

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
SECRETARY OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CONTINENTAL RESOURCES, INC., OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA, FOR PERMITS TO DRILL TWO HORIZONTAL OIL AND GAS WELLS TO THE RED RIVER "B" POOL IN A PORTION OF THE BUFFALO FIELD NOT ALREADY SPACED FOR HORIZONTAL WELLS BY THE BOARD OF MINERALS AND ENVIRONMENT DESCRIBED AS THE STAFFORD 44-1H HORIZONTAL WELL, WITH A SURFACE LOCATION 750 FEET FROM THE SOUTH LINE AND 220 FEET FROM THE EAST LINE, AND A BOTTOM HOLE LOCATION 850 FEET FROM THE SOUTH LINE AND 680 FEET FROM THE WEST LINE; AND THE HAISE 41-1H HORIZONTAL WELL, WITH A SURFACE LOCATION 850 FEET FROM THE NORTH LINE AND 350 FEET FROM THE EAST LINE, AND A BOTTOM HOLE LOCATION 950 FEET FROM THE NORTH LINE AND 680 FEET FROM THE WEST LINE; BOTH WELLS BEING IN SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 21 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST; APPROXIMATELY 17 MILES NORTHWEST OF BUFFALO, HARDING COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA.

NOTICE  
OF  
RECOMMENDATION

OIL AND GAS  
CASE NO. 11-2013

Notice is hereby given to the public and all interested persons that pursuant to South Dakota Codified Laws 1-26 and 45-9 and further pursuant to Administrative Rules of South Dakota 74:12:02:02 and 74:12:09, the above described applications have been filed with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The Secretary recommends approval of the permits to drill the Stafford 44-1H and Haise 41-1H horizontal wells with the following conditions:

1. The permits are conditioned on compliance with all applicable requirements of South Dakota Codified Laws 45-9 and Administrative Rules of South Dakota 74-12.
2. A 12-mil woven, reinforced high-density polyethylene liner must be used on all pits.
3. Surface runoff must be diverted around the drill site.
4. The surface hole must be drilled with fresh water.
5. Cement must be circulated to the ground surface on the surface casing.
6. If horizontally drilled:
  - A. The coordinates of the production casing shoe and the well terminus must be filed with the department.
  - B. The azimuth of the horizontal segment of the well must be filed with the department along with the results of periodic down hole surveys.

7. If production casing (long string) is set:
  - A. The cement program approved as submitted with the application shall be followed.
  - B. A cement bond log must be run and filed with the department within 60 days after completion of the well as required by the Administrative Rules of South Dakota 74:12:02:12.
8. If abandoned, a plugging plan must be submitted to the department for review and approval. The plugging plan should address all requirements found in Administrative Rules of South Dakota 74:12:03.
  - A. If production casing is left in the wellbore, a mechanical integrity test must be conducted to verify the integrity of the casing as required by the Administrative Rules of South Dakota 74:12:03:02(4)(b)(ii).
  - B. The casing string must be cut off at least three feet below the final ground surface contour. A plate with the name of the operator, well name and number, and legal location by quarter-quarter section, township and range must be welded to the casing stub. The location of the abandoned well must be surveyed with high resolution global positioning system equipment or other appropriate survey methods sufficient to accurately locate the well. Survey coordinates must be included in the final abandonment report.
9. Surface reclamation of the site must be completed within one year of plugging and abandoning the well.
10. A washed set of sample cuttings (or cores, if cut) must be shipped, free of charge to the South Dakota Geological Survey.

Authority for the Secretary to approve this application is contained in Administrative Rules of South Dakota 74:12:02:02 and 74:12:09. Unless a person files a petition requesting a hearing on the above applications, pursuant to Administrative Rules of South Dakota 74:09:01, on or before April 24, 2013, the Secretary's recommendation will be considered final, and the Secretary will approve the application in accordance with that recommendation.

The application and notice of recommendation are also posted on the department's website at: <http://denr.sd.gov/des/og/pubhearing.aspx>. Additional information about this application is available from Bob Townsend, Administrator, Minerals and Mining Program, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501, telephone (605) 773-4201, email [bob.townsend@state.sd.us](mailto:bob.townsend@state.sd.us).

Dated: March 29, 2013



Steven M. Pirner  
Secretary

Published once at an approximate cost of \_\_\_\_\_.