

## Hamlet, Robert, EMNRD

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**From:** Hamlet, Robert, EMNRD  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 28, 2020 2:56 PM  
**To:** DeHoyos, Kendra  
**Cc:** Bratcher, Mike, EMNRD; Venegas, Victoria, EMNRD; Eads, Cristina, EMNRD; blm\_nm\_cfo\_spill@blm.gov; Billings, Bradford, EMNRD  
**Subject:** Closure Denied - Devon - Apache 25 Fed #9 - (Incident #NAB1803838673) (2RP-4606)  
**Attachments:** Closure Denied - Devon - Apache 25 Fed #9.pdf

Kendra,

We have received your closure report and final C-141 for **Incident #NAB1803838673 Apache 25 Fed #9**, thank you. This closure is denied.

- The conclusion says, “White Buffalo Environmental would like to propose leaving the contamination indicated in this delineation project in place until the well is plugged and offices have been moved out of the area”.
- The responsible party shall restore the impacted surface area of a release occurring on a developed well pad, central tank battery, drilling site, compressor site or other exploration, development, production or storage sites to meet the standards of Table I of 19.15.29.12 NMAC or other applicable remediation standards and restore and reclaim the area pursuant to 19.15.29.13 NMAC. If contamination is located in areas immediately under or around production equipment such as production tanks, wellheads and pipelines where remediation could cause a major facility deconstruction, the remediation, restoration and reclamation may be deferred with division written approval until the equipment is removed during other operations, or when the well or facility is plugged or abandoned, whichever comes first.
- From looking at the pictures in the report, it appears that the release started at the wellhead and ran toward the field office. We won't be able to defer the entire spill, so please excavate the areas that are easy accessible away from the pumpjack. Please use a hydrovac around the pumpjack to remove the contaminated soil. If there is an area of clean-up that is hampered by equipment, please submit a formal deferral request outlining the points that you would like to defer. Also, please include a signed dated C-141 (page 5).
- Please upload the new report to the payment portal, when completed.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Thank you,

Robert J Hamlet  
State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources  
Oil Conservation Division  
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OCD approval does not relieve the operator of liability should their operations fail to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that may pose a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health or the environment. In addition, OCD approval does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.