District I
1625 N French Dr , Hobbs, NM 88240
District II
1301 W Grand Avenue, Artesia, NM 88210
District III
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410
District IV
1220 S St Francis Dr , Santa Fe, NM 87505

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State of New Mexico
Energy Minerals and Natural Resources
Department
Oil Conservation Division
1220 South St. Francis Dr.
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Form C-144 CLEZ
July 21, 2008

For closed-loop systems *that only use above ground steel tanks or haul-off bins and propose to implement waste removal for closure,* submit to the appropriate NMOCD District Office.

Closed-Loop System Permit or Closure Plan Application

(that only use above ground steel tanks or haul-off bins and propose to implement waste removal for closure)

Type of action: ■ Permit ☐ Closure

Instructions: Please submit one application (Form C-144 CLEZ) per individual closed-loop system request. For any application request other than for a closed-loop system that only use above ground steel tanks or haul-off bins and propose to implement waste removal for closure, please submit a Form C-144.

Please be advised that approval of this request does not relieve the operator of liability should operations result in pollution of surface water, ground water or the environment. Nor does approval relieve the operator of its responsibility to comply with any other applicable governmental authority's rules, regulations or ordinances.

1

Operator: SAHARA OPERATING COMPANY OGRID #: 020077

Address: P.O. BOX 4130, MIDLAND, TX 79704

Facility or well name: North El Mar Unit #20

API Number: 30 025 08431 OCD Permit Number: P1-01463

U/L or Qtr/Qtr UL L Section 30 Township 26S Range 33E County: LEA

Center of Proposed Design: Latitude _____ Longitude _____ NAD: ☐1927 ☐ 1983

Surface Owner: ■ Federal ☐ State ☐ Private ☐ Tribal Trust or Indian Allotment

2.

■ **Closed-loop System:** Subsection H of 19.15.17.11 NMAC

Operation: ☐ Drilling a new well ☐ Workover or Drilling (Applies to activities which require prior approval of a permit or notice of intent) ■ P&A

■ Above Ground Steel Tanks or ☐ Haul-off Bins

3.

Signs: Subsection C of 19.15.17.11 NMAC

■ 12"x 24", 2" lettering, providing Operator's name, site location, and emergency telephone numbers

☐ Signed in compliance with 19.15.3.103 NMAC

4.

Closed-loop Systems Permit Application Attachment Checklist: Subsection B of 19.15.17.9 NMAC

Instructions: Each of the following items must be attached to the application. Please indicate, by a check mark in the box, that the documents are attached.

■ Design Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.11 NMAC

■ Operating and Maintenance Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of 19.15.17.12 NMAC

☐ Closure Plan (Please complete Box 5) - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection C of 19.15.17.9 NMAC and 19.15.17.13 NMAC

☐ Previously Approved Design (attach copy of design) API Number: _____

☐ Previously Approved Operating and Maintenance Plan API Number: _____

5.

Waste Removal Closure For Closed-loop Systems That Utilize Above Ground Steel Tanks or Haul-off Bins Only: (19 15.17.13.D NMAC)

Instructions: Please indentify the facility or facilities for the disposal of liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings. Use attachment if more than two facilities are required.

Disposal Facility Name: CRW-SWD Ross Draw Unit #9 Disposal Facility Permit Number: R-8492

Disposal Facility Name: CRW-SWD Ross Draw SWD #1 Disposal Facility Permit Number: R-7355

Will any of the proposed closed-loop system operations and associated activities occur on or in areas that *will not* be used for future service and operations?

■ Yes (If yes, please provide the information below) ☐ No

Required for impacted areas which will not be used for future service and operations:

☐ Soil Backfill and Cover Design Specifications - - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection H of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

☐ Re-vegetation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection I of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

■ Site Reclamation Plan - based upon the appropriate requirements of Subsection G of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

6.

