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

APPLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION THROUGH THE SUPERVISOR OF DISTRICT II FOR AN ORDER REQUIRING RAULT PETROLEUM CORPORATION TO PROPERLY PLUG FOUR WELLS LOCATED IN LINCOLN, DE BACA, AND CHAVES COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO, AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION TO PLUG THESE WELLS, AND ORDERING A FORFEITURE OF THE PLUGGING BOND.

CASE NO. 12280

## MEAU(例) APPLICATION FOR PLUGGING AND FORFEITURE OF BOND

1. Rault Petroleum Corporation (the "Operator") is the operator of four wells: (i) the Armstrong State Well No. 1, located in Unit J, Section 2, Township 3 South, Range 19 East, Lincoln County, (ii) the Mark W. Isler Well No. 1, located in Unit M, Section 33, Township 3 South, Range 25 East, DeBaca County, (iii) the Ridge State Well No. 1, located in Unit G, Section 24, Township 1 North, Range 20 East, DeBaca County, and (iv) Union State Well No. 1, located in Unit F, Section 24, Township 8 South, Range 27 East, Chaves County.

2. Operator has posted a surety bond in the amount of \$50,000 for these wells in compliance with Section 70-2-14, NMSA 1978, and Division Rule 101, which bond is conditioned upon compliance with New Mexico statutes and Division Rules with respect to the proper plugging and abandonment of the wells operated by Operator. United States Fire Insurance Company is surety on the bond, Bond No.610 086729 6.

- 3. These wells (i) have not produced hydrocarbon or carbon dioxide substance or have otherwise been inactive for more than one year, or (ii) 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, these wells are presumed to have been abandoned and are required to be plugged.
- 5. By authority of Section 70-2-14 NMSA 1978, Divison Rules 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 wells to beneficial use, obtain approval for temporary abandonment or properly plug and abandon the wells and the Operator has failed to do so.

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

- A. Requiring the Operator to plug the wells in accordance with a Division-approved plugging program.
- B. If the Operator fails to plug and abandon the wells as ordered by the Director, authorizing the Director:
  - i. to plug the wells;
  - ii. to declare forfeiture of the bond, if any, and to take such action to

foreclose on the bond, and

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

D. For such other relief as the Division deems just and proper.

RESPACTFULLY SUBMITTED,

RAND CARROLL

Legal Counsel

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division

2040 South Pacheco Santa Fe, NM 87505 (505) 827-8156