

Appendix C

Standard Conditions of Approval for CBM Wells

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Thunder Basin National Grassland

Construction and Operations

- If snow is on the ground when construction begins, it will be stockpiled separately from the topsoil.
- The top 12-inches of soil material will be removed from all areas to be cut or filled. This soil material will be stockpiled and saved for later distribution over the properly reclaimed site. The cut and fill slopes will be constructed at 3:1 grade.
- Utility corridors will not be bladed. If clearing is necessary, they will be brush hogged with the material left on site. Pipeline trenching will segregate the topsoil sub-soil. The trench will be filled with the sub-soil first and the top soil mounded over the trench. Where the company feels it is necessary to blade the utility corridor to have a travel way smooth enough to operate equipment on, they will make a request. The Forest Service will make a site inspection and if they concur, approval will be granted.
- The drilling fluid pit will have a minimum of one-half the total depth below the original ground surface at the lowest point within the pit and will be designed to prevent the collection of surface runoff.
- The drilling fluid pit will have an escape ramp built into one corner of the pit, i.e., a trench no steeper than 45 degrees and no less than 18-inches wide running from the bottom to the top of the pit.
- The only fluids / waste materials which are authorized to go into the drilling fluid pit are RCRA-exempt oil and gas exploration and production waste. Any evidence of non-exempt wastes being put into the reserve pit may result in the authorized officer requiring specific testing and closure requirements.
- The drilling fluid pit will be closed within 90 calendar days of completion of drilling.
- The drilling fluid pit must be fenced with sheep-tight fencing on three sides during the drilling and the fourth immediately after the rig is removed. Fencing will be braced so that it remains effective.
- Sewage will be confined to a chemically treated portable unit on location and disposed of at a State Approved disposal site upon completion of operations. The portable latrine unit will remain on location until completion of operations.
- All garbage/trash/drilling debris will be put in an enclosed trash cage and hauled to an approved State landfill. Burying trash or trash within reserve pit will not be allowed. Burning of trash on the location will not be allowed. The cage must be on-site throughout all drilling, testing and completion activities. Trash cans with lids or closed trailer may be used in lieu of a trash cage.
- All equipment and vehicles must be confined to the access roads utility corridors and pad. Pre-drilling / construction activities are excluded.
- Drilling company temporary directional signs will be allowed on National Forest System lands during the construction and drilling phase.
- If subsurface cultural materials and/or paleontological resources are found during construction, the District Ranger must be notified immediately. Construction must cease until the impact has been properly mitigated.

- A Forest Service representative will monitor construction of the location. Notify the Forest Service (358-4690) 48 hours in advance of any construction.

Production

- The wellhead, and facilities must be fenced with sheep-tight fencing around each facility. Commercial Metal portable panels made of metal tubing such as those used in the livestock industry is preferred. The District Ranger may approve other designs. Fencing specifications will be approved by the District Ranger before installation.
- Where cattle guards are installed, they will have at least a 16-foot wide driving surface. They will have a commercial type-swinging gate that closes the driving surface and a livestock passage gate beside them. The livestock passage gate will be at least 12 feet wide.
- All gate closure devices will be user friendly. The design must be approved by the forest service before installation. On wire gates, the closure will not be a loop o barbed wire. Most commercial lever type closure devices or a chain that loops the gatepost and hooks systems will be acceptable.
- All above ground production facilities will be a "Standard Environmental Color" as shown on the Munsell Soil Color Charts of the Wyoming BLM. Approved colors are Sand Beige (5Y6/3) and / or Desert Brown *10YR 6/3) or Shale Green (5Y 4/2). The company may choose any of these colors. This requirement does not apply where special colors are required by safety regulations. All above ground facilities will be painted within six (6) months of installation.
- There will be no pits used in conjunction with producing wells. Temporary work over rig pits are allowed, but must be promptly closed when the work over rig leaves the well site.
- Invasive plants, which become established soils disturbed by developing and operating the wells will be controlled by the company.
- Dust suppression measures such as magnesium chloride are allowed. Prior approval of the specific chemical / process to be used must be obtained from the District Ranger before project implementation.
- Pesticides may not be used to control undesirable woody and herbaceous vegetation, aquatic plants, insects, rodents, trash fish, etc., without the prior written approval of the Forest Service. A request for approval of planned uses of pesticides will be submitted 4 months prior to proposed starting date. Information essential for review will be provided in the form specified. Exceptions to this 4 month prior notification may be allowed, subject to emergency request and approval, only when unexpected outbreaks of pests require control measures which were not anticipated at the time a request was submitted. Only those materials registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the specific purpose planned will be considered for use on National Forest System lands. Label instructions will be strictly followed in the application of pesticides and disposal of excess materials and containers.
- Surfacing (gravel or scoria no less than 6-inch deep) is required on Forest Service administered roads that are used for all weather access.
- On roads used for fair-weather access roads will be maintained as two track trails. Excessive rutting, "drive a-rounds", or "web or roads effect" will require remedy. The

