

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
HEARINGS DIVISION**

OIL & GAS DOCKET NO. 7B-0298675

Complaint of Laura Howell that Nichols Brothers (Op. No. 609730) Does Not Have a Good Faith Claim to Operate the Willis, T.H. (13190) Lease, Well No. 1, Jones County Regular Field, Jones County, Texas.

FINAL ORDER

The Commission finds that after notice and an opportunity for hearing regarding the captioned matter, the Operator has submitted evidence rather than request a hearing. This matter having been duly submitted, the Railroad Commission of Texas enters and adopts findings of fact and conclusions of law, as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Nichols Brothers, Operator No. 609730 is the operator of record for the Willis, T.H. (13190) Lease, Well No. 1, Jones County Regular Field, Jones County, Texas.
2. By letter received at the Commission on October 26, 2015, Laura Howell complained that Nichols Brothers did not have a good faith claim to operate the captioned lease and well.
3. By letter dated November 12, 2015 Commission staff requested in writing that Nichols Brothers either (1) provide evidence that it holds a good faith claim to a continuing right to operate the referenced well or (2) request a hearing on the matter on or before December 2, 2015. The letter expressly notified the operator that failure to timely request a hearing would constitute waiver of the opportunity to request a hearing on the matter.
4. Nichols Brothers timely filed a reply which was received at the Commission on November 30, 2015. Nichols Brothers filed evidence of its right to continue to operate the subject lease and well. Nichols Brothers did not request a hearing.
 - a. Nichols Brothers written response, in its entirety, read "The oil & gas lease dated June 30, 2012 from the Howells has terminated, but the oil on hand was produced before or while the lease was valid. We own 3/4 of the minerals, and want to produce this well. The well has not produced since the June 30, 2015 termination of the Howell Lease."

rehearing has been extended under Tex. Gov't Code §2001.142, by agreement under Tex. Gov't Code §2001.147, or by written Commission Order issued pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code §2001.146(e). If a timely motion for rehearing of an application is filed by any party at interest, this order shall not become final and effective until such motion is overruled, or if such motion is granted, this order shall be subject to further action by the Commission. Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code §2001.146(e), the time allotted for Commission action on a motion for rehearing in this case prior to its being overruled by operation of law is hereby extended until 90 days from the date the Commission Order is signed.

All requested Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law which are not expressly adopted herein are **DENIED**. All pending motions and request for relief not previously granted or granted herein are **DENIED**.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

**(Order approved and signatures affixed by
Hearings Division Unprotected Master
Order dated March 29, 2016)**