



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Bakersfield District Office
3801 Pegasus Drive
Bakersfield, California 93308-6837

3100
(CA-015.2)

Dear Oil and Gas Operator,

APR 08 1994

The Sump Closure Subcommittee of the Oil and Gas Work Group developed the enclosed "Oilfield Surface Impoundment Closure Guidelines". The Subcommittee consists of representatives from Industry, CDOGGR, and BLM. The final guidelines were presented to and accepted by the Oil and Gas Work Group June 9, 1993. Effective immediately, these guidelines should be used for all surface impoundment closures on federal land within the operational jurisdiction of the BLM's Caliente Resource Area.

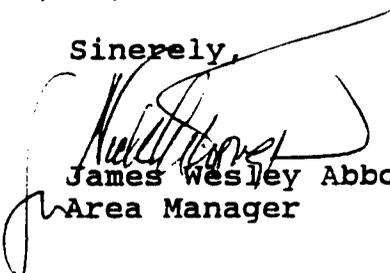
These guidelines supersede any existing Caliente Resource Area Oilfield Sump Closure Guidelines. The guidelines do not apply to surface impoundments for which there is existing regulation on procedures for closure (for example, drilling pits). The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) in Fresno (or other RWQCB) may issue a "General Order" which would regulate the closure of surface impoundments throughout their respective regions. If such an order is issued, it will replace the enclosed (new) guidelines. However, until a General Order is issued, these guidelines will be used.

These guidelines request the Operator to provide information on the location and depth to groundwater aquifers Beneath the impoundments planned for closure. The California Division of Oil and Gas and the Kern County Water Agency are probably the best sources of this information.

We look forward to the use of these guidelines as a method of eliminating surface impoundments while protecting the environment and addressing the concerns of Industry, the State of California, and the BLM. We remind the Operators that it is their responsibility to comply with OSHA regulations governing employee exposure to volatile hydrocarbons, APCD regulations regarding concentrations of volatile hydrocarbons permitted in "road mix", and all other applicable Federal and State regulations.

If you have any questions, please call Patty Gradek at (805) 391-6085, or Jeff Prude or Kent Varvel at (805) 391-6138.

Sincerely,


James Wesley Abbott
Area Manager

Enclosure

OILFIELD SURFACE IMPOUNDMENT CLOSURE GUIDELINES
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - BAKERSFIELD DISTRICT

STEP 1

Perform preliminary work and testing described in Attachment 1.

STEP 2

Submit BLM Form 3160-5 "Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells" (Attachment 8). Provide information in Attachment 2. Sign and return a copy of Attachment 7, Statement of Responsibility.

STEP 3

BLM receives Sundry and considers closure's impact on other resources and activities.

STEP 4

BLM sends approved Sundry to Operator with:

1. Letter of approval, and
2. Conditions of approval

All changes to this approved plan must be communicated to and approved by the BLM.

STEP 5

Excavate and process or dispose of sludge as specified in the approved Sundry. The presence of sludge will be determined using ASTM Method D4318 (Attachment 4).

Effective Date
July 1, 1993

STEP 6

Excavating may cease following removal of the sludge if the following is documented to the BLM:

1. There is no known aquifer beneath the sump or the shallowest groundwater beneath the sump is an EPA exempted aquifer, or
2. The sump is in a field where a hydrocarbon bearing zone extends to the surface.

If either of these two conditions are applicable, proceed to Step 8. Otherwise, proceed to Step 7.

STEP 7

If the conditions in Step 6 do not apply, excavation must continue until all visibly stained soil is removed

OR

The Operator will provide the information in Attachment 6, Step 3.d. in the "Subsequent Report of Abandonment".

STEP 8

Collect one composite sample from the bottom of the excavation (same procedure as in Attachment 1, Step 2). Submit the sample for the following analyses:

1. Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (EPA 418.1).
2. General Minerals (Attachment 5).
3. Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Xylene (BTEX), (EPA 8020).

STEP 9

Photograph "post-excavation" conditions at the site. Date and label the photographs.

STEP 10

Fax or send to the BLM the results of sample analyses from step 8 and a request for approval to backfill. BLM may grant approval by phone subject to the results of the analyses. A BLM on-site inspection may be needed prior to approval.

