

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

CASE NO. 8487  
Order No. R-7853

IN THE MATTER THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION ON ITS OWN MOTION TO PERMIT J. WARREN MILLER AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE CULPEPPER WELL NO. 1 LOCATED 694 FEET FROM THE SOUTH LINE AND 996 FEET FROM THE WEST LINE (UNIT M) OF SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 29 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, SAN JUAN COUNTY, 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 8 a.m. on February 27, 1985, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Michael E. Stogner.

NOW, on this 15th day of March, 1985, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

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

(2) Division Cases Nos. 8485, 8486, 8487, 8488, 8489, and 8490 were consolidated for purposes of testimony.

(3) J. Warren Miller was the last known owner and operator of the Culpepper Well No. 1 located in the SW/4 SW/4 (Unit M) of Section 16, Township 29 North, Range 13 West, NMPM, Farmington City Limits, San Juan County, New Mexico.

(4) The records on file with the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division show said well to be located 694 feet from the South line and 996 feet from the West line of said Section 16 and the well was plugged and abandoned in an unknown manner in January, 1932.

(5) The subject well has not been located at the above-described location but is believed to be within the SW/4 SW/4 (Unit M) of said Section 16.

(6) At this time, the subject well is not covered by a plugging bond.

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(7) The current condition of said well could be such that waste may occur, correlative rights may be violated, and/or fresh waters may be contaminated if action is not taken to properly plug and abandon the well.

(8) J. Warren Miller should be ordered to plug and abandon said Culpepper Well No. 1 in accordance with a program approved by the Aztec District Office of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on or before April 15, 1985.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) J. Warren Miller is hereby ordered to plug and abandon the Culpepper Well No. 1, located in the SW/4 SW/4 (Unit M) of Section 16, Township 29 North, Range 13 West, NMPM, Farmington City Limits, San Juan County, New Mexico, on or before April 15, 1985.

(2) J. Warren Miller, prior to plugging and abandoning the above-described well, shall obtain from the Aztec office of the Division, a Division-approved program for said plugging and abandoning, and shall notify said Aztec office of the date and hour said work is to be commenced whereupon the Division may, at its option, witness such work.

(3) 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

  
R. L. STAMETS,  
Director

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