# THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners: Andrew J. French, Chairperson

Dwight D. Keen Annie Kuether

In the matter of the failure of Par Resources,
LLC (Operator) to comply with K.A.R.

82-3-111 at the Leathers Land #1-14 well in
Haskell County, Kansas.

| Docket No.: 25-CONS-3272-CPEN
CONSERVATION DIVISION
| License No.: 36160

## **PENALTY ORDER**

The Commission finds Operator has violated K.A.R. 82-3-111 regarding the captioned well, assesses a \$100 penalty, directs Operator to come into compliance, and further rules as more fully described below.

#### I. JURISDICTION

- 1. K.S.A. 74-623 provides the Commission exclusive jurisdiction and authority to regulate oil and gas activities in Kansas. K.S.A. 55-152 provides the Commission with jurisdiction to regulate the construction, operation, and abandonment of any well, and also the protection of the usable water of this state from any actual or potential pollution from any well. The Commission has licensing authority under K.S.A. 55-155.
- 2. K.S.A. 55-162 and K.S.A. 55-164 provide the Commission authority to issue penalty orders for violations of Chapter 55 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, or of any rule, regulation, or order of the Commission. Under K.S.A. 55-164, a penalty order may include a monetary penalty of up to \$10,000, the penalty must constitute a substantial and actual economic deterrent to the violation, and each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate violation.
- 3. K.A.R. 82-3-111 provides that within 90 days after operations cease on any well, the operator of that well shall plug the well, return the well to service, or file an application with

the Conservation Division requesting temporary abandonment (TA) status. If not plugged or returned to service, the operator must obtain TA approval; TA status may be denied by the Conservation Division if necessary to prevent pollution. A well shut-in for 10 years or more cannot be granted TA status without the operator filing an application for an exception pursuant to K.A.R. 82-3-100 and approval from the Commission. K.A.R. 82-3-111(e) provides a TA exemption for certain wells fully equipped and capable of production.

#### II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 4. Operator is licensed to conduct oil and gas activities in Kansas and is responsible for the Leathers Land #1-14 well (Subject Well), API #15-081-20301-00-04, located in Section 14, Township 30 South, Range 34 West, Haskell County, Kansas.
- 5. On December 26, 2024, Commission records indicated the Subject Well had been inactive and unplugged for longer than the 90 days allowed by K.A.R. 82-3-111, that the well was not exempt pursuant to K.A.R. 82-3-111(e), and that the well was not approved for TA status. Thus, Commission Staff sent a letter to Operator, requiring Operator to bring the Subject Well into compliance with K.A.R. 82-3-111 by January 9, 2025.
- 6. On February 5, 2025, Commission Staff inspected the Subject Well, because the deadline in the letter had passed and the violation had not been resolved, verifying that the well continued to be inactive and unplugged.<sup>2</sup>

#### III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

7. The Commission has jurisdiction over Operator and this matter under K.S.A. 74-623 and K.S.A. 55-152.

<sup>2</sup> Exhibit B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Exhibit A.

8. Operator has committed one violation of K.A.R. 82-3-111 because the Subject Well has been inactive in excess of the time allowed by regulation without being plugged, returned to service, or approved for TA status.<sup>3</sup>

### THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- A. Operator shall pay a \$100 penalty.
- B. Operator shall plug the Subject Well, or return the well to service, or obtain TA status for the well if eligible.
- C. Commission Staff may require Staff-witnessed static fluid level measurements before a Subject Well is returned to service. A Subject Well may not be returned to service if (1) any measurement has shown fluid in the wellbore at or above the appropriate minimum surface casing requirement described in Table I of the Commission's August 1, 1991, Order in Docket 34,780, (2) any measurement has shown fluid in the wellbore at or above any salt formation or other corrosive formation, or (3) in the opinion of Staff, variation in measurements indicates the possibility of a casing leak. Provided, however, a Subject Well may be returned to service upon (a) passing a casing integrity test after issuance of this Penalty Order to the satisfaction of Staff, or (b) Staff providing written, well-specific authorization after issuance of this Penalty Order.
- D. Operator may request a hearing on the above issues by submitting a written request, pursuant to K.S.A. 55-164, K.S.A. 77-537, and K.S.A. 77-542, to the Commission at 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202, within 30 days from the date of service of this Order. A request for hearing must comply with K.A.R. 82-1-219.
- E. Failure to timely request a hearing will result in a waiver of Operator's right to a hearing. If no party timely requests a hearing, then this Order shall become final.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> K.S.A. 55-164; K.A.R. 82-3-111(b).

