Landfill Caps           |
| Tunnel Liners         | Erosion Control Covers  |
| Remediation Liners    | Canal Liners            |
| Earthen Liners        | Disposal Pit Liner      |
| Secondary Containment | Water Containment Ponds |

PRO-FORMA DATA SHEET

|                                      |             | GEO.SKRIM® J24BDX1                           |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                      |             | TYPICAL                                      |                                   |
| PROPERTIES                           | TEST METHOD | IMPERIAL                                     | METRIC                            |
| APPEARANCE                           |             | Gray/Black 1-Side Texture                    |                                   |
| THICKNESS, NOMINAL                   |             | 24 Mil                                       | 0.61 mm                           |
| ASPERITY HEIGHT                      |             | 12 Mil                                       | 0.30 mm                           |
| WEIGHT                               | ASTM D751   | 105 lbs/MSF                                  | 513 g/m <sup>2</sup>              |
| CONSTRUCTION                         |             | Extrusion laminated with scrim reinforcement |                                   |
| <sup>2</sup> GRAB TENSILE STRENGTH   | ASTM D7004  | 130 lbs                                      | 578 N                             |
| <sup>2</sup> GRAB TENSILE ELONGATION | ASTM D7004  | 17 %   | 17 %                              |
| <sup>3</sup> TONGUE TEAR             | ASTM D5884  | 55 lbs                                       | 244 N                             |
| CBR PUNCTURE RESISTANCE              | ASTM D6241  | 338 lbs                                      | 1500 N                            |
| WVTR                                 | ASTM E96    | 0.011 grains/ft <sup>2</sup> •hr             | 0.184 g/m <sup>2</sup> •day       |
| PERM RATING                          | ASTM E96    | 0.027 Perms                                  | 0.018 g/m <sup>2</sup> •day•mm Hg |
| HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY               | ASTM E96    | 2.2x10 <sup>-10</sup> cm/sec                 |                                   |
| MAXIMUM STATIC USE TEMPERATURE       |             | 180° F                                       | 82° C                             |
| MINIMUM STATIC USE TEMPERATURE       |             | -70° F                                       | -57° C                            |

<sup>2</sup> Tests are an average of primary reinforcement directions.

<sup>3</sup> Tests are an average of machine and transverse directions.

PRO-FORMA SHEET CONTENTS: The data listed in the Pro-Forma data sheet is representative of initial production runs. These values may be revised at anytime without notice as additional test data becomes available.

Note: To the best of our knowledge, unless otherwise stated, these are typical property values and are intended as guides only, not as specification limits. Chemical resistance, odor transmission, longevity as well as other performance criteria is not implied or given and actual testing must be performed for applicability in specific applications and/or conditions. GeoCHEM, Inc. MAKES NO WARRANTIES AS TO THE FITNESS FOR A SPECIFIC USE OR MERCHANTABILITY OF PRODUCTS REFERRED TO, no guarantee of satisfactory results from reliance upon contained information or recommendations and disclaims all liability for resulting loss or damage.

PREVIOUSLY-APPROVED PLANS FROM  
BELL LAKE 19 -18 STATE COM 010H

API NUMBER: 3002545453

## Randall Hicks

---

**From:** Griswold, Jim, EMNRD <Jim.Griswold@state.nm.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 14, 2019 2:41 PM  
**To:** Randall Hicks; Hernandez, Christina, EMNRD; Kautz, Paul, EMNRD; rmann@slo.state.nm.us  
**Cc:** 'Hart, Jamison'; Epperson, Ryan; Gentry, Brody; Deal, Rebecca; erica@rthicksconsult.com  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Devon - Bell Lake 19-18 State Com 10H - PLEASE WITHDRAW C-144 FOR BELL LAKE 19-18 STATE COM 9H  
**Attachments:** C-144-BellLake19-18-10H-Final Approved.pdf

Permit approved. See attached.

**Jim Griswold**  
*Environmental Bureau Chief*  
Oil Conservation Division  
1220 South St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505  
505.476.3465  
email: [jim.griswold@state.nm.us](mailto:jim.griswold@state.nm.us)



API Number: 3002545453  
ULSTR: P-19-24S-33E  
Footages 481 FSL & 1152 FEL  
Well Name & Number: BELL LAKE 19 18 STATE COM No. 010H  
Operator: DEVON ENERGY PRODUCTION COMPANY. LP

