

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
HEARINGS SECTION**

**OIL AND GAS DOCKET
NO. 04-0269113**

**IN THE MIDWAY, SOUTH (FRIO
CONSOLIDATED) FIELD, SAN
PATRICIO COUNTY, TEXAS**

**FINAL ORDER
AMENDING FIELD RULE NO. 2 FOR THE
MIDWAY, SOUTH (FRIO CONSOLIDATED) FIELD
SAN PATRICIO COUNTY, TEXAS**

The Commission finds that after statutory notice in the above-numbered docket heard on March 1, 2011, the presiding examiner has made and filed a report and recommendation containing findings of fact and conclusions of law, for which service was not required; that the proposed application is in compliance with all statutory requirements; and that this proceeding was duly submitted to the Railroad Commission of Texas at conference held in its offices in Austin, Texas.

The Commission, after review and due consideration of the examiner's report and recommendation, the findings of fact and conclusions of law contained therein, hereby adopts as its own the findings of fact and conclusions of law contained therein, and incorporates said findings of fact and conclusions of law as if fully set out and separately stated herein.

Therefore, it is **ORDERED** by the Railroad Commission of Texas that Field Rule No. 2 adopted in Final Order No. 04-0250221, effective March 6, 2007, for the Midway, South (Consolidated) Field, San Patricio County, Texas, is hereby amended. The amended Field Rule No. 2 is set out as follows:

RULE 2: No gas well shall hereafter be drilled nearer than FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY SEVEN (467) feet to any property line, lease line or subdivision line. There is no between well spacing limitation. The aforementioned distances in the above rule are minimum distances to allow an operator flexibility in locating a well. The Commission will grant exceptions to permit drilling within shorter distances and drilling more wells than herein prescribed whenever the Commission determines that such exceptions are necessary either to prevent waste or to prevent the confiscation of property. When exception to these rules is desired, application therefor shall be filed and will be acted upon in accordance with the provisions of Commission Statewide Rules 37 and 38, which applicable provisions of said rules are incorporated herein by reference.

In applying this rule, the general order of the Commission with relation to the subdivision of property shall be observed.

Provided, however, that for purposes of spacing for horizontal wells, the following shall apply:

- a. A take point in a horizontal drainhole well is any point along a horizontal drainhole where oil and/or gas can be produced into the wellbore from the reservoir/field interval. The first take point may be at a different location than the penetration point and the last take point may be at a location different than the terminus point.
- b. All take points in a horizontal drainhole well shall be a minimum of FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY SEVEN (467) feet from any property line, lease line, or subdivision line. A permit or an amended permit is required for all take points closer to the property line, lease line, or subdivision line than the lease line spacing distance, including any perforations added in the vertical portion or the curve of a horizontal drainhole well.

For the purpose of assigning additional acreage to a horizontal well pursuant to Rule 86, the distance from the first take point to the last take point in the horizontal drainhole shall be used in such determination, in lieu of the distance from penetration point to terminus.

In addition to the penetration point and the terminus of the wellbore required to be identified on the drilling permit application (Form W-1H) and plat, the first and last take points must also be identified on the drilling permit application (Remarks Section) and plat. Operators shall file an as-drilled plat showing the path, penetration point, terminus and the first and last take points of all drainholes in horizontal wells, regardless of allocation formula.

If the applicant has represented in the drilling application that there will be one or more no perf zones or "NPZs" (portions of the wellbore within the field interval without take points), then the as-drilled plat filed after completion of the well shall be certified by a person with knowledge of the facts pertinent to the application that the plat is accurately drawn to scale and correctly reflects all pertinent and required data. In addition to the standard required data, the certified plat shall include the as-drilled track of the wellbore, the location of each take point on the wellbore, the boundaries of any wholly or partially unleased tracts within a Rule 37 distance of the wellbore, and notations of the shortest distance from each wholly or partially unleased tract within a Rule 37 distance of the wellbore to the nearest take point on the wellbore.

For any well permitted in this field, the penetration point need not be located on the same lease, pooled unit or unitized tract on which the well is permitted and may be located on an Offsite Tract. When the penetration point is located on such Offsite Tract, the applicant for such a drilling permit must give 21 days notice by certified mail, return receipt requested to the mineral owners of the Offsite Tract. For the purposes of this rule, the mineral owners of the Offsite Tract are (1) the designated operator; (2) all lessees of record for the Offsite Tract where there is no designated operator; and (3) all owners of unleased mineral interests where there is no designated operator or lessee. In providing such notice, applicant must provide the mineral owners of the Offsite Tract with a plat clearly

depicting the projected path of the entire wellbore. In the event the applicant is unable, after due diligence, to locate the whereabouts of any person to whom notice is required by this rule, the applicant must publish notice of this application pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. If any mineral owner of the Offsite Tract objects to the location of the penetration point, the applicant may request a hearing to demonstrate the necessity of the location of the penetration point of the well to prevent waste or to protect correlative rights. Notice of Offsite Tract penetration is not required if (a) written waivers of objection are received from all mineral owners of the Offsite Tract; or, (b) the applicant is the only mineral owner of the Offsite Tract. To mitigate the potential for well collisions, applicant shall promptly provide copies of any directional surveys to the parties entitled to notice under this section, upon request.

It is further **ORDERED** that the allocation formula in the Midway, South (Consolidated) Field will remain suspended. The allocation formula may be reinstated administratively, in accordance with the Commission's rules, if the market demand for gas in the Midway, South (Consolidated) Field drops below 100% of deliverability.

Done this 24th day of May, 2011.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

**(Order approved and signatures affixed by
OGC Unprotested Master Order dated May 24,
2011)**