

**PECOS DISTRICT  
DRILLING CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

<b>OPERATOR'S NAME:</b>	Cimarex Energy Company
<b>LEASE NO.:</b>	NMNM056376
<b>WELL NAME &amp; NO.:</b>	Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H
<b>SURFACE HOLE FOOTAGE:</b>	544'/N & 1980'/E
<b>BOTTOM HOLE FOOTAGE:</b>	330'/S & 660'/E
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Section 21, T.19 S., R.34 E., NMPM
<b>COUNTY:</b>	Lea County, New Mexico

COA

H2S	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	
Potash	<input checked="" type="radio"/> None	<input type="radio"/> Secretary	<input type="radio"/> R-111-P
Cave/Karst Potential	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Low	<input type="radio"/> Medium	<input type="radio"/> High
Variance	<input type="radio"/> None	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Flex Hose	<input type="radio"/> Other
Wellhead	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Conventional	<input type="radio"/> Multibowl	<input type="radio"/> Both
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 String Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Capitan Reef	<input type="checkbox"/> WIPP

**A. Hydrogen Sulfide**

A Hydrogen Sulfide (H2S) Drilling Plan shall be activated 500 feet prior to drilling into the **Delaware** formation. As a result, the Hydrogen Sulfide area must meet Onshore Order 6 requirements, which includes equipment and personnel/public protection items. If Hydrogen Sulfide is encountered, please provide measured values and formations to the BLM.

**B. CASING**

**A variance was approved for operator to use a diverter on the surface casing.**

1. The 13-3/8 inch surface casing shall be set at approximately 1795 feet (a minimum of 25 feet into the Rustler Anhydrite and above the salt) and cemented to the surface.
  - 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 will be a minimum of **8 hours** or 500 pounds compressive strength, whichever is greater. (This is to include the lead cement).
  - 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.

**Operator shall filled 1/3<sup>rd</sup> casing with fluid while running intermediate casing to maintain collapse safety factor.**

2. The minimum required fill of cement behind the 9-5/8 inch intermediate casing 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 cave/karst or potash.

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

- Cement should tie-back at least 200 feet into previous casing string. Operator shall provide method of verification. **Additional cement maybe required. Excess calculates to 17%.**

### **C. PRESSURE CONTROL**

1. Variance approved to use flex line from BOP to choke manifold. Manufacturer's specification to be readily available. No external damage to flex line. Flex line to be installed as straight as possible (no hard bends).
2. 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.
3. 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.

## **GENERAL 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)

Chaves and Roosevelt Counties  
Call the Roswell Field Office, 2909 West Second St., Roswell NM 88201.  
During office hours call (575) 627-0272.  
After office hours call (575)

Eddy County  
Call the Carlsbad Field Office, 620 East Greene St., Carlsbad, NM 88220,  
(575) 361-2822

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

1. 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.
  - a. In the event the operator has proposed to drill multiple wells utilizing a skid/walking rig. Operator shall secure the wellbore on the current well, after installing and testing the wellhead, by installing a blind flange of like pressure rating to the wellhead and a pressure gauge that can be monitored while drilling is performed on the other well(s).
  - b. When the operator proposes to set surface casing with Spudder Rig
    - Notify the BLM when moving in and removing the Spudder Rig.
    - Notify the BLM when moving in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rig. Rig to be moved in within 90 days of notification that Spudder Rig has left the location.
    - BOP/BOPE test to be conducted per Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2 as soon as 2nd Rig is rigged up on well.
2. 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 are located, this does not include the dog house or stairway area.
3. 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.

#### A. CASING

1. 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.
2. Wait on cement (WOC) for Potash Areas: 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 for all cement blends, 2) until cement has been in place at least 24 hours. WOC time will be recorded in the driller's log. The casing integrity test can be done (prior to the cement setting up) immediately after bumping the plug.

3. 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. The casing integrity test can be done (prior to the cement setting up) immediately after bumping the plug.
4. Provide compressive strengths including hours to reach required 500 pounds compressive strength prior to cementing each casing string. Have well specific cement details onsite prior to pumping the cement for each casing string.
5. No pea gravel permitted for remedial or fall back remedial without prior authorization from the BLM engineer.
6. On that portion of any well approved for a 5M BOPE system or greater, a pressure integrity test of each casing shoe shall be performed. Formation at the shoe shall be tested to a minimum of the mud weight equivalent anticipated to control the formation pressure to the next casing depth or at total depth of the well. This test shall be performed before drilling more than 20 feet of new hole.
7. 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.
8. Whenever a casing string is cemented in the R-111-P potash area, the NMOCD requirements shall be followed.

#### B. 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 RP 53 Sec. 17.
2. If a variance is approved for a flexible hose to be installed from the BOP to the choke manifold, the following requirements apply: The flex line must meet the requirements of API 16C. 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.

3. 5M or higher system requires an HCR valve, remote kill line and annular to match. The remote kill line is to be installed prior to testing the system and tested to stack pressure.
4. If the operator has proposed a multi-bowl wellhead assembly in the APD. The following requirements must be met:
  - a. Wellhead shall be installed by manufacturer's representatives, submit documentation with subsequent sundry.
  - b. If the welding is performed by a third party, the manufacturer's representative shall monitor the temperature to verify that it does not exceed the maximum temperature of the seal.
  - c. Manufacturer representative shall install the test plug for the initial BOP test.
  - d. If the cement does not circulate and one inch operations would have been possible with a standard wellhead, the well head shall be cut off, cementing operations performed and another wellhead installed.
  - e. Whenever any seal subject to test pressure is broken, all the tests in OOGO2.III.A.2.i must be followed.
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. In potash areas, 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. For all casing strings, casing cut-off and BOP installation can be initiated at twelve hours after bumping the plug. However, **no tests** shall commence until the cement has had a minimum of 24 hours setup time, except the casing pressure test can be initiated immediately after bumping the plug (only applies to single stage cement jobs).
  - c. The tests shall be done by an independent service company utilizing a test plug. The results of the test shall be reported to the appropriate BLM office.

- d. 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.
- 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. This test shall be performed prior to the test at full stack pressure.
- g. BOP/BOPE must be tested by an independent service company within 500 feet of the top of the Wolfcamp formation if the time between the setting of the intermediate casing and reaching this depth exceeds 20 days. This test does not exclude the test prior to drilling out the casing shoe as per Onshore Order No. 2.

#### C. DRILLING MUD

Mud system monitoring equipment, with derrick floor indicators and visual and audio alarms, shall be operating before drilling into the Wolfcamp formation, and shall be used until production casing is run and cemented.

#### D. 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.

#### **Waste Minimization Plan (WMP)**

In the interest of resource development, submission of additional well gas capture development plan information is deferred but may be required by the BLM Authorized Officer at a later date.

**ZS 042918**

**Conditions of Approval  
Cimarex Energy Company  
Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H and 2H**

**Special Stipulations:**

**Lesser Prairie-Chicken**

Oil and gas activities will not be allowed in lesser prairie-chicken habitat during the period from March 1st through June 15th annually. During that period, other activities that produce noise or involve human activity, such as the maintenance of oil and gas facilities, geophysical exploration other than 3-D operations, and pipeline, road, and well pad construction, will be allowed except between 3:00 am and 9:00 am. The 3:00 am to 9:00 am restriction will not apply to normal, around-the-clock operations, such as venting, flaring, or pumping, which do not require a human presence during this period. Normal vehicle use on existing roads will not be restricted. Exhaust noise from pump jack engines must be muffled or otherwise controlled so as not to exceed 75 db measured at 30 ft. from the source of the noise.

Upon the plugging and subsequent abandonment of the well, the well marker will be installed at ground level on a plate containing the pertinent information for the plugged well. For more installation details, contact the Carlsbad Field Office at 575-234-5972.

**Power line Avian Protection**

Power lines shall be constructed and designed in accordance to standards outlined in "Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power lines: The State of the Art in 2006" Edison Electric Institute, APLIC, and the California Energy Commission 2006. The holder shall assume the burden and expense of proving that pole designs not shown in the above publication deter raptor perching, roosting, and nesting. Such proof shall be provided by a raptor expert approved by the Authorized Officer. The BLM reserves the right to require modification or additions to all power line structures placed on this right-of-way, should they be necessary to ensure the safety of large perching birds. The holder without liability or expense shall make such modifications and/or additions to the United States.

**Escape Ramps**

The operator will construct and maintain pipeline/utility trenches that are not otherwise fenced, screened, or netted to prevent livestock, wildlife, and humans from becoming entrapped. At a minimum, the operator will construct and maintain escape ramps, ladders, or other methods of avian and terrestrial wildlife escape in the trenches according to the following criteria:

- a. Any trench left open for eight (8) hours or less is not required to have escape ramps; however, before the trench is backfilled, the contractor/operator shall inspect the trench for wildlife, remove all trapped wildlife, and release them at least 100 yards from the trench.
- b. For trenches left open for eight (8) hours or more, earthen escape ramps (built at no more than a 30 degree slope and spaced no more than 500 feet apart) shall be placed in the trench.

