2015.04.13 13:23:44 Kansas Corporation Commission 787 Amy L. Gilbert

## THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:

Shari Feist Albrecht, Chair Jay Scott Emler Pat Apple

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In the matter of an Order to Show Cause issued to Alta, Inc. ("Operator") regarding responsibility under K.S.A. 55-179 for unplugged wells on an expired license.. Docket No.: 15-CONS-681-CSHO

CONSERVATION DIVISION

License No.: 5392

## **MOTION TO CLOSE DOCKET**

For the following reasons, Commission Staff moves for this docket to be closed.

1. On April 2, 2015, the Commission issued an Order to Show Cause against Operator, and scheduled a prehearing conference for April 21, 2015. The Order was issued based

upon Staff's March 3, 2015, motion alleging that the Allison #1 well was listed on Operator's expired license, and was therefore abandoned, and that Operator appeared to be responsible for the well under K.S.A. 55-179(b).

2. Commission records indicate that the Allison #1 was completed in 1980 as a dry hole, although no plugging records are on file. A recent Staff inspection found cement inside the casing of the well and no sign of recent activity. Staff now suspects the well is plugged, but cannot know for sure unless the well is drilled out. A representative of Operator has recently been in contact with Staff and also believes the well is plugged.

3. Given the potential costs of drilling out the well, the fact that Operator is a longdissolved corporation, the odds that the well is plugged, and the lack of evident pollution at the surface, Staff asks that the prehearing conference be cancelled, and that this docket be closed without prejudice.

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Respectfully submitted,

on Myers

Jonathan R. Myers, #25975 Litigation Counsel Kansas Corporation Commission 266 N. Main, Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202 Phone: 316-337-6200; Fax: 316-337-6106

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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I certify that on  $\frac{4/3/5}{5}$ , I caused a complete and accurate copy of this Motion to be served via United States mail, with the postage prepaid and properly addressed to the following:

C.D. Mattingly, Jr. Alta, Inc. 729 E. Central Wichita, Kansas 67202

And delivered by hand to:

Lane Palmateer, KCC Wichita Central Office

Jonathan R. Myers Litigation Counsel Kansas Corporation Commission