U.S. Department of the Interior BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT O5/12/2022

Well Name: FEDERAL I

Well Location: T23N / R7W / SEC 21 /

County or Parish/State: SANDOVAL / NM

NWNW / 36.218717 / -107.585696 SANDOVA

Well Number: 6

Type of Well: OIL WELL

Allottee or Tribe Name:

Lease Number: NMNM16586

Unit or CA Name:

Unit or CA Number:

US Well Number: 300432087600S1

Well Status: Producing Oil Well

Operator: EPIC ENERGY LLC

## **Notice of Intent**

Sundry ID: 2668162

Type of Submission: Notice of Intent

Type of Action: Plug and Abandonment

Date Sundry Submitted: 04/21/2022

Time Sundry Submitted: 04:28

Date proposed operation will begin: 04/21/2022

Procedure Description: Please find attached the P&A and reclamation plan.

## **Surface Disturbance**

Is any additional surface disturbance proposed?: No

#### **NOI Attachments**

**Procedure Description** 

Federal\_I\_6\_P\_A\_20220421162746.pdf

Received by OCD: 5/12/2022 1:58:07 PM

Well Location: T23N / R7W / SEC 21 / NWNW / 36.218717 / -107.585696

County or Parish/State: SANDOVAL / NM Page 2 of 22

Well Number: 6

Type of Well: OIL WELL

Allottee or Tribe Name:

Lease Number: NMNM16586

Unit or CA Name:

Unit or CA Number:

US Well Number: 300432087600S1

Well Status: Producing Oil Well

Operator: EPIC ENERGY LLC

## **Conditions of Approval**

#### Additional

2668162\_NOIA\_I\_6\_3004320876\_KR\_05112022\_20220511121743.pdf

General\_Requirement\_PxA\_20220511121735.pdf 23N07W21DKg\_Federal\_I\_6\_20220511105737.pdf

### Operator

I certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 and Title 43 U.S.C. Section 1212, make it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction. Electronic submission of Sundry Notices through this system satisfies regulations requiring a

Operator Electronic Signature: ARLEEN SMITH Signed on: APR 21, 2022 04:27 PM

Name: EPIC ENERGY LLC

Title: Regulatory Specialist

Street Address: 332 RD 3100

City: AZTEC State: NM

Phone: (505) 327-4892

Email address: ARLEEN@WALSHENG.NET

#### Field

Representative Name:

Street Address:

City: Phone: State:

Zip:

Email address:

#### **BLM Point of Contact**

BLM POC Name: KENNETH G RENNICK BLM POC Title: Petroleum Engineer

BLM POC Phone: 5055647742 BLM POC Email Address: krennick@blm.gov

Disposition: Approved Disposition Date: 05/11/2022

Signature: Kenneth Rennick

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMANENT ABANDONMENT OF WELLS ON FEDERAL AND INDIAN LEASES FARMINGTON FIELD OFFICE

- 1.0 The approved plugging plans may contain variances from the following <u>minimum general</u> requirements.
  - 1.1 Modification of the approved plugging procedure is allowed only with the prior approval of the Authorized Officer, Farmington Field Office.
  - 1.2 Requirements may be added to address specific well conditions.
- 2.0 Materials used must be accurately measured. (densometer/scales)
- 3.0 A tank or lined pit must be used for containment of any fluids from the wellbore during plugging operations and all pits are to be fenced with woven wire. These pits will be fenced on three sides and once the rig leaves location, the fourth side will be fenced.
  - 3.1 Pits are not to be used for disposal of any hydrocarbons. If hydrocarbons are present in the pit, the fluids must be removed prior to filling in.
- 4.0 All cement plugs are to be placed through a work string. Cement may be bull-headed down the casing with prior approval. Cement caps on top of bridge plugs or cement retainers may be placed by dump bailer.
  - 4.1 The cement shall be as specified in the approved plugging plan.
  - 4.2 All cement plugs placed inside casing shall have sufficient volume to fill a minimum of 100' of the casing, or annular void(s) between casings, plus an excess volume sufficient to provide for 50 linear feet of fill above the plug.
  - 4.3 Surface plugs may be no less than 50' in length.
  - 4.4 All cement plugs placed to fill annular void(s) between casing and the formation shall be of sufficient volume to fill a minimum of 100' of the annular space plus 100% excess, calculated using the bit size, or 100' of annular capacity, determined from a caliper log, plus an excess volume sufficient to provide for 50 linear feet of fill above the plug.
  - 4.5 All cement plugs placed to fill an open hole shall be of sufficient volume to fill a minimum of 100' of hole, as calculated from a caliper log, plus an excess volume sufficient to provide for 50 linear feet of fill above the plug. In the absence of a caliper log, an excess of 100% shall be required.
  - 4.6 A cement bond log or other accepted cement evaluation tool is required to be run if one had not been previously ran or cement did not circulate to surface during the original casing cementing job or subsequent cementing jobs.

