

BEFORE THE
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Santa Fe, New Mexico
October 24, 1962

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

The hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission, on its own motion, to permit M. G. Peters Drilling Company and all interested parties to appear and show cause why the Gulf State Well No. 1, located 1650 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the East line of Section 17, Township 10 South, Range 27 East, Chaves County, New Mexico, and the Hightower State Well No. 1, located 846 feet from the South line and 2310 feet from the East line of Section 16, Township 10 South, Range 25 East, Chaves County, New Mexico, should not be plugged in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.

CASE 2680

BEFORE: Elvis A. Utz, Examiner

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

MR. UTZ: We will proceed with Case 2680.

MR. DURRETT: In the matter of the hearing of the Oil Conservation Commission, on its own motion, to permit M. G. Peters Drilling Company and all interested parties to appear and show cause why the Gulf State Well No. 1, located 1650 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the East line of Section 17, Township 10 South, Range 27 East, Chaves County, New Mexico, and the Hightower State Well No. 1, located 846 feet from the South line and 2310 feet from the East line of Section 16, Township 10 South, Range 25 East, Chaves County, New Mexico, should not be

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plugged in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.

May it please the Examiner, my name is James Durrett, representing the Commission and its Staff. I have one witness, Mr. M. L. Armstrong, District Supervisor of District Number Two for the Commission.

MR. UTZ: Let the record show that this witness was sworn in the previous case.

M. L. ARMSTRONG

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn on oath, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. DURRETT:

Q Are you the same M. L. Armstrong that previously appeared here today in Case 2679?

A Yes, sir.

MR. UTZ: Are there other appearances in this case? You may proceed.

Q (By Mr. Durrett) Mr. Armstrong, as a part of your official duties, do you supervise the plugging of wells in your District and make recommendations to the Commission concerning whether or not the wells in your district should be plugged?

A Yes, sir.

Q Are you familiar with these two wells that we have here today that are the subject of this case?

A Yes.

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Q And are these wells located as described on the docket of this case and as advertised in this case?

A Yes, sir.

Q Do you have recommendations to make to the Examiner concerning whether or not these two wells should be plugged?

A I believe they should. They have been standing with no production for quite a long while, and those wells -- this Gulf State No. 1 Well was completed I guess in 1960 and it hasn't produced any oil since then.

Q Do your records indicate, Mr. Armstrong, that this well has ever been plugged?

A No, it does not.

Q Do you feel that this well is presently causing waste or likely to cause waste?

A I believe it will cause waste. It has no pipe in it or no record of any pipe being put in the well.

Q Do you have a recommendation to make to the Examiner concerning the manner in which this well should be plugged in order to prevent waste?

A Yes. I think it should have a 25-sack plug at total depth filled with heavy mud up to the top plug, with a marker.

MR. UTZ: Where would you say the top plug would be?

A The top plug is on the surface. It's to hold the marker.

MR. UTZ: How many sacks would you suggest in the top



plug?

A Five is enough, enough to hold a marker. This well is only 500 foot.

Q (By Mr. Durrett) Mr. Armstrong, let's proceed to the Hightower State Well No. 1. Do your official records indicate that this well has ever been plugged?

A No, sir.

Q In your opinion, is this well causing waste or is it likely to cause waste if it is not plugged in accordance with the Commission-approved program?

A Yes, I believe it will. It's located close to a refuge. In other words, there's, well, a body of water right close to it and this well I think should be plugged at once.

Q You feel it should be plugged immediately?

A Yes.

Q Would you please state to the Examiner your recommendations concerning the manner in which this well should be plugged?

A Well, as the others, it needs a 25-sack plug at the total depth.

MR. UTZ: How deep is this well?

A The total depth, 858. And 20-sack plug around 250, that's where the fresh water comes in is around 250; and heavy mud between the two plugs and then with heavy mud from there on up to the surface marker, about a 5-sack plug at the surface.

Q (By Mr. Durrett) In view of these facts, Mr. Armstrong,

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do you recommend to the Examiner that the Commission should immediately enter an order demanding that the two subject wells be plugged in accordance with your programs as set out here?

A I do.

MR. DURRETT: Thank you. I believe that's all I have of this witness.

MR. UTZ: Do all of these wells in question have bonds?

A Yes.

MR. UTZ: Any other questions of the witness? The witness may be excused.

(Witness excused.)

MR. UTZ: Any other statements in this case? The case will be taken under advisement.

* * * * *



STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
)
 COUNTY OF BERNALILLO) ss

I, ADA DEARNLEY, Notary Public in and for the County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing was reported by me in stenotype, and that the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

WITNESS my Hand and Seal this 19th day of October, 1962, in the City of Albuquerque, County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico.

Ada Dearnley

 NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:

June 19, 1963.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. 2689 heard by me on 10-24, 1962.
Thomas A. [Signature]
 _____, Examiner
 New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission

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