STEP 11

Backfill the site. Grade and compact to prevent ponding. If no development is planned for the site, place one foot of uncompacted soil as a final cover. Three percent grading after compaction is recommended.

STEP 12

Photograph "post-work" conditions at the site. Date and label the photographs.

STEP 13

Submit BLM Form 3160-5: "Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells" (Attachment 9). Provide information in Attachment 6.

STEP 14

BLM evaluates the "Subsequent Report of Abandonment" Sundry. If no additional work is needed and site reclamation has been successful, the Subsequent Report will be approved.

Attachment 1
Preliminary Work and Testing

Note: The following guidelines are applicable to oilfield surface impoundment closures on Federal leases in the Bakersfield District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Operator understands, agrees, and acknowledges that the oilfield surface impoundment closure procedures required by the BLM herein, attempt to set forth responsible oilfield reclamation procedure. However, BLM in no manner represents or guarantees that compliance with these sump closure procedures constitutes full compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations governing oilfield sump closures which may be applicable either now or in the future. BLM neither guarantees that compliance with these guidelines will release an operator from existing or future responsibility or liability related to the siting, use, closure, or post-closure of a sump, including any environmental or hazardous waste laws; nor does BLM agree to accept any liability for or indemnify an operator against such existing or future responsibility or liability.

1. Remove all free liquids and process or dispose in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
2. Collect and analyze at a State certified laboratory one composite sludge sample for Inorganic Toxic Substances (Attachment 3) and for any other hazardous constituents that the Operator suspects might be present.

The composite will be a mixture of a minimum of four samples collected within five feet of each side of the impoundment at a depth of 0-2 feet into the sludge. (Two of the samples will be within five feet of the inlet and outlet of the sump). Half of this composite will be used for the tests in Attachment 3, and the other half will be retained as an individual sample by the lab in case further testing is needed. Provide the results to the BLM with the "Sundry Notice - Form 3160-5", as described in Attachment 2.

On a limited basis, BLM may request additional testing when the conditions warrant it.

3. If hazardous levels of inorganic toxics are present or non-exempt hazardous wastes are present, contact BLM, the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and appropriate federal and state spill response authorities as required, by phone and in writing. Provide BLM with a copy of the written notification sent to the RWQCB.

RWQCB, with input from the BLM, will develop specific written requirements for closure. These guidelines cannot be used.
4. If the sludge is non-hazardous, proceed under these closure guidelines.

5. As a condition of approval of the Sundry, the Operator understands, agrees, and acknowledges that the testing described in Attachment 1 Step 2 of these Guidelines is the minimum acceptable testing and that approval of the Sundry Notice by BLM in no way relieves the Operator from their obligation, either now or at any time in the future, to perform all the appropriate testing described in Section 66261.24 of Title 22, or other applicable federal, state, or local laws and regulations, or to self-certify that the waste is non-hazardous as allowed by Section 66260.200 (c) of that Title.

If the Operator does not use the self-certification process, then the following analytical results must accompany the Sundry application: Inorganic Toxics, pH, Fluoride, Flashpoint, Reactivity, and Aquatic Toxicity.

In either case, the Operator must state in the Sundry whether they are self-certifying or performing the full suite of tests, and they must state that they take full responsibility for the proper disposition of the excavated materials.

Attachment 2
Information Required for "Notice of Intent to Abandon" Sundry

1. Check the boxes - "Notice of Intent" and "Abandonment" (see Attachment 3 - Example "Notice of Intent to Abandon").
2. Describe sump location by providing the name of the oil field, lease, 1/4 Section, Township and Range, nearest well from Munger map, and applicable Waste Discharge Requirements number. Also include a site map showing the location of the sump with:
 - a. survey coordinates or
 - b. distance and direction or azimuth from permanent landmarks (Examples of permanent landmarks are wells or benchmarks. Buildings and other facilities are not permanent landmarks.) or
 - c. indicate on an aerial photograph of known scale.
3. Briefly describe the history of the sump including when it was installed, size and past uses. Indicate the depth to the nearest aquifer and whether it is "exempted" by EPA. Cite the source of information used to ascertain the depth to the nearest aquifer. Indicate the API gravity of the crude in the sump. Photograph "pre-work" conditions at the site. Date and label all photographs.
4. State the project intentions, i.e., removal of sump, excavation of contaminated soil, replacement with above-ground tanks, etc. If sump removal involves other associated actions, submit all actions on one Sundry Notice. Note: Endangered species and/or archaeological reviews may be required prior to any surface disturbing activities.
5. The Operator must submit a proposal for excavation and disposal of sump materials, including the type of disposal, other possible uses of the materials, and their final destinations. If the Operator proposes to use non-hazardous sump materials for road surfacing on the lease, a map must be attached to the Sundry showing the roads where it is proposed for placement. The Operator is responsible for complying with Air Pollution Control District (APCD) regulations regarding this practice.
6. The Operator must submit a proposal for site reclamation (including proposed source of fill material).
7. Include the information requested in Attachment 1, steps 2 and 5.
8. Sign and return to the BLM a copy of Attachment 7, Statement of Responsibility.

