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 Notice of Denial of) License Application Issued to Ernie D. Pratt.) Docket No: 17-CONS-3475-CMSC CONSERVATION DIVISION

License No. N/A

ORDER CANCELLING STATUS CONFERENCE AND CLOSING DOCKET

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission). Having examined its files and records, and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following findings:

 On January 18, 2017, Commission Conservation Staff (Staff) sent Ernie D. Pratt (Operator) a Notice of Denial of License Renewal Application. Operator timely requested an evidentiary hearing.¹

2. On March 2, 2017, the Commission issued its *Order Designating Prehearing Officer and Setting Prehearing Conference* (Order), scheduling a Prehearing Conference for March 23, 2017.² The matter was continued multiple times, and a status conference is currently scheduled for February 22, 2018.³

3. On July 21, 2017, Staff filed a Motion to Approve Settlement Agreement and to Adjust Procedural Schedule, asking the Commission to approve a Settlement Agreement that would have required Mr. Pratt to plug, return to service, or obtain temporary abandonment status

¹ Request for Hearing (Feb. 2, 2017).

² Order, Ordering Clause B (Mar. 2, 2017).

³ Prehearing Officer Order Continuing Status Conference, Ordering Clause A (Jan. 16, 2018).

for the well at issue.⁴ Due to further engagement between Staff and Mr. Pratt on the status of the well at issue,⁵ the Commission took no action on the proposed Settlement Agreement.

4. On February 7, 2018, Staff filed a Motion to Cancel Prehearing Conference and Close Docket (Motion), noting that Mr. Pratt plugged the well at issue and "has tendered an acceptable Transfer of Operator T-1 form for the two unplugged wells remaining on License # 35165."⁶ Staff stated that "Mr. Pratt has resolved all issues that had caused his license application to be denied. Accordingly, Staff has now processed his license application."⁷ Staff asked the Commission to cancel the Prehearing Conference (i.e., status conference) and to close the docket.⁸

5. The Commission finds Staff's review of additional information regarding Mr. Pratt's license application, and Staff's conclusion that Mr. Pratt has now resolved all the issues preventing him from obtaining his license, provide a reasonable basis for granting Staff's Motion. The Commission finds the status conference scheduled for February 22, 2018, shall be cancelled and the docket shall be closed.

THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

A. The status conference scheduled for February 22, 2018, is cancelled, and the docket is closed.

B. The parties have fifteen (15) days, plus three (3) days if mailed service, from the date this Order was served in which to petition for reconsideration.⁹

7 Id.

⁴ Motion to Approve Settlement Agreement and to Adjust Procedural Schedule; *see* attached Settlement Agreement, ¶ 4 (July 21, 2017).

⁵ See Prehearing Officer Order Continuing Status Conference, ¶ 5 (Nov. 15, 2017).

⁶ Motion, ¶ 6.

⁸ *Id.*, p. 2.

⁹ K.S.A. 55-162; K.S.A. 55-606; K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose of entering such further orders as it deems necessary.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Albrecht, Chair; Emler, Commissioner; Apple, Commissioner

Dated: _____ FEB 1 5 2018

Lynn U. Rez Ison M. Retz

Secretary to the Commission

Date Mailed:

MJD

EMAILED

FEB 1 5 2018

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

17-CONS-3475-CMSC

I, the undersigned, certify that the true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following parties by means of

Electronic Service on FEB 1 5 2018

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> /S/ DeeAnn Shupe DeeAnn Shupe

EMAILED

FEB 1 5 2018