

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF
CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 8582
Order No. R-5516-C

APPLICATION OF PARABO, INC. FOR
AN AMENDMENT TO DIVISION ORDER
NO. R-5516, AS AMENDED, LEA
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8 a.m. on April 24, 1985, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Michael E. Stogner.

NOW, on this 23rd day of July, 1985, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

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

(2) The applicant, Parabo, Inc., is the operator of a facility described and permitted in Division Order No. R-5516 entered on August 30, 1977, and amended by Division Order Nos. R-5516-A and R-5516-B entered on March 18, 1981, and on December 16, 1983, respectively, being a multi-pit surface salt water disposal facility.

(3) Pits Nos. 2, 3, and 5 were approved by Division Order No. R-5516-A, dated March 18, 1981, with the following specific maximum fill levels:

Pit No. 2: 3458 feet above sea level
Pit No. 3: 3458 feet above sea level
Pit No. 5: 3446 feet above sea level

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(4) Pits Nos. 6 and 7 were administratively authorized pursuant to said Division Order No. R-5516-A by order of the Division Director dated July 17, 1981, and December 27, 1982, respectively, with maximum fill levels for both pits to be three feet below their respective spill points.

(5) The applicant now seeks the amendment of said Division Order No. R-5516, as amended, and proposes that the maximum fill level for Pits Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 be increased and limited to a plane two feet below the level of the spill point of the Triassic Red Bed Clay formation or the clay dikes surrounding said pits.

(6) The evidence submitted at the hearing indicates that the proposed maximum fill level limits in said Pits Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 are adequate and sufficient to retain any natural precipitation that could cause said pits to overflow their respective spill points.

(7) The amendment of said Order No. R-5516, as amended, as described above will afford reasonable protection to fresh water, will not cause waste nor impair correlative rights, and should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) RULE 7 of Ordering Paragraph No. (2) on pages 3 and 4 of Division Order No. R-5516-A, dated March 18, 1981, be and the same is hereby corrected to read in its entirety as follows:

"RULE 7. That at no time shall disposal be permitted into any pit authorized by Order No. R-5516, as amended, or subsequently approved by the Division Director if the total quantity of water in such pit, from both natural precipitation and previous disposal, reaches a plane four feet below the level of the spill point of the Triassic Red Beds or the clay dikes surrounding said pit, provided however, that the maximum water level in Pits Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 may reach a plane two feet below such spill point; that the specific maximum water levels in the following pits shall be as follows:

Pit No. 1: 3447 feet above sea level
Pit No. 2: 3459 feet above sea level
Pit No. 3: 3459 feet above sea level

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Pit No. 4: 3438 feet above sea level
Pit No. 5: 3447 feet above sea level
Pit No. 6: 3447 feet above sea level
Pit No. 7: 3440 feet above sea level"

(2) Jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

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

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION



R. L. STAMETS
Director

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