



Operator  
Comments:

**Certification**

I hereby certify all statements made in this form are, to the best of my knowledge, true, correct, and complete.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: Jessica Donahue  
Title: Regulatory Technician Email: Jessica.Donahue@blackhillscorp.com Date: 12/14/2012

**Approval**

Signed:  Title: Director of Cogcc Date: 04/08/2013

**BMP**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Comment</u>
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Total: 0 comment(s)

**CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL:**

**SITE SPECIFIC COAs:**

Notify the COGCC 48 hours prior to start of pad construction, rig mobilization, spud, pit liner installation, and start of hydraulic stimulation operations using Form 42 (the appropriate COGCC individuals will automatically be email notified, including the LGD for hydraulic stimulation operations).

Operator must implement best management practices to contain any unintentional release of fluids, including any fluids conveyed via temporary surface or buried pipelines.

Operator must ensure secondary containment for any volume of fluids contained at well site during drilling and completion operations (as described on the BMPs tab and shown on the Construction Layout Drawings attachment); including, but not limited to, construction of a berm or diversion dike, diversion/collection trenches within and/or outside of berms/dikes, site grading, or other comparable measures (i.e., best management practices (BMPs) associated with stormwater management) sufficiently protective of nearby surface water. Any berm constructed at the well pad location will be stabilized, inspected at regular intervals (at least every 14 days), and maintained in good condition.

The moisture content of any freshwater generated cuttings in a cuttings pit, trench, or pile shall be as low as practicable to prevent accumulation of liquids greater than de minimis amounts. At the time of closure, if the drill cuttings are to be left onsite, they must also meet the applicable standards of Table 910-1.

Flowback and stimulation fluids must be sent to tanks, separators, or other containment/filtering equipment before the fluids can be placed into any pipeline, storage vessel, or lined pit located on the well pad; or into tanker trucks for offsite disposal. The flowback and stimulation fluid tanks, separators, or other containment/filtering equipment must be placed on the well pad in an area with additional downgradient perimeter berming. The area where flowback fluids will be stored/reused must be constructed to be sufficiently impervious to contain any spilled or released material.

Berms or other containment devices shall be constructed to be sufficiently impervious (preferably corrugated steel with poly liner) to contain any spilled or released material around crude oil, condensate, and produced water storage tanks.

FORM 15 EARTHEN PIT PERMIT COAs:

Per Black Hills Plateau Production's De Beque Exploratory Proposal (which is currently being analyzed by BLM), "It is estimated that initially the flowback fluids (before evaporation) would contain about 3,500 ppm of total dissolved solids (TDS). The concentration of solids in the fluid would increase as water evaporated. The fluids pit would be double lined, with both liners a minimum of 24 mil thick, and they would be installed in accordance with Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) regulations as well as the BLM GJFO Standard Conditions. The pit liner would be maintained in good working condition, with no tears or holes, until the pit was closed."; the multi-well pit must be double-lined.

After installation of the uppermost liner and prior to operating the pit, the synthetic liner(s) shall be tested by filling the pit with at least 70 percent of operating capacity of water, measured from the base of the pit (not to exceed the 2-foot freeboard requirement). The operator shall monitor the pit for leaks for a period of 72 hours prior to either draining the pit or commencing operations. Operator shall notify the COGCC Oil and Gas Location Assessment (OGLA) Specialist for Western Colorado (Dave Kubeczko; email dave.kubeczko@state.co.us) 48 hours prior to start of the hydrotest. Hydrotest monitoring results must be maintained by the operator for the life of the pit and provided to COGCC prior to using the pit.

In lieu of conducting an initial hydrostatic test of the pit, the operator can monitor fluid levels in the pit continuously using a minimum of two pressure transducers located at the upgradient and downgradient ends of the pit (based on the original topographic profile). These pressure transducers should be linked to the operator's SCADA system such that they can be remotely monitored. In addition, the pit liner will be marked at the two foot freeboard depth line so that operations personnel (as well as COGCC inspectors) can easily verify that the required fluid free board is being maintained. The electronically collected water level measurement data shall be used to confirm changes in pit inflow and outflow during operations based on estimates from truck and/or pipeline delivery or removal activities. Any abnormalities that are noticed during operations will be reported to the operator's field supervisor immediately so that any necessary follow-up can be scheduled.

No portion of any pit that will be used to hold liquids shall be constructed on fill material, unless the pit and fill slope are designed and certified by a professional engineer, subject to review and approval by the director prior to construction of the pit. The construction and lining of the pit shall be supervised by a professional engineer or their agent. The entire base of the pit must be in cut.

For pits containing fluids other than freshwater only; the pit must be fenced. If the pit is not drained, or closure has not begun within 30 days after last use for well completion, the pit must be netted. The operator must maintain the fencing and netting until the pit is closed.

Surface water samples (one upgradient and one downgradient from the pit/well pad location) from Dry Fork (if water is present) shall be collected prior to pit use and every 12 months (until pit closure) to evaluate potential impacts from pit operations. At a minimum, the surface water samples will be analyze for the following parameters: major cations/anions (chloride, fluoride, sulfate, sodium); total dissolved solids (TDS); and BTEX/DRO.

The operator shall submit, and receive approval of, a reuse and recycling plan per Rule 907.a.(3), prior to any offsite reuse/recycling of pit fluids.

Pits used exclusively for drilling shall be closed in accordance with the 1000-Series Rules. Any pit(s) used for purposes other than drilling shall be closed in accordance with Rule 905. Closure of Pits, and Buried or Partially Buried Produced Water Vessels; with an approved Site Investigation and Remediation Workplan, Form 27.

Submit additional disposal facilities (wells, pits, etc.), if necessary (i.e., if original disposal option changes), for pit liquid contents to COGCC via a Form 4 Sundry prior to disposal.

At the time of pit closure, operator must submit disposal information for solids, if necessary, via a Form 4 Sundry Notice to the COGCC Location Specialist for Western Colorado (Dave Kubeczko; email dave.kubeczko@state.co.us). The disposal method will need to be approved prior to operator starting pit closure.