

QUALITATIVE VEGETATION SURVEY

PREPARED FOR: PDC ENERGY, INC.



Location: Steinmetz 21-17

COGCC API ID #: 05-123-21779

Legal Description: NENW 17 5N 64W

County: Weld

Date of Assessment: August 6, 2020

Date Prepared: October 14, 2020

Purpose:

The Steinmetz 21-17 well pad (API # 05-123-21779) was inspected by reclamation scientists from Duraroot, LLC (Duraroot) on August 6, 2020 to assess reclamation status and prepare the location for Form 4, Sundry Notice submission for request of final reclamation field inspection. If the location does not meet Rule 1004 standards, a prescriptive management plan will be prepared.

In preparation for final reclamation, the former Steinmetz 21-17 well pad has been plugged and abandoned (P&A – 11/28/2018). All well pad equipment and debris have been removed from the location. The location soils have been re-graded to approximate original contours, decompacted, stockpiled topsoil re-applied, and returned to agricultural productivity. Reclamation efforts have been performed to the same standards established for interim reclamation under Rule 1003. Control has been implemented to control undesirable plant species, including noxious weeds.

Methodology:

Scientists from Duraroot surveyed the Steinmetz 21-17 location on August 6, 2020, to assess the current reclamation status of the location including corn height, color, and growth stage. Additionally, Duraroot walked the location perimeter to visually assess for the presence of road base, subsidence, and undesirable plant growth (i.e. weed species). Duraroot collected qualitative vegetation data to estimate the corn growth on- and off-site during the field investigation. Crop growth was visually assessed for undisturbed areas for reference vegetation levels.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

Based on qualitative vegetation data, corn growth on the Steinmetz 21-17 location is comparable and shows the same vigor as adjacent, reference areas. Vegetative cover by undesirable species on the Steinmetz 21-17 well pad was not observed during the vegetation survey. It is recommended that PDC initiate submittal of the Form 4 Sundry application to the Colorado Oil and Gas Commission (COGCC), as required by the 1000 Series Rules and Regulations (1004.c.).

QUALITATIVE VEGETATION PHOTOS



Photo 1. The Steinmetz 21-17 location facing west at the location and adjacent reference areas, August 6, 2020.



Photo 2. The Steinmetz 21-17 location facing west at the location and adjacent reference areas,, August 6, 2020.