Attachment 3
Inorganic Toxic Substances

Section 66261.24(a) 2 (A) of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations is a list of "Inorganic Persistent and Bioaccumulative Toxic Substances". These substances are referred to as "Inorganic Toxic Substances" in these guidelines.

A waste exhibits the characteristic of toxicity, and is a hazardous waste under State law, if it contains an inorganic substance in the following list and its concentration equals or exceeds its Total Threshold Limit Concentration (TTLC).

If the TTLC levels are not equaled or exceeded but the concentration is 10 times or more greater than the Soluble Threshold Limit Concentration (STLC) value, the Waste Extraction Test (WET) must be conducted. The results of the WET are compared to the STLC levels in the table. If the concentration equals or exceeds the STLC, the waste is a hazardous waste.

| <u>Substance</u> | <u>STLC - mg/l</u> | <u>TTLC - mg/kg</u> |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|
| Antimony and/or antimony compounds. | 15 | 500 |
| Arsenic and/or arsenic compounds. | 5 | 500 |
| Barium and/or barium compound | .100 | 10,000 |
| (excluding barite) | | |
| Beryllium and/or beryllium compounds. | 0.75 | 75 |
| Cadmium and/or cadmium compounds. | 1 | 100 |
| Chromium (VI) compounds | 5 | 500 |
| Chromium and/or chromium (III) compounds | 5 | 2,500 |
| Cobalt and/or cobalt compounds. | 80 | 8,000 |
| Copper and/or copper compounds. | 25 | 2,500 |
| Fluoride salts. | .180 | 18,000 |
| Lead and/or lead compounds. | 5 | 1,000 |
| Mercury and/or mercury compounds. | 0.2 | 20 |
| Molybdenum and/or molybdenum compounds | .350 | 3,500 |
| Nickel and/or nickel compounds. | 20 | 2,000 |
| Selenium and/or selenium compounds. | 1 | 100 |
| Silver and/or silver compounds. | 5 | 500 |
| Thallium and/or thallium compounds. | 7 | 700 |
| Vanadium and/or vanadium compounds. | 24 | 2,400 |
| Zinc and/or zinc compounds. | .250 | 5,000 |

Attachment 4
MODIFIED PLASTIC LIMIT TEST
ASTM D 4318

This modified plastic limit test is to be used to determine the presence (or absence) of residual sludge in the bottom of oil field surface impoundments being closed using the procedures mandated in the Surface Impoundment Closure Guidelines. The test is a qualitative analysis to determine the depth of excavation required to eliminate all sludge material from an impoundment prior to backfilling. The test determines whether excavated materials are solids or sludge by virtue of their ability to form "worms" when rolled between gloved hands.

1. Sampling:

A. To "calibrate" the test, a one quart sample of sludge should be taken after all liquids have been removed from the impoundment but prior to initiating aggressive excavation of the impoundment. This sample will be labeled "Sample 1".

B. When the apparent limit of sludge has been excavated, another one quart sample is collected and stored in its own container.

2. Procedure:

A. Using rubber gloves, remove approximately one tablespoon of material from "Sample 1" and, initially applying light pressure, begin rolling the material between the palms.

If the sample spreads between the palms and does not begin to form "worms", excavation must continue.

B. All subsequent samples taken during the excavation are processed as described in step 2 (A) above, until "worms" form when the sample is rolled. If necessary, the retained portion of "Sample 1" should be re-analyzed from time to time to "calibrate" the sampler's hands.

