

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF
CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 8982
Order No. R-8306

APPLICATION OF FROSTMAN OIL CORPORATION
FOR SALT WATER DISPOSAL, EDDY COUNTY,
NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on September 3, 1986, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Michael E. Stogner.

NOW, on this 17th day of September, 1986, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

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

(2) By virtue of the decision in Case No. CV-84-558-F, Fifth Judicial District Court, Eddy County, New Mexico dated November 27, 1985, the applicant, Frostman Oil Corporation is the operator of the Red Twelve State Well No. 4 located 990 feet from the South line and 2310 feet from the East line (Unit O) of Section 5, Township 17 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Cave Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

(3) The applicant proposes to utilize said well to dispose of produced salt water into the San Andres formation, with injection into the perforated interval from approximately 3,004 feet to 3,434 feet.

(4) The injection should be accomplished through 2 3/8-inch plastic-lined tubing installed in a packer set at approximately 2900 feet; the casing-tubing annulus should be filled with an inert fluid; and 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.

(5) Prior to commencing injection operations, the casing in the subject well should be pressure-tested throughout the interval from the surface down to the proposed packer setting depth, to assure the integrity of such casing.

(6) The injection well or system should be equipped with a pressure-limiting switch or other acceptable device which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to no more than 600 psi.

(7) The Director of the Division should be authorized to administratively approve an increase in the injection pressure upon a proper showing by the operator that such higher pressure will not result in migration of the injected waters from the San Andres formation.

(8) The operator should give advance notification to the supervisor of the Artesia district office of the Division of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment and of the mechanical integrity pressure test in order that the same may be witnessed.

(9) 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.

(10) Approval of the subject application will prevent the drilling of unnecessary wells and otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) The applicant, Frostman Oil Company, is hereby authorized to utilize its Red Twelve State Well No. 4, located 990 feet from the South line and 2310 feet from the East line (Unit O) of Section 5, Township 17 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Cave Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico, to dispose of produced salt water into the San Andres formation, injection to be accomplished through 2 3/8-inch tubing installed in a packer set at approximately 2900 feet, with injection into the perforated interval from approximately 3,004 feet to 3,434 feet;

PROVIDED HOWEVER THAT, the tubing shall be plastic-lined; the casing-tubing annulus shall be filled with an inert fluid; and 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.

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PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, prior to commencing injection operations, the casing in the subject well shall be pressure-tested to assure the integrity of such casing in a manner that is satisfactory to the supervisor of the Division's district office at Artesia.

(2) The injection well or system shall be equipped with a pressure-limiting switch or other acceptable device which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to no more than 600 psi.

(3) 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 Cave Grayburg-San Andres Pool.

(4) The operator shall notify the supervisor of the Artesia district office of the Division in advance of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment and of the mechanical integrity pressure test in order that the same may be witnessed.

(5) The operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Division's Artesia 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.

(6) The applicant shall conduct disposal operations and submit monthly reports in accordance with Rules 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 708, and 1120 of the Division Rules and Regulations.

(7) Jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

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

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION


R. L. STAMETS,
Director

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