



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS
& NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
2040 South Pacheco Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
(505) 827-7131

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SWD-662

APPLICATION OF SAGA PETROLEUM, L.L.C. FOR SALT WATER DISPOSAL, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Under the provisions of Rule 701(B), Saga Petroleum L.L.C. made application to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on May 19, 1997, for permission to complete for salt water disposal its U.D. Sawyer Well No. 11 located 2561 feet from the South line and 1610 feet from the East line (Unit J) of Section 27, Township 9 South, Range 36 East, NMPM, Lea 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;
- (3) The applicant has presented satisfactory evidence that all requirements prescribed in Rule 701 will be met; and
- (4) No objections have been received within the waiting period prescribed by said rule.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The applicant herein, Saga Petroleum L.L.C. is hereby authorized to complete its U.D. Sawyer Well No. 11 located 2561 feet from the South line and 1610 feet from the East line (Unit J) of Section 27, Township 9 South, Range 36 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, in such manner as to permit the injection of salt water for disposal purposes into the Devonian formation at approximately 12,616 feet to 12,683 feet through 3 1/2-inch ceramic-lined tubing set in a packer located at approximately 12,566 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 into the well, and annually thereafter, the applicant shall conduct a radioactive tracer survey on the well in order to verify the well's external mechanical integrity. The survey shall be run in accordance with a Division approved procedure.

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 2523 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 Devonian 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 Hobbs district office of the Division of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment and of the conductance of the mechanical integrity test and tracer survey so that the same may be inspected and witnessed.

The operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Hobbs 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.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, jurisdiction of this cause is hereby retained by the Division for the entry of 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

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Saga Petroleum L.L.C.

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operations in accordance with Rule Nos. 706 and 1120 of the Division Rules and Regulations.

The injection authority granted herein shall terminate one year after the effective date of this order if the operator has not commenced injection operations into the subject well, provided however, the Division, upon written request by the operator, may grant an extension thereof for good cause shown.

Approved at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on this 23rd day of June, 1997.



WILLIAM J. LEMAY, Director

WJL/DRC

xc: Oil Conservation Division - Hobbs
NM State Land Office - Oil and Gas Division
US Bureau of Land Management - Carlsbad