### **Dunes Sagebrush Lizard Trench Stipulation**

- Pre-construction contact with a BLM wildlife biologist is required within 5 days before any ground disturbing activities associated with the project occurs.
- Successful completion of the BLM Trench Stipulation Workshop is required for a non-agency person to be approved as a monitor.
- Any trench left open for (8) hours or less is not required to have escape ramps; however, before the trench is backfilled, an agency approved monitor shall walk the entire length of the open trench and remove all trapped vertebrates. The bottom surface of the trench will be disturbed a minimum of 2 inches in order to arouse any buried vertebrates. All vertebrates will be released a minimum of 100 yards from the trench.
- For trenches left open for eight (8) hours or more the following requirements apply:
  - Earthen escape ramps and/or structures (built at no more than a 30 degree slope and spaced no more than 500 feet apart) shall be placed in the trench. Metal structures will not be authorized. Options will be discussed in detail at the required Trench Stipulation Workshop.
  - One approved monitor shall be required to survey up to three miles of trench between the hours of 11 AM-2 PM. A daily report (consolidate if there is more than one monitor) on the vertebrates found and removed from the trench shall be provided to the BLM (email/fax is acceptable) the following morning.
  - Prior to backfilling of the trench all structures used as escape ramps will be removed and the bottom surface of the trench will be disturbed a minimum of 2 inches in order to arouse any buried vertebrates. All vertebrates will be released a minimum of 100 yards from the trench.
- This stipulation shall apply to the entire length of the project in the DSL habitat polygon regardless of land ownership or CCA/CCAA enrollment status.
- A project closeout will be required within three business days of the completion of the project.

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Seed Mixture 2, for Sandy Sites

The holder shall seed all disturbed areas with the seed mixture listed below. The seed mixture shall be planted in the amounts specified in pounds of pure live seed (PLS)\* per acre. There shall be no primary or secondary noxious weeds in the seed mixture. Seed will be tested and the viability testing of seed will be done in accordance with State law (s) and within nine (9) months prior to purchase. Commercial seed will be either certified or registered seed. The seed container will be tagged in accordance with State law(s) and available for inspection by the authorized officer.

Seed will be planted using a drill equipped with a depth regulator to ensure proper depth of planting where drilling is possible. The seed mixture will be evenly and uniformly planted over the disturbed area (smaller/heavier seeds have a tendency to drop the bottom of the drill and are planted first). The holder shall take appropriate measures to ensure this does not occur. Where drilling is not possible, seed will be broadcast and the area shall be raked or chained to cover the seed. When broadcasting the seed, the pounds per acre are to be doubled. The seeding will be repeated until a satisfactory stand is established as determined by the authorized officer. Evaluation of growth will not be made before completion of at least one full growing season after seeding.

Species to be planted in pounds of pure live seed\* per acre:

<u>Species</u>	<u>lb/acre</u>
Sand dropseed (Sporobolus cryptandrus)	1.0
Sand love grass (Eragrostis trichodes)	1.0
Plains bristlegrass (Setaria macrostachya)	2.0

\*Pounds of pure live seed:

Pounds of seed x percent purity x percent germination = pounds pure live seed

**Approval Date: 07/06/2018**

**BLM LEASE NUMBER: 0056376**  
**COMPANY NAME: Cimarex Energy Company**  
**ASSOCIATED WELL NAME: Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H and 2H**

**STIPULATIONS FOR BURIED ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION LINES**

The holder agrees to comply with the following stipulations to the satisfaction of the Authorized Officer, BLM.

1. The Holder shall indemnify the United States against any liability for damage to life or property arising from the occupancy or use of public lands under this authorization.
2. The Holder shall comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations existing or hereafter enacted or promulgated. In any event, the Holder shall comply with the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, as amended (15 U.S.C. 2601, et. seq.) with regard to any toxic substances that are used, generated by or stored on the powerline route or on facilities authorized. (See 40 CFR, Part 702-799 and especially, provisions on polychlorinated biphenyls, 40 CFR 761.1-761.193.) Additionally, any release of toxic substances (leaks, spills, etc.) in excess of the reportable quantity established by 40 CFR, Part 117 shall be reported as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, Section 102b. A copy of any report required or requested by any Federal agency or State government as a result of a reportable release or spill of any toxic substances shall be furnished to the Authorized Officer concurrent with the filing of the reports to the involved Federal agency or State government.
3. The Holder agrees to indemnify the United States against any liability arising from the release of any hazardous substance or hazardous waste (as these terms are defined in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. 9601, et. seq. or the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6901, et. seq.) on the right-of-way (unless the release or threatened release is wholly unrelated to the right-of-way Holder's activity on the pipeline). This agreement applies without regard to whether a release is caused by the Holder, its agent, or unrelated third parties.
4. If, during any phase of the construction, operation, maintenance, or termination of the pipeline, any oil or other pollutant should be discharged, impacting Federal lands, the control and total removal, disposal, and cleaning up of such oil or other pollutant, wherever found, shall be the responsibility of the Holder, regardless of fault. Upon failure of the holder to control, dispose of, or clean up such discharge on or affecting Federal lands, or to repair all damages to Federal lands resulting therefrom, the Authorized Officer may take such measures as deemed necessary to control and cleanup the discharge and restore the area, including, where appropriate, the aquatic environment and fish and wildlife habitats, at the full expense of the Holder. Such action by the Authorized Officer shall not relieve the Holder of any liability or responsibility.
5. Any cultural and/or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the Holder, or any person working on the Holder's behalf, on public or Federal land shall be immediately reported to the Authorized Officer. The Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the Authorized Officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the Authorized Officer to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The Holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to the proper mitigation measures will be made by the Authorized Officer after consulting with the holder.

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6. The holder is hereby obligated to comply with procedures established in the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) to protect such cultural items as human remains, associated funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony discovered inadvertently during the course of project implementation. In the event that any of the cultural items listed above are discovered during the course of project work, the proponent shall immediately halt the disturbance and contact the BLM within 24 hours for instructions. The proponent or initiator of any project shall be held responsible for protecting, evaluating, reporting, excavating, treating, and disposing of these cultural items according to the procedures established by the BLM in consultation with Indian Tribes."

7. The holder shall be held responsible if noxious weeds become established within the area. Evaluation of growth of the noxious weeds shall be made upon discovery. Weed control will be required on the disturbed lands resulting from this actions, which include the roads, pads and associated pipelines and on adjacent lands affected by the establishment of weeds due to this action.

The holder shall insure that the equipment and or vehicles that will be used to construct, maintain and administer the access roads, well pad, and resulting well are not polluted with invasive and noxious weed seeds. Transporting of invasive and noxious weed seeds could occur if the equipment and vehicles were previously used in noxious weed infested areas. In order to prevent the spread of noxious weeds, the Authorized Officer shall require that the equipment and vehicles be cleaned with either high pressure water or air prior to construction, maintenance and administration of the access roads, well pad, and resulting well.

The holder is responsible for consultation with the authorized officer and/or local authorities for acceptable weed control methods, which include following EPA and BLM requirements and policy.

8. The holder shall be responsible for maintaining the site in a sanitary condition at all times; waste materials shall be disposed of promptly at an appropriate waste disposal site. "Waste" means all discarded matter including, but not limited to human waste, trash, garbage, refuse, oil drums, petroleum products, ashes and equipment.

9. The holder shall conduct all activities associated with the construction, operation and termination of the powerline within the authorized limits.

10. No blading or clearing of any vegetation will be allowed unless approved in writing by the Authorized Officer.

11. The holder shall minimize disturbance to existing fences and other improvements on public lands. The holder is required to promptly repair impacted improvements to at least their former state. The holder shall contact the owner of any improvements prior to disturbing them. When necessary to pass through a fence line, the fence will be braced on both sides of the passageway prior to cutting of the fence. No permanent gates will be allowed unless approved by the Authorized Officer.

12. Construction trenches left open over night shall be covered. Covers shall be secured in place and shall be strong enough to prevent livestock or wildlife from falling through and into a hole.

13. The holder shall evenly spread the excess soil excavated from trench in the immediate vicinity of the trench structure.

14. The BLM serial number assigned to this right-of-way grant shall be posted in a permanent, conspicuous manner, and be maintained in a legible condition for the term of the right-of-way at all major road crossings and at all serviced facilities. Numbers will be at least two inches high and will be affixed

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to the pole nearest the road crossing and at the facilities served.

15. Upon cancellation, relinquishment, or expiration of this grant, the holder shall comply with those abandonment procedures as prescribed by the Authorized Officer.

16. All surface structures (poles, lines, transformers, etc.) shall be removed within 180 days of abandonment, relinquishment, or termination of use of the serviced facilities or within 180 days of abandonment, relinquishment, or termination of this grant, whichever comes first. This will not apply where the power line extends to serve an active, adjoining facility or facilities.

