

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Roswell Field Office
2909 West Second Street
Roswell, New Mexico 88201
(575) 627-0272

Permanent Abandonment of Federal Wells
Conditions of Approval

Failure to comply with the following Conditions of Approval may result in a Notice of Incidents of Noncompliance (INC) in accordance with 43 CFR 3163.1.

1. **Plugging operations** shall commence within **ninety (90)** days from the approval date of this Notice of Intent to Abandon. **If you are unable to plug the well by the 90th day provide the BLM Roswell Field Office (RFO), prior to the 90th day, with the reason for not meeting the deadline and a date when the BLM Roswell Field Office can expect the well to be plugged. Failure to do so will result in enforcement action. Unless the well has been properly plugged, the rig shall not be removed from over the hole without prior approval.**
 2. **Notification:** Contact the BLM Roswell Field Office at least 24 hours prior to the commencing of any plugging operations. For wells in Chaves and Roosevelt County, during office hours or after office hours call (575) 627-0205. Engineer on call during office hours phone (575) 627-0275 or phone (after hours) call (575) 626-5749.
 3. **Blowout Preventers:** A blowout preventer (BOP), as appropriate, shall be installed before commencing any plugging operation. The minimum BOP requirement is a 2M system for a well not deeper than 9090 feet; a 3M system for a well not deeper than 13636 feet; and a 5M system for a well not deeper than 22727 feet.
 4. **Mud Requirement:** Mud shall be placed between all plugs. Minimum consistency of plugging mud shall be obtained by mixing at a rate of 25 sacks (50 pounds each) of gel per 100 barrels of water. Minimum nine (9) pounds per gallon.
 5. **Cement Requirement:** Sufficient cement shall be used to bring any required plug to the specified depth and length. Any given cement volumes on the proposed plugging procedure are merely estimates and not final. Unless specific approval is received, no plug except the surface plug shall be less than 25 sacks of cement. In lieu of a cement plug in cased hole, a bridge plug set within 50 feet to 100 feet above the perforations shall be capped with 50 feet of cement. If a bailer is used to cap this plug, 35 feet of cement shall be sufficient.
- Unless otherwise specified in the approved procedure, the cement plug shall consist of either class "C" for up to 7500 feet of depth, mixed at 14.8 lbs./gal with 6.3 gallons of fresh water per sack or class "H" for deeper than 7500 feet plugs, mixed at 16.4 lbs./gal with 4.3 gallons of fresh water per sack.
6. **Dry Hole Marker:** All casing shall be cut-off at the base of the cellar or 3 feet below final restored ground level (whichever is deeper). The well bore shall then be capped with a 4-inch pipe, 10 feet in length, 4 feet above the ground and embedded in cement. The following information shall be permanently inscribed on the dry hole marker: Well name and number, the name of the operator, the lease serial number, the surveyed location (the quarter-quarter section, section, township and range or other authorized survey designation acceptable to the authorized officer; such as metes and bounds).
 7. **Subsequent Plugging Reporting:** Within 30 days after plugging work is completed, file one original and five copies of the Subsequent Report of Abandonment, Form 3160-5 to the BLM Roswell Field Office. The report should give in detail the manner in which the plugging work was carried out, the extent (by depths) of cement plugs placed, and the size and location (by depths) of casing left in the well. **Show date well was plugged.**

Following the submittal and approval of the Subsequent Report of Abandonment, a Notice of Intent for Final Abandonment with the proposed surface restoration procedure must be submitted for approval.