

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. 9099  
Order No. R-8426

APPLICATION OF WILLIAM C. RUSSELL FOR AN  
EXCEPTION TO RULE 5(a)2(2) OF DIVISION  
ORDER NO. R-8170, AS AMENDED, SAN JUAN  
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on March 4, 1987, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Michael E. Stogner.

NOW, on this 2nd day of May, 1988, 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) At the time of the hearing Division Case Nos. 9096, 9097, 9098, 9099, 9100, and 9101 were consolidated for the purpose of testimony.

(3) The applicant, William C. Russell, seeks an exception to Rule 5(a)2(2) of the General Rules for the Prorated Gas Pools of New Mexico as promulgated by Division Order No. R-8170, as amended, permitting the application of a full deliverability factor in the formula utilized in determining the allowable for the following two previously approved 160-acre non-standard gas spacing and proration units, both in the Blanco-Mesaverde Pool and located in Section 25, Township 27 North, Range 8 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico:

- a) the NE/4, approved by Division Order No. R-5576-A, dated January 24, 1978, and dedicated to the applicant's Hammond Well No. 41-R located

1490 feet from the North line and 1850 feet from the East line (Unit G) of Section 25; and,

- b) the SE/4, approved by Division Order No. R-5577-A, dated January 24, 1978 and dedicated to the applicant's Hammond Well No. 41-A located 1157 feet from the South line and 1850 feet from the East line (Unit O) of said Section 25.

(4) In utilizing the current formula for calculating gas allocations in the Blanco-Mesaverde Pool as contained in said Order No. R-8170, according to the testimony presented at the hearing there exists an inequity in that the gas allowable assigned to a standard 320-acre proration unit (GPU) containing two wells is greater than the sum of the gas allowables assigned to two adjacent 160-acre non-standard gas proration units of equal deliverability.

(5) The effect of granting the application would be to substitute a deliverability (D) factor in place of the acreage times deliverability (AD) factor contrary to the applicable pool rules and would create other inequities in the pool.

(6) This particular variation of GPU sizes is a common phenomenon in the Blanco-Mesaverde Pool; therefore, a pool-wide rule change would be a more appropriate approach to solving this problem rather than filing exceptions in each case such as this.

(7) Granting this application would also invite numerous applications for similar treatment and would discourage rather than encourage the formation of standard 320-acre GPU's, all of which could disrupt the allocation of gas on an equitable basis in the pool.

(8) This application should therefore be denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) The application of William C. Russell for an exception to Rule 5(a)2(2) of the General Rules for the Prorated Gas Pools of New Mexico as promulgated by Division Order No. R-8170, as amended, permitting the application of the well's deliverability multiplied by one (1.0) in the AD portion of the proration formula for each of the following two previously approved 160-acre non-standard gas spacing and proration units, both in the Blanco-Mesaverde Pool and located in Section 25, Township 27 North, Range 8 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico, is hereby denied.

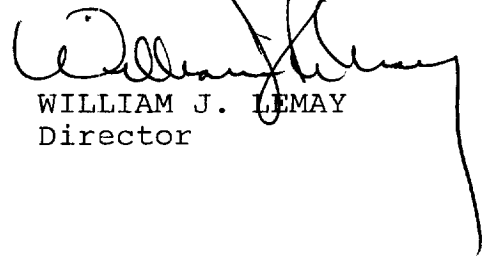
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- a) the NE/4, approved by Division Order No. R-5576-A, dated January 24, 1978, and dedicated to the applicant's Hammond Well No. 41-R located 1490 feet from the North line and 1850 feet from the East line (Unit G) of Section 25; and,
- b) the SE/4, approved by Division Order No. R-5577-A, dated January 24, 1978 and dedicated to the applicant's Hammond Well No. 41-A located 1157 feet from the South line and 1850 feet from the East line (Unit O) of said Section 25.

(2) 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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