

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION
COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR
THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 4490
Order No. R-4120

APPLICATION OF TEXAS PACIFIC OIL COMPANY
FOR AN EXCEPTION TO ORDER NO. R-3221, AS
AMENDED, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on March 17, 1971, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this 23rd day of March, 1971, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, 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 applicant, Texas Pacific Oil Company, is the owner and operator of the Wooley Federal Well No. 3, located in Unit K of Section 21, Township 17 South, Range 30 East, NMPM, Loco Hills-Abo Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

(3) That Order (3) of Commission Order No. R-3221, as amended, prohibits in that area encompassed by Lea, Eddy, Chaves, and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico, the disposal, subject to minor exceptions, of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, on the surface of the ground, or in any pit, pond, lake, depression, draw, stream-bed, or arroyo, or in any watercourse, or in any other place or in any manner which would constitute a hazard to any fresh water supplies and said disposal has not previously been prohibited.

(4) That the aforesaid Order No. R-3221 was issued in order to afford reasonable protection against contamination of

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fresh water supplies designated by the State Engineer through disposal of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, in unlined surface pits.

(5) That the State Engineer has designated, pursuant to Section 65-3-11 (15), N.M.S.A., 1953 Compilation, all underground water in the State of New Mexico containing 10,000 parts per million or less of dissolved solids as fresh water supplies to be afforded reasonable protection against contamination; except that said designation does not include any water for which there is no present or reasonably foreseeable beneficial use that would be impaired by contamination.

(6) That the applicant seeks an exception to the provisions of the aforesaid Order (3) to permit the disposal of salt water produced by its aforesaid Wooley Federal Well No. 3 in an unlined surface pit located in the vicinity of the subject well.

(7) That there appears to be no shallow fresh water in the vicinity of the subject pit for which a present or reasonably foreseeable beneficial use is or will be made that would be impaired by contamination from the subject pit.

(8) That the applicant should be permitted to dispose of water produced by the subject well in an unlined surface pit in the vicinity of the well.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the applicant, Texas Pacific Oil Company, is hereby granted an exception to Order (3) of Commission Order No. R-3221, as amended, to dispose of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, by its Wooley Federal Well No. 3, located in Unit K of Section 21, Township 17 South, Range 30 East, NMPM, Loco Hills-Abo Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico, in an unlined surface pit located in the vicinity of said well.

(2) That the Secretary-Director of the Commission may by administrative order rescind such authority whenever it reasonably appears to the Secretary-Director that such rescission would serve to protect fresh water supplies from contamination.

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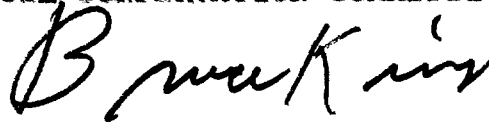
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(3) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

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

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION



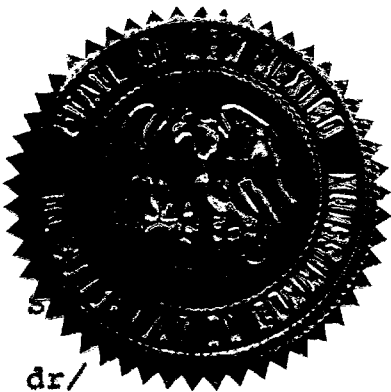
BRUCE KING, Chairman



ALEX J. ARMIJO, Member



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



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