

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Oil Conservation Division



Administrative Order SWD-1877
May 29, 2019

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Pursuant to the provisions of Division Rule 19.15.26.8(B) NMAC, Rice Operating Company (the “operator”) seeks an administrative order for its Alice Paddock Well No. 4 (“subject well”) with a location of 1980 feet from the North line and 1980 feet from the East line, Unit G of Section 1, Township 22 South, Range 37 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, for commercial disposal of produced water.

THE DIVISION DIRECTOR FINDS THAT:

The application has been duly filed under the provisions of Division Rule 19.15.26.8(B) NMAC and satisfactory information has been provided that affected parties 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 Division Rule 19.15.26.8 NMAC have been met and the operator is in compliance with Division Rule 19.15.5.9 NMAC.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The applicant, Rice Operating Company (OGRID 19174), is hereby authorized to utilize its Alice Paddock Well No. 4 (API 30-025-09940) with a location of 1980 feet from the North line and 1980 feet from the East line, Unit G of Section 1, Township 22 South, Range 37 East, NMPM, Lea County, for disposal of oil field produced water (UIC Class II only) through perforations into an interval consisting of San Andres formation from **4407 feet to 4950 feet**. Injection will occur through internally-coated, 2-^{7/8}-inch or smaller tubing with a packer set within 100 feet of the top perforation of the disposal interval.

If cement does not circulate for the 5-1/2-inch casing string, the operator shall run a cement bond log (CBL) or other log to determine top of cement and shall notify the Hobbs District with the top of cement on the emergency phone number prior to continuing with any further cement activity with the subject well. If cement did not tie back in to next higher casing shoe, the operator shall perform remedial cement job to bring cement, at a minimum, 200 feet above the next higher casing shoe.

The operator shall conduct a swab or production test of the approved injection interval for hydrocarbon potential and obtain a water sample for analysis of hydrocarbon content as well as

*general water chemistry (including major cations, major anions, and Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)). The Division's District I office shall be noticed prior to this test and given the opportunity to witness the test. The operator shall supply the results of the water sample to Division's District I office and Santa Fe Bureau office prior to commencing injection. **If the analysis of the sample is found to contain a TDS concentration of 10000 milligrams per liter or less, the injection authority under this Order shall be suspended ipso facto.***

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 completion and construction of the well as described in the application and, if necessary, as modified by the District Supervisor.

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 procedures and schedules shall follow the requirements in Division Rule 19.15.26.11(A) NMAC. The Division Director retains the right to require at any time wireline verification of completion and packer setting depths in this well.

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.

If the disposal well fails a MIT or if there is evidence that the mechanical integrity of said well is impacting correlative rights, the public health, any underground sources of fresh water, or the environment, the Division Director shall require the well to be shut-in within 24 hours of discovery and the operator shall redirect all disposal waters to another facility. The operator shall take the necessary actions to address the impacts resulting from the mechanical integrity issues in accordance with Division Rule 19.15.26.10 NMAC, and the well shall be tested pursuant to Rule 19.15.26.11 NMAC prior to returning to injection.

The wellhead injection pressure on the well shall be limited to **no more than 881 psi**. 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 formations. 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 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 I office. The operator shall submit monthly reports of the disposal operations that includes number of days of operation, injection volume, and injection pressure on Division Form C-115, in accordance with Division Rules 19.15.26.13 and 19.15.7.24 NMAC.

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 order after notice and hearing if the operator is in violation of Rule 19.15.5.9 NMAC.

The disposal authority granted herein shall terminate one (1) year 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.



ADRIENNE SANDOVAL
Director

AS/mam

cc: Oil Conservation Division – Hobbs District Office
New Mexico State Land Office – Oil, Gas and Minerals Division
Well File – 30-025-09940

PROPOSED RE-ENTRY

Chevron
Alice Paddock #4
API # 30-025-09940
Sec 1 T-22-S R-37-E
1980' FNL 1980' FEL
Spud Date 2/1946
PA'd 2/2013

Anhy @ 1312'
Top Salt @ 1450'
Base Salt @ 2472'
Top Yates 2674'
Top 7 Rivers @ 2768'
Top Queens @ 3028'
Top Grayberg 3314'
Top San Andres 4128'
Top Glorieta 5288'

17 1/4" HOLE
SURF CSG 13 3/8" 48# @ 298'
SX TOC SURF

12 1/4" HOLE
INTMED CSG 9 5/8" 36# @ 2955'
1300 SX TOC 1730' BY TS

8 3/4" HOLE
PROD CSG 7" 23# ID Drift Dia- 6.241" @ 5263'
450 SX TOC 2965' BY TS

5 1/2" CSG liner inside 7" set @ 4400'
TOC Circ.

2 7/8" injection (IPC) TBG set @ 4398' W/
Baker Model R packer

INJECTION INTERVAL
4407' TO 4950'
4 SPF

4950'

CIBP @ 4966'

PERFS 513
TO 5227' S
W/100 S

PERFS 564
TO 5663' S
W/300 S

35' CMT

CIBP @ 5680'

6 1/4" HOLE
LINER 4 1/2" FROM 4996' TO 5710'
TOC 4996' BY CIRC.

OPEN HOLE
TD @ 6300'