17. Escape Ramps - The operator will construct and maintain pipeline/utility trenches that are not otherwise fenced, screened, or netted to prevent livestock, wildlife, and humans from becoming entrapped. At a minimum, the operator will construct and maintain escape ramps, ladders, or other methods of avian and terrestrial wildlife escape in the trenches according to the following criteria:

- a. Any trench left open for eight (8) hours or less is not required to have escape ramps; however, before the trench is backfilled, the contractor/operator shall inspect the trench for wildlife, remove all trapped wildlife, and release them at least 100 yards from the trench.
- b. For trenches left open for eight (8) hours or more, earthen escape ramps (built at no more than a 30 degree slope and spaced no more than 500 feet apart) shall be placed in the trench.

18. The construction of this project will consist of digging a trench to a depth of at least 40 inches. Then installing the power line and covering with backfill dirt. After completing construction of the buried power line, the line shall be marked with underground power line warning signs at least every 1,000 feet.

19. Special stipulations:

#### **Dunes Sagebrush Lizard Trench Stipulation**

- Pre-construction contact with a BLM wildlife biologist is required within 5 days before any ground disturbing activities associated with the project occurs.
- Successful completion of the BLM Trench Stipulation Workshop is required for a non-agency person to be approved as a monitor.
- Any trench left open for (8) hours or less is not required to have escape ramps; however, before the trench is backfilled, an agency approved monitor shall walk the entire length of the open trench and remove all trapped vertebrates. The bottom surface of the trench will be disturbed a minimum of 2 inches in order to arouse any buried vertebrates. All vertebrates will be released a minimum of 100 yards from the trench.
- For trenches left open for eight (8) hours or more the following requirements apply:
  - Earthen escape ramps and/or structures (built at no more than a 30 degree slope and spaced no more than 500 feet apart) shall be placed in the trench. Metal structures will not be authorized. Options will be discussed in detail at the required Trench Stipulation Workshop.
  - One approved monitor shall be required to survey up to three miles of trench between the hours of 11 AM-2 PM. A daily report (consolidate if there is more than one monitor) on the vertebrates found and removed from the trench shall be provided to the BLM (email/fax is acceptable) the following morning.

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- Prior to backfilling of the trench all structures used as escape ramps will be removed and the bottom surface of the trench will be disturbed a minimum of 2 inches in order to arouse any buried vertebrates. All vertebrates will be released a minimum of 100 yards from the trench.

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**Cimarex Energy Company**  
**Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H and 2H**

**STIPULATIONS FOR BURIED ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION LINES**

**Livestock Watering Requirement**

Structures that provide water to livestock, such as windmills, pipelines, drinking troughs, and earthen reservoirs, will be avoided by moving the proposed action.

Any damage to structures that provide water to livestock throughout the life of the well, caused by operations from the well site, must be immediately corrected by the operator. The operator must notify the BLM office (575-234-5972) and the private surface landowner or the grazing allotment holder if any damage occurs to structures that provide water to livestock.

**Approval Date: 07/06/2018**

**BLM LEASE NUMBER:** NMNM0056376  
**COMPANY NAME:** Cimarex Energy Company  
**ASSOCIATED WELL NAME:** Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H and 2H

**STANDARD STIPULATIONS FOR SURFACE INSTALLED PIPELINES**

**A copy of the application (Grant, Sundry Notice, APD) and attachments, including stipulations, survey plat and/or map, will be on location during construction. BLM personnel may request to you a copy of your permit during construction to ensure compliance with all stipulations.**

Holder agrees to comply with the following stipulations to the satisfaction of the Authorized Officer:

1. The holder shall indemnify the United States against any liability for damage to life or property arising from the occupancy or use of public lands under this grant.
2. The holder shall comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations existing or hereafter enacted or promulgated. In any event, the holder shall comply with the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 as amended, 15 USC 2601 et seq. (1982) with regards to any toxic substances that are used, generated by or stored on the right-of-way or on facilities authorized under this right-of-way grant. (See 40 CFR, Part 702-799 and especially, provisions on polychlorinated biphenyls, 40 CFR 761.1-761.193.) Additionally, any release of toxic substances (leaks, spills, etc.) in excess of the reportable quantity established by 40 CFR, Part 117 shall be reported as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, section 102b. A copy of any report required or requested by any Federal agency or State government as a result of a reportable release or spill of any toxic substances shall be furnished to the authorized officer concurrent with the filing of the reports to the involved Federal agency or State government.
3. The holder agrees to indemnify the United States against any liability arising from the release of any hazardous substance or hazardous waste (as these terms are defined in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. 9601, et seq. or the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6901, et seq.) on the Right-of-Way (unless the release or threatened release is wholly unrelated to activity of the Right-of-Way holder's activity on the Right-of-Way), or resulting from the activity of the Right-of-Way holder on the Right-of-Way. This agreement applies without regard to whether a release is caused by the holder, its agent, or unrelated third parties.
4. The holder shall be liable for damage or injury to the United States to the extent provided by 43 CFR Sec. 2883.1-4. The holder shall be held to a standard of strict liability for damage or injury to the United States resulting from pipe rupture, fire, or spills caused or substantially aggravated by any of the following within the right-of-way or permit area:
  - a. Activities of the holder including, but not limited to construction, operation, maintenance,

and termination of the facility.

- b. Activities of other parties including, but not limited to:
  - (1) Land clearing.
  - (2) Earth-disturbing and earth-moving work.
  - (3) Blasting.
  - (4) Vandalism and sabotage.
- c. Acts of God.

The maximum limitation for such strict liability damages shall not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for any one event, and any liability in excess of such amount shall be determined by the ordinary rules of negligence of the jurisdiction in which the damage or injury occurred.

This section shall not impose strict liability for damage or injury resulting primarily from an act of war or from the negligent acts or omissions of the United States.

5. If, during any phase of the construction, operation, maintenance, or termination of the pipeline, any oil, salt water, or other pollutant should be discharged from the pipeline system, impacting Federal lands, the control and total removal, disposal, and cleaning up of such oil, salt water, or other pollutant, wherever found, shall be the responsibility of the holder, regardless of fault. Upon failure of the holder to control, dispose of, or clean up such discharge on or affecting Federal lands, or to repair all damages resulting therefrom, on the Federal lands, the Authorized Officer may take such measures as he deems necessary to control and clean up the discharge and restore the area, including, where appropriate, the aquatic environment and fish and wildlife habitats, at the full expense of the holder. Such action by the Authorized Officer shall not relieve the holder of any responsibility as provided herein.

6. All construction and maintenance activity will be confined to the authorized right-of-way width of 20 feet. If the pipeline route follows an existing road or buried pipeline right-of-way, the surface pipeline must be installed no farther than 10 feet from the edge of the road or buried pipeline right-of-way. If existing surface pipelines prevent this distance, the proposed surface pipeline must be installed immediately adjacent to the outer surface pipeline. All construction and maintenance activity will be confined to existing roads or right-of-ways.

7. No blading or clearing of any vegetation will be allowed unless approved in writing by the Authorized Officer.

8. The holder shall install the pipeline on the surface in such a manner that will minimize suspension of the pipeline across low areas in the terrain. In hummocky or dune areas, the pipeline will be "snaked" around hummocks and dunes rather than suspended across these features.

9. The pipeline shall be buried with a minimum of 24 inches under all roads, "two-tracks," and trails. Burial of the pipe will continue for 20 feet on each side of each crossing. The condition of the road, upon completion of construction, shall be returned to at least its former state with no bumps or dips remaining in the road surface.

10. The holder shall minimize disturbance to existing fences and other improvements on public lands. The holder is required to promptly repair improvements to at least their former state. Functional use of these improvements will be maintained at all times. The holder will contact the owner of any improvements prior to disturbing them. When necessary to pass through a fence line, the fence shall be braced on both sides of the passageway prior to cutting of the fence. No permanent gates will be allowed unless approved by the Authorized Officer.

11. In those areas where erosion control structures are required to stabilize soil conditions, the holder will install such structures as are suitable for the specific soil conditions being encountered and which are in accordance with sound resource management practices.

12. Excluding the pipe, all above-ground structures not subject to safety requirement shall be painted by the holder to blend with the natural color of the landscape. The paint used shall be a color which simulates "Standard Environmental Colors" – **Shale Green**, Munsell Soil Color No. 5Y 4/2; designated by the Rocky Mountain Five State Interagency Committee.

13. The pipeline will be identified by signs at the point of origin and completion of the right-of-way and at all road crossings. At a minimum, signs will state the holder's name, BLM serial number, and the product being transported. Signs will be maintained in a legible condition for the life of the pipeline.

14. The holder shall not use the pipeline route as a road for purposes other than routine maintenance as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer in consultation with the holder. The holder will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that the pipeline route is not used as a roadway.

15. Any cultural and/or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf, on public or Federal land shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the authorized officer to determine appropriate cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures will be made by the authorized officer after consulting with the holder.

16. The operator shall be held responsible if noxious weeds become established within the areas of operations. Weed control shall be required on the disturbed land where noxious weeds exist, which includes the roads, powerline corridor, and adjacent land affected by the establishment of weeds due to this action. The operator shall consult with the Authorized Officer for acceptable weed control methods, which include following EPA and BLM requirements and policies.