individual tire paths may be graveled at the company's option. The Forest Service may require drainage and / or harding of the driving surface if graveling of the individual track is not effective.

Abandonment and Reclamation

- A permanent abandonment marker, permanently inscribed with operator, well number, lease number, and location (1/4 section 1/4 section, township, range, county, and state), is required. This monument must consist of a piece of metal not less than ½" thick and (12) inches in diameter and no larger than 16" by 16" by ½ thick, buried no less than 4 feet deep and embedded in between 1 and 2 cubic feet of cement.
- All disturbed areas, which have been compacted, will be scarified. The cut and fill slopes will be graded and shaped to approximate original contours.
- Utility corridors' reclamation will include water bars. A Forest Service Representative will stake water bars on the ground. Forest Service handbooks ("Gold Book") will be used as guidance. They will be constructed on the contour at intervals beginning at the top of the disturbed slopes. They should be at least one (1) foot deep, with approximately two (2) feet of drop per one hundred (100) feet of length, and with the berm on the downhill side.
- The Forest Service must approve the seed mix used for reclamation. The following seed mixture and fertilization is recommended. Only certified weed free seed may be used.

Species	Lbs./Acre P.L.S.	Fertilizer
western wheatgrass	5.0	90 lbs. 33-0-0
sender wheatgrass	3.0	30 lbs. 0-45-0
thickspike wheatgrass	2.0	
green needle grass	2.0	
prairie clover (native)	2.0	

- Drill seed on the contour at a depth of 1/2 inch.
- It is recommended that fall seeding take place after September 1 and prior to ground frost. To be effective, complete spring seeding after the frost has left the ground and prior to May 15. To maintain purity and quality certified seed would give the best results.
- All disturbed areas over ¼ acre in size must be mulched at the rate of two tons/acre with certified weed free mulch. Acceptable materials to use as mulch consists of hay, straw, wood chips, etc. The mulch must be crimped into the surface with a disk. This does not apply to utility corridors and two track roads that have established vegetation growing.
- Upon receipt of "Subsequent Report to Abandon" via the BLM, the reclamation will be inspected (usually after the second growing season) by the Forest Service. Reclamation will be approved when the established vegetative cover is free of invasive weeds and equal to 70% of that of adjacent areas.
- Where roads are to be abandoned at the end of production they will be ripped to a depth of eighteen (18) inches before they are disked, seeded, mulched and fenced. On two track roads only the individual tracks are to be ripped. This ripping is to break up the soil compaction to get better re-vegetation in these areas.

- Non-linear areas, which have been subject to compaction, of over ¼ acre in size will be ripped to a depth of eighteen (18) inches before they are disked, seeded, mulched and fenced. This ripping is to break up the soil compaction to get better re-vegetation in these areas.

General Stipulations

- During all road building, pad construction, drilling, well completion, producing and abandonment activities, all gasoline, diesel powered equipment used must be equipped with approved spark arresters or mufflers. Notify the Forest Service (358-4690) in the event of any fire occurrence.
- Field service men (pumper vehicles) will at a minimum have a shovel and fire extinguisher with them at all times.
- Mowing at well locations up to ½ acre and at other facilities up to 50 feet outside of fences for fire prevention, and worker safety is allowed.
- All storage tanks, barrels and containers will be clearly labeled as to contents and have spill prevention protection with a capacity of 150% of the facility. They will also have Forest Service approved fencing or panels to prevent livestock from touching them.
- All buildings will be signed to the same standard as “well location signs” as required by CFR’s.
- All permanent road signing will be approved by the Forest Service before instillation: location, size, colors, wording and material.
- Upon request, operator owned NPDES water quality monitoring data will be provided to the USDA Forest Service for all wate discharge points on or within one mile upstream of the National Forest System lands.
- National Forest System lands will not be used for the storage of equipment, supplies or materials that are not necessary and being used for operation of the wells.
- A water well agreement will be offered for the National Forest System Wells listed in **Table C-1**.

