District I
1625 N French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240
District II
1301 W. Grand Avenue, 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

For temporary pits, closed-loop systems, and below-grade tanks, submit to the appropriate NMOCD District Office.

For permanent pits and exceptions submit to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office and provide a copy to the appropriate NMOCD

1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 8/303	Santa Fe, NM 87505	District Office.
Pit, Closed	d-Loop System, Below-Gra	ade Tank, or
· (	ve Method Permit or Clos	
Closure of a Modification	pit, closed-loop system, below-grade to an existing permit only submitted for an existing permi	tank, or proposed alternative method tank, or proposed alternative method itted or non-permitted pit, closed-loop system,
Instructions: Please submit one application (F	Form C-144) per individual pit, closed-lo	op system, below-grade tank or alternative request
Please be advised that approval of this request does not relieven vironment. Nor does approval relieve the operator of its re		result in pollution of surface water, ground water or the cable governmental authority's rules, regulations or ordinances.
Operator: Elm Ridge Exploration	00	GRID #: 149052
Address: P.O. Box 156; Bloomfield, NM 87413		
Facility or well name: <u>Candado 22</u>		
API Number: <u>3003921739</u>	OCD Permit Number: _N	Not Applicable
U/L or Qtr/Qtr <u>L</u> Section <u>4</u> Township	<u> 26N</u> Range <u>7W</u>	County: Rio Arriba
Center of Proposed Design: Latitude 36.512775	Longitude107.585472 NA	D: □1927 ⊠ 1983
Surface Owner:   Federal □ State □ Private □ Triba	al Trust or Indian Allotment	
☐ Pit:       Subsection F or G of 19.15.17.11 NMAC         Temporary:       ☐ Drilling       ☐ Workover         ☐ Permanent       ☐ Emergency       ☐ Cavitation       ☐ P&A         ☐ Lined       ☐ Unlined       Liner type: Thickness       ☐         ☐ String-Reinforced       ☐       Liner Seams:       ☐ Welded       ☐ Factory       ☐ Other		
3.  Closed-loop System: Subsection H of 19.15.17.11  Type of Operation: P&A Drilling a new well intent)  Drying Pad Above Ground Steel Tanks Ha  Lined Unlined Liner type: Thickness  Liner Seams: Welded Factory Other	Workover or Drilling (Applies to activi ul-off Bins	\(\sigma^2 \) \(
4.    Below-grade tank: Subsection I of 19.15.17.11 No.	sible sidewalls, liner, 6-inch lift and autorally \( \square\) Other	matic overflow shut-off
Alternative Method:		

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

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)	поѕриш,		
Four foot height, four strands of barbed wire evenly spaced between one and four feet  Alternate Please specify 4 foot tall hogwire fencing			
7. Test an negwie teiteing			
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)			
8. 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 19.15.3.103 NMAC			
9.  Administrative Approvals 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:  Administrative approval(s): Requests must be submitted to the appropriate division district or the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau	office for		
consideration of approval.  Exception(s): Requests must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval.			
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. Requests regarding changes to certain siting criteria may require administrative approval from the appropriate district office or may be considered an exception which must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval.  Applicant must attach justification for request. Please refer to 19.15.17.10 NMAC for guidance. Siting criteria does not apply to drying pads or above-grade tanks associated with a closed-loop system.			
Ground water is less than 50 feet below the bottom of the temporary pit, permanent pit, or below-grade tank.  Attached C-144 report from March 2006 indicates that the NMOCD accepted depth to groundwater is over 100 feet at this site.	☐ Yes ☑ No		
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).0  The nearest watercourse is 2,837.2 ft. south per attached topographic map.	☐ Yes ☑ No		
Within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application.  The attached aerial illustrates a distance of approximately 1,300 feet to the north-south and 1,900 feet to the east-west from the well site.	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ NA		
Within 1000 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existence at the time of initial application. (Applies to permanent pits)	☐ Yes ☐ No		
- Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo, Satellite image	⊠ NA		
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 1000 horizontal feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in existence at the time of initial application.  The nearest well is 4,173 ft. southeast.	☐ Yes ☑ No		
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.  The site is not within incorporated municipal boundaries according to the attached topographical map.	☐ Yes ☑ No		
Within 500 feet of a wetland.  The USFWS data file, Wetlands Data.kmz, dated July 2, 2008, was opened using Google Earth. The nearest wetlands are 1,216 ft. south.	☐ Yes ☑ No		
Within the area overlying a subsurface mine.  The NM EMNRD web map was reviewed and attached. The map indicates the well site is not within an area overlying a subsurface mine	☐ Yes ☑ No		
Within an unstable area Attached topographical map indicates the well site is not within an unstable area.	☐ Yes ☑ No		
Within a 100-year floodplain.  Attached FEMA Map indicates the well site is not within a 100 year flood plain.	☐ Yes ☑ No		