3. Documentation:

A. As part of the final report described in the Surface Impoundment Closure Guidelines, photographs of the impoundment must be taken at the depth that the testing indicates that all sludge has been removed and prior to initiating backfilling operations.

Attachment 5
General Minerals Analysis

| | <u>Method Number</u> |
|--------------|----------------------|
| Boron | SW 6010 |
| Conductivity | EPA 120.1 |
| Chloride | EPA 325.2 |
| pH | EPA 150-1 |
| Sodium | AA method 7770 |
| Sulfate | EPA 375.2 |

Attachment 6

Information Required for "Subsequent Report of Abandonment" Sundry

1. Use form 3160-5 "Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells" (see Attachment 9 - Example "Subsequent Report of Abandonment").
2. Check the boxes - "Subsequent Report" and "Abandonment".
3. Submit a final closure report to the BLM and Regional Water Quality Control Board. At the same time, the Division of Oil and Gas will be provided the information contained in (d) below. At a minimum, the report will include the following four items:
 - a. Photographs of "Pre-work", "Post-excavation" and "Post-work" conditions. Date and label all photographs.
 - b. Results of work performed in steps 1, 5-8, and 11.
 - c. Documentation of impoundment location (restate location description from Attachment 2, step 2), size, and description of operations. Include the depth and estimated volume of the excavated material.
 - d. State whether any visibly stained soil was left in place. If any visibly stained soil was left in place overlying an aquifer that is not EPA exempt, indicate the distance between the bottom of the excavation and that aquifer. Provide a rationale on how the groundwater is protected from the effects of remaining materials.
 - e. The Operator must state in the "Subsequent Report of Abandonment,": "The Operator understands, agrees, and acknowledges BLM DOES NOT WAIVE THE RIGHT to require the Operator to further investigate and/or address any environmental condition at the site caused by the sump in accordance with applicable laws and regulations."

All of the items in steps 1-3 must be provided in order for the Subsequent Report of Abandonment to be approved.

Attachment 7
Statement of Responsibility

**OILFIELD SURFACE IMPOUNDMENT CLOSURE GUIDELINES
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - BAKERSFIELD DISTRICT**

The above referenced guidelines are applicable to oilfield surface impoundment closures on Federal leases in the Bakersfield District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Operator understands, agrees, and acknowledges that the oilfield surface impoundment closure procedures required by the BLM therein, attempt to set forth responsible oilfield reclamation procedure. However, BLM in no manner represents or guarantees that compliance with these sump closure procedures constitutes full compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations governing oilfield sump closures which may be applicable either now or in the future. BLM neither guarantees that compliance with these guidelines will release an operator from existing or future responsibility or liability related to the siting, use, closure, or post-closure of a sump, including any environmental or hazardous waste laws; nor does BLM agree to accept any liability for or indemnify an operator against such existing or future responsibility or liability.

Print Name

Title

Company name

Signature

Date

Form 3160-5
(June 1990)UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENTFORM APPROVED
Budget Bureau No. 1004-0135
Expires: March 31, 1993

5. Lease Designation and Serial No.

Lease No.

6. If Indian, Allottee or Tribe Name

7. If Unit or CA, Agreement Designation

8. Well Name and No.

9. API Well No.

10. Field and Pool, or Exploratory Area
Field Name

11. County or Parish, State

County, CA

SUNDRY NOTICES AND REPORTS ON WELLSDo not use this form for proposals to drill or to deepen or reentry to a different reservoir.
Use "APPLICATION FOR PERMIT—" for such proposals**SUBMIT IN TRIPLICATE**

1. Type of Well

 Oil Well Gas Well Other

2. Name of Operator

Operator's Name

3. Address and Telephone No.

Address, Telephone No.

4. Location of Well (Footage, Sec., T., R., M., or Survey Description)

Location of sump to be abandoned (see Attachment 2, step 2)

12. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(S) TO INDICATE NATURE OF NOTICE, REPORT, OR OTHER DATA

| TYPE OF SUBMISSION | TYPE OF ACTION | |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Intent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abandonment | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Plans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Subsequent Report | <input type="checkbox"/> Recompletion | <input type="checkbox"/> New Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Final Abandonment Notice | <input type="checkbox"/> Plugging Back | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Routine Fracturing |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Casing Repair | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Shut-Off |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Altering Casing | <input type="checkbox"/> Conversion to Injection |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Dispose Water |

(Note: Report results of multiple completion on Well Completion or Recompletion Report and Log form.)

