

**AP - 072**

**GENERAL  
CORRESPONDENCE**

**YEAR(S):**

**2007**



# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

**BILL RICHARDSON**

Governor

**Joanna Prukop**

Cabinet Secretary

**Mark E. Fesmire, P.E.**

Director

**Oil Conservation Division**

**JUNE 19, 2007**

Mr. Brad Blevins  
Chesapeake Operating, Inc.  
P.O. Box 190  
Hobbs, NM 88240

**RE: REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT ABATEMENT PLAN  
CHESAPEAKE STATE M-1  
UNIT LETTER "O", SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 17 SOUTH, RANGE 36 EAST  
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO  
AP072**

Dear Mr. Blevins:

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has determined after reviewing the notice submitted by BBC International on behalf of Chesapeake Operating, Inc. (Chesapeake), that Chesapeake must submit a Stage 1 Abatement Plan in accordance with OCD Rule 19 (19.15.1.19 NMAC) to investigate ground water contamination at its State M-1 SWD Tank Battery site located in Unit Letter "O", Section 18, Township 17 South, Range 36 East, Lea County, New Mexico. OCD is requiring an abatement plan because hydrocarbons released from Chesapeake's SWD Tank Battery has contaminated ground water at concentrations that exceed the WQCC ground water protection standards specified at 20.6.2.3103 NMAC.

The Stage 1 Abatement Plan proposal must be submitted to the OCD Santa Fe Office with a copy provided to the OCD Hobbs District Office and must meet of all the requirements specified in Rule 19 (19.15.1.19 NMAC), including, but not limited to, the public notice and participation requirements specified in Rule 19G. The Stage 1 Abatement Plan is due sixty (60) days from the receipt by Chesapeake of this written notice.

The Stage 1 Abatement Plan must meet all of the requirements specified in OCD Rule 19E.3, including, but not limited to, a site investigation work plan and monitoring program that will enable it to characterize the release using an appropriate number of isoconcentration maps and

Mr. Brad Blevins

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cross sections that depict the contamination and to provide the data necessary to select and design an effective abatement option.

In addition to the Stage 1 Abatement Plan, Chesapeake must also submit a Form C-141 to document this release and impact to ground water. Chesapeake should submit one paper copy and one electronic copy of all future workplans and/or reports and must include the Case Number (AP072) on all future correspondence. If you have any questions, please contact Glenn von Gonten of my staff at (505) 476-3488.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'WP' or similar initials, followed by a horizontal line.

Wayne Price  
Environmental Bureau Chief

LWP:gvv

cc: Larry Johnson, OCD Hobbs District

Change of op @ 3/01/2004

**VonGonten, Glenn, EMNRD**

**From:** Price, Wayne, EMNRD  
**Sent:** Friday, June 08, 2007 12:05 PM  
**To:** VonGonten, Glenn, EMNRD  
**Subject:** FW: Chesapeake State M #1 SWD Battery-Groundwater Impact Notification

Glenn please handle and sign an AP#

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**From:** Cliff P. Brunson [mailto:cbrunson@bbcinternational.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 30, 2007 6:15 PM  
**To:** Price, Wayne, EMNRD  
**Cc:** Bradley Blevins; Harlan Brown; Curtis Blake; Ken Swinney; Jennifer Gilkey  
**Subject:** Chesapeake State M #1 SWD Battery-Groundwater Impact Notification

API  
TSR

Chesapeake Operating, Inc. - State M-1  
 OGRIS 147179  
 Dr. Home @ 1/30/2007  
 SWS  
 TANK BATT

Mr. Price,

This Email is formal notification that Chesapeake Operating, Inc. has encountered a hydrocarbon impacted ground water bearing formation at the State M #1 SWD Battery during a site investigation prior to reclamation of the abandoned facility. During the investigation and assessment activities, a soil boring was advanced to the south of the battery to groundwater. Hydrocarbons were encountered in the soil during the advancement and a permanent monitor well was installed. The well was developed and measured 5.9 feet of free phase hydrocarbons on the water table. The following is general information regarding the site:

Name: State M #1 SWD Battery;

Operator: Chesapeake Operating, Inc.;

UL "O"

Location: Township 17S, Range 36E, Section 18;

API: 30-025-23776

County: Lea County, New Mexico; and

Depth to ground water: 42.3 feet (based on a measurement from the top of the casing of the monitor well).

Chesapeake has ceased investigation activities until further direction from the NMOCD.

Chesapeake will keep the NMOCD informed of any activities at the site.

As you are aware Chesapeake is currently working with Glenn Von Gonten on another remediation site in Lea County and would like to request Glenn as our point of contact on this site.

If you have questions, please contact me at (505) 397-6388 or via email at [cbrunson@bbcinternational.com](mailto:cbrunson@bbcinternational.com) or Bradley Blevins of Chesapeake at (505) 391-1462, ext 6224 or via e-mail at [bblevins@chkenergy.com](mailto:bblevins@chkenergy.com).

Best regards,

Cliff Brunson

PO BOX 190  
 88240

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Cliff P. Brunson, CEI, CRS  
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