Form C-144

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.
<ul> <li>☐ Hydrogeologic Report (Below-grade Tanks) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (4) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC</li> <li>☐ Hydrogeologic Data (Temporary and Emergency Pits) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (2) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC</li> <li>☐ Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.10 NMAC</li> <li>☐ Design Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC</li> </ul>
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:
12.  Closed-loop Systems 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.
Geologic and Hydrogeologic Data (only for on-site closure) - based upon the requirements of Paragraph (3) of Subsection B of 19.15.17.9  Siting Criteria Compliance Demonstrations (only for on-site closure) - 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:
Previously Approved Operating and Maintenance Plan API Number: (Applies only to closed-loop system that use
above ground steel tanks or haul-off bins and propose to implement waste removal for closure)
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
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 Closed-loop System 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 (Exceptions must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau for consideration)
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 F of 19.15.17.13 NMAC  Disposal Facility Name and Permit Number (for liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings)  Soil Backfill and Court Posity Specifications, based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection II of 10.15.17.13 NMAC
<ul> <li>☐ Soil Backfill and Cover Design Specifications - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> <li>☐ Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> <li>☐ Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection G of 19.15.17.13 NMAC</li> </ul>

Waste Removal Closure For Closed-loop Systems That Utilize Above Ground Steel Tai Instructions: Please indentify the facility or facilities for the disposal of liquids, drilling fl	aks or Haul-off Bins Only: (19.15.17.13.D luids and drill cuttings. Use attachment if n	NMAC) nore than two			
facilities are required.	Facility Daniel Number				
Disposal Facility Name: Disposal Facility Permit Number:					
	Facility Permit Number:				
Will any of the proposed closed-loop system operations and associated activities occur on or  ☐ Yes (If yes, please provide the information below) ☐ No	in areas that will not be used for future serv	ice and operations?			
Required for impacted areas which will not be used for future service and operations:  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 G of 19.15.17.13 NMAC  Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection G of 19.15.17.13 NMAC					
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 may require administrative approval from the appropriate district office or may be considered an exception which must be submitted to the Santa Fe Environmental Bureau office for consideration of approval. Justifications and/or demonstrations of equivalency are required. Please refer to 19.15.17.10 NMAC for guidance.					
Ground water is less than 50 feet below the bottom of the buried waste.  - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained	d from nearby wells	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA			
Ground water is between 50 and 100 feet below the bottom of the buried waste - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained	d from nearby wells	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA			
Ground water is more than 100 feet below the bottom of the buried waste.  - NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database search; USGS; Data obtained	d from nearby wells	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA			
Within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse, or 200 feet of any other significant value (measured from the ordinary high-water mark).  - Topographic map; Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site	vatercourse or lakebed, sinkhole, or playa	Yes No			
Within 300 feet from a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church in existe  - Visual inspection (certification) of the proposed site; Aerial photo; Satellite image	nce at the time of initial application.	☐ Yes ☐ No			
Within 500 horizontal feet of a private, domestic fresh water well or spring that less than five watering purposes, or within 1000 horizontal feet of any other fresh water well or spring, in NM Office of the State Engineer - iWATERS database; Visual inspection (certificat	existence at the time of initial application.	Yes No			
Within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field adopted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 3-27-3, as amended.  - Written confirmation or verification from the municipality; Written approval obtained		Yes No			
Within 500 feet of a wetland.  - US Fish and Wildlife Wetland Identification map; Topographic map; Visual inspect	ion (certification) of the proposed site	☐ 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 & Mine Society; Topographic map	eral Resources; USGS; NM Geological	☐ Yes ☐ No			
Within a 100-year floodplain FEMA map		☐ Yes ☐ No			
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 F of 19.15.17.13 NMAC  Construction/Design Plan of Burial Trench (if applicable) based upon the appropriate requirements 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 19.15.17.13 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 Subsection F of 19.15.17.13 NMAC  Waste Material Sampling Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection F 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 I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC  Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC					