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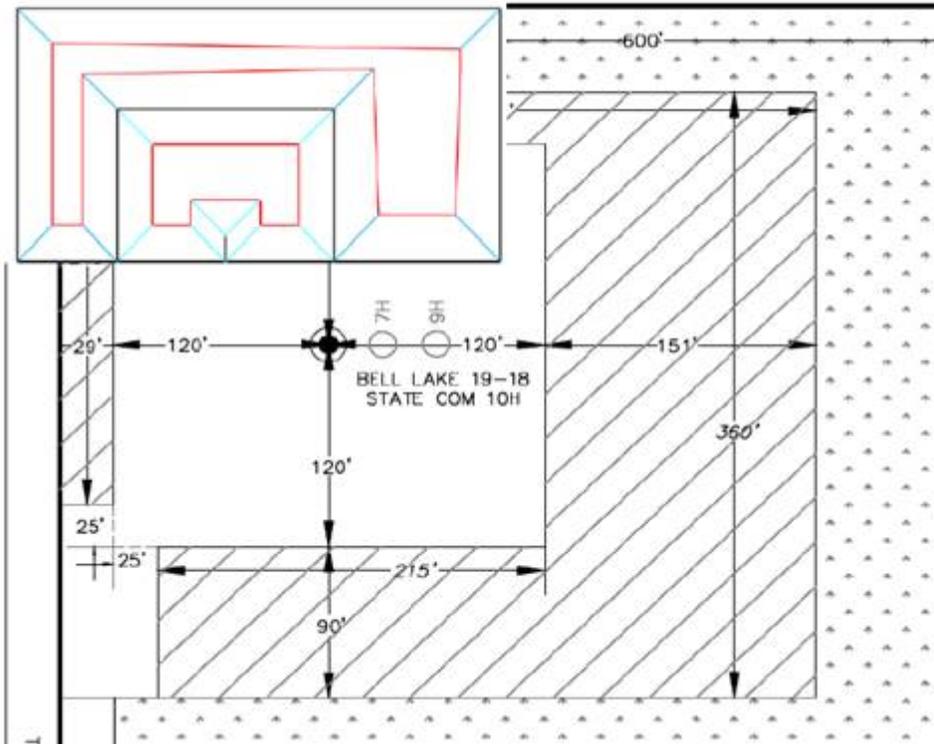
**From:** Randall Hicks <[r@rthicksconsult.com](mailto:r@rthicksconsult.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 13, 2019 4:31 PM  
**To:** Griswold, Jim, EMNRD <[Jim.Griswold@state.nm.us](mailto:Jim.Griswold@state.nm.us)>; Hernandez, Christina, EMNRD <[Christina.Hernandez@state.nm.us](mailto:Christina.Hernandez@state.nm.us)>; Kautz, Paul, EMNRD <[paul.kautz@state.nm.us](mailto:paul.kautz@state.nm.us)>; [rmann@slo.state.nm.us](mailto:rmann@slo.state.nm.us)  
**Cc:** 'Hart, Jamison' <[Jamison.Hart@div.com](mailto:Jamison.Hart@div.com)>; Epperson, Ryan <[Ryan.Epperson@div.com](mailto:Ryan.Epperson@div.com)>; Gentry, Brody <[Brody.Gentry@div.com](mailto:Brody.Gentry@div.com)>; Deal, Rebecca <[Rebecca.Deal@div.com](mailto:Rebecca.Deal@div.com)>; [erica@rthicksconsult.com](mailto:erica@rthicksconsult.com)  
**Subject:** [EXT] Devon - Bell Lake 19-18 State Com 10H - PLEASE WITHDRAW C-144 FOR BELL LAKE 19-18 STATE COM 9H

Mr. Griswold and Ms. Hernandez

Attached is the C-144 Application for the Bell Lake 19-18 State Com 10H. As pointed out by Mr. Kautz, only the 10H is identified on the APD as a well that could employ a drilling pit. Thus, on behalf of Devon Energy, please withdraw the C-144 for the 9H well that was submitted on 1/9/19.

The appendix provides information common to all of the proposed well pads in the southeast portion of Section 19.

Jim – I will go through this with you tomorrow – thanks for letting me present the application.



Randall Hicks  
 R.T. Hicks Consultants  
 Cell: 505-238-9515  
 Office: 505-266-5004

# DESIGN PLAN

# OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

10.

**Temporary Pits, Emergency Pits, and Below-grade Tanks Permit Application Attachment Checklist:** Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC  
*Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.*

- Hydrogeologic Report (Below-grade Tanks) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (4) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
- Hydrogeologic Data (Temporary and Emergency Pits) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (2) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC
- Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC
- Design Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC
- Closure Plan (Please complete Boxes 14 through 18, if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Previously Approved Design (attach copy of design) API Number: \_\_\_\_\_ or Permit Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Temporary Pit Design/Construction Plan**

Plate 1 shows the design of the temporary pit proposed for this project. Field conditions and the drilling rig layout will determine the final configuration of the pit. If identified in the transmittal letter, Plate 2 shows fluids cells to store used drilling fluids for re-use (for drilling at nearby wells or for other uses approved by the OCD).

The temporary storage of fluids, fluid reuse or fluid disposal will be conducted in a manner approved by division rules that prevents the contamination of fresh water and protects public health and the environment.

### ***Construction/Design Plan of Temporary Pit Stockpile Topsoil by Earthwork Contractor***

Prior to constructing the pit the qualified contractor will strip and stockpile any topsoil for use as the final cover or fill at the time of closure.

### **Signage Provided by Operator**

The operator will post an upright sign in a conspicuous place in compliance with 19.15.16.8 NMAC as the pit and the well are operated by the same operator. The sign will also provide emergency telephone numbers.

