

## Dave Kubeczko - DNR

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**From:** Dave Kubeczko - DNR  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2014 7:12 AM  
**To:** dave.kubeczko@state.co.us  
**Subject:** FW: Berry Petroleum LLC/LINN Energy Waste Management Procedures  
**Attachments:** D-20\_LetterReport\_1-14-14.pdf

**Categories:** Operator Correspondence

**Scan No 2106850      CORRESPONDENCE      2A#400483188**

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**From:** Greg Deranleau - DNR [mailto:[Greg.Deranleau@state.co.us](mailto:Greg.Deranleau@state.co.us)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:50 PM  
**To:** Dave Kubeczko - DNR; Alex Fischer - DNR; Carlos Lujan - DNR  
**Subject:** FW: Berry Petroleum LLC/LINN Energy Waste Management Procedures

Guys,  
Berry has sent this reply for our consideration and they would prefer not to meet.

Can we discuss briefly this afternoon?

Thanks,

Greg Deranleau  
Oil & Gas Location Assessment Supervisor  
Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
303-894-2100 ext. 5153

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**From:** Burns, Bryan [mailto:[BBurns@linnenergy.com](mailto:BBurns@linnenergy.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 21, 2014 10:35 AM  
**To:** [Greg.Deranleau@state.co.us](mailto:Greg.Deranleau@state.co.us)  
**Cc:** Bang, Heidi; Johnson, Derek S.; Albi, James T.  
**Subject:** Berry Petroleum LLC/LINN Energy Waste Management Procedures

Hello Greg,

Heidi Bang forwarded to me your recent note regarding Berry/LINN's use of diesel in drilling fluids and our general waste management process. Rather than take the time for all of us to get together this week, I thought I would attempt to answer your questions via e-mail. We are more than happy to meet if you have additional questions or would like to discuss in person.

1. **3% diesel in drilling fluids:** In wells drilled before March 2011, 3% diesel was included in drilling fluids. Berry has not drilled any additional wells in our Piceance field since March 2011, and while we have no current plans to drill in the short/medium term, we have elected not to use diesel in drilling fluids in the future. This change will be included on all future permit submittals.
2. **Waste sampling protocol and treatment methods:** The primary wastes Berry/LINN deals with are drill cuttings, pit liners, produced water, and excavated soil from water impoundments or spills. Water impoundment polyethylene liners are taken to an approved disposal facility, and produced water is disposed of in a COGCC approved water injection well. Berry/LINN utilizes Nicholson GeoSolutions LLC as a third party contractor responsible for soil sampling and analysis. Nicholson GeoSolutions takes multiple discrete

representative samples of impacted soils from a location, including background soil samples, before sending to ESC Laboratories. Samples are analyzed per the COGCC Table 910-1 standards, and pending results that abide by the standards, we seek approval from COGCC to use remediated materials in site reclamation. If samples show concentrations above the 910-1 standards, 100% nitrogen and/or phosphorus fertilizer is applied as a soil amendment. Combined with periodic land farming, contaminated soil is treated and resampled until it meets the COGCC's standards. Please see the attached report from Nicholson GeoSolutions for an example of their work.

**3. Standards of Operation & Record Keeping:** Berry/LINN strives to be a responsible operator and steward of the land in Colorado, while holding ourselves to the highest internal and external environmental, health, and safety standards. We recognize we operate in a sensitive environment, and our well-trained team is focused on proactive mitigation of environmental risks related to our operations, including waste management. All permits, lab results, and waste management documentation is submitted to the COGCC in a timely matter and retained internally per applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

I hope this information has answered your questions, and please do not hesitate to contact me for any further clarification!

Best regards,



**Bryan Burns, M.S.** | Environment, Health, and Safety Representative | Direct: 303-999-4245 | Cell: 303-726-8040  
Our Values: Embrace & Drive Change - Pursue Growth - Take Action - Respect Others - Be Passionate - Connect

From: Greg Deranleau - DNR [<mailto:Greg.Deranleau@state.co.us>]  
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2014 9:17 AM  
To: Bang, Heidi  
Cc: Dave Kubeczko - DNR; Bill Yokley - DNR  
Subject: Chevron C12 697 Pad

Heidi,  
COGCC has reviewed the Form 2A (doc 400483188) submitted along with the refile APDs for this pad. During final review for Director Lepore's approval of these pads, some attention has been given to the use of 3% diesel in the drilling fluids and the waste management associated with that. The waste management plan provided by Berry left questions regarding sampling protocol and treatment methods.

In order for COGCC to better understand the processes Berry will employ on this and presumably other Oil and Gas Locations, COGCC would like to meet with Berry personnel who can provide additional information concerning the waste handling procedures, standards for operations, and record-keeping.

COGCC is available to meet at our Denver offices on January 23, 2014. Would you and other staff members be available that afternoon?

Thanks,

Greg Deranleau  
Oil and Gas Location Assessment Supervisor

Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission

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Denver, CO 80203  
303-894-2100, ext 5153

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