13. Describe Proposed or Completed Operations (Clearly state all pertinent details, and give pertinent dates, including estimated date of starting any proposed work. If well is directionally drilled, give subsurface locations and measured and true vertical depths for all markers and zones pertinent to this work.)*

See Attachment 2, steps 3-8 for directions.

14. I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct

Signed XXX Title XXX Date XXX

(This space for Federal or State office use)

Approved by _____ Title _____ Date _____
Conditions of approval, if any:

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

*See instruction on Reverse Side

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This form is designed for submitting proposals to perform certain well operations, and reports of such operations when completed, as indicated, on Federal and Indian lands pursuant to applicable Federal law and regulations, and, if approved or accepted by any State, on all lands in such State, pursuant to applicable State law and regulations. Any necessary special in-

structions concerning the use of this form and the number of copies to be submitted, particularly with regard to local area, or regional procedures and practices, either are shown below or will be issued by, or may be obtained from, the local Federal and/or State office.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Item 4—If there are no applicable State requirements, locations on Federal or Indian land should be described in accordance with Federal requirements. Consult local State or Federal office for specific instructions.

Item 13—Proposals to abandon a well and subsequent reports of abandonment should include such special information as is required by local Federal and/or State offices. In addition, such proposals and reports should include reasons for the abandonment; data on any former or present productive

zones, or other zones with present significant fluid contents not sealed off by cement or otherwise; depths (top and bottom) and method of placement of cement plugs; mud or other material placed below, between and above plugs; amount, size, method of parting of any casing, liner or tubing pulled and the depth to top of any left in the hole; method of closing top of well; and date well site conditioned for final inspection looking to approval of the abandonment.

NOTICE

The Privacy Act of 1974 and the regulation in 43 CFR 2.48(d) provide that you be furnished the following information in connection with information required by this application.

AUTHORITY: 30 U.S.C. 181 et. seq., 351 et. seq., 25 U.S.C. et. seq.; 43 CFR 3160.

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE — The information is to be used to evaluate, when appropriate, approve applications, and report completion of secondary well operations, on a Federal or Indian lease.

ROUTINE USES:

- (1) Evaluate the equipment and procedures used during the proposed or completed subsequent well operations.
- (2) Request and grant approval to perform those actions covered by 43 CFR 3162.3-2(2).
- (3) Analyze future applications to drill or modify operations in light of data obtained and methods used.
- (4)(5) Information from the record and/or the record will be transferred to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies, when relevant to civil, criminal or regulatory investigations or prosecutions.

EFFECT OF NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION — Filing of this notice and report and disclosure of the information is mandatory once an oil or gas well is drilled.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501, et. seq.) requires us to inform you that:

This information is being collected in order to evaluate proposed and/or completed subsequent well operations on Federal or Indian oil and gas leases.

This information will be used to report subsequent operations once work is completed and when requested, to obtain approval for subsequent operations not previously authorized.

Response to this request is mandatory for the specific types of activities specified in 43 CFR Part 3160.

BURDEN HOURS STATEMENT

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 25 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, (Alternate) Bureau Clearance Officer, (WO-771), 18 and C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1004-0135), Washington, D.C. 20503.

Form 3160-5
(June 1990)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

FORM APPROVED
Budget Bureau No. 1004-0135
Expires: March 31, 1993

SUNDRY NOTICES AND REPORTS ON WELLS

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Use "APPLICATION FOR PERMIT—" for such proposals

SUBMIT IN TRIPLICATE

1. Type of Well
 Oil Well Gas Well Other

2. Name of Operator
 Operator's Name

3. Address and Telephone No.
 Address, Telephone No.

4. Location of Well (Footage, Sec., T., R., M., or Survey Description)
 Location of sump which has been abandoned (see Attachment 2, step 2)

5. Lease Designation and Serial No.
 Lease No.

6. If Indian, Allottee or Tribe Name

7. If Unit or CA, Agreement Designation

8. Well Name and No.

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| TYPE OF SUBMISSION | TYPE OF ACTION |
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