

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 01/10/09 PM 1 08

APPLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION, THROUGH THE ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE MANAGER, FOR A COMPLIANCE ORDER AGAINST THORNTON HOPPER FINDING THAT THE OPERATOR IS IN VIOLATION OF 19.15.4.201 NMAC AS TO FIVE WELLS, REQUIRING OPERATOR TO BRING SAID WELLS INTO COMPLIANCE WITH 19.15.4.201 NMAC BY A DATE CERTAIN, AND IN THE EVENT OF NON-COMPLIANCE DECLARING THE WELLS ABANDONED AND AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION TO PLUG THE WELLS, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 13844

APPLICATION FOR COMPLIANCE ORDER
AGAINST THORNTON HOPPER

1. Thornton Hopper ("Operator") is a sole proprietor operating wells in New Mexico under OGRID 22997.

2. The wells Operator operates in New Mexico are federal wells; Operator is not required to post and has not posted financial assurances to secure its obligation to plug and abandon the wells.

3. Division rule 19.15.4.201 NMAC requires an operator to plug and abandon or temporarily abandon a well in accordance with Division rules within 90 days after a period of one year of continuous inactivity.

4. The following wells ("subject wells") operated by Operator in New Mexico have been inactive for a continuous period exceeding one year plus 90 days, and are neither plugged and abandoned in accord with 19.15.4.202 NMAC nor on approved temporary abandonment status in accord with 19.15.4.203 NMAC:

- Bradley Federal #001, D-13-24S-26E, 30-015-00391
- Bradley Federal #002, P-11-24S-26E, 30-015-00387
- Bradley Federal #005, P-11-24S-26E, 30-015-00382
- Bradley Federal #006, I-11-24S-26E, 30-015-00386
- Bradley Federal #008, K-11-24S-26E, 30-015-00383

5. Division rule 19.15.3.101(H) NMAC authorizes the Director to order the operator to plug and abandon any well not in compliance with 19.15.4.201 NMAC and restore and remediate the location by a date certain.

6. NMSA 1978, Section 70-2-12(B)(18) and NMSA 1978, Section 70-2-38 authorize the Division to plug and abandon wells, and restore and remediate the location of abandoned wells.

WHEREFORE, the Enforcement and Compliance Manager of the Division hereby applies to the Director to enter an order:

- A. Determining that the subject wells are not in compliance with 19.15.4.201 NMAC;
- B. Requiring the Operator to plug and abandon each of the subject wells by a date certain;
- C. If the subject wells are not brought into compliance with 19.15.4.201 NMAC by the date set in the order, declaring the wells abandoned and authorizing the Division to plug the subject wells in accordance with a Division-approved plugging program and restore and remediate the locations; and
- D. For such other and further relief as the Director deems just and proper under the circumstances.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
this 29th day of November, 2006 by



Gail MacQuesten
Assistant General Counsel
Energy, Minerals and Natural
Resources Department of the State of
New Mexico
1220 S. St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 476-3451

Attorney for The New Mexico Oil
Conservation Division

Case No. 13844. Application of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for a Compliance Order against Thornton Hopper. The Applicant seeks an order finding that operator is in violation of 19.15.4.201 NMAC as to five wells, requiring operator to bring the five wells into compliance with 19.15.4.201 NMAC by a date certain and authorizing the division to plug said wells in the event of non-compliance. The affected wells are: Bradley Federal #001, D-13-24S-26E, 30-015-00391; Bradley Federal #002, P-11-24S-26E, 30-015-00387; Bradley Federal #005, P-11-24S-26E, 30-015-00382; Bradley Federal #006, I-11-24S-26E, 30-015-00386; Bradley Federal #008, K-11-24S-26E, 30-015-00383. The wells are located approximately 5 miles northeast of Whites City in Eddy County, New Mexico.