

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

IN THE MATTER OF EMPIRE NORTH DAKOTA LLC AND
ITS PROGRESS TO REDUCE ITS PLUGGING LIABILITY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 13-A-2022

Empire North Dakota LLC (Empire) appeared at the June 13, 2019, public hearing regarding the acquisition of 18 producing wells, nine of which had been shut in for more than two years, and one injection well. Empire testified that it planned to reactivate the Curtis Hunter A-1 well.

At the June 24, 2020, business meeting, Empire testified that it had worked on seven shut-in wells in the past year and planned to plug one well.

Empire appeared at the June 16, 2022, public hearing regarding a one well acquisition. Empire testified it planned to work on the Lien #4 and #5 shut in wells over the summer. The transfer was approved with the request that an update to given at the December 2022 business meeting.

As of the December 7, 2022, business meeting, Empire has not reactivated, plugged, or filed any intents to abandon any of its shut-in wells. The shut-in well count remains the same as when Empire acquired the wells in 2019.

There has been a recent surface owner complaint regarding messy locations and weed issues.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Board that Empire North Dakota LLC is to appear at the Board's February 2, 2023, public hearing to provide an update of its actions taken to reduce its plugging liability.

Dated this 7th day of December, 2022

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation

Benjamin Jones, Administrator