

**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 Thornton Drilling) Docket No: 25-CONS-3103-CPEN
Company Partnership (Operator) to comply with)
K.A.R. 82-3-120.) CONSERVATION DIVISION
)
_____) License No: 6974

PROPOSED DEFAULT ORDER

The Commission rules as follows:

1. On September 17, 2024, the Commission issued a Penalty Order against Operator in this matter. On October 10, 2024, Operator requested a hearing.
2. On October 15, 2024, the Commission designated a presiding officer and set a November 14, 2024, prehearing conference. Operator did not attend the prehearing conference.
3. Commission records indicate Operator has paid the penalty assessed in the Penalty Order and has transferred the wells at issue to another operator.¹
4. K.S.A. 77-520 provides that “If a party fails to attend or participate in a prehearing conference, hearing or other stage of an adjudicative proceeding, the presiding officer may serve upon all parties a written notice of a proposed default order, including a statement of the grounds.” Due to Operator’s failure to attend the prehearing conference, the Commission finds Operator has failed to participate in a stage of this adjudicative proceeding, and serves this Proposed Default Order.
5. Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-520(b), Operator may file a written motion requesting this Proposed Default Order be vacated, stating the grounds relied upon, within seven calendar days after service of this Order.

¹ See K.A.R. 82-1-230(h) (the Commission may take administrative notice of its records).

THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

A. Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-520(c), unless Operator files a timely written motion to vacate this Proposed Default Order, this Order shall be effective.

B. If this Proposed Default Order becomes effective, then this matter shall be completed as follows: (1) the September 17, 2024, Penalty Order shall become a final order, and (2) any party may file and serve a petition for reconsideration of this Proposed Default Order, pursuant to the requirements and time limits established by K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).²

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

French, Chairperson; Keen, Commissioner (recused); Kuether, Commissioner

Dated: 11/26/2024



Lynn M. Retz
Executive Director

Mailed Date: 11/26/2024

JRM

² See K.S.A. 77-520(e); K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

25-CONS-3103-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 11/26/2024.

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