



**FACTSHEET**  
**(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)**

**Permittee Name:** RUBY PIPELINE LLC  
  
4200 W. 115TH STREET, SUITE 350  
TOWANDA, KS 662112609

**Permit Number:** NS2010514

**Permit Type:** GROUNDWATER DISCHARGE

**Designation:** GROUNDWATER

**New/Existing:** EXISTING

**Location:** WIELAND FLAT COMPRESSOR STATION, ELKO  
11364 MOUNTAIN CITY HIGHWAY, ELKO, NV 89801  
LATITUDE: 41.244319, LONGITUDE: -115.794423  
TOWNSHIP: 39N, RANGE: 55E, SECTION: 28/29

Outfall / Well Num	Outfall / Well Name	Location Type	Well Log Num	Latitude	Longitude	Receiving Water
001	INLET TO EVAPORATION POND	External Outfall	8965/7843 9/7838	41.244277	-115.794426	GROUNDWATER
002	WIELAND FLATS COMPRESSOR STATION EVAPORATION POND WATER	External Outfall		41.244380	-115.794438	GROUNDWATER
003	LEAK DETECTION SUMP	External Outfall		41.24420833	-115.794166	GROUNDWATER
004	RO REJECT FLOW	External Outfall		41.244380	-115.794430	GROUNDWATER

**Permit History/Description of Proposed Action**

This is a permit renewal. The permit was originally issued in 2011, renewed in 2018, and administratively continued from 2023 until this renewal. Ruby Pipeline, LLC operates the Wieland Flats natural gas compressor station located approximately 30 miles north of Elko, Elko County, Nevada.

Since the facility's construction, no discharges have been recorded, except for one instance during the cooling system's startup in 2011, when water was discharged to the evaporation pond. The cooling system, designed to discharge to the evaporation pond, serves as a backup and is intended to provide additional cooling when natural gas volumes reach a certain threshold, in conjunction with ambient temperatures exceeding 100°F for extended periods.

This facility is also permitted under General Permit GNEVOSDS09S0020 for the on-site sewage disposal system (OSDS).

**Facility Overview**

Well water is desalinated using a Reverse Osmosis (RO) system, with the reject flow directed to the evaporation pond and the permeate (product) water sent to the cooling towers. Cooling water is used for temperature control of the compression equipment. Spent cooling tower water, along with the RO reject flow, will be discharged into an on-site, double-lined evaporation pond equipped with a leak detection

system. No other process streams are discharged into this pond.

The evaporation pond is located approximately 100 feet east of the compressor station. It is a 17,000 square foot basin, 6 feet deep, with a minimum freeboard of 2 feet. The upper liner is 60-mil high-density polyethylene (HDPE), while the secondary liner is 50-mil HDPE. Leak detection collection pipes report to a precast manhole with a secure cover, allowing for easy inspection and access.

### **Outfall Summary**

Outfall 001: RO Reject Flow water and Spent Cooling Tower Water Inlet to Evaporation Pond

Outfall 002: Wieland Flats Compressor Station Evaporation Pond Water Outfall

Outfall 003: Leak Detection Sump Outfall

Outfall 004: RO Reject Flow Water T-Connection to Spent Cooling Tower Water Flow to Evaporation Pond

### **Effluent Characterization**

As part of the permit renewal process, Nevada State Network Discharge Monitoring Report (NetDMR) data from July 2018 to June 2024 was reviewed. Since the facility's construction, no discharges have been recorded. The only occurrence of water being discharged to the evaporation pond from the cooling system took place during its startup in 2011. The cooling system, designed to discharge to the evaporation pond, serves as a backup system. It is intended to provide additional cooling when natural gas volumes reach a certain threshold, in conjunction with ambient temperatures exceeding 100°F for extended periods. To date, these conditions have not occurred, but the cooling system is maintained in case additional cooling becomes necessary, thus necessitating the permit.

### **Pollutants of Concern**

Pollutants of concern are any substances or parameters that are believed to be present in the discharge and could impact the physical, chemical, or biological condition of the receiving water. Pollutants of concern include Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and pH levels.

### **Receiving Water**

The receiving water is the Groundwater of the State. Under normal operating conditions, the double-lined evaporation pond has zero discharge to groundwater. However, in the event of a pond liner failure, discharge could potentially reach the groundwater. The depth to groundwater is 50 feet.

### **Compliance History**

The facility was in substantial compliance during the July 2018 to June 2024 reporting period.

