

Entered March 15, 1977
JDR

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. 5874
Order No. R-5391

APPLICATION OF TEXACO INC. FOR
SALT WATER DISPOSAL, LEA COUNTY,
NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on March 9, 1977,
at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner, Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this 15th day of March, 1977, 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, Texaco Inc., is the owner and opera-
tor of the New Mexico "R" State (NCT-2) Well No. 5, located
in Unit B of Section 2, Township 18 South, Range 34 East,
NMPM, Vacuum Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.
- (3) That the applicant proposes to utilize said well to
dispose of produced salt water into the Lower San Andres
formation, with injection into perforated intervals from
approximately 5,020 feet to 5,946 feet.
- (4) That the injection should be accomplished through
2 1/16-inch plastic lined tubing set at approximately 4090 feet;
that the casing-tubing annulus should be loaded with a
hydraulically balanced column of inert fluid; and that a
pressure gauge or approved leak detection device should be
attached to the annulus in order to determine leakage in the
casing, tubing, or packer.

-2-

Case No. 5874
Order No. R-5391

(5) That the injection well or system should be equipped with a pop-off valve or acceptable substitute which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to no more than 800 psi.

(6) That the operator should notify the supervisor of the Hobbs district office of the Commission of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment so that the same may be inspected.

(7) That the operator should 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.

(8) That approval of the subject application will prevent the drilling of unnecessary wells and otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights, provided that such injection does not occur for more than six months.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the applicant, Texaco Inc., is hereby authorized to utilize its New Mexico "R" State (NCT-2) Well No. 5, located in Unit B of Section 2, Township 18 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Vacuum Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, to dispose of produced salt water into the Lower San Andres formation, injection to be accomplished through 2 1/16-inch tubing set at approximately 4,090 feet, with injection into perforated intervals from approximately 5,020 feet to 5,946 feet;

PROVIDED HOWEVER, that the tubing shall be plastic-lined; that the casing-tubing annulus shall be loaded with a hydraulically balanced column of inert fluid; and that a pressure gauge shall be attached to the annulus or the annulus shall be equipped with an approved leak detection device in order to determine leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer.

(2) That the injection well or system shall be equipped with a pop-off valve or acceptable substitute which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to no more than 800 psi.

(3) That the operator shall notify the supervisor of the Hobbs district office of the Commission of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment so that the same may be inspected.

-3-

Case No. 5874
Order No. R-5391

(4) That the operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Commission's Hobbs district office of the failure of the tubing, casing, or packer, in said well or the leakage of water from or around said well and shall take such steps as may be timely and necessary to correct such failure or leakage.

(5) That the applicant shall submit monthly reports of its disposal operations in accordance with Rules 704 and 1120 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

(6) That injection into the subject well for disposal purposes shall be discontinued within six months after commencement thereof, unless approval for continued injection has been obtained from the offset operator and the Secretary-Director of the Commission.

(7) 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

PHIL R. LUCERO, Chairman


EMERY C. ARNOLD, Member


JOE D. RAMEY, Member & Secretary

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