## THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

2017-09-07 15:18:27 Kansas Corporation Commission /s/ Lynn M. Retz

Before Commissioners:

Pat Apple, Chairman Shari Feist Albrecht Jay Scott Emler

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In the Matter of an Order to Show Cause Issued to Wanita M. Brooks ("Operator") regarding responsibility under K.S.A. 55-179 for unplugged wells on an expired license Docket No.: 17-CONS-3423-CSHO

CONSERVATION DIVISION

License No.: 31747

### MOTION TO CLOSE DOCKET AND CANCEL EVIDENTIARY HEARING

The Staff of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas ("Staff" and "Commission", respectively), files its Motion to Close Docket and Cancel Evidentiary Hearing (Motion) seeking the Commission close this docket and cancel the remaining procedural schedule. In support of its Motion, Staff states:

1. On December 19, 2016, Staff filed a Motion for an Order to Show Cause, the

Designation of a Prehearing Officer, and the Scheduling of a Prehearing Conference regarding

unplugged wells on Operator's expired license.<sup>1</sup>

2. On March 7, 2017, the Commission issued an Order to Show Cause, Designating

a Prehearing Officer, and Setting a Prehearing Conference.<sup>2</sup>

3. The prehearing conference was initially scheduled for April 6, 2017, but was

continued to May 4, 2017, to allow the parties to seek a resolution of the matter.<sup>3</sup>

4. On May 4, 2017, a Prehearing Conference was held and the matter set for an evidentiary hearing on September 21, 2017.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See, Motion for an Order to Show Cause, the Designation of a Prehearing Officer, and the Scheduling of a Prehearing Conference, dated December 19, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See, Order to Show Cause, Designating a Prehearing Officer, and Setting a Prehearing Conference, dated March 7, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See, Order Continuing Prehearing Conference, dated April 18, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See, Order Setting Procedural Schedule, dated May 23, 2017.

5. Staff performed a lease inspection on the wells remaining on Operator's expired license which confirmed the Potter #1 (API # 15-051-20760-00-00) and Potter #2 (API # 15-051-20794-00-01) wells are unplugged.<sup>5</sup> Operator subsequently communicated with Staff regarding Operator's financial and familial situation.<sup>6</sup>

6. Based on this additional information, Staff does not believe it to be in the interest of the agency or the interest of the State of Kansas to pursue Operator for plugging responsibility. Therefore, Staff recommends the Commission cancel the remainder of the procedural schedule in this matter and close this docket.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully requests the Commission cancel the remainder of the procedural schedule in this matter and close this docket.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua D. Wright, #24118 Litigation Counsel, Kansas Corporation Commission 266 N. Main, Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202 Phone: 316-337-6200; Fax: 316-337-6211

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See, Exhibit A, Update Report (dated June 20, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See, Operator Pre-filed testimony (received September 5, 2017). Operator submitted income tax records which demonstrate indigence and dependence upon Social Security benefits in addition to a detailed letter about personal issues.

# **UPDATE REPORT**

**Date:** June-20-2017

**Operator:** To be determined

(31747) License: Inactive

Location: SW/4 Sec. 21-11-16w

Lease: Potter

County: Ellis

#### Findings:

- A lease inspection was conducted on June 19, 2017 found the following.
- The last known operator was Wanita M. Brooks 2449 SW 9th, Oklahoma City, OK. 73159
- The lease inspection found wells to be the same as on lease inspection completed on January 1, 2016.
- No new lease assignments were found for this lease at the Ellis County Register of deeds office.
- The Potter well # 1located in the SW NE SW was found with an open hole with some old tubing laid out by the well bore. GPS location was 39.7908 & -099.10625. 1662' FSL & 3613'FEL NE SW NE SW. API # 15-051-20760-00-00.
- The Potter well # 2 located in the NW SE SW was found to be an abandoned SWD well some tubing still appears to be in the well bore. Docket D-27,909. GPS location was 39.07720 & -099.10637. 978 FSL & 3642 FEL. API # 15-051-20794-00-01.
- The TB site still has the old storage tanks and old gun barrels lying at the site. GPS location was 39.07478 & -099.10311. SE SE SE SW. 92'FSL & 2711' FEL.
- > The old pits from the well that was the Potter -Drake well # 2 have not been closed.
- > The lease has been sent to legal for determination of responsible party to plug the above said wells.

Pat Staab PIRT II

(Agent)

(Signature)

cc: file; Williams

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on  $\frac{9/7}{17}$ , 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:

Wanita M. Brooks Po Box 9925 Moore, OK 73153-5325

and delivered by e-mail to:

Cyndee Maine KCC Central Office

Joshua D. Wright, Litigation Counsel KCC Wichita Central Office

Samuel Feather, Deputy General Counsel KCC Topeka Office

<u>/s/ Paula J. Murray</u> Paula J. Murray Legal Assistant Kansas Corporation Commission