### **Proposed Effluent Limitations**

The discharge will be limited per the limits described in the table below.

**Zero Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location 001 (Inlet To Evaporation Pond) To Be Reported Monthly**

Discharge Limitations				Monitoring Requirements			
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow rate	30 Day Average	<= 2900 Gallons per Day (gal/d)		Internal Monitoring Point	001	Daily When Discharging	ESTIMA <sup>[1]</sup>
Flow rate	Daily Maximum	<= 5800 Gallons per Day (gal/d)		Internal Monitoring Point	001	Daily When Discharging	ESTIMA <sup>[1]</sup>

Notes (Zero Discharge Limitations Table):

1. The estimation shall include the measurements and calculation to demonstrate how the estimated value was derived.

**Zero Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location 001 (Inlet To Evaporation Pond) To Be Reported Quarterly**

Discharge Limitations				Monitoring Requirements			
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Solids, total dissolved	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	Internal Monitoring Point	001	Quarterly	DISCRT
pH, maximum	Daily Maximum		M&R Standard Units (SU)	Internal Monitoring Point	001	Quarterly	DISCRT
pH, minimum	Daily Minimum		M&R Standard Units (SU)	Internal Monitoring Point	001	Quarterly	DISCRT

### Zero Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location 002 (Evaporation Pond Water) To Be Reported Annually<sup>[1]</sup>

Discharge Limitations				Monitoring Requirements			
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Cadmium, total (as Cd)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Beryllium, total (as Be)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Arsenic, total (as As)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Thallium, total (as Tl)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Antimony, total (as Sb)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Zinc, total (as Zn)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Silver, total (as Ag)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Selenium, total (as Se)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Nickel, total (as Ni)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Mercury, total (as Hg)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Lead, total (as Pb)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
			M&R				

### Zero Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location 002 (Evaporation Pond Water) To Be Reported Annually<sup>1</sup>

Discharge Limitations				Monitoring Requirements			
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Copper, total (as Cu)	Daily Maximum		Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Chromium, total (as Cr)	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
Solids, total dissolved	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
pH, maximum	Daily Maximum		M&R Standard Units (SU)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT
pH, minimum	Daily Minimum		M&R Standard Units (SU)	See Footnote	002	Annual	DISCRT

#### Notes (Zero Discharge Limitations Table):

1. A composite sample shall be obtained by combining equal volumes of liquid taken from each corner of the evaporation pond.

**Zero Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location 003 (Leak Detection Sump) To Be Reported Monthly**

Discharge Limitations				Monitoring Requirements			
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Liner Leakage Rate <sup>[1]</sup>	Daily Maximum	<= 500 Gallons per Acre per Day (gal/acre/d)		Internal Monitoring Point	003	Monthly	METER

Notes (Zero Discharge Limitations Table):

1. If the leakage rate exceeds 500 gallons per acre per day, the Permittee shall contact the Bureau of Water Pollution Control's Technical, Compliance, and Enforcement Branch.

### Zero Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location 004 (Ro Reject Flow - Outfall) To Be Reported Quarterly

Parameter	Discharge Limitations			Monitoring Requirements			
	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow rate	30 Day Average	M&R Gallons per Day (gal/d)		Intake	004	Daily When Discharging	CALCTD
Solids, total dissolved	Daily Maximum		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	Intake	004	Quarterly	DISCRT

#### Summary of Changes From Previous Permit

- \* The semi-annual reporting table was removed, and pH and TDS reporting is now required on an annual basis.
- \* A special approval was added concerning the submission of DMRs and water sampling in the absence of discharge.
- \* The Outfall 003 liner leakage rate has been adjusted to 500 gallons per acre per day (gal/acre/day), in accordance with the Ten States Standards for double-lined ponds.
- \* TDS and pH monitoring from Outfall 003 Leak Detection Sump have been discontinued, as these parameters are now monitored in the pond water, eliminating the need for duplication at both locations.

#### Technology Based Effluent Limitations

Technology based effluent limitations are not applicable to this permit.

#### Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations

Water quality-based effluent limitations are not applicable to this permit.

#### Proposed Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (monthly/weekly/daily)

Water quality-based effluent limitations are not applicable to this permit.

#### Basis for Effluent Limitations

These constituents are expected to be present in the process wastewater; therefore, the proposed permit requires the Permittee to sample for these contaminants, as they are included in the Profile I list:

**Flow:** Process water flow to the evaporation pond is monitored via flow meters to ensure that the fluid level in the pond remains appropriate.

