NM1 - ____35____

Part 36 MAJOR MODIFICATION TENTATIVE DECISION

January 24, 2020

State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD Deputy Cabinet Secretary Adrienne Sandoval
Director, Oil Conservation Division



January 24, 2020

Stephanie Grantham Lea Land LLC 1300 West Main Street Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106

CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT #7019 1640 0000 8261 0001

RE: Tentative Decision Regarding Major Modification of Commercial Surface Waste Management Facility Permit NM1-35. Section 32, Township 20 South, Range 32 East NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico

Ms. Grantham,

Pursuant to applicable parts of the Oil Conservation Commission regulations 19.15.36 NMAC, the Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has completed its review of your application for a major modification to the permitted commercial waste management facility at the location described above. OCD has tentatively decided on approval of this permit modification with conditions. Attached is a draft permit with general and specific conditions. OCD will be posting this decision, along with the draft permit, on our website.

Given OCD's determination, you are now required to issue division-approved notice of this decision by:

- (1) giving written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the division's proposed decision to the surface owners within one-half mile of the proposed facility boundary;
- (2) publishing notice in a newspaper of general circulation in Lea County;
- (3) giving notice by first class mail or email to persons identified by OCD who have requested notification of applications generally (listing attached), along with Lea County, the New Mexico State Land Office, and the US Bureau of Land Management.

This notice must include your firm's name and mailing address, the proposed facility's location, a brief description of the proposed facility, the depth to shallowest groundwater beneath the proposed facility, the estimated or measured concentration of total dissolved solids in that groundwater beneath the proposed facility, a statement that this decision is available on OCD's website or upon written request to division clerk Florene Davidson at the address below, a description of all alternatives, exceptions, or waivers requested as part of your application, and a statement as to the procedures for requesting a hearing on your application.

If you have any questions, please contact me by telephone at (505) 476-3488 or by email at Susan.LucasKamat@state.nm.us. On behalf of the Oil Conservation Division, I wish to thank you and your staff for your cooperation during this process.

Respectfully,

Susan A. Lucas Kamat

Environmental Scientist - Advanced

Jusa a hus Kart

State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Adrienne Sandoval
Director, Oil Conservation Division



DRAFT

DATE

Stephanie Grantham Lea Land LLC 1300 West Main Street Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106

RE: Modification of Commercial Surface Waste Management Facility Permit NM1-35. Section 32, Township 20 South, Range 32 East NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, Lea County, New Mexico

Ms. Grantham,

Pursuant to applicable parts of the Oil Conservation Commission regulations 19.15.36 NMAC, the Oil Conservation Division (OCD) has completed its review of your application for a major modification of commercial waste management facility at the location described above. OCD hereby modifies permit NM1-35 with conditions. Attached are the general and specific conditions.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Lucas Kamat of my staff at (505) 476-3488 or by email at *Susan.LucasKamat@state.nm.us*. On behalf of the Oil Conservation Division, I wish to thank you and your staff for your cooperation during this permit review.

Respectfully,

Adrienne Sandoval

Director

AS/slk

Attachment - NM1-35 Permit Conditions

SURFACE WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY PERMIT CONDITIONS NM1-35 Lea Land, LLC Section 32, Township 20 South, Range 32 East NMPM

DATE

Upon confirmation that Lea Land, LLC of 1300 West Main Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106 (the operator) has provided financial assurance required under Section 1.H of this permit modification, the operator is permitted to modify and operate the existing surface waste management facility as described in the Modification Application filed by the operator and in accordance with (a) the terms of this Permit Modification, (b) the rules governing solid waste management facilities 19.15.36 NMAC, and (c) all other applicable provisions of the Oil and Gas Act and the rules promulgated under the Act. The operator is responsible for ensuring any oil and gas operations located within the overall facility area do not interfere with the proper operation of the facility as described in the Application and authorized by this Permit Modification. Any change to the operations proposed or any change to the area covered will require a subsequent modification to the Permit including any necessary changes to the amount of financial assurance. The Oil Conservation Division (OCD) of the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department will determine if any Permit changes constitute a "major modification" under 19.15.36 NMAC.

