

But we are not

April 23, 2001

APR 2001
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C/O OON, DW
DIST. 3

Re: Clean Water Act Section 308 information Request
Oil Spill in San Juan County, NM on or about November 27, 2000

As per Mr. Gazda's request (March 20, 2001), Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP (BR) is providing information regarding the oil spill that occurred on November 27, 2000. The undesirable event occurred at the natural gas well location Aztec A #1 located at Unit I; Section 22; Township 31 North; and Range 11 West, which is 3 miles northwest of Aztec, New Mexico in the northwest corner of the State of New Mexico.

The following addresses the specific questions directed in your letter:

1. A copy of the completed New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Release Notification and Corrective Action form detailing the specific circumstances of the incident is provided in Attachment 1.
2. The amount of oil spilled was 20 barrels (e.g., 42 gallons per barrel).
3. The duration of the actual spill event is unknown. The location is routinely visited by the lease operator who last visited it on 11/22/00. The spill was discovered on 11/27/00 at 1:30 pm. Spill response and remediation activities started immediately. The remediation activities first focused on the narrow flow path in the bottom of the dry wash and the area impacted prior to the flow path entered the dry wash. Impacted materials were removed from the dry wash with this phase of the cleanup completed on 12/1/00. A scheduled follow-up inspection of the cleanup area on 4/13/01 prompted limited additional excavation work that was completed on 4/20/01.
4. The cause of the spill was greater than anticipated water production causing the produced water storage tank to overflow. This production well produces natural gas from a coal seam formation and does not produce any crude oil or condensate. The water production of the well was known from historic operation records. However, recent maintenance activities on the well caused uncharacteristically high water production. The storage tank

activities on the well caused uncharacteristically high water production. The storage tank contained approximately 20 barrels of oil from a previous location (this fact was unknown to our production operations group at the time the tank was moved on location). When the well began to produce water, the residual oil floated on top of the produced water and overflowed to the ground when the produced water storage tank's capacity was reached.

5. The spilled fluids did not contact any water but did enter an unnamed dry ephemeral wash. Approximately one mile from the spill area, the dry wash connects to the Animas River.
6. A site location map is provided in Attachment 2.
7. A drawing of the Aztec A #1 facilities is provided in Attachment 3.
8. A sketch of the spill site is provided in Attachment 4.
9. Photographs of the spill site after cleanup are provided in Attachment 5. BR does not have photographs of the spill site prior to cleanup.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact me at 326-9841.

Sincerely,



Ed Hasely
Environmental Specialist

Attachments

cc: Mark Kelley, BLM
Denny Foust, NMOCD
Release File
Correspondence

ATTACHMENT 1

State of New Mexico

Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Oil Conservation Division

2040 South Pacheco Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
(505) 827-7131

Submit 2 copies to:
Appropriate District
Office in accordance
with Rule 116.

Release Notification and Corrective Action

OPERATOR

☐ Initial Report ☒ Final Report

Name: Burlington Resources	Contact: Ed Hasely
Address: P.O. Box 4289 Farmington NM 87499	Telephone No.: (505) 326-9537
Facility Name: AZTEC A	Facility Type: Gas Well
Surface Owner: Federal	Mineral Owner: Federal
Lease Number: NMSF-078134	

LOCATION OF RELEASE

Unit Letter	Section	Township	Range	Feet From the	North/South Line	Feet From the	East/West Line	County: San Juan
M	22	031N	011W	990	South	890	West	

NATURE OF RELEASE

Type of Release: Crude oil and produced water	Volume of Release: 20 bbls.	Volume Recovered: 0 bbls.
Source of Release: Temporary produced water tank	Date and Hour of Occurrence: 11/27/2000 1:30:00 PM	Date and Hour of Discovery: 11/27/2000 1:30:00 PM
Immediate Notice Given? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Required	If Yes, To Whom? Denny Foust	
By Whom? Ed Hasely	Date and Hour: 11/27/2000 2:00:00 P	
Was a Watercourse Reached? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If YES, Volume Impacting the Watercourse: 20	

If a Watercourse was Impacted, Describe Fully. (Attach Additional Sheets If Necessary)
Dry ephemeral wash. The spill did not impact any water, but did enter a dry ephemeral wash.

Describe Cause of Problem and Remedial Action Taken. (Attach Additional Sheets If Necessary)
Produced water from well over flowed an amount of oil present in a temporary set 500 bbl produced water tank (laydown tank). Excavation of spill flow path down to no visible staining in soil and sediment.
Denny Foust (NMOCD) inspected the spill area on 11/27/00.