### **Fencing**

During drilling or workover operations, the operator will not fence the edge of the pit adjacent to the drilling or workover rig.

As pit is not located within 1000 feet of an occupied residence, school, hospital, institution or church, the operator will fence the pit or the perimeter of the location to exclude livestock with four-wire strands evenly spaced in the interval between one foot and four feet above ground level.

### **Earthwork**

The temporary pit will have a properly constructed foundation and interior slopes consisting of a firm, unyielding base that is smooth and free of rocks, debris, sharp edges or irregularities to prevent the liner's rupture or tear. Rolling the surface to prepare the foundation for placement of the liner is recommended.

The slopes of the pit will be no steeper than two horizontal feet to one vertical foot (2H:1V) unless a variance is requested in the C-144 application and approved by NMOCD. demonstration that the pit can be operated in a safe manner to prevent contamination of fresh water and protect public health and the environment.

19.15.17.11 DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS:  
A. General specifications. An operator shall design and construct a pit, closed-loop system, below-grade tank or sump to contain liquids and solids; prevent contamination of fresh water; and protect public health and the environment.  
B. Stockpiling of topsoil. Prior to constructing a pit, except a pit constructed in an emergency, the operator shall strip and stockpile the topsoil for use as the final cover or fill at the time of closure.

B. Stockpiling of topsoil. Prior to constructing a pit, except a pit constructed in an emergency, the operator shall strip and stockpile the topsoil for use as the final cover or fill at the time of closure.

C. Signs. The operator shall post an upright sign ..., unless the pit or below-grade tank is located on a site where there is an existing well, signed in compliance with 19.15.16.8 NMAC, that is operated by the same operator. ... The sign shall provide the following information: the operator's name; the location of the site by quarter-quarter or unit letter, section, township and range; and emergency telephone numbers

D. Fencing.  
(1) The operator shall fence or enclose a pit ... in a manner that deters unauthorized access and shall maintain the fences in good repair. Fences are not required if there is an adequate surrounding perimeter fence that prevents unauthorized access to the well site or facility, including the pit ... During drilling or workover operations, the operator is not required to fence the edge of the pit adjacent to the drilling or workover rig.  
(2) The operator shall fence or enclose a pit located within 1000 feet of an occupied ...

F. Temporary pits. ....  
(1) The operator shall design and construct a temporary pit to ensure the confinement of liquids to prevent releases.  
(2) A temporary pit shall have a properly constructed foundation and interior slopes consisting of a firm, unyielding base, smooth and free of rocks, debris, sharp edges or irregularities to prevent the liner's rupture or tear. The operator shall construct a temporary pit so that the slopes are no steeper than two horizontal feet to one vertical foot (2H:1V). The appropriate division district office may approve an alternative to the slope requirement ...

**C-144 Supplemental Documentation for Temporary Pit  
Design/Construction**

**Liner Installation**

The geomembrane liner will consist of 20-mil string reinforced LLDPE (see attached specification).

The operator will direct the liner installation contractor to:

1. minimize liner seams and orient them up and down, not across a slope
2. use factory welded seams where possible
3. overlap liners four to six inches and orient seams parallel to the line of maximum slope, i.e., oriented along, not across, the slope, prior to any field seaming
4. minimize the number of welded field seams in comers and irregularly shaped areas
5. utilize only qualified personnel to weld field seams
6. avoid excessive stress-strain on the liner
7. place geotextile under the liner where needed to reduce localized stress-strain or protuberances that may otherwise compromise the liner's integrity
8. anchor the edges of all liners in the bottom of a compacted earth-filled trench that is at least 18 inches deep
9. place additional material (liner, felt, etc.) to ensure that the liner is protected from any fluid force or mechanical damage at any point of discharge into or suction from the lined temporary pit.

A berm or ditch will surround the temporary pit to prevent run-on of surface water. During drilling operations, the operator may elect to remove run-on protection on the pit edge adjacent to the drilling or workover rig provided that the pit is being used to collect liquids escaping from the drilling or workover rig and this additional fluid will not cause a breach of the temporary pit.

The temporary pit will not be used to vent or flare gas and the volume of the temporary drilling pit, including freeboard, will not exceed 10 acre-feet.

(3) The operator shall design and construct a temporary pit with a geomembrane liner. The geomembrane liner shall consist of 20- mil string reinforced .... The geomembrane liner shall be composed of an impervious, synthetic material that is resistant to petroleum hydrocarbons, salts and acidic and alkaline solutions. The liner material shall be resistant to ultraviolet light. Liner compatibility shall comply with EPA SW-846 Method 9090A

(4) The operator shall minimize liner seams and orient them up and down, not across, a slope. ... shall use factory welded seams where possible. Prior to field seaming, ... shall overlap liners four to six inches. ... minimize the number of field seams in corners and irregularly shaped areas. Qualified personnel shall field weld and test liner seams.

(5) Construction shall avoid excessive stress-strain on the liner.

