

**FORM
INSP**Rev
X/20**State of Colorado
Oil and Gas Conservation Commission**1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801, Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone: (303) 894-2100 Fax: (303) 894-2109

Inspection Date:

08/24/2022

Submitted Date:

08/30/2022

Document Number:

696105386

FIELD INSPECTION FORMLoc ID 312291 Inspector Name: Edwardson, Dylan On-Site Inspection ☐ 2A Doc Num: _____**Operator Information:**

OGCC Operator Number: 95620

Name of Operator: WESTERN OPERATING COMPANY

Address: 1165 DELAWARE STREET #200

City: DENVER State: CO Zip: 80204

Status Summary:

- ☒ THIS IS A FOLLOW UP INSPECTION
- ☒ FOLLOW UP INSPECTION REQUIRED
- ☐ NO FOLLOW UP INSPECTION REQUIRED

Findings:

8 Number of Comments

4 Number of Corrective Actions

- ☒ Corrective Action Response Requested

**ANY CORRECTIVE ACTION(S) FROM
PREVIOUS INSPECTIONS THAT HAVE NOT
BEEN ADDRESSED ARE STILL APPLICABLE****Contact Information:**

Contact Name	Phone	Email	Comment
Trujillo, Aaron		aaron.trujillo@state.co.us	
		caitlin.stafford@coag.gov	
JAMES, STEVEN D	(303) 893-2438	steve@westernoperating.com	
Arthur, Denise		denise.arthur@state.co.us	

Inspected Facilities:

Facility ID	Type	Status	Status Date	Well Class	API Num	Facility Name	Insp Status
221078	WELL	IJ	10/01/2020	DSPW	075-09204	Propst 1	RI
312291	LOCATION	AC			-	PROPST-611N53W 26SWSW	RI

General Comment:

On 08/24/2022, Reclamation Specialist Edwardson conducted an Interim Reclamation and Stormwater Inspection at PROPST-611N53W/26SWSW in Logan County, Colorado.

This inspection is also in response to NOAV (doc#402282191) to document compliance with the following corrective actions and abatement: Stormwater, Reclamation, and Remediation.

The following compliance issues were observed during this inspection:

- Stormwater
- Reclamation
- Good Housekeeping (Debris, Unused equipment)
- Environmental

It was observed in this inspection that the Location remains out of compliance with COGCC Rules, Corrective actions, as well as Abatement or Corrective Action requirements per NOAV #402282191.

Refer to the "Location", "Reclamation", "Environmental" and "Stormwater" sections of this inspection report for additional details.

Refer to the photo-documentation of the observed compliance issues attached to this report.

Any corrective action(s) from previous inspections that have not been addressed are still applicable.

A follow up inspection on this site will be conducted to ensure the compliance issues have been corrected to comply with COGCC rules.

LocationOverall Good: ☐

Emergency Contact Number:

Comment: Corrective Action: Date: **Good Housekeeping:**

Type	DEBRIS		
Comment:	Previous inspections observed that Operator had implemented erosion logs (Straw wattles) at the spill areas of the Location. It was observed in this inspection that the erosion logs have not been maintained in a proper functioning condition, have "blown out" or degraded, and is now considered debris.		
Corrective Action:	A corrective action of 10/12/2017 is being provided as BMPs were required to be maintained in proper functioning condition per Rule 1002.f and NOAV #402282191 abatement requirements.		Date: 10/12/2017

Overall Good: ☐**Spills:**

Type	Area	Volume		
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In Containment: No

Comment: ☐ Multiple Spills and Releases?**Venting:**

Yes/No			
Comment:			
Corrective Action:		Date:	

Flaring:

Type		
Comment:		
Corrective Action:		Date:

Inspected Facilities									
Facility ID:	221078	Type:	WELL	API Number:	075-09204	Status:	IJ	Insp. Status:	RI
Facility ID:	312291	Type:	LOCATION	API Number:	-	Status:	AC	Insp. Status:	RI

Environmental**Spill/Remediation:**

Comment:

Operator submitted Form 27 #402393447 on 5/21/2020 with soil sample analytical results from the salt kill area; inorganic exceedances remain apparent.

Operator submitted Form 27 #402445093 on 7/22/2020 stating additional remediation and reclamation efforts are planned (compaction alleviation, gypsum application, and mulching), with reseeding activities planned between 11/1/2020 and 4/15/2021.

It was observed in this inspection that remediation and/or reclamation of the spill areas below the produced water pit are not progressing towards COGCC standards; desirable vegetative germination and establishment is not uniform; impacts due to spill remain apparent. See "Reclamation". Additionally, stormwater management on the Location has been inadequate; erosion degradation from the pit berm has continued, resulting in additional off-site sediment transport and deposition. See "Stormwater".

