

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. 4634  
Order No. R-4234

APPLICATION OF TEXACO INC.  
FOR A WATERFLOOD EXPANSION,  
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on December 15, 1971, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Elvis A. Utz.

NOW, on this 4th day of January, 1972, 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, Texaco Inc., seeks permission to expand the West Vacuum Unit Waterflood Project in the West Vacuum Unit Area, Vacuum Pool, by the injection of water into the Grayburg-San Andres formation through eleven additional injection wells located in Sections 28, 33, and 34 of Township 17 South, Range 34 East, and Sections 3 and 4 of Township 18 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, as follows:

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| <u>Well No.</u> | <u>Unit</u> | <u>Section</u> | <u>Township and Range</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Well No. 4      | K           | 28             | 17 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 7      | C           | 33             | 17 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 16     | G           | 33             | 17 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 18     | E           | 34             | 17 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 20     | G           | 34             | 17 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 23     | K           | 33             | 17 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 32     | O           | 33             | 17 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 34     | M           | 34             | 17 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 36     | O           | 34             | 17 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 40     | C           | 4              | 18 South, 34 East         |
| Well No. 48     | G           | 3              | 18 South, 34 East         |

(3) That the wells in the project area are in an advanced state of depletion and should properly be classified as "stripper" wells.

(4) That the proposed expansion of the West Vacuum Unit Waterflood Project should result in the recovery of otherwise unrecoverable oil, thereby preventing waste.

(5) That an administrative procedure should be adopted whereby the Secretary-Director of the Commission may authorize additional injection wells within said waterflood project as may be necessary to complete an efficient injection pattern.

(6) That the subject application should be approved and the expanded project should be governed by the provisions of Rules 701, 702, and 703 of the Commission Rules and Regulations, provided, however, that the showing of well response as required by Rule 701 E-5 should not be necessary before obtaining administrative approval for the conversion of additional wells to water injection.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the applicant, Texaco Inc., is hereby authorized to expand its West Vacuum Unit Waterflood Project, Vacuum Pool, by the injection of water into the Grayburg-San Andres formations through the following-described wells at locations in Sections 28, 33, and 34 of Township 17 South, Range 34 East, and Sections 3 and 4 of Township 18 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, West Vacuum Unit, Lea County, New Mexico:

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| Well No. 48     | G           | 3              | 18 South, 34 East         |

(2) That the expanded waterflood project shall be governed by the provisions of Rules 701, 702, and 703 of the Commission Rules and Regulations;

PROVIDED HOWEVER, that the Secretary-Director of the Commission may approve such additional injection wells within said project area as may be necessary to complete an efficient injection pattern, and that the showing of well response as required by Rule 701 E-5 shall not be necessary before obtaining administrative approval for the conversion of additional wells to water injection.

(3) That monthly progress reports of the expanded waterflood project herein authorized shall be submitted to the Commission in accordance with Rules 704 and 1120 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

(4) 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. ARMIGO, Member

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

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