F. If Operator is not in compliance with this Order and the Order is final, then Operator's license shall be suspended without further notice and shall remain suspended until Operator complies. If a Subject Well has been inactive for more than 10 years and Operator applies for an exception to the 10-year limit on TA status for the Subject Well prior to this Order becoming final, and Operator would be in compliance with this Order if the application were approved, then suspension shall not be enforced unless: (1) the application is denied, and (2) 30 days have elapsed since the denial. The notice and opportunity for a hearing on this Order shall constitute the notice required by K.S.A. 77-512 regarding license suspension.

G. A party may petition for reconsideration of a final order pursuant to the requirements and time limits established by K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).<sup>4</sup>

H. Credit card payments may be made by calling the Conservation Division at 316-337-6200. Checks and money orders shall be payable to the Kansas Corporation Commission. Payments shall be mailed to the Kansas Corporation Commission at 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202. Payments must reference the docket number of this proceeding.

#### BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

French, Chairperson; Keen, Commissioner; Kuether, Commissioner

| Dated: 02/25/2025       | (bigail ) Enory                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                         | Abigail D. Emery                   |
|                         | Acting Secretary to the Commission |
| Mailed Date: 02/25/2025 | _                                  |
| TSK                     |                                    |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See K.S.A. 55-162; K.S.A. 55-164; K.S.A. 55-606; K.S.A. 55-707; K.S.A. 77-503(c); K.S.A. 77-531(b).



Andrew J. French, Chairperson Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner Annie Kuether, Commissioner Corporation Commission

Laura Kelly, Governor

# **NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

December 26, 2024 KCC Lic.-36160

PAR RESOURCES, LLC PO BOX 270331 OKLAHOMA CITY OK 73137-0331

RE: API Well No. 15-081-20301-00-04 LEATHERS LAND 1-14 14-30S-34W, N2NESE HASKELL County, Kansas

Dear Operator:

According to KCC records, the temporary abandonment (TA) status for this well expired on November 22, 2024, and you are in probable violation of K.A.R. 82-3-111. An operator may apply to the Conservation Division for a TA status extension prior to the expiration of its TA approval period.

If you file a TA application with the District Office by JANUARY 09, 2025, we will process the application. If you do not file an application by this date, or advise the District Office in writing the date the well returned to service, I will refer the matter to our legal department with a recommendation that the Commission take formal enforcement action including a monetary penalty and an order for you to plug the well.

You may contact me at the number below if you have any questions.