17. Surface pipelines must be less than or equal to 4 inches and a working pressure below 125 psi.

18. Special Stipulations:

- a. **Lesser Prairie-Chicken:** Oil and gas activities will not be allowed in lesser prairie-chicken habitat during the period from March 1st through June 15th annually. During that period, other activities that produce noise or involve human activity, such as the maintenance of oil and gas facilities and pipeline, road, and well pad construction, will be allowed except between 3:00 am and 9:00 am. The 3:00 am to 9:00 am restriction will not apply to normal, around-the-clock operations, such as venting, flaring, or pumping, which do not require a human presence during this period. Normal vehicle use on existing roads will not be restricted.
  
- b. This authorization is subject to your Certificate of Participation and/or Certificate of Inclusion under the New Mexico Candidate Conservation Agreement. Because it involves surface disturbing activities covered under your Certificate, your Habitat Conservation Fund Account with the Center of Excellence for Hazardous Materials Management (CEHMM) will be debited according to Exhibit B Part 2 of the Certificate of Participation.

**PECOS DISTRICT  
SURFACE USE  
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

OPERATOR'S NAME:	Cimarex Energy Company
LEASE NO.:	NMNM056376
WELL NAME & NO.:	Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H
SURFACE HOLE FOOTAGE:	544'/N & 1980'/E
BOTTOM HOLE FOOTAGE	330'/S & 660'/E
LOCATION:	Section 21, T.19 S., R.34 E., NMPM
COUNTY:	Lea County, New Mexico

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Standard Conditions of Approval (COA) apply to this APD. If any deviations to these standards exist or special COAs are required, the section with the deviation or requirement will be checked below.

- General Provisions**
- Permit Expiration**
- Archaeology, Paleontology, and Historical Sites**
- Noxious Weeds**
- Special Requirements**
  - Lesser Prairie-Chicken Timing Stipulations
  - Ground-level Abandoned Well Marker
  - Pad Construction Fence
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- Construction**
  - Notification
  - Topsoil
  - Closed Loop System
  - Federal Mineral Material Pits
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  - Roads
- Road Section Diagram**
- Production (Post Drilling)**
  - Well Structures & Facilities
  - Pipelines
  - Electric Lines
- Interim Reclamation**
- Final Abandonment & Reclamation**

## **I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

The approval of the Application For Permit To Drill (APD) is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations: 43 Code of Federal Regulations 3160, the lease terms, Onshore Oil and Gas Orders, Notices To Lessees, New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD) Rules, National Historical Preservation Act As Amended, and instructions and orders of the Authorized Officer. Any request for a variance shall be submitted to the Authorized Officer on Form 3160-5, Sundry Notices and Report on Wells.

## **II. PERMIT EXPIRATION**

If the permit terminates prior to drilling and drilling cannot be commenced within 60 days after expiration, an operator is required to submit Form 3160-5, Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells, requesting surface reclamation requirements for any surface disturbance. However, if the operator will be able to initiate drilling within 60 days after the expiration of the permit, the operator must have set the conductor pipe in order to allow for an extension of 60 days beyond the expiration date of the APD. (Filing of a Sundry Notice is required for this 60 day extension.)

## **III. ARCHAEOLOGICAL, PALEONTOLOGY & HISTORICAL SITES**

Any cultural and/or paleontological resource discovered by the operator or by any person working on the operator's behalf shall immediately report such findings to the Authorized Officer. The operator is fully accountable for the actions of their contractors and subcontractors. The operator shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the Authorized Officer. An evaluation of the discovery shall be made by the Authorized Officer to determine the appropriate actions that shall be required to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values of the discovery. The operator shall be held responsible for the cost of the proper mitigation measures that the Authorized Officer assesses after consultation with the operator on the evaluation and decisions of the discovery. Any unauthorized collection or disturbance of cultural or paleontological resources may result in a shutdown order by the Authorized Officer.

## **IV. NOXIOUS WEEDS**

The operator shall be held responsible if noxious weeds become established within the areas of operations. Weed control shall be required on the disturbed land where noxious weeds exist, which includes the roads, pads, associated pipeline corridor, and adjacent land affected by the establishment of weeds due to this action. The operator shall consult with the Authorized Officer for acceptable weed control methods, which include following EPA and BLM requirements and policies.

## V. SPECIAL REQUIREMENT(S)

### **Timing Limitation Stipulation / Condition of Approval for lesser prairie-chicken:**

Oil and gas activities including 3-D geophysical exploration, and drilling will not be allowed in lesser prairie-chicken habitat during the period from March 1st through June 15th annually. During that period, other activities that produce noise or involve human activity, such as the maintenance of oil and gas facilities, pipeline, road, and well pad construction, will be allowed except between 3:00 am and 9:00 am. The 3:00 am to 9:00 am restriction will not apply to normal, around-the-clock operations, such as venting, flaring, or pumping, which do not require a human presence during this period. Additionally, no new drilling will be allowed within up to 200 meters of leks known at the time of permitting. Normal vehicle use on existing roads will not be restricted. Exhaust noise from pump jack engines must be muffled or otherwise controlled so as not to exceed 75 db measured at 30 feet from the source of the noise.

**Ground-level Abandoned Well Marker to avoid raptor perching:** Upon the plugging and subsequent abandonment of the well, the well marker will be installed at ground level on a plate containing the pertinent information for the plugged well. For more installation details, contact the Carlsbad Field Office at 575-234-5972.

This authorization is subject to your Certificate of Participation and/or Certificate of Inclusion under the New Mexico Candidate Conservation Agreement. Because it involves surface disturbing activities covered under your Certificate, your Habitat Conservation Fund Account with the Center of Excellence for Hazardous Materials Management (CEHMM) will be debited according to Exhibit B Part 2 of the Certificate of Participation.

**Pad Construction Fence:** A temporary fence shall be constructed on the south end of the pad during the pad construction to preserve Dune Sagebrush Lizard Habitat.

### **DSL Trench Stipulation:**

- Pre-construction contact with a BLM wildlife biologist is required within 5 days before any ground disturbing activities associated with the project occurs.
- Successful completion of the BLM Trench Stipulation Workshop is required for a non-agency person to be approved as a monitor.
- Any trench left open for (8) hours or less is not required to have escape ramps; however, before the trench is backfilled, an agency approved monitor shall walk the entire length of the open trench and remove all trapped vertebrates. The bottom surface of the trench will be disturbed a minimum of 2 inches in order to arouse any buried vertebrates. All vertebrates will be released a minimum of 100 yards from the trench.
- For trenches left open for eight (8) hours or more the following requirements apply:

- Earthen escape ramps and/or structures (built at no more than a 30 degree slope and spaced no more than 500 feet apart) shall be placed in the trench. Metal structures will not be authorized. Options will be discussed in detail at the required Trench Stipulation Workshop.
- One approved monitor shall be required to survey up to three miles of trench between the hours of 11 AM-2 PM. A daily report (consolidate if there is more than one monitor) on the vertebrates found and removed from the trench shall be provided to the BLM (email/fax is acceptable) the following morning.
- Prior to backfilling of the trench all structures used as escape ramps will be removed and the bottom surface of the trench will be disturbed a minimum of 2 inches in order to arouse any buried vertebrates. All vertebrates will be released a minimum of 100 yards from the trench.

## **VI. CONSTRUCTION**

### **A. NOTIFICATION**

The BLM shall administer compliance and monitor construction of the access road and well pad. Notify the Carlsbad Field Office at (575) 234-5909 at least 3 working days prior to commencing construction of the access road and/or well pad.

When construction operations are being conducted on this well, the operator shall have the approved APD and Conditions of Approval (COA) on the well site and they shall be made available upon request by the Authorized Officer.

### **B. TOPSOIL**

The operator shall strip the top portion of the soil (root zone) from the entire well pad area and stockpile the topsoil along the edge of the well pad as depicted in the APD. The root zone is typically six (6) inches in depth. All the stockpiled topsoil will be redistributed over the interim reclamation areas. Topsoil shall not be used for berming the pad or facilities. For final reclamation, the topsoil shall be spread over the entire pad area for seeding preparation.

Other subsoil (below six inches) stockpiles must be completely segregated from the topsoil stockpile. Large rocks or subsoil clods (not evident in the surrounding terrain) must be buried within the approved area for interim and final reclamation.

### **C. CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM**

Tanks are required for drilling operations: No Pits.

The operator shall properly dispose of drilling contents at an authorized disposal site.

### **D. FEDERAL MINERAL MATERIALS PIT**

Payment shall be made to the BLM prior to removal of any federal mineral materials. Call the Carlsbad Field Office at (575) 234-5972.

### **E. WELL PAD SURFACING**

Surfacing of the well pad is not required.

If the operator elects to surface the well pad, the surfacing material may be required to be removed at the time of reclamation. The well pad shall be constructed in a manner which creates the smallest possible surface disturbance, consistent with safety and operational needs.

