



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Pecos District

Carlsbad Field Office

620 E. Greene

Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220-6292

www.blm.gov/nm



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
3162.3-2 (P0220)  
NM70945X

OCT 13 2012

Oil Conservation Division  
1220 South St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

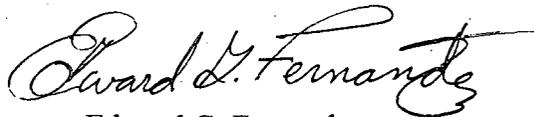
Re: Empire Abo Unit 5D (30-015-00902) – Convert to Salt Water Disposal.

The BLM will object to the conversion of this unit well located within a Federal Unit until the following items have been submitted and reviewed.

1. Operator did not list this well as a conversion in their 2012 Unit Plan of Development.
2. This well is being filed under a pressure maintenance project therefore the BLM request that the operator provide an updated reservoir analysis. Operator to provide the following:
  - a. Structural, Gross and Net Isopach maps. (legible and larger format and must include an appropriate legend and be properly scaled for necessary resolution)
  - b. Cross sections of wells in the area.
  - c. Geological and reservoir engineering write up on past, current and future pressure maintenance project.
  - d. Is the operator randomly placing SWD or water injection wells throughout the field?
  - e. Where is the reservoir engineering evaluation, indicating how SWD or water injection wells will maintain and or increase oil production throughout the field?
  - f. The last good plan of operation and development providing this type of information was done by ARCO Permian Inc. over ten years ago. It's about time another one be done. This shall also tie into the current drilling activity being done within the Unit.
  - g. According to the production reports, the well is still producing in paying quantities. Operator states this is a sub-marginal producer, but is still a producer and therefore, does not meet the requirement of a depleted zone. The operator shall provide documentation indicating how this well is a marginal producer.
  - h. Operator states that this is an expansion of an existing injection project; this shall be well defined in the above requested documentation.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Edward G Fernandez,  
Petroleum Engineer at (575) 234-2220.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward G. Fernandez". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Edward G. Fernandez  
Petroleum Engineer  
Bureau of Land Management  
Carlsbad Field Office

cc: Apache Corporation



*State of New Mexico*  
*Commissioner of Public Lands*

310 OLD SANTA FE TRAIL  
P.O. BOX 1148  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-1148

**Ray Powell, M.S., D.V.M.**  
**COMMISSIONER**

**COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**

Phone (505) 827-5760

Fax (505) 827-5766

www.nmstatelands.org

October 12, 2011

Apache Corporation  
303 Veterans Airpark Lane  
Suite 3000  
Midland, Texas 79705-4561

Attn: Mr. Paul Brindle

Re: 2011 Plans of Development  
Empire Abo Unit  
Eddy County, New Mexico

2011 OCT 19 P 2:17  
RECEIVED OCD

Dear Mr. Brindle:

The Commissioner of Public Lands has, of this date, approved the referenced Plan of Development. Our approval is subject to like approval by all other appropriate agencies. The possibility of drainage by wells outside the unit area, and the need for further development of the unit may exist; therefore, we may contact you at a later date regarding these possibilities.

If you have any questions or if we may be of further help, please contact Pete Martinez at (505) 827-5791.

Very truly yours,

RAY POWELL M.S., D.V.M.  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

BY *Larry J. Roybal*  
LARRY J. ROYBAL, Director  
Oil, Gas and Minerals Division

RP/LR/jm  
xc: Reader File  
OCD-Ed Martin



*State of New Mexico*  
*Commissioner of Public Lands*

310 OLD SANTA FE TRAIL  
P.O. BOX 1148  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-1148

RECEIVED OCD

2011 AUG 23 11:51 AM  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE  
Phone (505) 827-5760  
Fax (505) 827-5766  
www.nmstatelands.org

**Ray Powell, M.S., D.V.M.**  
COMMISSIONER

August 17, 2011

Apache Corporation  
2000 Post Oak Blvd, Suite 100  
Houston, Texas 77056-4400

Attn: Mr. James C. Swetnam

Re: Resignation/Designation of Successor Unit Operator  
Empire Abo Unit  
Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Swetnam:

We are in receipt of your resignation/designation of successor unit operator, wherein BP America Production Company, has resigned as unit operator of the Empire Abo Unit and designated Apache Corporation as the success or unit operator.

The Commissioner of Public Lands has this date approved the resignation of BP America Production Company, and the designation of Apache Corporation as the successor unit operator of this unit. Our approval is subject to like approval by the Bureau of Land Management.

This change in operators is effective December 01, 2010. In accordance with this approval, Apache Corporation is now responsible for all operations and the reporting of all production from the unit.

If you have any questions or if we may be of further help, please contact Pete Martinez at (505) 827-5791.

RAY POWELL, M.S., D.V.M.  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

BY:   
LARRY J. ROYBAL, Director  
Oil/Gas and Minerals Division  
RP/LR/jm  
xc: Reader File  
OCD-Santa Fe, Attn: Mr. Ed Martin  
TRD-Attn: Mr. Valdean Severson  
BLMC-Attn: Mr. Wesley Ingram