

BEFORE THE BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF THREE FORKS RESOURCES, LLC
AND ITS FAILURE TO MAINTAIN MECHANICAL
INTEGRITY ON THE UTOPIA UNIT 33-13 WELL (API #
25-051-21596).

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 9-A-2022

Three Forks Resources, LLC (Three Forks) is the operator of the Utopia Unit 33-13 injection well, API # 25-051-21596, located in the W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 13, T33N-R4E, Liberty County, Montana.

On July 2, 2020, the Utopia Unit 33-13 well failed a Mechanical Integrity Test (MIT). Wells that fail a MIT must be immediately shut-in until either repaired, reworked, or plugged for abandonment within 180 days, in accordance with ARM 36.22.1414, and must be successfully retested for mechanical integrity before being placed back in injection service.

Board staff have had numerous discussions with Three Forks in an effort to get this matter resolved. On March 1, 2022, Three Forks was informed that if the well was not in compliance by the April 13, 2022, board business meeting, the matter would be referred to the Board.

At the April 13, 2022, business meeting, staff reported that Three Forks has not repaired, reworked, or plugged for abandonment the Utopia Unit 33-13 well.

Staff recommended a \$1,000 fine be assessed to Three Forks for its failure maintain mechanical integrity on the well.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Board that Three Forks must show cause at the June 16, 2022, public hearing, as to why it should not immediately plug and abandon the Utopia Unit 33-13 injection well, API # 25-051-21596, located in the W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 13, T33N-R4E, Liberty County, Montana. Board staff has authority to dismiss the docket if Three Forks achieves compliance prior to the June 16, 2022, public hearing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED by the Board that Three Forks is fined \$1,000 for failure to maintain mechanical integrity on the well.

Dated this 13th day of April, 2022

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation

James W. Halvorson, Administrator