

**BEFORE THE STATE OIL AND GAS BOARD OF ALABAMA**

**PURSUANT TO A DECISION RENDERED DURING A  
REGULAR SESSION OF THE STATE OIL AND GAS  
BOARD OF ALABAMA ON MAY 21, 1999  
THE FOLLOWING ORDER IS HEREBY PROMULGATED:**

**IN RE: ORDER NO. 99-31**

**DOCKET NO. 4-7-992**

THIS CAUSE came on for hearing before the State Oil and Gas Board of Alabama on the petition of TAURUS EXPLORATION, INC., an Alabama corporation, requesting the State Oil and Gas Board to enter an order extending the temporarily abandoned status for certain coal degasification wells located in Big Sandy Creek, Oak Grove and Brookwood Coal Degasification Fields, Tuscaloosa and Jefferson Counties, Alabama. The State Oil and Gas Board finds that due and proper notice of the hearing of said cause has been given in the manner and form and for the time required by law and the rules and regulations of this Board, and that the Board has full jurisdiction of this cause, and the Board being fully advised in the premises finds:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

**I.**

That Taurus Exploration, Inc. is the named operator of the following wells. Change of Operator requests are pending to name Energen Resources Corporation as operator of the wells.

**BIG SANDY CREEK COAL DEGASIFICATION FIELD**

<u>PERMIT NO.</u>	<u>WELL NAME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
8541-C	RUSSELL 3-16-18-3538	S3, T24N, R6E
9643-C	MATHEWS 11-16-497-3588	S11, T24N, R6E
9645-C	JACKSON 14-6-500-3610	S14, T24N, R6E
9648-C	SHUTTLESWORTH 10-10-519-3583	S10, T24N, R6E
9698-C	SKURKA 11-12-495-3585	S11, T24N, R6E

**OAK GROVE COAL DEGASIFICATION FIELD**

<u>PERMIT NO.</u>	<u>WELL NAME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
5931-C	USX-TAURUS-88-19-8-02-01-795	S2, T19S, R8W
5957-C	USX-TAURUS-88-18-8-36-05-770	S36, T18S, R8W
5963-C	USX-TAURUS-88-18-7-30-02-755	S30, T18S, R7W
5977-C	USX-TAURUS-88-18-8-24-13-7735	S24, 18S, R8W
6061-C	USX-TAURUS-88-18-7-21-10-739	S21, T18S, R7W
6067-C	TAURUS-88-18-7-27-2-743	S27, T18S, R7W
6070-C	USX-TAURUS-88-18-7-27-03-744	S27, T18S, R7W
6071-C	USX-TAURUS-88-18-7-34-05-778	S34, T18S, R7W

6072-C	USX-TAURUS-88-18-7-34-11-781	S34,T18S,R7W
6073-C	USX-TAURUS-88-18-7-34-09-780	S34,T18S,R7W
6099-C	USX-TAURUS-89-18-7-33-07-775	S33,T18S,R7W
6492-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-8-16-8-879	S16,T19S,R8W
6493-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-8-16-09-880	S16,T19S,R8W
6494-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-8-01-03-793	S1,T19S, R8W
6495-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-8-01-12-794	S1, T19S,R8W
6496-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-8-02-15-798	S2, T19S,R8W
6542-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-7-10-3-830	S10,T19S,R7W
6614-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-8-10-10-815	S10,T19S,R8W
6619-C	USX-TAURUS-89-18-8-26-10-757	S26,T18S,R8W
6620-C	USX-TAURUS-89-18-8-35-01-766	S35,T18S,R8W
6622-C	USX-TAURUS-89-18-8-35-09-768	S35,T18S,R8W
6661-C	USX-TAURUS-89-18-8-35-14-769	S35,T18S,R8W
6682-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-8-02-03-796	S2, T19S,R8W
6937-C	USX-TAURUS-89-18-8-26-08-756	S26,T18S,R8W
6941-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-8-15-06-876	S15,T19S,R8W
7010-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-7-14-07-848	S14,T19S,R7W
7011-C	USX-TAURUS-89-19-8-22-11-889	S22,T19S,R8W
9569-C	UA-TAURUS-90-19-7-14-05-847	S14,T19S,R7W
9570-C	UA-TAURUS-90-19-7-14-11-849	S14,T19S,R7W
9571-C	UA-TAURUS-90-19-7-14-16-850	S14,T19S,R7W

**BROOKWOOD COAL DEGASIFICATION FIELD**

7007-C	WEST-TAURUS-89-19-7-15-04-852	S15,T19S,R7W
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**II.**

That all of said wells have previously been placed in the status of temporarily abandoned wells in accordance with Rule 400-1-3-.06(2) of the *State Oil and Gas Board of Alabama Administrative Code* for a period of six (6) months and said six-month period will expire on May 21, 1999.

**III.**

That Taurus Exploration, Inc. submits that it does not currently plan to plug and abandon these coal degasification wells because they may have future utility in that Taurus may complete some or all of the aforementioned wells and, when completed, some or all of the said wells may be capable of producing occluded natural gas or methane from the Pottsville Coal Interval.

**IV.**

That the above-mentioned wells have future utility and, therefore, the temporarily abandoned status of the wells is due to be extended.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

V.

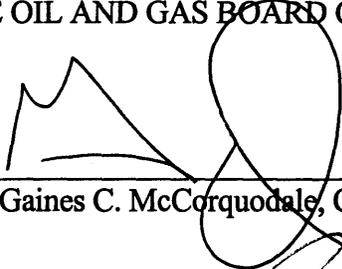
That granting this petition will prevent waste and protect the coequal and correlative rights of all owners in the drilling units assigned to the above cited wells.

Based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth hereinabove, IT IS THEREFORE, HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the State Oil and Gas Board of Alabama that the Petition be GRANTED. Said Petition is granted approving an extension of the "temporarily abandoned" status for the aforementioned coal degasification wells until the next regular State Oil and Gas Board hearing following the expiration of six (6) months from the date of this Order.

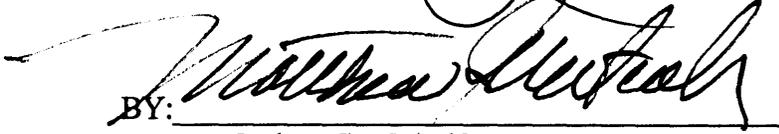
ORDERED this 21st day of May, 1999.

STATE OIL AND GAS BOARD OF ALABAMA

BY:

  
Gaines C. McCorquodale, Chairman

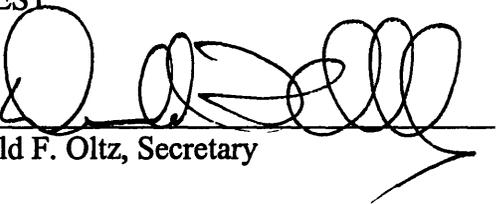
BY:

  
Matthew S. Metcalfe, Member

BY:

  
M. Stephen Dampier, Member

ATTEST:

  
Donald F. Oltz, Secretary