Entered March 30, 19>6

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. 5646 Order No. R-5188

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APPLICATION OF SOUTHERN UNION GAS COMPANY FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES 14(A) AND 15(A) OF THE GAS PRORATION RULES, CATCLAW DRAW-MORROW GAS POOL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on March 17, 1976, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this <u>30th</u> day of March, 1976, 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, Southern Union Gas Company, seeks suspension for a period of one year from April 1, 1976, of those provisions of Rules 14(A) and 15(A) of the General Rules and Regulations for the prorated gas pools of Southeastern New Mexico promulgated by Order No. R-1670, as amended, that provide for cancellation of unproduced allowable and shutting in of overproduced gas wells, Catclaw Draw-Morrow Gas Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

(3) That Southern Union Gas Company is the owner and operator of one of the pipelines connected to gas wells in said Catclaw Draw-Morrow Gas Pool.

(4) That several non-marginal wells connected to applicant's pipeline in said Catclaw Draw-Morrow Gas Pool have accumulated substantial quantities of underproduction which is subject to cancellation April 1, 1976.

(5) That the applicant has made diligent efforts to bring said underproduced wells into balance but will be unable to do so by April 1, 1976.



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(6) That applicant has recently completed the installation of additional pipeline and gas compression facilities in the Catclaw Draw-Avalon-Indian Basin Area which enable it to move considerably more gas from the producing area to market facilities than was previously possible.

(7) That the newly installed facilities should enable the applicant to take sufficient gas from the underproduced wells to which it is connected to be able to bring said wells back into balance by April 1, 1977.

(8) That the suspension of Rule 14(A) of the prorated gas pool rules, which relates to the cancellation of unproduced allowable, would be inequitable without the concomitant suspension of Rule 15(A) of said rules, which relates to the shutting-in of overproduced wells.

(9) That in order to protect correlative rights, prevent waste, promote conservation, and allow each producer in the Catclaw Draw-Morrow Gas Pool the opportunity to produce his just and equitable share of the gas in said pool, the subject application should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That Rules 14(A) and 15(A) of the General Rules and Regulations for the Prorated Gas Pools of Southeastern New Mexico, promulgated by Order No. R-1670, as amended, are hereby suspended in the Catclaw Draw-Morrow Gas Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico, for a period of one year from April 1, 1976, through March 31, 1977.

(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 Luceso LUCERO, Chairman PHIL R. uu EMERY JOE D. RAMEY, Member & Secretary

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