



New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Administrative Order WFX-864
April 30, 2010

APPLICATION OF CHEVRON USA, INC. TO EXPAND ITS WATERFLOOD PROJECT IN THE DRINKARD POOL IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Under the provisions of Division Order R-4256, as amended, Chevron USA, Inc. (OGRID No. 4323) has made application to the Division for permission to add five additional injection wells to its Central Drinkard Unit waterflood project located within the Drinkard Pool (Pool No. 19190) in Lea County, New Mexico.

THE DIVISION DIRECTOR FINDS THAT:

The application was filed in due form. No objections have been filed within the waiting period prescribed by Division Rule 26.8 (C). The proposed injection well is eligible for conversion to injection under the terms of Rule 26.8. The operator is in compliance with Rule 5.9.

The proposed expansion of the above-referenced waterflood project will not cause waste nor impair correlative rights and should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

Chevron USA, Inc. is hereby authorized to inject water into the unitized interval of the Central Drinkard Unit Waterflood Project, through plastic-lined tubing set in a packer located within 100 feet of the top of the injection interval in the following-described well for purposes of secondary recovery:

Central Drinkard Unit Well No. 439 (API No. 30-025-.....)
1,876' FSL, 980' FWL, Unit K, Sec 29, T21S, R37E, NMPM
Permitted Injection Interval: 6,511 to 6,651
Maximum Surface Injection Pressure: 1350 PSI



Central Drinkard Unit Well No. 440 (API No. 30-025-.....)

959' FSL, 2,519' FWL, Unit N, Sec 29, T21S, R37E, NMPM
Permitted Injection Interval: 6,475 to 6,643
Maximum Surface Injection Pressure: 1350 PSI

Central Drinkard Unit Well No. 441 (API No. 30-025-.....)

933' FNL, 602' FWL, Unit D, Sec 32, T21S, R37E, NMPM
Permitted Injection Interval: 6,501 to 6,608
Maximum Surface Injection Pressure: 1350 PSI

Central Drinkard Unit Well No. 442 (API No. 30-025-.....)

1,930' FNL, 2,195' FWL, Unit F Sec 29, T21S, R37E, NMPM
Permitted Injection Interval: 6,486 to 6,633
Maximum Surface Injection Pressure: 1350 PSI

Central Drinkard Unit Well No. 444 (API No. 30-025-.....)

1,410' FSL, 1,345' FEL, Unit J Sec 32, T21S, R37E, NMPM
Permitted Injection Interval: 6486 to 6,633
Maximum Surface Injection Pressure: 1350 PSI

all located in Lea County, New Mexico

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

The operator shall take all steps necessary to ensure that the injected water enters only the proposed injection interval and is not permitted to escape to other formations or onto the surface.

Prior to commencing injection operations into the well, the casing shall be pressure tested from the surface to the packer setting depth to assure the integrity of said casing.

The casing-tubing annulus shall be loaded with an inert fluid and equipped with a pressure gauge at the surface or left open to the atmosphere to facilitate detection of leakage in the casing, tubing or packer.

The injection well or system shall be equipped with pressure limiting devices which will limit the wellhead pressure to the maximum surface injection pressure described above.

The Director of the Division may authorize an increase in injection pressure upon a proper showing by the operator of said well that such higher pressure will not result in migration of the injected fluid from the permitted injection interval. Such proper showing shall consist of valid step-rate tests run in accordance with and acceptable to this office.

The operator shall notify the supervisor of the Hobbs District Office of the Division of the date and time of the installation of injection equipment and of all mechanical integrity tests so that the same may be inspected and witnessed.

The operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Hobbs District Office of the Division of the failure of the tubing, casing or packer in said well and shall take such steps as may be timely and necessary to correct such failure or leakage.

The subject well shall be governed by all provisions of Division Order No. R-4256, as amended, and Rules 26.9 through 26.13 of the Division Rules and Regulations not inconsistent herewith.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, jurisdiction is retained by the Division for the entry of such further orders as may be necessary for the prevention of waste and/or protection of correlative rights or upon failure of the operator to conduct operations (1) to protect fresh water or (2) consistent with the requirements in this order, whereupon the Division may, after notice and hearing, terminate the injection authority granted herein.

The injection authority granted herein shall terminate one year after the effective date of this order if the operator has not commenced injection operations into the subject well, provided however, the Division, upon written request by the operator received prior to the one year deadline, may grant an extension thereof for good cause shown.


MARK E. FESMIRE, P.E.
Acting Division Director

MEF/tw

cc: Oil Conservation Division – Hobbs
Order No. R-4256