



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

December 2, 2019

Subject: NTO to operators P&A & Proposed Maintenance Projects, Southern Ute Indian Reservation

Dear Operators and Right of Way Holders,

This letter is a Notice to Operators to inform you that the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's (SUIT) Department of Energy (DOE) has finalized a revision to the process and forms for abandoning well sites and pipeline Rights of Way (ROW) on the SUIT Reservation. The purpose of this revision was to create a process for operators to submit consistent well site reclamation plans to SUIT DOE and the BLM for wells located on tribal land and for DOE to assist ROW holders with the termination of the ROW contract for the abandonment of pipelines. Completion of the forms will aid SUIT DOE in managing the Final Abandonment process with BLM and recommending the termination of the contract to the BIA for all off lease and on-lease ROW's. These long-standing processes have been vague in the past. The attached Plug and Abandonment form will serve as a reclamation plan that will satisfy the requirements subject to BLM Onshore Order No. 1 XII (B) and the BIA Pipeline ROW Notice of Intent to Abandon form and Abandonment Checklist. The forms have been found to be acceptable by the BLM and Southern Ute BIA Agency.

Also attached is a new form that will assist operators fulfilling the objectives outlined in Section 5.4 (Authorization Process for Maintenance Activities) in the current SUIT DOE Exploration and Production Manual. DOE is enhancing this process because of the lack of notifications that have been received from most Operators in the past. **Please be aware that Operators are required to notify DOE of qualifying maintenance projects before the work is performed. Conditions of approval may be imposed by SUIT DNR and DOE.** Section 3 of the form outlines the types of maintenance work that DOE is requesting be submitted for review. DOE will work to keep the review and turnaround times on these types of notifications as brief as possible. However, a 5-day review period by other Tribal Departments may be necessary depending on the extent of the maintenance activities. DOE will communicate this with the operator.

Please review the attached forms or view them on the DOE website at <https://www.suitdoe.com/> under the E&P section. We encourage you to contact us with any questions and provide us with feedback. The SUIT DOE Exploration and Production Manual is in the process of being revised and will reflect these changes. Please circulate these documents as necessary.

Sincerely:

Michael Matheson, P.G.

Energy Manager

Southern Ute Department of Energy