Operator Application Certification:

I hereby certify that the information submitted with this application is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name (Print): Robert McAlpine Title: President

Signature: _____ Date: 10-27-2009

e-mail address: Saharam@sbcglobal.net Telephone: 432-697-0967

7.
OCD Approval: ☐ Permit Application (including closure plan) ☐ Closure Plan (only)

OCD Representative Signature: Garry W. Gill **Approval Date:** NOV 03 2009

Title: DISTRICT 1 SUPERVISOR **OCD Permit Number:** P1-01463

8.
Closure Report (required within 60 days of closure completion): Subsection K of 19.15.17.13 NMAC

Instructions: Operators are required to obtain an approved closure plan prior to implementing any closure activities and submitting the closure report. The closure report is required to be submitted to the division within 60 days of the completion of the closure activities. Please do not complete this section of the form until an approved closure plan has been obtained and the closure activities have been completed.

☐ **Closure Completion Date:** _____

9.
Closure Report Regarding Waste Removal Closure For Closed-loop Systems That Utilize Above Ground Steel Tanks or Haul-off Bins Only:

Instructions: Please indentify the facility or facilities for where the liquids, drilling fluids and drill cuttings were disposed. Use attachment if more than two facilities were utilized.

Disposal Facility Name: _____ Disposal Facility Permit Number: _____

Disposal Facility Name: _____ Disposal Facility Permit Number: _____

Were the closed-loop system operations and associated activities performed on or in areas that *will not* be used for future service and operations?

☐ Yes (If yes, please demonstrate compliance to the items below) ☐ No

Required for impacted areas which will not be used for future service and operations:

☐ Site Reclamation (Photo Documentation)
☐ Soil Backfilling and Cover Installation
☐ Re-vegetation Application Rates and Seeding Technique

10.
Operator Closure Certification:

I hereby certify that the information and attachments submitted with this closure report is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also certify that the closure complies with all applicable closure requirements and conditions specified in the approved closure plan.

Name (Print): _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

e-mail address: _____ Telephone: _____

Closed-Loop System Design and Operating Plan
With note on Surface Reclamation Plan
Attached to Form C-144 CLEZ
Sahara Operating Company – North El Mar Unit #20 – P&A
API# 30-025-08431

1. This system shall utilize a standard steel reverse pit of approximately 110 barrel capacity.

2. Connections to pumps and wellheads shall be via steel reinforced hose of sufficient strength to prevent leakage.

3. This pit shall be used for circulating the well and other such procedures as may be necessary during the plugging process.

4. Circulating the well shall take place under a closed BOP so that fluids will be confined to the wellbore, flowlines, and steel pit or pump truck.

5. No solids or drill cuttings will be generated during this operation. Fluids will be confined to the above-ground steel pit.

6. At the cessation of operations pit contents will be transferred to a fluid transport truck to be either:

   a. Utilized at the next plugging location.

   Or

   b. Hauled to an approved fluid disposal facility.

Note on Surface Reclamation Plan

The surface reclamation plan for this well site will be developed and implemented by R.T. Hicks and Associates in concordance with the Bureau of Land Management. This will include removal of caliche, replacement of topsoil, recontouring and revegetation to blend with the surrouding topography. This work shall be done in accordance with Subsection G of 19.15.17.13 NMAC.

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Carlsbad Field Office
620 E. Greene St
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220-6292
www.blm.gov/nm

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In Reply Refer To 1310

Reclamation (Interim/Final) Procedures

Reclamation Objective: Oil and gas development is one of many uses of the public lands and resources. While development may have a short- or long-term effect on the land, successful reclamation can ensure the effect is not permanent. 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. At final abandonment, well locations, production facilities, and access roads must undergo "final" reclamation so that the character and productivity of the land and water are restored.

The long-term objective of final reclamation is to set the course for eventual ecosystem restoration, including the restoration of the natural vegetation community, hydrology, and wildlife habitats. In most cases this means returning the land to a condition approximating or equal to that which existed prior to the disturbance. The final goal of reclamation is to restore the character of the land and water to its pre-disturbance condition. The operator is generally not responsible for achieving full ecological restoration of the site. Instead, the operator must achieve the short-term stability, visual, hydrological, and productivity objectives of the surface management agency and take steps necessary to ensure that long-term objectives will be reached through natural processes.

