

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. 8743
Order No. R-8077

APPLICATION OF H. L. BROWN, JR.,
FOR SALT WATER DISPOSAL, ROOSEVELT
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8 a.m. on November 6, 1985, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 15th day of November, 1985, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

- (1) Due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) The applicant, H. L. Brown, Jr., is the owner and operator of the Saunders "A" Well No. 1, located 1650 feet from the North and West lines of Section 5, Township 8 South, Range 37 East, NMPM, Bluit San Andres Associated Pool, Roosevelt County, New Mexico.
- (3) The applicant proposes to utilize said well to dispose of produced salt water into the San Andres formation, with injection into the perforated interval from approximately 4030 feet to 4535 feet.
- (4) The injection should be accomplished through 2 3/8-inch plastic lined tubing installed in a packer set at approximately 3950 feet; the casing-tubing annulus should be filled with an inert fluid; and a pressure gauge or approved leak detection device should be attached to the annulus in order to determine leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer.

(5) Prior to commencing injection operations, the casing in the subject well should be pressure-tested throughout the interval from the surface down to the proposed packer setting depth, to assure the integrity of such casing.

(6) The injection well or system should be equipped with a pressure limiting switch or other acceptable device which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to no more than 806 psi.

(7) The Director of the Division should be authorized to administratively approve an increase in the injection pressure upon a proper showing by the operator that such higher pressure will not result in migration of the injected waters from the San Andres formation.

(8) The operator should give advance notification to the supervisor of the Hobbs district office of the Division of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment and of the mechanical integrity pressure test in order that the same may be witnessed.

(9) The operator should take all steps necessary to ensure that the injected water enters only the proposed injection interval and is not permitted to escape to other formations or onto the surface.

(10) Approval of the subject application will prevent the drilling of unnecessary wells and otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) The applicant, H. L. Brown, Jr., is hereby authorized to utilize its Saunders "A" Well No. 1, located 1650 feet from the North and West lines of Section 5, Township 8 South, Range 37 East, NMPM, Bluit San Andres Associated Pool, Roosevelt County, New Mexico, to dispose of produced salt water into the San Andres formation, injection to be accomplished through 2 3/8-inch tubing installed in a packer set at approximately 3950 feet, with injection into the perforated interval from approximately 4030 feet to 4535 feet;

PROVIDED HOWEVER THAT, the tubing shall be plastic-lined; the casing-tubing annulus shall be filled with an inert fluid; and a pressure gauge shall be attached to the annulus or the annulus shall be equipped with an approved leak detection device in order to determine leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer.

-3-

Case No. 8743

Order No. R-8077

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, prior to commencing injection operations, the casing in the subject well shall be pressure-tested to assure the integrity of such casing in a manner that is satisfactory to the supervisor of the Division's district office at Hobbs.

(2) The injection well or system shall be equipped with a pressure limiting switch or other acceptable device which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to no more than 806 psi.

(3) The Director of the Division may authorize an increase in injection pressure upon a proper showing by the operator of said well that such higher pressure will not result in migration of the injected fluid from the San Andres formation.

(4) The operator shall notify the supervisor of the Hobbs district office of the Division in advance of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment and of the mechanical integrity pressure test in order that the same may be witnessed.

(5) The operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Division's Hobbs district office of the failure of the tubing, casing, or packer, in said well or the leakage of water from or around said well and shall take such steps as may be timely and necessary to correct such failure or leakage.

(6) The applicant shall conduct disposal operations and submit monthly reports in accordance with Rules 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 708, and 1120 of the Division Rules and Regulations.

(7) 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



R. L. STAMETS,
Director

S E A L