State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Susana Martinez

Governor

Tony Delfin

Acting Cabinet Secretary

David R. Catanach, Division Director

Oil Conservation Division



Response Required - Deadline Enclosed

13-Mar-17

VANGUARD OPERATING, LLC 5847 SAN FELIPE, SUITE 3000 HOUSTON TX 77057-

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 19.15.25.8 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 this 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.

RULE 19.15.16.8

- 2. Request 'Temporary Abandoned' status pursuant to Rule 19.15.25.13, 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 19.15.25.9, 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 **BIG FREDDY AVQ FEDERAL** F-10-23S-22E 30-015-10054-00-00 Inspection No. iUNK1707237653 002 **Inspection Date:** 3/13/2017 10:27:31 AM Corrective Action Due by: 6/16/2017 Violation? Type Inspection *Significant Non-Compliance? Inspector Routine/Periodic Yes Violation of rule 19.15.25.8. LAST REPORTED RODUCTION 6-1-15. NO WELL SIGN Comments on Inspection:

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,

Gilbert Cordero
Compliance Officer

Artesia OCD District Office

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