

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING  
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSIDERING:

*CASE NO. 11009*  
*ORDER NO. R-10146*

**APPLICATION OF GECKO, INC. FOR AN UNORTHODOX OIL WELL  
LOCATION, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on June 23, 1994, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Michael E. Stogner.

NOW, on this 5th day of July, 1994, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

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

(2) At the time of the hearing this case was consolidated with Division Case No. 11008 for the purpose of testimony.

(3) The applicant, GECKO, Inc., seeks approval for an unorthodox oil well location to be drilled 555 feet from the South line and 1648 feet from the West line (Unit N) of Section 26, Township 16 South, Range 37 East, NMPM, to test the Casey-Strawn Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

(4) The S/2 SW/4 of said Section 26 is to be dedicated to said well forming a standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration unit for said pool.

(5) The proposed well location and 80-acre unit is within the Casey-Strawn Pool and is therefore subject to the Special Rules and Regulations for said pool, as promulgated by Division Order No. R-4992, as amended, which provides for standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration units with wells to be located within 150 feet of the center of either governmental quarter-quarter section or lot.

(6) The applicant presented geological evidence and testimony which indicates that a well drilled at the proposed unorthodox location should penetrate a small algal reef mound within the Strawn formation at a more structurally advantageous position than a well drilled at a standard location thereon, thereby increasing the likelihood of obtaining commercial production.

(7) No other interested party appeared at the hearing in opposition to this application.

(8) Approval of this application will afford the applicant the opportunity to produce its just and equitable share of the oil in the Casey-Strawn Pool, will prevent the economic loss caused by the drilling of unnecessary wells, avoid the augmentation of risk arising from the drilling of an excessive number of wells and will otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) The application of GECKO, Inc. for an unorthodox oil well location to be drilled 555 feet from the South line and 1648 feet from the West line (Unit N) of Section 26, Township 16 South, Range 37 East, NMPPM, to test the Casey-Strawn Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, is hereby approved.

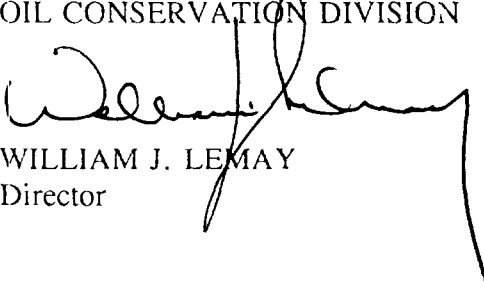
(2) The S/2 SW/4 of said Section 26 shall be dedicated to said well forming a standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration unit for said pool.

(3) Jurisdiction of this cause is hereby retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

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



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

  
WILLIAM J. LEMAY  
Director