To achieve these objectives, remove any and all contaminants, scrap/trash, equipment, pipelines and powerlines. Strip and remove caliche, contour the location to blend with the surrounding landscape, re-distribute the native soils, provide erosion control as needed, rip and seed as specified in the original APD COA. This will apply to well pads, facilities, and access roads. Barricade access road at the starting point. If reserve pits have not reclaimed due to salts or other contaminants, submit a plan for approval, as to how you propose to provide adequate restoration of the pit area.

1. The Application for Permit to Drill or Reenter (APD, Form 3160-3), Surface Use Plan of Operations must include adequate measures for stabilization and reclamation of disturbed lands. Oil and Gas operators must plan for reclamation, both interim and final, up front in the APD process as per Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 1.

2. For wells and/or access roads not having an approved plan, or an inadequate plan for surface reclamation (either interim or final reclamation), the operator must submit a proposal describing the procedures for reclamation. For interim reclamation, the appropriate time for submittal would be when filing the Well Completion or Recompletion Report and Log (Form 3160-4). For final reclamation, the appropriate time for submittal would be when filing the Notice of Intent, or the Subsequent Report of Abandonment, Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells (Form 3160-5). Interim reclamation is to be completed within 6 months of well completion, and final reclamation is to be completed within 6 months of well abandonment.

3. The operator must file a Subsequent Report Plug and Abandonment (Form 3160-5) following the plugging of a well.

4. Previous instruction had you waiting for a BLM specialist to inspect the location and provide you with reclamation requirements. If you have an approved Surface Use Plan of Operation and/or an approved Sundry Notice, you are free to proceed with reclamation as per approved APD. If you have issues or concerns, contact a BLM specialist to assist you. It would be in your interest to have a BLM specialist look at the location and access road prior to the removal of reclamation

equipment to ensure that it meets BLM objectives. Upon conclusion submit a Form 3160-5, Subsequent Report of Reclamation. This will prompt a specialist to inspect the location to verify work was completed as per approved plans.

5. The approved Subsequent Report of Reclamation will be your notice that the native soils, contour and seedbed have been reestablished. If the BLM objectives have not been met the operator will be notified and corrective actions may be required.

6. It is the responsibility of the operator to monitor these locations and/or access roads until such time as the operator feels that the BLM objective has been met. If after two growing seasons the location and/or access roads are not showing the potential for successful revegetation, additional actions may be needed. When you feel the BLM objectives have been met submit a Final Abandonment Notice (FAN), Form 3160-5, stating that all reclamation requirements have been achieved and the location and/or access road is ready for a final abandonment inspection.

7. At this time the BLM specialist will inspect the location and/or access road. If the native soils and contour have been restored, and the revegetation is successful, the FAN will be approved, releasing the operator of any further liability of the location and/or access road. If the location and/or access road have not achieved the objective, you will be notified as to additional work needed or additional time being needed to achieve the objective.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact any of the following specialists:

Jim Amos
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist
575-234-5909, 575-361-2648 (Cell)

Terry Gregston
Environmental Protection Specialist
575-234-5958

Bobby Ballard
Environmental Protection Specialist
575-234-2230

Randy Rust
Environmental Protection Specialist
575-234-5943

Linda Denniston
Environmental Protection Specialist
575-234-5974

Jennifer Van Curen
Environmental Protection Specialist
575-234-5905

Justin Frye
Environmental Protection Specialist
575-234-5922

Cody Layton
Natural Resource Specialist
575-234-5959

Trishia Bad Bear
Natural Resource Specialist
575-393-3612

Todd Suter
Surface Protection Specialist
575-234-5987

Doug Hoag
Civil Engineering Technician
575-234-5979