

14TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF CALCASIEU

STATE OF LOUISIANA

DOCKET NO. 2019-4925

DIVISION "F"

H.C. DREW ESTATE

VERSUS

NEUMIN PRODUCTION COMPANY, ET AL.

FILED: OCT 14 2021

*Carole B LeBlanc*

DEPUTY CLERK

**NEUMIN PRODUCTION COMPANY'S LIMITED ADMISSION UNDER LOUISIANA  
REVISED STATUTE §30:29**

Neumin Production Company ("Neumin") submits this limited admission under Louisiana Revised Statute §30:29 ("Act 312").

1.

Neumin conducted limited oil and gas operations pursuant to an August 23, 2000 mineral lease granted by Plaintiff H.C. Drew Estate, which covered about 175.55 acres in Section 15, Township 10 South, Range 11 West, in the North Choupique Oil and Gas Field in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

2.

Neumin's oil and gas operations were limited to a single well: the HC Drew Manual Estate "15" No. 1 well (bearing Serial No. 225207).

3.

Neumin operated the HC Drew Manual Estate "15" No. 1 well from 2001 to 2015.

4.

H.C. Drew Estate filed this lawsuit on October 18, 2019, claiming that the operation of the HC Drew Manual Estate "15" No. 1 well caused "environmental damage" to its property, as defined by Act 312.

5.

Act 312 defines "environmental damage" as "any actual or potential impact, damage, or injury to environmental media caused by contamination resulting from activities associated with oilfield sites or exploration and production sites." La. R.S. §30:29(I)(2).

6.

Act 312 was enacted “to ensure that damage to the environment is remediated to a standard that protects the public interest” and to provide “the procedure for judicial resolution of claims for environmental damage[.]” La. R.S. §30:29(A).

7.

When a plaintiff alleges “environmental damage” in a lawsuit, a defendant may make a limited admission under Act 312 for the “environmental damage” and take “responsibility for implementing the most feasible plan to evaluate, and if necessary, remediate all or a portion of the contamination that is the subject of the litigation to applicable regulatory standards.” La. Code Civ. P. art. 1563(A)(1).

8.

When a defendant makes a limited admission, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (“LDNR”) holds a public hearing to determine the “most feasible plan” to evaluate or remediate the “environmental damage” under applicable regulatory standards. La. Code Civ. P. art. 1563(A)(2).

9.

A defendant who makes a limited admission must implement the “most feasible plan,” regardless of the cost, and all money paid by a defendant goes into escrow to be used only for evaluation or remediation of the land under the “most feasible plan.” *See* La. R.S. §30:29(C)(5)-§30:29(C)(6)(a).

10.

A limited admission shall not mean that Neumin is responsible to H.C. Drew Estate for its private damages, including that operations were negligent or that Neumin breached any relevant contract or lease with H.C. Drew Estate. *See* La. Code Civ. P. art. 1563(A)(1); La. R.S. §30:29(H)(1). Operation of the HC Drew Manual Estate “15” No. 1 well was reasonable and consistent with lease terms and industry practice. Neumin’s limited admission does not constitute a waiver of any rights, claims, or defenses of Neumin against H.C. Drew Estate’s claims grounded in private law. *See* La. Code Civ. P. art. 1563(A)(1).

11.

Neumin seeks to ensure that any money awarded in this lawsuit is used to address “environmental damage” on H.C. Drew Estate’s property and believes that the relevant state agencies are in the best position to analyze and develop a plan to evaluate and, if necessary, remediate such environmental damage to standards that protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

12.

Neumin admits that it is a “responsible party” under Act 312 to evaluate and, if necessary, remediate to applicable regulatory standards any “environmental damage” on H.C. Drew Estate’s property identified on **Exhibit 1** – Limited Admission Area, associated with the HC Drew Manual Estate “15” No. 1 well (bearing Serial No. 225207).

13.

Neumin requests that the Court refer this matter to the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to conduct a public hearing as required by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure article 1563(A)(2) and Act 312, as set forth in the Motion for Referral to the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources for the Development of the Most Feasible Plan under Louisiana Revised Statute §30:29 being filed contemporaneously with this limited admission.

Respectfully submitted:




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**A TRUE COPY**  
Lake Charles, Louisiana  
  
Deputy Clerk of Court  
Calcasieu Parish Louisiana  
OCT 29 2021

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing has been served upon all known counsel of record by email and/or by United States mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 14th day of October, 2021.

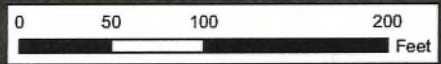
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chynna M. Anderson', written over a horizontal line.



Chynna M. Anderson

O:\Houston\Projects\0484259 Choupique Remediation Plan.DA\GIS\Maps\03 Limited Admission\Exhibit 1 - Limited Admission Area.mxd REVISED: 09/27/2021 SCALE: 1:1,195 when printed at 8.5x11 DRAWN BY: SAW



SN 225207



-  P&A Producer
-  Limited Admission Area

**Exhibit 1**  
**Limited Admission Area**  
 HC Drew Manual Estate "15" No. 1  
 Neumin Production Company  
 North Choupique Oil & Gas Field  
 Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana

Notes:  
 Imagery basemap via ArcGIS Online.

