

*Entered March 20, 1967
C.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. 3544
Order No. R-3212
NOMENCLATURE

APPLICATION OF PERRY R. BASS,
CITIES SERVICE OIL COMPANY,
AGENT, FOR CREATION OF A GAS
POOL AND SPECIAL POOL RULES,
EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on March 22, 1967,
at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Elvis A. Utz.

NOW, on this 30th day of March, 1967, the Commission, a
quorum being present, having considered the testimony, the record,
and the recommendations of the Examiner, 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, Perry R. Bass, through his agent,
Cities Service Oil Company, seeks the creation of a new gas pool
for Morrow production and the promulgation of special rules and
regulations governing said pool, including a provision for 640-
acre spacing units.

(3) That the Perry R. Bass Big Eddy Unit Well No. 17,
located in Unit B of Section 2, Township 21 South, Range 29 East,
NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico, has discovered a separate common
source of supply which should be designated the Tower Hill-
Morrow Gas Pool; that the vertical limits of said pool should be

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the Morrow zone of the Pennsylvanian formation; and that the horizontal limits of said pool should be all of Lots 1 through 16, Section 2, Township 21 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

(4) That in order to prevent the economic loss caused by the drilling of unnecessary wells, to avoid the augmentation of risk arising 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 640-acre spacing units should be promulgated for the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool.

(5) 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.

(6) That the special rules and regulations should be established for a temporary period to expire one year from the date that a pipeline connection is first obtained for a well in the pool; that during this temporary period all operators in the subject pool should gather all available information relative to drainage and recoverable reserves.

(7) That this case should be reopened at an examiner hearing one year from the date that a pipeline connection is first obtained for a well in the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool, at which time the operators in the subject pool should appear and show cause why the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool should not be developed on 320-acre spacing units.

(8) That the first operator to obtain a pipeline connection for a well in the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool should notify the Commission in writing of such fact, whereupon the Commission should notify the operator of the time for reopening this case.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That a new pool in Eddy County, New Mexico, classified as a gas pool for Morrow production, is hereby created and designated the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool, with vertical limits comprising the Morrow zone of the Pennsylvanian formation, and horizontal limits comprising all of Lots 1 through 16, Section 2, Township 21 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

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(2) That temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool are hereby promulgated as follows:

SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR THE
TOWER HILL-MORROW GAS POOL

RULE 1. Each well completed or recompleted in the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool or in the Morrow zone of the Pennsylvanian formation within one mile thereof, and not nearer to or within the limits of another designated Morrow gas pool, shall be spaced, drilled, operated, and produced in accordance with the Special Rules and Regulations hereinafter set forth.

RULE 2. Each well shall be located on a standard unit containing 640 acres, more or less, consisting of a governmental section.

RULE 3. 1. The District Supervisor of the appropriate district office of the Commission shall have authority to approve a non-standard unit as an exception to the requirements of Rule 2 without notice and hearing when the unorthodox size or shape of the unit is necessitated by the variation in the legal subdivision of the United States Public Land Surveys and the non-standard unit is not less than 75% nor more than 125% of a standard unit.

2. The District Supervisor of the appropriate district office of the Commission may approve the non-standard unit by:

(a) Accepting a plat showing the proposed non-standard unit and the acreage to be dedicated to the non-standard unit, and

(b) Assigning an allowable to the non-standard unit.

3. The Secretary-Director of the Commission 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 and the unorthodox size or shape of the unit is necessitated by a variation in the legal subdivision of the United States Public Land Surveys, or the following facts exist and the following provisions are complied with:

(a) The non-standard unit consists of quarter-quarter sections or lots that are contiguous by a common bordering side.

- (b) The non-standard unit lies wholly within a governmental section and contains less acreage than a standard unit.
- (c) The applicant presents written consent in the form of waivers from all offset operators and from all operators owning interests in the section in which the non-standard unit is situated and which acreage is not included in said non-standard unit.
- (d) In lieu of paragraph (c) of this rule, the applicant may furnish proof of the fact that all of the aforesaid operators were notified by registered or certified mail of his intent to form such non-standard unit. The Secretary-Director may approve the application if no such operator has entered an objection to the formation of such non-standard unit within 30 days after the Secretary-Director has received the application.

RULE 4. Each well on a standard unit shall be located no nearer than 1650 feet to the outer boundary of the unit and no nearer than 330 feet to any governmental quarter-quarter section line.

RULE 5. The Secretary-Director may grant an exception to the 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. All operators offsetting the proposed 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 operators offsetting the proposed location or if no objection to the unorthodox location has been entered within 20 days after the Secretary-Director has received the application.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

(1) That the locations of all wells presently drilling to or completed in the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool or in the Morrow zone of the Pennsylvanian formation within one mile thereof are hereby approved; that the operator of any well having an unorthodox location shall notify the Artesia District Office of the Commission in writing of the name and location of the well on or before April 15, 1967.

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(2) That any operator desiring to dedicate acreage pursuant to Rule 2 to a well presently drilling to or completed in the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool shall file a new Form C-102 with the Commission on or before April 15, 1967.

(3) That this case shall be reopened at an examiner hearing one year from the date that a pipeline connection is first obtained for a well in the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool, at which time the operators in the subject pool may appear and show cause why the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool should not be developed on 320-acre spacing units.

(4) That the first operator to obtain a pipeline connection for a well in the Tower Hill-Morrow Gas Pool shall notify the Commission in writing of such fact, whereupon the Commission shall notify the operator of the time for reopening this case.


(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



DAVID F. CARGO, Chairman



GUYTON B. HAYS, Member



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

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