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 JOSEPH P. DRISCOLL D/B/A SOUTHWEST PRODUCTION CO. TO PROPERLY PLUG TWO WELLS IN SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION TO PLUG SAID WELLS, AND ORDERING A FORFEITURE OF THE PLUGGING BOND, IF ANY.

CASE NO. 12496

APPLICATION FOR PLUGGING AND FORFEITURE OF BOND

- 1. Joseph P. Driscoll d/b/a Southwest Production Co. ("Operator") is the operator of the following two wells in San Juan County, New Mexico:
 - a. Wright State Com No. 1 located 790' from the North line and 790' from the East line in Unit A of Section 16, Township 27 North, Range 12 West; and
 - Fannie Ward No. 1 located 1800' from the South line and 1520' from the West line in
 Unit K of Section 18, Township 30 North, Range 11 West
- 2. Operator has posted a surety bond in the amount of \$50,000.00 for said wells in compliance with NMSA 1978, → 70-2-14 and Rule 101 of the Rules of the Oil Conservation Division ("Division"), which bond is conditioned upon compliance with the statutes of the State of New Mexico and the Rules of the Division with respect to the proper plugging and abandonment of the well operated by Operator. Gulf Insurance Company is the surety.
- 3. The subject wells have not produced hydrocarbon or carbon dioxide substance or have otherwise been inactive for more than one year or are no longer usable for beneficial purposes and no permit for temporary abandonment has been requested by the Operator or approved by the Division.

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- 4. By virtue of the failure to use the wells for beneficial purposes or to have approved a current temporary abandonment permit, the wells are presumed to have been abandoned and are required to be plugged.
- 5. By authority of NMSA 1978, → 70-2-14 the Rules of the Division require wells that are inactive for more than one year or are no longer usable for beneficial purposes to be properly plugged.
- 6. Demand has been made or attempted to be made upon the Operator either to place the subject wells to beneficial use, obtain approval for temporary abandonment or properly plug and abandon the same, and the Operator has failed to do so.

WHEREFORE, the Supervisor of District III of the Oil Conservation Division applies to the Director to enter an order:

- A. Determining whether the wells should be plugged in accordance with a Division-approved plugging program.
- B. Upon a determination that the wells should be plugged, directing Operator to plug the wells.
- C. Further ordering that if Operator fails to plug and abandon the wells as ordered by the Director, that the Division be authorized: i. to plug the wells; ii. to declare forfeit on the bond, if any, and to take such action to foreclose on the bond; and iii. to recover from the Operator any costs of plugging the wells in excess of the amount of the bond, if any.
- D. For such other and further relief as the Division deems just and proper, including the assessment of fines.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

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New Mexico Oil Conservation Division

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