



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

BILL RICHARDSON

Governor

Joanna Prukop

Cabinet Secretary

Lori Wrotenbery

Director

Oil Conservation Division

2 April 2003

C. E. Larue & B. M. Muncy Jr.
P. O. Box 1370
Artesia, New Mexico 88211-1370

RE: Gates State # 2 H-36-17-27 API 30-015-00647 Violation of Rule 201:
Idle Well

Dear Sirs:

This second directive is to notify you that this well is still in violation of Rule 201.

On 6 January, 2003 a letter was sent notifying you on the violation of Rule 201. An inspection on 1 April, 2003 found no action had been taken.

Rule 201 of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division provides as follows:

201 WELLS TO BE PROPERLY ABANDONED

201.A. The operator of any well drilled for oil, gas or injection; for seismic, core or other exploration, or for a service well, whether cased or uncased, shall be responsible for the plugging thereof. [7-12-90...2-1-96]

201.B. A well shall be either properly plugged and abandoned or temporarily abandoned in accordance with these rules within ninety (90) days after:

- (1) A sixty (60) day period following suspension of drilling operations, or
 - (2) A determination that a well is no longer usable for beneficial purposes, or
 - (3) A period of one (1) year in which a well has been continuously inactive.
- [7-12-90...2-1-96]

In the event that a satisfactory response is not received to this letter of direction by 2 May, 2003, further enforcement will occur. Such enforcement may include this office applying to the Division for an order summoning you to a hearing before a Division Examiner in Santa Fe to show cause why you should not be ordered to permanently plug and abandon this well. Such a hearing may result in imposition of **CIVIL PENALTIES** for your violation of OCD rules.

Sincerely,

Van Barton
Field Rep. II