

**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:**

**CASE NO. 11015  
Order No. R-10155**

**APPLICATION OF ARMSTRONG ENERGY  
CORPORATION FOR AN UNORTHODOX OIL  
WELL LOCATION, LEA COUNTY, NEW  
MEXICO.**

**ORDER OF THE DIVISION**

**BY THE DIVISION:**

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on July 7, 1994, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 20th day of July, 1994, 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, Armstrong Energy Corporation, seeks authorization to drill its Mobil Lea State Well No. 6 at an unorthodox oil well location 2590 feet from the North line and 1980 feet from the West line (Unit F) of Section 2, Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Northeast Lea-Delaware Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.
- (3) The applicant proposes to dedicate the SE/4 NW/4 of Section 2 to the above-described well forming a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit for said pool.
- (4) The geologic evidence presented by the applicant indicates that the Delaware producing section within this area is comprised of four separate sand intervals. The primary and secondary targets within the subject well, respectively, are the third and first sand intervals.

(5) The geologic evidence further indicates that a well at the proposed unorthodox location should encounter an area of thicker gross and net sand development within the third sand interval than a well drilled at a standard well location thereon, thereby increasing the likelihood of obtaining commercial oil production.

(6) Due to the projected rapid thinning of pay sand within the third sand interval to the north of the proposed unorthodox location, drilling a well at a standard well location presents considerable geologic risk.

(7) The affected offset acreage, being the NE/4 SW/4 of Section 2, is owned and operated by Armstrong Energy Corporation.

(8) No other offset operator and/or interest owner appeared at the hearing in opposition to the application.

(9) Approval of the subject application will afford the applicant the opportunity to produce its just and equitable share of the oil in the affected pool, will prevent the economic loss caused by the drilling of unnecessary wells, avoid the augmentation of risk arising from the drilling of an excessive number of wells and will otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

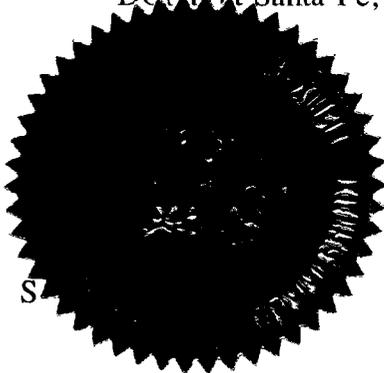
**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) The applicant, Armstrong Energy Corporation, is hereby authorized to drill its Mobil Lea State Well No. 6 at an unorthodox oil well location 2590 feet from the North line and 1980 feet from the West line (Unit F) of Section 2, Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Northeast Lea-Delaware Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

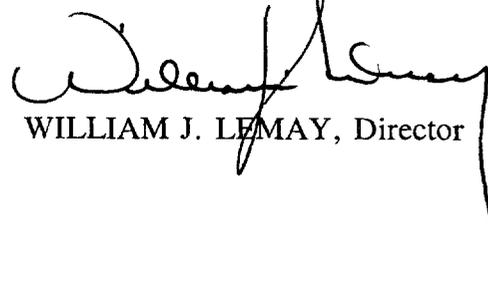
(2) The SE/4 NW/4 of Section 2 shall be dedicated to the above-described well forming a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit for said pool.

(3) Jurisdiction of this cause is hereby 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

  
WILLIAM J. LEMAY, Director