

**PECOS DISTRICT - RFO
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

April 7, 2010

**OPERATORS NAME: COG Operating LLC
LEASE NO.: NM- 105885
WELL NAME & NO: Taurus State-Federal Com #2
SURFACE HOLE FOOTAGE (State): 1980' FSL & 330' FWL
BOTTOM HOLE LOCATION (Federal Mineral): 2017' FSL & 331' FEL
LOCATION: Section 10, T. 15 S., R. 31 E., NMPM
COUNTY: Chaves County, New Mexico**

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.

I. 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).

II. 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.

III. NOXIOUS WEEDS

The operator shall be held responsible if noxious weeds become established within the areas of operations (access road and/or well pad). 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.

IV. SOIL:

The topsoil will be used for interim and final reclamation of the surface disturbance created by the construction of the well pad. All topsoil will be spread evenly in a row around the well pad and re-seeded to keep the topsoil viable.

V. WILDLIFE:

Netting storage tanks and installation of cones on separator stacks would alleviate losses of wildlife species. Interim reclamation and final rehabilitation through revegetation would return to wildlife previous levels.

VI. GRAZING:

Cattleguards

An appropriately sized cattleguard(s) sufficient to carry out the project shall be installed and maintained at fence crossing(s).

Any existing cattleguard(s) on the access road 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 cattleguard(s) that are in place and are utilized during lease operations.

A gate shall be constructed and fastened securely to H-braces.

Fence Requirement

Where entry is required 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 fence(s).

VII. PRODUCTION

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.

Containment Structures

The containment structure shall be constructed to hold the capacity of the entire contents of the largest tank, plus 24 hour production, unless more stringent protective requirements are deemed necessary by the Authorized Officer.

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, Juniper Green (Standard Environmental Color Chart June 2008).

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. Earthwork for interim and final reclamation must be completed within 6 months of well completion or well plugging (weather permitting). The operator shall submit a Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells (Notice of Intent), Form 3160-5, prior to conducting interim reclamation.

During reclamation, the removal of caliche is important to increasing the success of revegetating the site. Removed caliche may be used in road repairs, fire walls or for building other roads and locations. In addition, 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.

IX. FINAL ABANDONMENT & REHABILITATION REQUIREMENTS

- a) Upon abandonment of the well and/or when the access road is no longer in service, a Notice of Intent for Final Abandonment with the proposed surface restoration procedure must be submitted for approval.
- b) On private surface/federal mineral estate land the reclamation procedures on the road and well pad shall be accomplished in accordance with the Private Surface Land Owner agreements and a copy of the release is to be submitted upon abandonment.
- c) Upon abandonment of the well, all casing shall be cut-off at the base of the cellar or 3-feet below final restored ground level (whichever is deeper). A 4-inch pipe, 10 feet in length, shall be installed 4 feet above ground and embedded in cement. The following information shall be permanently inscribed on the dry hole marker: Well name and number, the name of the operator, the lease serial number, the surveyed location (the quarter-quarter section, section, township and range or other authorized survey designation acceptable to the authorized officer; such as metes and bounds).
- d) Surface Reclamation must be completed within 6 months of well plugging. If the operator proposes to modify the plans for surface reclamation approved on the APD, the

- e) operator must attach these modifications to the Subsequent Report of Plug and Abandon using Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells, Form 3160-5.

X. PIPELINE PROTECTION REQUIREMENT:

Precautionary measures shall be taken by the operator during construction of the access road to protect existing pipelines that the access road will cross over. An earthen berm; 2 feet high by 3 feet wide and 14 feet across the access road travelway (2' X 3' X 14'), shall be constructed over existing pipelines. The operator shall be held responsible for any damage to existing pipelines. If the pipeline is ruptured and/or damaged the operator shall immediately cease construction operations and repair the pipeline. The operator shall be held liable for any unsafe construction operations that threaten human life and/or cause the destruction of equipment.

XI. WATER QUALITY:

A. Surface:

Surface disturbance from the construction of the well pad, closed system or steel tanks, access road, pipelines, and powerlines can result in degradation of surface water quality and groundwater quality from non-point source pollution, increased soil losses, and increased gully erosion.

B. Groundwater

Imposed mud program and water protection casing string(s) will protect all anticipated usable water zones

The casing and cementing requirements imposed on the proposed well would reduce or eliminate the potential for usable groundwater contamination from potentially harmful substances occurring in the borehole environment and/or introduced at the surface for control of the drilling process.

The use of closed systems would reduce or eliminate seepage of contaminants into the soil, surface waters and potentially into the groundwater.