

## Lara Weinheimer

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**From:** Bruce Baker [bbaker@rice-ecs.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:53 PM  
**To:** lweinheimer@rice-ecs.com  
**Subject:** Fwd: Undesirable Event NU12157TG: H E West B 53: Amended plan stipulations

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Gregston, Terry G" <tgregsto@blm.gov>  
**Date:** October 25, 2012, 10:21:53 AM MDT  
**To:** Bruce Baker <bbaker@rice-ecs.com>  
**Cc:** "dfrick@linenergy.com" <dfrick@linenergy.com>, "rragland@linenergy.com" <rragland@linenergy.com>, "jhernandez@linenergy.com" <jhernandez@linenergy.com>, "gawink@linenergy.com" <gawink@linenergy.com>, "mike.bratcher@state.nm.us" <mike.bratcher@state.nm.us>  
**Subject:** Undesirable Event NU12157TG: H E West B 53: Amended plan stipulations

Gentlemen,

This notification is in regard to the following location and undesirable events, which occurred one atop the other (see attached spill map):

Event Number: NU12157TG  
Event Date: 7/3/2012  
Event Name: H E West B 53  
Legals: T17S/R31E, sec. 9, SENE

Event Number: 11NU064TG  
Event Date: 03/28/11  
Event Name: H E West B 53  
Legals: T17S/R31E, sec. 9, SENE

The amended cleanup plan for the above location is approved with the following conditions of approval:

**Special Stipulations:**

1. The lab analysis for the delineation of this spill event varies from the originally submitted plan. Based on the resubmitted sample analysis, contaminated material will be removed to a depth of 4 feet or until combined GRO and DRO readings drop below 1,000 ppm and chlorides drop below 1,000ppm. The attached stipulations that were appended to the originally submitted plan will be followed.
2. It should also be noted that the sampled areas only encompass a small portion of the original spill footprints. Two spills have occurred on this site and the older spill is aged to the extent that it is not as readily seen on the surface. (see attached spill map) The entire area of both combined spills should be surveyed and cleaned up to ensure that both spills are mitigated, and the disturbed surface of both combined spills will be reclaimed according to the following conditions of approval.

**Notification Stipulations:**

1. A copy of the cleanup plan and conditions of approval must be given to the contractor or site work personnel and be present on the location during all cleanup operations.
2. The authorized officer must be notified at the following phases of cleanup or conditions:
  - a. Prior to moving equipment on location for cleanup
  - b. When the excavation is nearing completion and a BLM inspection of the excavation or witnessing of sampling is required by the cleanup plan COA's.
  - c. When the cleanup work is nearing completion and to schedule a final onsite prior to removal of equipment.
  - d. Three days before the site is seeded.
  - e. Any time that a variance of the approved plan or conditions of approval is required.
  - f. In the event that you encounter excavation difficulties, unexpected void areas, or archeological artifacts the Authorized Officer must be contacted immediately. An onsite may be required to assess the situation.
3. The authorized officer on this undesirable event case is:

**Terry Gregston**  
**(575) 361-2635**  
**tgregsto@blm.gov**

**Archeology Stipulations:**

1. There are no known archeological issues on this location.
- In the event that archeological artifacts are discovered during cleanup operations, contact the authorized officer on this case immediately. An onsite will be required to assess the situation.

**Road Cleanup Stipulations:**

1. The BLM requires horizontal cleanup of the spill impacted areas in addition to vertical cleanup/mitigation measures.
2. The BLM may wish to inspect the excavation once it reaches cleanup depth/width. Confirmation samples of excavation bottom, sidewalls and any visibly affected areas outside of the excavation trench will be required; the BLM may witness the sampling. Contact the authorized officer to schedule.
3. Lab analysis of the confirmation sampling must be forwarded to the authorized officer for final approval before backfilling. Based on the sampling results, additional cleanup may be required or the site may be approved for closure.
4. Once final approval of cleanup is given, the excavation can be backfilled with clean soil to the level of the original native contour plus enough loft to accommodate the settling and compaction of unconsolidated fill soils.
5. Road areas should be resurfaced with 6" of clean caliche on top of the backfill material.

**Pasture Impacted Areas:**

1. The BLM requires horizontal cleanup of the spill impacted areas in addition to vertical cleanup/mitigation measures.
2. The BLM may wish to inspect the excavation once it reaches cleanup depth/width. Confirmation samples of excavation bottoms, sidewalls and any visibly affected areas outside of the excavation trench will be required; the BLM may witness the sampling. Contact the authorized officer to schedule.
3. Lab analysis of the confirmation sampling must be forwarded to the authorized officer for final approval before backfilling. Based on the sampling results, additional cleanup may be required or the site may be approved for closure.
4. Once final approval of cleanup is given, the excavation can be backfilled with clean soil to the level of the original native contour plus enough loft to accommodate the settling and compaction of unconsolidated fill soils.
5. The top 2 feet of the backfill material must be topsoil similar to that in the surrounding native terrain.
6. If pastures are not contaminated but are impacted by cleanup operations, the impacts to the pasture areas will be mitigated by recontouring the impacted areas and restoring the surface as listed in items 7 through 9 of this section.

