



# New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

**Jon Goldstein**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Jim Noel**  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

**Mark Fesmire**  
Division Director  
Oil Conservation Division



February 8, 2010

Apache Corporation  
Attn: Ms. Michelle Hanson  
6120 S. Yale, Suite 1500  
Tulsa, OK 74136

## Administrative Order NSL-6146

**Re: E.W. Walden Well No. 16**  
**API No. 30-025**  
**2000 feet FSL and 1550 feet FWL**  
**Unit K, Section 15-22S-37E**  
**Lea County, New Mexico**

Dear Ms. Hanson:

Reference is made to the following:

- (a) your application (**administrative application reference No. pTGW10-02054194**) submitted to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (the Division) in Santa Fe, New Mexico on January 20, 2010, and
- (b) the Division's records pertinent to this request.

Apache Corporation [OGRID 873] (Apache) has requested to drill the above-referenced well as a directional well to the Blinbry, Tubb, Drinkard and Abo formations, at a location that will be unorthodox under Division Rule 16.14.B. The proposed surface location and bottom-hole locations of the well are as follows:

Surface Location:	2000 feet from the South line and 1550 feet from the West line (Unit K) of Section 15, Township 22S, Range 37E, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico
Terminus	1310 feet from the South line and 1310 feet from the West line (Unit M) of said section



The SW/4 SW/4 of Section 15 will be dedicated to the proposed well to form standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration units in the Blinebry Oil and Gas (Oil) Pool (6660), the Tubb Oil and Gas (Oil) Pool (60240), the Drinkard Pool (19190) and the undesignated Wantz-Abo Pool (62700). Spacing in the Blinebry and Tubb pools is governed by the Special Rules and Regulations for the Blinebry Oil and Gas Pool and the Special Rules and Regulations for the Tubb Oil and Gas Pool, as provided in Order R-8170 issued on March 28, 1986. Spacing in the Drinkard Pool and the Wantz-Abo Pool is governed by statewide Rule 15.9. However, in all of these pools, the applicable rules provide for 40-acre units, with wells located at least 330 feet from a unit outer boundary. This location is unorthodox because the bottom-hole location will be less than 330 feet from the northern and eastern unit boundaries.

Your application has been duly filed under the provisions of Division Rules 15.13 and 4.12.A(2).

It is our understanding that you are seeking this location for engineering reasons, in order to efficiently drain the reserves in these reservoirs underlying the SW/4 of Section 15. It is further understood notice of this application to offsetting operators or owners is not required due to common ownership.

Pursuant to the authority conferred by Division Rule 15.13.B, the above-described unorthodox location is hereby approved PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that nothing in this Order shall authorize the simultaneous dedication of any of the units hereby established to both a gas well and an oil well in the same formation in any one of the formations named herein.

This approval is subject to your being in compliance with all other applicable Division rules, including, but not limited to Division Rule 5.9.

Jurisdiction of this case is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark E. Fesmire". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark E. Fesmire, P.E.  
Acting Director

MEF/db

cc: New Mexico Oil Conservation Division - Hobbs