

Entered January 24 1978
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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. 6132
Order No. R-5632

APPLICATION OF CONTINENTAL OIL COMPANY
FOR A WATERFLOOD PROJECT, LEA COUNTY,
NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on January 18, 1978, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Richard L. Stamets.

NOW, on this 24th day of January, 1978, 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, Continental Oil Company, seeks authority to institute a waterflood project on its Warren Unit Area, Warren-McKee Pool, by the injection of water into the McKee formation through 4 injection wells in Sections 20 and 29, Township 20 South, Range 38 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico.

(3) That the wells in the project area are in an advanced state of depletion and should properly be classified as "stripper" wells.

(4) That the proposed waterflood project should result in the recovery of otherwise unrecoverable oil, thereby preventing waste.

(5) That the operator should take all steps necessary, including limiting injection pressure, to ensure that the injected water enters only the proposed injection interval and is not permitted to escape to other formations or onto the surface from injection, production, or plugged and abandoned wells.

(6) That the subject application should be approved and the project should be governed by the provisions of Rules 701, 702, and 703 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

Case No. 6132
Order No. R-5632

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the applicant, Continental Oil Company, is hereby authorized to institute a waterflood project on its Warren Unit Area, Warren-McKee Pool, by the injection of water into the McKee formation through the following-described wells in Township 20 South, Range 38 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico:

<u>Warren Unit Well No.</u>	<u>Unit Letter</u>	<u>Section</u>
22	K	29
23	G	29
25	O	29
27	O	20

(2) That injection into each of said wells shall be through internally coated tubing, set in a packer which shall be located as near as practicable to the uppermost perforation; that the casing-tubing annulus of each injection well shall be tested for leaks, be loaded with an inert fluid and the annulus shall be allowed to remain open or be equipped with an approved pressure gauge or attention-attracting leak detection device, and that the injection wells or system shall be equipped in such a manner as to limit wellhead injection pressure to no more than 1800 psi.

(3) That the Secretary-Director of the Commission may administratively authorize a pressure limitation in excess of 1800 psi upon a showing by the operator that such higher pressure will not result in fracturing of the confining strata.

(4) That the wells within the project area shall be equipped with risers or in another acceptable manner such as to facilitate the periodic testing of the bradenhead for pressure or fluid production.

(5) That the operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Commission's Hobbs district office of the failure of the tubing or packer in any of said injection wells, the leakage of water or oil from around any producing well, or the leakage of water or oil from any plugged and abandoned well within the project area and shall take such timely steps as may be necessary or required to correct such failure or leakage.

(6) That the subject waterflood project is hereby designated the Warren Unit Area Waterflood Project and shall be governed by the provisions of Rules 701, 702, and 703 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

(7) That monthly progress reports of the waterflood project herein authorized shall be submitted to the Commission in accordance with Rules 704 and 1115 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

-3-


Case No. 6132
Order No. R-5632

(8) 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


PHIL R. LUCERO, Chairman


EMERY C. ARNOLD, Member


JOE D. RAMEY, Member & Secretary

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