

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

BRUCE KING  
GOVERNOR

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SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504  
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*ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. SWD-425*

*APPLICATION OF GEORGE D. RIGGS*

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

Under the provisions of Rule 701(B), George D. Riggs made application to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on April 12, 1991 for permission to complete for salt water disposal its Riggs Well No. 7, located in Unit P of Section 5, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

**THE DIVISION DIRECTOR FINDS THAT:**

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

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) The applicant herein, George D. Riggs is hereby authorized to complete its Riggs Well No. 7 located in Unit P of Section 5, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico, in such a manner as to permit the injection of salt water for disposal purposes into the Yates formation at approximately 515 feet to approximately 675 feet through 2 7/8-inch plastic-lined tubing set in a packer located at approximately 510 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.

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 said casing.

Prior to commencing injection operations, the applicant shall re-enter and re-plug the Riggs Welch Federal Well No. 4 located in Unit E of Section 4, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, in a manner satisfactory to the supervisor of the Artesia District Office of the Division.

The applicant is further required to continually produce, during the life of the disposal well, or in the alternative, plug and abandon its Riggs Welch Federal Well No. 3 located in Unit P of said Section 5, and, the applicant may be further required to perform additional tests as may be required by the Artesia District Office of the Division in order to determine that said well is not serving as a conduit for migration of injected fluid.

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.

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 103 psi.

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

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.

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

*Administrative Order No. SWD-425*

*George D. Riggs*

*June 11, 1991*

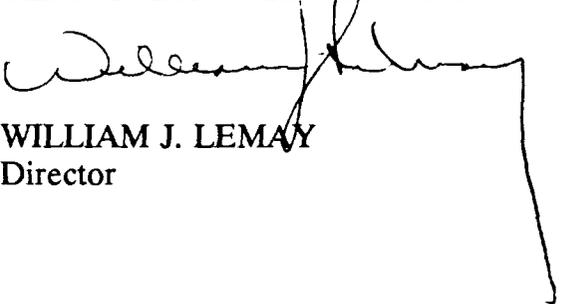
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**PROVIDED FURTHER THAT**, jurisdiction of this cause is hereby retained by the Division for such further order or orders as may be deemed necessary or convenient for the prevention of waste and/or protection of correlative rights; upon failure of the operator to conduct operations in a manner which will ensure the protection of fresh water or in a manner inconsistent with the requirements set forth in this order, the Division may, after notice and hearing, terminate the injection authority granted herein.

The operator shall submit monthly reports of the disposal operations in accordance with Rule 706 and 1120 of the Division Rules and Regulations.

Approved at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on this 11th day of June, 1991.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION



WILLIAM J. LEMAY  
Director

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cc: Oil Conservation Division - Artesia  
US Bureau of Land Management - Carlsbad