**TDS:** The process water and pond contents are sampled for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS). This parameter is monitored to assess the quality of the pond supernatant in case of a catastrophic liner leak.

**pH:** The process water and pond contents are sampled for pH. This parameter is monitored to gather information on the pond supernatant quality in the event of a catastrophic liner failure.

**Metals:** The pond contents are sampled annually for thirteen metals. These parameters are monitored to evaluate the quality of the pond supernatant in case of a liner leak.



**Leak Detection Sump:** The pond sump is pumped and totalized monthly. This allows the Permittee and the Division to detect excess leakage and ensures timely repairs to the liner when necessary.

**Anti-backsliding**

To prevent backsliding, effluent limitations in reissued permits must be at least as stringent as those in the previous permit. Backsliding has not occurred in this permit, as the limits have remained unchanged, with a few exceptions

The facility was in compliance with pH and TDS requirements; therefore, the semi-annual reporting table has been removed, and pH and TDS reporting is now required on an annual basis.

**Antidegradation**

The Division has developed an antidegradation regulation that is applied on a statewide basis and meets the statutory requirements of Nevada’s water pollution control law found in Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 445A.520 and NRS 445A.565. It is also consistent with the federal antidegradation policy found in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 131.12. The objective of the Division’s antidegradation regulation is to prevent the degradation of Nevada’s surface waters and maintain the unique attributes, special characteristics, and water quality associated with high-quality waters.

Since this permit is for potential discharges to groundwater and not surface water, the new antidegradation rule is not applicable. Currently, there are no specific water quality standards that have been formally adopted by the State for groundwater. However, discharging to an evaporation pond does not indicate a potential for groundwater degradation from the RO reject water and spent cooling water discharged within the compliance limits of the proposed permit.

**Special Conditions**

Special conditions and special approval are outlined in the table below:

SA – Special Approvals / Conditions Table

Item #	Description
1	If no discharge occurs, no lab sample is required, and the permittee shall report NODI Code "C" = No Discharge in NetDMR.

**Discharges From Future Outfalls/ Planned Facility Changes**

The Permittee does not anticipate discharges from future outfalls or any changes to the facility.

**Corrective Action Sites**

There are no Bureau of Corrective Action sites located within a 1 mile radius of this site.

**Wellhead Protection Program**

The nearest Public Water Supply (PWS) well is located approximately 6.5 miles to the South of the outfall. The outfall is not located within a Wellhead Protection Area, which represents an approximate 10-year capture zone of a well, or within a Drinking Water Protection Area, which is defined by a 3,000-foot radius around a PWS well.

**Schedule of Compliance:**

SOC – Schedule of Compliance Table

Item #	Description	Due Date
1	<p>The Permittee shall submit two (2) copies of an updated Operations and Maintenance (O&amp;M) Manual for review and approval by the Division. One copy shall be a hard copy, and the second shall be an electronic copy. The O&amp;M Manual shall be prepared and stamped by a Nevada Registered Professional Engineer or another qualified person. O&amp;M Manuals prepared by a Nevada Registered Professional Engineer must be signed and stamped in accordance with NAC 625.610.</p> <p>If the most recent O&amp;M Manual was submitted to and approved by NDEP within the ten years preceding the permit issuance date, the Permittee shall submit a letter confirming that no changes have occurred.</p>	10/1/2025
2	All DMRs shall be submitted electronically through the Nevada NetDMR website. <a href="https://netdmr.ndep.nv.gov/netdmr/public/home.htm">https://netdmr.ndep.nv.gov/netdmr/public/home.htm</a>	7/28/2025

**Deliverable Schedule:**

DLV– Deliverable Schedule for Reports, Plans, and Other Submittals

Item #	Description	Interval	First Scheduled Due Date
1	Quarterly Reports	Quarterly	10/28/2025
2	Annual Report	Annually	1/28/2026

**Procedures for Public Comment:**

The Notice of the Division's intent to issue a permit authorizing the facility to discharge to groundwater of the State of Nevada subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list and will be posted on our website at <https://ndep.nv.gov/posts>. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing until 5:00 P.M. **4/21/2025**, a period of 30 days following the date of the public notice. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determined to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

**Proposed Determination:**

The Division has made the tentative determination to issue/re-issue the proposed 5-year permit.

Prepared by: **Lior Singer P.E. M.Sc.**

Date: **3/11/2025**

Title: **Environmental Engineer**