

ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

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

O. C. D.
ARTESIA, OFFICE

CASE NO. 7610
Order No. R-7014

APPLICATION OF STEVENS OIL COMPANY
FOR SALT WATER DISPOSAL, CHAVES
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on June 23, 1982, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this 2nd day of July, 1982, the Division Director, 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 Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That the applicant, Stevens Oil Company, is the owner and operator of the O'Brien "J" Well No. 9, located in Unit A of Section 31, Township 8 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico.

(3) That the applicant proposes to utilize said well to dispose of produced salt water into the San Andres formation, with injection into the perforated interval from approximately 2724 feet to 2745 feet.

(4) That the injection should be accomplished through 2 3/8-inch plastic lined tubing installed in a packer set at approximately 2600 feet; that the casing-tubing annulus should be filled with an inert fluid; and that a pressure gauge or approved leak detection device should be attached to the annulus in order to determine leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer.

(5) That the injection well or system should be equipped with a pressure limiting switch or other acceptable device

which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to 545 psi.

(6) That the Director of the Division should be authorized to administratively approve an increase in the injection pressure upon a proper showing by the operator that such higher pressure will not result in migration of the injected waters from the San Andres formation.

(7) That the operator should notify the supervisor of the Artesia district office of the Division of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment so that the same may be inspected.

(8) That the operator should take all steps necessary to ensure that the injected water enters only the proposed injection interval and is not permitted to escape to other formations or onto the surface.

(9) That approval of the subject application will prevent the drilling of unnecessary wells and otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the applicant, Stevens Oil Company, is hereby authorized to utilize its O'Brien "J" Well No. 9, located in Unit A of Section 31, Township 8 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico, to dispose of produced salt water into the San Andres formation, injection to be accomplished through 2 3/8-inch tubing installed in a packer set at approximately 2600 feet, with injection into the perforated interval from approximately 2724 feet to 2745 feet;

PROVIDED HOWEVER, that the tubing shall be plastic-lined; that the casing-tubing annulus shall be filled with an inert fluid; and that a pressure gauge shall be attached to the annulus or the annulus shall be equipped with an approved leak detection device in order to determine leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer.

(2) That the injection well or system shall be equipped with a pressure limiting switch or other acceptable device which will limit the wellhead pressure on the injection well to no more than 545 psi.

(3) That the Director of the Division may authorize an increase in injection pressure upon a proper showing by the operator of said well that such higher pressure will not result