## State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Susana Martinez

Governor

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Brett F. Woods, Ph.D. Deputy Cabinet Secretary Jami Bailey
Division Director
Oil Conservation Division



April 2, 2012

Chesapeake Operating, Inc. Attn: Bryan Arrant P.O. Box 18496 Oklahoma City, OK 73154

Email: bryan.arrant@chk.com

# Notice of Termination of Authority to Inject into the China Grove Federal Well No. 1 (API #30-015-27678), Administrative Order SWD-1243

#### Dear Operator:

On September 3, 2010, the Oil Conservation Division issued Administrative Order SWD-1243 (hereinafter, "Disposal Order") which authorized injection into the China Grove Federal #1. Division records show Chesapeake Operating, Inc., OGRID #147179 (hereinafter, "Chesapeake") as the operator of record of the well.

The Disposal Order provides that the disposal authority granted by the Disposal Order shall terminate one year after the effective date of the Disposal Order if the operator has not commenced injection operations into the well unless the division, upon written request mailed by the operator prior to the termination date, has granted an extension.

Additionally, Division Rule 19.15.26.12(C) NMAC states:

- C. Abandonment of injection operations.
  - (1) Whenever there is a continuous one year period of non-injection into all wells in an injection or storage project or into a salt water disposal well or special purpose injection well, the division shall consider the project or well abandoned, and the authority for injection shall automatically terminate ipso facto.
  - (2) For good cause shown, the director may grant an administrative extension or extensions of injection authority as an exception to Paragraph (1) of Subsection C of 19.15.26.12 NMAC, provided that any such extension may be granted only prior to the end of one year or [sic] continuous non-injection,

Administrative Order SWD-1243 China Grove Federal Well #1, API #30-015-27678 Chesapeake Operating, Inc. – OGRID #147179 April 2, 2012 Page 2

or during the term of a previously granted extension.

Division records (a copy of which is enclosed) do not show the commencement of injection operations into the well since the Disposal Order was issued on September 3, 2010, and there is no indication that the operator ever submitted a written request for an extension of the terms of the Disposal Order prior to the termination date. (Division records show that on August 19, 2010 the Bureau of Land Management approved Chesapeake's application for a permit to re-enter the well which is plugged. Division records do not show that Chesapeake has re-entered the well as of this date.)

## Therefore, Administrative Order SWD-1243 has terminated pursuant to its own terms and Division Rule 19.15.26.12.C NMAC.

If Chesapeake wishes to inject into the well, it will have to reapply for authority to inject with the Division's Engineering Bureau. Please contact Will Jones in the Division's Engineering Bureau at (505) 476-3448 or william.v.jones@state.nm.us to discuss this matter further.

Please feel free to contact me at (505) 476-3493 or daniel.sanchez@state.nm.us if you have any questions.

Sincerely.

Daniel Sanchez

New Mexico Underground Injection Control Program Director

ec:

Richard Inge, OCD Artesia Randy Dade, OCD Artesia William Jones, OCD Santa Fe

Theresa Duran-Saenz, OCD Santa Fe Curtis Blake, cblake@chkenergy.com

## 30-015-27678 CHINA GROVE FEDERAL #001 [38310]

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