

**PECOS DISTRICT
DRILLING OPERATIONS
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

OPERATOR'S NAME:	Cimarex Energy Co
LEASE NO.:	NM129267
WELL NAME & NO.:	West Grama Ridge 8 5 Fed – 2H
SURFACE HOLE FOOTAGE:	280'/FSL & 2000'/FWL
BOTTOM HOLE FOOTAGE:	330'/FNL & 1880'/FWL
LOCATION:	Sec. 8, T. 22 S, R. 34 E
COUNTY:	Lea County

I. Communitization Agreement

- The operator will submit a Communitization Agreement to the Carlsbad Field Office, 620 E Greene St. Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220, at least 90 days before the anticipated date of first production from a well subject to a spacing order issued by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division. The Communitization Agreement will include the signatures of all working interest owners in all Federal and Indian leases subject to the Communitization Agreement (i.e., operating rights owners and lessees of record), or certification that the operator has obtained the written signatures of all such owners and will make those signatures available to the BLM immediately upon request.
- If the operator does not comply with this condition of approval, the BLM may take enforcement actions that include, but are not limited to, those specified in 43 CFR 3163.1.
- In addition, the well sign shall include the surface and bottom hole lease numbers. When the Communitization Agreement number is known, it shall also be on the sign.

II. DRILLING

A. DRILLING OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS

The BLM is to be notified in advance for a representative to witness:

- a. Spudding well (minimum of 24 hours)
- b. Setting and/or Cementing of all casing strings (minimum of 4 hours)
- c. BOPE tests (minimum of 4 hours)

Lea County

Call the Hobbs Field Station, 414 West Taylor, Hobbs NM 88240,
(575) 393-3612

1. **Hydrogen Sulfide has been reported as a hazard in formations deeper than the proposed depth. It is recommended that monitoring equipment be onsite for**

potential Hydrogen Sulfide. If Hydrogen Sulfide is encountered, report measurements and formations to the BLM.

2. Unless the production casing has been run and cemented or the well has been properly plugged, the drilling rig shall not be removed from over the hole without prior approval. **If the drilling rig is removed without approval – an Incident of Non-Compliance will be written and will be a “Major” violation.**
3. Floor controls are required for 3M or Greater systems. These controls will be on the rig floor, unobstructed, readily accessible to the driller and will be operational at all times during drilling and/or completion activities. Rig floor is defined as the area immediately around the rotary table; the area immediately above the substructure on which the draw works is located, this does not include the dog house or stairway area.
4. **The record of the drilling rate along with the GR/N well log run from TD to surface (horizontal well – vertical portion of hole) shall be submitted to the BLM office as well as all other logs run on the borehole 30 days from completion. If available, a digital copy of the logs is to be submitted in addition to the paper copies. The Rustler top and top and bottom of Salt are to be recorded on the Completion Report.**

B. CASING

Changes to the approved APD casing program need prior approval if the items substituted are of lesser grade or different casing size or are Non-API. The Operator can exchange the components of the proposal with that of superior strength (i.e. changing from J-55 to N-80, or from 36# to 40#). Changes to the approved cement program need prior approval if the altered cement plan has less volume or strength or if the changes are substantial (i.e. Multistage tool, ECP, etc.). The initial wellhead installed on the well will remain on the well with spools used as needed.

Centralizers required on surface casing per Onshore Order 2.III.B.1.f.

Wait on cement (WOC) for Water Basin:

After cementing but before commencing any tests, the casing string shall stand cemented under pressure until both of the following conditions have been met: 1) cement reaches a minimum compressive strength of 500 psi at the shoe, 2) until cement has been in place at least 8 hours. WOC time will be recorded in the driller’s log. See individual casing strings for details regarding lead cement slurry requirements.

No pea gravel permitted for remedial or fall back remedial without prior authorization from the BLM engineer.

Capitan Reef

**Possible water flows in the Artesia Group and Salado.
Possible lost circulation in the Red Beds, Rustler, Artesia Group, Capitan Reef, and Delaware.**

1. The **13-3/8** inch surface casing shall be set at approximately **1700** feet (**in a competent bed below the Magenta Dolomite, which is a Member of the Rustler, and if salt is encountered, set casing at least 25 feet above the salt**) and cemented to the surface. (Casing will be sundried to 54.5 # J-55 casing per communication with operator) **Excess calculates to 17% - Additional cement may be required.**
 - a. If cement does not circulate to the surface, the appropriate BLM office shall be notified and a temperature survey utilizing an electronic type temperature survey with surface log readout will be used or a cement bond log shall be run to verify the top of the cement. Temperature survey will be run a minimum of six hours after pumping cement and ideally between 8-10 hours after completing the cement job.
 - b. **Wait on cement (WOC) time for a primary cement job is to include the lead cement slurry.**
 - c. Wait on cement (WOC) time for a remedial job will be a minimum of 4 hours after bringing cement to surface or 500 pounds compressive strength, whichever is greater.
 - d. If cement falls back, remedial cementing will be done prior to drilling out that string.