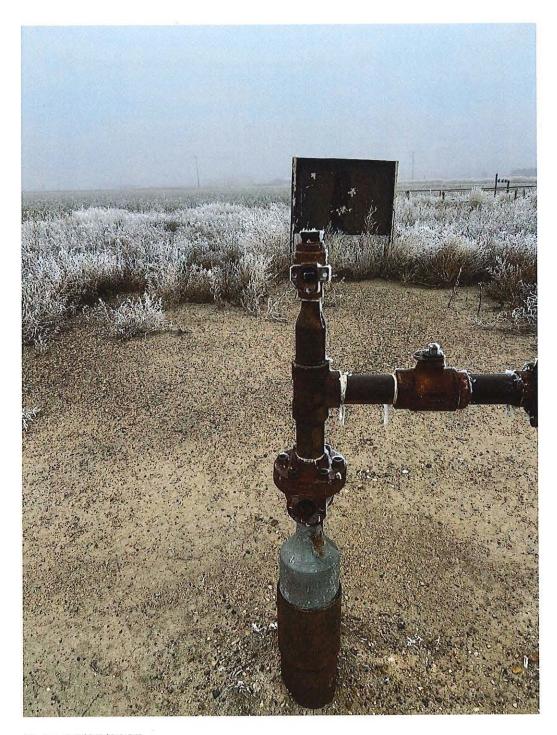
Sincerely,

MICHAEL MAIER
KCC District # 1

# KCC OIL/GAS REGULATORY OFFICES

| Date: <u>02/05/25</u>   | District: <u>D1</u> Case #:  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   | New Situation Lease Inspection   |  |
|   | Response to Request Complaint  |  |
|   | Follow-Up Field Report   |  |
|   |  |  |
| Operator License No: <u>36160</u>   | API Well Number: 15-081-20301-00-04  |  |
| Op Name: Par Resources, LLC   | Spot: SW-NE-NE-SE Sec 14 Twp 30 S Rng 34 E / W   |  |
| Address 1: P O Box 270331   | 2193 Feet from N/V S Line of Section   |  |
| Address 2:  | Feet from Feet f |  |
| City: Oklahoma City   | GPS: Lat: <u>37.43748</u> Long: <u>101.00060</u> Date: <u>2/5/25</u>   |  |
| State: OK Zip Code: 73137 -0331   | Lease Name: Leathers Land Well #: 1-14   |  |
| Operator Phone #:   | County: Haskell  |  |
| Reason for Investigation:   |  |  |
| Check for legal   |  |  |
| Problem:  |  |  |
| This well has an expired TA with a deadline of 1/9/2025   |  |  |
| Persons Contacted:  |  |  |
|   |  |  |
| None  |  |  |
| Findings:   |  |  |
| # 1-14: Is an inactive flowing gas well with all wellhead valves closed. There is no production equipment or meter run on location. |  |  |
| No leaks or spills  |  |  |
|   |  |  |
|   |  |  |
|   | A STATE OF THE STA |  |
| .4.1  |  |  |
|   |  |  |
| Action/Recommendations: Follo   | w Up Required Yes No Date: 4/4/25  |  |
| Unsatisfactory, send penalty letter for failure to file CP-111.   |  |  |
|   |  |  |
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| 1   | , and a second of the second o |  |
| Verification Sources:   | Photos Taken:  |  |
|   |  |  |
| RBDMS T-I Database    KGS   District Files  | TA Program Courthouse  By:   |  |
| ✓ Other: On site inspection   | _Max Ball  |  |
|   |  |  |
| Retain 1 Copy District Office<br>Send 1 Copy to Conservation Division   | <b>T</b>   |  |
|   | Form:  |  |

Exhibit B Page 1 of 2



Date: 02/05/2025.

Operator: Par Resources LLC.

Well Name: Leathers Land 1-14.

Legals: SW-NE-NE-SE section 14-30s-34-w Haskell County.

Description: Well head showing all valves closed.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

#### 25-CONS-3272-CPEN

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of first class mail and electronic service on <a href="https://example.com/oz/25/2025">oz/25/2025</a>.

TRISTAN KIMBRELL, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION CENTRAL OFFICE 266 N. MAIN ST, STE 220 WICHITA, KS 67202-1513 tristan.kimbrell@ks.gov

ROBERT REED
PAR RESOURCES, LLC
PO BOX 270331
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73137-0331
gamedayrob@aol.com

KENNY SULLIVAN, DISTRICT #1 SUPERVISOR KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 1 210 E. FRONTVIEW SUITE A DODGE CITY, KS 67801 kenny.sullivan@ks.gov FRED MACLAREN
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/S/ KCC Docket Room

KCC Docket Room