2

- 5.1 The top of any cement plug verified by tagging must be at or above the depth specified in the approved plan, without regard to any excess.
- 5.2 Testing will not be required for any cement plug that is mechanically contained by use of a bridge plug and/or cement retainer, if casing integrity has been established.
- 5.3 Any cement plug which is the only isolating medium, for a fresh water interval or a zone containing a prospectively valuable deposit of minerals, shall be tested by tagging.
- 5.4 If perforations are required below the surface casing shoe, a 30 minute minimum wait time will be required to determine if gas and/or water flows are present. If flow is present, the well will be shut-in for a minimum of one hour and the pressure recorded. Short or long term venting may be necessary to evacuate trapped gas. If only a water flow occurs with no associated gas, shut well in and record the pressures. Contact the Engineer as it may be necessary to change the cement weight and additives.
- 6.0 Before setting any cement plugs the hole needs to be rolled. All wells are to be controlled by means of a fluid that is to be of a weight and consistency necessary to stabilize the wellbore. This fluid shall be left in place as filler between all plugs.
  - 6.1 Drilling mud may be used as the wellbore fluid in open hole plugging operations.
  - 6.2 The wellbore fluid used in cased holes shall be of sufficient weight to balance known pore pressures in all exposed formations.
- 7.0 A blowout preventer and related equipment (BOPE) shall be installed and tested prior to working in a wellbore with any exposed zone(s); (1) that are over pressured, (2) where the pressures are unknown, or (3) known to contain H<sub>2</sub>S.
- 8.0 Within 30 days after plugging work is completed, file a Sundry Notice, Subsequent Report of Abandonment (Form 3160-5), five copies, with the Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 6251 College Blvd., Suite A, Farmington, NM 87402. The report should show the manner in which the plugging work was carried out, the extent, by depth(s), of cement plugs placed, and the size and location, by depth(s), of casing left in the well. Show date well was plugged.
- 9.0 All permanently abandoned wells are to be marked with a permanent monument as specified in 43 CFR 3162.6(d). Unless otherwise approved.
- 10.0 If this well is located in a Specially Designated Area (SDA), compliance with the appropriate seasonal closure requirements will be necessary.

All of the above are minimum requirements. Failure to comply with the above conditions of approval may result in an assessment for noncompliance and/or a Shut-in Order being issued pursuant to 43 CFR 3163.1. You are further advised that any instructions, orders or decisions issued by the Bureau of Land Management are subject to administrative review pursuant to 43 CFR 3165.3 and appeal pursuant to 43 CFR 3165.4 and 43 CFR 4.700.

(October 2012 Revision)

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FARMINGTON DISTRICT OFFICE

6251 COLLEGE BLVD. FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO 87402

AFMSS 2 Sundry ID 2668162

Attachment to notice of Intention to Abandon

Well: Federal I 6

## **CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

- Plugging operations authorized are subject to the attached "General Requirements for Permanent Abandonment of Wells on Federal and Indian Lease."
- 2. The following modifications to your plugging program are to be made:
  - a. Add a plug to cover the Chacra formation top at 2440'.
- 3. Farmington Office is to be notified at least 24 hours before the plugging operations commence (505) 564-7750.

You are also required to place cement excesses per 4.2 and 4.4 of the attached General Requirements.

Office Hours: 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

K, Rennick 05/11/2022

## BLM FLUID MINERALS P&A Geologic Report

**Date Completed:** 05/11/2022

Well No. Federal I #6 (API# 30-043-20876)		Location	420	FNL	&	970	970 FWL	
Lease No. NMNM-16586		Sec. 21	T23N			R07W		
Operator Epic Energy, LLC		County	Sandoval		State	New Mexico		
Total Depth 5800'	PBTD 5749'	Formation	Gallup					
Elevation (GL) 7250'		Elevation (KB) 7262'						

Geologic Formations	Est. Top	Est. Bottom	Log Top	Log Bottom	Remarks
San Jose Fm	Surface				Surface/possible freshwater sands
Nacimiento Fm		1447			
Ojo Alamo Ss	1447	1628			Aquifer (possible freshwater)
Kirtland Shale	1628	1820			
Fruitland Fm	1820	2068			Coal/Gas/Water
Pictured Cliffs Ss	2068	2140			Gas
Lewis Shale	2140	2440			
Chacra	2440	3535			Possible Gas
Cliff House Ss	3535	3558			Water/Possible gas
Menefee Fm	3558	4368			Coal/Ss/Water/Possible O&G
Point Lookout Ss	4368	4504			Probable water/Possible O&G
Mancos Shale	4504	5251			Probable O&G
Gallup	5251	PBTD			O&G/Water
Greenhorn					
Graneros Shale					
Dakota Ss					
Morrison Formation					

## Remarks:

## P & A

 No well log available for subject well. Operator submitted tops are acceptable based on Reference Well #1.

