

*Entered December 5, 1962*  
*A.L.P.*

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE  
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION, ON ITS OWN MOTION,  
TO PERMIT HERSCHEL L. COPELAN AND ALL INTERESTED  
PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE STATE  
OF NEW MEXICO WELL NO. 1, LOCATED 1980 FEET  
FROM THE SOUTH LINE AND 660 FEET FROM THE WEST  
LINE OF SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE  
27 EAST, NMPM, CHAVES COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, AND  
THE PAN AMERICAN-STATE WELL NO. 1, LOCATED 330  
FEET FROM THE NORTH LINE AND 1650 FEET FROM THE  
WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 27, SHOULD NOT BE  
PLUGGED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A COMMISSION-  
APPROVED PLUGGING PROGRAM.

CASE No. 2708  
Order No. R-2379

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 o'clock a.m. on  
November 20, 1962, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Elvis A. Utz,  
Examiner duly appointed by the Oil Conservation Commission of New  
Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," in accordance  
with Rule 1214 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

NOW, on this 28th day of November, 1962, the Commission,  
a quorum being present, having considered the evidence and the  
recommendations of the Examiner, Elvis A. Utz, and being fully  
advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by  
law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject  
matter thereof.

(2) That the State of New Mexico Well No. 1, located 1980  
feet from the South line and 660 feet from the West line of Sec-  
tion 27, Township 11 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Chaves County,  
New Mexico, and the Pan American-State Well No. 1, located 330  
feet from the North line and 1650 feet from the West line of  
said Section 27 are owned and operated by Herschel L. Copelan.

(3) That the two subject wells have been abandoned by the  
operator and have not been plugged in any manner.

(4) That the subject wells are causing or will cause waste  
and should be plugged in a manner which will confine permanently



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all oil, gas, and water in the separate strata originally containing them.

(5) That both of the subject wells should be plugged in accordance with the following minimum plugging requirements:

- (1) Set 25 sacks of cement at total depth.
- (2) Set 20 sacks of cement at 300 feet.
- (3) Set 5 sacks of cement as a surface plug.
- (4) Fill intervals between cement plugs with mud weighing not less than ten pounds per gallon.
- (5) Set in the surface plug a regulation steel marker not less than 4 inches in diameter and extending at least 4 feet above mean ground level.

(6) That, as an alternative, the operator should be allowed to plug the subject wells in accordance with the following minimum plugging requirements:

- (1) Fill the hole with cement from total depth to the surface.
- (2) Set in the surface cement a regulation steel marker not less than 4 inches in diameter and extending at least 4 feet above mean ground level.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That Herschel L. Copelan is hereby ordered to plug the State of New Mexico Well No. 1, located 1980 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the West line of Section 27, Township 11 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico, and the Pan American-State Well No. 1, located 330 feet from the North line and 1650 feet from the West line of said Section 27, in accordance with the following minimum plugging requirements:

- (1) Set 25 sacks of cement at total depth.
- (2) Set 20 sacks of cement at 300 feet.
- (3) Set 5 sacks of cement as a surface plug.
- (4) Fill intervals between cement plugs with mud weighing not less than ten pounds per gallon.



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- (5) Set in the surface plug a regulation steel marker not less than 4 inches in diameter and extending at least 4 feet above mean ground level.

(2) That, as an alternative, Herschel L. Copelan is hereby authorized to plug the two subject wells in accordance with the following minimum plugging requirements:

- (1) Fill the hole with cement from total depth to the surface.
- (2) Set in the surface cement a regulation steel marker not less than 4 inches in diameter and extending at least 4 feet above mean ground level.

(3) That the plugging of the two subject wells shall be completed on or before January 1, 1963, and that Herschel L. Copelan shall notify the District Supervisor, District II, Oil Conservation Commission, Artesia, New Mexico, of the exact time and date plugging operations on each well are to commence.

(4) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION



EDWIN L. MECHEM, Chairman



E. S. WALKER, Member



A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary

S E A L

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