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): Ms. Amy Mackey Title: Production Technician					
Signature:					
e-mail address: amackey@elmridge.net Telephone: 632-3476 x 201					
OCD Approval: Permit Application (including closure plan) Closure Plan (only) OCD Conditions (see attachment)  OCD Representative Signature:  Approval Date: 4242222  Title: OCD Permit Number:					
Closure Report (required within 60 days of closure completion): Subsection K of 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:					
22.  Closure Method:  Waste Excavation and Removal ☐ On-Site Closure Method ☐ Alternative Closure Method ☐ Waste Removal (Closed-loop systems on ☐ If different from approved plan, please explain.	y)				
Closure Report Regarding Waste Removal Closure For Closed-loop Systems That Utilize Above Ground Steel Tanks or Haul-off Bins Only: Instructions: Please indentify the facility or facilities for where the liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings were disposed. Use attachment if more than two facilities were utilized.					
Disposal Facility Name: Disposal Facility Permit Number:					
Disposal Facility Name: Disposal Facility Permit Number:					
Yes (If yes, please demonstrate compliance to the items below) No					
Required for impacted areas which will not be used for future service and operations:  Site Reclamation (Photo Documentation) Soil Backfilling and Cover Installation Re-vegetation Application Rates and Seeding Technique					
24.  Closure Report Attachment Checklist: Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the closure report. Please indicate, by a chemark 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)  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	eck				
25.					
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:	_				
a mail address: Telephone:					

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## State of New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources

Oil Conservation Division 1220 South St. Francis Dr. Santa Fe, NM 87505 For drilling and production facilities, submit to appropriate NMOCD District Office.
For downstream facilities, submit to Santa Feoffice.

Form C-144

June 1, 2004

Pit or Below-Grade Tank Registration or Closure
Is pit or below-grade tank covered by a "general plan"? Yes No

