

Entered May 20, 1981  
JLR

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. 7240  
Order No. R-6688

APPLICATION OF EL PASO NATURAL GAS  
COMPANY FOR DOWNHOLE COMMINGLING,  
SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on May 6, 1981,  
at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Richard L. Stamets.

NOW, on this 20th day of May, 1981, 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 the applicant, El Paso Natural Gas Company, is  
the owner and operator of the Sunray B Well No. 6 located in  
Unit G of Section 1, Township 30 North, Range 10 West, NMPM,  
San Juan County, New Mexico.

(3) That the applicant seeks authority to commingle  
Fruitland and Blanco-Pictured Cliffs production within the  
wellbore of the above-described well.

(4) That from the Fruitland zone, the subject well is  
expected to be capable of rapidly declining production only.

(5) That from the Blanco-Pictured Cliffs zone, the subject  
well is capable of low marginal production only.

(6) That the initial bottom-hole pressure in the Fruitland  
zone is expected to exceed a figure three times that of the  
Pictured Cliffs zone.

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(7) That the Division has previously found that when bottom-hole pressures of zones to be commingled differ by a factor greater than two, potentially damaging crossflow between zones could occur if the well should be shut in.

(8) That there is no evidence available in the immediate area of the subject well to indicate how quickly the Fruitland pressure may be expected to decline.

(9) That there is no mechanism to assure the Division that said Sunray B Well No. 6 would not be shut-in following completion of the proposed downhole commingling.

(10) That to avoid the potential for waste the subject application should be denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the application of El Paso Natural Gas Company to commingle Fruitland and Blanco-Pictured Cliffs production within the wellbore of the Sunray B Well No. 6, located in Unit G of Section 1, Township 30 North, Range 10 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico, is hereby denied.

(2) 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 hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION



JOE D. RAMEY  
Director

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