

Cara Mezydlo

From: Burger - DNR, Craig <craig.burger@state.co.us>
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2018 7:42 AM
To: John Keller
Cc: Scott Swain; Cara Mezydlo
Subject: Re: FW: Well By The Chevron Office - Cal UP 26E

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

You can start scheduling now. You can consider this email chain a verbal approval to proceed but please put the form in the system as soon as you can.
Thanks.

On Wed, Jun 13, 2018 at 5:14 PM, John Keller <JohnK@whiting.com> wrote:

Craig,

Thanks – I was unaware the Mancos came all the way to surface there. I had not researched the top of the Mancos in the area yet. Given the Mancos top, we will backfill to 82 feet with sand and fill the rest with cement. I will see if I can get that sent in by early next week. How quick would you be able to approve it so we can start scheduling equipment and personnel?

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From: Burger - DNR, Craig <craig.burger@state.co.us>
Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2018 5:08 PM
To: John Keller <JohnK@whiting.com>
Cc: Scott Swain <scott.swain@whiting.com>; Cara Mezydlo <cara.mezydlo@whiting.com>
Subject: Re: FW: Well By The Chevron Office - Cal UP 26E

John,

Reject sand is fine.

I am not sure what you mean by the depth of the lower plug. Our geologic map shows Mancos at the surface at this location. What we think is these shallow wells produce from natural fractures in the lower Mancos or Niobrara. Most of Chevrons wells don't have a Niobrara top picked. I have seen it occasionally and would guess it is about 2000-2500' to Niobrara where this well is (offset well lists Dakota at 3007'). I doubt this well is that deep anymore, if it ever was.

Two cement plugs is fine although we would accept just the 82' to surface cement as long as the well is dead.

Thanks

On Wed, Jun 13, 2018 at 4:15 PM, John Keller <JohnK@whiting.com> wrote:

Craig,

As best we can determine there is about 32 feet of surface pipe, which is in line with what you have seen. We lowered a small camera in to determine the casing depth. The surface pipe appears to have been driven as it is not cemented or grouted in any way as far as we can determine after excavating around it.

We have ordered a hand cranked windlass with a depthometer and marked line we will have next week so I can get a TD for the initial plan submission.

Do you care whether we backfill with reject sand versus shale rock? I think the sand will pack the hole off better and hopefully not bridge us off prematurely if we feed it in slowly.

Also we would like to spot two plugs is that meets with your approval. I would like to backfill to 20 feet above the top of the Mancos or set on top of the fill whichever is shallower, then spot one 50 foot plug there, +/- 25 sacks of cement, then backfill again to 82 +/- and fill the pipe to surface with cement. Because the surface pipe is not cemented I would like to get a 50 foot plug below the surface shoe if that meets with your approval.

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From: Burger - DNR, Craig <craig.burger@state.co.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2018 9:46 AM
To: John Keller <JohnK@whiting.com>
Cc: Cara Mezydlo <cara.mezydlo@whiting.com>; Lou Colby - DNR <lou.colby@state.co.us>; Scott Swain <scott.swain@whiting.com>
Subject: Re: FW: Well By The Chevron Office - Cal UP 26E

John,

Brief review of the well file found the attached sundry indicating this is an old shallow Mancos well to a total depth of 1367'.

There are no zonal isolation concerns with these old shallow wells. Unless something unusual is happening like gas flowing, plugging requirements are to "slake back" (fill with shale from the surface) to 50' below the casing shoe and cement to surface. We don't have a record of the casing setting depth but have seen some as shallow as 20', some up to 250' on the old Mancos wells. So heavy equipment may not be necessary. Give me a call if you want to discuss. There may be a simple tool to determine the casing setting depth.

On Fri, Mar 16, 2018 at 8:41 PM, Andrews - DNR, David <david.andrews@state.co.us> wrote:

Thanks, John. Considering that the work is a few months away, Craig can handle this approval after he returns from vacation...but why is this well Whiting's responsibility?

Thanks,

Dave

On Mar 16, 2018 7:41 PM, "John Keller" <JohnK@whiting.com> wrote:

Dave,

Craig Burger is out based on the response I received to my e-mail so I am forwarding this to you. No action is required at this point, to my knowledge, from your office. Let me know if that is not the case. Since I sent this to Lou Colby I just wanted your office to be aware of what was going on. Once we know more about the well situation I will contact the Rifle Office of WOGC about what you want regarding plugging to the degree it is required. Some records say the well is plugged, but there is casing sticking out of the ground and no cement at surface,

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From: John Keller
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 4:48 PM
To: lou.colby@state.co.us
Cc: Scott Swain <scott.swain@whiting.com>; Cara Mezydlo <cara.mezydlo@whiting.com>; Craig Berger (craig.burger@state.co.us) <craig.burger@state.co.us>
Subject: Well By The Chevron Office - Cal UP 26E

Lou,

I have looked at the site for this well. The strange thing is some reports show the well is plugged, but clearly there is still a casing in place that appears to be the well in question. Our personnel state there is not cement at surface so we will have ascertain what the conditions in the well really are. There is absolutely no trace of any facility equipment or flowlines so those were clearly removed years ago.

We have a general plan to deal with this well. As you know we are directly under a power line that is about 10 feet off the ground or less at this wellhead. That makes working on the well impossible at this time. The initial work to determine the situation has to happen before a plugging plan can be submitted due to the uncertainties about the well conditions. The following is our general plan. Of course the final plugging plan once developed will have to be approved by the COGCC office in Rifle.

Moon Lake will divert the power line. They will set one to two new poles, probably south of the site and they will move the Chevron power supply lines onto that pole or poles. That will require their coordination with Chevron as it will temporarily interrupt power to their main office. This may not be a big deal because I would almost bet they have a back-up generator given the nature of the field. This will divert the power line away from our well so we can rig up on it. These conversations have already occurred with Moon Lake. We will be requesting this of Moon Lake next week. I cannot say with certainty what their time frame will be, but I would guess they will require we submit a request in writing and pay for the line move. Knowing how these things go I would guess the line move is about 60 days off at least.

The ground is too wet to allow rig access at this time anyway because there is no road or location as you know. The ground needs to be very dry. I would guess we can get all the necessary things done to start work in early June assuming Chevron cooperates and there are not major issues.

We will also have to get Chevron's approval to access the site. However they should not have built a powerline over the well, so I would assume they will cooperate.

The depth of the well is in question. It may even be partially plugged. The wells records seem to conflict and are very sparse. Once the line is diverted we will run in the hole with wireline and confirm the accessible well depth, the well is at least in part open-hole so we are uncertain what that depth will be due to fill, plug backs for water control etc.. Once we know the depth we will submit a final plugging plan to COGCC for the well.

As you know there is no location left at the site and no access road. Plugging will be accomplished using one of the following types of equipment. The exact equipment used will depend on the depth we have to go to in the well.

- A special unit that is a miniature coil tubing unit with fluid pumping and cement mixing capabilities that is used to plug CBM wells in Wyoming of similar depth. We believe this unit can get on the site with little or no access or site prep other than perhaps temporarily flattening a berm on the Chevron wellsite nearby and filling some small gullies temporarily.
- A very small conventional pulling unit that does not require guy wires. This is the least desirable as it would require much more surface access and site prep and it cannot mix cement

We can respond with similar information on the inspection report if that is what you wish, please advise what is best.

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Northwest Area Engineer



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