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. Permitee and Permitted Facility. OCD modifies surface oil field waste management permit NM1-35 to the operator for the modification, operation, and eventual closure of a commercial facility located upon a 474.41-acre tract in an unincorporated portion of Lea County, New Mexico, approximately 38 miles west of Hobbs.

The waste management facility is intended for the permanent disposal of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) exempt and non-exempt/non-hazardous oil field waste and will include a waste processing area (~82 acres), a landfill (~100 acres), and associated infrastructure (~118 acres). The landfill will have a waste capacity of approximately 14.6 million cubic yards.

B. Scope of Permit. OCD regulates the disposition of water produced or used in connection with the exploration and production of oil and gas and to direct disposal of that water in a manner which will afford reasonable protection against contamination of fresh water supplies pursuant to authority granted in the Oil & Gas Act (Chapter 70, Article 2 NMSA 1978). Under that Act, OCD also regulates the disposition of nondomestic wastes resulting from exploration, production, or storage of crude oil and natural gas to protect public health and the environment. Similarly, OCD regulates the disposition of nondomestic wastes resulting from the oil field service industry, the transportation of crude oil and natural gas, the treatment of natural gas, and the refinement of crude oil to protect public health and the environment pursuant to jurisdiction and authority granted by the same Act.

This permit modification does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privilege to the operator and does not authorize any injury to property or persons, any invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state, federal, or local laws, rules, or regulations.

C. Owner/Operator Commitments. The operator must ensure all operations are consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit and in conformance with all pertinent rules and regulations under the Oil & Gas Act. Furthermore, the operator shall abide by the approval conditions contained herein, along with all commitments submitted in its permit application of June 2019, including any attachments and/or amendments, all of which are incorporated into this Permit Modification by reference.

- **D. Modifications.** The operator must notify the OCD in advance of any further increase in the land area the facility occupies, any changes in the design capacity, any changes in the nature of the oil field waste streams, or any additions of a new treatment process. As a result, the OCD Director may require a modification to the permit conditions.
- **E. Definitions.** Terms not specifically defined in the permit shall have the same meanings as those in the Oil & Gas Act, or the rules adopted pursuant to the Act, as the context requires.
- **F. General Performance Standards.** The operator must operate in accordance with these conditions, comply with the Oil & Gas Act and rules issued pursuant to the Act, protect public health and the environment, prevent the waste of oil and gas, and prevent the contamination of fresh waters.
- **G.** Effective Date, Expiration, Renewal, and Penalties for Operating Without a Permit. This permit is effective DATE and will expire ten years thereafter on DATE. If it so desires, the owner/operator may submit an application for renewal to OCD no later than 120 calendar days before the expiration date. If the operator submits such a renewal application before the required date and is in compliance with the existing permit, then that existing permit will not expire until the OCD approves or denies the renewal application. Operating with an expired permit will subject the owner/operator to civil and/or criminal penalties (see Section 70-2-31 NMSA 1978).
- **H. Financial Assurance.** The operator must provide financial assurance in a form acceptable to OCD for the waste management facility's estimated closure and post-closure cost. The estimated amount currently required is \$1,385,673.00, which includes the cost of closure construction and post-closure operations for Phase I described in the application. On an annual basis, or prior to development of each phase of the facility, or should unforeseen conditions arise, the operator will update the closure/post-closure estimate and, thus, the amount of financial assurance.