## Add a plug to cover the Chacra formation top at 2440'.

- The plugs proposed in the P&A procedure, with recommended changes, will adequately protect any freshwater sands in this well bore.
- Gallup perfs 5416' 5656'.

## Reference Well:

1) Formation Tops Epic Energy, LLC Federal I #5 1650' FNL, 2270' FEL Sec. 21, T23N, R07W KB 7392'

#### **P&A Procedure**

## EPIC Energy – Federal I #006

Lybrook Gallup

420' FNL & 970' FWL, Section 21, T23N, R7W

Sandoval Co, New Mexico, API #30-043-20876

#### Plug & Abandonment Procedure:

Note: All cement volumes use 100% excess outside casing and 50' excess inside pipe. Stabilizing wellbore fluid will be 8.33 ppg, sufficient to balance all exposed formation pressures. All cement will be ASTM Class G neat 1.15 ft<sup>3</sup>/sk or equivalent. If casing pressure tests tagging plugs will not be required. Cement circulated on surface and production casing strings. Volumes calculated off 4-1/2" 11.6# casing.

#### **Prior to Mobilization**

- 1. Notify BLM & NMOCD
- 2. Verify all cement volumes based on actual slurry to be pumped. Calculations based on 1.15 ft<sup>3</sup>/sk.
- 3. Comply with all COA's from BLM and NMOCD

#### P&A Procedure

- 1. MIRU PU and cement equipment
- 2. ND WH, NU BOP, RU rig floor and 2 3/8" handling tools
- 3. POOH 2 3/8" production string set at ~5643'.
- 4. TIH with 4 ½" casing scraper to 5400'. TOOH LD 4 ½" scraper.
- 5. TIH with CICR and set @ 5366'. Roll hole with fresh water. PT tubing to 750 psi. PT casing to 500 psi.
- 1. Plug #1, 5366' 5201' (Gallup top: 5251', Perfs 5416'-5656'): Sting out of CICR, mix & spot 17 sxs (19.55 ft³) of Class G neat cement on top of CICR in balanced plug. PU 200' above plug reverse circulate to clean tubing. WOC and tag plug if casing does not test. Re-spot cement if necessary.
- 2. Plug #2, 4454' 4554' (Mancos Top: 4504'): Mix & spot 12 sx (13.8 ft<sup>3</sup>) Class G neat cement in balanced plug. PU 200' above plug and reverse circulate tubing clean. WOC and tag plug if casing does not test. Re-spot cement if necessary.
- 3. Plug #3, 3485' 3585' (Mesaverde Top: 3535'): Mix & spot 12 sx (13.8 ft<sup>3</sup>) Class G neat cement in balanced plug. PU 100' above plug and reverse circulate tubing clean. WOC and tag plug if casing does not test. Re-spot cement if necessary.

- 4. Plug #4, 2118' 1770' (FT Coal Top: 1820', PC Top: 2068'): Mix and spot 31 sx (35.65 ft<sup>3</sup>) Class G neat cement in balanced plug. PUH 100' above plug and reverse circulate tubing clean. WOC and tag plug if casing does not test. Re-spot cement if necessary.
- 5. Plug #5, 1678' 1398' (Ojo Alamo top: 1447', Kirtland: 1628'): Mix and spot 26 sx (29.9 ft<sup>3</sup>) Class G neat cement in balanced plug. PUH 100' above plug and reverse circulate tubing clean. WOC and tag plug if casing does not test. Re-spot cement if necessary.

6.

- 7. Plug #6, 425' Surface (8-5/8" Shoe @ 375'): Note: Cement circulated on surface casing string. Mix and pump 33 sx (37.95 ft<sup>3</sup>) or until cement circulates to surface. Top off cement as necessary.
- 6. ND BOP and cut off wellhead below surface casing flange, top off casing and annulus as necessary. Install P&A marker and cut off and/or remove anchors. RD, MOL Restore location per BLM stipulations. Take pictures from all cardinal directions. Ensure to notify project management of all remaining equipment on location once plugging is complete.

Kyle T. Mason Engineer

## Federal I #006

#### **Current WBD**

Lybrook Gallup

420' FNL & 970' FWL, Section 21, T23N, R7W, Sandoval, NM

API: 30-043-20876

Hole Size; 12-1/4" Today's Date: 02/01/2022 Spud: 4/1/93 Completed: 6/14/93 8-5/8", 24#, Casing set @ 375' Elevation: 7250' GL Cement with 275 sx Class B, Circ to surface Ojo Alamo @ 1447' Kirtland @ 1628' Fruitland @ 1820' Pictured Cliffs @ 2068' Chacra @ 2440' Cliff House @ 3535' 2-3/8" tubing set @ 5643' Mancos @ 4504' 0 Gallup @ 5251' **Gallup Perforations Hole Size** 5416'-5656' 7.875 4-1/2", 11.6#, casing set @ 5797'