7. Install erosion control measures in the pasture-affected areas to prevent the unconsolidated reclamation materials from washing or blowing away until reclaimed areas settle and begin to revegetate.
8. Rip and seed reclaimed and equipment-impacted pasture areas with BLM seed mix #2 and #4, 50/50 mix.
9. Barricade entrance to reclaimed pasture areas with fencing or an earthen barrier sufficient to prevent vehicular access.
10. Continue to monitor spill reclamation area to ensure impacted pasture areas revegetate and that erosion issues do not develop.

**Other Stipulations:**

1. At the time of the final onsite for this location, the production facilities, well pad, access road, and the surrounding pasture areas must be in a condition that will pass a routine inspection.
2. All household trash, debris, disconnected pipe and equipment must be removed from the area and the surrounding pasture and hauled to an authorized landfill. Do not bury cleanup trash, equipment debris, or household garbage in the cleanup excavation.

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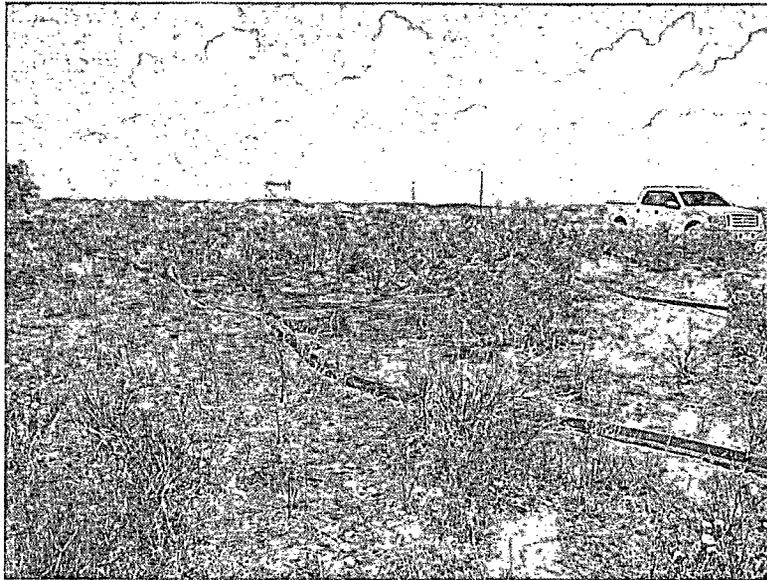
**BLM approval of this proposal does not relieve the operator of liability should their operations have failed to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that may pose a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health, or the environment, or if the location fails to reclaim properly. In such an event that location does not revegetate, or future issues with contaminants are encountered, the operator will be asked to address the issues until contaminant issues are fully mitigated and the location is successfully reclaimed. In addition, BLM approval does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws/regulations.**

**Terry Gregston**  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Bureau of Land Management  
620 E. Greene St.  
Carlsbad, NM 88220  
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# Linn Energy West B #053

