

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

NMOCD – ACOI- 219

**IN THE MATTER OF CIMAREX ENERGY CO. OF COLORADO,**

**Respondent.**

**INACTIVE WELL  
AGREED COMPLIANCE ORDER**

Pursuant to the New Mexico Oil and Gas Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 70-2-1 through 70-2-38, as amended ("Act") and OCD Rule 19.15.5.10(E) NMAC, the Director of the Oil Conservation Division ("OCD") and Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado ("Operator") enter into this Inactive Well Agreed Compliance Order ("Order" or "ACOI") under which Operator agrees to plug, place on approved temporary abandonment status or restore to production or other beneficial use the wells identified herein pursuant to the Act and OCD Rule 19.15.25.8 NMAC in accordance with the following agreed schedule and procedures, and agrees to pay penalties as set out below if it fails to meet the schedule set out in this Order.

**FINDINGS**

1. The OCD is the state division charged with administration and enforcement of the Act, and rules and orders adopted pursuant to the Act.
2. Operator is a corporation doing business in the state of New Mexico.
3. Operator is the operator of record under OGRID 162683 for the wells identified in Exhibit "A," attached.
4. OCD Rule 19.15.25.8 NMAC states, in relevant part:

"A. The operator of wells drilled for oil or gas or services wells including seismic, core, exploration or injection wells, whether cased or uncased, shall plug the wells as Subsection B of 19.15.25.8 NMAC requires.

B. The operator shall either properly plug and abandon a well or place the well in approved temporary abandonment in accordance with 19.15.25 NMAC within 90 days after:

....

....

(3) a period of one year in which a well has been continuously inactive."

5. The wells identified in Exhibit "A"
  - (a) have been continuously inactive for a period of one year plus 90 days;
  - (b) are not plugged or abandoned in accordance with OCD Rule 19.15.25.9 NMAC through 19.15.25.11 NMAC; and
  - (c) are not on approved temporary abandonment status in accordance with OCD Rule 19.15.25.12 NMAC through 19.15.25.14 NMAC.
6. NMSA 1978, Section 70-2-31(A) authorizes the assessment of civil penalties of up to one thousand dollars per day per violation against any person who knowingly and willfully violates any provision of the Oil and Gas Act or any rule or order adopted pursuant to the Act.
7. NMSA 1978, Section 70-2-33(A) defines "person" in relevant part as  
"any individual, estate, trust, receiver, cooperative association, club, corporation, company, firm, partnership, joint venture, syndicate or other entity..."

### CONCLUSIONS

1. The OCD has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter in this proceeding.
2. The wells identified in Exhibit "A" are out of compliance with OCD Rule 19.15.25.8 NMAC.
3. As operator of the wells identified in Exhibit "A," Operator is responsible for bringing those wells into compliance with OCD Rule 19.15.25.8 NMAC.
4. Operator is a "person" as defined by NMSA 1978, Section 70-2-33(A) and may be subject to civil penalties for knowing and willful violations of the Oil and Gas Act or rules or orders adopted pursuant to the Act.

### ORDER

1. Operator agrees to bring the **BRITT A #001** (API #30-025-05966), the **PIPELINE DEEP UNIT FEDERAL #004** (API #30-025-25913), the **RHODES FEDERAL UNIT #042** (API #30-025-11948), the **STATE LG 26 #001** (API #30-025-01276) and **2 additional wells identified in Exhibit "A"** into compliance with OCD Rule 19.15.25.8 NMAC by October 18, 2010 by
  - (a) restoring the well to production or other OCD-approved beneficial use **and filing a C-115 documenting such production or use;**
  - (b) causing the wellbore to be plugged in accordance with OCD Rule 19.15.25.10(B) NMAC **and filing a C-103 describing the completed work;** or

- (c) placing the well on approved temporary abandonment status in accordance with OCD Rule 19.15.25.12 NMAC through 19.15.25.14 NMAC.
- 2. Oil and gas produced during swabbing does not count as production for purposes of this Order.
- 3. Operator shall file a compliance report identifying each well returned to compliance, stating the date it was returned to compliance and describing how the well was returned to compliance (restored to production or other approved beneficial use, plugged wellbore, approved temporary abandonment status.) Transfer of a well identified on Exhibit "A" to another operator does not count towards Operator's obligation to return wells to compliance under the terms of this Order, but does reduce the total number of wells for which Operator is responsible under the terms of this Order. The written compliance report must be mailed or e-mailed to the OCD's Enforcement and Compliance Manager and to the OCD attorney in charge of inactive well agreed compliance orders so that it is **received by** the compliance deadline of October 18, 2010. The total length of this Agreed Compliance Order is six months.
- 4. If Operator either fails to bring the BRITT A #001, the PIPELINE DEEP UNIT FEDERAL #004, the RHODES FEDERAL UNIT #042, the STATE LG 26 #001 and 2 additional wells identified in Exhibit "A" into compliance by October 18, 2010, or file a compliance report by October 18, 2010, Operator agrees to pay a penalty of \$1000 times the number of wells it failed to report or bring into compliance by October 18, 2010, subject to the terms of this Order. In the event the Operator encounters unanticipated circumstances that prevent it from bringing the BRITT A #001, the PIPELINE DEEP UNIT FEDERAL #004, the RHODES FEDERAL UNIT #042, the STATE LG 26 #001 and 2 additional wells identified in Exhibit "A" into compliance by October 18, 2010, Operator may apply for a waiver or reduction of the penalty by making the request in writing to the OCD's Enforcement and Compliance Manager. If the Enforcement and Compliance Manager concurs with the Operator's request, the request for waiver or reduction of penalties may be granted administratively. If the Enforcement and Compliance Manager does not concur with the Operator's request or fails to respond within 10 days, the Operator may file an application for hearing on the request. Any application for hearing on a request for waiver or reduction of penalty must be filed within 30 days of the date the compliance report is due.
- 5. Thirty days after the compliance deadline set by this Order, any wells on Exhibit "A" not in compliance with OCD Rule 19.15.25.8 NMAC will appear on the inactive well list kept pursuant to OCD Rule 19.15.5.9(F) NMAC.
- 6. By signing this Order, Operator expressly:
  - (a) acknowledges the correctness of the Findings and Conclusions set forth in this Order;