### **F. EXCLOSURE FENCING (CELLARS & PITS)**

**Exclosure Fencing**

The operator will install and maintain exclosure fencing for all open well cellars to prevent access to public, livestock, and large forms of wildlife before and after drilling operations until the pit is free of fluids and the operator initiates backfilling. (For examples of exclosure fencing design, refer to BLM's Oil and Gas Gold Book, Exclosure Fence Illustrations, Figure 1, Page 18.)

**G. ON LEASE ACCESS ROADS****Road Width**

The access road shall have a driving surface that creates the smallest possible surface disturbance and does not exceed fourteen (14) feet in width. The maximum width of surface disturbance, when constructing the access road, shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet.

**Surfacing**

Surfacing material is not required on the new access road driving surface. If the operator elects to surface the new access road or pad, the surfacing material may be required to be removed at the time of reclamation.

Where possible, no improvements should be made on the unsurfaced access road other than to remove vegetation as necessary, road irregularities, safety issues, or to fill low areas that may sustain standing water.

The Authorized Officer reserves the right to require surfacing of any portion of the access road at any time deemed necessary. Surfacing may be required in the event the road deteriorates, erodes, road traffic increases, or it is determined to be beneficial for future field development. The surfacing depth and type of material will be determined at the time of notification.

**Crowning**

Crowning shall be done on the access road driving surface. The road crown shall have a grade of approximately 2% (i.e., a 1" crown on a 14' wide road). The road shall conform to Figure 1; cross section and plans for typical road construction.

**Ditching**

Ditching shall be required on both sides of the road.

**Turnouts**

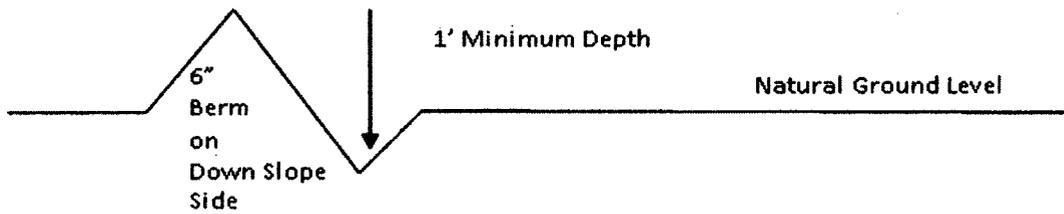
Vehicle turnouts shall be constructed on the road. Turnouts shall be intervisible with interval spacing distance less than 1000 feet. Turnouts shall conform to Figure 1; cross section and plans for typical road construction.

**Drainage**

Drainage control systems shall be constructed on the entire length of road (e.g. ditches, sidehill outsloping and insloping, lead-off ditches, culvert installation, and low water crossings).

A typical lead-off ditch has a minimum depth of 1 foot below and a berm of 6 inches above natural ground level. The berm shall be on the down-slope side of the lead-off ditch.

### Cross Section of a Typical Lead-off Ditch



All lead-off ditches shall be graded to drain water with a 1 percent minimum to 3 percent maximum ditch slope. The spacing interval are variable for lead-off ditches and shall be determined according to the formula for spacing intervals of lead-off ditches, but may be amended depending upon existing soil types and centerline road slope (in %);

### Formula for Spacing Interval of Lead-off Ditches

Example - On a 4% road slope that is 400 feet long, the water flow shall drain water into a lead-off ditch. Spacing interval shall be determined by the following formula:

$$400 \text{ foot road with } 4\% \text{ road slope: } \frac{400'}{4\%} + 100' = 200' \text{ lead-off ditch interval}$$

### Cattle guards

An appropriately sized cattle guard sufficient to carry out the project shall be installed and maintained at fence/road crossings. Any existing cattle guards on the access road route shall be repaired or replaced if they are damaged or have deteriorated beyond practical use. The operator shall be responsible for the condition of the existing cattle guards that are in place and are utilized during lease operations.

### Fence Requirement

Where entry is granted across a fence line, the fence shall be braced and tied off on both sides of the passageway prior to cutting. The operator shall notify the private surface landowner or the grazing allotment holder prior to crossing any fences.

### Public Access

Public access on this road shall not be restricted by the operator without specific written approval granted by the Authorized Officer.

**Construction Steps**

1. Salvage topsoil
2. Construct road

3. Redistribute topsoil
4. Revegetate slopes

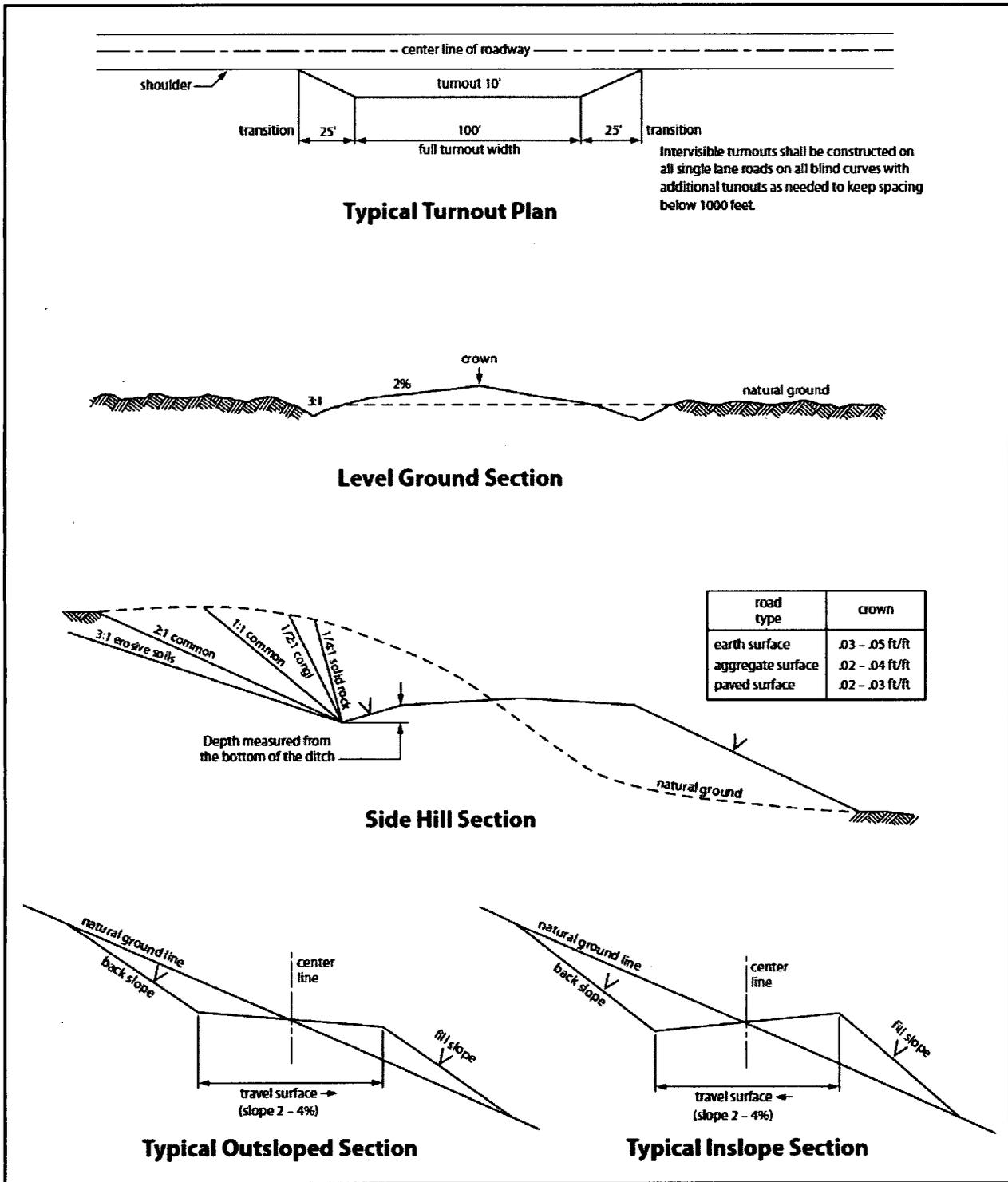


Figure 1. Cross-sections and plans for typical road sections representative of BLM resource or FS local and higher-class roads.

## **VII. PRODUCTION (POST DRILLING)**

### **A. WELL STRUCTURES & FACILITIES**

#### **Placement of Production Facilities**

Production facilities should be placed on the well pad to allow for maximum interim recontouring and revegetation of the well location.

#### **Exclosure Netting (Open-top Tanks)**

Immediately following active drilling or completion operations, the operator will take actions necessary to prevent wildlife and livestock access, including avian wildlife, to all open-topped tanks that contain or have the potential to contain salinity sufficient to cause harm to wildlife or livestock, hydrocarbons, or Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976-exempt hazardous substances. At a minimum, the operator will net, screen, or cover open-topped tanks to exclude wildlife and livestock and prevent mortality. If the operator uses netting, the operator will cover and secure the open portion of the tank to prevent wildlife entry. The operator will net, screen, or cover the tanks until the operator removes the tanks from the location or the tanks no longer contain substances that could be harmful to wildlife or livestock. Use a maximum netting mesh size of 1 ½ inches. The netting must not be in contact with fluids and must not have holes or gaps.