After reviewing the figures and documents attached to the Form 27s, it has been noted that Operator only collected from two sample points within the entire spill area, with three samples taken at a depth of 0-6", 6-12", 12-18"; it has been determined that the sampling efforts are inadequate to effectively delineate both the horizontal and vertical impacts of the entire spill area.

After additional review, it has become apparent that the remediation for the spill was originally tied to the remediation and closure of the Propst C1X Skim Pit (Facility ID 100316, Remediation Project #10565). On 5/21/2020, Operator submitted Form 27 #402393553 requesting closure of the skim pit; the Form 27 was approved, effectively closing Remediation Project #10565, though remediation issues and work remained ongoing for the affected spill areas.

Therefore, Operator is being required to submit a new Form 27 specifically related to the Produced Water pit (Facility ID #256304), to continue remediation of the spill areas under a new project.

Corrective Action:

Abatement or Corrective actions requirements per NOAV #402282191 have not been addressed, therefore the CA date of 02/17/2020 per the NOAV will remain applicable:

Date: 02/17/2020

Pursuant to Rule 913.c.(8), Operator shall submit a Form 27 to create a remediation project associated with Pit Facility #256304, in order to continue remediation of the spill areas. Include details that remediation project is associated with spill/impacts previously addressed under Project #10565.

Per Rule 913.b.(2), the Operator will conduct sampling and analysis of soil, and groundwater--if encountered, to determine the horizontal and vertical extent of any contamination that is in excess of the cleanup concentrations in Table 915-1 for soil and groundwater- Operator shall collect an appropriate number of representative soil samples throughout the entire spill area to delineate the horizontal and vertical extents of contamination, per Rule 915.e.(2).B. Operator shall also conduct sampling and analysis of soils at the perimeter berm of the produced water pit.

The Operator shall analyze samples for the complete Table 915-1 list and shall compare analytical results for site investigation samples to both the Table 915-1 Residential Soil Screening Level Concentrations and the Protection of Groundwater Soil Screening Level Concentrations.

Operator shall submit the comparative soil sample analysis to Table 915-1 attached to the Form 27, including map figures showing sample locations. Request Form 27 is routed to NE Reclamation Specialist Edwardson, and NW Reclamation Specialist Trujillo

Emission Control Burner (ECB): _____

Comment:

Pilot: _____

Wildlife Protection Devices (fired vessels): _____

Reclamation - Storm Water - Pit**Interim Reclamation:**

Date Interim Reclamation Started: _____ Date Interim Reclamation Completed: _____

Land Use: _____

Comment: _____

1002 SITE PREPARATION AND STABILIZATION

1002a. FENCING _____

Comment _____

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

1002b. SOIL REMOVAL AND SEGREGATION _____

Comment _____

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

1002c. PROTECTION OF SOILS _____

Comment _____

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

1002E. SURFACE DISTURBANCE MINIMIZATION _____

Comment _____

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

1003a. Waste and Debris removed? _____

Comment [See "Good Housekeeping" section comments.](#)

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

Unused or unneeded equipment onsite? _____

Comment _____

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

Pit, cellars, rat holes and other bores closed? _____

Comment _____

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

Guy line anchors marked? Pass

Comment _____

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

1003b. Area no longer in use? FailProduction areas stabilized ? Fail

1003c. Compacted areas have been cross ripped? _____

1003d. Drilling pit closed? _____ Subsidence over on drill pit? _____

Cuttings management: _____

1003e. Areas no longer needed for drilling or subsequent operations for have been re-vegetated to 80% of pre-existing? FailProduction areas have been stabilized? Fail Segregated soils have been replaced? _____**RESTORATION AND REVEGETATION**Cropland

Top soil replaced _____ Recontoured _____ Perennial forage re-established _____

Non-CroplandTop soil replaced _____ Recontoured _____ 80% Revegetation Fail

1003e. INTERIM VEGETATION TRANSECT

TRANSECT RESULTS OF DISTURBED AREA% _____

TRANSECT RESULTS OF REFERENCE AREA% _____

TOTAL % OF DESIRABLE VEGETATION COVER _____

VEGETATIVE COVER _____

1003 f. Weeds Noxious weeds? _____

Comment This location does not comply with 1003 Rules. See "COGCC Comments" section for Reclamation comments.Corrective Action Due to the ongoing stormwater, remediation and reclamation compliance issues, a CA date of 02/17/2020 per the NOAV #402282191 is being provided.Date 02/17/2020

Complete remediation on the Location pursuant to Table 915-1 standards. After Soil Suitability for Reclamation standards have been met pursuant to Table 915-1, and/or impacted materials have been removed and properly disposed, Operator shall establish vegetation with total perennial, non-invasive uniform plant cover of at least eighty (80) percent of pre-disturbance or reference area levels in accordance with COGCC 1003 Rules; pursuant to Rule 1002.f, ensure erosion controls are implemented to stabilize the seeded soil, and continue to monitor and manage this site until reclamation has passed.

