2013-08-05 13:21:44 Kansas Corporation Commission /5/ Kim Christiansen

Conservation Division Finney State Office Building 130 S. Market, Rm. 2078 Wichita, KS 67202-3802



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

Sam Brownback, Governor

Mark Sievers, Chairman Thomas E. Wright, Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht, Commissioner

## NOTICE OF PENALTY ASSESSMENT 14-CONS-048-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 the fine amount. 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 130 S. Market St., Room 2078, Wichita, Kansas 67202, and <u>must include a reference to the docket number</u> 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 at 316-337-6200, 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 130 S. Market, Room 2078, 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, in the alternative, request a hearing within 30 days as set forth above, will result your being in noncompliance with a Commission Order, which 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

-	Mark Sievers, Chairman Thomas E. Wright Shari Feist Albrecht	
In the matter of the failure of Reusch	•	Docket No.: 14-CONS-048-CPEN
Service, Inc., to comply with K.A.R. 8 at the Slavin #WI-3 in Franklin Count Kansas.	•	CONSERVATION DIVISION

# **PENALTY ORDER**

License No.: 4441

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. 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.
- 2. K.S.A. 74-623 provides that the Commission has the exclusive jurisdiction and authority to regulate oil and gas activities.
- 3. 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; each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate violation.
- 4. K.A.R. 82-3-400 provides that the failure to obtain a permit from the Conservation Division before beginning injection operations shall be punishable by a penalty of \$1,000 for the first violation, \$5,000 for the second violation, and \$10,000 and a license review

for the third violation. In addition, each injection well found to be operating without a permit shall be shut-in until compliance is achieved.

#### II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 5. Operator is currently licensed to conduct oil and gas activities in Kansas under K.S.A. 55-155, and operates under license number 4441.
- 6. Operator is responsible for the care and control of the Slaven #WI-3 ("the subject well"), API #15-059-25122-00-00, located in the Southwest Quarter of Section 19, Township 16 South, Range 21 East, Franklin County, Kansas.
- 7. Sometime before July 9, 2013, the Operator submitted a well inventory indicating the subject well was being used for injection without a permit.
- 8. On July 9, 2013, Commission District #3 Staff inspected the subject well and found it to be in use as an injection well. Upon request, the Operator disconnected the well pending approval of an injection permit.

#### III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 9. The Commission finds it has jurisdiction over the Operator and this matter under K.S.A. 55-152 and K.S.A. 74-623.
- 10. The above findings of fact are sufficient evidence to support that the Operator committed one violation of K.A.R. 82-3-400 because the operator injected into the subject well without having first obtained a permit.

## THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- A. The Operator is hereby assessed a \$1,000 penalty, payable within 30 days.
- B. The Operator shall, within 30 days, submit application for authority to inject into the subject well. The Operator shall proceed diligently with the application until fully processed.

The well shall not be used for injection purposes until such time as it is approved. As an alternative, the Operator may plug the subject well to obtain compliance.

- C. Pursuant to K.S.A. 55-164, K.S.A. 77-537, and K.S.A. 77-542, any party may request a hearing on the above issues by submitting a written request, setting forth the specific grounds upon which relief is sought, to the Commission's Executive Director, at 130 S. Market, Room 2078, Wichita, Kansas 67202, within 30 days from the date of service of this Penalty Order. If service is by mail, three days will be added to the Mailed Date listed at the end of this Penalty Order. Hearings will be scheduled only upon written request. Failure to timely request a hearing will result in a waiver of the Operator's right to a hearing.
- D. Attorneys for all parties shall enter their appearances in Commission proceedings by giving their names and addresses for the record. A corporation or similar entity shall not be permitted to enter an appearance except by its attorney.
- E. If you do not request a hearing, the payment of the monetary penalty is due within 30 days from the date of service of this Order. 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 130 S. Market, Wichita, Kansas 67202. The payment shall include a reference to the docket number of this proceeding.
- F. The failure to comply with this Order within 30 days shall be punishable by license suspension without the need for an additional Order to be issued by the Commission.

  The notice and opportunity for a hearing on this order shall constitute the notice required by K.S.A. 77-512 regarding license suspension. In addition, the Commission may impose further

sanctions, including additional monetary penalties and any other remedies available to the Commission by law, without further notice.

G. 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.

Sievers, Chmn.; Wright, Com.; Albrecht, Com.

Dated: AUG 0 1 2013

Kim Christiansen Executive Director

Mailed Date: 8-5-2013

LRP

CERTIFY THE ORIGINAL COPY IS ON FILE WITH The State Corporation Commission ALIC O. 1 2012

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on <u>8-5-2013</u>, 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:

Robert G. Reusch Reusch Well Service, Inc. P.O. Box 520 Ottowa, KS 66067

Robert G. Reusch 643 N. Hemlock St. Ottowa, KS 66067 Resident Agent for Reusch Well Service, Inc.

John Almond KCC District #3

And delivered by hand to:

Alan Snider
UIC Department
Conservation Division Central Office

Jonelle Rains Environmental Protection and Remediation Department Conservation Division Central Office

/s/ Lane R. Palmateer
Lane R. Palmateer
Litigation Counsel
Kansas Corporation Commission