

3R - 398

**CLOSURE
APPROVAL**

11/15/2011



New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Susana Martinez
Governor

John H. Bemis
Cabinet Secretary-Designate

Brett F. Woods, Ph.D.
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Jami Bailey
Division Director
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NOVEMBER 15, 2011

Mr. Terry Lauck
Site Manager
ConocoPhillips Company
Risk Management & Remediation
420 South Keeler Avenue
Bartlesville, OK 74004

**RE: FORMAL REQUEST FOR SITE CLOSURE AND NO FURTHER ACTION
STATUS
CONOCOPHILLIPS SCOTT NO. 1, API NO. 30-045-13094
3R-398, (K), SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 29 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST**

Mr. Lauck:

The Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has reviewed your *Formal Request For Site Closure And No Further Action Status* dated July 22, 2010. ConocoPhillips requested "site closure and no further action status" for the condensate spill site located at the ConocoPhillips Scott No. 1 (Drake Ranch) located in Unit Letter K, Section 2, Township 29 North, Range 13 West, San Juan County, New Mexico. OCD met with ConocoPhillips on October 12, 2011 and discussed this site along with others. After review, OCD has determined that ConocoPhillips has adequately demonstrated that there was no ground water contamination at this site that exceeded the Water Quality Control Commission ground water standards specified at 20.6.2:3103 NMAC.

Therefore, OCD approves of final closure of this site on the condition that all monitor wells be plugged and abandoned by cutting the casing off below ground surface and grouting the well annulus from the base to the surface with a cement grout containing 3-5% bentonite. Please be advised that OCD approval does not relieve ConocoPhillips of responsibility if remaining contaminants pose a future threat to ground water, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve ConocoPhillips of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state or local laws and regulations.

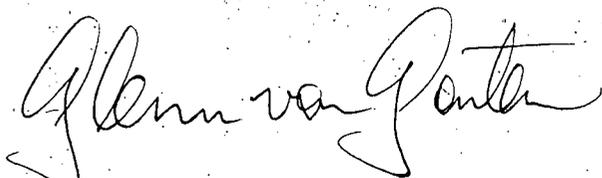


Please note that OCD is still reviewing the other sites that we met on and has not made a final determination on what changes it will require in ConocoPhillips approved workplan. OCD has determined to convene a Spill Guidelines Taskforce in February 2012. Therefore, it would not be appropriate to change pre-approved workplans until that taskforce has concluded its meetings and issued proposed, revised guidance.

OCD will require eight quarters of data demonstrating that ground water has been remediated to meet the WQCC ground water standards at all future sites, but may accept fewer for good cause, such as the destruction of a monitor well. ConocoPhillips indicated that the quality of the ground water at the 3R-398 site for four quarters. OCD has determined that there was no ground water impact that exceeded the WQCC standards, not that ConocoPhillips had remediated the site to meet the ground water standards.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 476-3488.

Sincerely,



Glenn von Gonten
Acting Environmental Bureau Chief

GvG/gvg

Cc: Daniel Sanchez, OCD
Charlie Perrin, OCD District III