

1R - 428-37

APPROVALS

YEAR(S):

2005

Price, Wayne, EMNRD

From: Price, Wayne, EMNRD
To: cdhriceswd@valornet.com; kpriceswd@valornet.com
Cc: r@rthicksconsult.com; whearth@msn.com
Subject: Abatement Plan Extensions
Attachments:

Sent: Wed 8/17/2005 11:47 AM

Dear Ms. Haynes:

OCD is in receipt of the following request for extensions:

July 06, 2005 RT Hicks N-29 Junction Box UL N Section 29, 21S, 37 E
July 11, 2005 RT Hicks Jct F-29-1A 1R0428-44
July 13, 2005 RT Hicks EME M-9, N-5, K-6, D-1, BD J-26.
July 15, 2005 Whole Earth K-33-1 1R047-92

OCD hereby approves of the extensions.

Please be advised that NMOCD approval of these extensions does not relieve (Rice Operating Co.) of responsibility should their operations fail to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that pose a threat to ground water, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, NMOCD approval does not relieve (Rice Operating Co.) of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations. OCD reserves the right to cancel the extensions if deemed warranted.

Wayne Price-Senior Environmental Engr.
Oil Conservation Division
1220 S. Saint Francis
Santa Fe, NM 87505
E-mail wayne.price@state.nm.us
Tele: 505-476-3487
Fax: 505-4763462

R. T. HICKS CONSULTANTS, LTD.

901 Rio Grande Blvd NW ▲ Suite F-142 ▲ Albuquerque, NM 87104 ▲ 505.266.5004 ▲ Fax: 505.266-0745

July 6, 2005

Mr. Daniel Sanchez
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

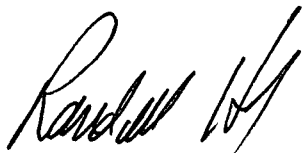
RE: N-29 Junction Box, Section 29, 21S, 37E Unit N

Dear Mr. Sanchez

In your letter of July 5, 2005, NMOCD required Rice Operating Company (ROC) to submit an abatement plan for the above-referenced site on or before July 15, 2005. We respectfully request NMOCD grant an extension for this submission. On August 19, 2003, we submitted an investigative characterization plan to Wayne Price on behalf of ROC. Although Mr. Price rapidly approved the plan, issues involving the landowner restricted our access to the site until earlier this year. In June, we installed a boring which collapsed before we could complete the monitoring well. We are scheduling a rig to complete the project before the end of July.

As stated in the August 2003 plan, we believe the release from the site created saturated conditions in the vadose zone and this condition can result in localized impairment of ground water. We ask that NMOCD allow us to complete the monitoring well cluster proposed in our 2003 plan, perform two quarters of monitoring, and then report the results to NMOCD with our recommendations for further action. We would like to fully develop the proposed well cluster by over pumping, and collect the first quarterly samples in August. The results from the second quarterly event (November) would be returned from the laboratory in December, allowing us to respond to NMOCD with a data-driven plan for further action in January of 2006. Thank you for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,
R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd.



Randall Hicks
Principal

Copy: Kristin Pope, Rice Operating Company