Entered October 18, 17-7

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

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

CASE NO. 6640 Order No. R-6143

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION ON ITS OWN MOTION TO PERMIT MILES PRODUCTION COMPANY, NATIONAL SURETY CORPORATION AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE THOMAS DROUGHT WELL NO. 1 LOCATED IN UNIT A OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 6 WEST, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, SHOULD NOT BE PLUGGED AND ABANDONED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DIVISION-APPROVED PLUGGING PROGRAM.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on October 2, 1979, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Richard L. Stamets.

NOW, on this 18th day of October, 1979, the Division Director, 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 Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That Miles Production Company is the owner and operator of the Thomas Drought Well No. 1, located in Unit A of Section 4, Township 15 North, Range 6 West, NMPM, McKinley County, New Mexico.
- (3) That National Surety Corporation is the surety on the Oil Conservation Division plugging bond on which Miles Production Company is principal.
- (4) That the purpose of said bond is to assure the state that the subject well will be properly plugged and abandoned when not capable of commercial production.

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(5) That in order to prevent waste and protect correlative rights said Thomas Drought Well No. 1 should be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a program approved by the Aztec District Office of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on or before February 1, 1980, or be properly plugged back to the Gallup formation if such well is to be continued on production therefrom.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That Miles Production Company and National Surety Corporation are hereby ordered to plug and abandon the Thomas Drought Well No. 1, located in Unit A of Section 4, Township 15 North, Range 6 West, NMPM, McKinley County, New Mexico, or in the alternative, properly plug such well back to the Gallup formation if such well is to be continued on production status therefrom on or before February 1, 1980.
- (2) That Miles Production Company and National Surety Corporation, prior to plugging and abandoning or plugging back the above-described well, shall obtain from the Aztec office of the Division, a Division-approved program for said plugging and abandoning or plugging back, and shall notify said Aztec office of the date and hour said work is to be commenced whereupon the Division may, at its option, witness such work.
- (3) That 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 herein-above designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO QIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

JOE D. RAMEY

Director

SEAL