

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

CASE No. 2403
Order No. R-2118

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED
BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TO PERMIT HENRY W. ETZ, JR. AND ALL
INTERESTED PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW
CAUSE WHY THE RICE ANDREWS WELL NO. 1,
SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 14 SOUTH, RANGE
25 EAST, CHAVES COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
SHOULD NOT BE REPLUGGED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH A COMMISSION-APPROVED PLUGGING
PROGRAM.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 o'clock a.m. on October 25, 1961, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner duly appointed by the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," in accordance with Rule 1214 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

NOW, on this 17th day of November, 1961, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the application, the evidence adduced, and the recommendations of the Examiner, Daniel S. Nutter, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That the Rice Andrews Well No. 1, located in the NE/4 NW/4 of Section 14, Township 14 South, Range 25 East, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico, is owned and operated by Henry W. Etz, Jr., 511 North Lea, Roswell, New Mexico.

(3) That said Rice Andrews Well No. 1 was drilled within the horizontal limits of the Roswell Artesian Water Basin.

(4) That approval of the Notice of Intention to Drill the said Rice Andrews Well No. 1 was made subject to the conditions that, in the event the well were to be abandoned, the plugging program would have to be approved by the Commission and the State Engineer's Office and that the plugging would have to be witnessed by a representative of the State Engineer's Office.

(5) That the above-described conditions to which the approval of the Notice of Intention to Drill the said Rice Andrews Well No. 1 was made subject were made in the interest

of protecting the artesian waters of the Roswell Artesian Water Basin and of protecting the possible oil and gas reserves.

(6) That the operator failed to obtain an approved plugging program and failed to notify the Commission and/or the State Engineer's Office of the proposed plugging prior to commencing the plugging of the said Rice Andrews Well No. 1.

(7) That the manner in which the said Rice Andrews Well No. 1 was plugged constitutes a hazard to the water and/or oil and gas in the area.

(8) That the operator should be required to re-enter the said Rice Andrews Well No. 1 and to plug said well as prescribed by the Commission.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That Henry W. Etz, Jr. is hereby directed to re-enter his Rice Andrews Well No. 1, located in the NE/4 NW/4 of Section 14, Township 14 South, Range 25 East, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico, and to plug said well in the following manner:

- (a) Drill out the cement plug at the surface;
- (b) Go into the hole with bit and clean out down to the cement plug at approximately 900 feet;
- (c) Spot a cement plug of not less than 20 sacks from approximately 425 feet to 575 feet and spot another cement plug of not less than 5 sacks from the surface to approximately 40 feet, filling all intervals between the cement plugs with mud weighing not less than 10 pounds per gallon; and
- (d) Place a regulation steel marker not less than 4 inches in diameter in the top of the surface plug, the steel marker to extend at least 2 feet into the cement plug and 4 feet above the mean ground level.

(2) That the plugging of the said Rice Andrews Well No. 1 shall be completed by January 1, 1962, and that Henry W. Etz, Jr. shall notify the Artesia Office of the Commission of the exact time and date the above-described plugging operations are to commence.

(3) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

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DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year herein-
above designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

E. L. Mechem
EDWIN L. MECHEM, Chairman

E. S. Walker
E. S. WALKER, Member

A. L. Porter, Jr.
A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary



esr/