

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

**APPLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
THROUGH THE SUPERVISOR OF DISTRICT III FOR AN ORDER REQUIRING  
GEO ENGINEERING INC. TO PROPERLY PLUG FORTY-FIVE WELLS  
LOCATED IN TOWNSHIP 20 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, MCKINLEY COUNTY,  
NEW MEXICO, AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION TO PLUG SAID WELLS, AND  
ORDERING A FORFEITURE OF THE PLUGGING BOND.**

*CASE NO. 11813  
Order No. R-10867*

**ORDER OF THE DIVISION**

**BY THE DIVISION:**

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on July 10, 1997, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (the "Division") before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 1997, the Division Director, having considered 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.

(1) Geo Engineering, Inc. is the last known owner and operator of the forty-five (45) wells located in Township 20 North, Range 9 West, in McKinley County, New Mexico listed on Exhibit A to this order.

(2) In compliance with Division Rules and Regulations, the operator of said well, posted a blanket plugging bond in the amount of \$50,000.00 issued by American Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Company.

(3) The purpose of said bond is to assure the Division that the subject well will be properly plugged and abandoned when not capable of commercial production.

(4) Neither the operator, the surety, nor any other interested party appeared at the hearing. The record contains uncontroverted evidence that the wells are in need of plugging.

(5) The subject wells have not produced hydrocarbon substance or have otherwise been inactive for more than one year, and no permits for temporary abandonment has been requested by the operator or approved by the Division.

(6) By virtue of the failure to use the subject wells for a beneficial purpose or to have approved current temporary abandonment permits, the wells are presumed to have been abandoned.

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

(8) In order to prevent waste, to protect correlative rights, and to protect fresh waters, the wells should be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a program approved by the supervisor of the Aztec District Office of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division.

(9) At this time, the Division seeks an order directing the operator to plug the wells and if the operator fails to do so, make demand upon the surety to pay the Division so much of the bond amount (up to amount of the bond) as is necessary to pay the costs of plugging the wells.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) The operator is hereby ordered to immediately plug and abandon the wells listed on the attached Exhibit A to this order.

(2) The operator, prior to plugging and abandoning the wells, shall obtain from the supervisor of the Division Aztec District Office an approved program for said plugging and abandoning and shall notify said Aztec Office of the date and time said work is to commence whereupon the Division may, at its option, witness such work.

(3) Should the operator either fail or refuse to carry out the provisions of this order, the Division shall then take such action as is deemed necessary to have the wells properly plugged and abandoned at which time the Division Director shall make demand upon the surety, American Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Company, to pay so much of the bond amount as is necessary to pay the costs of plugging said wells.

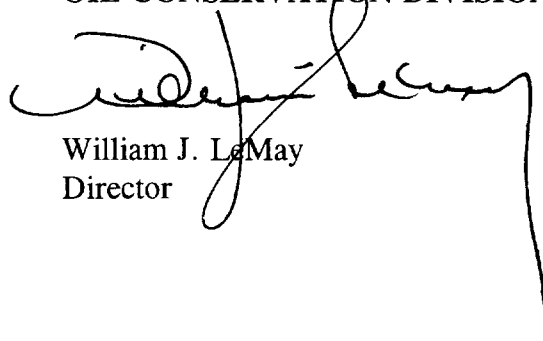
(4) Jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

*CASE NO. 11813*  
*Order No. R-10867*  
*Page -3-*

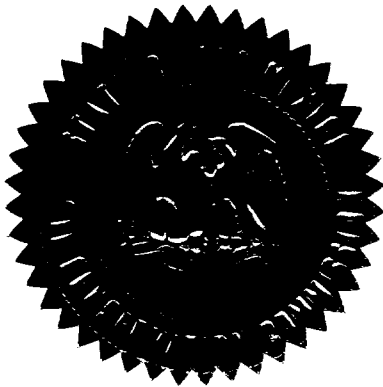
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DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO**  
**OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**



William J. LeMay  
Director



S E A L

Exhibit "A"

OPERATOR	WELL NAME	WELL NO	UL	SEC	TWN	RGE	FTAGE NS	FTAGE EW	API NUMBER	STATUS	POOL
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	113	P	21	20N	09W	165/S	965/E	30-031-20433	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	110	P	21	20N	09W	360/S	360/E	30-031-20060	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	19	P	21	20N	09W	500/S	660/E	30-031-20861	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	102	P	21	20N	09W	565/S	165/E	30-031-20062	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	101	P	21	20N	09W	565/S	565/E	30-031-20061	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	117	N	22	20N	09W	330/S	1650/W	30-031-20453	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	116	N	22	20N	09W	990/S	1650/W	30-031-20445	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	114	N	22	20N	09W	990/S	1980/W	30-031-20431	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	6	A	28	20N	09W	330/N	990/E	30-031-20484	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	34	A	28	20N	09W	660/N	330/E	30-031-20901	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	21	A	28	20N	09W	660/N	660/E	30-031-20644	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	8	A	28	20N	09W	707/N	1273/E	30-031-20618	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	1	A	28	20N	09W	970/N	970/E	30-031-20477	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	9	B	28	20N	09W	330/N	1650/E	30-031-20620	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	25	B	28	20N	09W	350/N	2260/E	30-031-20765	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	10	B	28	20N	09W	47/N	1367/E	30-031-20621	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	26	B	28	20N	09W	620/N	1965/E	30-031-20766	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	13	B	28	20N	09W	660/N	1650/E	30-031-20623	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	2	B	28	20N	09W	990/N	1650/E	30-031-20480	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	3	B	28	20N	09W	990/N	2310/E	30-031-20483	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	22	B	28	20N	09W	990/N	2635/E	30-031-20645	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	STATE	9	O	20	20N	09W	110/S	1910/E	30-031-05393	TA	CHACO
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	36	O	20	20N	09W	265/S	2150/E	30-031-20398	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	38	O	20	20N	09W	275/S	2510/E	30-031-20426	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	2	O	20	20N	09W	317/S	1731/E	30-031-60027	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	4	O	20	20N	09W	320/S	1920/E	30-031-05400	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	23	O	20	20N	09W	490/S	2300/E	30-031-20565	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	47	O	20	20N	09W	580/S	1400/E	30-031-20565	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	3	O	20	20N	09W	65/S	1713/E	30-031-60028	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	12	P	20	20N	09W	1085/S	860/E	30-031-05396	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	24	P	20	20N	09W	450/S	1145/E	30-031-05415	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	10	P	20	20N	09W	990/S	1280/E	30-031-05377	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	7	A	29	20N	09W	225/N	1265/E	30-031-05385	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	8	A	29	20N	09W	5/N	1130/E	30-031-05385	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	42	B	29	20N	09W	105/N	1610/E	30-031-20559	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	22	B	29	20N	09W	1115/N	2325/E	30-031-05357	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	35	B	29	20N	09W	160/N	2135/E	30-031-20397	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	20	B	29	20N	09W	300/N	1800/E	30-031-05358	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	1	B	29	20N	09W	330/N	1620/E	30-031-20579	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	43	B	29	20N	09W	420/N	1940/E	30-031-05646	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	33	B	29	20N	09W	600/N	2450/E	30-031-20980	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	5	B	29	20N	09W	615/N	1920/E	30-031-05360	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	13	C	29	20N	09W	452/N	2740/E	30-031-05360	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	21	C	29	20N	09W	834/N	2113/W	30-031-05356	TA	RED MOUNTAIN
GEO ENGINEERING INC	SANTA FE PACIFIC	20	F	29	20N	09W	1344/N	2555/W	30-031-05356	TA	RED MOUNTAIN