CASE 6445: PLUGGING CASE - OCT CONSOLIDATED MINERALS DEVELOPMENT CORP....X AMERICAN STRATE CO., COLFAX COUNTY, N.M.

CASE NO.

6445

APPlication, Transcripts, Small Exhibits,

ETC.

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NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

EXAMINER HEARING

	SANTA FE , NEW MEXICO			
Hearing Date	FEBRUARY 14, 1079	Time: 9:00 A.M.		
NAME	REPRESENTING	LOCATION		
JA DAVIDSON	DOYCE HARTHAN	MIDCANDTX		
Robert H. Strand Andrew LATTH	Harvey E. Yates Compung Marry E. Yates Compung	Kosweli Milbral		
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STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION State Land Office Building Santa Fe, New Mexico 14 February 1979

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

The hearing called by the Oil Conservation Division on its own motion to permit Consolidated Minerals Development Corporation, American Surety Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Sarah "S" Well NO. 1 located in Unit 3 of Section 26, Township 31 North, Range 23 East, Colfax County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with the Divisionapproved plugging program.

CASE 6445

BEFORE: Daniel S. Nutter

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

APFEARANCES

For the Oil Conservation Division:

Lynn Teschendorf, Esq. Legal Counsel for the Division State Land Office Bldg. Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

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CARL ULVOG

Direct Examination by Ms. Teschendorf

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MR, NUTTER: Call Case Number 6445, which is in the matter of a hearing called by the Oil Conservation Division on its own motion to permit Consolidated Minerals and Development Corporation, American Surety Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Sarah "S" Well No. 1, located in Unit J of Section 26, Township 31 North, Range 23 East, Colfax County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Division-approved plugging program.

I'll call for appearances in this case.

MS. TESCHENDORF: Lynn Teschendorf, appearing on behalf of the Division, and I have one witness to be sworn.

MR. NUTTER: Arc there other appearances in Case Number 6045?

Will you proceed, please?
(Witness sworn.)

CARL ULVOG

being called as a witness and having been duly sworn upon his oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MS. TESCHENDORF:

Q Mould you please state your name, your posi-

tion,	and	by	whom	you	re	emplo	yed?

A. Carl Ulvog, Senior Geologist for the Oil Conservation Division, and based in Santa Fe.

Q Have you previously testified before the Division and have your credentials been made a matter of record?

- A I have and they are.
- Q Are you familiar with the subject matter of Case Number 6445?

A. Yes, I am.

MS. TESCHENDORF: Is the witness considered qualified?

MR. NUTTER: Yes, he is.

- Q (Ms. Teschendorf continuing.) What is the purpose of this case, Mr. Ulvog?
- A. The purpose of this case is to determine whether or not this well should in fact be plugged before abandonment in accordance with our regulations.
- Q Have you reviewed all the reports filed with the Division concerning this well?
 - A. Yes, I have.
 - a Do you have these records with you?
 - A I do.
- Q Would you please refer to those records and summarize the well's history?

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A. Yes, I will.

The only official reports that were ever received in this office was the Form G-101, the application for the permit to drill, which was received in this office on September 26, 1956.

MR. NUTTER: That's C-101, right? C-101 rather than G-101?

A. C-101.

MR. NUTTER: Right.

A. This is What I said.

MR. NUTTER: No, you said G. Go ahead.

A. This is for the Consolidated Mineral's Development Corporation No. 1 Sarah "S" Well, located in Unit J of Section 26, Township 21 North, Range 23 East, New Mexico prime meridian, Colfax County, New Mexico.

The application for this permit stated that the intention was to drill to approximately 700 feet; that 10-inch casing would be set at 20 feet and 7-inch casing would be set at 650 feet.

The only other report which was received on the same day, was a Form C-103, and that stated that the drilling operation began September 10th and that on the 11th they set the 20 feet of surface pipe, cemented with 3 sames of cement and drilled -- which was dumped down on the outside of the surface, and then they drilled the cement plug.

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that the total depth was 708 feet, so this would be a rumor,

but nevertheless, that's all the information that I have.

on June 1st, 1978, and January 22nd, 1979, partly to determine the condition of the well and partly to get the permission from the landowner to go on the property to do the plugging, and the reason for the delay was that he wanted to check to see whether or not he wanted to take the well over for a water well.

The land, of course, has changed hands
numerous times since the well was drilled, and it was on
January 22nd that he determined that the water in that well
was so bad that he couldn't use it for anything, and then
we got the permission to go in and plug it.

Q Is there a bond covering this well, are Blvog?

1 Yes there is.

And is that a \$5000 one-well bond?

Q. In your opinion could the failure to plug this well cause waste?

Mell, yes, I would think so, because as that depth there could be -- and with apparently, and I say apparently because I did not see any 7-inch casing. All I saw was the 10-inch casing. So it's a possibility that we have an open hole from 20 feet to better than 700 feet.