2. GENERAL FACILITY OPERATIONS

- **A.** Labeling. The operator must clearly label all tanks, drums, and other containers to identify the contents and to provide emergency notification information. The operator may use a tank coding system if it is incorporated into their emergency response planning.
- B. Inspections and Maintenance of Secondary Containment Systems. The operator must inspect all secondary containment systems and sumps at least monthly to ensure proper operation and to prevent over filling or system failure. The operator must empty all secondary containment systems of any fluids within 48 hours of discovery, notify the OCD of the discovery, and initiate corrective actions. The operator must keep written records of its inspections and of any fluid analyses. The operator shall maintain and make the documentation available for OCD inspection.
- C. Release Reporting and Corrective Action for Releases. The operator must comply with the spill reporting and corrective action provisions of the Oil & Gas Regulations (19.15.29 and 19.15.30 NMAC) as may be amended from time to time.
- **D.** Annual Report. The operator must submit a comprehensive annual report to the OCD by September 1st of each year detailing the operator's activities during the preceding year (where a year is defined as July 1st through June 30th). The annual report must include the following information for the preceding year: (1) all inspection forms, including those for leak detection systems; (2) all analytical results, (3) hydrogen sulfide monitoring results, (4) process piping integrity test results, (5) training records, (6) complaint logs and resolutions, and (7) a summary of the nature, amount, and any related remediation of any reportable releases.

3. MATERIAL STORAGE

- **A. Process, Maintenance, and Material Storage Areas.** The operator must pave and curb all process, maintenance, and material storage areas at the facility, excluding evaporation ponds, below-grade tanks, and sumps, or incorporate another appropriate spill collection device for these areas as approved by the OCD.
- **B.** Above Ground Tanks. The operator must place above ground tanks on impermeable pads and surround the tanks with lined berms or with other impermeable secondary containment system having a capacity of at least one and one-third times the capacity of the largest tank, or the combined volume of any interconnected tanks. This does not apply to tanks containing fresh water.

4. WASTE MANAGEMENT

- **A. Waste Streams.** This permit authorizes the operator to handle the RCRA-exempt waste streams. OCD approval must be obtained to receive any waste stream not specified in the application prior to its collection, storage, treatment, or disposal.
- **B.** Waste Storage. The operator must store wastes at the facility only in clearly marked storage areas that have been specified in the application, except for any waste that may be generated during emergency response operations. However, such emergency waste may be stored elsewhere for no more than 72 hours. OCD may approve additional storage on a case-by-case basis.
 - The operator must not store non-oil field waste generated at the facility by the operator for more than 180 calendar days from the date any container is filled without OCD approval.
- C. Class V Wells. Leach fields and other wastewater disposal systems at OCD-regulated facilities which inject non-hazardous fluids into or above an underground source of drinking water are Underground Injection Control Class V wells pursuant to 20.6.2.5002 NMAC. This permit does not authorize the use of a Class V injection well for the disposal of industrial waste at the facility. Other Class V wells, including wells used only for the injection of domestic wastes, must be permitted by the New Mexico Environment Department.

5. BELOW GRADE TANKS AND SUMPS

A. Below grade tanks and sumps must have secondary containment systems with leak detection and meet construction and operating requirements of 19.15.17 NMAC.

6. FACILITY-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS, EXCEPTIONS, WAIVERS, AND ALTERNATIVES

- **A.** The request for waiving the landfill gas control requirements of 19.15.36.13.O NMAC is adequately addressed and supported in the application and hereby approved.
- **B.** The request for an alternative to the groundwater monitoring requirements of 19.15.36.14.B NMAC by incorporation of a vadose zone monitoring system around the landfill, evaporation ponds, and stabilization/solidification areas is adequately addressed and supported in the application and hereby approved. The operator shall notify the OCD 30 days prior to installation of the vadose zone monitoring wells and system. Final vadose zone monitoring well locations may be modified based on field conditions. The operator shall furnish OCD with maps detailing the final vadose zone monitoring well locations and logs. The vadose zone monitoring system shall be installed and operational prior to the commencement of operations in the new landfill units, evaporation ponds, and of stabilization/solidification areas.

The operator shall inspect and monitor the vadose zone monitoring wells on a regular basis for the presence of liquids, along with gaseous hydrogen sulfide and methane. If liquids or gases are found to be present, the operator shall notify the OCD immediately. If liquids are present, the operator shall also gather representative samples. All groundwater samples must also be analyzed by EPA Method 8260 (full list) for volatile organic compounds, in addition to those parameters outlined in the application.

