



New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Bill Richardson
Governor

Jon Goldstein
Cabinet Secretary

Jim Noel
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Mark Fesmire
Division Director
Oil Conservation Division



Administrative Order IPI-362
February 22, 2010

Apache Corporation
3120 S. Yale
Suite 1500
Tulsa, OK 74136-4224

Attention: Mr. Jeff Fredrick

RE: Injection Pressure Increase Request

Blankenship Well No. 2 (API No. 30-025-07767) R-13176
Unit L, Sec. 12, T20 South, R38 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico
Tubb/Drinkard formation
Through perforations from 6,046 feet to 7,028 feet

Reference is made to your request on behalf of Apache Corporation (OGRID 873) to increase the surface injection pressure limit on the above named well.

This well in the Blankenship Lease Waterflood Project was approved by the Division for injection into perforations from 6,046 feet to 7,028 feet with Order No R-13176 (Case No. 14360) and given a maximum surface injection pressure of 1209 psi.

It is our understanding that this well will not take a sufficient volume of water at this pressure limit and a higher pressure limit is needed to optimize waterflood operations within this unit.

The basis for granting this pressure increases the injection step rate test run on this well on January 20, 2010. The results of the step rate test show that an increase in the surface injection pressure for this well is justified and will not result in the fracturing of the injection formation and confining strata.

You are hereby authorized to utilize up to **2040 psi** as the maximum surface injection pressure on this well provided the tubing, size, type, and setting depth does not change.



This approval is subject to your being in compliance with all other Division rules, including but not limited to Division Rule 5.9.

The Division Director may rescind this injection pressure increase if it becomes apparent that the injected fluid is not being confined to the injection zone or fresh water aquifers are being endangered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark E. Fesmire', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark E. Fesmire, P.E.
Acting Division Director

MEF/tw

cc: Oil Conservation Division – Hobbs
Case 14360