- Q And that means that water or fluids could migrate into other strata, is that correct?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Are you prepared to recommend a plugging program at this time or would you prefer to describe the program at the actual time of plugging?
- A I can recommend a program but it would have to be quite flexible because when we go in that well, we might find conditions entirely different than what we anticipate at this time.
- Q Have you located a representative of the company?
- A. No, we have sent registered mail to the company and it's never been delivered, but there is apparently, from all this correspondence, I would say that there is a law firm by the name of Calley and Calley which has been representing this company ever since the well began,

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and they are still at the same address and the same people involved, and so on and so forth. But they also have not replied to the correspondence.

- Q Isn't it true that Division personnel have been in contact with them by phone?
 - A At some time in the past. I never have,
- Q Do you have anything further you wish to add to your testimony?
 - A I believe that covers it.

MR. NUTTER: Mr. Ulvog, where is this firm of Calley and Calley?

A. It's in New York.

MR. NUTTER: That's the law firm that represents Consolidated Minerals:

A. That's right.

MR. NUTTER: Did Consolidated Minerals have an address back there somewhere?

A. No, they simply used the address 140 South Second Street in Raton, New Mexico.

MR. NUTTER: Consolidated did?

A. That's correct. That's the only address they ever used.

MR. NUTTER: And mail mailed to them at --

A. I beg your pardon. In some of the correspondence the address appears 8319 Childs Road, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

MR. NUTTER: I know we've got Philadelphia.

A. But there never was a response from there.

MR. NUTTER: And mail addressed to Consoli-

dated Minerals both at Raton and Philadelphia has been returned on that?

A. That's right,

MR. NUTTER: And Calley and Calley choose not to respond also, apparently

A. Now, they did receive their letter, the registered mail that was sent to them on January 30th, 1979.

The card was signed and came back. They did receive it.

MR. NUTTER: Calley and Calley?

A. That's correct.

MR. NUTTER: So they're still in existence anyway.

A. That's right.

Q. (Ms. Teschendorf continuing.) Isn't it true, Mr. Ulvog, that the bond shows that Mr. Frank Calley was the president of Consolidated Minerals?

A. That's correct.

MR. NUTTER: And we do have a bond with American Surety Company?

A That's correct.

MR. NUTTER: Maybe they can find them.

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Does anyone have any questions of Mr. Ulvog?
He may be excused.

Do you have anything further, Ms. Teschendorf:
MS. TESCHENDORF: Nothing more.

MR. NUTTER: Does anyone have anything they

wish to offer in Case Number 6445?

We'll take the case under advisement.

(Hearing concluded.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, SALLY WALTON BOYD, a Court Reporter, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the Oil Conservation Division was reported by me; that said transcript is a full, true, and correct record of the hearing, prepared by me to the best of my ability, knowledge, and skill, from my notes taken at the time of the hearing.

Sally W. Boyd CSR.
Sally W. Boyd, C.S.R.

I do heroby certifications foregoing is a complete record of the present lings in a maminer has ing di class also.

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Oil Conservation Division

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION State Land Office Building Santa Fe, New Mexico 14 February 1979

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

The hearing called by the Oil Conservation Division on its own motion to permit Consolidated Minerals Development Corporation, American Surety Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Sarah "S" Well NO. 1 located in Unit J of Section 26, Township 31 North, Range 23 Bast, Colfax County, New Maxico. should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with the Divisionapproved plugginy program.

CASE 6445

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MR. NUTTER: Are there other appearances in Case Number 6445?

Will you proceed, please?
(Witness sworn.)

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BY MS. TESCHENDORF:

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Carl Ulvog, Senior Geologist for the Oil

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Yes, I am.

MS. TESCHENDORF: Is the witness considered qualified?

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A. The purpose of this case is to determine whether or not this well should in fact be plugged before abandonment in accordance with our regulations.

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A Yes, I have.

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I inspected that location on May 23rd, 1977, on June 1st, 1978, and January 22nd, 1979, partly to determine the condition of the well and partly to get the permission from the landowner to go on the property to do the plugging, and the reason for the delay was that he wanted to check to see whether or not he wanted to take the well over for a water well.

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MS. TESCHENDORF: Nothing more.

MR. NUTTER: Does anyone have anything they

wish to offer in Case Number 6445?

We'll take the case under advisement.

(Hearing concluded.)

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, SALLY WALTON BOYD, a Court Reporter, DO HEREBY

CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached Transcript of

Hearing before the Oil Conservation Division was reported

by me; that said transcript is a full, true, and correct

record of the hearing, prepared by me to the best of my

ability, knowledge, and skill, from my notes taken at the

time of the hearing.

Sally W. Boyd, C.S.R.

