

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

ORDER OF THE SUPERVISOR OF WELLS

IN THE MATTER OF:

A HEARING TO BE HELD AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE)
SUPERVISOR OF WELLS TO DO THE FOLLOWING WITH)
RESPECT TO TRENTON AND BLACK RIVER FORMATION)
WELLS WITHIN A CERTAIN GEOGRAPHIC AREA: SET OIL AND)
GAS ALLOWABLES; ESTABLISH OR MAINTAIN SPACING AND) ORDER NO. 18-2007
LOCATION OF WELLS; CONSIDER THE DESIRABILITY OF)
RESTRICTING FLARING OR VENTING OF GAS; AND AMENDING)
OR ABROGATING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF ORDERS (A))
9-7-84 AND (A) 4-10-88, WHICH PROVIDE FOR SPACING AND)
PRORATION OF TRENTON BLACK RIVER FORMATION WELLS)
IN CALHOUN, JACKSON AND HILLSDALE COUNTIES.)

SECOND AMENDED OPINION AND ORDER

Order No. 18-2007 was issued December 26, 2008, with an effective date of December 26, 2008, and was amended to correct a typographical error. In 2018, staff of the Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division (OGMD) requested the Supervisor of Wells further amend Order No. 18-2007 to include Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Cass, Berrien, Van Buren, and Allegan counties. An evidentiary hearing was held on this request on November 27, 2018. Mr. Mark Snow, Permits and Bonding Unit Supervisor, testified on behalf of OGMD staff. Answers in support of adding the southern tier of six counties identified above to Order No. 18-2007 were received from West Bay Exploration, Muskegon Development Company, Savoy Energy, L. P., Wolverine Gas and Oil Corporation, and Jordan Development Company, L.L.C, however, no other party testified at the hearing.

Mr. Snow testified that since Order No. 18-2007 was issued, over 500 permit applications have been submitted targeting the Trenton Black River Formation and approximately 30 permit applications have been submitted for wells outside the original 15 county area included in the Order. Applying the conditions of Order No. 18-2007 to the additional counties will provide more flexibility in locating wells and drilling units, impose limits on the daily allowable production and establish restrictions on flaring of natural gas. It is the belief of OGMD staff that applying this Order to the additional counties will effectively foster orderly development and prevent waste.

DETERMINATION AND ORDER

I have reviewed the testimony and Answers filed in support of the request to add the six counties listed above to Order 18-2007, and I find it is appropriate to amend Order No. 18-2007.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:


Paragraph 1. of the Determination and Order section of the original Opinion and Order, in Cause No. 18-2007 is hereby amended in its entirety to provide as follows:

1. This Order applies to the following 21 counties:

Barry, Eaton, Ingham, Livingston, Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair, Calhoun, Jackson, Washtenaw, Wayne, Branch, Hillsdale, Lenawee, Monroe, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Cass, Berrien, Van Buren, and Allegan.

All other provisions of the original Opinion and Order No. 18-2007 and Amended Opinion and Order No. 18-2007, are reaffirmed.

DATED: Dec. 27, 2018



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ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR OF WELLS
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