#### **Chemical and Fuel Secondary Containment and Exclosure Screening**

The operator will prevent all hazardous, poisonous, flammable, and toxic substances from coming into contact with soil and water. At a minimum, the operator will install and maintain an impervious secondary containment system for any tank or barrel containing hazardous, poisonous, flammable, or toxic substances sufficient to contain the contents of the tank or barrel and any drips, leaks, and anticipated precipitation. The operator will dispose of fluids within the containment system that do not meet applicable state or U. S. Environmental Protection Agency livestock water standards in accordance with state law; the operator must not drain the fluids to the soil or ground. The operator will design, construct, and maintain all secondary containment systems to prevent wildlife and livestock exposure to harmful substances. At a minimum, the operator will install effective wildlife and livestock exclosure systems such as fencing, netting, expanded metal mesh, lids, and grate covers. Use a maximum netting mesh size of 1 ½ inches.

#### **Open-Vent Exhaust Stack Exclosures**

The operator will construct, modify, equip, and maintain all open-vent exhaust stacks on production equipment to prevent birds and bats from entering, and to discourage perching, roosting, and nesting. (*Recommended exclosure structures on open-vent exhaust stacks are in the shape of a cone.*) Production equipment includes, but may not be limited to, tanks, heater-treaters, separators, dehydrators, flare stacks, in-line units, and compressor mufflers.

#### **Containment Structures**

Proposed production facilities such as storage tanks and other vessels will have a secondary containment structure that is constructed to hold the capacity of 1.5 times the largest tank, plus freeboard to account for precipitation, unless more stringent protective requirements are deemed necessary.

**Painting Requirement**

All above-ground structures including meter housing that are not subject to safety requirements shall be painted a flat non-reflective paint color, **Shale Green** from the BLM Standard Environmental Color Chart (CC-001: June 2008).

**VRM Facility Requirement**

Low-profile tanks not greater than eight-feet-high shall be used.

**B. PIPELINES**

**C. ELECTRIC LINES**

**VIII. INTERIM RECLAMATION**

During the life of the development, all disturbed areas not needed for active support of production operations should undergo interim reclamation in order to minimize the environmental impacts of development on other resources and uses.

Within six (6) months of well completion, operators should work with BLM surface management specialists (Jim Amos: 575-234-5909) to devise the best strategies to reduce the size of the location. Interim reclamation should allow for remedial well operations, as well as safe and efficient removal of oil and gas.

During reclamation, the removal of caliche is important to increasing the success of revegetating the site. Removed caliche that is free of contaminants may be used for road repairs, fire walls or for building other roads and locations. In order to operate the well or complete workover operations, it may be necessary to drive, park and operate on restored interim vegetation within the previously disturbed area. Disturbing revegetated areas for production or workover operations will be allowed. If there is significant disturbance and loss of vegetation, the area will need to be revegetated. Communicate with the appropriate BLM office for any exceptions/exemptions if needed.

All disturbed areas after they have been satisfactorily prepared need to be reseeded with the seed mixture provided below.

Upon completion of interim reclamation, the operator shall submit a Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells, Subsequent Report of Reclamation (Form 3160-5).

**IX. FINAL ABANDONMENT & RECLAMATION**

At final abandonment, well locations, production facilities, and access roads must undergo "final" reclamation so that the character and productivity of the land are restored.

Earthwork for final reclamation must be completed within six (6) months of well plugging. All pads, pits, facility locations and roads must be reclaimed to a satisfactory revegetated, safe, and stable condition, unless an agreement is made with the landowner or BLM to keep the road and/or pad intact.

After all disturbed areas have been satisfactorily prepared, these areas need to be revegetated with the seed mixture provided below. Seeding should be accomplished by drilling on the contour whenever practical or by other approved methods. Seeding may need to be repeated until revegetation is successful, as determined by the BLM.

Operators shall contact a BLM surface protection specialist prior to surface abandonment operations for site specific objectives (Jim Amos: 575-234-5909).

Ground-level Abandoned Well Marker to avoid raptor perching: Upon the plugging and subsequent abandonment of the well, the well marker will be installed at ground level on a plate containing the pertinent information for the plugged well.

Seed Mixture 2, for Sandy Sites

The holder shall seed all disturbed areas with the seed mixture listed below. The seed mixture shall be planted in the amounts specified in pounds of pure live seed (PLS)\* per acre. There shall be no primary or secondary noxious weeds in the seed mixture. Seed will be tested and the viability testing of seed will be done in accordance with State law (s) and within nine (9) months prior to purchase. Commercial seed will be either certified or registered seed. The seed container will be tagged in accordance with State law(s) and available for inspection by the authorized officer.

Seed will be planted using a drill equipped with a depth regulator to ensure proper depth of planting where drilling is possible. The seed mixture will be evenly and uniformly planted over the disturbed area (smaller/heavier seeds have a tendency to drop the bottom of the drill and are planted first). The holder shall take appropriate measures to ensure this does not occur. Where drilling is not possible, seed will be broadcast and the area shall be raked or chained to cover the seed. When broadcasting the seed, the pounds per acre are to be doubled. The seeding will be repeated until a satisfactory stand is established as determined by the authorized officer. Evaluation of growth will not be made before completion of at least one full growing season after seeding.

Species to be planted in pounds of pure live seed\* per acre:

<u>Species</u>	<u>lb/acre</u>
Sand dropseed (Sporobolus cryptandrus)	1.0
Sand love grass (Eragrostis trichodes)	1.0
Plains bristlegrass (Setaria macrostachya)	2.0

\*Pounds of pure live seed:

Pounds of seed x percent purity x percent germination = pounds pure live seed

Hydrogen Sulfide Drilling Operations Plan  
**Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H**  
Cimarex Energy Co.  
UL: B, Sec. 21, 19S, 34E  
Lea Co., NM

- 1 All Company and Contract personnel admitted on location must be trained by a qualified H2S safety instructor to the following:
  - A. Characteristics of H<sub>2</sub>S
  - B. Physical effects and hazards
  - C. Principal and operation of H<sub>2</sub>S detectors, warning system and briefing areas.
  - D. Evacuation procedure, routes and first aid.
  - E. Proper use of safety equipment & life support systems
  - F. Essential personnel meeting Medical Evaluation criteria will receive additional training on the proper use of 30 minute pressure demand air packs.

H<sub>2</sub>S Detection and Alarm Systems:

  - A. H<sub>2</sub>S sensors/detectors to be located on the drilling rig floor, in the base of the sub structure/cellar area, on the mud pits in the shale shaker area. Additional H<sub>2</sub>S detectors may play placed as deemed necessary.
  - B. An audio alarm system will be installed on the derrick floor and in the top doghouse.
- 3 Windsock and/or wind streamers:
  - A. Windsock at mudpit area should be high enough to be visible.
  - B. Windsock on the rig floor and / or top doghouse should be high enough to be visible.
- 4 Condition Flags and Signs
  - A. Warning sign on access road to location.
  - B. Flags to be displayed on sign at entrance to location. Green flag indicates normal safe condition. Yellow flag indicates potential pressure and danger. Red flag indicates danger (H<sub>2</sub>S present in dangerous concentration). Only H<sub>2</sub>S trained and certified personnel admitted to location.
- 5 Well control equipment:
  - A. See exhibit "E-1"
- 6 Communication:
  - A. While working under masks chalkboards will be used for communication.
  - B. Hand signals will be used where chalk board is inappropriate.
  - C. Two way radio will be used to communicate off location in case of emergency help is required. In most cases cellular telephones will be available at most drilling foreman's trailer or living quarters.
- 7 Drillstem Testing:

No DSTs r cores are planned at this time.
- 8 Drilling contractor supervisor will be required to be familiar with the effects H<sub>2</sub>S has on tubular goods and other mechanical equipment.
- 9 If H<sub>2</sub>S is encountered, mud system will be altered if necessary to maintain control of formation. A mud gas separator will be brought into service along with H<sub>2</sub>S scavengers if necessary.

H<sub>2</sub>S Contingency Plan  
**Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H**  
Cimarex Energy Co.  
UL: B, Sec. 21, 19S, 34E  
Lea Co., NM

**Emergency Procedures**

In the event of a release of gas containing H<sub>2</sub>S, the first responder(s) must:

- « Isolate the area and prevent entry by other persons into the 100 ppm ROE.
- « Evacuate any public places encompassed by the 100 ppm ROE.
- « Be equipped with H<sub>2</sub>S monitors and air packs in order to control the release.
- « Use the "buddy system" to ensure no injuries occur during the 432-620-1975
- « Take precautions to avoid personal injury during this operation.
- « Contact operator and/or local officials to aid in operation. See list of phone numbers attached.
- « Have received training in the:
  - Detection of H<sub>2</sub>S, and
  - Measures for protection against the gas,
  - Equipment used for protection and emergency response.