- **C.** The request for an alternative to the geonet detection and drainage layers requirements of 19.15.36.14.C NMAC is adequately addressed and supported in the application and hereby approved.
- **D.** The request for a final cover alternate has been adequately addressed and supported in the application and hereby approved. The final cover requirements otherwise specified in 19.15.36.14.C.(9) NMAC shall incorporate either of the following options.

Option 1 – Three layers with a total thickness of 50 inches consisting of the required vegetative cover layer (Layer 1) being 12 inches in thickness having hydraulic conductivity of 5.2×10^{-4} cm/sec, the evapotranspiration layer (Layer 2) being 26 inches in thickness having hydraulic conductivity of 1.9×10^{-4} cm/sec, and the required intermediate cover layer (Layer 3) being 12 inches in thickness having hydraulic conductivity of 1.9×10^{-4} cm/sec.

Option 2 – Three layers with a total thickness of 44 inches consisting of the required vegetative cover layer (Layer 1) being 12 inches in thickness having hydraulic conductivity of 3.3×10^{-5} cm/sec, the evapotranspiration layer (Layer 2) being 20 inches in thickness having hydraulic conductivity of 1.0×10^{-5} cm/sec, and the required intermediate cover layer (Layer 3) being 12 inches in thickness having hydraulic conductivity of 1.0×10^{-5} cm/sec.

The operator shall notify the OCD as to which option is selected prior to final cover construction. The operator shall submit pre-construction testing results to the OCD as part of the construction quality assurance (CQA) plan. Should the operator select Option 2 above (i.e. lower values of hydraulic conductivity) and the on-site soils do not meet the required parameters, the final cover shall be implemented as per the Option 1 parameters for both thickness and hydraulic conductivity.

- **E.** The request for an alternative to the bird control requirements of 19.15.36.13.I and 19.15.36.17.C.(3) NMAC is adequately addressed and supported in the application and hereby approved.
- **F.** The request for an exception to the intermediate cover stabilization requirements of 19.15.36.14.A.(7) NMAC providing for a 2-year extension on vegetating the intermediate cover that has not yet reached final grade is adequately addressed and supported in the application and hereby approved.
- **G.** The request for an alternative to the final cover stabilization requirements of 19.15.36.18.C.(2)(b) NMAC to use alternate materials for stabilization is adequately addressed and supported in the application and hereby approved. No additional time to stabilize the area is approved.
- **H.** The request for an alternative to the base layer compacted soil requirements of 19.15.36.14.C.(1) NMAC is adequately addressed and supported in the application and hereby approved.
- I. The request for a proposed alternative to the leachate collection system requirements of 19.15.36.14.C.(5) and (6) NMAC to use a chimney drain is adequately addressed and supported in the application and hereby approved.

The operator shall submit pre-construction testing results to the OCD as part of the CQA plan. Should the on-site soils to be used as part of the leachate collection system fail to comply with the proposed uniformity coefficient of 30 (obtained by dry sieve) and maximum 10 percent passing the No. 200 sieve, the operator shall notify the OCD of its intent to use a chimney drain. The operator shall demonstrate, using the Hydrologic Evaluation of Landfill Performance (HELP) model and associated engineering calculations, that the chimney drain will not affect the liner, leachate collection system, or final cover performance.

- J. Prior to construction activities within the facility, the operator shall determine that all abandoned oil wells within the area are properly plugged in accordance with OCD regulations. If any wells are found to be unplugged or improperly plugged, the operator shall take the appropriate corrective actions.
- **K.** Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) waste cannot be accepted at the facility unless in compliance with 19.15.35 NMAC.
- L. The operator shall provide a survey plat to the OCD upon the final approval of the permit.
- M. At least 30 days prior to the start of construction of the landfill, evaporation ponds, vadose zone monitoring system, stabilization and solidification area, or process areas, the operator shall furnish OCD with a complete set of construction drawings, including a major milestone schedule for construction. These construction drawings must substantially comply with the engineering design provided with the application and show the location of the pond evaporation units, including liner and spray evaporation units.

The major milestone schedule shall be regularly updated throughout construction activities.

