



Ohio Department of Natural Resources

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR

JAMES ZEHRINGER, DIRECTOR

Richard J. Simmers, Chief
Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management
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ORDER BY THE CHIEF

October 9, 2015

ORDER NO. 2015-497

**TO: Newpark Drilling Fluids
610 Technology Drive, Suite 130
Canonsburg, PA 15317**

**RE: Newpark Drilling Fluids, Norwich, Ohio
Muskingum County, Union Township**

**SUBJECT: Temporary Authorization to Store, Recycle, Treat, and Process Brine and
Other Waste Substances Pursuant to R.C. 1509.22**

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 1509.22, the Chief of the Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management (“Chief” or “Division”) issues the following Order:

BACKGROUND:

1. Newpark Drilling Fluids (“Newpark”) proposes to operate an oil and gas facility to be located at 9350 East Pike, Norwich, Ohio in Muskingum County (“Norwich Facility”). The Norwich Facility is a drilling mud mixing plant that produces new synthetic-based oil drilling muds and proposes to modify their operations to include storing, recycling, treating, and processing used drilling muds for reuse in oil and gas drilling operations.
2. Division (B)(2)(a) of R.C. 1509.22 states, in pertinent part, that “* * * no person shall store, recycle, treat, process, or dispose of in this state brine or other waste substances associated with the exploration, development, well stimulation, production operations, or plugging of oil and gas resources without an order or a permit issued under this section or section 1509.06 or 1509.21 of the Revised Code or rules adopted under any of those sections.”
3. On July 27, 2015, the Division received an application from Newpark requesting to temporarily store, recycle, treat, and process brine and other oilfield waste substances associated with the exploration, development, well stimulation, production operations, or plugging of oil and gas resources at the Norwich Facility. In its application, Newpark

supplied the Division with information and details regarding its proposed operations. The Norwich Facility will accept used drilling muds and reformulate them for reuse in other drilling operations. The mud mixing vat and the mud storage tanks are located on secondary containment. No waste materials are generated during the reformulation process at the Norwich Facility.

ORDER:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

Newpark has temporary approval at the Norwich Facility to temporarily store, recycle, treat, and process brine or other oilfield waste substances associated with the exploration, development, well stimulation, production operations, or plugging of oil and gas resources, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Newpark shall conduct all operations at the Norwich Facility in compliance with R.C. Chapter 1509 and Ohio Adm.Code 1501:9.
- (2) Brine shall not be disposed of in a manner not specified in R.C. 1509.22(C)(1)(a) through R.C. 1509.22(C)(1)(c). Disposal of brine pursuant to R.C. 1509.22(C)(1)(d) requires separate written approval by the Chief.
- (3) Newpark shall conduct all operations at the Norwich Facility in accordance with the application submitted to the Division for this facility. Newpark shall notify the Division prior to implementing any changes in operations at the Norwich Facility.
- (4) Newpark shall implement the Radiological Protection Plan ("RPP") submitted to the Division with the application for the Norwich Facility and shall continuously update the protocols and procedures in accordance with the plan.
- (5) Not later than one year after the date of this order, Newpark shall perform a radiation and contamination survey of the Norwich Facility, including the on-site vessels and equipment, to determine if there is a need to modify the procedures and protocols in the RPP to ensure the protection of its employees, contractors, and the public health and safety as well as the environment. Any modifications of the RPP will be incorporated and made a part of this order and Newpark shall operate the Norwich Facility in accordance with the modified plan.
- (6) Newpark shall maintain waste and material management records for Norwich Facility and provide those records to the Division upon request. The records shall include, but not be limited to, manifests of all incoming used drilling fluids and final disposition of the recycled drilling fluids and, if applicable, any waste substances associated with the process of the recycled drilling fluids.
- (7) This Chief's Order shall terminate upon any of the following, whichever occurs first:

- a) The Division issues a permit to Newpark for the Norwich Facility pursuant to rules promulgated under to R.C. 1509.22(C);
- b) The Division denies a permit to Newpark for the Norwich Facility pursuant to rules promulgated under R.C. 1509.22(C); or
- c) Six months after the effective date of rules adopted under R.C. 1509.22(C);
- d) The location of the Norwich Facility changes from 9350 East Pike, Norwich, Ohio.
- e) The ownership of the Norwich Facility changes from Newpark.

10/9/15
Date

Jon Rayfield for R. Simmers
Richard J. Simmers, Chief
Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management

Addressee is hereby notified that this action is final and effective and may be appealed pursuant to Section 1509.36 of the Ohio Revised Code. If the Order is appealed to the Ohio Oil and Gas Commission, the appeal must be in writing and must set forth the Orders complained of and the grounds upon which the appeal is based. Such appeal must be filed with the Oil and Gas Commission, 2045 Morse Road, Building H-3, Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this Order.

In addition, within three (3) days after the appeal is filed with the Oil and Gas Commission, notice of the filing must be submitted to Richard J. Simmers, Chief, Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, 2045 Morse Road, Building F, Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693.

CERTIFIED MAIL No: 91 7199 9991 7036 1597 4871

cc: Legal Section
Steve Opritza, Permitting Manager
Engineering Section
Brent Bear, Region Supervisor
Pat Shreve, Muskingum County Oil and Gas Inspector