(6) Geotextile is required under the liner where needed to reduce localized stress-strain or protuberances that may otherwise compromise the liner's integrity.

(7) ... anchor the edges of all liners in the bottom of a compacted earth-filled trench. The anchor trench shall be at least 18 inches deep, unless anchoring to encountered bedrock provides equivalent anchoring.

(8) ... ensure that the liner is protected from any fluid force or mechanical damage at any point of discharge into or suction from the lined temporary pit.

(9) The operator shall design and construct a temporary pit to prevent run-on of surface water. A berm, ditch, proper sloping or other diversion shall surround a temporary pit to prevent run-on of surface water. During drilling operations, the edge of the temporary pit adjacent to the drilling or workover rig is not required to have run-on protection if the operator is using the temporary pit to collect liquids escaping from the drilling or workover rig and run-on will not result in a breach of the temporary pit

(10) The volume of a temporary pit shall not exceed 10 acre feet, including freeboard.

## Temporary Pit O&M Protocols and Procedures

The operator will maintain and operate the pit in accordance with the following plan to contain liquids and solids and maintain the integrity of the liner to prevent contamination of fresh water and protect public health and the environment.

If feasible, the operator will recycle, reuse or reclaim all drilling fluids in the temporary pit in a manner approved by division rules that prevents the contamination of fresh water and protects public health and the environment. Re-use of drilling fluids and workover fluids (stimulation flow-back) for drilling and stimulation of subsequent wells is anticipated. If re-use is not possible, fluids will be sent to disposal at a division-approved facility.

The operator will not discharge into or store any hazardous waste in the pit.

If the pit develops a leak or if any penetration of the pit liner occurs above the liquid's surface, then the operator will repair the damage or initiate replacement of the liner within 48 hours of discovery or will seek a variance from the division district office within this time period.

If the pit develops a leak or if any penetration of the pit liner occurs below the liquid's surface, then the operator will remove all liquid above the damage or leak line within 48 hours of discovery. The operator will also notify the district division office (19.15.29 NMAC) within this same 48 hours of the discovery and repair the damage or replace the pit liner.

The operator will ensure that the drilling contractor installs and uses a header, diverter or other hardware that prevents damage to the liner by erosion, fluid jets or impact from installation and removal of hoses or pipes during injection or withdrawal of liquids.

During construction, the operator or qualified contractor will install diversion ditches and berms around the pit as necessary to prevent the collection of surface water run-on. As outlined in the Construction and Design Plan, during drilling operations, the edge of the temporary pit adjacent to the drilling or workover rig may not have run-on protection if the operator is using the temporary pit to collect liquids escaping from the drilling or workover rig and run-on will not result in a breach of the temporary pit.

The operator will maintain on site an oil absorbent boom to contain

### 19.15.17.12 OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

A. General specifications. ....  
(1) The operator shall operate and maintain a pit ... to contain liquids and solids and maintain the integrity of the liner, ..., prevent contamination of fresh water and protect public health and the environment..

(2) The operator shall recycle, reuse, reclaim or dispose of all drilling fluids in a manner consistent with division rules.  
(3) The operator shall not discharge into or store any hazardous waste in a pit, closed-loop system, below-grade tank or sump.

(4) If a pit liner's integrity is compromised above the liquid's surface ... repair the damage or initiate replacement of the liner within 48 hours of discovery or seek a variance ....  
(5) If a pit ... develops a leak, or if any penetration of the pit liner occurs below the liquid's surface, ... remove all liquid above the damage or leak within 48 hours of discovery, notify the appropriate division office pursuant to 19.15.29NMAC and repair the damage or replace the pit liner...

(6) The injection or withdrawal of liquids from a pit shall be accomplished through a header, diverter or other hardware that prevents damage to the liner by erosion, fluid jets or impact from installation and removal of hoses or pipes.

(7) The operator shall operate and install a pit to prevent the collection of surface water run-on.  
(8) The operator shall install, or maintain on site, an oil absorbent boom or other device to contain an unanticipated release.

## C-144 Supplemental Documentation for Temporary Pit Closure Plan

and remove oil from the pit's surface.

The operator will only discharge fluids or mineral solids (including cement) generated or used during the drilling, completion, or workover processes into the pit.

The operator will maintain the temporary pit free of miscellaneous solid waste or debris. Immediately after cessation of drilling or a workover operation, the operator will remove any visible or measurable layer of oil from the surface of the pit.

The operator will maintain at least two feet of freeboard for the temporary pit, except under extenuating circumstances, which will be noted on the pit inspection log as described below.

The operator will inspect the temporary pit containing drilling fluids daily while the drilling rig or workover rig is on site. After the rigs have left the site, the operator will inspect the pit weekly as long as liquids are present in the pit. The operator will maintain a log of the inspections. The operator will make the log available to the division district office upon request.

The operator will remove all free drilling fluids from the surface of the temporary pit within 60 days from the date that the last drilling or workover rig associated with the pit permit is released. The operator will note the date of this release upon Form C-105 or C-103 upon well or workover completion. The operator may request an extension up to two months from the division district office as long as this additional time does not exceed the temporary pit life span (Subsection R of 19.15.17.7 NMAC).

