

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Susana Martinez
Governor

David Martin
Cabinet Secretary-Designate

Brett F. Woods, Ph.D.
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Jami Bailey, Division Director
Oil Conservation Division



Administrative Order SWD-1434
September 17, 2013

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

Pursuant to the provisions of 19.15.26.8B. NMAC, J. Cooper Enterprises, Incorporated (the "operator"), seeks an administrative order to utilize its T. Anderson Well No. 3 with a location of 2173 feet from the South line and 2173 feet from the East line, Unit letter J of Section 8, Township 20 South, Range 37 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, for produced water disposal purposes.

THE DIVISION DIRECTOR FINDS THAT:

The application has been duly filed under the provisions of 19.15.26.8B. NMAC and satisfactory information has been provided that affected parties as defined in said rule have been notified and no objections have been received within the prescribed waiting period. The applicant has presented satisfactory evidence that all requirements prescribed in 19.15.26.8 NMAC have been met and the operator is in compliance with 19.15.5.9 NMAC.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The applicant, J. Cooper Enterprises, Incorporated (OGRID 244835), is hereby authorized to utilize its T. Anderson Well No. 3 (API 30-025-06031) with a location of 2173 feet from the South line and 2173 feet from the East line, Unit letter J of Section 8, Township 20 South, Range 37 East, NMPM, Lea County, for commercial disposal of oil field produced water (UIC Class II only) into the lower San Andres formation through perforations from approximately 4300 feet to 4871 feet. Injection will occur through internally coated tubing and a packer set within 100 feet of the permitted interval.

The operator shall conduct remedial actions for the following plugged and abandoned wells prior to commencing injection operations:

- (a) Bertie Whitmire Well No. 5 (API No. 30-025-06015), Unit F, Sec. 8, T20S, R37E**
- (b) Barber Gas Com. Well No. 4 (API No. 30-025-06029), Unit L, Sec. 8, T20S, R37E**
- (c) Theodore Anderson Well No. 10 (API No. 30-025-33236), Unit P, Sec. 8, T20S, R37E**

Two wells, Barber Gas Com. Well No. 4 and Theodore Anderson Well No. 10, contain annulus between the borehole and production casing that permits migration of injected fluids outside of the approved injection interval. The third well, Bertie Whitmire Well No. 5, has open

perforations within the injection interval in production casing with a prior event of casing failure. The operator shall provide the Division's district I office for approval a re-entry plugging plan for each well that include the following requirements:

- (a) For the Bertie Whitmire Well No. 5, the open perforations from 4350 feet to 4800 feet shall be sealed by cement squeezed into the perforations or equivalent method such as a cast-iron bridge plug (CIBP) with cement cap placed above the shallowest perforation.
- (b) For the Barber Gas Com. Well No. 4, perforation and squeezing of the annulus for the 7-inch casing from approximately 4350 feet (the top of lower San Andres formation) to 300 feet above.
- (c) For the Theodore Anderson Well No. 10, perforation and squeezing of the annulus for the 5.5-inch casing from the top of cement of the CIBP at 4245 feet to 300 feet above.

The operator shall provide cement bond logs (or equivalent) for the remedial actions of the Theodore Anderson Well No. 10 and Barber Gas Com. Well No. 4. The operator shall notify the district I office of the dates and times of the re-plugging of these wells so that the work can be witnessed and approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

The operator shall take all steps necessary to ensure that the disposed water enters only the approved disposal interval and is not permitted to escape to other formations or onto the surface. This includes the well rehabilitation proposed and described in the application.

After installing tubing, the casing-tubing annulus shall be loaded with an inert fluid and equipped with a pressure gauge or an approved leak detection device in order to determine leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer. The casing shall be pressure tested from the surface to the packer setting depth to assure casing integrity.

The well shall pass an initial mechanical integrity test ("MIT") prior to initially commencing disposal and prior to resuming disposal each time the disposal packer is unseated. All MIT testing procedures and schedules shall follow the requirements in Division Rule 19.15.26.11A. NMAC. The Division Director retains the right to require at any time wireline verification of completion and packer setting depths in this well.

The wellhead injection pressure on the well shall be limited to **no more than 860 psig**. In addition, the disposal well or system shall be equipped with a pressure limiting device in workable condition which shall, at all times, limit surface tubing pressure to the maximum allowable pressure for this well.

The Director of the Division may authorize an increase in tubing pressure upon a proper showing by the operator of said well that such higher pressure will not result in migration of the disposed fluid from the target formation. Such proper showing shall be demonstrated by sufficient evidence including but not limited to an acceptable Step-Rate Test.

The operator shall notify the supervisor of the Division's district I office of the date and

time of the installation of disposal equipment and of any MIT test so that the same may be inspected and witnessed. The operator shall provide written notice of the date of commencement of disposal to the Division's district office. The operator shall submit monthly reports of the disposal operations on Division Form C-115, in accordance with Division Rules 19.15.26.13 and 19.15.7.24 NMAC.

Without limitation on the duties of the operator as provided in Division Rules 19.15.29 and 19.15.30 NMAC, or otherwise, the operator shall immediately notify the Division's district I office of any failure of the tubing, casing or packer in the well, or of any leakage or release of water, oil or gas from around any produced or plugged and abandoned well in the area, and shall take such measures as may be timely and necessary to correct such failure or leakage.

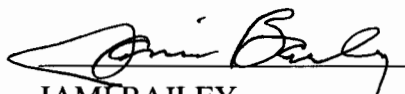
The injection authority granted under this order is not transferable except upon division approval. The division may require the operator to demonstrate mechanical integrity of any injection well that will be transferred prior to approving transfer of authority to inject.

The division may revoke this injection permit after notice and hearing if the operator is in violation of 19.15.5.9 NMAC.

The disposal authority granted herein shall terminate two (2) years after the effective date of this order if the operator has not commenced injection operations into the subject well. One year after the last date of reported disposal into this well, the Division shall consider the well abandoned, and the authority to dispose will terminate *ipso facto*. The Division, upon written request mailed by the operator prior to the termination date, may grant an extension thereof for good cause.

Compliance with this order does not relieve the operator of the obligation to comply with other applicable federal, state or local laws or rules, or to exercise due care for the protection of fresh water, public health and safety and the environment.

Jurisdiction is retained by the Division for the entry of such further orders as may be necessary for the prevention of waste and/or protection of correlative rights or upon failure of the operator to conduct operations (1) to protect fresh or protectable waters or (2) consistent with the requirements in this order, whereupon the Division may, after notice and hearing, terminate the disposal authority granted herein.



JAMI BAILEY
Director

JB/prg

cc: Oil Conservation Division – Hobbs District Office