Type of action: Registration of a pit of	or below-grade tank 🔲 Closure of a pit or below-grade	ie tank 🛭 💢 🦒 🗎 🖟 🖟		
Operator:         Elm Ridge Resources         Telephone:         (505) 632-347           Address:         #20 CR 5060, Bloomfield, New Mexico, 87413           Facility or well name:         Candado No. 22         API #: 3003921           County:         Rio Arriba         Latitude         36.512800		SN R WAR 2008		
Surface Owner: Federal State Private Indian	,	A STORY		
Pit  Type: Drilling ☐ Production ☒ Disposal ☐  Workover ☐ Emergency ☐  Lined ☐ Unlined ☒  Liner type: Synthetic ☐ Thicknessmil Clay ☐  Pit Volumebbl	Below-grade tank  Volume:bbl Type of fluid:  Construction material:  Double-walled, with leak detection? Yes  If not	explain why not		
Depth to ground water (vertical distance from bottom of pit to seasonal	Less than 50 feet	(20 points)		
high water elevation of ground water.)	50 feet or more, but less than 100 feet	(10 points)		
ingi water elevation of ground water.)	100 feet or more	( 0 points) 0		
Wellhead protection area. (Less than 200 feet from a private domestic water source, or less than 1000 feet from all other water sources.)	Yes No	(20 points) ( 0 points) 0		
Distance to surface water: (horizontal distance to all wetlands, playas, irrigation canals, ditches, and perennial and ephemeral watercourses.)	Less than 200 feet 200 feet or more, but less than 1000 feet 1000 feet or more	(20 points) (10 points) ( 0 points) 0		
	Ranking Score (Total Points)	0		
If this is a pit closure: (1) Attach a diagram of the facility showing the pit's relationship to other equipment and tanks. (2) Indicate disposal location: (check the onsite box if your are burying in place) onsite offsite. If offsite, name of facility Envirotech Landfarm #2 . (3) Attach a general description of remedial action taken including remediation start date and end date. (4) Groundwater encountered: No 🗵 Yes If yes, show depth below ground surface ft. and attach sample results (5) Attach soil sample results and a diagram of sample locations and excavations.  Additional Comments:  Approximately 10 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated and transported to Envirotech's NMED permitted landfarm				
I hereby certify that the information above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further certify that the above-described pit or below-grade tank has been/will be constructed or closed according to NMOCD guidelines , a general permit or an (attached/alternative OCD-approved plan  Date: 3-9-66  Printed Name/Title Ms. Amy Mackey, Production Technician Signature August Signature of liability should the contents of the pit or tank contaminate ground water or otherwise endanger public health or the environment. Nor does it relieve the operator of its responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.				
Approval:  Approval:  Date: MAR 1 6 2005				

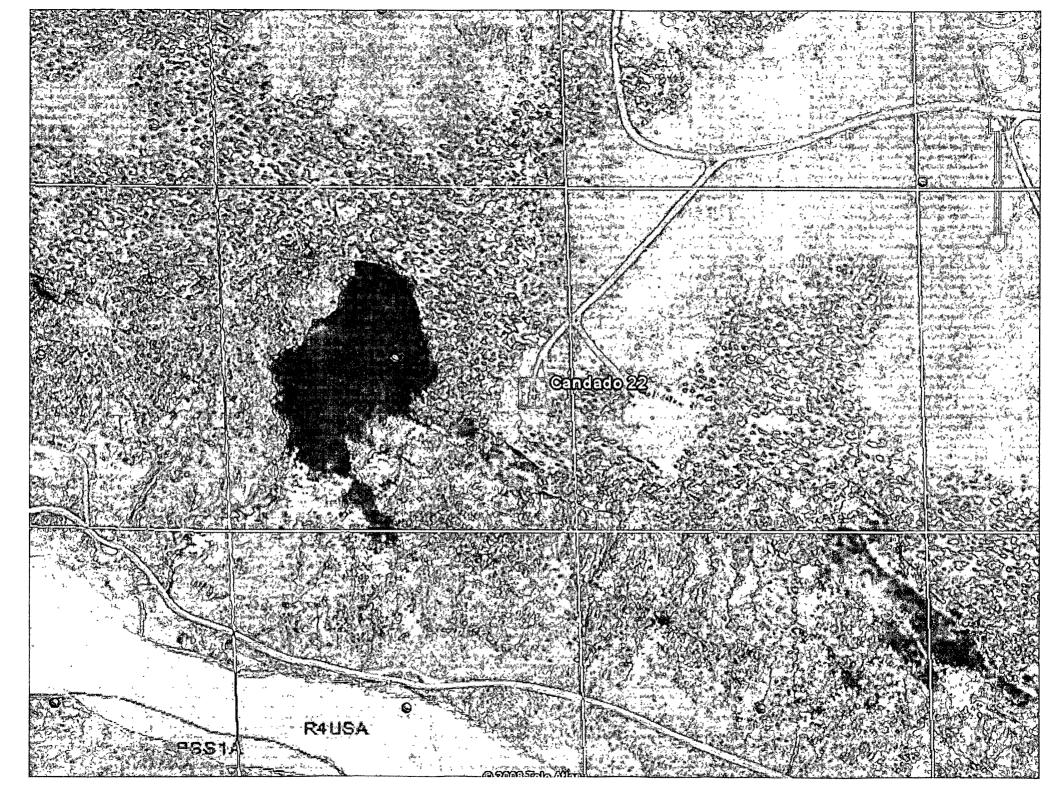
#### New Mexico Office of the State Engineer POD Reports and Downloads

