



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

BILL RICHARDSON

Governor

Joanna Prukop
Cabinet Secretary



Lori Wrotenbery

Director

Oil Conservation Division

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SWD-893

APPLICATION OF NEARBURG PRODUCING COMPANY FOR SALT WATER DISPOSAL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Under the provisions of Rule 701(B), Nearburg Producing Company made application to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on September 3, 2003 for permission to utilize for salt water disposal its McKittrick "14" Federal Well No. 1 (API 30-015-21010) located 2390 feet from the North line and 830 feet from the East line (Unit H) of Section 14, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

THE DIVISION DIRECTOR FINDS THAT:

- (1) The application has been duly filed under the provisions of Rule 701(B) of the Division Rules and Regulations;
- (2) Satisfactory information has been provided that all offset operators and surface owners have been duly notified;
- (3) The applicant has presented satisfactory evidence that all requirements prescribed in Rule 701 will be met; and
- (4) No objection to the application has been received by the Division within the time period prescribed in Rule 701.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

Nearburg Producing Company is hereby authorized to complete its McKittrick "14" Federal Well No. 1 (API 30-015-21010) located 2390 feet from the North line and 830 feet from the East line (Unit H) of Section 14, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico, in such a manner as to permit the injection of produced water for disposal purposes into the Devonian formation through the perforated interval from a depth of 11,500 feet to 12,300 feet through 4 1/2 inch ceramic-lined tubing set in a packer located at approximately 11,400 feet.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

The operator shall take all steps necessary to ensure that the injected water enters only the proposed injection interval and is not permitted to escape to other formations or onto the surface.

In preparation for disposal, the applicant shall set a string of 7.0-inch casing at a depth of approximately 12,600 feet in the McKittrick "14" Federal No. 1. In addition, the applicant shall cement this casing string from setting depth to the surface.

Prior to commencing injection operations, the applicant shall: i) obtain a native formation water sample from the Devonian formation; ii) have an analysis conducted on this water sample; and iii) provide the results of the water analysis to the Santa Fe office of the Division.

The casing-tubing annulus shall be loaded with an inert fluid and equipped with a pressure gauge at the surface or left open to the atmosphere to facilitate detection of leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer.

The injection well or system shall be equipped with a pressure limiting device which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to **no more than 2300 psi**.

The Director of the Division may authorize an increase in injection pressure upon a proper showing by the operator of said well that such higher pressure will not result in migration of the injected fluid from the injection formations. Such proper showing shall consist of a valid step-rate test run in accordance with and acceptable to this office.

The operator shall notify the supervisor of the Artesia district office of the Division of the date and time: i) well deepening and casing operations will be conducted; ii) disposal equipment will be installed; and iii) the mechanical integrity pressure test conducted, in order that these operations may be witnessed.

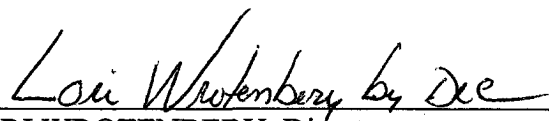
The operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Artesia district office of the Division of the failure of the tubing, casing, or packer in said well and shall take such steps as may be timely and necessary to correct such failure or leakage.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, jurisdiction is retained by the Division for the entry of such further orders as may be necessary for the prevention of waste and/or protection of correlative rights or upon failure of the operator to conduct operations (1) to protect fresh water or (2) consistent with the requirements in this order, whereupon the Division may, after notice and hearing, terminate the injection authority granted herein.

The operator shall submit monthly reports of the disposal operations on Division Form C-120-A, in accordance with Rule Nos. 706 and 1120 of the Division Rules and Regulations.

The injection authority granted herein shall terminate one year after the effective date of this order if the operator has not commenced injection operations into the subject well, provided however, the Division, upon written request by the operator, may grant an extension thereof for good cause shown.

Approved at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on this 14th day of October, 2003.


LORI WROTENBERY, Director

LW/DRC

cc: Oil Conservation Division – Artesia
Bureau of Land Management-Carlsbad
Mr. William F. Carr