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8/2/2014



whitnes, Jerald sdwhitloo@blm.gou>

Thu, Jul 31, 2014 at 8:19 AM

Rocky Arroyo Summary of Reclamation Activities

1 message

Bockisch, Bernie <bbockisch@craworld.com> To: "Whitlock, Jerald" <dwhitloc@blm.gov> Cc: "Hathaway, David C" <David.C.Hathaway@conocophillips.com>

Duncan,

I've attached the Summary of Reclamation Activities and Sundry Notice for the Rocky Arroyo site for your records. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thanks,

Bernie

Bernard Bockisch, PMP

Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA)

6121 Indian School Rd NE Ste. 200

Albuquerque, NM, USA 87110

Office: (505) 884-0672

Mobile: (505) 280-0572

Fax: (505) 884-4932

Email: bbockisch@craworld.com

www.CRAworld.com

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2 attachments

Rocky Arroyo Sundry 7.31.14.pdf

085637-RPT-2-Summary of Reclamation Activities.bbrev.mc.pdf 8369K





Summary of Reclamation Activities

Former Rocky Arroyo Gas Well Site Sec 4, T22S, R22E Eddy County, New Mexico

Prepared for: ConocoPhillips

Conestoga-Rovers & Associates

6121 Indian School Road, NE Suite 200 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

07/18/2014 • 085637 • Report No. 2



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Figure 2 Site Map

Figure 3 Pit Area Excavation Map

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CONESTOGA-ROVERS

Section 1.0 Introduction

Presented below is a summary of the reclamation activities that took place at the Former Rocky Arroyo Gas Well site (Site) from April 30 to June 6, 2014. The Site is a plugged and abandoned (P&A'd) gas well located in Eddy County, approximately 28.8 miles west of Carlsbad, New Mexico (see Figure 1). The coordinates for the Site are north 32.418427°, west 104.714553°. The site is extremely remote and difficult to access. Road conditions are poor and access with heavy equipment under current conditions is limited.

Section 2.0 Background Information

The surface estate at the Site is owned by the U.S. Government, under management by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). A petroleum production lease for the Site was held by ConocoPhillips (CoP). The well was operated under provisions of an approved Application for Permit to Drill. Plugging and abandonment reports dated February and May 1993 have been filed with the U.S. Geological Survey.

A tank battery was formerly co-located on the rock working-pad where the well was located. Tanks for the battery have been removed; however, some one-inch diameter steel pipe still remained at the site. An abandoned and buried four-inch diameter gas line was present to the west of the pad. It was not necessary to remove the line to complete reclamation activities so the line remains buried onsite.

The working pad occupied approximately 1.55 acres. It appeared that the pad was hewn out of the rock slope where the well was located. This created a cut wall that was approximately 20 feet high on the south side of the pad (see Figure 2). The spoils from the cut were pushed to the north to create the pad. The height of the cut wall varies from ground surface where it intersects the slope to approximately 20 feet above the pad surface.

The pad appeared to be constructed of weathered limestone. The top of the pad was relatively smooth due to the presence of finer limestone used to surface the pad. However, observation of the sides of the pad indicated that the majority of the pad was comprised of boulder-sized material. After excavation began, it was discovered that this was not the case.

All of the production equipment has been removed. The well plugging marker was the only permanent surface feature remaining on the Site. Immediately north and adjacent to the working-pad was an approximately 0.25 acre area occupied by the old reserve pit. The associated brine-impacts to the site increase this area to approximately 0.5 acres.

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A soil borrow pit located approximately 0.2 miles northeast of the Site was identified and approved by the BLM prior to the beginning reclamation activities. However, the borrow pit did not have to be utilized due to an excess of fine pad material.

A site visit was held on January 28, 2014. Attending the meeting were Mr. Duncan Whitlock and Mr. Jim Amos with the BLM, Mr. Justin Wright with CoP, and Mr. Bernard Bockisch with Conestoga-Rovers and Associates (CRA).

During the site visit, a scope of work was agreed upon and submitted to CoP on February 24, 2014. Adjustments made to the original scope of work during reclamation activities will be discussed below.

Section 3.0 Reclamation Activities

As outlined in the scope of work, reclamation activities were executed in four main phases. All reclamation activities were performed by Diamondback Disposal Services, Inc. (DDSI) and observed by CRA. CRA also provided soil screening, health and safety oversight, and conducted daily tailgate safety meetings with the DDSI crew.

3.1 Phase One – Excavation of Former Pit

Reclamation activities began on April 30, 2014. The fine material from the top of the pad next to the cut wall was scraped and stockpiled for later use. The unvegetated portion of the former pit (see Figure 3) was excavated to approximately 18 inches below ground surface (bgs). A 20 mil liner was placed on the pad adjacent to, and partially up the side of the cut wall. Edges of the liner were overlapped a minimum of 24 inches to create a continuous liner. The excavated pit material was then placed on top of the liner, adjacent to the cut wall.

After the initially agreed upon area had been excavated, Mr. Whitlock with the BLM visited the site and it was decided that the excavation needed to be expanded in order to encompass the associated brine-impacted areas. Additionally, the African Rue, an invasive weed, would need to be sprayed with weed killer. The impacted areas, mainly to the north of the former pit, were excavated to approximately 18 inches bgs. The impacted areas on the perimeter of the former pit were scraped to approximately 6 inches bgs.

