

Entered March 2, 1979
JHR

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

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

CASE NO. 6461
Order No. R-5941

APPLICATION OF THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION TO PERMIT
MAYOR EDDIE ARMENTA, THE VILLAGE OF JEMEZ SPRINGS, AND ALL
OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE
JEMEZ WELL NO. 1 LOCATED IN UNIT A OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP
18 NORTH, RANGE 2 EAST, SANDOVAL COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, SHOULD
NOT BE PLUGGED AND ABANDONED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DIVISION-
APPROVED PLUGGING PROGRAM.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on February 23,
1979, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before the Oil Conservation
Commission of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the
"Commission."

NOW, on this 2nd day of March, 1979, the Commission, a
quorum being present, having considered the testimony presented
and the exhibits received at said hearing, 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 Jemez Well No. 1 located in Unit A of Section
26, Township 18 North, Range 2 East, Sandoval County, New Mexico,
was spudded on January 3, 1979, and was drilled to a total depth
of 824 feet.
- (3) That the operator of record of said well is Eddie
Armenta, Mayor of the Village of Jemez Springs.
- (4) That said well encountered waters in excess of 150°F
at a depth of approximately 80-90 feet and another naturally
heated water at a depth of approximately 500 feet.

-2-

Case No. 6461
Order No. R-5941

(5) That 7-inch casing was set in said well at approximately 120 feet.

(6) That the cementing of said 7-inch casing was inadequate to prevent waters from escaping from the strata in which they are found into other strata and to the surface.

(7) That water from the 80-90 foot zone is flowing from the well to the surface of the ground outside the 7-inch casing at a rate of approximately 1000 gallons per hour.

(8) That said waters flowing to the surface of the ground are of sufficient temperature to be considered a geothermal resource.

(9) That allowing said water to flow unrestricted from the well without being utilized constitutes waste of a geothermal resource.

(10) That allowing said well to flow unrestricted could result in injury to neighboring properties.

(11) That caving has occurred both within the wellbore and around the 7-inch casing, creating a hole and resultant pond at the wellhead of sufficient size to be a hazard to human life and health.

(12) That said pond should be fenced in a manner sufficient to prevent access by children and livestock and other animals.

(13) That said well should be repaired in such a manner that geothermal resources will be contained within the 7-inch casing.

(14) That if said well cannot be repaired, then said well should be plugged and abandoned in a manner that will confine all waters to the strata in which they are found.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the Mayor Eddie Armenta Jemez Springs Well No. 1, located in Unit A of Section 26, Township 18 North, Range 2 East, Sandoval County, New Mexico, shall be re-entered and repaired in such a manner that geothermal resources are contained within the 7-inch casing.

(2) That the water flow encountered at approximately 500 feet shall be isolated by setting a cement plug across the shoe of the 7-inch casing.

-3-

Case No. 6461

Order No. R-5941

(3) That in the event re-work operations are unsuccessful in containing the geothermal resources inside the 7-inch casing, the well shall be plugged and abandoned in a manner prescribed by the Santa Fe district office of the Oil Conservation Division.

(4) That, so long as the hazardous conditions described in Finding No. 12 above shall prevail, the area surrounding said well shall be fenced in a manner sufficient to prevent access by children and livestock and other animals.

(5) That re-work or plugging and abandonment operations shall be commenced immediately and shall be concluded within 14 days following the date of this order.

(6) That the Santa Fe District Office shall be notified at least 48 hours prior to commencing re-work or plugging and abandonment operations.

(7) 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

ALEX J. ARMIJO, Member


EMERY C. ARNOLD, Member


JOE D. RAMEY, Member & Secretary

S E A L

fd/