Unit Letter B, Section 9, T17S R31E



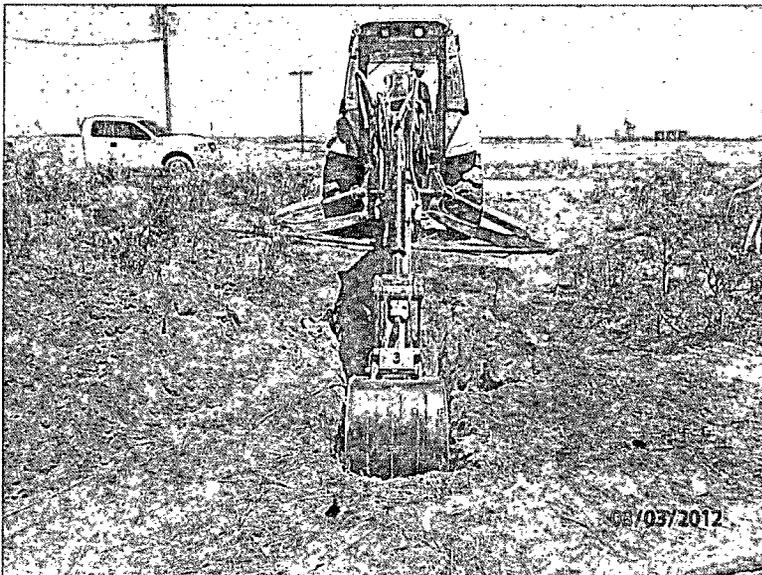
Initial release, facing northeast

7/11/12



Initial release, facing southeast

7/11/12



Digging Vertical #1, facing east

8/3/12



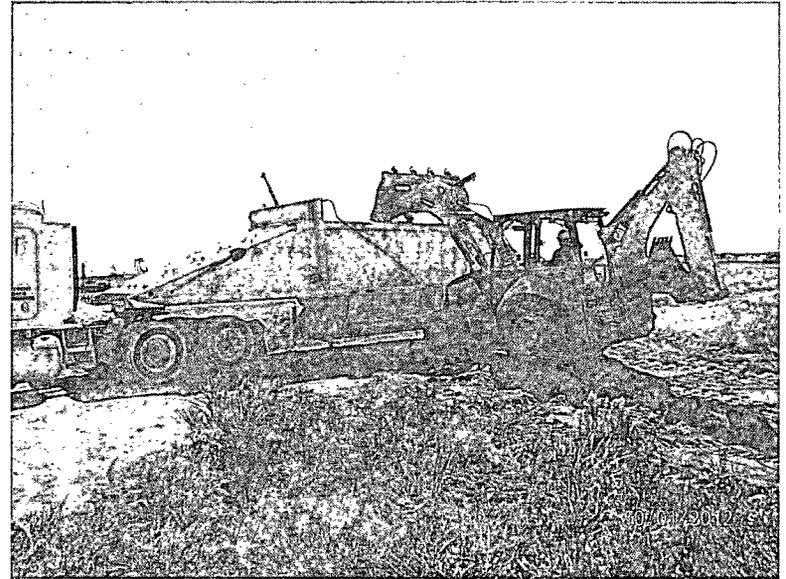
Digging Vertical #1, facing north

8/3/12



Excavating leak, facing east

10/1/12



Exporting soil, facing southeast

10/1/12



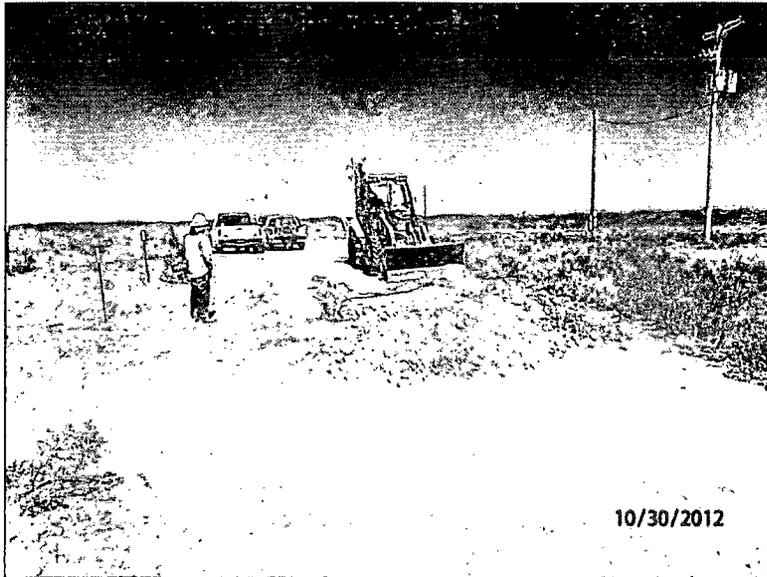
Digging Vertical #2, facing south

10/3/12



Excavating leak, facing south

10/29/12



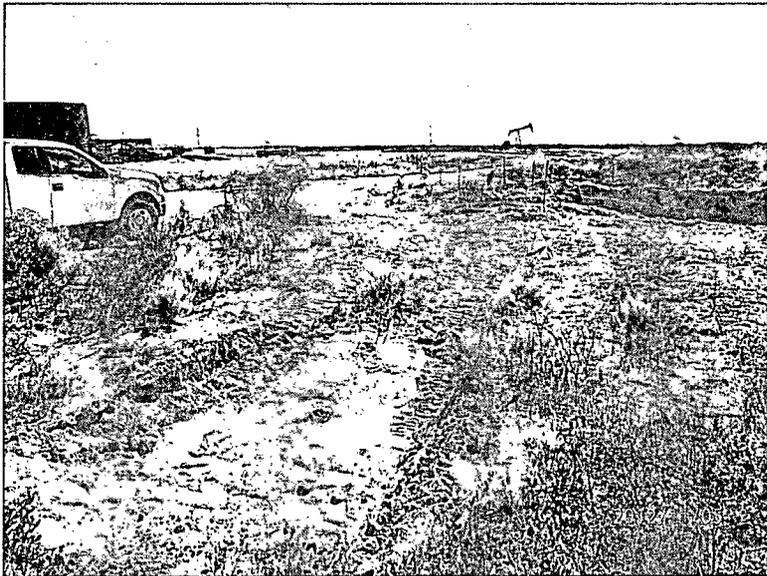
Scraping road, facing north

10/30/12



Digging North Excavation, facing west

10/30/12



Northeast Excavation, facing south

11/5/12



Collecting sample, facing south

11/14/12