# STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

APPLICATION OF NORTHWIND MIDSTREAM PARTNERS LLC FOR APPROVAL OF AN ADDITIONAL REDUNDANT ACID GAS INJECTION WELL AND TO AMEND ORDER NO. R-20913, AS AMENDED, AND SWD-2622 TO AUTHORIZE AN INCREASED SHARED MAXIMUM DAILY INJECTION RATE, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 24881 ORDER NO. R-20913-H

## **ORDER OF THE COMMISSION**

**THIS MATTER** comes before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission ("Commission") on Northwind Midstream Partners LLC's ("Northwind") *Application of Northwind Midstream Partners LLC for Approval of an Additional Redundant Acid Gas Injection Well and to Amend Order Nor. R-20913-D, as Amended, and SWD-2622, to Authorize an Increased Shared Maximum Daily Injection Rate, Lea County, New Mexico ("Application") pursuant to Sections 70-2-6(B), 70-2-12(B)(15), and 70-2-13 NMSA 1978 of the Oil and Gas Act and 19.15.4.20 and 19.15.26 NMAC. The Commission, having considered the Application, enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order.* 

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. On September 17, 2024, Northwind filed an application seeking an order (1) authorizing injection of treated acid gas ("TAG") for purposes of disposal into the proposed Titan AGI No. 4 well as an additional redundant acid gas injection ("AGI") well, and (2) to further amend Order No. R-20193-D, as amended, and SWD-2622 to authorize a shared maximum daily injection rate of 28.8 million standard cubic feet per day (MMSCFD) of treated acid gas ("TAG") for disposal through either or both its permitted Salt Creek AGI No. 2 well or the proposed Titan AGI No. 4 well. The application was assigned Case No. 24881.
- 2. The Titan AGI No. 4 and Salt Creek AGI No. 2 are Underground Injection Control Class II wells subject to the requirements of 19.15.26 NMAC.

- 3. Northwind proposes the Titan AGI No. 4 to provide additional redundancy with respect to TAG disposal operations at its Titan Treating Facility. The Facility is currently serviced by the existing Salt Creek AGI No. 3 well, which is a shallow Delaware Mountain Group AGI well (API No. 30-025-51865) and the Salt Creek AGI No. 2 well (API No. 30-025-53388), which was authorized by the Commission as a redundant AGI well to inject into the Siluro-Devonian formation.
- 4. The Titan AGI No. 4 is proposed to be drilled as a deviated well with a surface location of approximately 2,529 feet from the north line (FNL) and approximately 617 feet from the west line (FWL) of Section 21, to a bottom hole location at approximately 1,100 FNL and 66 feet FWL in said Section 21, within Township 26 South, Range 36 East, Lea County, New Mexico.
- 5. The proposed injection zone for the Titan AGI No. 4 well will target the geologic formations of the Siluro-Devonian, including the Devonian, Wristen, and Fusselman formations, between depths of approximately 17,570 to 19,130 feet.
- 6. The Titan AGI No. 4 injection stream will consist of TAG comprised of approximately 80 percent carbon dioxide and 20 percent hydrogen sulfide from oil and gas wells in the area.
- 7. The proposed maximum allowable operating pressure ("MAOP") requested for the Titan AGI No. 4 is approximately 5,811 psig. At the anticipated bottom-hole conditions of 250 °F and 8,300 psi, each MMSCF of TAG will occupy a reservoir volume of approximately 383 barrels.
- 8. Desert Ram South Ranch, Inc. ("Desert Ram") and the Oil Conservation Division ("OCD") entered appearances in Case No. 24881.
- 9. Effective August 18, 2023, the Division approved Northwind to be the successor operator to Salt Creek under Order No. R-20913, as amended.
- 10. Order No. R-20913-D required Salt Creek Midstream, LLC ("Salt Creek") to file a Form C-108 application with the Division for approval to construct and operate a redundant AGI well in the Devonian-Silurian formations and to complete the well no later than fifteen months after the Commission issues an order approving the redundant Devonian well. *See* Order No. R-20913-D. The Commission subsequently entered Order No. R-20913-F on June 8, 2023, affirming this requirement under Order No. R-20913-D.
- 11. Salt Creek timely submitted a C-108 to the Division for approval of a redundant AGI well on October 14, 2022, the Salt Creek AGI No. 2 well. Northwind filed an application on October 10, 2023, to amend the location of the Salt Creek AGI No. 2 well under Case No. 23943. Under Order No. R-20913-G, the Commission remanded consideration of the amended location for the Salt Creek AGI No. 2 to the Division. The Division approved the amendments to the Salt Creek AGI No. 2 under SWD-2580 on January 24, 2024.

