



## PIT CLOSURE REPORT

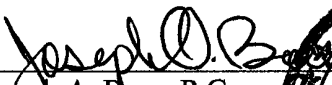
8703 JV-P Pitchfork #1 Reserve Pit (NMNM16139)  
13 Miles West of Jal, New Mexico  
NW/NE, Section 9, T25S, R34E  
Lea County, New Mexico  
BTA Project Number: 2007-022  
BLM Reference # 07-JKB-078

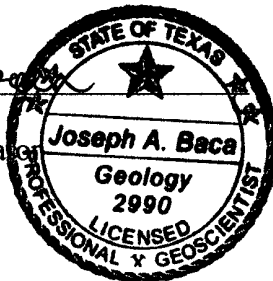
Prepared for:  
United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Carlsbad Field Office  
620 E. Greene St.  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220-6292

Prepared by:  
BTA Oil Producers  
104 S. Pecos  
Midland, Texas 79701



December 2007

  
Joseph A. Baca, P.G.  
Environmental Coordinator  
BTA Oil Producers



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Figure 1: Site Location Map

Figure 2: Site Details Map with Confirmation Soil Sample Locations

### **APPENDICES**

Appendix A: BLM Letter of Inspection

Appendix B: BLM Letter of Inspection

Appendix C: BLM Letter of Inspection



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

BTA Oil Producers (BTA) is pleased to submit this Pit Closure Report (PCR) for the BTA Pitchfork 8703 JV-P #1 (Pitchfork) reserve pit and surface reclamation. The Pitchfork (Project No. 2007-022) site is located in Lea County approximately 13 miles west and 4.5 south of NM 128 of Jal, New Mexico. The GPS coordinates are N 32° 09.021' and W 103° 28.339'. A Site Location Map is provided as FIGURE 1.

According to a letter dated September 19, 2007 (Appendix A), The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Carlsbad Field Office, Carlsbad, New Mexico (BLM) performed an inspection of the BTA Pitchfork #1 drilling sight on September 12, 2007. It was found that after monitoring vegetation growth for several years at the site, adequate and desirable coverage had failed to grow over the reserve pit. The BLM requested that BTA prepare a reclamation plan and submit it to the BLM. The plan was approved by the BLM on October 22, 2007 (Appendix B). An Oil Conservation Division form C-144 was filed and subsequently approved on October 19, 2007, and reclamation activities began on November 27, 2007.

### 1.1 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to document reclamation activities at the Pitchfork site for the BLM in accordance with verbal communication with the BLM and the reclamation plan written by BTA.

## 2.0 SUMMARY OF FIELD ACTIVITIES

### 2.1 Surface Preparation, Liner Installation and Backfill

BTA, mobilized equipment to the site on November 27, 2007 and began reclamation activities. After the field crew removed debris from the top of the reserve pit that could rip the 20 ml poly liner, a trench approximately 8-feet from the outside edge of the reserve pit was excavated. The trench was approximately 1-foot wide by 2-feet deep. The 20 ml poly liner was brought to the site unloaded and installed. The edges of the liner were "Z" folded and placed in the trench around the reserve pit and backfilled with soil material removed from the initial trench. After a telephonic conversation discussing with BLM Environmental Inspector Jenny Bell on November 29, 2007 about the possibility of finding a near by caliche and fresh soil source. The idea of using the material on the drill pad to back fill the reclamation was also discussed. Ms. Jenny Bell said that she would ask her supervisor for approval of the reclamation method. The method was approved with a condition that BTA seed both the drill pad and the reserve pit site with New Mexico Seed Blend #2 (NM#2) and New Mexico Seed Blend #3 (NM#3). This was acceptable to BTA. Soil removal activities began by removing approximate 6 to 9-inches of material from the drill pad and stockpiling approximately the first 4-inches of soil with organic material to be used as the final layer and soil. The remainder of the material was used as base material on top of the reserve pit liner. The entire project which included the reserve pit and drill pad site were backfilled, back dragged and subsequently seeded with enough NM#2 and NM#3 for 6.0 acres. Both areas were disked to a depth of approximately 6 to 8-inches. Seed was distributed mechanically and covered by rolling method. Figure 2 is a site detail map displaying the extents of the project and trench excavation limits and other site details.

### 2.2 Surface Reclamation

Based on reclamation activities of the affected area it was restored to as near its original condition as possible.



### 3.0 SUMMARY AND REQUEST FOR CLOSURE

Based on the reclamation activities associated with this project and restoration of natural seeds, no further action is recommended or planned for the site at this time. BTA requests that the BLM grant closure to the BTA Pitchfork 8703 JV-P #1 site as indicated in a letter from the BLM dated September 19, 2007.

