



VIA US CERTIFIED MAIL RRR

March 11, 2013

New Mexico Highway and Transportation Department  
1120 Cerrillos Road  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Estimated WI\*: .19791667%

(UNLEASED MINERALS)

(\*subject to updated Division Order Title Opinion)

RE: **Ropco 16-1H**  
**Township 29 North, Range 14 West, Section 16: N/2**  
**Township 29 North, Range 14 West, Section 17: NE/4**  
**San Juan County, NM**

Dear Interest Owner:

XTO Energy Inc. (XTO) proposes the drilling, completion of the **Ropco 16-1H** well as a single lateral horizontal well testing the **Mancos formation**. Enclosed is our AFE covering the proposed well.

The surface location is located 978 feet from the north line and 1,005 feet from the east line of Section 16, Township 29 North, Range 14 West. We plan to drill to a total vertical depth of 5,144 feet and a total measured depth of 10,319 feet, with a terminus bottom-hole location being 692 feet from the south line and 1,925 feet from the east line of Section 17, Township 29 North, Range 14 West.

Each working interest owner has thirty (30) days from receipt of this letter to make a participation election in the proposed well. Please evidence your participation election to our proposal by executing and returning a copy of this letter to the attention of the undersigned. Should you elect to participate, please also execute and return a copy of the enclosed AFE.

If you fail to make an election to participate in the proposed well within thirty (30) days from receipt of this letter, XTO plans to impose a risk penalty as provided for by New Mexico State law. Any non-participating owner may object to the risk penalty by either responding in opposition to the petition for a risk penalty, or if no such petition has been filed, by submitting a request for hearing with the New Mexico Oil & Gas Commission.

A proposed Joint Operating Agreement will be forthcoming. A Drilling and Division Title Opinion covering the spacing unit is being prepared. Should you participate and desire a copy of the same, please contact the undersigned and we will provide an electronic copy once each are available.

Oil Conservation Division  
Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exhibit No. 4A

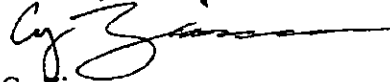
XTO Energy Inc.  
Ropco 16-1H  
March 11, 2013

**We anticipate commencing drilling operations on the proposed Well in this drilling unit on or before May 31, 2013. As such, your expedited response to our proposal would be most appreciated.**

An offer to lease your minerals is hereby attached. Please call Paul Lehrman at (505) 333-3172, should you wish to lease your minerals.

Any questions may be directed to the undersigned at (817) 885-1130 or  
Cy\_Zimmerman@xtoenergy.com. Response by facsimile should be sent to (817) 885-1854.

Sincerely,



Cy Zimmerman  
Associate Landman

\_\_\_\_\_ **ELECT TO PARTICIPATE** in the proposed drilling and completion of the Ropco 16-1H limited to the working interest of the undersigned party.

\_\_\_\_\_ **ELECT TO NOT PARTICIPATE** in the proposed drilling and completion of the Ropco 16-1H as to the working interest of the undersigned party, subject to risk penalty as provided by New Mexico law.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

## OIL & GAS LEASE

THIS AGREEMENT made this 6th day of March, 2013, by The New Mexico State Highway Dept., whose address is Post Office Box 1149, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1149, herein called lessor (whether one or more) and XTO Energy Inc., 810 Houston St., Fort Worth, TX 76102, lessee:

1. Lessor, in consideration of TEN AND OTHER DOLLARS in had paid, receipt of which is here acknowledged, and of the royalties herein provided and of the agreements of the lessee herein contained, hereby grants, leases and lets exclusively unto lessee for the purpose of investigating, exploring, prospecting, drilling, and operating for and producing oil and gas, injecting gas, waters, other fluids, and air into subsurface strata, laying pipe lines, storing oil, building tanks, roadways, telephone lines, and other structures and things thereon to produce, save, take care of, treat, process, store and transport said minerals, the following described land in San Juan County, New Mexico, to-wit:

Township 29 North, Range 14 West, NMPM  
Section 17: NE/4

Said land is estimated to comprise 160.00 acres, whether it actually comprises more or less.

2. Subject to the other provisions herein contained, this lease shall remain in force for a term of Three (3) years from this date (called "primary term") and as long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land or from land with which said land is pooled.

3. The royalties to be paid by lessee are: (a) on oil, and other liquid hydrocarbons saved at the well, one-eighth (1/8) of that produced and saved from said land, same to be delivered at the wells or to the credit of lessor in the pipeline to which the wells may be connected; (b) on gas, including casinghead gas or other gaseous substance produced from said land and used off the premises or used in the manufacture of gasoline or other products, the market value at the well one-eighth (1/8) of the gas used, provided that on gas sold on or off the premises, the royalties shall be one-eighth (1/8) of the amount realized from such sale; (c) and at any time when this lease is not validated by other provisions hereof and there is a gas and/or condensate well on said land, or land pooled therewith, but gas or condensate is not being so sold or used and such well is shut in, either before or after production therefrom, then nevertheless this lease shall be considered capable of producing in paying quantities. If such well remains shut in for 90 consecutive days or more, then on or before 90 days after said well is shut in, and thereafter at annual intervals, lessee shall pay or tender an advance shut-in royalty equal to \$1.00 per net acre of lessor's gas acreage then held under this lease for as long as such well remains shut in. Each such payment shall be paid or tendered to the party or parties who at the time of such payment would be entitled to receive the royalties which would be paid under this lease if the well were in fact producing. The payment or tender of royalties and shut-in royalties may be made by check or draft. Any timely payment or tender of shut-in royalty which is made in a bona fide attempt to make a proper payment, but which is erroneous in whole or in part as to the parties or amounts, shall nevertheless be sufficient to prevent termination of this lease in the same manner as though a proper payment had been made if lessee shall correct such error within 30 days after lessee has received written notice thereof by certified mail from the party or parties entitled to receive payment together with such written instruments (or certified copies thereof) as are necessary to enable lessee to make proper payment. The amount realized from the sale of gas on or off the premises shall be the price established by the gas sales contract entered into in good faith by lessee and gas purchaser for such term and under such conditions as are customary in the industry. "Price" shall mean the net amount received by lessee after giving effect to applicable regulatory orders and after application of any applicable price adjustments specified in such contract or regulatory orders. In the event lessee compresses, treats, purifies, or dehydrates such gas (whether on or off the leased premises) or transports gas off the leased premises, lessee in computing royalty hereunder may deduct from such price a reasonable charge for each of such functions performed.

