



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS  
& NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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

*CORRECTED AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SWD-723*

***APPLICATION OF DEVON ENERGY CORPORATION FOR SALT WATER DISPOSAL,  
EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.***

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

Under the provisions of Rule 701(B), Devon Energy Corporation made application to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on September 14, 1998, for permission to amend SWD-723 by completing for salt water disposal its Winston Well No.4 SWD located 1535 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the West line (Lot 2) in Section 31, as a replacement for the previously permitted Martha Creek Well No.4 SWD (staked but undrilled at 225' FSL and 1650' FWL, Lot 18 of Section 30), both locations in Township 21 South, Range 24 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;
- (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, Devon Energy Corporation is hereby authorized to complete its Winston Well No.4 SWD located 1535 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the West line (Lot 2) of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico, in such manner as to permit the injection of salt water for disposal purposes into the Devonian formation at approximately 10,600 feet to 11,400 feet through 5-inch plastic-lined tubing set in a packer located at approximately 10,500 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.

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 2120 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 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.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, 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 water or (2) consistent with the requirements in this order, whereupon 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 Division Rules and Regulations on Form C-115, Operator's Monthly Report.

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.

*Corrected Amended Administrative Order SWD-723*  
*Devon Energy Corporation*  
*February 22, 1999*  
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Approved at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on this 22nd day of February, 1999.

  
LORI WROTENBERY, Director

LW/BES/kv

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