

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

Pat Apple, Chairman  
Shari Feist Albrecht, Commissioner  
Jay Scott Emler, Commissioner



2017-05-23 13:42:53  
Kansas Corporation Commission  
/s/ Lynn M. Retz

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

Sam Brownback, Governor

## **NOTICE OF PENALTY ASSESSMENT**

### **17-CONS-3665-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 \$200. 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 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202, and must include a reference to the docket number 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 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, at 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, 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 request a hearing will result in the attached Penalty Order becoming a Final Order. Failure to comply or request a hearing by the deadlines in the Penalty Order 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**

Before Commissioners:                      Pat Apple, Chairman  
   Shari Feist Albrecht  
   Jay Scott Emler

In the matter of the failure of Stephen C.	)	Docket No.: 17-CONS-3665-CPEN
Jones ("Operator") to comply with K.A.R.	)	
82-3-117 at the Ochs #1 and Ochs #2 wells in	)	CONSERVATION DIVISION
Coffey County, Kansas.	)	
<hr/>		License No.: 33453

**PENALTY ORDER**

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. 74-623 provides that the Commission has the exclusive jurisdiction and authority to regulate oil and gas activities. 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. The Commission has licensing authority pursuant to K.S.A. 55-155.

2.        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, and each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate violation.

3.        K.A.R. 82-3-117 provides that within 60 days after plugging any well, the owner or operator of the well shall file a well plugging report with the Conservation Division, on a form

furnished by the Commission. Failure to file a plugging report shall be punishable by a \$100 penalty.

## **II. FINDINGS OF FACT**

4. Operator conducts oil and gas activities in Kansas under license number 33453.
5. Operator is responsible for the care and control of the following wells, all located in Section 29, Township 22 South, Range 14 East, Coffey County, Kansas (“the subject wells”):
  - a. Ochs #1, API #15-031-22103-00-00; and
  - b. Ochs #2, API #15-031-22119-00-00.
6. Commission records indicate that the subject wells have been plugged.
7. Operator did not submit complete, accurate well plugging reports (“CP-4’s”) within 60 days of the plugging dates.
8. Commission Staff sent Notice of Violation letters to Operator, requiring Operator to file CP-4’s to bring the subject wells into compliance with K.A.R. 82-3-117 by specific deadlines. Commission Staff did not receive complete, accurate CP-4’s by the deadlines in the letters.
9. Commission Staff collected evidence and submitted it to the Legal Department with a recommendation that the Commission issue this Order. The recommendation sheets submitted by Commission Staff are attached to this Order as Exhibit A, incorporated into this Order, and shall serve as the concise and explicit statement of facts required by K.S.A. 77-526.

### III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

11. The above findings of fact are sufficient evidence to support the conclusion that Operator committed two violations of K.A.R. 82-3-117 because Operator has not submitted complete, accurate CP-4's for the subject wells in a timely manner.

#### **THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

- A. Operator shall pay a \$200 penalty.
- B. Operator shall submit complete, accurate CP-4's for the subject wells.
- C. If no party requests a hearing, and Operator is not in compliance with this Order within 30 days, then Operator's license shall be suspended without further notice. The notice and opportunity for a hearing on this order shall constitute the notice required by K.S.A. 77-512 regarding license suspension. The Commission may impose further sanctions, including additional monetary penalties and any other remedies available to the Commission by law, without further notice.
- D. 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 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202. The payment must include a reference to the docket number of this proceeding.
- E. Any party 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, setting forth the specific grounds upon which relief is sought, to the Commission at 266 N. Main St., Suite 220, Wichita,

Kansas 67202, within 30 days from the date of service of this Order. Hearings will be scheduled only upon written request. Failure to timely request a hearing will result in a waiver of Operator's right to a hearing.

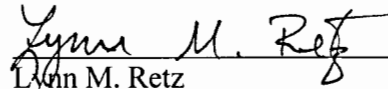
F. If a party requests a hearing, a corporation or similar entity shall not be permitted to enter an appearance except by its attorney. Attorneys for all parties shall enter their appearances in Commission proceedings by giving their names and addresses for the record.

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.**

Apple, Chairman; Albrecht, Commissioner; Emler, Commissioner

Dated: MAY 23 2017

  
Lynn M. Retz  
Secretary to the Commission

Mailed Date: May 23, 2017

JDW

## PENALTY ORDER RECOMMENDATION

### \*\*\*ROUTINE WELL PLUGGING REPORT VIOLATION\*\*\*


*Note: this sheet will be attached to the Order that is mailed to the operator.*

<b>Date of Recommendation:</b>	May 18, 2017
<b>District/Department:</b>	Production Department
<b>Person Recommending Penalty:</b>	Rene Stucky
<b>Operator Name:</b>	Jones, Stephen C.
<b>Operator License Number:</b>	33453
<b>Well/Lease Name &amp; Well Number:</b>	OCHS 1
<b>Well/Lease Location, and County:</b>	29-22S-14E, COFFEY County.
<b>Well API Number:</b>	15-031-22103-00-00
<b>Regulation Number:</b>	82-3-117
<b>Description of Violation:</b>	Failure to submit complete, accurate CP-4.
<b>Date well was plugged:</b>	2/15/2017 3:00:00 PM
<b>Date NOV letter sent and deadline:</b>	5/1/17 with an 5/15/17 deadline
<b>Date Complete, Accurate CP-4 Received:</b>	N/A
<b>Requested Monetary Penalty:</b>	\$100
<b>Requested Operator Activity:</b>	File complete, accurate well plugging report (CP-4).
<b>Supervisor Initials</b>	<i>RS</i>

## **PENALTY ORDER RECOMMENDATION**

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*Note: this sheet will be attached to the Order that is mailed to the operator.*

<b>Date of Recommendation:</b>	May 18, 2017
<b>District/Department:</b>	Production Department
<b>Person Recommending Penalty:</b>	Rene Stucky
<b>Operator Name:</b>	Jones, Stephen C.
<b>Operator License Number:</b>	33453
<b>Well/Lease Name &amp; Well Number:</b>	OCHS 2
<b>Well/Lease Location, and County:</b>	29-22S-14E, COFFEY County.
<b>Well API Number:</b>	15-031-22119-00-00
<b>Regulation Number:</b>	82-3-117
<b>Description of Violation:</b>	Failure to submit complete, accurate CP-4.
<b>Date well was plugged:</b>	2/15/2017 12:00:00 PM
<b>Date NOV letter sent and deadline:</b>	5/1/17 with an 5/15/17 deadline
<b>Date Complete, Accurate CP-4 Received:</b>	N/A
<b>Requested Monetary Penalty:</b>	\$100
<b>Requested Operator Activity:</b>	File complete, accurate well plugging report (CP-4).
<b>Supervisor Initials</b>	

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on 5/23/17, 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:

Stephen C. Jones  
2332 W. New Orleans  
Broken Arrow, OK 74011

and via e-mail to:

Rene Stucky  
KCC Central Office

/s/ Paula J. Murray  
Paula J. Murray  
Legal Assistant  
Kansas Corporation Commission