

United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Pecus District

Carlsbad Field Office 620 E. Greene Carlsbad, NM 88220 Roswell Field Office 2909 W. Second St. Roswell, NM 88021



www.nm.blm.gov

In reply refer to 1310 (500)

NOV 13 ZUB



Dear Operator:

Both the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the oil and gas industry recognize that mineral development is one of many uses on the public lands in New Mexico. Since oil and gas development is only meant to be a temporary use of the surface, interim reclamation of disturbed areas not needed for active support of production operations is a very important 'best management practice'. In an effort to insure continued access and availability of public minerals, it is in the best interests of the oil and gas industry and BLM to work together towards reclaiming lands not actively used for safe and economical production.

Recognizing that a "one size fits all" approach is not practical, I am asking our lessees and operators to work with BLM staff to find solutions on reclaiming disturbed areas. In keeping with best management practices, locations and roads should have the smallest surface impact possible while balancing the need for safety, terrain, depth of the well and good engineering practices. As I have indicated at our working group meetings, where terrain permits, roads and locations may be built with minimal or no caliche for surfacing. The BLM acknowledges that there will be areas, such as in sandy soils, where surfacing materials may be necessary for a well pad, or portions of the road. These details can be worked out at the time of the onsite inspection.

At the time reserve pits are to be reclaimed, operators should work with a BLM surface management specialist to devise the best strategies to reduce the size of the location. BLM is aware that safety requirements do not allow vehicles within the area of guy anchors. Any reductions should allow for remedial well operations, as well as safe and efficient removal of oil and gas. We also recognize that pad sizes will vary depending upon whether a tank battery is present, onsite terrain and soils at each location. Our goal is to minimize the footprint required for safe operations, while achieving our commitment to multiple land use.

During reclamation, the removal of caliche from a road and location when that material is no longer necessary is important to increasing the success of revegetating the site. Removed caliche may be used in road repairs, or for building other roads and locations. We also recognize that in sandy dunal areas significant interim reclamation may not be feasible. 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, since they will usually do little or no damage to the surface. If there is significant disturbance and loss of vegetation, the area will need to be revegetated within a reasonable period after use. The BLM also acknowledges that there will be exceptions, and I urge operators to communicate with the appropriate BLM office if an exemption to interim reclamation is needed.

While change does not come easy for any of us, our combined efforts to reduce the footprint of mineral activities will go a long way in demonstrating our ability to harmonize oil and gas development with other uses on the public lands. I really appreciate your efforts in this area and look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Burger

Pecos District Manager

PECOS DISTRICT - RFO CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL



February 25, 2010

OPERATORS NAME: Hunt Cimarron Limited Partnership LEASE NO.: NM- 103880 WELL NAME & NO: Cedar Point 14-L Fed #1 SURFACE HOLE FOOTAGE: 1980' FSL & 660' FWL LOCATION: Section 14, T. 15 S., R. 30 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.

A. ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

Construction activities will <u>NOT</u> begin on the well pad or access route until the operator submits a full complete archeological report to the BLM. Dependent upon the results of the report, an Authorized BLM Representative will either approve the action allowing construction to begin, or postpone construction activities until adjustments can be made by the operator to protect all identified archeological sites. Once changes are made by the operator the new actions will need to be reported to the BLM by Sundry Notice on Form 3160-5 (Sundry Notice and Reports on Wells) stating the above actions have been corrected and are ready for approval, an original and 5 copies are required.

III. LIVESTOCK GRAZING/ RANGE

If any conflicts with livestock do arise as a result of the access road and well pad construction, mitigation measures will be taken, and consultation with the allottee will mitigate those impacts.

A. 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.

B. VEGETATION

No long-term impacts to vegetation are anticipated. However measures will be taken in the event impacts to vegetation are found.

IV. CONSTRUCTION

A. NOTIFICATION:

The BLM shall administer compliance and monitor construction of the access road and well pad. Notify the Roswell Field Office at (505) 627-0247 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 Application for Permit to Drill and Conditions of Approval on the well site and they shall be made available upon request by the Authorized Officer.

B. TOPSOIL:

The topsoil will be stripped to approximately 6 inches in depth within the area designated for construction of the well pad. The operator shall stockpile the stripped topsoil adjacent to the

constructed well pad. The topsoil will be used for interim and final reclamation of the surface disturbance created by the construction of the well pad.

C. CLOSED SYSTEMS OR STEEL TANKS:

A closed system or steel tanks will be used in lieu of reserve pits.

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

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 need.

F. ON LEASE ACCESS ROADS:

Road Egress and Ingress

The on lease access road shall be constructed to access the center portion of the east side of the well pad.

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 thirty (30) 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.

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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 be constructed on all blind curves. Turnouts shall conform to the following diagram:





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.



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 foot road with 4% road slope: 400' + 100' = 200' lead-off ditch interval

Culvert Installations

Appropriately sized culvert(s) shall be installed at the deep waterway channel flow crossing.

