

ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION



GARREY CARRUTHERS  
GOVERNOR

ORDER SWD-317

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STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501  
(505) 827-5800

THE APPLICATION OF EP OPERATING COMPANY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Under the provisions of Rule 701(B), EP Operating Company made application to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on April 22, 1987, for permission to complete for salt water disposal its J. G. O'Brien Well No. 3 located in Unit F of Section 31, Township 7 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico.

The Division Director finds:

- (1) That application has been duly filed under the provisions of Rule 701(B) of the Division Rules and Regulations;
- (2) That satisfactory information has been provided that all offset operators and surface owners have been duly notified; and
- (3) That the applicant has presented satisfactory evidence that all requirements prescribed in Rule 701 will be met.
- (4) That no objections have been received within the waiting period prescribed by said rule.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

That the applicant herein, EP Operating Company is hereby authorized to complete its J. G. O'Brien Well No. 3, located in Unit F of Section 31, Township 7 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico, in such a manner as to permit the injection of salt water for disposal purposes into the Fusselman formation at approximately 6762 feet to approximately 6784 feet through 2 3/8 inch plastic lined tubing set in a packer located at approximately 6725 feet.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

That the operator shall 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.

That the casing-tubing annulus shall be loaded with an inert fluid and equipped with a pressure gauge at the surface or left open to the atmosphere to facilitate detection of leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer.

That prior to commencing injection operations into the well, the casing shall be pressure tested from the surface to the packer setting depth to assure the integrity of the casing.

That the injection well or system shall be equipped with a pressure limiting device which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to no more than 1352 psi.

That 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 Fusselman formation. That such proper showing shall consist of a valid step-rate test run in accordance with and acceptable to this office.

That the operator shall notify the supervisor of the Artesia district office of the Division of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment and of the mechanical integrity test so that the same may be inspected and witnessed.

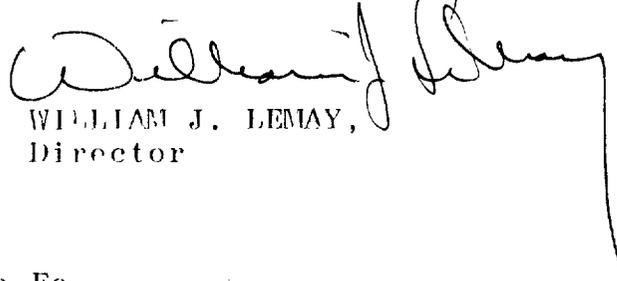
That the operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Division's Artesia district office of the failure of the tubing, casing, or packer, in said well or the leakage of water from or around said well and shall take such steps as may be timely and necessary to correct such failure or leakage.

PROVIDED FURTHER, That jurisdiction of this cause is hereby retained by the Division for such further order or orders as may seem necessary or convenient for the prevention of waste and/or protection of correlative rights; upon failure of applicant to comply with any requirement of this order after notice and hearing, the Division may terminate the authority hereby granted in the interest of conservation. That applicant shall submit monthly reports of the disposal operations in accordance with Rule 706 and 1120 of the Division Rules and Regulations.

That the Division Director may rescind or suspend this injection authority if it becomes apparent that the injected water is not being confined to the injection zone or it is endangering any fresh water aquifers.

Approved at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on this 14th day of May,  
1987.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION



WILLIAM J. LEMAY,  
Director

S E A L

xc: OCD-Artesia  
Campbell & Black - Santa Fe  
D. McDonald