Township: 2614 Range: 07W Sections: 3,4,9,10 NAD27 X: Y: Zone: Search Radius: County: Basin: Number: Suffix: Owner Name: (First) (Last) \* Non-Domestic \* Domestic \* All POD / Surface Data Report | Avg Depth to Water Report | Water Column Report Clear Form | iWATERS Menu | Help |

POD / SURFACE DATA REPORT 10/07/2008

(quarters are 1=BW 2=BW 3=SW 4=SE) (quarters are biggest to smallest X Y are in Feet Yes Rng Sec q q Zone X 26% 07W 09 2 2 3 (acre ft per annum) UTM are in Meters) Depth Depth (in feet) Well Water Finish UTM lone Easting Northing Date Use Diversion Owner
STK 3 RICHARD BOYD POD Number SJ 02419 SJ 02419

Record Count: 1



### BELOW GRADE TANK (BGT) CLOSURE PLAN

#### **SITE NAME:**

CANDADO #22
UNIT LETTER L, SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 26N, RANGE 7W
RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
LATITUDE 36.512775 LONGITUDE -107.585472

#### **SUBMITTED TO:**

MR. WAYNE PRICE
NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
1220 SOUTH ST. FRANCIS DR.
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87505
(505) 476-3440

#### SUBMITTED BY:

Ms. Amy Mackey
ELM RIDGE EXPLORATION
P.O. Box 156
BLOOMFIELD, NEW MEXICO 87413
(505) 632-3476

**OCTOBER 2008** 

# BELOW GRADE TANK (BGT) CLOSURE PLAN ELM RIDGE EXPLORATION CANDADO #22 RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

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#### **Introduction**

Elm Ridge Exploration would like to submit a closure plan for the below grade tank (BGT) at the Candado #22 well site located in the NW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 4, Township 26N, Range 07W, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. This closure plan has been prepared in conformance with New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD) procedures.

#### **SCOPE OF CLOSURE ACTIVITIES**

The purpose of this closure plan is to provide the details of activities involved in the closure of the BGT at the Candado #22 well site. The following scope of closure activities has been designed to meet this objective:

- 1) Elm Ridge Exploration or a contractor acting on behalf of Elm Ridge Exploration shall submit a closure plan to the division's environmental bureau. Upon receipt of this plan the division shall review the current closure plan for adequacy and accordance with 19.15.17.9 Subsection C NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC.
- 2) No less than 72 hours and no greater than one (1) week prior to BGT removal Elm Ridge Exploration or a contractor acting on behalf of Elm Ridge Exploration will provide written notification to the appropriate division district office as well as a schedule of on-site activities, as in accordance with 19.15.17.13 Subsection J Paragraph (2) NMAC.
- 3) Elm Ridge Exploration or a contractor acting on behalf of Elm Ridge Exploration shall provide written notification to the surface owner no later than 72 hours prior to BGT removal by certified mail. BLM will receive notification per a Sundry Notice, as in accordance with 19.15.17.13 Subsection J Paragraph (1) NMAC.
- 4) Elm Ridge Exploration or a contractor acting on behalf of Elm Ridge Exploration will remove all liquids, and/or sludge, if applicable, prior to closure. Material will be disposed of at Envirotech's Landfarm #2, Permit # NM-01-0011 or Basin Disposal, depending on the consistence of the material removed, as in accordance with 19.15.17.13 Subsection E Paragraph (1) NMAC.
- 5) Elm Ridge Exploration or a contractor acting on behalf of Elm Ridge Exploration will remove the BGT and all on-site equipment associated with this BGT that cannot or will not be reused on-site, as in accordance with 19.15.17.13 Subsection E Paragraphs (2) and (3) NMAC.
- 6) Once the BGT is removed a five (5) point composite sample will be collected from directly below the tank or below the leak detection system if present. An additional discrete sample will be collected from any area that is wet, discolored, or showing other evidence of a release. All samples being collected will be analyzed for benzene and total BTEX via USEPA Method 8021, TPH via USEPA Method 418.1, and chlorides via USEPA 300.1, as in accordance with 19.15.17.13 Subsection E Paragraph (4) NMAC.
- 7) Depending on soil sample results the area will be either backfilled or the area will be excavated.
  - a. If soil samples pass the regulatory standards of 0.2 ppm benzene, 50 ppm