Special Capitan Reef requirements:

If lost circulation (50% or greater) occurs below the Base of the Salt, the operator shall do the following:

- **Switch to fresh water mud to protect the Capitan Reef and use fresh water mud until setting the intermediate casing. The appropriate BLM office is to be notified for a PET to witness the switch to fresh water.**
- **Daily drilling reports from the Base of the Salt to the setting of the intermediate casing are to be submitted to the BLM CFO engineering staff via e-mail by 0800 hours each morning. Any lost circulation encountered is to be recorded on these drilling reports. The daily drilling report should show mud volume per shift/tour. Failure to submit these reports will result in an Incidence of Non-Compliance being issued for failure to comply with the Conditions of Approval. If not already planned, the operator shall run a caliper survey for the intermediate well bore and submit to the appropriate BLM office.**

Intermediate casing shall be kept fluid filled while running into hole to meet BLM minimum collapse requirements.

2. The minimum required fill of cement behind the **9-5/8** inch intermediate casing, which shall be set at approximately **5140** feet (**base of the Capitan Reef**), is:

Cement to surface. If cement does not circulate see B.1.a, c-d above. **Wait on cement (WOC) time for a primary cement job is to include the lead cement slurry due to Capitan Reef.**

Centralizers approved as written.

3. The minimum required fill of cement behind the **5-1/2** inch production casing is:

Cement should tie-back at least **50 feet above the Capitan Reef** (Top of Capitan Reef estimated at 4081'). Operator shall provide method of verification.

4. If hardband drill pipe is rotated inside casing, returns will be monitored for metal. If metal is found in samples, drill pipe will be pulled and rubber protectors which have a larger diameter than the tool joints of the drill pipe will be installed prior to continuing drilling operations.

C. PRESSURE CONTROL

1. All blowout preventer (BOP) and related equipment (BOPE) shall comply with well control requirements as described in Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2 and API 53.
2. Variance approved to use flex line from BOP to choke manifold. Check condition of flexible line from BOP to choke manifold, replace if exterior is damaged or if line fails test. Line to be as straight as possible with no hard bends and is to be anchored according to Manufacturer's requirements. The flexible hose can be exchanged with a hose of equal size and equal or greater pressure rating. **Anchor requirements, specification sheet and hydrostatic pressure test certification matching the hose in service, to be onsite for review. These documents shall be posted in the company man's trailer and on the rig floor.** If the BLM inspector questions the straightness of the hose, a BLM engineer will be contacted and will review in the field or via picture supplied by inspector to determine if changes are required (operator shall expect delays if this occurs).
3. Minimum working pressure of the blowout preventer (BOP) and related equipment (BOPE) required for drilling below the surface casing shoe shall be **2000 (2M)** psi.

4. Minimum working pressure of the blowout preventer (BOP) and related equipment (BOPE) required for drilling below the **9-5/8** intermediate casing shoe shall be **3000 (3M)** psi.
5. The appropriate BLM office shall be notified a minimum of 4 hours in advance for a representative to witness the tests.
 - a. In a water basin, for all casing strings utilizing slips, these are to be set as soon as the crew and rig are ready and any fallback cement remediation has been done. The casing cut-off and BOP installation can be initiated four hours after installing the slips, which will be approximately six hours after bumping the plug. For those casing strings not using slips, the minimum wait time before cut-off is eight hours after bumping the plug. BOP/BOPE testing can begin after cut-off or once cement reaches 500 psi compressive strength (including lead when specified), whichever is greater. However, if the float does not hold, cut-off cannot be initiated until cement reaches 500 psi compressive strength (including lead when specified).
 - b. The tests shall be done by an independent service company utilizing a test plug **not a cup or J-packer**. The operator also has the option of utilizing an independent tester to test without a plug (i.e. against the casing) pursuant to Onshore Order 2 with the pressure not to exceed 70% of the burst rating for the casing. Any test against the casing must meet the WOC time for water basin (8 hours) or potash (24 hours) or 500 pounds compressive strength, whichever is greater, prior to initiating the test (see casing segment as lead cement may be critical item).
 - c. The test shall be run on a 5000 psi chart for a 2-3M BOP/BOP, on a 10000 psi chart for a 5M BOP/BOPE and on a 15000 psi chart for a 10M BOP/BOPE. If a linear chart is used, it shall be a one hour chart. A circular chart shall have a maximum 2 hour clock. If a twelve hour or twenty-four hour chart is used, tester shall make a notation that it is run with a two hour clock.
 - d. The results of the test shall be reported to the appropriate BLM office.
 - e. All tests are required to be recorded on a calibrated test chart. **A copy of the BOP/BOPE test chart and a copy of independent service company test will be submitted to the appropriate BLM office.**
 - f. The BOP/BOPE test shall include a low pressure test from 250 to 300 psi. The test will be held for a minimum of 10 minutes if test is done with a test plug and 30 minutes without a test plug. This test shall be performed prior to the test at full stack pressure.

D. DRILL STEM TEST

If drill stem tests are performed, Onshore Order 2.III.D shall be followed.

E. WASTE MATERIAL AND FLUIDS

All waste (i.e. drilling fluids, trash, salts, chemicals, sewage, gray water, etc.) created as a result of drilling operations and completion operations shall be safely contained and disposed of properly at a waste disposal facility. No waste material or fluid shall be disposed of on the well location or surrounding area.

Porto-johns and trash containers will be on-location during fracturing operations or any other crew-intensive operations.

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