

Entered June 28, 1984
JAR

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. 8232
Order No. R-7485-A

APPLICATION OF AMERIND OIL COMPANY
FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, LEA COUNTY,
NEW MEXICO

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8 a.m. on June 20, 1984, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Michael E. Stogner.

NOW, on this 28th day of June, 1984, 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 Division Case No. 8231 was consolidated with this case at the time of hearing for the purpose of testimony.

(3) That the applicant, Amerind Oil Company, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the N/2 SW/4 of Section 21, Township 16 South, Range 37 East, NMPM, Northeast Lovington-Pennsylvanian Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to its Higgins Trust, Inc. Well No. 1 located at a standard location 1980 feet from the South line and 510 feet from the West line of said Section 21.

(4) That the N/2 SW/4 of said Section 21 is a standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration unit for the Northeast Lovington-Pennsylvanian Pool.

(5) That Division Order Nos. R-7484 and R-7485, both dated March 29, 1984, authorized Amerind Oil Company to pool all mineral interests, whatever they might be, in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the E/2 SW/4 and the W/2

SW/4, respectively, forming two standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration units to be dedicated to two wells to be drilled at standard locations thereon.

(6) That said Division Orders Nos. R-7484 and R-7485, both dated March 29, 1984, should be rescinded.

(7) That the applicant has the right to drill and has drilled its above described Higgins Trust, Inc. Well No. 1 at said standard location thereon.

(8) That there are interest owners in the N/2 SW/4 of said Section 21 who have not agreed to pool their interests.

(9) That to avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, to protect correlative rights, and to afford to the owner of each interest in said unit the opportunity to recover or receive without unnecessary expense his just and fair share of the oil in said pool, the subject application should be approved by pooling all mineral interests, whatever they may be, within said unit.

(10) That the applicant should be designated the operator of the subject well and unit.

(11) That any non-consenting working interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production.

(12) That any non-consenting working interest owner who does not pay his share of estimated well costs should have withheld from production his share of the reasonable well costs plus an additional 200 percent thereof as a reasonable charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well.

(13) That any non-consenting interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to object to the actual well costs but that actual well costs should be adopted as the reasonable well costs in the absence of such objection.

(14) That following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner who has paid his share of estimated costs should pay to the operator any amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and should receive from the operator any amount that paid estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs.

(15) That \$4,000.00 per month for the drilling and \$400.00 per month while producing should be fixed as reasonable charges

for supervision (combined fixed rates); that the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charges attributable to each non-consenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating the subject well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each non-consenting working interest.

(16) That all proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason should be placed in escrow to be paid to the true owner thereof upon demand and proof of ownership.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That Division Orders Nos. R-7484 and R-7485, both dated March 29, 1984, are hereby rescinded.

(2) That all mineral interests, whatever they may be, in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the N/2 SW/4 of Section 21, Township 16 South, Range 37 East, NMPM, Northeast Lovington-Pennsylvanian Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, are hereby pooled to form a standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration unit to be dedicated to its Higgins Trust, Inc. Well No. 1 located at a standard location 1980 feet from the South line and 510 feet from the West line of said Section 21.

(3) That Amerind Oil Co. is hereby designated the operator of the subject well and unit.

(4) That within 90 days after the effective date of this order, the operator shall furnish the Division and each known working interest owner in the subject unit an itemized schedule of estimated well costs.

(5) That within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him, any non-consenting working interest owner shall have the right to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production, and that any such owner who pays his share of estimated well costs as provided above shall remain liable for operating costs but shall not be liable for risk charges.

(6) That the operator shall furnish the Division and each known working interest owner an itemized schedule of actual well costs within 45 days after entry of this order; that if no objection to the actual well costs is received by the Division

and the Division has not objected within 45 days following receipt of said schedule, the actual well costs shall be the reasonable well costs; provided however, that if there is an objection to actual well costs within said 45-day period the Division will determine reasonable well costs after public notice and hearing.

(7) That within 60 days following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner who has paid his share of estimated costs in advance as provided above shall pay to the operator his pro rata share of the amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and shall receive from the operator his pro rata share of the amount that estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs.

(8) That the operator is hereby authorized to withhold the following costs and charges from production:

- (A) The pro rata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him.
- (B) As a charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well, 200 percent of the pro rata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him.

(9) That the operator shall distribute said costs and charges withheld from production to the parties who advanced the well costs.

(10) That \$4,000.00 per month for the drilling and \$400.00 per month while producing are hereby fixed as reasonable charges for supervision (combined fixed rates); that the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charges attributable to each non-consenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating such well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each non-consenting working interest.

(11) That any unsevered mineral interest shall be considered a seven-eighths (7/8) working interest and a one-eighth (1/8) royalty interest for the purpose of allocating costs and charges under the terms of this order.

(12) That any well costs or charges which are to be paid out of production shall be withheld only from the working interest's share of production, and no costs or charges shall be withheld from production attributable to royalty interests.

(13) That all proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason shall immediately be placed in escrow in Lea County, New Mexico, to be paid to the true owner thereof upon demand and proof of ownership; that the operator shall notify the Division of the name and address of said escrow agent within 30 days from the date of first deposit with said escrow agent.

(14) 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

S E A L