PBTD: 5749'

TD: 5800'

Production CMT:

1st stage: 950 sxs. Circ 20 bbls to surface

## Federal I #006

#### Proposed P&A

Lybrook Gallup

420' FNL & 970' FWL, Section 21, T23N, R7W, Sandoval, NM

API: 30-043-20876

Today's Date: 02/01/2022

Spud: 4/1/93

Completed: 6/14/93

Elevation: 7250' GL

Ojo Alamo @ 1447' Kirtland @ 1628'

Fruitland @ 1820'

Pictured Cliffs @ 20681

Chacra @ 2440'

Cliff House @ 3535'

Mancos @ 4504'

Gallup @ 5251'

Hole Size 7.875

Plug #6: Class G

Hole Size: 12-1/4" 8-5/8", 24#, Casing set @ 375' Cement with 275 sx Class B, Circ to surface

Plug #6: 8-5/8" Surface Shoe - 425' - Surface Class G neat, 33 sx (37.95 ft<sup>3</sup>)

Plug #5: Ojo Alamo/Kirtland - 1678'-1397' Class G neat, 26 sx (29.9 ft<sup>3</sup>)

Plug #4: Fruitland/PC - 2118'-1770' Class G neat, 31 sx (35.65 ft<sup>3</sup>)

Plug #3: Mesa Verde - 3485'-3585' Class G neat, 12 sx (13.8 ft<sup>3</sup>)

Plug #2: Mancos - 4454'-4554' Class G neat, 12 sx (13.8 ft<sup>3</sup>)

SET CICR @ 5366' Plug #1: Gallup - 5366'-5201' Class G neat, 17 sx (19.55 ft<sup>3</sup>)

Gallup Perforations 5416'-5656'

PBTD: 5749' TD: 5800' 4-1/2", 11.6#, casing set @ 5797'
Production CMT:
1st stage: 950 sxs. Circ 20 bbls to surface

# United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

Reclamation Plan

EPIC Energy, LLC.

Federal I #6
Plug and Abandonment
Project

Prepared by

Arleen Smith, Regulatory Specialist

EPIC Energy, LLC. 332 Rd 3100 Aztec, New Mexico 87410

> April 2022

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Farmington District Farmington Field Office 6251 N. College Blvd., Ste. A Farmington, NM 87402 Phone: (505) 564-7600 FAX: (505) 564-7608



# **Table of Contents**

Introduction3
Vegetation Reclamation Procedure B3
Revision of the Reclamation Plan3
Project Description4
Estimated Total Area of Disturbance4
Site Visit4
Vegetation Community4
Proposed Reclamation Seed Mix 5
Vegetation Reclamation Standards 6
Pre-Disturbance Weed Survey 6
Pre-Disturbance Soil Evaluation6
Reclamation Techniques for Successful Revegetation6
Vegetation and Site Clearing6
Topsoil Stripping, Storage, and Replacement7
Water Management/Erosion Control Features
Seedbed Preparation
Soil Amendments
Seeding Requirements7
Mulching 8
Noxious and Invasive Weed Control
Monitoring Requirements
Post-Disturbance Monitoring Initiation
Annual Monitoring
Attainment of Vegetation Reclamation Standards 10
Long-Term Monitoring
Final Abandonment
Cessation of Monitoring10
References & Site Diagram

# Reclamation Plan (Procedure B)

Applicant	EPIC Energy, LLC.
Project Type	Reclamation of a natural gas well site.
Well, Oil and Gas Lease, or Right-of-Way (ROW) Name	Federal I #6
Legal Location	Section 21 (420' FNL, 970' FWL), Township 23 North, Range 07 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, in Sandoval County, New Mexico
Lease Number(s)	NMNM-16586

# Introduction

This reclamation plan has been prepared to meet the requirements and guidelines of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Farmington Field Office (FFO) Bare Soil Reclamation Procedures (BLM 2013a) and Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 1as well as any requirements from the

Epic Energy, LLC contact person for this Reclamation Plan is:

Arleen Smith, Regulatory Specialist 332 Road 3100 Aztec, New Mexico 87410 Phone: (505) 327-4892

# Vegetation Reclamation Procedure B

Completion of a Vegetation Reclamation Plan in accordance with Procedure B of the Bureau Land Management Bare Soil Reclamation Procedures is required for surface disturbing actions, grants, or permits authorized by the Bureau Land Management resulting in bare mineral soil across an area greater than or equal to 1 acre, not including a BLM approved working area. Working areas include areas routinely used to operate and maintain facilities or improvements. The FFO makes no distinction between interim and final revegetation processes; revegetation processes and standards are the same for all revegetation activities.

## Revision of the Reclamation Plan

EPIC Energy LLC, may submit a request to the BLM/FFO to revise the Reclamation Plan at any time during the life of the project in accordance to page 44 of the Gold Book (USDI-USDA 2007). EPIC Energy LLC will include justification for the revision request.

