Form CP-111 July 2017 Form must be Typed Form must be signed

# TEMPORARY ABANDONMENT WELL APPLICATION

All blanks	must	be c	omplete

Phone 620.902.6450

Phone 785.261.6250

ODEDATOD: License#				ADIN- 45			
OPERATOR: License# Name:			API No. 15-  Spot Description:				
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Address 2:							/ W Line of Section
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Phone:()					ne: Ele		GL KB
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Top of Cement							
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TA Approved: Yes	Denied Date:						
		Mail to the Ap	propriate	KCC Conser	vation Office:		
There have been been been an and heavy	KCC Dist	rict Office #1 - 210 E. Fro					Phone 620.682.7933
					Suite 601, Wichita, KS 6	7226	Phone 316.337.7400
The second secon						· -	0.0.001.11100

KCC District Office #3 - 137 E. 21st St., Chanute, KS 66720

KCC District Office #4 - 2301 E. 13th Street, Hays, KS 67601-2651

# THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:	Susan K. Duffy, Chair
	Dwight D. Keen

Andrew J. French

In the matter of the application of Merit Energy	)	Docket No. 23-CONS-3250-CEXC
Company, LLC, for an exception to the 10-year	)	
time limitation of K.A.R. 82-3-111 for its Blout	)	CONSERVATION DIVISION
#3-5 well in the East Half of the Northeast	)	
Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of the	)	License No. 32446
Southwest Quarter of Section 5, Township 33	)	
South, Range 42 West, Morton County, Kansas.	)	

# **ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION**

The Commission rules as follows:

# I. JURISDICTION

- 1. K.S.A. 74-623 provides the Commission exclusive jurisdiction and authority to regulate oil and gas activities in Kansas. K.A.R. 82-3-100 provides that the Commission may grant an exception to any regulation after application and notice, and after considering whether the exception will prevent waste, protect correlative rights, and prevent pollution.
- 2. K.A.R. 82-3-111 requires wells that are inactive for more than 90 days, or in some circumstances more than 364 days, to be plugged or approved for temporary abandonment (TA) status. Under K.A.R. 82-3-111(b), a well shall not be eligible TA status if it has been shut-in for ten or more years, unless the Commission has granted an application for a regulatory exception.

## II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 3. Merit Energy Company, LLC (Operator) is licensed to conduct oil and gas activities in Kansas and is responsible for the Blout #3-5 well (Subject Well), API #15-129-21674.
- 4. On March 24, 2023, Operator filed its Application requesting an exception to the 10-year limit on TA status for the Subject Well.

- 5. On May 16, 2023, Operator successfully tested the Subject Well for mechanical integrity, indicating there is not a present threat to fresh and usable water.<sup>1</sup>
- 6. Operator served and published notice at least 15 days before the issuance of this Order, as required under K.A.R. 82-3-135a. No protest was filed under K.A.R. 82-3-135b.
- 7. The reasons articulated in Operator's Application and the results of the mechanical integrity test are sufficient to support the administrative grant of Operator's Application.

#### III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 8. The Commission has jurisdiction over Operator and Operator's Application.

  Operator's Application was filed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission and in accordance with Kansas statutes. Operator properly served and published notice.
- 9. Based on the above facts, Operator's Application should be granted. Operator has demonstrated a potential future use for the Subject Well that is preventative of waste. There is no apparent present pollution threat, and correlative rights will not be affected.

# THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- A. Operator's Application for an exception to the 10-year limit on TA status for the Subject Well is granted for three years, calculated from the date the Application was filed.
- B. Operator must file an annual TA form for the Subject Well. The first TA form shall be filed within 30 days.
- C. Operator's Application is being granted via summary proceedings; thus, this Order does not take effect until after the time for requesting a hearing has expired.<sup>2</sup> Any party may request a hearing on the above issues by submitting a written request setting forth the specific grounds upon which relief is sought, to the Commission at 266 N. Main, Suite 220,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> To reach this finding, the Commission takes administrative notice of its records. See 82-1-230(h).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See K.S.A. 77-537.

Wichita, Kansas 67202, within 15 days from the date of service of this Order.<sup>3</sup> If a hearing is not requested, then this Order shall become effective upon expiration of the time for requesting hearing.4 If this Order becomes effective, then any party may file and serve a petition for

reconsideration pursuant to the requirements and time limits established by K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).5

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Duffy, Chair; Keen, Commissioner; French, Commissioner

Date:	06/06/2023
_	

Lynn M. Retz

**Executive Director** 

Lynn M. Reg

Date Mailed: 06/06/2023

**KAM** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See K.S.A. 77-542.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See K.S.A. 77-537.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See K.S.A. 55-606; K.S.A. 77-503(c); K.S.A. 77-531(b).

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

# 23-CONS-3250-CEXC

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy	of the attached Order has	been served to the following by means of
first class mail and electronic service on _	06/06/2023	
ROBYN HAYES, ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIAL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 1 210 E. FRONTVIEW SUITE A DODGE CITY, KS 67801 r.hayes@kcc.ks.gov	LIST	MICHAEL MAIER KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 1 210 E. FRONTVIEW SUITE A DODGE CITY, KS 67801 m.maier@kcc.ks.gov
KELCEY MARSH, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION CENTRAL OFFICE 266 N. MAIN ST, STE 220 WICHITA, KS 67202-1513 k.marsh@kcc.ks.gov		KATHERINE MCCLURKAN, REGULATORY ANALYST MERIT ENERGY COMPANY, LLC 13727 NOEL ROAD, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TX 75240 kathy.mcclurkan@meritenergy.com
KENNY SULLIVAN, DISTRICT #1 SUPERVISOR KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 1 210 E. FRONTVIEW SUITE A DODGE CITY, KS 67801 k.sullivan@kcc.ks.gov	OR	ZACH K. WIGGINS MARTIN, PRINGLE, OLIVER, WALLACE & BAUER, LLP 645 E. DOUGLAS STE 100 WICHITA, KS 67202-3557 zkwiggins@martinpringle.com

/S/ KCC Docket Room KCC Docket Room Conservation Division District Office No. 1 210 E. Frontview, Suite A Dodge City, KS 67801



Phone: 620-682-7933 http://kcc.ks.gov/

Laura Kelly, Governor

Susan K. Duffy, Chair Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner Andrew J. French, Commissioner

June 07, 2023

Katherine McClurkan Merit Energy Company, LLC 13727 Noel Road, Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75240

Re: Temporary Abandonment API 15-129-21674-00-00 Blout 3-5 SW/4 Sec.05-33S-42W Morton County, Kansas

## Dear Katherine McClurkan:

Your temporary abandonment (TA) application for the well listed above has been approved. In accordance with K.A.R. 82-3-111 the TA status of this well will expire 03/24/2024.

Your exception application expires on 03/24/2026.

- \* If you return this well to service or plug it, please notify the District Office.
- \* If you sell this well you are required to file a Transfer of Operator form, T-1.
- \* If the well will remain temporarily abandoned, you must submit a new TA application, CP-111, before 03/24/2024.

You may contact me at the number above if you have questions.

Very truly yours,

Michael Maier