(1) Only fluids or mineral solids generated or used during the drilling, completion or workover process may be discharged into a temporary pit. ... maintain a temporary pit free of miscellaneous solid waste or debris. Immediately after cessation of a drilling or workover operation, the operator shall remove any visible layer of oil from the surface of a drilling or workover pit.

(2) The operator shall maintain at least two feet of freeboard for a temporary pit. For temporary extenuating circumstances ... may maintain a freeboard of less than two feet. In such circumstances the operator shall maintain a log describing such circumstances and make the log available to the division upon request.

(3) ... shall inspect a temporary pit containing drilling fluids at least daily while the drilling or workover rig is on location. Thereafter, the operator shall inspect the temporary pit weekly so long as liquids remain ... The operator shall maintain a log of such inspections and make the log available for the appropriate division district office's review upon request

(4) ... remove all free liquids from the surface of a temporary pit within 60 days from the date that the operator releases the last drilling or workover rig associated with the relevant pit permit. The operator shall note the date of the drilling or workover rig's release on form C-105 or C-103 upon well or workover completion. The appropriate division district office may grant an extension of up to two months, not to exceed temporary pit life span ...

# CLOSURE PLAN

13.

**Proposed Closure:** 19.15.17.13 NMAC

**Instructions:** Please complete the applicable boxes, Boxes 14 through 18, in regards to the proposed closure plan.

Type:  Drilling  Workover  Emergency  Cavitation  P&A  Permanent Pit  Below-grade Tank  Multi-well Fluid Management Pit  
 Alternative

Proposed Closure Method:  Waste Excavation and Removal  
 Waste Removal (Closed-loop systems only)  
 On-site Closure Method (Only for temporary pits and closed-loop systems)  
 In-place Burial  On-site Trench Burial  
 Alternative Closure Method

16.

**On Site Closure Plan Checklist:** (19.15.17.13 NMAC) **Instructions:** Each of the following items must be attached to the closure plan. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

- Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC
- Proof of Surface Owner Notice - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection E of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Construction/Design Plan of Burial Trench (if applicable) based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection K of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Construction/Design Plan of Temporary Pit (for in-place burial of a drying pad) - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC
- Protocols and Procedures - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Confirmation Sampling Plan (if applicable) - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Waste Material Sampling Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number (for liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings or in case on-site closure standards cannot be achieved)
- Soil Cover Design - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC
- Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

## In-Place Closure Plan

The wastes in the temporary pit are destined for in place burial at the permitted location. This plan calls for additional drilling waste from a nearby site on the same lease to be placed in the temporary pit (e.g. placed in the drilling or fluids cells of the temporary pit). The C-144 Form include the name of the nearby well(s). A notice to OCD as well as the closure report will identify the date that the drilling or workover rig moved from the temporary pit, an affirmation that the temporary pit will be closed in conformance with the mandates of the Rule, including the mandated lifetime of the pit.

The operator will not begin closure operations without approval of the closure plan submitted with the permit application.

### **Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstration**

Compliance with siting criteria is described in the site-specific information appended to the C-144.

### **Construction/Design Plan of Temporary Pit**

The design and construction protocols for the temporary pit are provided in the design and construction plan and in Plate 1.

### **Pre-Closure Fluid Removal**

- All free liquids from the pit will be recycled or disposed in a manner consistent with OCD Rules.
- Residual free drilling or workover liquids will be removed from the pit within 60 days of release of the last drilling or workover rig associated with the relevant pit permit.

### **Waste Material Sampling Plan**

Stabilization of solids in the temporary pit may be required. Specifically

- The residual drilling mud and cuttings will be stabilized to a capacity sufficient to support the 4-foot thick soil cover.
- The residual pit solids will not be mixed at a ratio greater than 1 part pit solids to 3 parts dry earth material (e.g. subsoil).
- The pit will not be closed until the stabilized pit contents pass the paint filter liquids test.

Stabilization prior to sampling is imprudent as mixing clean material with drilling solids that cannot meet the criteria of Table II increases the material be sent to an off-site facility. Therefore, prior to stabilization, the residual solids in the temporary pit will be sampled in the manner described below:

19.15.17.13 CLOSURE AND SITE RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS:  
A. Closure plans. A closure plan ... shall describe the proposed closure method and the proposed procedures and protocols to implement and complete the closure.

**19.15.17.13.D.** Closure where wastes are destined for burial in place or into nearby division approved pits ... This subsection applies to waste from temporary pits and closed-loop systems, when such waste may be disposed of in place in the existing temporary pit or disposed of at a nearby temporary pit .... A nearby temporary pit or burial trench that receives waste from another temporary pit must be onsite within the same lease.  
(1) The operator shall not commence closure without first obtaining approval of the closure plan submitted with the permit application.

(2) The operator shall demonstrate and comply with the siting criteria set forth in Subsection C of 19.15.17.10 NMAC.

