



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

GARY E. JOHNSON
Governor
Carol Leach
Acting Cabinet Secretary

Lori Wrotenbery
Director
Oil Conservation Division

Certified Receipt#7000 0520 0018 0518 0308

January 22, 2002

Ed Hasely
Burlington Resources Oil and Gas Company
San Juan Division
P. O. Box 4289
Farmington, New Mexico 87499-4289

RE: Pit Closure at the Roberts #1, API #30-045-09796

P-4-30N-11W

Dear Mr. Hasely:

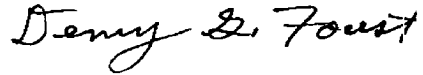
I have been discussing the pit situation at the Burlington Resources Oil and Gas Company (BROGC) Roberts #1, P-04-30N-11W, San Juan County, New Mexico with Greg Wurtz and yourself since July, 2001. The plugging and abandonment of the Roberts #1 was approved July 2, 1999. Unfortunately an associated pit near the meter house and a 20-barrel tank were never reclaimed and/or remediated. After written communications with El Paso Field Services (EPFS) and re-evaluation of field evidence at the well site, the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) believes the tank belongs to the last well operator of record, BROGC. This is based on a one inch line entering the tank from the direction of the well bore (Photo #1). A second steel line comes out of the ground and enters the tank on the north end probably from a line drip (Photo #2). Another well that was previously operated by C & E Operators (C&E) [from W. P. Carr] has flexible line running from the wellhead to a tank of similar design. Flex line at the Roberts #1 is buried in the pit bank along with a one inch steel line (Photo #3). Letters from W. D. Stiles representing C&E and Jami Bailey of the OCD Environmental Bureau in 1985 have recently been discovered which indicate the twenty-barrel tank was set in response to the original pit order R-7940. Based on the above information, the earthen pit associated with the tank was probably used as a combination blow pit and line drip pit before the tank installation in the latter part of 1985.

BROGC is directed to remove the tank by February 15, 2002. BROGC will take a five point sample 2 feet below the earthen pit bottom to determine if the pit can be closed without remediation. BROGC will excavate the steel lines entering the tank to determine the presence of a line drip and/or hydrocarbon contamination associated with transporter and/or operator activities at the well.

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If you have questions, please feel free to call me at (505) 334-6168 ext. 15.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denny G. Foust". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' and 'F'.

Denny G. Foust
Environmental Geologist
Deputy Oil & Gas Inspector
dfoust@state.nm.us

DGF/mk

XC: Daniel J. Schnee, EPFS Colorado Springs w/Photo attachments
DGF File w/Photo attachments
Environmental File w/o
Well File w/o