

**FORM
INSP**

Rev
X/20

**State of Colorado
Energy and Carbon Management Commission**

1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801, Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone: (303) 894-2100 Fax: (303) 894-2109



Inspection Date:

02/11/2026

Submitted Date:

03/30/2026

Document Number:

720300150

FIELD INSPECTION FORM

Loc ID 313860 Inspector Name: Thibedeau, Isaac On-Site Inspection 2A Doc Num: _____

Status Summary:

THIS IS A FOLLOW UP INSPECTION

FOLLOW UP INSPECTION REQUIRED

NO FOLLOW UP INSPECTION REQUIRED

Findings:

4 Number of Comments

2 Number of Corrective Actions

Corrective Action Response Requested

Operator Information:

ECMC Operator Number: 74770

Name of Operator: RITCHIE EXPLORATION INC

Address: P O BOX 783188

City: WICHITA State: KS Zip: 67278-

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

Contact Information:

Contact Name	Phone	Email	Comment
Freese, Steve		steve.freese@state.co.us	
Rowe, Gary	(620) 872-0330	rowe_gary@sbglobal.net	
Heibel, Krystal		krystal.heibel@state.co.us	
Binschus, Chris		chris.binschus@state.co.us	
Nicholas, Dave	(303)601-2023	dknicholson@q.com	
Niernberger, John	(316) 691-9500	jniernberger@ritchie-exp.com	
Fiorini, Peter		pfiorini@ritchie-exp.com	

Inspected Facilities:

Facility ID	Type	Status	Status Date	Well Class	API Num	Facility Name	Insp Status
226468	WELL	PA	05/05/2014	OW	087-07205	MERINO STATE 3	RI
313860	LOCATION	CL			-	MERINO STATE-66N55W 36S2SE	RI

General Comment:

This is a Final Reclamation Inspection for PA Well API#087-07205. Well was plugged and abandoned 5/5/2014.

This location is also associated with a pit complex to the north-east. Pit areas do not meet final reclamation standards, have compaction issues at the former tank battery location, and an area in the southern portion of the pit complex may be a salt kill. Refer to the attached inspection photos.

Pits received closure order via email correspondence under remediation project 8908, Doc # 2087125 03/25/2016, for produced water pits. The remediation project 8119 for the skim pit was closed on 12/30/2013, Doc # 2147234.

Location

Overall Good:

Emergency Contact Number:

Comment:

Corrective Action:

Date: _____

Overall Good:

Spills:

Type	Area	Volume		

In Containment: No

Comment:

Multiple Spills and Releases?

Equipment:

Type:	#		corrective date
Comment:	No visual evidence of oil and gas equipment at the well or associated tank battery location. Refer to the attached inspection photos.		
Corrective Action:			Date:

Venting:

Yes/No			
Comment:			
Corrective Action:			Date:

Flaring:

Type		
Comment:		
Corrective Action:		Date:

Inspected Facilities

Facility ID: 226468 Type: WELL API Number: 087-07205 Status: PA Insp. Status: RI

The subreport 'InspWellFlowline' could not be found at the specified location \\10.14.12

Facility ID: 313860 Type: LOCATION API Number: - Status: CL Insp. Status: RI

The subreport 'InspWellFlowline' could not be found at the specified location \\10.14.12

Environmental

Spills/Releases:

Type of Spill: _____ Estimated Spill Volume: _____

Comment: Potential salt kill observed at the southern end of of former pits (40.4396657172, -103.468080658). Compacted soil with sparse vegetation was observed at the locations of the former tank battery.

Corrective Action: Operator shall collect confirmation soil samples as described in the Rule 915.e.(2) Guidance Document to ensure E&P waste isn't impacting soil conditions. These samples shall be collected within the root zone. The operator will analyze soil samples for Table 915-1 Soil Suitability for Reclamation (Electrical conductivity, Sodium adsorption ratio, and pH by saturated paste method, boron (hot water soluble), and submit the results within a Form 19 Spill/Release Report.

Date: 05/11/2026

Reportable: _____ GPS: Lat _____ Long _____

Proximity to Surface Water: _____ Depth to Ground Water: _____

Water Well Complaint:

Lat _____ Long _____

DWR Receipt Num: _____ Owner Name: _____ GPS : _____

Field Parameters:

Sample Location: _____ Comment: _____

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 _____

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 _____

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? _____

Comment _____

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

1003b. Area no longer in use? _____ Production areas stabilized ? _____

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? _____

Production areas have been stabilized? _____ Segregated soils have been replaced? _____

RESTORATION AND REVEGETATION

Cropland

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

Non-Cropland

Top soil replaced _____ Recontoured _____ 80% Revegetation _____

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 _____

Corrective Action _____

Date _____

Overall Interim Reclamation

Final Reclamation/ Abandoned Location:

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

Final Land Use: _____

Reminder: _____

Comment: _____

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

Debris removed _____ No disturbance /Location never built _____

Access Roads Regraded Pass Contoured _____ Culverts removed _____

Gravel removed _____

Location and associated production facilities reclaimed **Fail** Locations, facilities, roads, recontoured **Fail**

Compaction alleviation **Fail** Dust and erosion control **Fail**

Non cropland: Revegetated 80% **Fail** 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:

Well, the location has desirable grass growing there. Some areas have bare soil, but overall, the well disturbance area is progressing toward final reclamation. The pit and tank battery area associated with this location has compaction issues, as well as a potential salt kill on the southern portion of the pit complex (40.4396657172, -103.468080658, see inspection photos). The access road from the former tank battery location to the well location has areas with sparse soil and stunted vegetation. Additionally, the main lease access road in the 36 sections, which goes to the tank battery and pit complex, needs to be reclaimed, according to the State Land Board. Refer to inspection photos.

Corrective Action:

Comply with Rule 1004. Reseed disturbed area, access roads, and bare areas using the seed mixture that was used during the reclamation work in remediation project 8908. Establish vegetation with a total perennial, non-invasive, uniform plant cover of at least eighty (80) percent of reference area levels. Ensure erosion controls are implemented to stabilize the seeded soil. The operator shall continue to monitor and manage this site until the location meets Rule 1004 standards, including stormwater and weed management.

Date **05/29/2026**

Overall Final Reclamation

Fail

Well Release on Active Location

Multi-Well Location

Attached Documents

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

Document Num	Description	URL
404600199	INSPECTION SUBMITTED	http://ogccweblink.state.co.us/DownloadDocumentPDF.aspx?DocumentId=7497600
720300168	Inspection Photos	http://ogccweblink.state.co.us/DownloadDocumentPDF.aspx?DocumentId=7497593