**Ignition of Gas Source**

Should control of the well be considered lost and ignition considered, take care to protect against exposure to Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>). Intentional ignition must be coordinated with the NMOCD and local officials. Additionally, the NM State Police may become involved. NM State Police shall be the Incident Command on scene of any major release. Take care to protect downwind whenever there is an ignition of the gas.

**Characteristics of H<sub>2</sub>S and SO<sub>2</sub>**

Please see attached International Chemical Safety Cards.

**Contacting Authorities**

Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado's personnel must liaise with local and state agencies to ensure a proper response to a major release. Additionally, the OCD must be notified of the release as soon as possible but no later than 4 hours. Agencies will ask for information such as type and volume of release, wind direction, location of release, etc. Be prepared with all information available including directions to site. The following call list of essential and potential responders has been prepared for use during a release. Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado's response must be in coordination with the State of New Mexico's "Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan" (HMER).

H<sub>2</sub>S Contingency Plan Emergency Contacts  
**Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H**  
 Cimarex Energy Co.  
 UL: B, Sec. 21, 19S, 34E  
 Lea Co., NM

<b>Company Office</b>			
Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado		800-969-4789	
Co. Office and After-Hours Menu			
<b>Key Personnel</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Mobile</b>
Larry Seigrist	Drilling Manager	432-620-1934	580-243-8485
Charlie Pritchard	Drilling Superintendent	432-620-1975	432-238-7084
Roy Shirley	Construction Superintendent		432-634-2136
<b>Artesia</b>			
Ambulance		911	
State Police		575-746-2703	
City Police		575-746-2703	
Sheriff's Office		575-746-9888	
<b>Fire Department</b>		<b>575-746-2701</b>	
Local Emergency Planning Committee		575-746-2122	
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division		575-748-1283	
<b>Carlsbad</b>			
Ambulance		911	
State Police		575-885-3137	
City Police		575-885-2111	
Sheriff's Office		575-887-7551	
<b>Fire Department</b>		<b>575-887-3798</b>	
Local Emergency Planning Committee		575-887-6544	
US Bureau of Land Management		575-887-6544	
<b>Santa Fe</b>			
New Mexico Emergency Response Commission (Santa Fe)		505-476-9600	
New Mexico Emergency Response Commission (Santa Fe) 24 Hrs		505-827-9126	
New Mexico State Emergency Operations Center		505-476-9635	
<b>National</b>			
National Emergency Response Center (Washington, D.C.)		800-424-8802	
<b>Medical</b>			
Flight for Life - 4000 24th St.; Lubbock, TX		806-743-9911	
Aerocare - R3, Box 49F; Lubbock, TX		806-747-8923	
Med Flight Air Amb - 2301 Yale Blvd S.E., #D3; Albuquerque, NM		505-842-4433	
SB Air Med Service - 2505 Clark Carr Loop S.E.; Albuquerque, NM		505-842-4949	
<b>Other</b>			
Boots & Coots IWC		800-256-9688	or 281-931-8884
Cudd Pressure Control		432-699-0139	or 432-563-3356
Halliburton		575-746-2757	
B.J. Services		575-746-3569	

## **Cimarex Mescalero Ridge 21 Fed #1H Surface Use Plan**

Upon approval of the Application for Permit to Drill (APD) the following surface use plan of operations will be followed and carried out. The surface use plan outlines the proposed surface disturbance. If any other disturbance is needed after the APD is approved, a BLM sundry notice or right of way application will be submitted for approval prior to any additional surface disturbance.

### **Existing Roads**

- Directions to location - Exhibit A.
- Public access route - Exhibit B.
- Existing access road for the proposed project. Please see Exhibit B and C.
- Cimarex Energy will:
  - Improve and/or maintain existing road(s) condition the same as or better than before the operations began.
  - Provide plans for improvement and /or maintenance of existing roads if requested.
  - Repair or replace damaged or deteriorated structures as needed. Including cattle guards and culverts.
  - Prevent and abate fugitive dust as needed, whether created by vehicular traffic, equipment operations, or other events.
  - Obtain written BLM approval prior to the application of surfactants, binding agents, or other dust suppression chemicals on the roadways.
- The maximum width of the driving surface will be 18'. The road will be crowned and ditched with a 2% slope from the tip of the crown to the edge of the driving surface. The ditches will be 1' deep with 3:1 slopes. The driving surface will be made of 6" rolled and compacted caliche.

### **New or Reconstructed Access Roads**

Cimarex Energy plans to construct a new off-lease access road

- Length: 900
- Width: 30
- Road Plat - Exhibit D.
- Road has not been previously approved for construction in APD for the well.
- A ROW will be submitted to the BLM for approval.
- Cimarex Energy will complete improvements to the driving surface as needed.
- The maximum width of the driving surface for all roads above will be 18'.
- The road will be crowned and ditched with a 2% slope from the tip of the crown to the edge of the driving surface.
- The ditches will be 1' deep with 3:1 slopes.
- The driving surface will be made of 6" rolled and compacted caliche.
- Cimarex Energy will prevent and abate fugitive dust as needed, whether created by vehicular traffic, equipment operations, or other events.

### **Well Radius Map**

Please see Exhibit E for wells within one mile or proposed well SHL and BHL.

### **Proposed or Existing Production Facility**

A new facility will be constructed for this project if the well is productive.

- Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal CTB - Exhibit F
  - Direction to facility
  - Facility pad location layout and cut and fill
  - Facility pad archeological boundary
  - Facility pad flowline corridor
  - Facility pad access road

### **Gas Pipeline Specifications**

- No pipeline proposed. A 3rd party will be laying a gas pipeline to the well. Custody transfer meter will be on pad.

### **Salt Water Disposal Specifications**

- Cimarex plans to construct an off-lease SWD pipeline to service this battery location.
- Please see Exhibit H for proposed pipeline route.
- Two pipelines: 4" Surface poly & 12" Buried poly. Both pipelines follow the same route.
- Length: 13,059'.
- MAOP: 4" line: 120psi; 12" line: 150psi.
- Anticipated working pressure: 4" line: 110psi; 12": 225 psi.
- A ROW application will be submitted to the BLM for the proposed route.

# **Cimarex Mescalero Ridge 21 Fed #1H**

## **Surface Use Plan**

### **Power Lines**

- Cimarex plans to construct an off-lease power line to service the Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal W2E2 & Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal CTB.
- Overhead power line from an existing power source located in the NW1/4 Sec 21-19S-34E.
- Length: 2,586'.
- Poles: 10
- Specifications: 480 volt, 4 wire, 3 phase.
- Please see Exhibit I for proposed route.
- A ROW application will be submitted to the BLM for the proposed route.

### **Well Site Location**

- Proposed well pad/location layout - Exhibit J.
- Proposed Rig layout - Exhibit K
  - The rig layout, including V-door and flare line may change depending on rig availability. The pad dimensions and orientation will remain the same. No additional disturbance is anticipated if a rig layout change is necessary to accommodate the drilling rig. If additional disturbance is required a sundry notice will be submitted to the BLM for approval.
  - Mud pits in the closed circulation system will be steel pits and the cuttings will be stored in the steel containment pits.
  - Cuttings will be stored in steel pits until they are hauled to a state-approved disposal facility.
- Archeological boundary - Exhibit L
- Multi well pad: Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 2H thru 8H
- Pad Size: 500X500
- Construction Material
  - If possible, native caliche will be obtained from the excavation of drill site. The primary way of obtaining caliche will be by "turning over" the location. This means caliche will be obtained from the actual well site. A caliche permit will be obtained from BLM prior to pushing up any caliche. 2,400 cu yds is the max amount of caliche needed for pad and roads. Amount will vary for each pad. The procedure below has been approved by BLM personnel:
    - The top 6 inches of topsoil is pushed off and stockpiled along the side of the location.
    - An approximate 120' x 120' area is used within the proposed well site to remove caliche.
    - Subsoil is removed and piled alongside the 120' x 120' area within the pad site.
    - When caliche is found, material will be stockpiled within the pad site to build the location and road.
    - Then subsoil is pushed back in the hole and caliche is spread accordingly across entire location and road.
    - Once well is drilled, the stockpiled top soil will be used for interim reclamation and spread along areas where caliche is picked up and the location size is reduced. Neither caliche nor subsoil will be stockpiled outside of the well pad. Topsoil will be stockpiled along the edge of the pad as depicted in Exhibit J - Layout Diagram.
    - In the event that no caliche is found onsite, caliche will be hauled in from BLM-approved caliche pit in Sec. 25-19S-33E or Sec. 25-19S-34E.
  - Mud pits in the closed circulation system will be steel pits and the cuttings will be stored in steel containment pits.
- Cuttings will be stored in steel pits until they are hauled to a state-approved disposal facility.
- If the well is a producer, those areas of the location not essential to production facilities will be reclaimed and seeded per BLM requirements. Exhibit P: Interim Reclamation Diagram.
- There are no known dwellings within 1.5 miles of this location.

