

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

**APPLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION,
THROUGH THE SUPERVISOR OF DISTRICT III, FOR AN ORDER
AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION TO PLUG ONE (1) WELL IN SAN JUAN
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

CASE NO. 12822

APPLICATION FOR PLUGGING

1. According to information in the files of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, the Blackjack Well No. 1, located in Section 15, Township 29 North, Range 13 West, was drilled by "Cross, *et al.*" to a depth of 740 feet, and completed on September 1, 1928. The Division has no further information concerning the identity or whereabouts of the operator, and no production from said well has ever been reported to the Division.

2. Recent investigation has determined that the Blackjack Well No. 1 is located in the interior of an unoccupied residence at 1013 East Cedar in the City of Farmington, San Juan County, New Mexico.

3. The residence at 1013 East Cedar is now owned by Olin Triplett, Jennie Lee Triplett and Jean Triplett Bixler, whose address is P.O. Box 406 - Fort Sumner, NM 88119, by Dewayne Triplett, whose address is P.O. Box 392 - Waterflow NM 87421 and by Dale Triplett, widow of Troy Triplett, deceased, whose address is 6511 State Hwy 1140, Hesperus CO 81326.

3. The subject well has not produced any hydrocarbon or carbon dioxide substance for more than one year and is no longer usable for beneficial purposes. No permit for temporary abandonment has been requested by the Operator or approved by the Division.

4. By virtue of Operator's failure to use the well for production or other beneficial purposes or to secure a current temporary abandonment permit, the well is presumed abandoned, and is required to be plugged.

5. Division Rule 201.B, issued pursuant to the authority of NMSA 1978, Secs. 70-2-12 and 70-2-14, requires that wells that are inactive for more than one year or are no longer usable for beneficial purposes be properly plugged.

6. Division Rule 101.M, issued pursuant to the same authority, authorizes the Division, after notice and hearing, to order the operator to plug and abandon any well or wells not in compliance with Rule 201, and to direct the Division to cause such well or wells to be plugged in accordance with a Division approved plugging program if, after the time provided in such order, the operator and its surety, if any, have failed to do so.

7. In this case, the Division is unable to identify any operator of the referenced well. Because this unplugged well located within a residence constitutes a public nuisance and a fire hazard, the Division seeks authority to plug and abandon the same.

WHEREFORE, the Supervisor of District III of the Division hereby applies to the Director to enter an order:

- A. Determining whether the subject well should be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Division-approved plugging program.
- B. Authorizing the Division (i) to plug the subject well in accordance with a division-approved plugging program; (ii) to take necessary and appropriate measures to recover from the Operator (should the identity and whereabouts of the operator ever be discovered) all costs of plugging the subject well.
- C. For such other and further relief as the Division deems just and proper under the circumstances.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

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Conservation Division

Case No. _____. **Application of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for an Order Authorizing the Division to Plug One (1) Well; San Juan County, New Mexico.** The Applicant seeks an order authorizing the Division to plug one well and providing for such other relief as the Director deems appropriate. The affected well is the Cross, *et al*, Blackjack No. 1 located at 1013 East Cedar in Section 15, Township 29 North, Range 13 West, in the City of Farmington, San Juan County, New Mexico.