BTEX, 100 ppm TPH, and 250 ppm or background concentration of chlorides, as in accordance with 19.15.17.13 Subsection E Paragraph (4) NMAC.

- i. Elm Ridge Exploration or a contractor acting on behalf of Elm Ridge Exploration will backfill the excavation or impacted area with non-waste containing, earthen material, in accordance with 19.15.17.13 Subsection E Paragraph (6) NMAC.
- ii. Upon decommissioning of the well site Elm Ridge Exploration or a contractor acting on behalf of Elm Ridge Exploration will construct a division-prescribed soil cover, substantially restore, recontour and revegetate the site, in accordance with 19.15.17.13 Subsections G, H, and I NMAC. The soil cover for closures where the operator has removed the pit contents or remediated the contaminated soil to the division's satisfaction shall consist of the background thickness of topsoil or one foot of suitable material to establish vegetation at the site, whichever is greater. The operator shall construct the soil cover to the site's existing grade and prevent ponding of water and erosion of the cover material. The operator shall notify the division when it has been reseeded and when it has achieved successful re-vegetation.
- b. If soil samples exceed the regulatory standards stated above.
  - i. Elm Ridge Exploration will submit a Release Notification by Form C-141 to the appropriate division district office, in accordance with 19.15.17.13 Subsection E Paragraph (4) NMAC.
  - ii. Activities beyond this point will be in accordance with 19.15.3.116 NMAC and 19.15.11.19 NMAC.

#### REPORTING

Reporting will occur within 60 days following the BGT closure and will consist of a form C-144 with all supporting data, and a form C-141 with all supporting data, if necessary. The supporting data will include analytical results, a site diagram, a copy of the site owner notification, and other information related to the onsite activities.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (505) 632-3476 ext. 201.

Respectfully Submitted:

**Elm Ridge Exploration** 

Ms. Amy Mackey Elm Ridge Exploration

#### **Elm Ridge Exploration**

#### San Juan Basin

#### **Below Grade Tank Maintenance and Operating Plan**

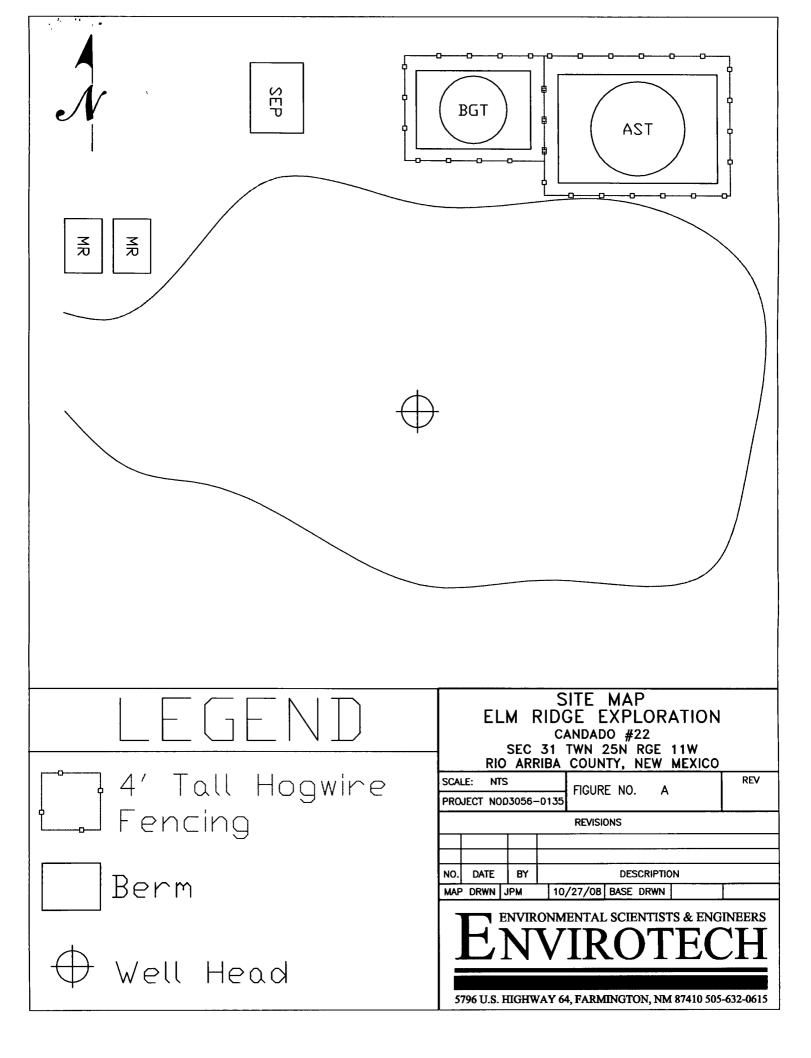
In accordance with Rule 19.15.17 the following information describes the operation and maintenance of a Below Grade Tank (BGT) on Elm Ridge Exploration's locations. This is Elm Ridge Exploration's standard procedure for all BGT's. A separate plan will be submitted for any BGT that Elm Ridge Exploration possesses, which does not conform to this particular plan.

