



New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Susana Martinez
Governor

Harrison H. Schmitt
Cabinet Secretary-Designate

J. Daniel Sanchez
Acting Division Director
Oil Conservation Division



Administrative Order SWD-1264
January 24, 2011

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Under the provisions of Division Rule 26.8B., Mesquite SWD, Inc. seeks an administrative order to re-enter and utilize its Paduca Fed Unit Com Well No. 1 (API 30-025-27616), located 1980 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the East line, Unit Letter H of Section 22, Township 25 South, Range 32 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, for produced water disposal purposes.

THE DIVISION DIRECTOR FINDS THAT:

The application has been duly filed under the provisions of Division Rule 26.8B. Satisfactory information has been provided that affected parties as defined in Rule 26.8B.(2) have been notified and no objections have been received within the prescribed waiting period. The applicant has presented satisfactory evidence that all requirements prescribed in Rule 26.8 will be met and the operator is in compliance with Division Rule 5.9.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The applicant, Mesquite SWD, Inc., is hereby authorized, pursuant to conditions stated below, to re-enter and utilize its Paduca Fed Unit Com Well No. 1 (API 30-025-27616), located 1980 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the East line, Unit Letter H of Section 22, Township 25 South, Range 32 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, for disposal of oil field produced water (UIC Class II only) through perforations in the Bell Canyon and Cherry Canyon members of the Delaware Mountain Group from 4722 feet to 6964 feet, and through lined tubing and a packer set within 100 feet of the permitted disposal interval.

As preparation, and prior to any disposal, the operator shall, under direction of inspectors from the US BLM and the Division's Hobbs office:

- a. Re-enter this plugged well to the depths as directed by the US BLM for purposes of properly plugging it back from deeper depths. Run a cement bond log from approximately 7200 feet to 4500 feet. This log shall be supplied to the BLM and also to the Division's Hobbs district office.



- b. The well shall be plugged back from the re-entered depths under direction of the BLM to approximately 7070 feet, where a cast iron bridge plug, capped with cement, shall be set.
- c. The new bond log shall be interpreted to ensure cement exists behind the 9-5/8 inch casing over the intended disposal interval [the bottom (6964 feet) and the top (4722 feet) must be bounded with cement].
- d. If top and bottom are not already bounded by cement, the operator shall squeeze this well to the satisfaction of both the BLM and the Hobbs district office of the Division. All squeeze work shall be verified with new cement bond log(s) supplied to the Division.

The operator shall obtain written confirmation of this work prior to any disposal from the engineering bureau of the Division in Santa Fe. This permit shall not be in effect until this confirmation is obtained.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

The operator shall take all steps necessary to ensure that the disposed water enters only the proposed disposal interval and is not permitted to escape to other formations or onto the surface.

After installing tubing, the casing-tubing annulus shall be loaded with an inert fluid and equipped with a pressure gauge or an approved leak detection device in order to determine leakage in the casing, tubing, or packer. The casing shall be pressure tested from the surface to the packer setting depth to assure casing integrity.

The wellhead injection pressure on the well shall be limited to **no more than 944 psi**. In addition, the disposal well or system shall be equipped with a pressure limiting device in workable condition which shall, at all times, limit surface tubing pressure to the maximum allowable pressure for this well.

The Director of the Division may authorize an increase in tubing pressure upon a proper showing by the operator of said well that such higher pressure will not result in migration of the disposed fluid from the target formation. Such proper showing shall be demonstrated by sufficient evidence including but not limited to an acceptable Step-Rate-Test.

The operator shall notify the supervisor of the Division's district office of the date and time of the installation of disposal equipment and of any mechanical integrity test so that the same may be inspected and witnessed. The operator shall provide written notice of the date of commencement of disposal to the Division's district office. The operator shall submit monthly reports of the disposal operations on Division Form C-115, in accordance with Division Rules 26.13 and 7.24.

Without limitation on the duties of the operator as provided in Division Rules 30 and 29,

or otherwise, the operator shall immediately notify the Division's district office of any failure of the tubing, casing or packer in the well, or of any leakage or release of water, oil or gas from around any produced or plugged and abandoned well in the area, and shall take such measures as may be timely and necessary to correct such failure or leakage.

The injection authority granted under this order is not transferable except upon division approval. The division may require the operator to demonstrate mechanical integrity of any injection well that will be transferred prior to approving transfer of authority to inject.

The division may revoke this injection permit after notice and hearing if the operator is in violation of 19.15.5.9 NMAC.

In accordance with Division Rule No 26.12.C., the disposal authority granted herein shall terminate one year after the effective date of this order if the operator has not commenced injection operations into the subject well, provided however, the Division, upon written request, mailed by the operator prior to the termination date, may grant an extension thereof for good cause. One year after disposal into the well has ceased, the authority to dispose will terminate *ipso facto*.

Compliance with this order does not relieve the operator of the obligation to comply with other applicable federal, state or local laws or rules, or to exercise due care for the protection of fresh water, public health and safety and the environment.

Jurisdiction is retained by the Division for the entry of such further orders as may be necessary for the prevention of waste and/or protection of correlative rights or upon failure of the operator to conduct operations (1) to protect fresh or protectable waters or (2) consistent with the requirements in this order, whereupon the Division may, after notice and hearing, terminate the disposal authority granted herein.

J. DANIEL SANCHEZ
Acting Director

JDS/wvjj

cc: Oil Conservation Division – Hobbs
Bureau of Land Management - Carlsbad