(3) Prior to closure the operator shall remove all free liquids reasonably achievable from the pit or drying pad and tank associated with a closed-loop system and dispose of such liquids at a division approved facility.

(4) ... the operator shall stabilize or solidify the remaining temporary pit contents to a capacity sufficient to support the final cover of the temporary pit. ... The operator shall not mix the contents with soil or other material at a mixing ratio of greater than 3:1, soil or other material to contents. The waste mixture must pass the paint filter liquids test (EPA SW-846, Method 9095 or other test methods approved by the division).

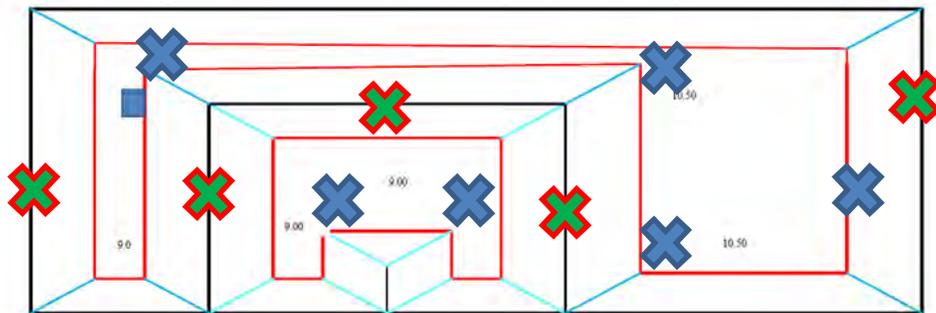
(5) The operator shall collect, at a minimum, a five point composite of the contents of the temporary pit ... to demonstrate that, after the waste is solidified or stabilized with soil or other non-waste material at a ratio of no more than 3:1 soil or other non-waste material to waste, the concentration of any contaminant in the stabilized waste is not higher than the parameters listed in Table II of 19.15.17.13 ...

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1. We obtain four (4) discrete samples from outer horseshoe of the pit and two (2) from the inner horseshoe (see image below).
2. The samples are taken with a core sampler or with excavation equipment with protection to prevent puncture of the pit liner.
3. We record the thickness of the sampled interval of each sample
4. A 5-point composite sample of the earth material beneath the exposed liner of the pit is also obtained by hand shovel.
5. Each of the seven samples (six samples of cuttings and one of the “mixing dirt”) is evaluated by a laboratory for the parameters listed in Table II.
6. We use the thickness of each discrete sample to calculate a weighted average of the Table II constituents for the cuttings in the outer horseshoe and the cuttings of the inner horseshoe.
7. Using the bit diameter and length of the boring that generated the cuttings deposited in each cell (horseshoe) of the drilling pit, we calculate a weighted average of the Table II constituents for the cuttings in the pit.
8. We then calculate a weighted average of 3 parts non-waste material (the clean material sampled from below the pit liner) and the weighted average of the cuttings in the pit to determine compliance with Table II.

(6) If, after appropriate stabilization, the concentrations of all contaminants in the contents from a temporary pit ... are less than or equal to the parameters of listed in Table II of 19.15.17.13 NMAC, ... may either proceed to dispose of wastes in an existing temporary ....

(7) If the concentration of any contaminant in the contents, after mixing with soil or non-waste material to a maximum ratio of 3:1, from a temporary pit ... is higher than constituent concentrations shown in Table II of 19.15.17.13 NMAC, then closure must proceed in accordance with Subsection C of 19.15.17.13.



*Image shows typical discrete pit sample locations (blue X) and the sub-sample locations for the “mixing dirt” (green X) composite sample to determine compliance with Table II.*

In-place burial is the selected on-site disposal alternative.

If a concentration of a contaminant within the material mixed at a ratio not exceeding 3:1 is higher than the concentration given in Table II, closure will proceed in accordance with Subsection D of 19.15.17.13 NMAC.

In the event that on-site closure standards cannot be achieved, the operator will remove the solid pit contents and transfer to the following **division-approved disposal facility**, specifically:

R360 or Sundance Services

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### Closure Notice

The operator will notify the surface owner by certified mail, return receipt requested, that the operator plans closure operations at least 72 hours, but not more than one week, prior to any closure operation. The notice will include the well name, API number, and location. Notification of the State Land Office or BLM as surface owner's representatives will be accomplished via email if a variance is granted by OCD.

After approval for in-place burial, the operator shall notify the district office verbally and in writing at least 72 hours but not more than one week before any closure operation. Notice will include the operator's name and the location of the temporary pit. The location will include unit letter, section number, township and range. If the location is associated with a well, then the well's name, number and API number will be included.

Should onsite burial be on private land, the operator will file a deed notice including exact location of the burial with the county clerk of the county where the onsite burial is located.

