

OR RECORD

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

**CASE NO. 12528  
ORDER NO. R-11504**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION ("DIVISION") THROUGH THE SUPERVISOR OF DIVISION DISTRICT I IN HOBBS, NEW MEXICO ON ITS OWN MOTION FOR AN ORDER: (I) REQUIRING LONNIE J. BUCK TO PROPERLY PLUG AND ABANDON TWO CERTAIN WELLS IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO; OR (II) AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION TO PLUG AND ABANDON BOTH WELLS, AND ORDERING A FORFEITURE OF ANY PLUGGING BOND (S) COVERING THESE WELLS.**

**ORDER OF THE DIVISION**

**BY THE DIVISION:**

This case came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on November 2, 2000, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Michael E. Stogner.

NOW, on this 14th day of December, 2000, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner,

**FINDS THAT:**

(1) Due public notice has been given and the Division has jurisdiction of this case and its subject matter.

(2) Lonnie J. Buck of Gainesville, Texas is the current owner and operator of the Monco Well No. 1 (API No. 30-025-09821) located 2310 feet from the South line and 990 feet from the West line (Unit L) of Section 25, Township 25 South, Range 36 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, and in compliance with Section 70-2-14, NMSA 1978, and Division Rule 101 has posted with the Division a one-well plugging bond in the amount of \$ 5,000.00. This plugging bond (Bond No. 4397551) was issued by Hartford Accident & Indemnity Company, in care of Daniels Insurance, Inc. of Hobbs, New Mexico ("Hartford"), as surety, on March 22, 1979.

(3) Lonnie J. Buck is also the current owner and operator of the Monco Well No. 2 (API No. 30-025-09822) located 670 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the West line (Unit M) of Section 25 and has also posted with the Division a one-well plugging bond issued by Hartford on June 5, 1979 in the amount of \$5,000.00 (Bond No. 4397560). By Division Order No. R-6799, issued in Case No. 7360 on October 13, 1981, Lonnie J. Buck received authorization to utilize the Monco Well No. 2 as a salt water disposal well.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) Lonnie J. Buck of Gainesville, Texas is hereby ordered to plug and abandon the following described wells both located in Township 25 South, Range 36 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico on or before January 15, 2001:

- (a) Monco Well No. 1 (**API No. 30-025-09821**) located 2310 feet from the South line and 990 feet from the West line (Unit L) of Section 25; and
- (b) Monco Well No. 2 (**API No. 30-025-09822**) located 670 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the West line (Unit M) of Section 25.

(2) Lonnie J. Buck, prior to plugging and abandoning the two above-described wells, shall obtain from the supervisor of the Division's District Office in Hobbs, an approved plugging program and shall notify the Hobbs District Office of the date and time this work is to commence whereupon the Division may witness such work.

(3) Should Lonnie J. Buck fail or refuse to carry out such provisions in accordance with the terms of this order, the Division shall then take such actions as are necessary to have these wells properly plugged and abandoned. Further, the Division shall then be authorized to take such action as is deemed necessary to foreclose on the two \$5,000.00 one-well plugging bonds issued by Hartford Accident & Indemnity Company, in care of Daniels Insurance, Inc. of Hobbs, New Mexico ("Hartford"), as surety, on: (i) March 22, 1979 for Bond No. 4397551 for the Monco Well No. 1; and (ii) June 5, 1979 for Bond No. 4397560 for the Monco Well No. 2, and to recover from the operator any costs in excess of the amount of these bonds to help defer plugging costs incurred by the Division.

(4) Division Order No. R-6799, issued in Case No. 7360 on October 13, 1981, is hereby rescinded.

(5) Failure to comply with the provisions of this order shall subject Lonnie J. Buck to a fine of \$1,000.00 per day per well until such work is completed (see Section 70-2-31, NMSA 1978).

(6) Jurisdiction of this case is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.