- 12. On June 7, 2024, Northwind filed an administrative application for a second amendment to the Salt Creek AGI No. 2 to change it from a vertical well to a deviated well. The OCD approved the application under SWD-2622 on August 8, 2024, thereby amending SWD-2580. The Salt Creek AGI No. 2 well was completed on December 27, 2024 (30-025-53388).
- 13. The proposed Titan AGI No. 4 well will be the second deep (i.e., Siluro-Devonian) AGI well at the Titan Treating Facility. Northwind therefore proposes that the requested 28.8 MMSCFD reflect a combined allowable injection volume to be shared with the approved Salt Creek AGI No. 2 well, currently authorized to inject up to 12 MMSCFD under Order No. R-20913-D, as amended, and SWD-2622.
- 14. Northwind has provided notice of the Application to all affected parties who were notified of Northwind's Application in Case No. 24881.
- 15. The Commission heard Case No. 24881 on March 20, 2025.
- 16. Desert Ram initially objected to Northwind's Application but, after reaching agreement with Northwind on the proposed permit conditions, withdrew its objections.
- 17. OCD supports approval of the Application subject to the inclusion of the permit conditions identified in OCD Exhibit 2 titled "OCD's Recommended Conditions of Approval for Gas Injection Wells," the following modification:
  - a. Condition 18 should be modified to provide:
  - "18. No later than thirty (30) days after the second (2nd) year of injection, Operator shall submit to OCD a report summarizing the well's performance including injected volumes by fluid type, reservoir pressures, the models calibrated using that information and seismic modeling."
- 18. Approval of the Application will facilitate the sequestration of CO2 and TAG, which is in the public interest, and will prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the Parties and the subject matter of this case.
- 2. Proper public notices of the Application were given.
- 3. The Application is complete.
- 4. Northwind's request for an order (1) authorizing injection of treated acid gas ("TAG") for purposes of disposal into the proposed Titan AGI No. 4 well as an additional redundant acid gas injection ("AGI") well, and (2) to further amend Order No. R-21093-D, as amended, and SWD-2622 to authorize a shared maximum

daily injection rate of 28.8 million standard cubic feet per day (MMSCFD) of treated acid gas ("TAG") for disposal through either or both its permitted Salt Creek AGI No. 2 well or the proposed Titan AGI No. 4 well will comply with the requirements of 19.15.26 NMAC and will not result in waste, impair correlative rights, or harm public health or the environment.

#### **ORDER**

- 1. The Application is approved, as follows:
  - a. Northwind shall commence injection into the Titan AGI No. 4 no later than twenty-four months from the date of this Order.
  - b. Northwind shall file a Sundry with OCD when it spuds the Titan AGI No. 4 ("Spud Sundry").
  - c. If Northwind fails to timely submit the Spud Sundry, or after receiving OCD approval, fails to construct the Titan AGI No. 4 by the specified deadline, the permit shall terminate automatically and Northwind shall plug and abandon the Titan AGI No. 4 pursuant to an OCD-approved plan unless Northwind obtains a Commission Order granting an extension.
  - d. The Application is hereby conditioned upon all other stipulated permit conditions identified by OCD in OCD's Exhibit 2 titled "OCD's Recommended Conditions of Approval for Gas Injection Wells," a copy of which is attached to this order as Exhibit 1; provided, however that Condition 18 should be modified to provide:
    - 18. No later than thirty (30) days after the second (2nd) year of injection, Operator shall submit to OCD a report summarizing the well's performance including injected volumes by fluid type, reservoir pressures, the models calibrated using that information and seismic modeling.
- 2. All other conditions set out in Order No. R-20913-D shall remain in full force and effect.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.

# STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Gregory B. Bloom

Greg Bloom, Commissioner

Dr. William Ampomah, Commissioner

Gerasimos Razatos, Acting Chair

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