

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING  
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSIDERING:**

**CASE NO. 13559  
ORDER NO. R-12434**

**APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR A UNIT  
AGREEMENT, CHAVES COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

**ORDER OF THE DIVISION**

**BY THE DIVISION:**

This case came for hearing on September 22, 2005, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner William V. Jones.

NOW, on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner,

**FINDS THAT:**

(1) Due public notice has been given, and the Oil Conservation Division ("Division") has jurisdiction of this case and its subject matter.

(2) The applicant, Yates Petroleum Corporation ("Yates" or "Applicant"), seeks approval of its Mortar State Exploratory Unit Agreement for all oil and gas in all formations from the surface to the top of the PreCambrian formation underlying the following-described 1,600 acres, more or less, of State of New Mexico lands situated in Chaves County, New Mexico:

**TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST, NMPM**

Section 23: S/2

Section 25: All

Section 26: All

(3) The Applicant presented testimony by affidavit as follows.

- (a) One hundred percent of all interests within the Unit area are committed to the Unit.
- (b) One hundred percent of the royalty interest is owned by the State of New Mexico.
- (c) The State Land Office has given preliminary approval for this Unit.
- (d) The initial well will be called the Mortar State Unit Well No. 1, and will be drilled at a standard gas well location 1,980 feet from the North line and 1,980 feet from the West line of Section 25, Township 8 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico, and to an approximate depth of 6,670 feet.
- (e) There has been no Strawn production within the proposed unit boundaries.
- (f) The primary target for this initial well will be the Strawn, with numerous other possible targets.
- (g) Yates is attempting to locate high-risk channel sands.
- (4) No other party appeared at the hearing or otherwise opposed this application.
- (5) All of the proposed unit acreage appears prospective for recovery of oil and gas from the target formations under the concept proposed by the applicant. These acres should be unitized and should equally share in the benefits from future oil and gas recovery.
- (6) The approval of the proposed unit agreement will serve to prevent waste and protect correlative rights within the lands assigned to the unit area.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) The Mortar State Exploratory Unit Agreement executed by Yates Petroleum Corporation is hereby approved for all oil and gas in all formations from the surface to the top of the PreCambrian formation underlying the following-described 1,600 acres, more or less, of State of New Mexico lands situated in Chaves County, New Mexico:

**TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST, NMPM**

Section 23: S/2

Section 25: All

Section 26: All

(2) The plan contained in the Mortar State Exploratory Unit Agreement for the development and operation of the above-described unit area is hereby approved in principle; provided, however, notwithstanding any of the provisions contained in the unit agreement, this approval shall not be considered as waiving or relinquishing, in any manner, any right, duty, or obligation that is now, or may hereafter be, vested in the Division to supervise and control operations for the unit and production of oil and gas therefrom.

(3) The unit operator shall file with the Division an executed original or executed counterpart of the unit agreement within 30 days of the effective date thereof; in the event of subsequent joinder by any other party, or expansion or contraction of the unit area, the unit operator shall file with the Division, within 30 days thereafter, copies of the unit agreement reflecting the subscription of those interests having joined or ratified.

(4) All: (i) plans of development and operation; (ii) creations, expansions or contractions of participating areas; and (iii) expansions or contractions of the unit area shall be submitted to the Division Director for approval.

(5) This order shall become effective upon the approval of the unit agreement by the New Mexico State Land Office. This order shall terminate upon the termination of the unit agreement. The last unit operator shall notify the Division immediately in writing of such termination.

(6) Jurisdiction of this case is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

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DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION



MARK E. FESMIRE, P.E.  
Director

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