# Project Description

EPIC Energy is proposing to plug and abandon the Federal I #6 wellbore and reclaim the well pad. This location is located on lands owned and managed by the Bureau of Land Management, ~ 49.3 miles South of Bloomfield, NM. The Federal I #6 is accessed by travelling South on HWY 64 for 46.7 miles. Turn right 1.3 miles. Turn right 0.9 mile. The well will be located on left side. The Federal I #6 access road will be rip and reclaim back to the State J #4 location. Remove all production equipment from location. Remove the above ground pipeline back to the State J #4 location. Push the gravel tank berms into the cut area on the north-northwest side of the location. Pull fill dirt from South and Southwest side of location to the cut area on the north-northwest side of location and contour the slope. DO not disturb an of the cut area on the east and northeast side of the location (the cut area on the east side of the access road). Rip and reclaim location.

## **Estimated Total Area of Disturbance**

The existing Federal I #6 well pad was originally 71 ft by73 ft with a maximum 1 ft cut and a maximum of a 1 ft fill. The Federal I #6 access road will be rip and reclaim back to the State J #4 location. The anchor and piping will be removed, and the disturbed area will be reclaimed with Mesa seed mix. The well location is located on Bureau of Land Management and is managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Total surface disturbance as a result of well pad and pipeline construction that will be reclaimed is approximately 0.47 acres on Bureau of Land Management Lands.

The pre-disturbance site visit occurred on February 24, 2022. The following persons were present at the site visit (Table 1).

Table	1	Cita	Vicit	Atte	ndoor.
Lanie	1	Suc	VISIT	ATTE	maees

Name	Affiliation	Contact Info
John Hampton	EPIC Energy	505-486-6988
James Helickson	Envirotech	505-632-0615
Roger Herrera	BLM	505-564-7600

# Vegetation Community

Based on observations made during the pre-disturbance site visit, it has been determined that the vegetation community which best represents the proposed project area is Mesa or Pinion –Juniper Community. The Mesa or Pinion–Juniper Community is comprised primarily of pinion and juniper trees with lesser amounts of basin big sage and minor areas of black sage with various grasses. It is found on all aspects from about 4,800 to 8,800 with pinyon trees dominating at higher elevations and juniper trees at lower elevations. The Mesa or Pinion –Juniper Community are typically found in shallow rock soils. The seed mix will be used with an emphasis placed on protecting reclaimed well pad from exotic plant invasion.

# **Proposed Reclamation Seed Mix**

Disturbance will be re-contoured, and topsoil will be redistributed and prepared for seeding by the construction contractor. Ripping, disking, and seeding of the site will be done by EPIC Energy and its contractor using the BLM-approved seed mix (Mesa), which is shown in Table 2. The proposed reclamation seed mix takes into account the existing vegetation on the proposed project site.

# MESA menu-based seed mix by habitat type for reclamation (minimum requirement) \*\*

Common Name	Scientific Names	Variety	Season	Form	PLS
	-				lbs/acre*
	Plant one o	f the followir	ng:		
Mountain mahogany	Cercocarpus montanus	VNS	Warm	Shrub	2.0
Antelope bitterbrush	Purshia tridentata	VNS	Cool	Shrub	2.0
	and two o	f the following	;		
Western wheatgrass	Pascopyrum smithii	Arriba	Cool	Sod	2.0
Bottlebrush squirreltail	Elymus elymoides	Tusas or VNS	Cool	Bunch	3.0
Needleandthread	Hesperostipa comata	VNS	Cool	Bunch	3.0
	and three of	the following:			
Indian ricegrass	Achnatherum hymenoides	Paloma or Rimrock	Warm	Bunch	3.5
Blue grama	Bouteloua gracilis	Alma or Hachita	Warm	Bunch	2.0
Sand dropseed	Sporobolus cryptandrus	VNS	Warm	Bunch	0.5
Prairie Junegrass	Koeleria macrantha	VNS	Cool	Bunch	2.0
Muttongrass	Poa fendleriana	VNS	Cool	Bunch	2.0
	and one of	f the following	; <b>:</b>	-1	
Scarlet globemallow	Sphaeralcea coccinea	VNS	Warm	Forb	0.25
Utah sweetvetch	Hedysarum boreale	VNS	Warm	Forb	0.25

# **Vegetation Reclamation Standards**

<sup>\*\*</sup>Based on 60 pure live seeds (PLS) per square foot, drill seeded. Double this rate (120 PLS per square foot) if broadcast or hydroseeded.

Requirements for determining reclamation and if it is successfully completed for the selected vegetation community are determined by the reclamation percent cover standards for the community, as outline in Table 3. These standards must be met during post-disturbance monitoring procedures in order for the Bureau of Land Management to sign off on the attainment of vegetation reclamation standards.

