

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 ("DIVISION") ON ITS OWN MOTION TO PERMIT THE OPERATOR, W. R. WEBB, AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE FEE WELL NO. 1 (API NO. 30-045-09996) LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 600 FEET FROM THE NORTH LINE AND 1000 FEET FROM THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, NMPM, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO SHOULD NOT BE PLUGGED AND ABANDONED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DIVISION-APPROVED PLUGGING PROGRAM.

CASE NO. 11205
ORDER NO. R-10326

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on February 16, 1995, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Michael E. Stogner.

NOW, on this 7th day of March, 1995, the Division Director, having considered 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 witness in this matter, Johnny Robinson, Deputy Oil and Gas Inspector for the Division, testified via telephone from the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division District Office in Aztec, New Mexico.
- (3) W. R. Webb of Hollywood, California, who evidently did business through George F. Bruington, an attorney in Aztec, New Mexico, was the last known owner and operator of the Fee Well No. 1, (API No. 30-045-09996) located approximately 600 feet from the North line and 1000 feet from the West line (Lot 4/Unit D) of Section 6, Township 30 North, Range 11 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico.
- (4) On January 2, 1991, a Division Inspector discovered the subject well "uncapped" with 5-inch casing at ground level.
- (5) The details of this well's history are somewhat vague. There is evidence available however to indicate it was drilled in late 1934 and early 1935 to a total depth of approximately

1485 feet and that the wellbore was cased with 830 feet of 8-1/4 inch casing. There are further indications that an attempt to plug the well occurred in late 1938.

(6) Evidence available indicates this well may have never been bonded. In any event the subject well is not currently covered by a bond.

(7) Division attempts to reach W. R. Webb or his representatives or successors have been unsuccessful.

(8) No interested parties appeared at the hearing, either in support or in opposition to this matter.

(9) The current condition of said well and its location to several residential dwellings are such that if left unattended could be a potential hazard to life and property. Further, if action is not taken to properly plug and abandon said well, waste may occur, correlative rights may be violated, and/or fresh waters may be contaminated.

(10) The W. R. Webb Fee Well No. 1, as described above, should be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a program approved by the Aztec District Office of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division as soon as possible.


IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) The supervisor of the Division's Aztec District Office is hereby authorized to direct the commencement of plugging operations on the Fee Well No. 1, located approximately 600 feet from the North line and 1000 feet from the West line (Lot 4/Unit D) of Section 6, Township 30 North, Range 11 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico.

(2) Jurisdiction of this cause is 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

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