

Conservation Division
266 N. Main St., Ste. 220
Wichita, KS 67202-1513



Phone: 316-337-6200
Fax: 316-337-6211
<http://kcc.ks.gov/>

Shari Feist Albrecht, Chair
Jay Scott Emler, Commissioner
Pat Apple, Commissioner

Sam Brownback, Governor

NOTICE OF PENALTY ASSESSMENT 15-CONS-216-CPEN

This is a notice of a penalty assessment for violation of Kansas oil and gas conservation statutes, rules, and regulations. For a full description of the penalty and process please refer to the Penalty Order that is attached to this notice.

IF YOU ACCEPT THE PENALTY:

The Penalty Order may include the assessment of a monetary penalty. You have 30 days from the service date of this Penalty Order to pay \$500. Check or money order must be made payable to the Kansas Corporation Commission. Payment is to be mailed to the Conservation Division of the Kansas Corporation Commission at 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202, and must include a reference to the docket number of this proceeding. Credit card payment may be made by calling the Conservation Division at 316-337-6200.

The Penalty Order may require you to perform certain actions by deadlines stated therein. Compliance must be obtained by the applicable deadlines to avoid further compliance actions. If you have any questions about how compliance can be obtained, you may contact the legal department or the appropriate department or district office.

IF YOU CONTEST THE PENALTY:

You have the right to request a hearing. A request for hearing must be made in writing, setting forth the specific grounds upon which relief is sought. Respondent must submit an original and seven copies of the request to the Commission's Executive Director at 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202, within 30 days, plus three days to account for the mail, from the mailed date on the last page of the Penalty Order. K.A.R. 82-1-215.

IF YOU FAIL TO ACT:

Failure to either comply with the penalty order or request a hearing will result in the attached Penalty Order becoming a Final Order. Failure to comply or request a hearing by the deadlines in the Penalty Order may result in additional sanctions, including additional monetary penalties, the suspension of your oil and gas operating license, and the shutting-in of all operations until compliance is obtained.

**THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

Before Commissioners: Shari Feist Albrecht, Chair
 Jay Scott Emler
 Pat Apple

In the matter of the failure of High Plains)	Docket No.: 15-CONS-216-CPEN
Production, Inc. ("Operator") to comply with)	
K.A.R. 82-3-120.)	CONSERVATION DIVISION
)	
_____)	License No.: 32390

PENALTY ORDER

The above captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas. Having examined the files and records, and being duly advised in the premises, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

I. JURISDICTION

1. K.S.A. 74-623 provides that the Commission has the exclusive jurisdiction and authority to regulate oil and gas activities. K.S.A. 55-152 provides that the Commission has jurisdiction to regulate the construction, operation, and abandonment of any well and the protection of the usable water of this state from any actual or potential pollution from any well. The Commission has licensing authority pursuant to K.S.A. 55-155.

2. K.S.A. 55-162 and K.S.A. 55-164 provide the Commission with authority to issue a Penalty Order regarding a violation of Chapter 55 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, or of any rule, regulation, or order of the Commission. A Penalty Order may include a monetary penalty of up to \$10,000, and each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate violation.

3. K.A.R. 82-3-120(a)(1) provides, in part, that no operator shall drill, complete, service, plug, or operate any oil or gas well without first obtaining or renewing an operator

license. K.A.R. 82-3-120(a)(1) further provides that each operator in physical control of any such well shall maintain a current license even if the well is shut in or idle.

4. K.A.R. 82-3-120(a)(2) provides that each licensee shall annually submit a completed license renewal form on or before the expiration date of the current license.

5. K.A.R. 82-3-120(l) provides that failure to obtain or renew an operator license before operating shall be punishable by a \$500 penalty.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

6. Operator conducts oil and gas activities in Kansas under license number 32390, which expired on November 30, 2013.

7. As part of Commission Staff's standard procedures, Operator received notices from Staff regarding the expiration of the license.

8. Operator is responsible for the care and control of various wells in Kansas, including the Messenger #2-3, API #15-055-21848-00-00, in Finney County.

9. On August 14, 2014, Commission District #1 Staff inspected the Messenger #2-3 and found the well to be producing.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

10. The Commission concludes that it has jurisdiction over Operator and this matter under K.S.A. 55-152 and K.S.A. 74-623.

11. The above findings of fact are sufficient evidence to support the conclusion that Operator committed one violation of K.A.R. 82-3-120 because Operator failed to maintain a current license despite operating various wells.

THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

A. Operator shall pay a \$500 penalty.

B. Within 30 days of service of this Order, Operator shall:

- i. obtain or renew a valid operator's license;
- ii. plug all wells on Operator's license; or
- iii. properly transfer all wells on Operator's license to a licensed operator.

C. Operator shall shut-in and Staff shall seal all of Operator's operations in Kansas until compliance with this Penalty Order is obtained.

D. If no party requests a hearing, and Operator is not in compliance with this Order within 30 days, then Operator's license shall be suspended without further notice. The notice and opportunity for a hearing on this order shall constitute the notice required by K.S.A. 77-512 regarding license suspension. The Commission may impose further sanctions, including additional monetary penalties and any other remedies available to the Commission by law, without further notice.

E. Checks and money orders shall be payable to the Kansas Corporation Commission. For credit card payments, include the type of card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express), account number, and expiration date. Payments shall be mailed to the Kansas Corporation Commission at 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202. The payment must include a reference to the docket number of this proceeding.

F. Any party may request a hearing on the above issues by submitting a written request, pursuant to K.S.A. 55-164, K.S.A. 77-537, and K.S.A. 77-542, setting forth the specific grounds upon which relief is sought, to the Commission's Executive Director, at 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202, within 30 days from the date of service of this Order. Hearings will be scheduled only upon written request. Failure to timely request a hearing will result in a waiver of Operator's right to a hearing.

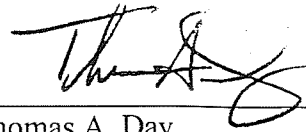
G. If a party requests a hearing, a corporation or similar entity shall not be permitted to enter an appearance except by its attorney. Attorneys for all parties shall enter their appearances in Commission proceedings by giving their names and addresses for the record.

H. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the purpose of entering such further order or orders as it may deem necessary.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Albrecht, Chair; Emler, Com.; Apple, Com.

Dated: SEP 04 2014



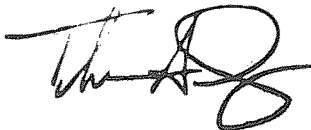
Thomas A. Day
Acting Executive Director

Mailed Date: 9/5/14

JRM

I CERTIFY THE ORIGINAL
COPY IS ON FILE WITH
The State Corporation Commission

SEP 04 2014



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on 9/5/14, I caused a complete and accurate copy of this Order to be served via United States mail, with the postage prepaid and properly addressed to the following:

Josh McWherter
High Plains Production, LLC
PO Box 1548
Murray, Kentucky 42071

Steve Pfeifer
KCC District #1
210 E. Frontview, Suite A
Dodge City, Kansas 67801

And delivered by hand to:

Judy Streeter, Licensing
Conservation Division Central Office

/s/ Jonathan R. Myers
Jonathan R. Myers
Litigation Counsel
Kansas Corporation Commission