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).

Public Access

Public access will be restricted to the location by use of a locked gate on private surface. BLM will be granted access to the location through a signed surface owner agreement in order to conduct production and surface compliance inspections. A copy of the key or access code will be given to the BLM.



Figure 1 - Cross Sections and Plans For Typical Road Sections

V. DRILLING

A. DRILLING OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS

1. Call the Roswell Field Office, 2909 West Second St., Roswell, NM 88201. During office hours call (575) 627-0205 or after office hours call (575) 420-2832. Engineer on call during office hours call (575) 627-0275 or after office hours call (575) 626-5749.

2. The BLM is to be notified a minimum of 24 hours in advance for a representative to witness:

- a. Spudding well
- b. Setting and/or Cementing of all casing strings

The BLM is to be notified a minimum of 4 hours in advance for a representative to witness:

BOPE Tests

3. 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.

4. Include the API Number assigned to well by NMOCD on the subsequent report of setting the first casing string.

5. A Communitization Agreement covering the acreage dedicated to this well must be filed for approval with the BLM. The effective date of the agreement shall be prior to any sales.

6. The operator will accurately measure the drilling rate in ft/min to set the base of the usable water protection casing string(s) opposite competent rock. The record of the drilling rate along with the caliper-gamma ray-neutron well log run to surface will be submitted to this office as well as all other logs run on the borehole 30 days from completion

7. Fresh water and non toxic drilling mud shall be used to drill to the base of the usable water protection casing string(s). Any polymers used will be water based and non-toxic.

B. CASING

1. The 13 3/8 inch usable water protection casing string(s) shall be set at approximately 575 feet in competent bedrock.

If not the operator is required to set usable water protecting casing in the next thick competent bedding (i.e. 15 to 25 ft or greater) encountered and cemented to the surface.

Remarks: The No. 1 well located 330' FNL & 330' FWL, sec. 15, encountered water in a redbed sandstone at 550' to 565'. The log of the Tesdoro No. 1 located 660' FNL & 660' FEL, sec. 14 a 10 ft zone washed out between 550' to 560'. This zone appears to be the same water sand as found in the No. 1 well. At least that's my theory. The washout is a serious problem for the operator even if not the water source. I contacted Mr. Richard Gilliland (Cimarron) on February

23, 2010 and made him aware of the problem. We agreed to setting the surface casing at 575' or the next competent bedrock encountered.

a. If cement does not circulate to the surface, the Roswell Field Office shall be notified and a temperature survey utilizing an electronic type temperature survey with a surface log readout will be used or a cement bond log shall be run to verify the top of the cement.

b. Wait on cement (WOC) time for a primary cement job will be a minimum 18 hours for a water basin or 500 pounds compression 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 compression strength, whichever is greater.

d. If cement falls back, remedial action will be done prior to drilling out that string.

2. The minimum required fill of cement behind the $\underline{8-5/8}$ inch intermediate casing is <u>sufficient</u> to circulate to the surface. If cement does not circulate see B.1.a-d above.

3. The minimum required fill of cement behind the 5-1/2 inch production casing is sufficient to tie back 200 feet into the 8-5/8 inch intermediate casing set at approximately 3300 feet. If cement does not circulate, a temperature survey utilizing an electronic type temperature survey with a surface log readout will be used or a cement bond log shall be run to verify the top of the cement.

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

5. All casing shall be new or reconditioned and tested casing and meet API standards for new casing. The use of reconditioned and tested casing shall be subject to approval by the authorized officer. Approval will be contingent upon the wall thickness of any casing being verified to be at least 87-1/2 per cent of the nominal wall thickness of new casing.

C. PRESSURE CONTROL:

1. Before drilling below the <u>13-3/8</u> inch surface casing shoe, the blowout preventer assembly shall consist of a minimum of One Annular Preventer or Two Ram-Type Preventers and a Kelly Cock/Stabbing Valve. Before drilling below the <u>8-5/8</u> inch intermediate casing shoe, the blowout preventer assembly shall consist of a minimum of One Annular Preventer, Two Ram-Type Preventers, and a Kelly Cock/Stabbing Valve.

2. Before drilling below the $\underline{13-3/8}$ inch surface casing shoe, minimum working pressure of the blowout preventer and related equipment (BOPE) shall be $\underline{2000}$ psi. Before drilling below the $\underline{8-5/8}$ inch intermediate casing shoe, minimum working pressure of the blowout preventer and related equipment (BOPE) shall be $\underline{3000}$ psi.