### **Flowlines and Gas Lift Pipelines**

- Flowlines
  - Cimarex Energy plans to construct on-lease flowlines to service the well.
  - Flowline will be buried and require a construction width of 30'.
  - 6" HP steel for oil, gas, and water production.
  - Length: 616'.
  - MAOP: 1,500 psi; Anticipated working pressure: 200-300 psi.
  - Please see Exhibit M for proposed on lease route.

# Cimarex Mescalero Ridge 21 Fed #1H

## Surface Use Plan

### Water Resources

- A temporary surface fresh water pipeline(s) will be utilized for this project.
- Cimarex plans to lay the fresh water surface pipeline(s) prior to commencement of the stimulation job.
- 10" lay-flat surface pipeline.
- The surface pipeline(s) will follow the road from a frac pit to the well.
- Length: 13,188'.
- Operating pressure: <140 psi.
- Fresh water will be purchased from a 3rd party.
- Please see Exhibit O for proposed route.

### Methods of Handling Waste

- Drilling fluids, produced oil, and water from the well during drilling and completion operations will be stored safely and disposed of properly in a NMOCD approved disposal facility.
- Garbage and trash produced during drilling and completion operations will be collected in a trash container and disposed of properly at a state approved disposal facility. All trash on and around well site will be collected for disposal.
- Human waste and grey water will be contained and disposed of properly at a state approved disposal site.
- After drilling and completion operations, trash, chemicals, salts, frac sand and other waste will be removed and disposed of properly at a state approved disposal site.
- The well will be drilled utilizing a closed loop system. Drill cuttings will be properly disposed of into steel tanks and taken to an NMOCD approved disposal facility.

### Waste Minimization Plan

See Gas Capture Plan.

### Ancillary Facilities

No camps or airstrips to be constructed.

### Interim and Final Reclamation

- Rehabilitation of the location will start in a timely manner after all proposed drilling wells have been drilled from the pad or if drilling operations have ceased as outlined below:
  - No approved or pending drill permits for wells located on the drill pad
  - No drilling activity for 5 years from the drill pad
- Surfacing materials will be removed and returned to a mineral pit or recycled to repair or build roads and well pads.
- Drainage systems, if any, will be reshaped to the original configuration with provisions made to alleviate erosion. These may need to be modified in certain circumstances to prevent inundation of the location's pad and surface facilities. After the area has been shaped and contoured, topsoil from the spoil pile will be placed over the disturbed area to the extent possible. Revegetation procedures will comply with BLM standards.
- Exhibit P illustrates the proposed Surface Reclamation plans after cessation of drilling operations as outlined above.
  - The areas of the location not essential to production facilities and operations will be reclaimed and seeded per BLM requirements.
- Operator will amend the surface reclamation plan if well is a dry hole and/or a single well pad.

### Surface Ownership

- The wellsite is on surface owned by Bureau of Land Management.
- A copy of Surface Use Agreement has been given to the surface owner.
- The land is used mainly for farming, cattle ranching, recreational use, and oil and gas production.

### Cultural Resource Survey - Archeology

- Cultural Resources Survey will be conducted for the entire project as proposed in the APD and submitted to the BLM for review and approval.

### On Site Notes and Information

Onsite Date: 5/16/2017

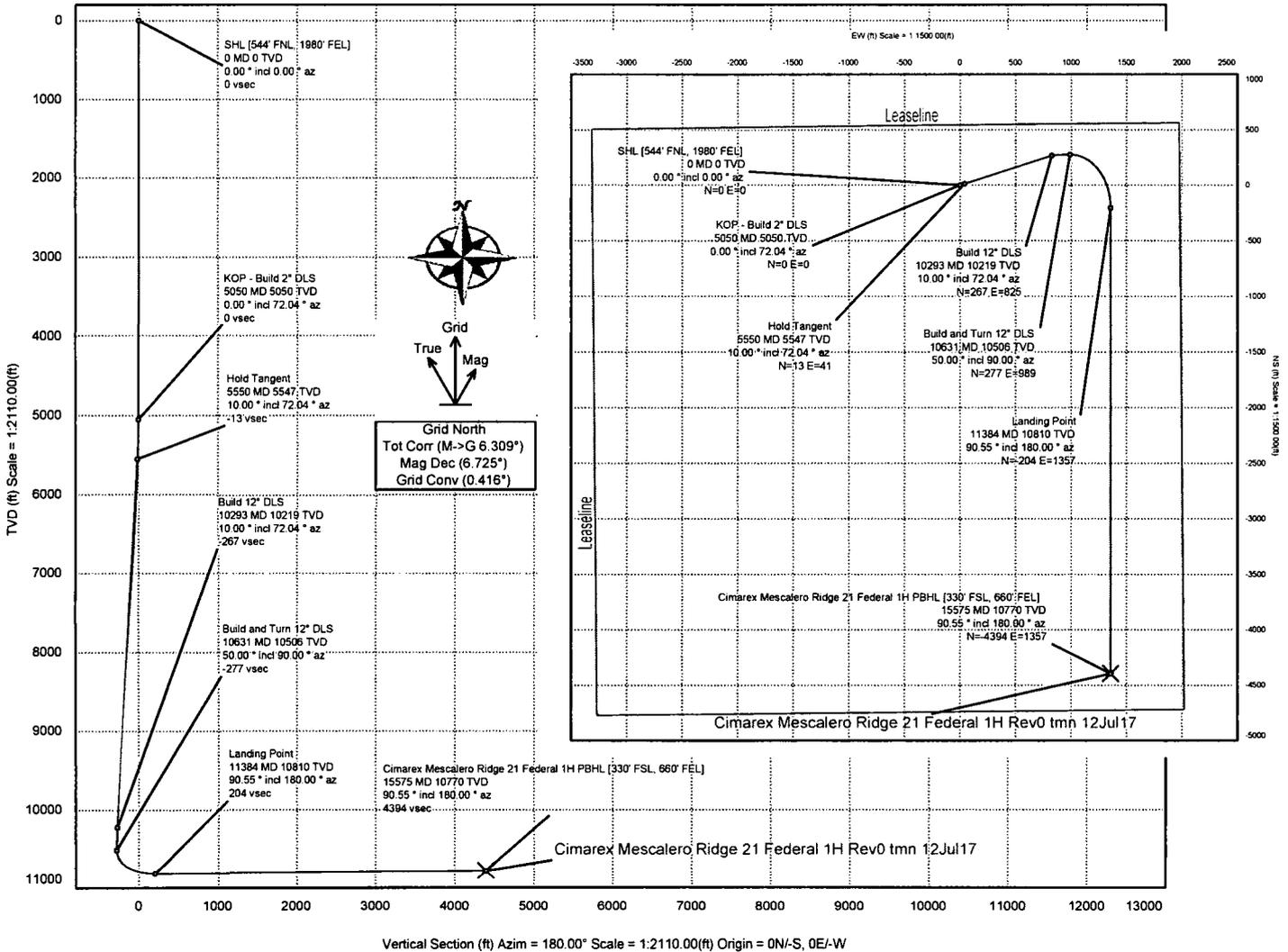
BLM Personnel on site: Jeff Robertson & Dustin Mudgett

Cimarex Energy personnel on site: Barry Hunt

Pertinent information from onsite:

<b>Borehole:</b> Original Borehole	<b>Well:</b> Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H	<b>Field:</b> NM Lea County (NAD 83)	<b>Structure:</b> Cimarex Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H
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<b>Gravity &amp; Magnetic Parameters</b>		<b>Surface Location</b> NAD83 New Mexico State Plane, Eastern Zone, US Feet			<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
Model: HDGM 2017	Dip: 60.662°	Date: 12-Jul-2017	Lat: N 32 39 5.42	Northing: 601808.87RUS	Grid Conv: 0.4166°	Slot: Mescalero Ridge TVD Ref: RKB(3784R above MSL)
MagDec: 6.728°	FS: 48342.028mT	Gravity FS: 998.609mgn (9.80665 Based)	Lon: W 103 33 47.17	Easting: 778398.78RUS	Scale Fact: 0.99997345	Plan: Cimarex Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H Rev0 tmn 12Jul17



**Critical Points**

Critical Point	MD	INCL	AZIM	TVD	VSEC	N(+)/S(-)	E(+)/W(-)	DLS
SHL [544' FNL, 1980' FEL]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
KOP - Build 2° DLS	5050.00	0.00	72.04	5050.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hold Tangent	5550.00	10.00	72.04	5547.47	-13.42	13.42	41.40	2.00
Build 12° DLS	10293.10	10.00	72.04	10218.51	-267.39	267.39	824.90	0.00
Build and Turn 12° DLS	10631.22	50.00	90.00	10505.78	-276.84	276.84	989.26	12.00
3rd Bone Spring Sand	10731.97	51.14	105.60	10570.00	-266.25	266.25	1065.92	12.00
Landing Point	11384.17	90.55	180.00	10810.00	203.55	-203.55	1357.26	12.00
Cimarex Mescalero Ridge 21 Federal 1H PBHL [330' FSL, 660' FEL]	15574.64	90.55	180.00	10770.00	4393.84	-4393.84	1357.11	0.00