

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

IN THE MATTER OF BIG SNOWY RESOURCES LP AND  
ITS INACTIVE WELLS IN MUSSELSHELL AND  
YELLOWSTONE COUNTIES, MONTANA.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 13-A-2024

Big Snowy Resources LP (Big Snowy) is the operator of seven wells located in Musselshell and Yellowstone Counties, Montana. These wells have been inactive for two or more years.

On October 20, 2023, Big Snowy filed a Sundry for work on the Rickey 14-1 well, API # 065-21875 that was approved by staff on October 30, 2023. A second Sundry was filed on May 7, 2024, and approved on May 16, 2024, for additional work on the Rickey 14-1 well. A subsequent sundry was submitted on October 8, 2024, after a request by staff, which indicated some work and testing had been completed on the Rickey 14-1 well.

On August 21, 2024, a certified letter was mailed to Big Snowy requesting it submit plans and timelines for the plugging and abandonment or reactivating its wells. If a well has the potential for future use, well-specific documentation for the inapplicability of the plugging requirement was requested. This request was made in accordance with ARM 36.22.1307.

On September 20, 2024, and October 8, 2024, Big Snowy submitted two letters to the Board, but did not provide an adequate plan or timeline for its inactive wells.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Board that Big Snowy must provide staff a detailed well plan for a minimum of two wells with a timeline and benchmarks for reactivating, transferring, or plugging its inactive wells to reduce plugging liability prior to the October 31, 2024, hearing application deadline or Big Snowy must appear at the December 5, 2024, public hearing to provide an update of its efforts to reduce its plugging liability and to review its plugging and reclamation bonds to determine if the coverage is adequate under § 82-11-123(5), MCA.

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation

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Benjamin Jones, Administrator