

Pat O'Dell

11/30/2006 02:45 PM
MST

To: Darrell Echols/PAIS/NPS@NPS
cc: Carol McCoy/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Edward
Kassman/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Lisa Norby/DENVER/NPS@NPS,
Linda Dansby/SANTAFE/NPS@NPS
Subject: Re: A3 Proposed Well Work 

Hi Darrell,

I discussed w/ Carol and copied Ed & Lisa. As we discovered when discussing the work this morning, there are some questions that need to be addressed before beginning work on the well. Here are the thoughts and recommendations for beginning work on A-3:

Consistent w/ the "A" Lease plan of operations, we think it very important to maintain the written request and written approval protocol. The A-3 written documentation is important too because it also involves the State of Texas non-compliance order. Since the work is being performed to remedy improper plugging of A-3, it is within the scope of BNP's approved plan of operations. The work should be confined to the pad size approved in the plan of operations.

Of high importance though, is your direct coordination with RCC. A good start would be having BNP forward all correspondence between it and the state regarding this well. I am available for any calls of a technical nature or review of correspondence.

You mentioned that BNP just wants to perform "Step 1 - Excavate around existing well bore and weld on 16" casing back to surface." of the proposed work submitted to you on November 21, 2006. You will note that Step 1 does not involve the use of a workover rig. So it seems Mr. Black may be contemplating steps beyond #1.

I'm assuming the excavation around the well will be too large to allow for placing the rig over the hole, so they'll probably need some type of excavation equipment or crane to position the 16" casing while it is being welded. Seems like there will be a lot of excavated material to accomplish the task (would be an opportune time to observe if there is any readily apparent contamination issues around the well. Won't the hole they dig fill up with groundwater? This might not be a simple task. I will also address information needs on the rest of the procedure.

The work being performed is a temporary abandonment leaving open the potential for drilling a new bottomhole location from beneath the surface casing shoe. The objective of the procedure is to temporarily abandon the well

All this adds up to directing BNP to provide a written description of:

- 1) How they are going to tie back the 16" conductor pipe to surface, equipment involved, hand-welded or some type of mechanized weld?
- 2) Since the objective is to eventually use the well to redrill, the 10-3/4" surface casing with its tieback must have the necessary integrity of any surface casing. BNP needs to address in detail how it intends to demonstrate pressure integrity of the tieback and complete the requisite cementing to surface. If this can't be achieved, there are two alternative: Plug and abandon the well or run an inner string of surface casing (which restricts future drilling options). I would request witnessing from state inspector or (worst case scenario) me.
- 3) There is a CIBP with cement on top of it set in the 10-3/4" casing at 296'. This will have to be drilled out before they can access the 7" casing.
- 4) Step 5 is for setting a plug across the 10-3/4" casing shoe. Before that step, BNP will have to cut and recover the 7" (it is shown that way on their "post-work" well bore diagram).

It may be that BNP has already written the procedures in its compliance dealings w/ Texas, so this may just be a matter of providing BNP providing those to us.

Finally, I am available to discuss any of this with you or the operator. I'm maybe off tomorrow, but you can reach me at 303-667-7359 if not at work.

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Darrell Echols



Darrell Echols
11/30/2006 08:54 AM
CST

To: Pat O'Dell/DENVER/NPS@NPS
CC:
Subject: A3

Pat,

Paul said last night that he wanted to use the workover that is setting outside of the park this morning to begin repairing the A3 well based on what he provided us last Wednesday. What do you think? I told him last night that that sounded fine, but I wanted to talk to you first. He mentioned that he wanted to install the 16" casing and re-attach it to the well bore.

D

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