Describe Area Affected and Cleanup Action Taken. (Attach Additional Sheets If Necessary)
Spilled oil followed topography off location toward dry wash (3 feet x 75 yards flow path) and (3ft x 300 yards flow path) down wash. Depth of spill varied from film to 0.5 inches thick along flow path. Viscosity of oil and frozen soil conditions prevented vertical migration. Impacted soils (approximately 130 cubic yards) were removed and landfarmed on location. "Oil Hawg", a natural organic fiber containing indigenous microorganisms, was also mixed with the soils in certain areas to absorb any leftover hydrocarbons and promote bioremediation.

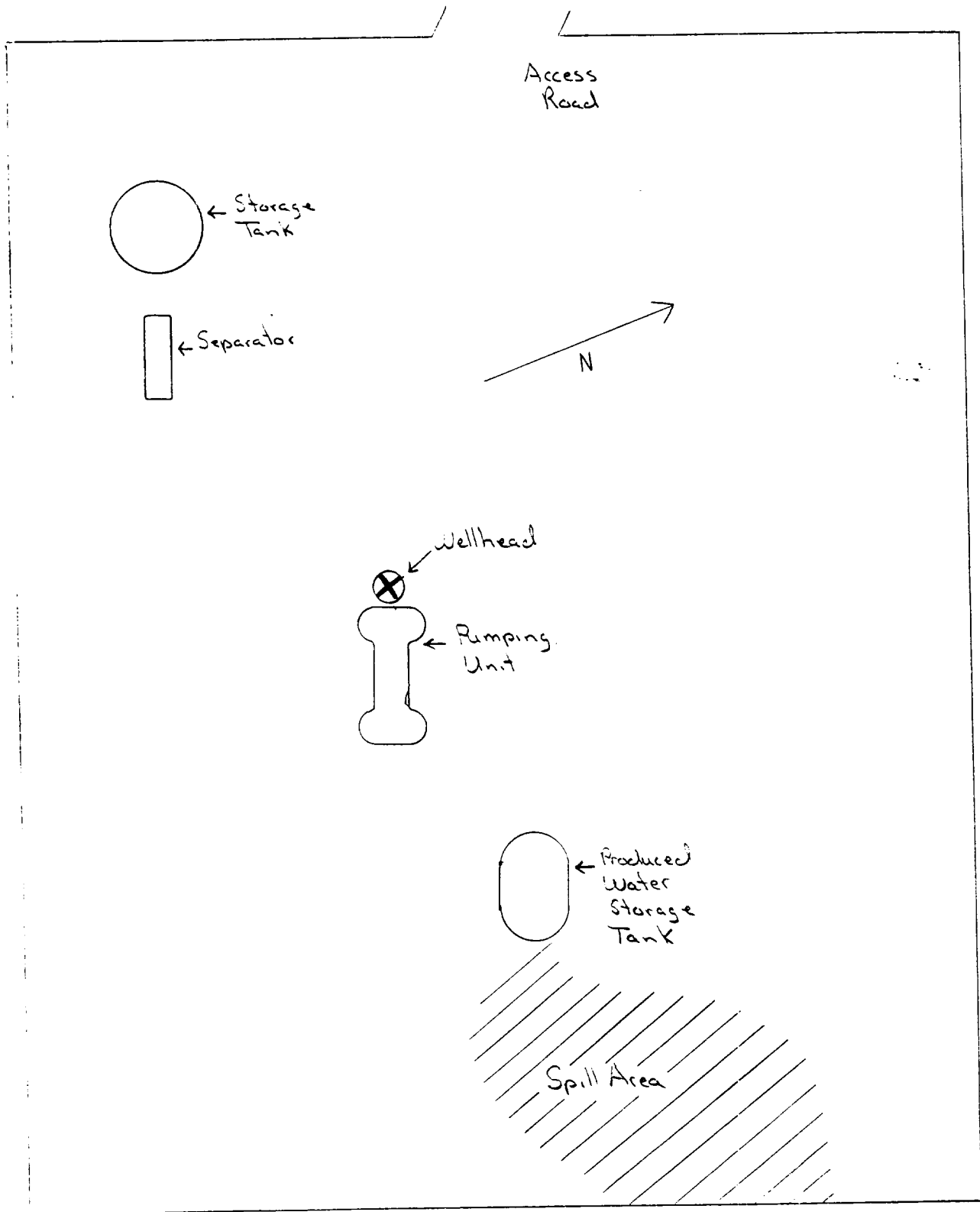
I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and understand that pursuant to NMOCD rules and regulations all operators are required to report and/or file certain release notifications and perform corrective actions for releases which may endanger public health or the environment. The acceptance of a C-141 report by the NMOCD marked as "Final Report" does not relieve the operator of liability should their operations have failed to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that pose a threat to ground water, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, NMOCD acceptance of a C-141 report does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Signature: <i>Ed Hasely</i>	Approved by	
Printed Name: Ed Hasely	District Supervisor:	
Title: Environmental Representative	Approval Date:	Expiration Date:
Date: 12/4/00 Phone: (505) 326-9841 or 326-9842	Conditions of Approval:	Attached: <input type="checkbox"/>