### 4.0 LIMITATIONS

BTA has prepared this Site Closure Report to the best of its ability. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made or intended. BTA has examined and relied upon documents referenced in the report and on oral statements made by certain individuals. BTA has not conducted an independent examination of the facts contained in referenced materials and statements. We have presumed the genuineness of the documents and that the information provided in documents or statements is true and accurate. BTA has prepared this report in a professional manner, using a degree of skill and care. BTA also notes that the facts and conditions referenced in this report may change over time and the conclusions and recommendations set forth herein are applicable only to the facts and conditions as described at the time of this report.

This report has been prepared by BTA. The information contained in this report including all exhibits and attachments may not be used by any other party without the express written consent of BTA.

### 5.0 DISTRIBUTION

**Site Remediation and Closure Report**

**BTA Oil Producers**

**BTA Pitchfork 8703 JV-P #1, Lea County, New Mexico**

**BTA Project No. 2007-022**

**BLM Reference #07-JKB-078**

#### **Copies 1-2**

**United States Department of the Interior**

**Bureau of Land Management**

Carlsbad Field Office

620 E. Greene St.

Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220-6292

#### **Copies 3-4**

**Oil Conservation Division, District 1**

1625 N. French Drive

Hobbs, New Mexico

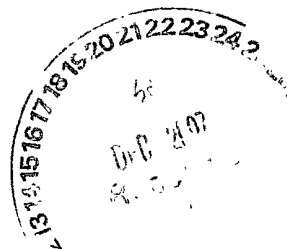
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BTA Central File



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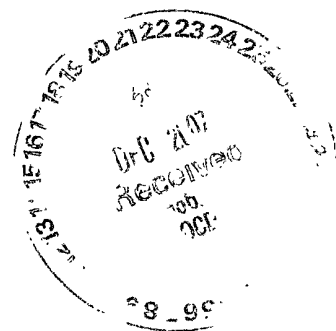
# ATTACHMENTS

