

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Susana Martinez
Governor

David Martin
Cabinet Secretary

Tony Delfin
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

David Catanach, Director
Oil Conservation Division



Response Required - Deadline Enclosed

13-Jul-16

SOUTHWESTERN INC
1304 W. BROADWAY PL
HOBBS NM 88240-

LETTER OF VIOLATION - Inactive Well(s)

Dear Operator:

A review of our records and recent inspection(s) indicate that the subject well(s) has been shut-in for an extended period of time. Rule 201 of the Rules and Regulation of the Oil Conservation Division provides that a well may be shut-in no longer than sixty days after suspension of drilling operations, upon determining that the well is no longer usable (e.g., a dry hole), or one year after last production. To comply with guidelines as established in the Rules and Regulations, corrective actions must be taken immediately and the well(s) brought into compliance.

The detail section below indicates preliminary findings and/or probable nature of the violation.

The following options are available:

1. Immediately restore the well(s) to production, injection or disposal as applicable.
2. Request 'Temporary Abandoned' status pursuant to Rule 203, which requires that you set a plug and conduct a mechanical integrity test.
3. Submit a proposal to 'Plug and Abandon' the well(s) pursuant to Rule 202, proceed with plugging procedures on a timely basis after the proposal has been evaluated, amended and/or approved.

In the event that a satisfactory response is not received to this letter of direction by the "Corrective Action Due By:" date shown above, further enforcement will occur. Such enforcement may include this office applying to the Division for an order summoning you to a hearing before a Division Examiner in Santa Fe to show cause why you should not be ordered to permanently plug and abandon this well. Such a hearing may result in imposition of CIVIL PENALTIES for your violation of OCD rules.

IDLE WELL INSPECTION DETAIL SECTION

HUMBLE STATE 002	D-20-18S-28E 30-015-01969-00-00	Inspection No. iTM1619537616
Inspection Date: 7/13/2016 10:26:54 AM	Corrective Action Due by: 10/16/2016	
Type Inspection	Inspector	Violation? *Significant Non-Compliance?
Routine/Periodic	Tony Morales	Yes No
Comments on Inspection:	Idle Well (Rule 201) OK. All Equipment and Location in Good Shape. PJ NOT CONNECTED TO WELL HEAD. NO CONTAINMENT ON TB, STAINING AROUND TB, LOCATION SIGN NEEDS REPLACING.	

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter and your efforts in helping to protect our environment and the infrastructure of the oil and gas industry.

Sincerely,


Artesia OCD District Office

** Significant Non-Compliance events are reported directly to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VI, Dallas, Texas.*