THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners: Dwight D. Keen, Chair

Susan K. Duffy Andrew J. French

In the matter of the failure of Ace Energy, Docket No.: 22-CONS-3336-CPEN LLC (Operator) to comply with K.A.R. Section 23-111 at the Gillman #A-1 well in Montgomery County, Kansas.

| CONSERVATION DIVISION | License No.: 34998

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 Gillman #A-1 well (Subject Well), API #15-125-30847-00-00, located in Section 1, Township 34 South, Range 15 East, Montgomery County, Kansas.
- 5. On December 3, 2021, 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 2, 2022.
- 6. On January 4, 2022, 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.²

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.

² Exhibit B.

¹ 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.³

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.

3

³ K.S.A. 55-164; K.A.R. 82-3-111(b).

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).⁴

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.

Keen, Chair; Duffy, Commissioner; French, Commissioner

Dated: 03/22/2022

Executive Director

Mailed Date: 03/22/2022

TSK

F.

⁴ 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).

Conservation Division District Office No. 3 137 E. 21st Street Chanute, KS 66720



Phone: 620-902-6450 http://kcc.ks.gov/

Laura Kelly, Governor

Andrew J. French, Chairperson Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner Susan K. Dully, Commissioner

December 03, 2021

Jonathan Freiden Ace Energy LLC 11704 ABERDEEN RD LEAWOOD, KS 66211-2921

Re: Temporary Abandonment API 15-125-30847-00-00 GILLMAN A-1 NW/4 Sec.01-34S-15E Montgomery County, Kansas

Dear Jonathan Freiden:

Your application for Temporary Abandonment (TA) for the above-listed well is denied for the following reasons(s):

shut-in date and casing info submitted does not match past submissions

Pursuant to K.A.R. 82-3-111, the well must be plugged, or returned to service, or obtain temporary abandonment status by 01/02/2022.

This deadline does NOT override any compliance deadline given to you in any Commission Order.

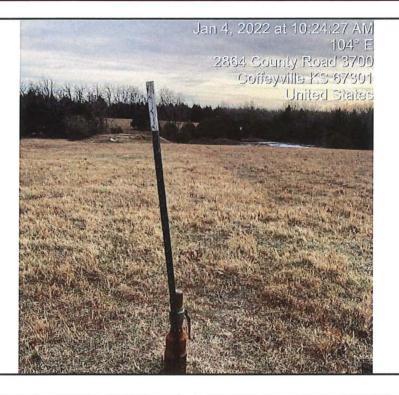
You may contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely, Brad Bohrer ECRS KCC DISTRICT 3

KCC OIL/GAS REGULATORY OFFICES

Inspection Date:	01/04/2022	District:	3		Incident Number	er:	7828
	☐ Nev	w Situation		✓ Lea	se Inspection		
	Res	sponse to Re	equest	☐ Con	nplaint		
	✓ Foll	low-up		✓ Field	d Report		
Operator License No	5: 34998	API:	15-12	5-30847	Q3: sw	Q2: sw	Q1: nw
Operator Name: Ac	e Energy LLC.		SE	C 1	TWP 34 RGE	15 RGE	DIR: E
Address: 11704 Abo	erdeen rd.				FS	SL:	3090
City: Leawood					FE	≣L:	4632
•	Code: 66211	Lea	ase: (Sillman		o.: A-1	
Phone contact:	913-402-9563				County:	MG	
Reason for Investiga	ation:						
Denied CP 111.							
Problem:							
Well shut in over 10 y	ears and not bro	ught into cor	nplianc	e after N	lovember letter wa	as sent to op	erator.
			1			eres and an in-	
Persons contacted:							
Findings:							
I performed a lease in	spection on 1-4-2	2022 and ref	erenced	the Gill	man A 1 with GPS	S and took at	tached
photo. Gillman A 1 API# 15-	125-30847-00-00	3090 FSL 4	632 FE	L Lat. 37	7.11804 Long09	5.72656 SW	SW
NW. Gillman A 1 is ar							
Actions / Recommen	<u>idations</u> <u>Fo</u>	ollow-up Re	equired	ļШ	<u>Deadline Da</u>	<u>ite:</u>	
I will refer this report to							
that Ace Energy lic. #3 30847-00-00.	34998 be conside	rea for fine i	ecomm	iendatior	ns on the Gillman	A-1 API# 15	-125-
					Photo's Taker	<u>n:</u> 1	
✓ RBDMS ✓ KGS	☐ KOLAR	Report P	repared	d By:	Brad Bohrer		
□ Di	strict Files C	Courthouse	Po	sition:	E.C.R.S		

KCC DISTRICT III OFFICE FIELD REPORT PHOTO ID FORM



Operator: Ace Energy LLC

Lease: Gillman

County: MG.

Subject: Gillman A1

FSL: 3090

FEL: 4632

API#: 15-125-30847

Date: 1/4/2022

Staff: Brad Bohrer

KLN: 34998

Legal: 1-34-15E SW SW NW

PIC ID#: #1

PIC Orientation: East

Latitude: 37.11804

Longitude: -095.72656

Time: 10:24am

Additional Information: Gillman A 1 is a 7inch surface casing with 2.875 production casing.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

22-CONS-3336-CPEN

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy	y of the attached Order has b	peen served to the following b	by means of
first class mail and electronic service on	03/22/2022		

RYAN DULING
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 3
137 E. 21ST STREET
CHANUTE, KS 66720
r.duling@kcc.ks.gov

JONATHAN FREIDEN ACE ENERGY, LLC 11704 ABERDEEN ROAD LEAWOOD, KS 66211 jfreiden@me.com

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

TROY RUSSELL
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
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137 E. 21ST STREET
CHANUTE, KS 66720
t.russell@kcc.ks.gov

/S/ DeeAnn Shupe

DeeAnn Shupe