

BEFORE THE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

CASE NO. 910
ORDER NO. 970

IN THE MATTER OF A HEARING CALLED ON A
MOTION OF THE COMMISSION TO CONSIDER THE
APPLICATION OF GOFOR OIL, INC., FOR
PERMISSION TO DISPOSE OF SALT WATER
PRODUCED WITH CRUDE OIL IN THE MOHALL
FIELD, BOTTINEAU COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, BY
INJECTING SAID WATER INTO THE DAKOTA SAND
FORMATION THROUGH ITS GEORGE WITTEMAN
NO. 1 WELL LOCATED IN THE NE/4 NE/4 OF
SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 161 NORTH, RANGE 83
WEST.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

A hearing having been held in Grand Forks, North Dakota, on July 9, 1968, at 9:30 a.m., before Clarence B. Folsom, Jr., a Special Examiner appointed for the purpose.

NOW, on this 29th day of July, 1968, the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," a quorum being present, having considered the testimony adduced and the exhibits received at said hearing, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That no objection has been received from other operators in the area.

(3) That the amount of salt water produced from the Madison Formation in the Mohall Field, Bottineau and Renville Counties, North Dakota, as a result of crude oil producing operations, exceeds the amount that can be readily disposed of by evaporation from surface pits.

(4) That the Dakota-Lakota Group, within the limits of the Mohall Field, contains natural water of sufficient salinity to be unsuitable for domestic or irrigation use.

(5) That the Dakota-Lakota Group in the Mohall Field is similar, in character, to the Dakota Sandstone in the other fields where successful salt water disposal projects already are in operation.

(6) That unless some means of subsurface disposal is provided, surface damage will result and potable surface waters will be polluted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That Gofor Oil, Inc., be, and the same is hereby permitted to dispose of salt water into the Dakota Formation through the George Witteman No. 1 well located in the NE/4 NE/4 of Section 7, Township 161 North, Range 83 West, Mohall Field, Renville County, North Dakota.

(2) That the permission granted in (1) above is conditioned upon the following considerations:

(a) That the porous intervals above, and below, the proposed injection interval be properly protected by cement, squeezed through perforations in the casing, so as to prevent the migration of the injected water through the annulus behind the casing.

(b) That the amounts of water injected, and the sources thereof, be reported to the State Geologist at the same time that crude oil production reports are submitted.

(3) That this order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

DONE, at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 29th day of July, 1968.

THE NORTH DAKOTA
INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

/s/ William L. Guy
William L. Guy, Governor

/s/ Helgi Johanneson
Helgi Johanneson, Attorney General

/s/ Arne Dahl
Arne Dahl, Commissioner of Agriculture