

18-CONS-3206-CUIC

2017-11-06 15:42:48
Kansas Corporation Commission
/s/ Lynn M. Retz

Rene Stucky
Kansas Corporation Commission
Conservation Division
266 N. Main St., Ste. 220
Wichita, KS 67202-1513

Received
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
OCT 23 2017
CONSERVATION DIVISION
WICHITA, KS

Dear Mr. Stucky:

I am writing to ask that the Kansas Corporation Commission deny the application by Hoehn Oil LLC for a permit to authorize the injection of saltwater into the into the Bartlesville formation at the Gillespie Lease I-10 3040 FSL 4400 FEL I-11 3452 FSL 4696 FEL; located in the Sec. 31, Twp. 14, R 22E, Johnson County, Kansas, with a maximum operating pressure of 300 psig, and a maximum injection rate of 30 bbls per day.

As a resident of Matfield Green I have standing because I use the water of Johnson County recreationally, and also because all residents of Kansas have a critical interest in maintaining the safety of the aquifers. All manmade wells fail eventually – the only question is when, not if. When they fail, the risk of toxins migrating underground is a catastrophic one. Oil companies have an option in recycling the produced water, it is only because they seek a cheaper solution that they would pollute our land and water.

K.S.A. 82a-702 states: "All water within the state of Kansas is hereby dedicated to the use of the people of the state, subject to the control and regulation of the state in the manner herein prescribed."

K.S.A 82a-705 states: "No person shall have the power or authority to acquire a new appropriation right to the use of water for other than domestic use without first obtaining the approval of the chief engineer, and no water rights of any kind may be acquired hereafter solely by adverse use, adverse possession, or by estoppel."

In addition to my concerns regarding our Kansas water supplies, these wells are known to create induced seismic activity. In the last weeks alone the following quakes have happened in areas where this type of oil recovery/salt water injection is taking place: near Mankato: 2.7M at 9:13pm, Oct. 13; near Harper: 3.1M at 6:29pm, Oct 11; near Salina: 2.5M at 3:25pm, Oct. 19; near Anthony: 2.6M at 8:27pm, Oct. 8; near Harper: 2.6M at 3:20pm, Oct. 8.

As far as I know, there is no regulatory oversight in place to require oil operators to provide compensation for resulting damage, and to the best of my knowledge, no property owner in Kansas has been compensated by the oil industry for such related damage.

I have felt earthquakes that originated in Oklahoma shake my home violently and was afraid for my safety. Therefore, all residents of Kansas have standing with regard to the potential seismic impact of earthquakes induced in Kansas.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully urge the KCC to deny this application.

Sincerely,
Cindy Hoedel

205 Mercer St., Matfield Green, KS 66862

913-940-6534, cindyhoedel@gmail.com

Conservation Division
266 N. Main St., Ste. 220
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Pat Apple, Chairman
Shari Feist Albrecht, Commissioner
Jay Scott Emler, Commissioner

Sam Brownback, Governor

October 27, 2017

CINDY HOEDEL
205 MERCER STREET
MATFIELD GREEN KS 66862

RE: Application for Injection Authority
Docket No. E-27,447
Hoehn Oil, LLC
Gillespie I-10 & I-11
Sec. 31-14S-22E
Johnson County, Kansas

Dear Ms. Hoedel:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your protest/objection to the above-referenced application.

Please advise me within ten (10) days of receiving this letter if you feel a hearing should be scheduled in this matter. If a hearing is scheduled, you will be expected to participate in the hearing either in person or through legal counsel. Should you decide that you will not participate in a hearing, none will be scheduled and the application will be handled administratively and your protest will be noted. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires a hearing be held where significant interest is demonstrated. Failure to participate in the hearing process after filing a protest or objection indicates a lack of significant interest and no useful purpose would be served by holding a hearing if you, as opposing party, are not there to present testimony or cross-examine applicant's witnesses. If you are going to appear, you will receive a Notice of Hearing and should carefully comply with that Notice, including the requirement of pre-filed testimony. Any person requiring special accommodations under The Americans With Disabilities Act needs to give notice to the Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled hearing date. If you have questions regarding the hearing process, please contact Jon Meyers (316-337-6200) of our legal staff.

Commission staff has the duty to represent the public in general in recommending approval or denial of applications for injection or disposal well authority. One of the Commission's primary concerns is the protection of our groundwater and environment. If no hearing is held on this application, your objection will be taken into consideration by our staff in making a recommendation on this application. All of our staff geologists and technicians have qualified as expert witnesses and are sensitive to the concerns expressed by you and the citizens of our State.

Enclosed is a copy of the Conservation Division regulations regarding applications, hearings, and protestants. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,


Rene Stucky
UIC Director

cc: Hoehn Oil, LLC
Jerid Hoehn
Drill Baby Drill LLC
District Office # 3
Jack Eastes
Legal
File ✓

Enclosure