



# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

**GARY E. JOHNSON**  
Governor  
**Betty Rivera**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Lori Wrotenbery**  
Director  
Oil Conservation Division

*ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SWD-845*

***APPLICATION OF STRATA PRODUCTION COMPANY FOR SALT WATER  
DISPOSAL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.***

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

Under the provisions of Rule 701(B), Strata Production Company made application to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on July 17, 2002, for permission to recompleat for produced water disposal its Forty Niner Ridge Unit Well No. 1 (API: 30-015-20899) located 1980 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the East line (Unit J) of Section 16, Township 23 South, Range 30 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:

Strata Production Company is hereby authorized to re-complete for produced water disposal its Forty Niner Ridge Unit Well No. 1 (API: 30-015-20899) located 1980 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the East line (Unit J) of Section 16, Township 23 South, Range 30 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico, in such a manner as to permit the injection of produced water for disposal purposes into the Bell Canyon and Cherry Canyon formations from a depth of 4433 feet to 5952 feet through 2 7/8 inch plastic-lined tubing set in a packer located approximately at 4350 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.

**As preparation for injection, the casing shall be pressure tested from the surface to the CIBP at 4383 feet. This CIBP shall then be drilled out and the CIBP at 6510 feet capped with cement and pressure tested.**

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 886 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 injection 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 any 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 on Division Form C-115, 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 10th day of September 2002.

*Lori Wrottenbery* (wvj)  
LORI WROTENBERY  
Director

LW/wvjj

cc: Oil Conservation Division – Artesia  
State Land Office – Santa Fe