Table C-1 National Forest System Wells Located Within 1 Mile of the Proposed Action

PERMIT	FACILITY NAME	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	PRIORITY	USE
P054726W	NA-48	NE SW S08 T41N R070W	11/17/1980	MON
P033290W	BELL #T B 199 (DEEPENED)	SE NW S18 T41N R070W	5/17/1976	STO
P012754P	MATHESON #TB 42	NE SW S03 T41N R071W	12/30/1951	STO
P044330W	MARG #5	NW SE S03 T41N R071W	7/20/1978	STO
P044331W	MARG #6	SE SE S14 T41N R071W	7/20/1978	STO
P008951P	RENO #T B 52	SW SW S15 T42N R070W	3/20/1961	STO
P008981P	WILKINSON #T B 107	NW SE S18 T42N R070W	8/2/1966	STO
P040092W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #1-D	SW SE S21 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON

PERMIT	FACILITY NAME	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	PRIORITY	USE
P040093W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #1-F	SW SE S21 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON
P042620W	SEAM MONITOR WELL #23	SE SE S21 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON,MIS
P039795W	FOREST SERVICE MONITOR WELL #1	NW NE S27 T42N R070W	7/29/1977	MON,MIS
P042629W	SEAM MONITOR WELL #32	SW SW S27 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON,MIS
P042628W	SEAM MONITOR WELL #31	SW SE S27 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON,MIS
P040091W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #1-B	SE SE S27 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON
P040097W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #2-J	SE SE S27 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON,MIS
P042632W	SEAM MONITOR WELL #35	SE SE S27 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON,MIS
P040096W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #2-J	SW NE S33 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON,MIS
P040100W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #3-N	SW NE S33 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON,MIS
P042625W	SEAM MONITOR WELL #28	SW NE S33 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON,MIS
P040098W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #2-L	SE NE S33 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON,MIS
P040101W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #3 D	SE NW S33 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON,MIS
P040102W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #3-P	SE NW S33 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON,MIS
P040094W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #1-H	SE SW S33 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON
P042622W	SEAM MONITOR WELL #25	SE SW S33 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON,MIS
P042624W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #27	SE SW S33 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON,MIS
P042626W	SEAM MONITOR WELL #29	SE SW S33 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON,MIS
P042630W	SEAM MONITOR WELL #33	SE SW S33 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON,MIS
P042627W	SEAM MONITOR WELL #30	SW SE S33 T42N R070W	3/10/1978	MON
P040099W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #3-M	SE SE S33 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON,MIS
P040095W	SEAM MONITORING WELL #2-1	NE NE S34 T42N R070W	8/22/1977	MON
P044327W	MARG #2	NW SW S02 T42N R071W	7/20/1978	STO
P032145W	STUART #T.B. 174	SW NE S11 T42N R071W	2/10/1976	STO
P008987P	STUART #T B 115	SE SE S12 T42N R071W	7/13/1961	STO

PERMIT	FACILITY NAME	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	PRIORITY	USE
P012755P	STUART #TB 36	SW SW S13 T42N R071W	12/30/1950	STO
P061754W	PCC WILKINSON RANCH #1	NW SE S24 T42N R071W	8/11/1982	STO
P029746W	WRIGHT #T B 195	NE NW S27 T42N R071W	5/7/1975	STO
P012758P	MATHESON #TB 72	SE NE S33 T42N R071W	12/30/1963	STO
P044329W	MARG #4	NW SE S34 T42N R071W	7/20/1978	STO
P012756P	WILKINSON #TB 129	SW SE S35 T42N R071W	12/30/1966	STO

Source: WSEO Water Rights Database