

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

**OIL AND GAS DOCKET
NO. 06-0271583**

**IN THE HENDERSON, E. (COTTON
VALLEY) FIELD, RUSK COUNTY, TEXAS**

**FINAL ORDER
AMENDING FIELD RULES FOR THE
HENDERSON, E. (COTTON VALLEY) FIELD
RUSK COUNTY, TEXAS**

The Commission finds that after statutory notice in the above-numbered docket heard on August 17, 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 the Field Rules adopted in Final Order No. No. 06-0240561, effective December 21, 2004, as amended, for the Henderson, E. (Cotton Valley) Field, Rusk County Texas, are hereby further amended. The amended Field Rules are set out in their entirety as follows:

RULE 1: The entire correlative interval from 9,600 feet to 11,000 feet as shown on the log of the Taliaferro No. 1 (API No. 401-33357), Thomas L. Willshire Survey, A-843, Rusk County, Texas shall be designated as a single reservoir for proration purposes and be designated as the Henderson, E. (Cotton Valley) Field.

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 and no well shall be drilled nearer than SIX HUNDRED (600) feet to any applied for, permitted or completed well in the same reservoir on the same lease, pooled unit or unitized tract. The aforementioned distances in the above rule are minimum distances to allow an operator flexibility in locating a well, and the above spacing rule and the other rules to follow are for the purpose of permitting only one well to each drilling and proration unit. Provided however, that the Commission will grant exceptions to permit drilling within shorter distances and drilling more wells than herein prescribed whenever the Commission shall have determined that such exceptions are necessary either to prevent waste or to prevent the confiscation of property. When exception to these rules is desired, application therefore 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 rule are incorporated herein by reference.

Notwithstanding the above, there shall be no minimum spacing requirement between

horizontal and vertical wells on the same lease or pooled unit. 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. No horizontal drainhole well for oil or gas shall hereafter be drilled such that the first and last take points are nearer than TWO HUNDRED (200) feet to any property line, lease line or subdivision line.
- c. For each horizontal drainhole well, the distance perpendicular to such horizontal drainhole from any take point to any point on any property line, lease line or subdivision line shall be a minimum of FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY SEVEN (467) feet.
- d. All take points in a horizontal drainhole well shall be a minimum distance of SIX HUNDRED (600) feet from take points in any other existing, permitted or applied for horizontal drainhole on the same lease, unit, or unitized tract, provided that this restriction on spacing between wells shall not apply between horizontal and vertical wells and shall also not apply to horizontal drain hole wells that are parallel or subparallel and do not overlap more than ONE HUNDRED (100) feet. Two horizontal drainhole wells shall be considered parallel or subparallel if their orientations are parallel or within forty-five (45) degrees of parallel.

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.

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

RULE 3: The acreage assigned to an individual gas well for the purpose of allocating allowable gas production thereto shall be known as a proration unit. The standard drilling and proration units are established hereby to be FORTY (40) acres. No proration unit shall consist of more than FORTY (40) acres; provided that, tolerance acreage of ten (10) percent shall be allowed for each standard proration unit so that an amount not to exceed a maximum of FORTY FOUR (44) acres may be assigned. Each proration unit containing less than FORTY (40) acres shall be a fractional proration unit. All proration units shall consist of continuous and contiguous acreage which can reasonably be considered to be productive of gas. No double assignment of acreage will be accepted. There is no maximum diagonal limitation.

An operator, at his option, shall be permitted to form optional drilling and proration units of TWENTY (20) acres. A proportional acreage allowable credit will be given for a well on a fractional proration unit. There is no maximum diagonal limitation.

Operators shall not be required to file Form P-15 and plats for wells in this field.

RULE 4: The gas field shall be classified as non-associated. The daily allowable

production of gas from individual wells completed in the subject field shall be determined by allocating the allowable production, after deductions have been made for wells which are incapable of producing their gas allowables, among the individual wells in the following manner:

FIVE percent (5%) of the field's total allowable shall be allocated equally among all the individual proratable wells producing from the field

NINETY-FIVE percent (95%) of the field's total allowable shall be allocated among the individual wells in the proportion that the deliverability of such well, as evidenced by the most recent G-10 test filed with the Railroad Commission bears to the summation of the deliverability of all proratable wells producing from the field.

It is further **ORDERED** that the allocation formula for the field shall remain suspended. The allocation formula may be reinstated administratively, in accordance with the Commission's rules, if the market demand for gas in the Henderson, E. (Cotton Valley) Field drops below 100% of deliverability.

Done this 11th day of October, 2011.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

**(Order approved and signatures affixed by
OGC Unprotected Master Order dated
October 11, 2011)**