Once all the necessary excavation was complete, soil samples from various locations throughout the excavated area (see Figure 3) were collected and field-screened for chlorides using Hach chloride test strips. None of the soil samples returned field screening results that exceeded 2,500 milligrams per kilogram for chlorides.

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ConocoPhillips

After excavated material was relocated to the pad and placed on the liner, additional liner material was placed over the top of the stockpile and overlapped a minimum of 24 inches until the excavated soil was completely covered. The fine pad material that had been previously stockpiled was placed over the top of the liner to minimize the possibility of puncturing the liner.

The African Rue was sprayed with a mixture of Roundup and Arsenal herbicide on three separate occasions. The presence of African Rue at the Site will be monitored and sprayed as necessary until it is eliminated.

3.2 Phase Two – Backfilling of Pit Excavation

After discussions with Mr. Whitlock of the BLM, it was decided to line the bottom of the excavated portion of the former pit area with boulder-sized material from around the edges of the pad (see Appendix A), rather than placing a liner as stated in the scope of work. Once the entire excavation was lined with large rock material, fine pad material was placed on top and graded to ground surface.

While relocating the fine pad material to the pit area, it was discovered that the majority of the pad was comprised of finer material as opposed to boulder-sized material. Consequently, fill material did not need to be taken from the borrow pit.

3.3 Phase Three – Pad Reclamation

The remaining pad material was placed against the cut wall in order to reduce the size of the existing pad and to shape the slope to approximate the existing grade. Small berms approximately one foot tall were pushed up perpendicular to the slope of the hillside to minimize erosion.

Due to the excess of fine pad material, this material was also used to recontour the upper portion of the access road that had been hewn out of the rock slope. This was done to minimize impacts to vegetation that had grown along either side of the road.

Once the pad material had been pushed to as close to existing contours as practical, the well marker was cut off of the P&A'd well to just above the well head. A new name plate containing the P&A'd well information was placed on the stub of the well marker. However, due to the new contour of the hillside, the marker is still above ground surface (see Appendix A).

3.4 Phase Four – Access Road Reclamation and Seeding

After all of the pad material had been pushed and graded to the existing hillside, the lower portion of the access road was ripped. An N-P-K fertilizer and seed mix selected by the BLM was

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broadcasted over the former pit area, pad area, and access road. The seed mix was composed of seven pounds per acre (lbs/acre) Blue Grama – Hachita, seven lbs/acre Side Oats Grama – Vaughn, one lb/acre Alkali Sacaton, and three lbs/acre Four Wing Saltbrush. The fertilizer and seed was tracked into the soil using on-site equipment. A barbed wire fence was placed across the entrance of the former road to minimize vehicle entry.

Section 4.0 Future Activities

The Site will be monitored for vegetation growth to ensure that the reclamation activities performed were sufficient. As previously stated, the Site will also be monitored for the presence of the intrusive African Rue and sprayed as necessary.

If you have any questions or comments, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact CRAs Albuquerque office at (505) 884-0672.

4

Yours truly,

085637 (2)

July 2014

CONESTOGA-ROVERS & ASSOCIATES

Bernard Bockisch, PMP Senior Project Manager

Cale Kanack Staff Scientist

ConocoPhillips

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085637 (2) July 2014 Summary of Reclamation Activities

Figures

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CONESTOGA-ROVERS



SOURCE: USGS 7.5 MINUTE QUAD "CAWLEY DRAW AND TEXAS HILL, NEW MEXICO"

LAT/LONG: 32.4184° NORTH, 104.7155° WEST COORDINATE: NAD83 DATUM, U.S. FOOT STATE PLANE ZONE - NEW MEXICO EAST

Figure 1

SITE LOCATION MAP ROCKY ARROYO SITE EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO *ConocoPhillips Company*

085637-00(001)GN-DL001 FEB 17/2014





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Appendix A

Photo Log

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Photo 1 – Pre-reclamation photo of Site looking south from on top of the pad showing the cut wall.



Photo 2 – Pre-reclamation photo of Site looking west from on top of the pad showing the former pit area.



Photo 3 – Site looking east from the former pit area showing the side of the pad.



Photo 4 – Former pit area after excavation prior to backfilling.



Photo 5 – Liner placed against the cut wall preparing to accept excavated material.



Photo 6 – Liner with excavated material on top.

Chevron Environmental Management Company



Photo 7 – Completed liner after top layer was placed over the excavated material.



Photo 8 – Liner area covered with fine material.



Photo 9 – Excavated former pit area lined with layer of large material.



Photo 10 – Former pit area graded to ground surface with fine material.

Chevron Environmental Management Company



Photo 11 – P&A'd well marker with name plate after being cut.



Photo 12 - Name plate on well marker.



• Photo 13 – Pushed up berms on hillside to minimize erosion.



Photo 14 – Site after being recontoured to match existing hillside.



Photo 15 – Upper portion of access road after being backfilled and seeded.

Chevron Environmental Management Company



Photo 16 – Lower portion of access road with barbed wire fence after being ripped and seeded.