

Entered May 20, 1969
A.J.P.

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION
COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR
THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE No. 4127
Order No. R-3762

APPLICATION OF CURTIS HANKAMER
FOR AN EXCEPTION TO ORDER NO.
R-3221, AS AMENDED, LEA COUNTY,
NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on May 7, 1969, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this 20th day of May, 1969, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That the applicant, Curtis Hankamer, is the owner and operator of two wells located in Section 11, Township 24 South, Range 32 East, NMPM, Double X-Delaware Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

(3) That effective January 1, 1969, Order (3) of Commission Order No. R-3221, as amended, prohibits in that area encompassed by Lea, Eddy, Chaves, and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico, the disposal, subject to minor exceptions, of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, on the surface of the ground, or in any pit, pond, lake, depression, draw, streambed, or arroyo, or in any watercourse, or in any

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other place or in any manner which would constitute a hazard to any fresh water supplies and said disposal has not previously been prohibited.

(4) That the aforesaid Order No. R-3221 was issued in order to afford reasonable protection against contamination of fresh water supplies designated by the State Engineer through disposal of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, in unlined surface pits.

(5) That the State Engineer has designated, pursuant to Section 65-3-11 (15), N.M.S.A., 1953 Compilation, all underground water in the State of New Mexico containing 10,000 parts per million or less of dissolved solids as fresh water supplies to be afforded reasonable protection against contamination; except that said designation does not include any water for which there is no present or reasonably foreseeable beneficial use that would be impaired by contamination.

(6) That the applicant seeks an exception to the provisions of the aforesaid Order (3) to permit the continued disposal of salt water, produced by applicant's two wells located in said Section 11, in an unlined surface pit located in the SE/4 SE/4 of said Section 11.

(7) That the subject wells produce approximately 23 barrels of water per day.

(8) That fresh water supplies as designated by the State Engineer exist in the vicinity of the subject wells and in the vicinity of the unlined surface pit serving said wells.

(9) That the applicant has failed to establish that disposal of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, by the subject wells in the subject unlined pit would not constitute a threat of contamination of fresh water supplies existing in the vicinity of said pit.

(10) That the subject application should be denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the subject application is hereby denied.

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(2) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION


DAVID E. CARGO, Chairman


ALEX J. ARMIJO, Member


A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary

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