Overall Interim Reclamation Fail**Final Reclamation/ Abandoned Location:**

Date Final Reclamation Started: _____ Date Final Reclamation Completed: _____

Final Land Use: _____

Reminder: _____

Comment: _____

Well plugged _____ Pit mouse/rat holes, cellars backfilled _____

Debris removed _____ No disturbance /Location never built _____

Access Roads Regraded _____ Contoured _____ Culverts removed _____

Gravel removed _____

Location and associated production facilities reclaimed _____ Locations, facilities, roads, recontoured _____

Compaction alleviation _____ Dust and erosion control _____

Non cropland: Revegetated 80% _____ Cropland: perennial forage _____

Weeds present _____ Subsidence _____

1004.d. FINAL VEGETATION TRANSECT

TRANSECT RESULTS OF DISTURBED AREA% _____

TRANSECT RESULTS OF REFERENCE AREA% _____

TOTAL % OF DESIRABLE VEGETATION COVER _____

VEGETATIVE COVER _____

Comment: _____

Corrective Action: _____

Date _____

Overall Final Reclamation _____

Well Release on Active Location ☐Multi-Well Location ☐**Storm Water:**

Loc Erosion BMPs	BMP Maintenance	Lease Road Erosion BMPs	Lease BMP Maintenance	Chemical BMPs	Chemical BMP Maintenance	Comment

Comment: This location does not comply with 1002.f Rules. See "COGCC Comments" section for Stormwater comments.

Corrective Action: Due to the ongoing stormwater compliance issues, a CA date of 10/12/2017 per the NOAV #402282191 is being provided.

Date: 10/12/2017

Repair erosion degradation. Properly select, install and maintain required stormwater and sediment control BMPs in accordance to 1002.f and good engineering practices. If it is determined that a specific BMP is insufficient to mitigate degradation on a site, cannot be implemented per installation specification, or maintained in effective operating condition, then alternative BMPs that are better suited to meet the site's conditions should be considered and applied, or used in conjunction.

Pits: ☐ NO SURFACE INDICATION OF PIT

Permit:	Facility ID	Permit Num	Expiration Date
	256304	846026	

COGCC Comments

Comment	User	Date
<p>Reclamation Comments:</p> <p>Operator submitted Form 4 #402396288 on 5/21/2020 stating "reclamation actions took place at the Location in April and March 2018". Operator also submitted Form 27 #402445093 on 7/22/2020 stating additional remediation and reclamation efforts are planned (compaction alleviation, gypsum application, and mulching), with reseeding activities planned between 11/1/2020 and 4/15/2021.</p> <p>It was observed in this inspection that additional reclamation and/or remediation efforts on the Location have failed; revegetation of impacted areas are not progressing towards COGCC 1003 standards and requirements; perennial vegetation(e.g. buffalo grass, blue grama) observed was sparse on small portions of the location; affected areas consisted predominantly of annual Undesirable (weedy) Plant Species, such as Kochia.</p> <p>It was also observed that downslope areas within the impacted spill area, as well as areas immediately adjacent to the pit where desirable perennial vegetative establishment is not occurring, and inadequate stormwater and erosion/stabilization control BMPs have resulted in continued off-site sediment transport and deposition from the pit.</p> <p>Remediation and reclamation efforts on the Location insufficient/inadequate; impacted soils remain apparent resulting in reclamation failure. Refer to attached inspection photos.</p>	edwardsond	08/26/2022

Stormwater Comments:

edwardsond

08/26/2022

Previous inspections and abatement requirements per NOAV #402282191 required Operator to comply with 1002.f, repair erosion degradation, and properly select, install and maintain required stormwater and sediment control BMPs on the Location.

It was observed in this inspection that stormwater and erosion/stabilization control BMPs remain inadequate and/or have not been maintained in proper functioning condition pursuant to Rule 1002.f, and per NOAV Abatement requirements; wattles implemented throughout Location have not been installed and maintained per good engineering practices, resulting in further off site sediment transportation and degradation to the adjacent lands; specifically, wattles observed are either missing ("blown out", debris), buried, or remain incorrectly installed.

Operator appears to have constructed a ditch and berm around the perimeter of the pit; berm appears to have been constructed with impacted, unconsolidated material on top of an existing wattle, rendering the wattle control inadequate; this has resulted in further degradation and offsite sediment transport. Further, the pit walls remain unstabilized resulting in continued rill/gully erosion/degradation issues on the west, south, and east walls.

Refer to attached inspection photos.

Attached Documents

You can go to COGCC Images (<https://cogcc.state.co.us/weblink/>) and search by document number:

Document Num	Description	URL
403151574	INSPECTION SUBMITTED	http://ogccweblink.state.co.us/DownloadDocumentPDF.aspx?DocumentId=5843636
696105389	Inspection Photos	http://ogccweblink.state.co.us/DownloadDocumentPDF.aspx?DocumentId=5843630