Table 3. Reclamation Goal for Mesa or Pinion-Juniper-Mesa Community Cover – Wooded shrubland (deep soil)

Functional Group	Percent (%) Foliar Cover	Common Species
Trees/Shrubs/Grasses/Forbs	≥20	Utah juniper, Pinyon pine; big sagebrush, four-wing saltbrush, Antelope bitterbrush, rubber rabbitbrush, broom snakeweed, bottlebrush squirreltail, western wheatgrass, Indian ricegrass, galleta, sand dropseed, threeawn grass, scarlet globmallow, wooly Indianwheat, fleabane spp., Penstemon spp., buckwheat spp., threadleaf groundsel
Invasive/undesirables 10% allowed toward meeting standard of 20%.	≤10	Plants that have the potential to become a dominant species on a site where its presence is a detriment to revegetation efforts or the native plant community. Examples of invasive species include cheatgrass, Russian thistle, kochia.

# **Weed Survey**

During the site visit, the proposed action area was surveyed for noxious weeds listed on the New Mexico Department of Agriculture's Class A and Class B list. During the survey, no noxious weeds were found.

#### Soil Evaluation

Unless any stained soil is discovered during the surface reclamation, no soil testing will be necessary.

# Reclamation Techniques for Successful Revegetation

## Site Clearing

After the well is plugged the wellhead will be cut-off 3' below ground level and a 4" diameter P&A marker will be welded to the casing stub. All flow lines and anchors will be cut-off at least 3' below ground level or removed completely. The meter will be removed and cut off down 6' or to the top of the pipeline. The production equipment (tanks, separator) have been previously removed from location.

# **Topsoil Replacement**

No topsoil was stock piled during the original construction of the well pad. The remaining location will be re-contoured to match the natural topography. Epic Energy (and its contractor) will take care not to mix topsoil with the underlying subsoil horizons. Topsoil and sub-surface soils will be replaced in the proper order, prior to final seedbed preparation.

## Water Management/Erosion Control Features

Based on the site visit with the Bureau Land Management representative(s) and the EPIC Energy representative determined there was no need to develop any other site-specific erosion control or water management features than the planned silt trap. Based on the topography natural run off can occur with no impact as far as erosion is concerned.

EPIC Energy (or its contractors) will use erosion control blankets, straw bales, or straw wattles as appropriate to limit erosion and sediment transport from any stockpiled soils.

# **Seedbed Preparation**

For cut and fill slopes, initial seedbed preparation will consist of backfilling and re-contouring to achieve a configuration as close to pre-disturbance conditions as possible. Areas to be reclaimed will be re-contoured to blend with the surrounding landscape, emphasizing restoration of existing drainage patterns and landform to pre-construction condition, to the extent practicable.

Seedbed preparation of compacted areas will be ripped to a minimum depth of 12 inches, with a maximum furrow spacing of 2 feet. Where practicable, ripping will be conducted in two passes at perpendicular directions. Disking will be conducted if large clumps or clods remain after ripping. Any tilling or disking that occurs along the contour of the slope and seed drills will also be run along the contour to provide terracing and prevent rapid run-off and erosion. If broadcast seeding is used, a dozer or other tracked equipment will track perpendicular to the slope prior to broadcast seeding.

Final seedbed preparation will consist or raking or harrowing the spread topsoil prior to seeding to promote a firm (but not compacted) seedbed without surface crusting.

#### **Soil Amendments**

Based on information gathered at the onsite inspection, the EPIC Energy and Bureau Land Management representatives have decided collaboratively that no soil amendments will be used during reclamation of the affected environment.

# **Seeding Requirements**

The seed mix chosen for this project is listed in Table 2. Seeding will occur in November or later (depending upon weather conditions) after the well has been plugged and abandoned.

A Truax seed drill or modified rangeland drill that allows for seeding species from different seed boxes at different planting depths will be used to seed the disturbed areas of the project area. EPIC Energy or its reclamation contractor will ensure that perennial grasses and shrubs are planted at the appropriate depth. Intermediate size seeds (such as wheatgrasses and shrubs) will be planted at a depth of 1 to 2 inches. Small seeds (such as alkali sacaton and sand drop seed) will be planted at a depth of 0.25 inch. In situations where differing planting depths are not practicable using available equipment, the entire seed mix will be planted no deeper than 0.25 inch.

Drill seeding may be used on well-packed and stable soils that occur on gentler slopes and where equipment and drills can safely operate. Where drill seeding is not practicable due to topography, the reclamation contractor will hand-broadcast seed using a "cyclone" hand seeder or similar broadcast

seeder. Broadcast application of seed requires a doubling of the drill-seeding rate. The seed will then be raked into the ground, so the seed is planted no deeper than 0.25 inch below the surface.

