

west virginia department of environmental protection

Office of Oil and Gas 601 57th Street Charleston, WV 25304 (304) 926-0450 fax (304) 926-0452 Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor Randy C. Huffman, Cabinet Secretary www.dep.wv.gov

ORDER ISSUED UNDER WEST VIRGINIA CODE, CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE 6

TO: Antero Resources Appalachian Corporation

1625 17th Street, Suite 300

Denver, CO 80202

DATE: August 1, 2013

ORDER NO.: 2013-61

INTRODUCTION

This Order (hereinafter "Order") is issued by the Office of Oil and Gas (hereinafter "OOG"), by and through its Chief, pursuant to the authority of W. Va. Code §§ 22-1-1, 22-6A-1 and 22-6-1 et seq. to Antero Resources Appalachian Corporation (hereinafter "ANTERO" or "Operator"), collectively the "Parties."

FINDINGS OF FACT

In support of this Order, the Chief hereby finds the following:

- 1. OOG, an office within the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, is the agency with the duty and authority to execute and enforce W. Va. Code § 22-6-1 *et seq.*, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.
- 2. Antero is a "person" as defined by W. Va. Code § 22-6-1(n), with an official address registered with OOG as 1625 17th Street, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80202.
- 3. Antero is the "owner" as defined by W. Va. Code § 22-6-1(l) of a gas well identified as API # 47-017-06102, also known as the Hinterer Unit 1H, located on the Ruddy Alt Pad in Doddridge County, West Virginia, which was authorized by a well work permit issued by OOG to Antero on July 22, 2012.
- 4. On July 7, 2013, Antero encountered an incident during operations that created a fire on the Ruddy Alt pad.
- 5. On July 10, 2013, OOG issued Antero Cease Order No. 2013-52 which required Antero to gain control of the activities on the Ruddy Alt pad and submit to OOG an incident report on or before July 31, 2013.

6. On July 31, 2013, Antero submitted the report required per Order No. 2013-52.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

West Virginia Code § 22-1-6(d) requires, in part, that "[i]n addition to other powers, duties and responsibilities granted and assigned to the secretary by this chapter, the secretary is authorized and empowered to...(3) Enter private lands to make surveys and inspections for environmental protection purposes; to investigate for violations of statutes or rules which the department is charged with enforcing; to serve and execute warrants and processes; to make arrests; issue orders, which for the purposes of this chapter include consent agreements; and to otherwise enforce the statutes or rules which the department is charged with enforcing"

ORDER

The Office of Oil and Gas hereby deems that the report required per Order No. 2013-52 is incomplete. The Office of Oil and Gas **ORDERS** Antero to continue to CEASE any and all well work operations on the Ruddy Alt well pad in Doddridge County, West Virginia. The Office of Oil and Gas, hereby **ORDERS** that Antero shall submit to OOG a report that:

- 1. Demonstrates a knowledge and understanding as to the cause of the incident on the Ruddy Alt pad. This report shall include all information that was used by Antero to come to such conclusion and how Antero made this final determination as to the cause of the incident; and
- 2. Confirms that any possible pollutants were contained on site. Antero shall provide a rationale expressing how it was deemed that no pollutants were released during this incident.

Thus ORDERED, the 1st day of August 2013.

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:

OFFICE OF OIL AND GAS

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

By:

JAMES A. MARTIN, CHIEF