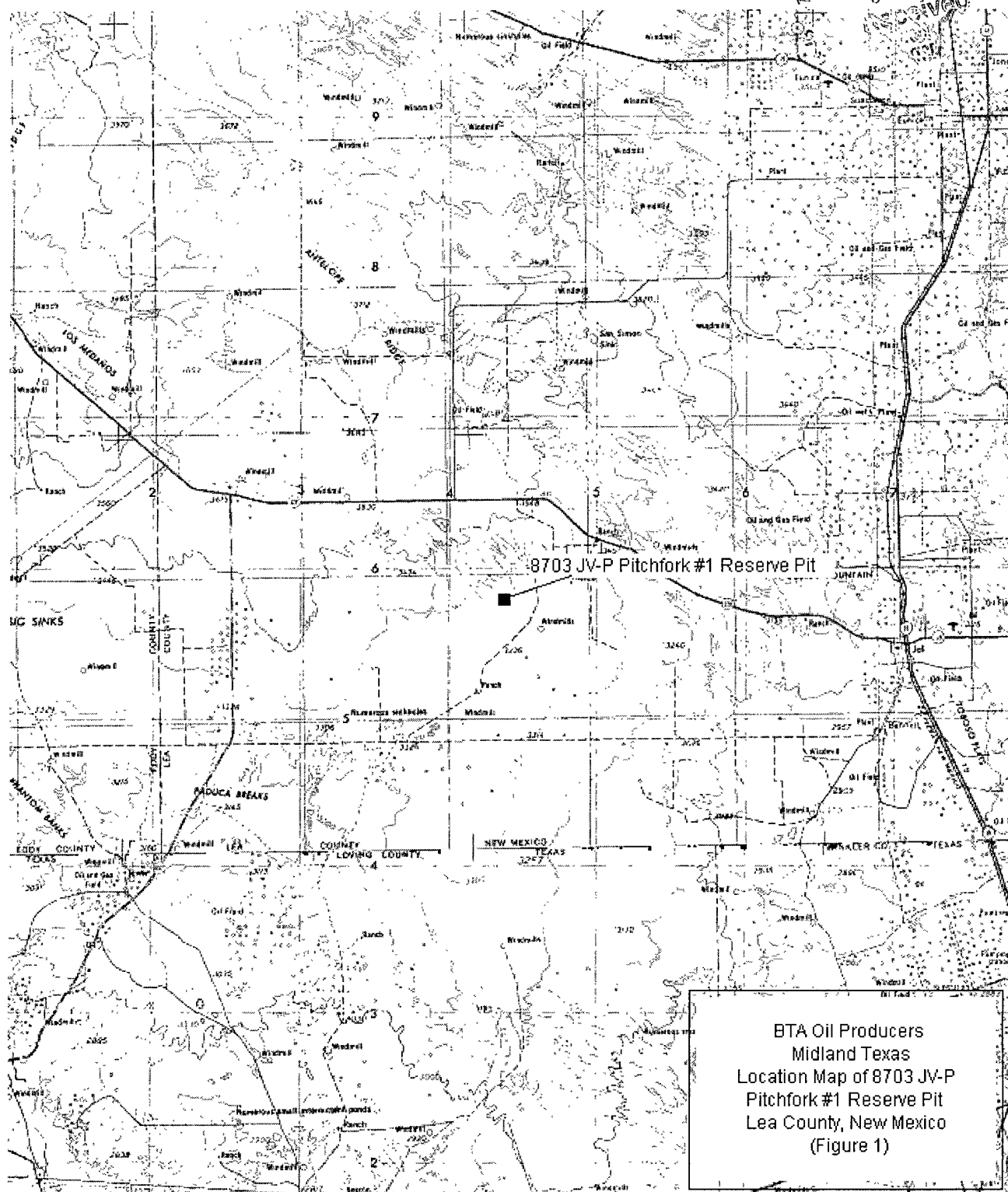


# FIGURES



# Figure 1

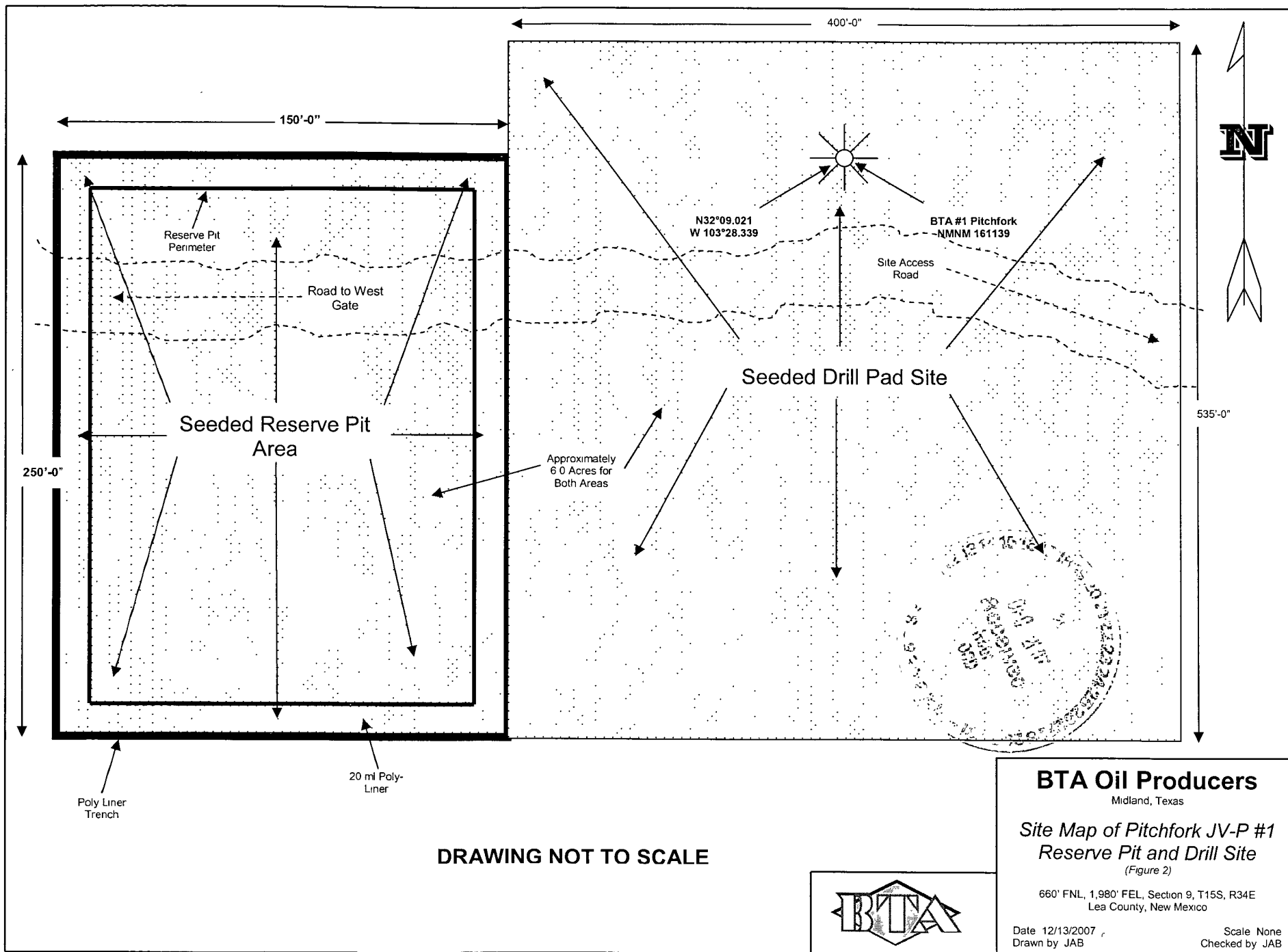






## Figure 2





# APPENDICES



# Appendix A





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Carlsbad Field Office  
620 E. Greene St.  
Carlsbad, NM 88220-6292  
Tel. (505) 234-5972  
Fax (505) 885-9264