## Mulching

Based on the onsite, mulching should not be necessary but if needed hand seeding with hydro-mulch, excelsior netting, and/or mulch with netting could be utilized on cut and fill slopes. Mulch should be grass or straw spread at 2,000 to 3,000 pounds per acre, or approximately 1 to 2 inches deep. Mulching will consist of crimping certified weed-free straw or certified weed-free native grass hay into the soil.

Straw or native grass hay mulch can be applied by hand broadcasting or blowing to a relatively uniform depth of 2 to 3 inches, equivalent to a rate of approximately 2 tons per acre (one 74-pound bale per 800 square feet). When applied properly, approximately 20 to 40 percent of the original ground surface will be visible.

Straw or native grass hay mulch will then be anchored using one of the following methods:

- Hand Punching a spade or shovel is used to punch mulch into the topsoil at 1-foot intervals
  until all areas have mulch standing perpendicular to the slope and the mulch is embedded
  at least 4 inches into the soil.
- o Roller Punching a roller is used to spread mulch over an area; the roller is equipped with straight studs not less than 6 inches long, from 4 to 6 inches wide, and approximately 1 inch thick.
- Crimper Punching similar to roller punching, a crimper is used over the soil. The crimper has serrated disk blades about 4 to 8 inches apart that force the mulch into the soil. Crimping should be done in two directions with the final pass across the slope.

Mulch applications in extremely clayey soils should be evaluated carefully to avoid developing an adobe mixture. In these cases, a soil amendment may be beneficial.

## **Noxious and Invasive Weed Control**

Should noxious or invasive weeds be documented after earthwork and seeding activities, the Bureau Land Management weed coordinator will provide EPIC Energy, LLC with specific requirements and instructions for weed treatments, including the period of treatment, approved herbicides that may be used, required documentation to be submitted to the Bureau Land Management after treatment, and any other site-specific instructions that may be applicable.

# **Monitoring Requirements**

Monitoring will be completed according to the Bureau Land Management Bare Soil Reclamation Procedure B (BLM 2013b) and Monitoring activities will be initiated after the project is completed, during the post-disturbance earthwork and seeding inspection process.

# **Post-Reclamation Monitoring Initiation**

After the well has been plugged and the reclamation work and seeding have been completed, a post-disturbance inspection at the project site will occur. The Bureau Land Management representative (in collaboration with EPIC Energy) will determine site-specific monitoring locations for photo point monitoring and vegetation line point intercept transects, (if necessary). Bureau Land Management will collect GPS data on the monitoring locations, take the initial monitoring photographs, and complete the initial monitoring report within 60 days of the post-disturbance earthwork and seeding inspection. The initial report will be available from the Bureau Land Management.

# **Post-Reclamation Monitoring Photographs**

The minimum photo points necessary to document post-disturbance monitoring (including annual monitoring and long-term monitoring) are described in Table 5. Photographs will be taken with a digital camera without zoom or wide-angle adjustments. GPS coordinates for each photo point will be provided by the Bureau Land Management the initial monitoring report and subsequently included with each photograph in the annual monitoring report.

Table 5. List of Minimum Required Post-Disturbance Monitoring Photographs

Winksto District District	About Description
** STATIOTO A POTITION AND THE TOTAL STATE	DIIS
1	
1	

## **Annual Monitoring**

If needed, EPIC Energy will begin annual monitoring of the photo points and the vegetation line point intercept transects 2 calendar years after the completion and approval of the final earthwork and seeding. Monitoring may occur any time of the year. A completed monitoring report of the permanent photo points will be submitted by EPIC Energy to Bureau Land Management by December 31 of the year the site is monitored. Within 60 days after receipt, the Bureau Land Management will acknowledge that the report has been received and evaluated.

Vegetation line point intercept transects will be monitored annually until attainment of vegetation reclamation cover standards have been met. EPIC Energy will keep a record of the monitoring for future submittal to the Bureau Land Management at reclamation attainment.

# Attainment of Vegetation Reclamation Standards

When vegetation on a reclaimed site appears to meet the required percent revegetation standard, EPIC Energy will submit to the Bureau Land Management a written request for concurrence that revegetation standards have been attained. The request will include all annual transect data sheets and a current set of monitoring photographs. The Bureau Land Management will review the request and approve or deny the request within 60 days of receipt. If the request is denied, the Bureau Land Management may initiate a site inspection within 60 days of the denial to analyze the site and determine if remedy actions may be appropriate.

# **Long-Term Monitoring**

If needed, after the required percent revegetation standard has been attained, EPIC Energy will begin long-term monitoring. Every fifth year after attainment, EPIC Energy will monitor the site at all established photo points to ensure the site remains productive and stable. A completed monitoring report of the permanent photo points will be submitted to the Bureau Land Management by December 31 of the year the site is monitored. The Bureau Land Management will acknowledge that the report has been received and evaluated within 60 days after receipt.