ATTACHMENT 2

ATTACHMENT 3

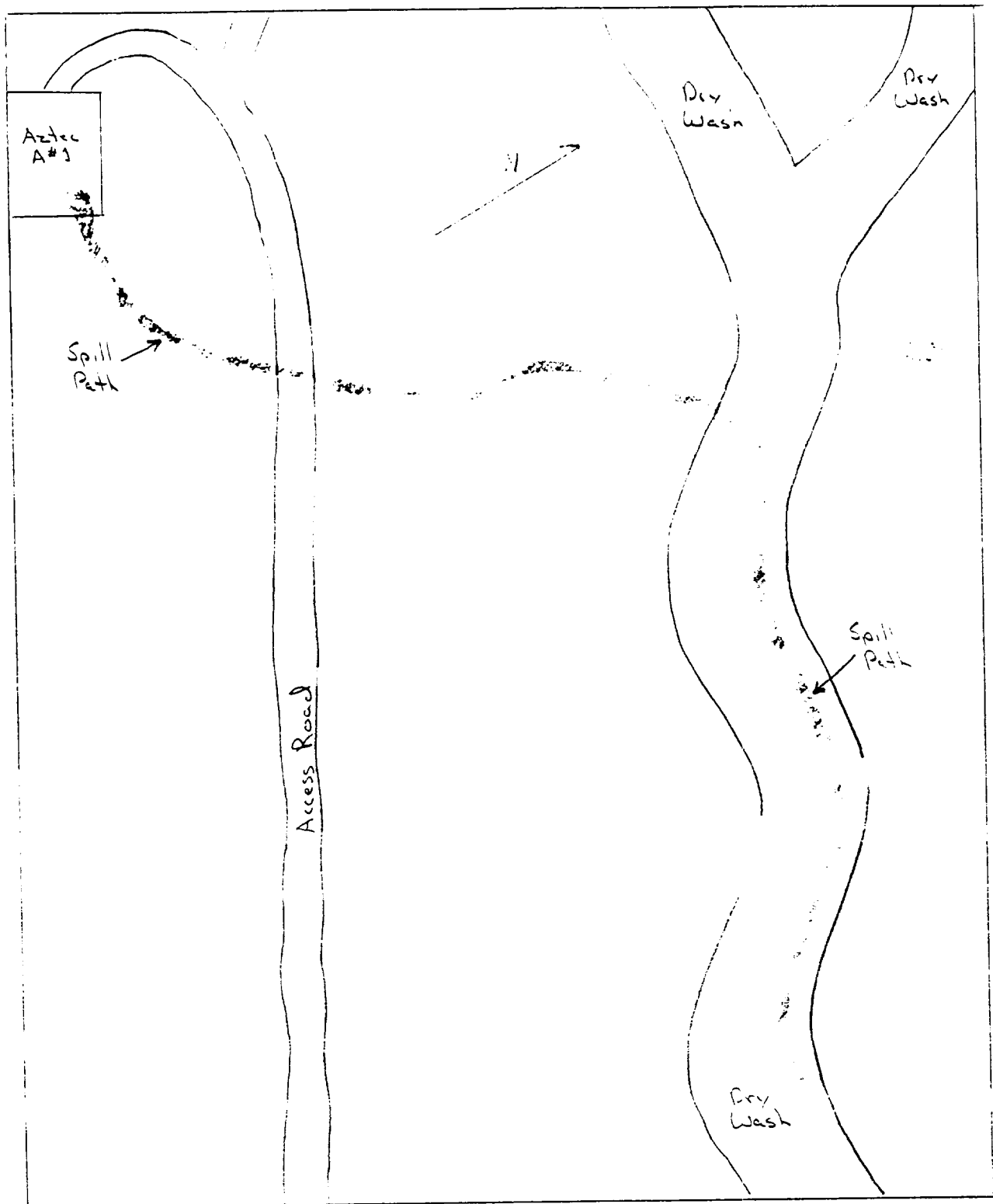


Aztec A # 1
Facility Drawing

Not to Scale

4/23/01
EH

ATTACHMENT 4



Aztec A#1
Spill Drawing

Not to Scale

4/23/01
LEH

ATTACHMENT 5