September 19, 2007

IN REPLY REFER TO: 1310

CERTIFIED-RETURNED RECEIPT REQUESTED  
7007 0710 0004 3793 5793

BTA Oil Producers  
104 South Pecos  
Midland, Texas 79701-9988

RE: 07-JKB-078 Pitchfork JV-P #1 NMNM16139

Dear Sir or Maam:

On September 12, 2007, we completed a field examination on the plugged Pitchfork JV-P #1 well located 660' FNL and 1980' FEL, Section 9, T25S, R34E in Lea County, New Mexico. 43 CFR 3162.5-1 (b) states "Upon conclusion of operations, the operator shall reclaim the disturbed surface in a manner approved or reasonably prescribed by the authorized officer."

Please remove all equipment and debris remaining onsite, including anchor bolts, deadmen, flowlines, and pipes.

After monitoring vegetation growth at the above well location for several years, adequate and desirable coverage has failed to grow over the reserve pit. Salts have leached to the surface of the pit, hindering vegetative success. Please submit a reclamation plan for the reserve pit. This may include deep burial, complete removal of contents, or capping (topping with two feet of caliche and one foot of native soils).

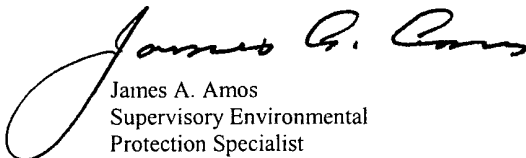
Please submit the reclamation plan for the reserve pit to Jenny Bell at the above address or fax (505-885-9264) no later than October 23, 2007. Do not initiate reclamation activities until you have been contacted by an authorized official regarding the proposal. Failure to comply with this written order will result in a Notice of Incidents of Noncompliance.

Under provisions of 43 CFR 3165.3, you may request an Administrative Review of the order described above. Such request, including all supporting documents, must be filed in writing within 20 business days of receipt of this notice and must be filed with the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, Post Office Box 27115, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115.

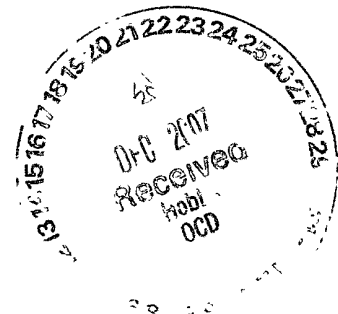
Such request shall not result in a suspension of the order unless the reviewing official so determines. Procedures governing appeals from the instructions, orders, or decisions are contained in 43 CFR 3165.4 and 43 CFR Part 4.

If you have any questions concerning the above matter please do not hesitate to call Jenny Bell at 505-234-5919.

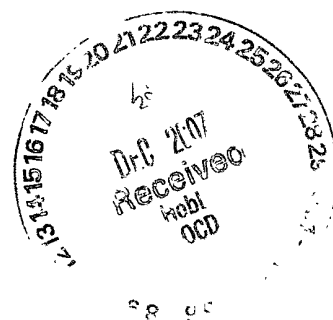
Sincerely,

  
James A. Amos  
Supervisory Environmental  
Protection Specialist

Enclosures: Photographs



## Appendix B





**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**Carlsbad Field Office  
620 East Greene Street  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220-6292  
Tel. (505) 234-5972  
Fax (505) 885-9264**

October 22, 2007

**IN REPLY REFER TO: 1310**

BTA Oil Producers

RE: 07-JKB-078 Pitchfork JV-P #1 NMNM16139

Dear Sir or Maam:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has reviewed the reserve pit reclamation proposal for the Pitchfork JV-P #1 well. The proposal is hereby approved according to the information provided, with the following stipulations:

1. Please contact Jenny Bell (contact information given below) at least three working days prior to beginning any dirt work and three working days prior to seeding.
2. All work should be completed by December 22, 2007.
3. The BLM will continue to monitor the surface restoration of these abandoned well sites. All final abandonment / reclamation requirements will have been met when the BLM is confident that the disturbed surfaces are capable of being restored to a condition similar to their original state.

Please be advised that BLM approval does not relieve BTA of any liability should operations result in pollution of surface water, ground water, or the environment. In addition, BLM approval does not relieve BTA of responsibility for compliance with other federal, state, or local regulations.

If you have any questions concerning the above matter please do not hesitate to contact Jenny Bell at 505-234-5919 or Jennifer\_Bell@nm.blm.gov.

Sincerely,

Jenny Bell  
Environmental Protection Assistant



# Appendix C