## Final Abandonment

If 1 or more acre of bare soil results from earthwork required in preparation for final abandonment, EPIC Energy, LLC will follow Vegetation Reclamation Plan in accordance with Procedure B of the BLM/FFO Bare Soil Reclamation Procedures (2013a) and any additional or separate requirements from the Bureau Land Management.

Revegetation percent cover standards will be attained, documented, and submitted to the Bureau Land Management by EPIC Energy, LLC or an exception granted before the Bureau Land Management will approve a final abandonment notice (FAN) or relinquishment.

Upon final reclamation, the location will be returned to pre-disturbance conditions as practicable.

# Cessation of Monitoring

Monitoring requirements will remain in effect as long as the permit, grant, or authorization remains in effect and until all infrastructure or associated facilities are abandoned by established BLM procedure and a FAN or relinquishment is issued by the Bureau Land Management. EPIC Energy, LLC will document that percent cover standards have been attained when submitting a request for a FAN or relinquishment.

# References

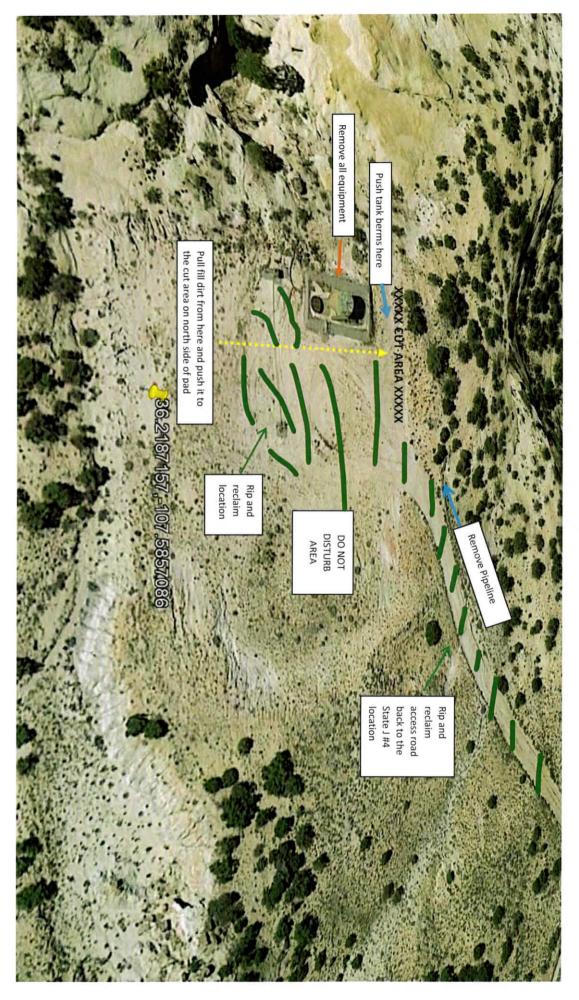
43 CFR Part 3160, "Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 1; Onshore Oil and Gas Operations; Federal and Indian Oil and Gas Leases; approval of Operations," 72 Federal Register 44 (March 2007), pp. 10328-10338.

BLM. 2013a. Farmington Field Office Bare Soil Reclamation Procedures. Available at: <a href="http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Farmington Field Office/ffo planning/surface use plan of.ht">http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Farmington Field Office/ffo planning/surface use plan of.ht</a> ml. Accessed November 2013.

BLM. 2013b. Updated Reclamation Goals. Available at: <a href="http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Farmington Field Office/ffo planning/surface use plan of/updated reclamation.html">http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Farmington Field Office/ffo planning/surface use plan of/updated reclamation.html</a>. Accessed November 2013.

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDI, USDA). 2007. Surface Operating Standards and Guidelines for Oil and Gas Exploration and Development. BLM/WO/ST-06/021+307/REV 07. Bureau of Land Management, Denver, Colorado. 84 pp.

Federal I #6 API# 3004320876 36.2187157, -107.5857086



District I
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240
Phone: (575) 393-6161 Fax: (575) 393-0720

District II 811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210 Phone:(575) 748-1283 Fax:(575) 748-9720 District III

1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410 Phone:(505) 334-6178 Fax:(505) 334-6170

1220 S. St Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505 Phone:(505) 476-3470 Fax:(505) 476-3462

# **State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Oil Conservation Division** 1220 S. St Francis Dr. **Santa Fe, NM 87505**

CONDITIONS

Action 106477

#### **CONDITIONS**

Operator:	OGRID:
EPIC ENERGY, L.L.C.	372834
332 Road 3100	Action Number:
Aztec, NM 87410	106477
	Action Type:
	[C-103] NOI Plug & Abandon (C-103F)

#### CONDITIONS

Created By	Condition	Condition Date
kpickford	Notify NMOCD 24 Hours Prior to beginning operations	5/17/2022
kpickford	Adhere to BLM approved COAs and plugs. See GEO report.	5/17/2022