

18-CONS-3255-CUIC

December 12, 2017

Kansas Corporation Commission  
Conservation Division  
266 N. Main Street  
Suite 220  
Wichita, Kansas 67202-1513

Received  
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION  
DEC 14 2017  
CONSERVATION DIVISION  
WICHITA, KS

Dear Commissioners:

I wish, by this communication, to protest the application by Hughes Drilling Company of Wellsville, Kansas to inject saltwater into the I-1, I-2, I-3, and I-4 wells in the Wendell Broers Lease in the southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 2, township 16, range 20 east of Franklin county, Kansas. The respective API numbers of these wells are: 15-059-27153, 15-059-27154, 15-059-27155, and 15-059-27156.

The following are consideration for my protest:

- 1) The proposed injection sites are a watershed for Wolf creek, which flows south to Spring Creek, and eventually into the Marais des Cygnes river just northwest of Peoria, Kansas.
- 2) The proximity of the proposed injection site to Wolf creek raises these concerns:
  - a) The integrity of well casings is correlated with age and bore practice at spud date of well; the wells for which application is sought are proximately located to the following wells: API 15-059-23895, API 15-059-23900, and API 15-059-23903. These wells had spud dates in 1985. These older spud dates lead to concerns regarding compromise in casing and cement barriers.
  - b) The KCC does not mandate base-line water data in nearby watershed prior to injection; specific data of concern relate to Aluminum, Arsenic, Barium, Manganese, and Chromium. There may be elements and isotopes particularly specific to these wells and which are of concern to the health of humans, livestock, wildlife. The drilling waste transported to disposal wells was not analyzed to identify specificity of threat. Without qualitative and quantitative analysis of latter and base-line relevant date of nearby watershed the risk to humans, livestock, and wildlife cannot reasonably be assumed to be negligible.
  - c) The Forest City Basin is one of the oldest oil and gas basins in Kansas. Hence, older, improperly plugged wells represent serious compromises to the integrity of otherwise impermeable geologic strata. The KCC, through its Abandoned Well Coordinators, has a record of such wells, if

they are discovered at all, in the Forest City Basin an examination of these records lends reasonable doubt to injection permitting in this basin. Specifically, an examination of early 20<sup>h</sup> century oil and gas spud data in eastern Franklin county lends doubt to EOR practices in this county.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Petersen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kenneth" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Petersen".

Kenneth Petersen

309 S. Elm St.

Ottawa, Kansas 66067

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Conservation Division  
266 N. Main St., Ste. 220  
Wichita, KS 67202-1513



Phone: 316-337-6200  
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Pat Apple, Chairman  
Shari Feist Albrecht, Commissioner  
Jay Scott Emler, Commissioner

Sam Brownback, Governor

December 15, 2017

KENNETH R PETERSON  
309 S ELM STREET  
OTTAWA KS 66067-2104

**RE:** Application for Injection Authority  
Docket No. E-32,585  
Hughes Oil Co.  
W. Broers I-1, I-2, I-3 & I-4  
Sec. 2-16S-20E  
Franklin County, Kansas

Dear Mr. Peterson:

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: Hughes Oil Co.  
Lesli Baker  
District Office # 3  
Jerry Knobel  
Legal  
File

Enclosure