

## Hamlet, Robert, EMNRD

---

**From:** Hamlet, Robert, EMNRD  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 12, 2019 2:09 PM  
**To:** 'Brittany Esparza'  
**Cc:** Bratcher, Mike, EMNRD; Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD; Eads, Cristina, EMNRD; 'Mann, Ryan'  
**Subject:** Closure Denied - COG -Cabo Blanco St #1H - (1RP-5480) 4-23-2019  
**Attachments:** Closure Denied - COG - Cabo Blanco St #1H - (1RP-5480) 12.11.19.pdf

Brittany,

We have received your closure report and final C-141 for **1RP-5480 Cabo Blanco St #1H**, thank you. This closure is denied.

Both bottom-hole soil samples on (AH-1 and AH2) are over the limit of 600 mg/kg for Chlorides. Please delineate the 2 auger holes until they are under this limit. Roads do not qualify for deferrals, so please excavate to the depth corresponding to your first clean sample on the analytical table.

(2) The responsible party shall restore the impacted surface area of a release occurring on a developed well pad, central tank battery, drilling site, compressor site or other exploration, development, production or storage sites to meet the standards of Table I of 19.15.29.12 NMAC or other applicable remediation standards and restore and reclaim the area pursuant to 19.15.29.13 NMAC. **If contamination is located in areas immediately under or around production equipment such as production tanks, wellheads and pipelines where remediation could cause a major facility deconstruction, the remediation, restoration and reclamation may be deferred with division written approval until the equipment is removed during other operations, or when the well or facility is plugged or abandoned, whichever comes first.** The deferral may be granted so long as the contamination is fully delineated and does not cause an imminent risk to human health, the environment, or ground water. Final remediation and reclamation shall take place in accordance with 19.15.29.12 and 19.15.29.13 NMAC once the site is no longer being used for oil and gas operations.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Regards,

Robert J Hamlet  
State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources  
Oil Conservation Division  
811 S. First St., Artesia NM 88210  
(575) 748-1283  
[Robert.Hamlet@state.nm.us](mailto:Robert.Hamlet@state.nm.us)

OCD approval does not relieve the operator of liability should their operations fail to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that may pose a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.