### Protocols and Procedures for Earthwork

Stabilization of the residual cuttings and mud is accomplished by mixing dry earth material obtained from within the temporary pit footprint. The dry material beneath the liner is the primary "mixing dirt" employed for stabilization. After stabilization the operator or qualified contractor will:

- Use a geomembrane cover made of 20-mil string reinforced LLDPE liner
- Place the geomembrane cover over the sloping surface of the stabilized waste material. It will be placed in a manner so as to prevent infiltration of water and so that infiltrated water does not collect and form a water-saturated layer on the geomembrane cover after the upper soil cover has been placed.

### Soil Cover Design

Over the sloping, stabilized material and liner, place the **Soil Cover** of:

- at least 3-feet of compacted, uncontaminated, non-waste containing earthen fill with chloride concentrations less than 600 mg/kg as analyzed by EPA Method 300.0 (or an alternative method subject to a variance request).
- either the background thickness of topsoil or one foot of suitable material to establish vegetation at the site, whichever is greater,

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19.15.17.1 E.Closure notice.

(1) The operator shall notify the surface owner by certified mail, return receipt requested that the operator plans closure operations at least 72 hours, but not more than one week, prior to any closure operation. Notice shall include well name, API number and location. ...

(2) The operator of a temporary pit... who is approved for onsite closure shall notify the appropriate division district office verbally and in writing at least 72 hours, but not more than one week, prior to any closure operation. The notice shall include the operator's name and the location to be closed by unit letter, section, township and range. If the closure is associated with a particular well, then the notice shall also include the well's name, number and API number.

(4) When onsite burial occurs on private land, the operator shall file a deed notice identifying the exact location of the onsite burial with the county clerk in the county where the onsite burial occurs.

19.15.17.13.D (8) Upon achieving all applicable waste stabilization in the temporary pit ... the operator shall:

(b) install a geomembrane cover over the waste material in the ... temporary pit; the operator shall install the geomembrane cover in a manner that prevents the collection of infiltration water in the ... temporary pit and on the geomembrane cover after the soil cover is in place; the geomembrane cover shall consist of a 20-mil string reinforced LLDPE liner or equivalent cover that the appropriate division district office approves; the geomembrane cover shall be composed of an impervious, synthetic material that is resistant to petroleum hydrocarbons, salts and acidic and alkaline solutions; cover compatibility shall comply with EPA SW-846 Method 9090A;

(c) cover the pit/trench with non-waste containing, uncontaminated, earthen materials and construct a soil cover prescribed by the division in Paragraph (3) of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

19.15.17.13.H(3) Soil cover designs for reclamation of pit locations and onsite burial locations. The soil cover for burial in -place burial shall consist of a minimum of four feet of non-waste containing, uncontaminated, earthen material with chloride concentrations less than 600 mg/kg as analyzed by EPA Method 300.0. The soil cover shall include either the background thickness of topsoil or one foot of suitable material to establish vegetation at the site, whichever is greater.

(4) The operator shall construct the soil cover to the site's existing grade and prevent ponding of water and erosion of the cover material

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over the 3-foot earth material.

- Contour the cover to blend with the surrounding topography to prevent erosion of the cover and prevent ponding over the cover.

### Closure Report

Within 60 days of closure completion, the operator will submit a

- i. closure report on form C-144, with necessary attachments
- ii. a certification that all information in the report and attachments is correct, that the operator has complied with all applicable closure requirements and conditions specified in the approved closure plan
- iii. a plat of the pit location on form C-105. If burial includes solids derived from a nearby well on the same lease, the report will list the name, API # and location of the well(s) from which the solids originated

Unless the permit transmittal letter requests an alternative marker to comply with surface landowner specifications, the operator will place at the center of an onsite burial a steel marker that

- is not less than four inches in diameter
- is placed at the bottom of a three-foot deep hole (minimum) that is filled with cement to secure the marker
- is at least four feet above mean ground level
- permanently displays the operator name, lease name, well number, unit letter, section, township and range in welded or stamped legible letters/numbers

### Timing of Closure

The operator will close the temporary pit within 6 months from the date the drilling rig was released from the first well using the pit. This date will be noted on form C-105 or C-103 filed with the division upon the well's completion (or re-completion in the case of a workover).

### Reclamation and Re-vegetation Plan

In addition to the area of the in-place burial, the operator will reclaim the surface impacted by the temporary pit, including access roads associated with the pit, to a safe and stable condition that blends with the surrounding undisturbed area including areas not reclaimed as described herein due to their use in production or drilling operations will be stabilized and maintained to minimize dust and erosion. This includes the area of the temporary pit if a transmittal letter to OCD proposes an alternative to the re-vegetation or recontouring requirement with

- a demonstration that the proposed alternative provides equal or better prevention of erosion, and protection of fresh water, public health and the environment
- written documentation that the alternative is agreed upon by

#### 19.15.17.13 F. Closure report and burial identification.

(1) Within 60 days of closure completion, the operator shall submit a closure report on form C-144, with necessary attachments to document all closure activities including sampling results; information required by 19.15.17 NMAC; and details on back-filling, capping and covering, where applicable. ... If the operator used a temporary pit, the operator shall provide a plat of the pit location on form C-105 within 60 days of closing the temporary pit.