The operator shall provide a detailed description of the processes and equipment for the process area with the construction drawings.

An updated project-specific CQA plan shall be submitted with the construction drawings and schedule. The CQA plan shall include a concrete section detailing the mix design, placement, and cracking control.

- **N.** The operator shall submit as-built drawings to OCD within 30 days of the completion of construction of landfill cells, evaporation ponds, vadose zone monitoring system, stabilization and solidification area, or process areas,.
- **O.** If disposal wells are incorporated into facility operations at a later date, those wells must be separately permitted under provisions of the New Mexico Underground Injection Control program.
- **P.** An updated list of emergency coordinators and their contact information shall be provided to the OCD by the operator before waste can be accepted into the facility.
- Q. The operator shall monitor the leak detection sumps for the presence of liquids at least monthly. If liquids are present, the operator shall notify the OCD immediately and shall sample and test the liquid as directed by the OCD.

OCD Identified Persons for Notice by First Class Mail or E-mail in Accordance with 19.15.36.9.C (3) NMAC for Surface Waste Management Facilities

Mayor Sam Cobb City of Hobbs 200 E. Broadway St. Hobbs, NM 88240

Commissioner Rebecca Long Lea County Commission 100 N. Main Avenue, Suite 4 Lovington, NM 88260 Hobbs, NM 88240

Field Supervisor US Fish & Wildlife Service 2105 Osuna Road, Northeast Albuquerque, NM 87113-1001

State Historic Preservation Officer
407 Galisteo, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(please include a location map and a site map with the notice)

Dr. Harry Bishara P.O. Box 748 Cuba, NM 87013

Stephanie Garcia Richards Commissioner of Public Lands, New Mexico State Land Office 310 Old Santa Fe Trail P.O. Box 1148 Santa Fe, NM 87504

Mike Sloane Director, New Mexico Department of Game & Fish 1 Wildlife Way Santa Fe, NM 87507

Matt Wunder Chief of Conservation Services, New Mexico Department of Game & Fish 1 Wildlife Way Santa Fe, NM 87507 matthew.wunder@state.nm.us

Lynn A. Trujillo Secretary, Indian Affairs Department 1220 South Saint Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505 lynn.trujillo@state.nm.us

Julie Maitland
Director of Agriculture Programs and Resources Division
New Mexico Department of Agriculture
MSC APR Box 30005
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003
ddapr@nmda.nmsu.edu

Jim Amos Bureau of Land Management 620 East Greene Street Carlsbad, NM 87502 james_amos@nm.blm.gov

Paul Sisneros Director of Communications, Attorney General's Office P. O. Box 1508 Santa Fe, NM 87504-1508 psisneros@nmag.gov

Randy Hicks R.T. Hicks Consultants, Ltd 901 Rio Grande NW, Suite F-142 Albuquerque, NM 87104 r@rthicksconsult.com

Chris Shuey
Director, Uranium Impact Assessment Program
Southwest Research & Information Center
105 Stanford SE
PO Box 4524
Albuquerque, NM 87196
sric.chris@earthlink.net

Christy Tafoya Director, NM State Parks 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505 nmparks@state.nm.us

John D'Antonio, Jr.
State Engineer, Office of the State Engineer
PO Box 25102
Santa Fe, NM 87504-5102

Marie Gutierrez y Alarid New Mexico Oil & Gas Association PO Box 1864 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 marieg@nmoga.org

William Fetner Office of Natural Resources Trustee 121 Tijeras Avenue NE Albuquerque, NM 87102

Jay Lazarus Glorieta Geoscience P. O. Box 5727 Santa Fe, NM 87502-5727 lazarus@glorietageo.com Jim Kenney
Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department
1190 Saint Francis Drive
P. O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469
Jim.Kenney@state.nm.us

Cal Joyner
USFS Regional Office
333 Broadway Blvd SE
Albuquerque, NM 87102
cjoyner@fs.fed.us

Bruce S. Garber Garber and Hallmark, P.C Attorney at Law P. O. Box 850 Santa Fe, NM 87504-0850 bsg@garbhall.com

