

DOUGLAS STEELE

IBLA 78-176

Decided April 26, 1978

Appeal from decision of the Utah State Office, Bureau of Land Management, dated January 3, 1978, rejecting oil and gas lease offer Utah 39207.

Reversed and remanded.

1. Oil and Gas Leases: Applications: Generally--Oil and Gas Leases: Applications: Drawings

An entry card in a simultaneous oil and gas lease drawing need not be rejected where the card sets out in the parcel designation the complete name of the State in which the parcel is located instead of the abbreviation of the State name used as the State code prefix. All else being regular, such an entry card is fully executed.

APPEARANCES: Douglas Steele, pro se.

OPINION BY ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE RITVO

Douglas Steele has appealed from a decision dated January 3, 1978, of the Utah State Office, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), rejecting his oil and gas lease drawing entry card. The card, filed in a simultaneous drawing held in November 1977 was rejected on the ground that the card had not been fully executed, it having described the parcel applied for as 81 UTAH instead of UT-81.

[1] In a recent decision, the Board discussed this issue fully and held that a drawing entry card, which sets out in the parcel designation the number and the complete name of the State, instead of the abbreviation of the State name used as the State code prefix, will be deemed to have been fully executed and is not to be rejected for that reason. Clayton Chessman, 34 IBLA 263 (March 31, 1978).

Accordingly, for the reasons stated in Chessman, supra, appellant's card was improperly rejected.

Therefore, pursuant to the authority delegated to the Board of Land Appeals by the Secretary of the Interior, 43 CFR 4.1, the decision appealed from is reversed and the case remanded for further proceedings consistent herewith.

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Martin Ritvo  
Administrative Judge

I concur.

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Joan B. Thompson  
Administrative Judge

ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE FISHMAN DISSENTING:

For the reasons cited in my dissenting opinion in Clayton Chessman, 34 IBLA 263 (1978), I dissent from this decision.

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Frederick Fishman  
Administrative Judge

