



**NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS
& NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
2040 South Pacheco Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
(505) 827-7131

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SWD-770

***APPLICATION OF SONAT RATON, L.L.C. FOR PRODUCED WATER DISPOSAL,
COLFAX COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.***

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

Under the provisions of Rule 701(B), Sonat Raton, L.L.C. made application to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division on April 4, 2000, for permission to complete for produced water disposal its VPR "A" Well No. 42 (**API No. 30-007-20143**) located 1619.4 feet from the North line and 2510.6 feet from the West line (Unit F) of Section 1, Township 31 North, Range 19 East, NMPM, Colfax County, New Mexico.

THE DIVISION DIRECTOR FINDS THAT:

- (1) The application has been duly filed under the provisions of Rule 701(B) of the Division Rules and Regulations;
- (2) Satisfactory information has been provided that all offset operators and surface owners have been duly notified;
- (3) The applicant has presented satisfactory evidence that all requirements prescribed in Rule 701 will be met; and
- (4) No objections have been received within the waiting period prescribed by said rule.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The applicant herein, is hereby authorized to complete its VPR "A" Well No. 42 (**API No. 30-007-20143**) located 1619.4 feet from the North line and 2510.6 feet from the West line (Unit F) of Section 1, Township 31 North, Range 19 East, NMPM, Colfax County, New Mexico, in such a manner as to permit the injection of produced water for disposal purposes into the Dakota and Entrada formations from approximately 6,400 feet to 7,350 feet through 4 1/2 inch plastic-lined tubing set in a packer located at approximately 6,350 feet. At the discretion of the supervisor of the Santa Fe district office of the Division, the 4 1/2 inch tubing shall be replaced with 2 7/8 inch tubing.

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 and subsequently every year thereafter, the casing shall be pressure tested from the surface to the packer setting depth to assure the integrity of said casing.

The casing shall be inspected annually using a Division approved casing inspection log.

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 a pressure limiting device which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to no more than 1280 psi.

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 Dakota and Entrada formations. Such proper showing shall consist of a valid step-rate test run in accordance with and acceptable to this office.

The operator shall notify the supervisor of the Santa Fe district office of the Division of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment and of any mechanical integrity testing and casing inspection logging so that the same may be inspected and witnessed.

The operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Santa Fe 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.

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 operator shall submit monthly reports of the disposal operations on Division Form C-115, in accordance with Rule Nos. 706 and 1120 of the Division Rules and Regulations.

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

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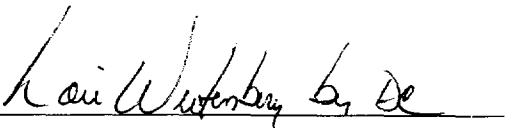
Sonat Raton, L.L.C.

April 21, 2000

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however, the Division, upon written request by the operator, may grant an extension thereof for good cause shown.

Approved at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on this 21st day of April, 2000.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lori Wrotenbery", is written over a horizontal line.

LORI WROTENBERY, Director

LW/MWA/kv

cc: Oil Conservation Division – Santa Fe