

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Deputy Cabinet Secretary

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Division Director  
Oil Conservation Division



Administrative Order WFX-901  
September 6, 2012

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

Under the provisions of Division Order R-5530-E, Chevron U S A, Inc. (OGRID No. 4323) has made application to the Division for permission to add 6 additional injection wells to its Central Vacuum Unit Tertiary CO2 Project located within the Vacuum; Grayburg-San Andres Pool (62180) in Lea County, New Mexico. These wells are being proposed as injection wells into the Transition Zone and Residual Oil Zone within the Unitized interval, San Andres formation, of the Central Vacuum Unit.

**THE DIVISION DIRECTOR FINDS THAT:**

The application has been duly filed under the provisions of 19.15.26.8B NMAC and satisfactory information has been provided that affected parties as defined in said rule have been notified and no objections remain outstanding. The proposed wells are eligible for conversion to injection under the terms of that rule. The applicant has presented satisfactory evidence that all requirements prescribed in 19.15.26.8 NMAC have been met and the operator is in compliance with 19.15.5.9 NMAC.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

Chevron U S A, Inc., as operator, is hereby authorized to inject water, CO2, and recycled produced gas into the following wells for the purpose of tertiary recovery through plastic or fiberglass lined tubing set into packers:

API	Well #	UL	Sec	Twp	N/S	Rng	W/E	Feet	NS	Ft	EW
30-025-40463	258	A	36	17	S	34	E	1005	N	185	E
30-025-40464	259	C	31	17	S	35	E	1019	N	1514	W
30-025-40465	273	H	36	17	S	34	E	2346	N	481	E
30-025-40466	274	E	31	17	S	35	E	2033	N	1187	W
30-025-40468	284	M	31	17	S	35	E	1139	S	631	W
30-025-40469	285	N	31	17	S	35	E	1083	S	1753	W

The approved injection interval for each of these wells is into the San Andres formation from an approximate perforated true vertical depth of 4710 feet to a maximum perforated true vertical depth of 5000 feet, or the base of the Unitized interval of the Central Vacuum Unit

whichever is shallower. The approved maximum surface tubing injection pressure shall be 1500 psi while injecting only water and 2200 psi while injecting only CO<sub>2</sub> or produced gas. The operator is approved to inject through multiple tubing strings in any one well and to set multiple injection packers in that well so as to more effectively isolate injection intervals, provided that the top packer shall be no more than 100 feet above the top permitted injection interval.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

The operator shall take all steps necessary to ensure that the injected fluids enter only the approved injection intervals and are not permitted to escape to other formations or onto the surface.

After installing tubing, all casing-tubing annulus shall be loaded with an inert fluid and equipped with a pressure gauge or an approved leak detection device in order to determine leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer. The casing in all wells approved herein shall be pressure tested from the surface to the packer setting depths to assure casing integrity.

The wells shall pass an initial mechanical integrity test ("MIT") prior to initially commencing injection and prior to resuming injection each time any injection packer is unseated. All MIT testing procedures and schedules shall follow the requirements in Division Rule 19.15.26.11A. NMAC. The Division Director retains the right to require at any time wireline verification of completion and packer setting depths in these wells.

The wellhead injection pressure on these wells shall be limited as listed above. In addition, the injection wells or header system shall be equipped with a pressure limiting device in workable condition which shall, at all times, limit surface tubing pressures to the maximum allowable pressures for these wells.

Subject to the limitations within the hearing order permitting this project, the Director of the Division may authorize an increase in tubing pressure upon a proper showing by the operator of said well that such higher pressure will not result in migration of the injected fluids from the approved injection interval. Such proper showing shall be demonstrated by sufficient evidence including but not limited to an acceptable Step-Rate-Test.

The operator shall notify the supervisor of the Division's district office of the date and time of the installation of injection equipment and of any MIT test so that the same may be inspected and witnessed. The operator shall provide written notice of the date of commencement of injection to the Division's district office. The operator shall submit monthly reports of the disposal operations on Division Form C-115, in accordance with Division Rules 19.15.26.13 and 19.15.7.24 NMAC.

Without limitation on the duties of the operator as provided in Division Rules 19.15.29 and 19.15.30 NMAC, or otherwise, the operator shall immediately notify the Division's district office of any failure of the tubing, casing or packer in any of the approved injection wells, or of any leakage or release of water, oil or gas from around any produced or plugged and abandoned well in the area, and shall take such measures as may be timely and necessary to correct such failure or leakage.

The injection authority granted under this order is not transferable except upon division approval. The division may require the operator to demonstrate mechanical integrity of any injection well that will be transferred prior to approving transfer of authority to inject.

The division may revoke this injection permit after notice and hearing if the operator is in violation of 19.15.5.9 NMAC.

Compliance with this order does not relieve the operator of the obligation to comply with other applicable federal, state or local laws or rules, or to exercise due care for the protection of fresh water, public health and safety and the environment.

Jurisdiction is retained by the Division for the entry of such further orders as may be necessary for the prevention of waste and/or protection of correlative rights or upon failure of the operator to conduct operations (1) to protect fresh or protectable waters or (2) consistent with the requirements in this order, whereupon the Division may, after notice and hearing, terminate the disposal authority granted herein.



JAMI BAILEY  
Director

JB/wvjj

cc: Oil Conservation Division – Hobbs  
State Land Office – Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division  
Case No. 11650