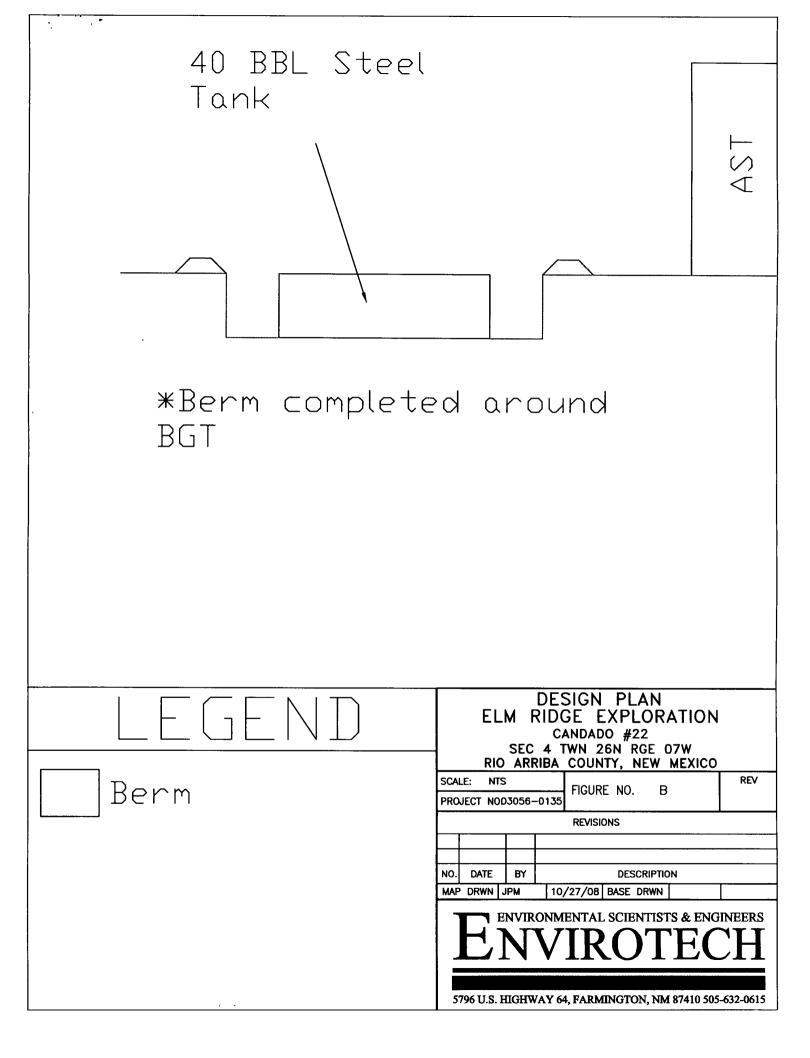
#### **GENERAL PLAN:**

- Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, will operate
  and maintain a BGT to contain liquids and solids to prevent contamination of fresh
  water and to protect public health and the environment.
- Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, shall not
  allow a BGT to overflow or allow surface water run-on to enter the BGT. Figure A, Site
  Map and Figure B, Design Plan can be referenced for a visual representation of how this
  will be accomplished.
- 3. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, shall continuously remove any visible or measurable layer of oil from the fluid surface of a BGT in an effort to prevent the accumulation of oil over time.
- 4. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, shall inspect the BGT at least once monthly and maintain a written record of each inspection for at least five (5) years.
- 5. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, shall maintain adequate freeboard to prevent overtopping of the BGT.

Figure A, Site Map

Figure B, Design Plan





#### **Elm Ridge Exploration**

#### San Juan Basin

#### **Below Grade Tank Design and Construction Plan**

In accordance with Rule 19.15.17 the following information describes the design and construction of below grade tanks (BGTs) on Elm Ridge Exploration locations. This will be Elm Ridge Exploration's standard procedure for all BGTs. A separate plan will be submitted for any BGT which does not conform to this plan.

#### **GENERAL PLAN:**

- 1. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, will design and construct a BGT to contain liquids and solids to prevent contamination of fresh water and to protect public health and the environment.
- 2. Elm Ridge Exploration will use a general location sign posted on location. If no general sign is posted, a separate sign at the location of the BGT will be provided.
- 3. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, shall construct fencing around the BGT using a four (4) foot hog wire fencing topped with two (2) strands of barbed wire, or with a pipe top rail. A six (6) foot chain link fence topped with three (3) strands of barbed wire will be used if the well location is within 1000 feet of a permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or a church.
- 4. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, will construct an expanded metal covering on the top of the BGT.
- Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, shall ensure that a BGT is constructed of materials resistant from damage by sunlight and the BGT's particular contents.
- 6. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, shall ensure that the BGT system has a properly constructed foundation consisting of a level base free of rocks, debris, sharp edges or irregularities to prevent punctures, cracks or indentations of the liner or tank bottom.

- 7. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, shall not allow a BGT to overflow or allow surface water run-on to enter the BGT.
- 8. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, will construct and use a BGT that does not have double walls. The BGT side walls will be open for visual inspection for leaks. The BGT bottom is elevated a minimum of six inches above the underlying ground surface and the BGT is underlain with a geomembrane liner to divert leaked liquid to a location that can be visually inspected.
- 9. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, shall equip BGTs designed in this manner with a properly operating automatic high level shut-off control device and manual controls to prevent overflow.
- 10. Elm Ridge Exploration, or a contractor representing Elm Ridge Exploration, will ensure that the geomembrane liner consists of 30-mil flexible PVC of 60-mil HDPE liner, or an equivalent liner material that the appropriate division district office approves. The geomembrane liner shall have a hydraulic conductivity no greater than 1 x 10<sup>-9</sup> cm/sec. 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.
- 11. The general specification for design and construction is attached as *Figure C, BGT Design and Construction*.

Figure C, BGT Design and Construction

