

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. 9077
Order No. R-8410

APPLICATION OF BTA OIL PRODUCERS FOR
SALT WATER DISPOSAL, LEA COUNTY, NEW
MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on February 18, 1987, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 12th day of March, 1987, 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, BTA Oil Producers, is the owner and operator of the Buckeye B 8601 JV-P Well No. 2, located 1980 feet from the North and East lines (Unit G) of Section 36, Township 17 South, Range 35 East, NMPM, South Double A-Abo Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

(3) The applicant proposes to utilize said well to dispose of produced salt water into the Abo formation, with injection into the open-hole interval from approximately 9,300 feet to 9,580 feet.

(4) The injection should be accomplished through 2 7/8-inch plastic-lined tubing installed in a packer set at approximately 9200 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 1860 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 Abo formation.

(8) The operator should give advance notification to the supervisor of the Division's Hobbs district office 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, BTA Oil Producers, is hereby authorized to utilize its Buckeye B 8601 CV-P Well No. 2, located 1980 feet from the North and East lines (Unit G) of Section 36, Township 17 South, Range 35 East, NMPM, South Double A-Abo Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, to dispose of produced salt water into the Abo formation, injection to be accomplished through 2 7/8-inch tubing installed in a packer set at approximately 9200 feet, with injection into the open-hole interval from approximately 9,300 feet to 9,580 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.

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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 1800 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 Abo formation.

(4) The operator shall notify the supervisor of the Division's Hobbs district office 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.

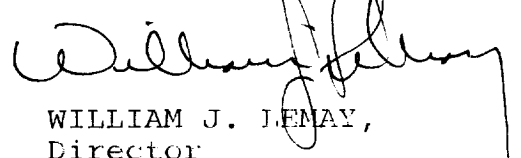
(5) The operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Division's Hobbs district office of the failure of the tubing, casing, or packer in said well or the leakage of water from or around said well and shall take such steps as may be timely and necessary to correct such failure or leakage.

(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


WILLIAM J. LEMAY,
Director

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