

*Entered November 12, 1963
C.S.P.*

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION
COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR
THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE No. 2910
Order No. R-2589
NOMENCLATURE

APPLICATION OF BIG (6) DRILLING COMPANY
FOR EXTENSION OF AN EXISTING OIL POOL
AND SPECIAL POOL RULES, LEA COUNTY, NEW
MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 o'clock a.m. on October 18, 1963, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner duly appointed by the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," in accordance with Rule 1214 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

NOW, on this 30th day of October, 1963, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the application, the evidence adduced, and the recommendations of the Examiner, Daniel S. Nutter, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That the applicant, Big (6) Drilling Company, seeks extension of the horizontal limits of the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool to comprise the W/2 of Section 5, all of Section 6, and the N/2 of Section 7, Township 19 South, Range 35 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico.

(3) That the applicant also seeks the promulgation of special rules and regulations governing said pool, including provisions for 80-acre spacing units comprising any two contiguous 40-acre tracts, and for fixed well locations.

(4) That in order to prevent the economic loss caused by the drilling of unnecessary wells, to avoid the augmentation of risk caused from the drilling of an excessive number of wells, to prevent reduced recovery which might result from the drilling of too few wells, and to otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights, temporary special rules and regulations providing for 80-acre spacing units should be promulgated for the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool.

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(5) That in order to encourage the orderly development of the subject pool, the temporary special rules and regulations should provide for 80-acre spacing units comprising the N/2, S/2, E/2, or W/2 of a single governmental quarter section; that due to the configuration of leases, the diversity of ownership, and the locations of wells previously drilled in the SW/4 and W/2 SE/4 of Section 6, Township 19 South, Range 35 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, the operators in said area should be permitted to dedicate to wells within said area any two quarter-quarter sections contiguous by a common bordering side and lying wholly within said area.

(6) That the temporary special rules and regulations should provide for limited well locations in order to assure orderly development of the pool and protect correlative rights.

(7) That the temporary special rules and regulations should be established for a one-year period in order to allow the operators in the subject pool to gather reservoir information to establish the area that can be efficiently and economically drained and developed by one well.

(8) That this case should be reopened at an examiner hearing in October, 1964, at which time the operators in the subject pool should appear and show cause why the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool should not be developed on 40-acre spacing units.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the horizontal limits of the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, are hereby extended to include the following-described area:

TOWNSHIP 19 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, NMPM
Section 5: W/2
Section 6: All
Section 7: N/2

(2) That Special Rules and Regulations for the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool are hereby promulgated as follows:

SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR THE
SCHARB-BONE SPRINGS OIL POOL

RULE 1. Each well completed or recompleted in the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool or in the Bone Springs formation within one mile of the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool, and not nearer to or within the limits of another designated Bone Springs oil pool, shall be spaced, drilled, operated, and produced in accordance with the Special Rules and Regulations hereinafter set forth.

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RULE 2. Each well completed or recompleted in the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool shall be located on a standard unit containing approximately 80 acres comprising the N/2, S/2, E/2, or W/2 of a single governmental quarter section; provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall be construed as prohibiting the drilling of a well on each of the quarter-quarter sections in the unit.

RULE 3. The Secretary-Director may grant an exception to the requirements of Rule 2 without notice and hearing when an application has been filed for a non-standard unit comprising a single quarter-quarter section or lot. All operators offsetting the proposed non-standard unit shall be notified of the application by registered or certified mail, and the application shall state that such notice has been furnished. The Secretary-Director may approve the application upon receipt of written waivers from all offset operators or if no offset operator has entered an objection to the formation of the non-standard unit within 30 days after the Secretary-Director has received the application.

RULE 4. The first well drilled on every standard or non-standard unit in the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool shall be located in the NE/4 or SW/4 of a governmental quarter section. All wells shall be located within 200 feet of the center of a governmental quarter-quarter section.

RULE 5. The Secretary-Director may grant an exception to the footage requirements of Rule 4 without notice and hearing when an application has been filed for an unorthodox location necessitated by topographical conditions or the recompletion of a well previously drilled to another horizon, provided the well will be located no nearer than 330 feet to the outer boundary of the unit. All operators offsetting the proposed unorthodox location shall be notified of the application by registered or certified mail, and the application shall state that such notice has been furnished. The Secretary-Director may approve the application upon receipt of written waivers from all offset operators or if no offset operator has entered an objection to the unorthodox location within 20 days after the Secretary-Director has received the application.

RULE 6. A standard proration unit (79 through 81 acres) in the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool shall be assigned an 80-acre proportional factor of 5.67 for allowable purposes, and in the event there is more than one well on an 80-acre proration unit, the operator may produce the allowable assigned to the unit from the wells on the unit in any proportion.

The allowable assigned to a non-standard proration unit shall bear the same ratio to a standard allowable in the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool as the acreage in such non-standard unit bears to 80 acres.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:


- (1) That an exception is hereby granted to the Special Rules and Regulations for the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool to permit the operators in the SW/4 and W/2 SE/4 of Section 6, Township 19 South, Range 35 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, to dedicate to existing and future wells within said area any two quarter-quarter sections contiguous by a common bordering side and lying wholly within said area.
- (2) That any well drilling to or completed in the Bone Springs formation within the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool or within one mile of the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool on or before October 9, 1963, that will not comply with the well location requirements of Rule 4 is hereby granted an exception to the requirements of said rule. The operator of any such well shall notify the Hobbs District Office of the Commission in writing of the name and location of the well on or before November 15, 1963.
- (3) That any operator desiring to dedicate 80 acres to a well presently drilling to or completed in the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool shall file a new Form C-128 with the Commission on or before November 15, 1963.
- (4) That this case shall be reopened at an examiner hearing in October, 1964, at which time the operators in the subject pool may appear and show cause why the Scharb-Bone Springs Oil Pool should not be developed on 40-acre spacing units.
- (5) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION


JACK M. CAMPBELL, Chairman


E. S. WALKER, Member


A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary

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