- (b) agrees to return the BRITT A #001, the PIPELINE DEEP UNIT FEDERAL #004, the RHODES FEDERAL UNIT #042, the STATE LG 26 #001 and 2 additional wells identified in Exhibit "A" to compliance by October 18, 2010;
  - (c) agrees to submit a compliance report as required in Ordering Paragraph 3 by the October 18, 2010 compliance deadline set by this Order;
  - (d) agrees to pay penalties as set out in and limited by Ordering Paragraph 4 if it fails to either return the BRITT A #001, the PIPELINE DEEP UNIT FEDERAL #004, the RHODES FEDERAL UNIT #042, the STATE LG 26 #001 and 2 additional wells identified in Exhibit "A" to compliance or file a compliance report by the October 18, 2010 compliance deadline set out in the Order;
  - (e) waives any right, pursuant to the Oil and Gas Act or otherwise, to an appeal from this Order, or to a hearing either prior to or subsequent to the entry of this Order other than a hearing on a request for waiver or reduction of penalties; and
  - (f) agrees that the Order may be enforced by OCD or Oil Conservation Commission Order, by suit or otherwise to the same extent and with the same effect as a final Order of the OCD or Oil Conservation Commission entered after notice and hearing in accordance with all terms and provisions of the Oil and Gas Act.
7. This Order applies only to the enforcement of OCD Rule 19.15.25.8 NMAC against those wells identified in Exhibit "A." Other wells operated by Operator out of compliance with OCD Rule 19.15.25.8 NMAC may be subject to immediate enforcement action under the Oil and Gas Act and OCD Rules. Wells identified in Exhibit "A" that are out of compliance with the Oil and Gas Act or OCD Rules other than OCD Rule 19.15.25.8 NMAC may be subject to immediate enforcement action under the Oil and Gas Act and OCD Rules.
8. The OCD reserves the right to file an application for hearing to obtain authority to plug any well identified in Exhibit "A" and forfeit the applicable financial assurance if the well poses an immediate environmental threat.

Done at Santa Fe, New Mexico this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010

By: 

Mark Fesmire, P.E.

Director, Oil Conservation Division

**ACCEPTANCE**

Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado hereby accepts the foregoing Order, and agrees to all of the terms and provisions set forth in that Order.

Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado

By: 

(Please print name) STEPHEN P BELL

Title: Senior Vice President

Date: April 16, 2010

**Exhibit A to Agreed Compliance Order for Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado**

30-025-31218 BONDURANT FEDERAL #003  
30-025-05966 BRITT A #001  
30-025-25399 CITGO LM STATE #001  
30-025-08716 COLEMAN #001  
30-025-11006 COURTLAND MYERS #002  
30-025-25600 D B BOREN #003  
30-015-23464 EMPIRE 20 FEDERAL #001  
30-015-23102 EMPIRE FEDERAL COM #001  
30-025-24098 HUMBLE A STATE #001  
30-025-09552 J W COOPER A #003  
30-025-36524 KAREN 1 STATE #002  
30-025-02775 LEA A STATE #002  
30-025-02777 LEA A STATE #004  
30-025-28165 LEA AQ STATE #001  
30-025-34031 LUSK WEST DELAWARE UNIT #016  
30-025-33589 MALLON 34 FEDERAL #015  
30-025-23503 MESCALERO RIDGE UNIT #003  
30-025-30985 MITCHELL 16 STATE #003  
30-025-12024 MOBERLY C #003  
30-025-27661 NEW MEXICO DA STATE #002  
30-015-26374 NORTH SHUGART FEDERAL #001  
30-015-22309 PALMILLO STATE COM #001  
30-015-23818 PARKWAY C STATE COM #001  
30-025-25913 PIPELINE DEEP UNIT FEDERAL #004  
30-025-11948 RHODES FEDERAL UNIT #042  
30-025-11967 RHODES FEDERAL UNIT #091  
30-025-33205 RHODES FEDERAL UNIT #265  
30-025-33248 RHODES FEDERAL UNIT #271

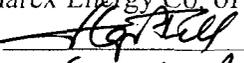
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Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado

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30-025-22261 ROCK ISLAND B STATE #001  
30-015-24822 ROY RENFRO #001  
30-025-06315 SHELL STATE #006  
30-025-10616 SKELLY PENROSE A UNIT #032  
30-025-10623 SKELLY PENROSE A UNIT #033  
30-025-10596 SKELLY PENROSE A UNIT #038  
30-025-10599 SKELLY PENROSE A UNIT #040  
30-025-10698 SKELLY PENROSE A UNIT #053  
30-025-10701 SKELLY PENROSE A UNIT #055  
30-025-30095 STATE 2 #001  
30-025-06192 STATE A-20 #002  
30-025-32024 STATE A-20 #003  
30-025-01276 STATE LG 26 #001  
30-015-22395 SUPERIOR FEDERAL #004  
30-025-11034 TOBY #002

Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado

By: 

Title: Senior Vice President