

1R - 354

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

YEAR(S):

2001

12354

DOYLE HARTMAN

Oil Operator

500 NORTH MAIN

P.O. BOX 10426

MIDLAND, TEXAS 79702

(915) 684-4011

(915) 682-7616 FAX

October 3, 2001

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
1625 French Dr.
Hobbs, NM 88240

Attn: Paul Sheeley, Environmental Engineer

Re: NMOCD Notice Dated September 14, 2001
Arnott Ramsay "NCT-B" No. 1 well
M-32-25S-37E

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the NMOCD's certified notice, of September 14, 2001 (received October 3, 2001), regarding a previously-unlined work pit, at our Arnott Ramsay "NCT-B" No. 1 wellsite (M-32-25S-37E).

As you are aware, the subject unlined work pit was brought to our attention, on August 22, 2001, by Mr. L.W. "Buddy" Hill, of the NMCOD. After our conversation, with Buddy Hill, the pit was enlarged, to provide additional storage capacity, after which it was reinspected, on the following day, for evidence of soil contamination, by Mr. Paul Sheely, of the NMOCD.

After Paul Sheely's on-site inspection, and subsequent approval, the subject temporary work pit was lined, with plastic.

Subsequent to the foregoing events, the old well pad, for the Arnott Ramsay "NCT-B" No. 1 well (which was drilled in 1935), was expanded and surfaced with caliche, to provide room for necessary frac equipment, for an upcoming frac job. When the well pad was expanded, the original (empty) plastic-lined work pit was backfilled, and covered with caliche.

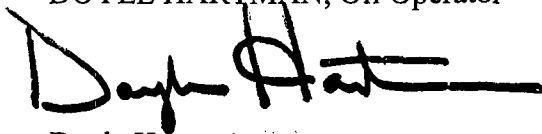
In preparation for the upcoming frac job, a new temporary plastic-lined work pit has been placed on the south side of the expanded caliche well pad, approximately 90' from the well. Once the planned frac job has been performed, and the Arnott Ramsay "NCT-B" No. 1 well has been returned to

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beneficial use, the new plastic-lined work pit will be promptly and properly abandoned.

Very truly yours,

DOYLE HARTMAN, Oil Operator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doyle Hartman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Doyle Hartman

cc: Roger Anderson, Environmental Bureau Chief
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
1220 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87504

Chris Williams, District I Supervisor
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
1625 French Dr.
Hobbs, NM 88240

Buddy Hill, Deputy Oil & Gas Inspector
Field Representative I
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
1625 French Dr.
Hobbs, NM 88240

E.L. Gonzales, Deputy Oil & Gas Inspector
Field Representative I
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
1625 French Dr.
Hobbs, NM 88240



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

GARY E. JOHNSON
Governor
Jennifer A. Salisbury
Cabinet Secretary

Lori Wrotenbery
Director
Oil Conservation Division

September 14, 2001

Doyle Hartman
500 North Main
POB 10426
Midland, TX 79702

USPS Certified Mail
Return Receipt #7099 3220 0002 3948 1966

Re: NOTICE OF VIOLATION
Unlined earthen reservoir (open pit).
UL M-Sec 32-T25S-R37E

Dear Mr. Hartman,

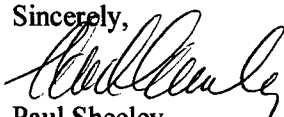
The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) discovered an unlined earthen reservoir containing oil at the above referenced site on August 23, 2001. This is a violation of **19 NMAC 15.5.310.A.** which states that **"oil shall not be stored or retained in earthen reservoirs or in open receptacles"**.

At the request of OCD personnel the oil was removed and the pit was lined. In order to comply with Rule 310.A, the OCD requires that any oil that is received by the lined pit be removed within 24 hours. The OCD also requires that Doyle Hartman submit a work plan to investigate and remediate contamination related to the former unlined pit upon completion of the well. The work plan shall be submitted to the OCD by October 1, 2001

This event has transpired in several instances recently and you have been verbally informed by the OCD that this activity is a violation of OCD rules. Please be advised that future violations of this rule may result in an administrative order requiring compliance with OCD rules and the imposition of civil penalties.

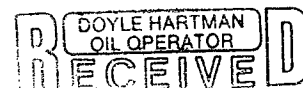
If you have any questions please contact me. (505) 393-6161 x113.

Sincerely,



Paul Sheeley
Environmental Engineer

cc: Roger Anderson - Environmental Bureau Chief
Chris Williams - District I Supervisor
Buddy Hill - Field Rep.
E. L. Gonzales - Field Rep.



OCT 03 2001