

**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. 4371
Order No. R-3993**

**APPLICATION OF GETTY OIL COMPANY
FOR A WATERFLOOD EXPANSION AND
AMENDMENT OF ORDER NO. R-2966, AS
AMENDED, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on July 1, 1970, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Elvis A. Utz.

NOW, on this 15th day of July, 1970, 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, Getty Oil Company, seeks authority to expand the Justis-McKee Unit Waterflood Project, Justis-McKee Pool, approved by Orders Nos. R-2966 and R-2966-A and formerly operated by Tidewater Oil Company, by the conversion to water injection of four additional wells described as follows:

**LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH, RANGE 37 EAST, NMPM**

Justis-McKee Unit Well No. 108, to be dually completed,
Unit B - Section 24

Justis-McKee Unit Well No. 117, to be dually completed,
Unit H - Section 24

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Justis-McKee Unit Well No. 305, to be dually completed,
Unit D - Section 19

Justis-McKee Unit Well No. 701, a single completion,
Unit M - Section 19

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

(4) That expansion of the subject waterflood project by the conversion to water injection of the above-described Wells Nos. 108 and 701 should result in the recovery of otherwise unrecoverable oil, thereby preventing waste.

(5) That expansion of the subject waterflood project by the conversion to water injection of the above-described Wells Nos. 108 and 701 should be approved.

(6) That the injection of water into the McKee formation in the above-described Wells Nos. 117 and 305 above a packer separating the McKee and Ellenburger formations may cause, through failure of said packer or of the cement surrounding the casing, damage to the Ellenburger formation, thereby causing waste.

(7) That the applicant's request to convert the above-described Wells Nos. 117 and 305 to water injection should be denied.

(8) That the applicant further seeks amendment of said Orders Nos. R-2966 and R-2966-A to provide an administrative procedure whereby the Secretary-Director of the Commission may approve the drilling or conversion of additional water injection wells at orthodox and unorthodox locations without a showing of well response within said Justis-McKee Unit Waterflood Project area as may be necessary to complete an efficient water injection pattern.

(9) That approval of the aforesaid amendment will afford the applicant the opportunity to produce its just and equitable share of the oil in the Justis-McKee Pool, and will otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights, provided said

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injection wells are single completions or dually completed wells in which the injection zone is below the producing zone and are drilled no closer than 330 feet to the outer boundary of the aforesaid unit waterflood project area nor closer than 10 feet to any quarter-quarter section or subdivision inner boundary.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the applicant, Getty Oil Company, is hereby authorized to expand its Justis-McKee Unit Waterflood Project in the Justis-McKee Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, by converting to water injection the following-described wells:

TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH, RANGE 37 EAST, NMPM

Justis-McKee Unit Well No. 108, to be dually completed,
Unit B - Section 24

TOWNSHIP 25 SOUTH, RANGE 38 EAST, NMPM

Justis-McKee Unit Well No. 701, a single completion,
Unit M - Section 19

(2) That monthly progress reports of the expanded Justis-McKee Unit Waterflood Project shall be submitted to the Commission in accordance with Rules 704 and 1120 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

(3) That Order (2) of Commission Order No. R-2966, dated September 13, 1965, is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

"(2) That the subject waterflood project, as expanded, 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 the drilling or conversion of additional water injection wells at orthodox and unorthodox locations within said waterflood project area as may be necessary to complete an efficient injection pattern; provided said wells are single completions or dual completions in which the injection zone is below the producing zone and are drilled no closer than 330 feet to the outer boundary of said unit waterflood project area nor closer

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than 10 feet to any quarter-quarter section or subdivision inner boundary, and provided further, that the application therefor has been filed in accordance with Rule 701 B of the Commission Rules and Regulations, and provided further, that a copy of the application has been sent to all offset operators, if any there be, and no such operator has objected within 15 days. 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."

(4) That the applicant's request to convert to water injection its Wells Nos. 117 and 305 described in Finding No. (2) above, is hereby denied.

(5) 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

DAVID F. CARGO, Chairman

ALEX J. ARMIJO, Member

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



esr/