



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Bakersfield District Office
3801 Pegasus Drive
Bakersfield, California 93308-6837

3100
(CA-015.2)

Dear Oil and Gas Operator,

APR 08 1994

The Sump Closure Subcommittee of the Oil and Gas Work Group developed the enclosed "Oilfield Surface Impoundment Closure Guidelines". The Subcommittee consists of representatives from Industry, CDOGGR, and BLM. The final guidelines were presented to and accepted by the Oil and Gas Work Group June 9, 1993. Effective immediately, these guidelines should be used for all surface impoundment closures on federal land within the operational jurisdiction of the BLM's Caliente Resource Area.

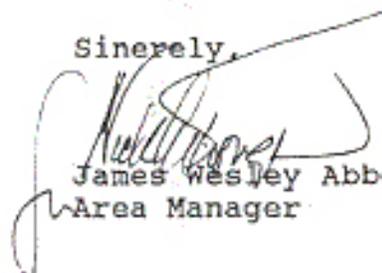
These guidelines supersede any existing Caliente Resource Area Oilfield Sump Closure Guidelines. The guidelines do not apply to surface impoundments for which there is existing regulation on procedures for closure (for example, drilling pits). The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) in Fresno (or other RWQCB) may issue a "General Order" which would regulate the closure of surface impoundments throughout their respective regions. If such an order is issued, it will replace the enclosed (new) guidelines. However, until a General Order is issued, these guidelines will be used.

These guidelines request the Operator to provide information on the location and depth to groundwater aquifers beneath the impoundments planned for closure. The California Division of Oil and Gas and the Kern County Water Agency are probably the best sources of this information.

We look forward to the use of these guidelines as a method of eliminating surface impoundments while protecting the environment and addressing the concerns of Industry, the State of California, and the BLM. We remind the Operators that it is their responsibility to comply with OSHA regulations governing employee exposure to volatile hydrocarbons, APCD regulations regarding concentrations of volatile hydrocarbons permitted in "road mix", and all other applicable Federal and State regulations.

If you have any questions, please call Patty Gradek at (805) 391-6085, or Jeff Prude or Kent Varvel at (805) 391-6138.

Sincerely,



James Wesley Abbott
Area Manager

Enclosure

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