Michelle Hunter
Ground Water Bureau Chief, New Mexico Environment Department
1190 Saint Francis Drive
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502
Michelle.Hunter@state.nm.us

Kevin Pierard Hazardous Waste Bureau Chief, New Mexico Environment Department $2905\ Rodeo\ Park$ Drive East, Building 1 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505- 6303 Kevin.Pierard@state.nm.us

Claudette Horn
Environmental Counsel, Public Service Company of New Mexico
414 Silver, SW
Albuquerque, NM 87158
claudette.horn@pnm.com

Edmund H. Kendrick Attorney at Law 325 Paseo de Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501 ekendrick@montand.com

Pam Garlinger Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico P.O. Box 6101 Roswell, NM 88202 pam@ipanm.org

Michael Condon Gallegos Law Firm, P.C. 460 St. Michaels Dr., Bldg. 300 Santa Fe, NM 87505 mjc@gallegoslawfirm.net Paul M. O'Sullivan RLI Insurance Company 8 Greenway Plaza, Suite 400 Houston, TX 77046 Paul.OSullivan@rlicorp.com Patsy S. Turner NM Energy Library, Inc. P.O. Box 4200 Roswell, NM 88202-4200 rel@dfn.com

Rebecca Tupman Hess Corporation 1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036 rtupman@hess.com

Jim Winchester Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico P.O. Box 6101 Roswell, NM 88202 jimwinchester@ipanm.org

Marla Shoats Shoats & Weaks, Inc. 9631 4th St. NW Albuquerque, New Mexico 87114 marlashoats@comcast.net

Patrick B. McMahon Heidel, Samberson, Newell, Cox & McMahon 311 North First Street PO Drawer 1599 Lovington, NM 88260 hsncpbm@leaco.net

Jonas Armstrong Legislative Finance Committee jonas.armstrong@nmlegis.gov

Connor Jorgensen NM Legislative Finance Committee Connor.Jorgensen@nmlegis.gov

Dr. Robert Balch New Mexico Tech balch@prrc.nmt.edu

Marita Blakeman Montgomery & Andrews PA Email: mblakeman@montand.com

Dave & Phyllis Boneau dboneau@pvtnetworks.net

Luke Bross R360 Environmental Solutions, LLC LukeB@R360es.com Jimmy D. Carlile Fasken Oil & Ranch, Ltd. jimmyc@forl.com

Earl De Brine Modrall Sperling Law Firm edebrine@modrall.com

Dale Douglas Capstone Oil & Gas Company, L.P dale@capstoneoil.com

Nathalie Eddy Earthworks neddy@earthworksaction.org

Tyra Feil
Dugan Production Corp.
Tyra.Feil@duganproduction.com

Michael Feldewert Holland and Hart MFeldewert@hollandhart.com

Linda Fieseler Nearburg Producing Co. Lfieseler@nearburg.com

Caren Cowan New Mexico Cattle Grower's Association nmwgi@nmagriculture.org

Dexter Harmon
Fasken Oil & Ranch, Ltd.
dexterh@forl.com

Patrick Hennesy RLI Insurance Company Pat.Hennesy@rlicorp.com

Martin Joyce Regeneration Energy Corp. mjoyce@pvtn.net

Donald Lehman
Energen Resources Corporation
dlehman@energen.com

Seth McMillan Montgomery & Andrews, P.A. SMcMillan@montand.com Delva Moellenberg
Gallagher & Kennedy
dlm@gknet.com
Katie Nguyen
RLI Insurance Company
Katie.Nguyen@rlicorp.com

Stan Phillips
Apache Corporation
stan.phillips@apachecorp.com

Jay Portwood jtportwood@mindspring.com

Laura Winkler Riley Exploration Group laurawinkler@rileyexploration.com

Janet Wooldridge Devon Energy jan.wooldridge@dvn.com

Mike Bratcher OCD mike.bratcher@state.nm.us

Susan A. Lucas Kamat OCD Susan.LucasKamat@state.nm.us