(2) If the operator elects to conduct onsite burial under Subsection D of 19.15.17.13 NMAC, ... shall report the exact location of the onsite burial on form C-105 filed with the division.

(3) The operator shall place a steel marker at the center of an onsite burial. The steel marker shall be not less than four inches in diameter and shall be cemented in a three-foot deep hole at a minimum. The steel marker shall extend at least four feet above mean ground level and at least three feet below ground level. The operator name, lease name and well number and location, including unit letter, section, township and range, and that the marker designates an onsite burial location shall be welded, stamped or otherwise permanently engraved into the metal of the steel marker. ...

19.15.17.13.G (2) An operator shall close a permitted temporary pit within six months from the date that the operator releases the drilling or workover rig. The operator shall note the date of the drilling or workover rig's release on form C-105 or C-103, filed with the division, upon the well's or work-over's completion.

#### 19.15.17.13. H. Reclamation of pit locations, onsite burial locations....

(1) Site contouring.

(a) Once the operator has closed a pit ... the operator shall reclaim the pit location... and all areas associated with the ... pit... to a safe and stable condition that blends with the surrounding undisturbed area... substantially restore the impacted surface area to the condition that existed prior to oil and gas operations by placement of the soil cover ..., recontour the location and associated areas to a contour that approximates the original contour and blends with the surrounding topography and re - vegetate according to Paragraph (5) in Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC.

(b) The operator may propose an alternative to the re -vegetation or recontouring ... demonstrates to the appropriate district office that the proposed alternative provides equal or better prevention of erosion, and protection of fresh water, public health and the environment. The proposed alternative shall be agreed upon by the surface owner. The operator shall submit the proposed alternative, with written documentation that the surface owner agrees to the alternative, ...

(c) Areas reasonably needed for production operations or for subsequent drilling operations shall be compacted, covered, paved, or otherwise stabilized and maintained in such a way as to minimize dust and erosion to the extent practicable.

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the surface owner.

As stated above, the soil cover for burial in-place

- A. consists of a minimum of three feet of non-waste containing, uncontaminated, earthen material with chloride concentrations less than 600 mg/kg (or background concentration) as analyzed by EPA Method 300.0 placed over the liner and stabilized solids
- B. is capped by the background thickness of topsoil or 1-foot of suitable material to establish vegetation, whichever is greater
- C. blends into surrounding topography
- D. is graded to prevent ponding and to minimize erosion

For all areas disturbed by the closure process that will not be used for production operations or future drilling, the operator will:

- i. Replace topsoil and subsoil to their original relative positions
- ii. Grade so as to achieve erosion control, long-term stability and preservation of surface water flow patterns
- iii. Reseed in the first favorable growing season following closure

The operator will notify the division when the site meets the surface owner's requirements or exhibits a uniform vegetative cover that reflects a life-form ratio of plus or minus fifty percent (50%) of pre-disturbance levels and a total percent plant cover of at least seventy percent (70%) of pre-disturbance levels, excluding noxious weeds.

Re-vegetation and reclamation plans imposed by the surface owner will be outlined in communications with the OCD.

The operator will notify the division when the surface grading work element of reclamation is complete

19.15.17.13. **H. (3)** Soil cover designs for reclamation of pit locations and onsite burial locations. The soil cover for burial in -place or trench burial shall consist of a minimum of four feet of non-waste containing, uncontaminated, earthen material with chloride concentrations less than 600 mg/kg as analyzed by EPA Method 300.0. The soil cover shall include either the background thickness of topsoil or one foot of suitable material to establish vegetation at the site, whichever is greater.  
**(4)** The operator shall construct the soil cover to the site's existing grade and prevent ponding of water and erosion of the cover material.

19.15.17.13. **H. 5 (a)** Reclamation of areas no longer in use. All areas disturbed by the closure of pits and below-grade tanks, except areas reasonably needed for production operations or for subsequent drilling operations, shall be reclaimed as early and as nearly as practicable to their original condition or their final land use and shall be maintained to control dust and minimize erosion to the extent practicable.  
**(b)** Topsoils and subsoils shall be replaced to their original relative positions and contoured so as to achieve erosion control, long -term stability and preservation of surface water flow patterns. The disturbed area then shall be reseeded in the first favorable growing season following closure of a pit, ....

19.15.17.13. **H. 5.(c)** Reclamation of all disturbed areas no longer in use shall be considered complete when all ground surface disturbing activities at the site have been completed, and a uniform vegetative cover has been established that reflects a life-form ratio of plus or minus fifty percent (50%) of pre-disturbance levels and a total percent plant cover of at least seventy percent (70%) of pre-disturbance levels, excluding noxious weeds

19.15.17.13. **H. 5(d)** Other regulatory requirements. The re -vegetation and reclamation obligations imposed by other applicable federal or tribal agencies on lands managed by those agencies shall supersede these provisions and govern the obligations of any operator subject to those provisions, provided that the other requirements provide equal or better protection of fresh water, human health and the environment.  
**(e)** The operator shall notify the division when reclamation and re -vegetation are complete