

January 27, 2026

Mr. Reed Miner
Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Petroleum Tank Cleanup Section
rminer@mt.gov

Re: **Monitoring Well Abandonment Work Plan Form AC-08** for the MDOT Lost Trail, 8216 US-93, Sula, MT,
Facility ID# 40-09308, Release# 5345 (TID 26944), Work Plan# 35128

Dear Mr. Miner:

Enclosed for your review is the **Monitoring Well Abandonment Work Plan Form AC-08** for the MDOT Lost Trail Site in Sula, Montana. All of the monitoring wells at the site will be abandoned by a MT Licensed Monitoring Well Constructor in accordance with DNRC regulations (ARM 36.21.810). The site will be restored to its pre-corrective action state according to DQ regulations (ARM 17.56.605). WCEC will perform all abandonment and oversight completed under this work plan. A letter report including well abandonment specifics and DNRC well abandonment forms for each well, will be submitted within 30 days of completion of well abandonment. Well abandonment is tentatively scheduled for winter/spring of 2026 pending approval of this work plan and snow conditions at the site.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or contact me via email at tpatton@setenv.com

Sincerely,



Tyler Patton
Environmental Scientist, WCEC

cc: Kendall Gustafson, Montana Department of Transportation; kgustafson@mt.gov



AC-08
MONITORING WELL ABANDONMENT WORK PLAN
and BUDGET FORMAT

This Monitoring Well Abandonment Work Plan (WP) is for the routine abandonment of monitoring wells no longer needed for petroleum release investigation or cleanup, or needed by the owner/operator for their own purposes. Monitoring wells to which this WP applies include groundwater monitoring wells, soil vapor extraction wells, recovery wells, observation wells, sparge/injection wells, and piezometers.

Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 36.21.810 sets forth the legal requirements for properly abandoning monitoring wells. ARM 36.21.810 is attached and may be found at the following Internet address: http://www.mtrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?RN=36.21.810.

Return this WP to: Petroleum Tank Cleanup Section, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901. Please note that incomplete and/or unsigned WPs will be returned and may delay processing of claims submitted to the Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board.

Facility Name MDOT Lost Trail Facility ID# 41-09308 Release # 5345
Facility Address 8216 U S Highway 93 South, Sula, MT 59871

Owner/Operator Name Montana Department of Transportation

Owner/Operator mailing address, if different from above: PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620-1001

Consultant's name, address, and phone number: WCEC, 1030 South Ave W, Missoula, MT 59801 (406) 549-8487

List monitoring wells by name and number to be abandoned: MW1, MW2, MW3

List monitoring wells by name and number to be maintained: None

Specify the method by which the monitoring wells will be abandoned: Remove casing from ground, fill with bentonite, restore ground surface to match the surrounding conditions

Target date for abandonment of the monitoring well(s): January - May 2026

Unit cost per monitoring well for abandonment (include mobilization, Portland cement, grout or bentonite, equipment, and consultant or contractor labor costs): \$ /well \$ /ft

Total cost of abandoning the above-listed monitoring wells: \$ See Attached

I elect to maintain the monitoring wells located at the above-referenced Facility and will monitor the wells at least every three years and in accordance with applicable requirements of the Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation Division.

I elect to abandon the monitoring wells located at the above-referenced Facility and certify that the above-referenced monitoring wells are to be properly abandoned in accordance with the provisions ARM 36.21.810 and other applicable requirements of the Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation Division.

Tyler Patton Digitally signed by Tyler Patton Date: 2026.01.27 08:41:13 -07'00' (Signature of Facility owner or operator or authorized representative)

01/27/26 (date)

36.21.810 ABANDONMENT

(1) Wells which have not been monitored for more than three years shall be deemed abandoned unless written permission is obtained from the board to maintain the well.

(2) Monitoring wells that have outlived their useful purpose shall be abandoned by one of the following methods:

(a) if the casing and screen are left in place, the casing and screen shall be sealed from the bottom up by the following methods:

(i) using a pump and hose or tremie pipe to conduct the sealing material to the bottom of the well; or

(ii) by filling the casing and screen with bentonite pellets or chips placed in a manner that will prevent bridging. Metal casings shall be cut off three feet below the ground surface and the last three feet backfilled with naturally occurring soils;

(b) the department recommends that the casing be removed in all possible instances. If the casing and/or screen are removed, the hole shall be filled with sealing material, concrete, or bentonite pellets or chips from the bottom up, as the casing and/or screen is removed. From six to three feet from the surface, bentonite shall be added to the well. The last three feet shall be filled with naturally occurring soils;

(c) the sealing material shall be bentonite pellets or chips, bentonite clay grout, neat cement grout, or concrete. The material may contain nonbiodegradable fluidizing admixtures, provided they will not contaminate the groundwater. Sealing materials which settle shall be topped to provide a continuous column of grout to within three feet of the surface; or

(d) other methods for abandonment with prior board approval.

(3) For flowing wells, the abandonment procedures outlined in ARM [36.21.671](#) shall apply.

(4) A properly abandoned well shall not produce water nor serve as a channel for movement of water.

(5) A water well log report, fully describing all abandonment procedures, shall be submitted to the Ground Water Information Center (GWIC) of the MBMG within 60 days of abandoning the well.

History: [37-43-202](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [37-43-202](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 1990 MAR p. 739, Eff. 4/13/90; [AMD](#), 1991 MAR p. 913, Eff. 6/14/91; [AMD](#), 1997 MAR p. 65, Eff. 1/17/97; [AMD](#), 2010 MAR p. 1614, Eff. 7/16/10.

For additional information or requirements for abandoning or maintaining monitoring wells, please contact the Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, Board of Water Well Contractors at (406) 444-6643.