

Entered September 10, 1980
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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. 6988
Order No. R-6453

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION ON ITS OWN MOTION TO PERMIT BENNETT PETROLEUM CORPORATION, THE TRAVELERS INDEMNITY COMPANY, AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE PHELPS DODGE WELL NO. 2 IN UNIT J OF SECTION 4 AND WELLS NOS. 3 IN UNIT P AND 3Y IN UNIT I OF SECTION 9, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 21 EAST, AND NO. 5 IN UNIT P OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 20 EAST, COLFAX COUNTY, 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 August 6, 1980, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this 10th day of September, 1980, 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 Bennett Petroleum Corporation is the owner and operator of the Phelps Dodge Well No. 2 in Unit J of Section 4 and Wells Nos. 3 in Unit P and 3Y in Unit I of Section 9, all in Township 28 North, Range 21 East, and No. 5 in Unit P of Section 24, Township 28 North, Range 20 East, Colfax County, New Mexico.

(3) That The Travelers Indemnity Company is the surety on the Oil Conservation Division plugging bond on which Bennett Petroleum Corporation is principal.

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(4) That the purpose of said bond is to assure the state that the subject wells will be properly plugged and abandoned when not capable of commercial production.

(5) That in order to prevent waste and protect correlative rights said above-described wells should be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a program approved by the Santa Fe District Office of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on or before October 15, 1980, or the wells should be returned to active drilling status or placed on production.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That Bennett Petroleum Corporation and The Travelers Indemnity Company are hereby ordered to plug and abandon the Phelps Dodge Well No. 2 in Unit J of Section 4 and Wells Nos. 3 in Unit P and 3Y in Unit I of Section 9, all in Township 28 North, Range 21 East, and No. 5 in Unit P of Section 24, Township 28 North, Range 20 East, NMPM, Colfax County, New Mexico, or in the alternative, to return the wells to active drilling status or place the wells on production on or before October 15, 1980.

(2) That Bennett Petroleum Corporation and The Travelers Indemnity Company, prior to plugging and abandoning the above-described wells, shall obtain from the Santa Fe office of the Division, a Division-approved program for said plugging and abandoning, and shall notify said Santa Fe 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
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION


JOE D. RAMEY
Director

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