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

JERRY APODACA

NICK FRANKLIN SECRETARY

March 6, 1979

FOST OFFICE BOX 8088 STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING BANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501 (505) 827-2434

6445 CASE NO. Ke: Convolidated Minerals Development Corp. ORDER NO. R-5940 c/o Frank Cally Actorney at Law Applicant: 150 Broadway New York, New York 10038 OCD (Consolidated Minerals Development Dear Sir: Enclosed herewith are two copies of the above-referenced Division order recently entered in the subject case. Yours very truly, JOE D. RAMEY Director JDR/fa Copy of order also sent to: Hobbs OCC Artesia OCC Aztec OCC Other American Surety Company

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

> CASE NO. 6445 Order No. R-5940

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION ON STS OWN MOTION TO PERMIT CONSOLIDATED MINERALS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AMERICAN SURETY COMPANY, AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE SARAH "S" WELL NO. 1 LOCATED IN UNIT J OF SECTION 26, TONNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 23 EAST, COLFAX COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, SHOULD NOT BE PLUGGED AND ABANDONED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DIVISION-APPROVED PLUGGING PROGRAM.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on February 14, 1979, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this 28th day of February, 1979, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

- (1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That Consolidated Minerals Development Corporation is the owner and operator of the Sarah "S" Well No. 1, located in Unit J of Section 26, Township 31 Horth, Range 23 East, MEPM, Colfax County, New Mexico.
- (3) That American Surety Company is the surety on the Oil Conservation Division plugging bond on which Consolidated Minerals Development Corporation is principal.
- (4) That the purpose of said bond is to assure the state that the subject well will be properly plugged and abandoned when not capable of commercial production.
- (5) That in order to prevent waste and protect correlative rights said Sarah "8" Well No. 1 should be plugged and abandoned

-z-Case No. 6445 Order No. R-5940

in accordance with a program approved by the Santa Fe District Office of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on or before May 31, 1979, or the well should be returned to active drilling status or placed on production.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That Consolidated Minerals Development Corporation is hereby ordered to plug and abandon the Sarah "5" Well No. 1, located in Unit J of Section 26, Township 31 North, Range 23 East, NMPM, Colfax County, New Mexico, or in the alternative, to return the well to active drilling status or place the well on production on or before May 31, 1979.
- (2) That Consolidated Minerals Development Corporation, prior to plugging and abandoning the above-described well, shall obtain from the Santa Fe office of the Division, a Division-approved program for said plugging and abandoning, and shall notify said Santa Fe office of the date and hour said work is to be commenced whereupon the Division may, at its option, witness such work.
- (3) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

DOE D. RAMEY

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION P. O. BOX 2088 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

January 30, 1979

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT PEQUESTED

Consolidated Minerals Development Corp.
c/o Frank Cally
Attorney-at-Law
150 Broadway
New York, New York 10038

American Surety Company c/o Transamerica Insurance Co. P. O. Box 54256 Los Angeles, California 90054

> Re: Sazah "S" Well No. 1, located in Unit J of Section 26, Township 31 North, Range 23 Fast, Colfax County Plugging Bond

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a copy of the advertisement of the Examiner Hearing to be held on Wednesday, February 14, 1979, at 9 o'clock a.m. in the Oil Conservation Division Conference Room, State Land Office Building, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Case 6445 concerns the above captioned subject matter.

Very truly yours,

LYNN TESCHENDORF
General Counsel

LT/fd enc.

Dockets Nos. 7-79 and 8-79 are tentatively set for hearing on February 28 and March 14, 1979. Applications for hearing must be filed at least 22 days in advance of hearing date.

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 14, 1979

9 A.M. - OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION CONFERENCE ROOM, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

The following cases will be heard before Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner, or Richard L. Stamets, Alternate Examiner:

- ALLOWABLE: (1) Consideration of the ellowable production of gas for March, 1979, from fitteen prorated pools in Lea, Eddy, and Chaves Counties, New Mexico.
 - (2) Consideration of the allowable production of gas for March, 1979, from four prorated pools in San Juan, Rio Arriba, and Sandoval Counties, New Mexico.
 - (3) Consideration of purchaser's nominations for the one year period beginning April 1, 1979, for both of the above areas.
- CASE 6445: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Consertation Division on its own motion to permit Consolidated Minerals Development Corporation, American Surety Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Sarah "S" Well No. 1 located in Unit J of Section 26, Township 31 North, Range 23 East, Colfax County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Division-approved plugging program.
- CASE 6446: Application of Flag-Redfern Oil Company for salt water disposal, Les County, New Mexico.

 Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to dispose of produced salt water into the San Andres formation through the perforated interval from 4,969 feet to 4,984 feet in its Santa Fe Well No. 2 located in Unit D of Section 35, Township 10 South, Range 36 East. Dickinson-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.
- CASE 6447: Application of Atlantic Richfield Company for approval of infill drilling and an unorthodox well location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks a finding that the drilling of the LD political new location and lead to the drilling of the LD political new location and lead to the from the North line and 1650 feet from the West line of Section 31, Township 19 South, Range 37 Past, Eumont Gas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, is necessary to effectively and efficiently drain that portion of the previously approved 160-acre non-standard provation unit which cannot be so drained by the existing unit well.
- CASE 6448: Application of Sam H. Snoddy for amendment of Order No. R-5521, Lea County, New Mexico.

 Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the amendment of Order No. R-5521 to change the 160acre non-standard proration unit to a 320-acre non-standard proration unit comprising the SW/4 of
 Section 25 and the NW/4 of Section 36, both in Township 20 South, Range 32 East, South Salt Lake
 Field, Lea County, New Mexico.
- CASE 6449: Application of The Superior Oil Company for downhole commingling, Eddy County, New Mexico.

 Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the downhole commingling of Strawn and Morrow production in the wellbore of its Ryan Com. Well No. 1 located in Unit D of Section 5, Township 23 South, Range 27 East, South Carlsbad Field, Eddy County, New Mexico.
- CASE 6450: Application of Sun Oil Company for a unit agreement, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for its East Millman Pool Unit Area comprising 920 acres, more or less, of Federal and state lands in Township 19 South, Range 28 East, Eddy County, New Mexico.
- CASE 6451: Application of Burlecon & Huff for approval of infill drilling and an unorthodox well location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks a finding that the drilling of its Coll A Well No. 2 to be located at an unorthodox location 1980 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the East line of Section 29, Township 25 South, Range 37 East, Jalmat Gas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, is necessary to effectively and efficiently drain that portion of the previously approved 160-acre non-standard proration unit which cannot be so drained by the existing unit well.
- CASE 6452: Application of Burleson & Huff for approval of infill drilling, Lea County, New Mexico.

 Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks a finding that the recompletion of its Harrison Well

 No. 2 located in Unit N or, in the alternative, the drilling of its Harrison Well No. 4 to be located
 in Unit L, both in Section 25, Township 24 South, Range 36 East, Jalmat Gas Pool, Lea County, New

 Mexico, is necessary to effectively and efficiently drain that portion of the previously approved

 160-scre non-standard proration unit which cannot be so drained by the existing unit well.
- CASE : Application of Moranco for downhole commingling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the Commingling of Blinebry and Drinkard production in the wellbore of its EM Elliott Well No. 1 located in Unit E of Section 35, Township 21 South, Range 37 East, Lea County, New Mexico.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT - CIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

JAR

CASE NO. 6445

Order No. R- 5740

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION ON ITS OWN MOTION TO PERMIT CONSOLIDATED MINERALS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AMERICAN SURETY COMPANY, AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE SAPAH "S" WELL NO. 1 LOCATED IN UNIT J OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 23 EAST, COLFAX COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, SHOULD NOT BE PLUGGED AND ABANDONED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DIVISION-APPROVED PLUGGING PROGRAM.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

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BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on February 14, 19 79, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter NOW, on this ______ day of February _____, 19 79 ____, the Division! Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

- (1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

 Development Corporation
- (2) That Consolidated Minerals / is the owner and operator of the Sarah "S" Well No. 1

 located in Unit J of Section 26 , Township 31 North

 Range 23 East , NMPM, Colfax County, New Mexico.
- (3) That American Surety Company is the surety on the Oil Conservation Division plugging bond on which Corporation

 Consolidated Minerals Development / is principal.
- (4) That the purpose of said bond is to assure the state that the subject well (**) will be properly plugged and abandoned when not capable of commercial production.
- (5) That in order to prevent waste and protect correlative rights said Sarah "S" Well No. 1 should be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a program approved by

	the Santa Fe District Office of the New Mexico Oil
	Conservation Division on or before
	or the well should be returned to active drilling status or placed
	on production.
	IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:
-	(I) That Consolidated Minerals Development Corporation and
	American Surety Company /S hereby ordered to plug and abandon
	the Sarah "S" Well No. 1
	located in Unit J of Section 26 , Township 31 North
	kange 23 East , NMPM, Colfax County, New Mexico,
-	or in the alternative, to return the well to active drilling
The second section is a second	status or place the well on production on or before
	19_19
The state of the s	(2) That Consolidaced Minerals Development Corporation
Ameri	an Surety Company , prior to plugging and abandoning the above
And descriptions of the second	described well, shall obtain from the Santa Fe office of
	the Division, a Division-approved program for said plugging and
	abandoning, and shall notify saidSanta Feoffice of the
÷	date and hour said work is to be commenced whereupon the Division
	may, at its option, witness such work.
-	(3) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the
	entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.
: '	DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove
	designated.
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