

State Oil and Gas Board

FILED FOR RECORD



JUL 10 1998

State of Mississippi

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STATE OIL AND GAS BOARD
~~Walter L. Boone, Jr.~~
WALTER L. BOONE, JR.
STATE OIL & GAS SUPERVISOR

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TIM WAYCASTER
ATTORNEY FOR THE BOARD

RE: DOCKET NO. 190-98

ORDER NO. 269-98

AMENDMENT OF SPECIAL FIELD
RULES FOR THE FOLLOWING
FIELDS:

Bakers Creek, Brookhaven, Carmichael,
Clear Springs, Crawford Creek, Cypress Creek,
Dexter, East Eucutta, Flora, East Heidelberg, West
Heidelberg, Laurel, Liberty, Little Creek, Mallalieu,
Martinville, Olive, Pachuta Creek, Pickens, Quitman,
Sandersville, Shongelo Creek, Soso, Summerland,
Tallahala Creek, Tinsley and Vossburg

ORDER

THIS DAY, this cause came on for hearing for the purpose of considering amendment of the Special Field Rules previously adopted in each of the above-referenced fields and the State Oil and Gas Board finding that due, proper and legal notice of the rule hearing of said docket by the Board at this meeting has been given in the manner and way provided by law and by the rules and regulations of this Board and due and proper proofs of publication of notice are on file with the Board and that the Board has full jurisdiction of this cause, and the Board having heard the evidence of witnesses, considered proposals for such rule and the argument of counsel is of the opinion that said Special Field Rules should be amended in the form set forth herein below.

In so ruling, the Board finds that the Special Field Rules for each of the above-captioned fields contain a provision which allows for an operator in those fields to obtain Class II permits administratively and, therefore, without a separate notice for

each permit. While this does not represent a violation of any rule, regulation, statute or memorandum of agreement and while the Environmental Protection Agency has expressed a specific opinion that this does not represent a violation of the memorandum of agreement between the State Oil and Gas Board and the Environmental Protection Agency concerning delegation of the Class II program, the Special Field Rules for the above-captioned fields should, nonetheless, be amended to the extent necessary to clarify the provisions thereof related to notice prior to the issuance of a Class II permit.

IT IS, THEREFORE, HEREBY ORDERED by the State Oil and Gas Board that the Special Field Rules for the above-referenced fields be and the same are hereby amended to the extent necessary to make them reflect that prior to the issuance of any permit to drill or convert a Class II well, the operator seeking such a permit shall publish a notice of its intent to do so in the same manner as is currently provided for giving notice of hearings before the Board. Such notice shall be published at least twenty (20) days prior to the issuance of such a permit so as to allow for a comment period on the permit application of not less than twenty (20) days.

Such amendments shall reflect that any permits issued administratively prior to the amendment of the Special Field Rules as ordered herein shall remain in full force and effect and the amendment ordered herein shall only apply prospectively. Such amendments shall be effective upon the date of this order.

SO ORDERED, this the 9th day of July, 1998.

By: Joseph J. Zuccaro
CHAIRMAN