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3. The BOPE shall be installed before drilling below the $\underline{13-3/8}$ inch surface casing and shall be tested as described in Onshore Order No. 2. Any equipment failing to test satisfactorily shall be repaired or replaced.

a. The BLM Roswell Field office shall be notified a minimum of 4 hours in advance for a representative to witness the tests.

b. The tests shall be done by an independent service company.

c. The BOP/BOPE test shall include a low pressure test from 250 to 300 psi. The test will be held for a minimum of 10 minutes if test is done with a test plug and 30 minutes without a test plug.

d. 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 BLM Roswell Field Office at 2909 West Second Street, Roswell, New Mexico 88201.

e. Testing fluid must be water or an appropriate clear liquid suitable for sub-freezing temperatures. Use of drilling mud for testing is not permitted since it can mask small leaks.

f. Testing must be done in a safe workman like manner. Hard line connections shall be required.

g. A variance to test the BOPE to the reduced pressure of 2000 psi prior to drilling below the 13-3/8 inch surface casing is approved.

VI. PRODUCTION

Placement of Production Facilities

Production facilities should be placed on the well pad to allow for maximum interim recontouring and re-vegetation 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, <u>Juniper Green</u> (Standard Environmental Color Chart June 2008).

VRM Facility Requirement

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

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Power lines

All Power lines that may be required to supply the well will be buried to reduce the impacts to the surrounding lesser prairie chicken population. If the electrical lines are buried on lease then no right of way will be required. However, if the lines cross off-lease then a right of way must be applied for and granted before construction may begin. Construction would consist of digging a trench to a depth of at least 38 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 ¹/₄ mile.

VII. 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). Communicate with the appropriate BLM office for any exceptions/exemptions if needed. 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. Seeding or other activities to reestablish vegetation must be completed within the appropriate time period and seeded with the following mix:

PECOS DISTRICT SEED MIX FOR

The following Soils or Soil associations may represent these ecological sites: Alama-Poquita, Alama-Recves, Anthony sandy loam, Berino, Blakeney-Ima, Cacique, Dona Ana, Glendale-Harkey, Harkey sandy loam, Karro loam, Kermit-Berino fine sands. Mobeetie fine sandy loam, Pajarito-Bluepoint, Poquita, Potter-Simona complex, Sharvana-Redona, Simona, Simona-Bippus complex. Sotim-Berino, Sotim-Simona association, moderately undulating, Tonuco loamy sands, Vinton

1.075

Ecological Site: Shallow Sand SD-3 Ecological Site: Sandy SD-3

April 4. 2006

and Preferred Variety	Scientific Name	Pounds of Pure Live Seed Per Acre
Black grama or Blue grama.	(Bouteloua eriopoda) (Bouteloua gracilis)	3.0
Sideoats grama	(Bouteioua curtipendula)	2.0
Sand dropseed or Mese dropseed or Spike dropseed	(Sporobolus cryptandrus) (S. flexuosus) (S. contractus)	1.5
Desert or Scarlet Globemallow	(Sphaeralcea amhigua) or (S. coccinea)	1.0 _
Croton	(Croton spp.)	1.0
TOTAL POUNDS PURE LIVE SEED (pls) PER ACRE		8.5

Certified Weed Free Seed

IF ONE SPECIES IS NOT AVAILABLE. INCREASE ALL OTHERS PROPORTIONATELY

Use no less than 4 species, including 1 forb

No less than 8.5 pounds pls per acre shall be applied

APPROVED: <u>/s/ Douglas J. Burger</u> District Manager- Pecos District

C. FINAL ABANDONMENT & REHABILITATION REQUIREMENTS VIII. 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 3feet 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) 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 operator must attach these modifications to the Subsequent Report of Plug and Abandon using Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells, Form 3160-5.

IX. SEASONAL DRILLING REQUIREMENT or ATTACH SENM-22

A. Lesser Prairie Chicken Stipulation:

The Roswell Approved Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision addresses the preservation of the Lesser Prairie Chicken wildlife habitat.

1. There shall be no earthmoving construction activities, well exploratory and/or developmental drilling, well completion, plugging and abandonment activities, **between March 1st through June 15th**, of each year. During that period, other activities, including the operation and maintenance of oil and gas facilities, will not be allowed between **3:00 A.M.** and **9:00 A.M.**. To the extent practicable, activities occurring for a short period of time may be conducted so long as they do not commence until after **9:00 A.M.**. Any deviation from this stipulation must be approved in writing by the Roswell Field Office Manager or the appropriate Authorized Officer.

2. All motors or engines that produce high noise levels shall have mufflers installed that effectively reduce excessive noise levels within prairie chicken habitat. High noise levels produced by motors or engines shall be reduced and muffled so as not to exceed **75 db** measured at 30 feet from the source of the noise.

3. Upon abandonment of the well, reclamation activities can be conducted between March 1st through June 15th, so long as reclamation work shall not be conducted between the hours of

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3:00 AM to **9:00 AM**. Any deviation from this requirement shall require prior approval by the Authorized Officer.

4. In an emergency situation, the Authorized Officer can allow a pit to be constructed for the purpose of collecting crude oil for removal. To prevent wildlife from entering the pit, netting of adequate size to deter access by wildlife shall cover the pit until it is no longer a threat to wildlife, and the pit is reclaimed.