

RICHARDSON'S SUMMARIZED CHRONOLOGY

10-17-88: Division adopted Special Rules for Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool

12-10-49: New Mexico Oil & Gas Lease E-3150

05-26-50: New Mexico Oil & Gas Lease E-3555

12-10-52: New Mexico Oil & Gas Lease E-6714

04-01-68: Federal Oil & Gas Lease NM 4465

10-01-73: Federal Oil & Gas Lease NMNM 019163

12-01-96: Federal Oil & Gas Lease NMNM 097841

12-01-96: Federal Oil & Gas Lease NMNM 097843

12-01-96: Federal Oil & Gas Lease NMNM 097844

12-01-97: Federal Oil & Gas Lease NMNM 099003

04-01-80: Federal Coal Lease NM 28093

07-15-91: New Mexico Coal Lease MC-0078

07-15-91: New Mexico Coal Lease NM-0088

03-01-01: Federal Coal Lease NMNM 99144

01-96: Richardson identifies the West Farmington Prospect as a geologically feasible area to drill natural gas wells. Prospect development begins with researching ownership of oil and gas rights in county, state and federal records and making proposals for leases, farmin agreements and mineral purchases.

Fall-97: Richardson representatives met with BLM and SJCC in Farmington to inform all parties of Richardson's acreage position, drilling program and pipeline gathering system.

08-19-97: SJCC filed BLM application for coal exploration license

9-1-97: Oil & Gas Lease NMNM-99003 (all of Section 30, N/2 Section 31, T30N, R14W)

10-31-97: Richardson comment letter to BLM on proposed amendment to RMP. Richardson protested issuance of coal leases and reiterates to BLM Richardson's coalbed methane ("CBM") drilling program.

4-14-98: BLM Proposed Amendment to Farmington Resources Management Plan ("RMP")

4-07-98: SJCC proposed protocol for mediation

5-22-98: Richardson letter to BLM objecting to issuance of new coal leases and advised BLM that Richardson is actively drilling CBM wells.

9-4-98: BLM (D.C.) decision on Richardson's protest to amended RMP

10-1-98: BLM approves Coal Leasing Area Resources Management Plan.

10-5-98: State BLM Director letter to Richardson (re: plan amendment)

10-30-98: Richardson appeals BLM approval of Coal Leasing Area Resources Management Plan dated 10-1-98.

10-22-99: SJCC underground mine plan approved. (before lease issuance)

12-9-99: Notice in Federal Register of competitive coal lease sale.

1-10-00: Richardson protests coal lease sale due to its ongoing drilling program and the priority of its oil & gas leases.

1-11-00: BLM issues Notice of Coal Lease Sale Cancellation

2-1-00: BLM response to Richardson protest of 1-10-00; advises all reasonable action will be taken to ensure protection of valid existing gas rights during the development of the coal resource: "Protection of valid existing rights is essential in the development of these mineral resources."

2-10-00: Richardson's letter to BLM re: concerning open drill holes

2-11-00: Richardson's letter to BLM Re: concerning proposed coal lease sale.

2-22-00: I.M. 2000-81 Re: conflicts between CBM and coal development

3-07-00: BLM letter to Richardson responding to concerns about coal lease sale.

3-08-00: BLM letter to Richardson concerning on-site inspection of SJCC drill holes

3-30-00 SJCC letter to Richardson re proposed mining operations

5-11-00: Richardson protests BLM holding coal lease sale and again reiterates that it is drilling and producing CBM gas wells into an extensive pipeline system

5-26-00: BLM State Director letter to Richardson. In its reply to Richardson, BLM states "we will only approve new leases or mine plan modifications that won't impede methane production for the next ten years...we encourage rapid development of methane to maximize CBM recovery.

8-30-00: Federal Register notice "preparation of RMP Revisions"

10-3-00: Federal Register notice "announcing coal lease sale"

10-19-00: Richardson letter to BLM: (drilling plans and RMP) submits comments on revision of Farmington RMP and gives a full update of drilling activity through completion of drilling program estimated to be in 2002.

11-1-00: BLM competitive coal lease sale

11-3-00: Richardson representatives met with BLM, SJCC, Dugan in Farmington. Oil and gas operators were directed by BLM to expedite their drilling programs. BLM wants both minerals developed. Discussion of possible incentives to help offset against additional costs to oil and gas operators including" royalty rate reduction, unitize properties in share infrastructure, SJCC to pay for dewatering, SJCC to fund drilling program.

1-4-01: Richardson letter to BLM re: delays in APD approvals. Richardson complains because 13 of its APD's have been pending approval for 5 plus months due to EA issues. Well are located in area that will be mined through.

1-8-01: Richardson letter to BLM (describing drilling plans). Pursuant to a verbal request from BLM, Richardson and Dugan submitted maps showing producing wells, planned wells, existing pipeline systems, As requested, Richardson also listed incentives that would encourage acceleration of development.

1-16-01: BLM letter to Richardson and Dugan (re: expedite development)

1-25-01: BLM meeting with Richardson and SJCC

3-1-01: BLM issues Coal Lease NMNM 99144 (effective date)

3-23-01: BLM meeting (Farmington) with Richardson, Dugan and SJCC

4-24-01: Meeting in Farmington between Richardson and SJCC

6-30-01 & 7-3-01: Richardson filed with BLM four (4) APDs: WF Fed #31-2, WF Fed 30-3, WF Fed #30-4, WF Fed #31-1, (Sections 30, 31, T30N, R14W)

8-31-01: SJCC letter to BLM protesting BLM's approval of Richardson's pending APDs in Deep Lease Area and Deep Lease Extension Area. In its letter, SJCC stated they would also protest infill well location applications.

9-5-01: BLM approved Richardson's APD in coal mine area.

9-11-01: Richardson files NMOCD application for Special "Infill Area" for CBM wells, and learns of SJCC protest of approval of APDs and infill application.

9-14-01: Based upon SJCC's protest, BLM rescinds its approval the Richardson's APDs

9-20-01: BLM (Farmington) rejected SJCC protest and reinstates it approval of the Richardson APDs.

11-13&14-01: NMOCD Hearing on Richardson's application for Special "Infill Area"

12-17-01: BLM State Director upholds BLM (Farmington) rejection of SJCC protest to Richardson's APDs

7-6-02: NMOCD Entered Order R-117775 denying SJCC's objection to Richardson's application