

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 2040 South Pacheco Street Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505 (505) 827-7131

February 13, 1998

Certified Mail
Return Receipt Requested

Frank O. Cox 718 Byrd Drive Abilene, TX 79608

United New Mexico Bank-Artesia P.O. Drawer 10 Artesia, NM 88210

Case No. 11943

RE: Application of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for an order requiring Frank
O. Cox to properly plug its McClain Ranch Well No. 1 located in Units M in Section 15,
Township 2 South, Range 28 East, De Baca County, NM, authorizing the Division to
plug said well, and ordering a forfeiture of any plugging bond

United New Mexico Bank-Artesia Acct. No: 5000050936

#### Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is to advise you that the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division has filed the enclosed application seeking a Show Cause Hearing requiring Frank O. Cox and other interested parties to appear and show cause why the above-referenced well should not be ordered plugged and abandoned.

This application has been set for hearing before an Examiner of the Oil Conservation Division on March 5, 1998. You are not required to attend this hearing, but as an owner of an interest that may be affected by an order issued in this case, you may appear and present testimony. Failure to appear at that time and become a party of record will preclude you from challenging the matter at a later date.

Parties appearing in cases have been requested by the Division (Memorandum 2-90--- Enclosed) to file a Prehearing Statement substantially in the form prescribed by the Division. Prehearing

statements should be filed by 4:00 o'clock p.m. on the Friday before a scheduled hearing.

Very truly yours,

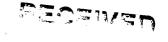
RAND CARROLL

ATTORNEY FOR THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

**Enclosures** 

c: Ray Smith, OCD Artesia

Tim Gum, OCD Artesia District Supervisor



# STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION Oil Conservation Division

APPLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION THROUGH THE SUPERVISOR OF DISTRICT II FOR AN ORDER REQUIRING FRANK O. COX TO PROPERLY PLUG ITS MCCLAIN RANCH WELL NO. 1 LOCATED IN UNIT M OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 28 EAST, DE BACA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION TO PLUG SAID WELL, AND ORDERING A FORFEITURE OF THE PLUGGING BOND, IF ANY.

CASE NO.	CASE	NO.	
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#### APPLICATION FOR PLUGGING AND FORFEITURE OF BOND

- 1. Frank O. Cox (the "Operator") is the operator of a well, the McClain Ranch Well No.

  1, located in Unit M of Section 15, Township 2 South, Range 28 East, De Baca County, New Mexico.
- 2. Operator has posted a cash bond in the amount of \$7,500 for said well in compliance with Section 70-2-14 NMSA 1978 and Rule 101 of the Rules and Regulations of the Oil Conservation Division, which bond is conditioned upon compliance with the statutes of the State of New Mexico and the Rules and Regulations of the Division with respect to the proper plugging and abandonment of the well operated by Operator. The cash bond is deposited with United New Mexico Bank-Artesia, Account No. 5000050936.
- 3. The subject wells have not produced hydrocarbon or carbon dioxide substance or have otherwise been inactive for more than one year or are no longer usable for beneficial purposes and no permit for temporary abandonment has been requested by the Operator and approved by the Division.

- 4. By virtue of the failure to use the wells for beneficial purposes or to have approved current temporary abandonment permits, the subject wells are presumed to have been abandoned and are required to be plugged.
- 5. By authority of Section 70-2-14 NMSA 1978, the Rules and Regulations of the Division require wells which are inactive for more than one year or are no longer usable for beneficial purposes to be properly plugged.
- 6. Demand has been made or attempted to be made upon the Operator to either place the subject wells to beneficial use, obtain approval for temporary abandonment or properly plug and abandon the same and the Operator has failed to do so.

WHEREFORE, the Supervisor of District II of the Oil Conservation Division applies to the Director to enter an order:

- A. Determining whether or not the wells should be plugged in accordance with a Division-approved plugging program.
- B. Upon a determination that said wells should be plugged, directing Operator to plug said wells.
- C. Further ordering that if Operator fails to plug and abandon said wells as ordered by the Director, that the Division be authorized:
  - i. to plug said wells;
  - ii. to declare forfeit on said bond, if any, and to take such action to foreclose on said bond, and

iii. to recover from the Operator any costs of plugging said wells in excess of the amount of the bond, if any.

D. For such other and further relief as the Division deems just and proper, including the assessment of fines.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

RAND CARROLL

Legal Counsel

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division

2040 South Pacheco

Santa Fe, NM 87505

(505) 827-8156



#### STATE OF NEW MEXICO

#### ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

GARREY CARRUTHERS

POST OFFICE BOX 2088
- STATE LAND PERIOR BUILDING
- SANTATE NEW MEXICO B7504
(505)827-5800

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#### MEMORANDUM

TO:

All Parties Appearing Before OCD Examiners or the

Commission

FROM:

William J. LeMay, Director ()

SUBJECT:

Prehearing Statement to be Filed Prior to Hearing

DATE:

April 30, 1990

In order to improve the management of hearing dockets before Oil Conservation Division examiners and the Oil Conservation Commission, parties appearing in any cases are hereby requested to file a PREHEARING STATEMENT substantially in the form attached to this memorandum by 4:00 p.m. on the Friday before a scheduled hearing beginning with the Docket set for May 30, 1990. The statements should be filed by the attorney who will be representing the party at the hearing. Two copies should be provided for examiner hearings and four copies for Commission hearings with an additional copy provided to the reporter on the day of the hearing. The statement must be served on any party who has entered an appearance pursuant to Rule 1208.

There are several benefits to be derived from the statements. First the examiner or Commission will be able to anticipate the approximate length of a case in order to schedule the court reporter and plan their own schedules. Hopefully it will also enable parties to better determine when they can expect their case to be heard. By identifying the issues and evidence in advance, the examiners and the parties will be better prepared for the hearings. Changes in witnesses and exhibits will normally be allowed.

Parties subject to this memorandum include applicants and any other party planning to appear either in opposition or support of an application. Applicants should include in the notice required under Division Rules a statement that a prehearing statement is required by any person planning to appear and that anyone wishing to receive other parties' prehearing statements or pleadings must file an entry of appearance.

If any party in a case fails to file a prehearing statement the examiner or the Commission reserves the right to make such adjustments to the docket as are appropriate in a given circumstance, such as moving the case to the end of the docket after all cases in which parties have filed their statements. Because this procedure is intended to improve the hearing process, it is hoped that the high level of support and cooperation normally shown in OCD and OCC proceedings will continue.

## STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

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

name, address, phone and

contact person

CASE NO.

APPLICATION OF

#### PRE-HEARING STATEMENT

This prehearing statement is	
as required by the Oil Conservation	Division.
APPEARA	NCES OF PARTIES
APPLICANT	ATTORNEY
name, address, phone and contact person	
OPPOSITION OR OTHER PARTY	ATTORNEY
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#### STATEMENT OF CASE

APPLICANT

(Please make a concise statement of what is being sought with this application and the reasons therefore.)

### OPPOSITION OR OTHER PARTY

(Please make a concise statement of the basis for opposing this application or otherwise state the position of the party filing this statement.)

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#### PROPOSED EVIDENCE

#### APPLICANT

WITNESSES (Name and expertise) EST. TIME

EXHIBITS

#### **OPPOSITION**

WITNESSES (Name and expertise) EST. TIME EXHIBITS

#### PROCEDURAL MATTERS

(Please identify any procedural matters which need to be resolved prior to the hearing)

Signature