4. This is a paid-up lease and lessee shall not be obligated during the primary term hereof to commence or continue any operations of whatsoever character or to make any payments hereunder in order to maintain this lease in force during the primary term; however, this provision is not intended to relieve lessee of the obligation to pay royalties on actual production pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 3 hereof.

5. Lessee is hereby granted the right and power, from time to time, to pool or combine this lease, the land covered by it or any part or horizon thereof with any other land, leases, mineral estates or parts thereof for the production of oil or gas. Units pooled hereunder shall not exceed the standard proration unit fixed by law or by the Oil Conservation Division of the Energy and Minerals Department of the State of New Mexico or by any other lawful authority for the pool or area in which said land is situated, plus a tolerance of ten percent. Lessee shall file written unit designations in the county in which the premises are located and such units may be designated from time to time and either before or after the completion of wells. Drilling operations on or production from any part of any such unit shall be considered for all purposes, except the payment of royalty, as operations conducted upon or production from the land described in this lease. There shall be allocated to the land covered by this lease included in any such unit that portion of the total production of pooled minerals from wells in the unit, after deducting any used in lease or unit operations, which the net oil or gas acreage in the land covered by this lease included in the unit bears to the total number of surface acres in the unit. The production so allocated shall be considered for all purposes, including the payment or delivery of royalty, to be the entire production of pooled minerals from the portion of said land covered hereby and included in said unit in the same manner as though produced from said land under the terms of this lease. Any pooled unit designated by lessee, as provided herein, may be dissolved by lessee by recording an appropriate instrument in the County where the land is situated at any time after the completion of a dry hole or the cessation of production on said unit.

6. If at the expiration of the primary term there is no well upon said land capable of producing oil or gas, but lessee has commenced operations for drilling or reworking thereon, this lease shall remain in force so long as operations are prosecuted with no cessation of more than 90 consecutive days, whether such operations be on the same well or on a different or additional well or wells, and if they result in the production of oil or gas, so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land. If, after the expiration of the primary term, all wells upon said land should become incapable of producing for any cause, this lease shall not terminate if lessee commences operations for additional drilling or for reworking within 90 days thereafter. If any drilling, additional drilling, or reworking operations hereunder result in production, then this lease shall remain in full force so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced hereunder.

7. Lessee shall have free use of oil, gas and water from said land, except water from lessor's wells and tanks, for all operations hereunder, and the royalty shall be computed after deducting any so used. Lessee shall have the right at any time during or after the expiration of this lease to remove all property and fixtures placed by lessee on said land, including the right to draw and remove all casing. When required by lessor, lessee will bury all pipe lines on cultivated lands below ordinary plow depth, and no well shall be drilled within two hundred feet (200 ft.) of any residence or barn now on said land without lessor's consent.

8. The rights of either party hereunder may be assigned in whole or in part and the provisions here of shall extend to their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns; but no change in the ownership of the land or in the ownership of, or rights to receive, royalties or shut-in royalties however accomplished shall operate to enlarge the obligations or diminish the rights of lessee; and no such change or division shall be binding upon lessee for any purpose until 30 days after lessee has been furnished by certified mail at lessee's principal place of business with acceptable instruments or certified copies thereof constituting the chain of title from the original lessor. If any such change in ownership occurs through the death of the owner, lessee may, at its option, pay or tender any royalties or shut-in royalties in the name of the deceased or to his estate or to his heirs, executor or administrator until such time as lessee has been furnished with evidence satisfactory to lessee as to the persons entitled to such sums. An assignment of this lease in whole or in part shall, to the extent of such assignment, relieve and discharge lessee of any obligations hereunder and, if lessee or assignee of part or parts hereof shall fail or make default in the payment of the proportionate part of royalty or shut-in royalty due from such lessee or assignee or fail to comply with any of the provisions of this lease, such default shall not affect this lease insofar as it covers a part of said lands upon which lessee or any assignee thereof shall properly comply or make such payments.

9. Should lessee be prevented from complying with any express or implied covenant of this lease, or from conducting drilling or reworking operations hereunder, or from producing oil or gas hereunder by reason or scarcity or inability to obtain or use equipment or material, or by operation of force majeure, or by any Federal or state law or any order, rule or regulation of governmental authority, then while so prevented, lessee's duty shall be suspended, and lessee shall not be liable for failure to comply therewith; and this lease shall be extended while and so long as lessee is prevented by

any such cause from conducting drilling or reworking operations or from producing oil or gas hereunder; and the time while lessee is so prevented shall not be counted against lessee, anything in this lease to the contrary notwithstanding

10. Lessee hereby warrants and agrees to defend the title to said land and agrees that lessee at its option may discharge any tax, mortgage or other lien upon said land, and in the event lessee does so it shall be subrogated to such lien with the right to enforce same and to apply royalties and shut-in royalties payable hereunder toward satisfying same. Without impairment of lessee's rights under the warranty, if this lease covers a less interest in the oil or gas in all or any part of said land than the entire and undivided fee simple estate (whether lessor's interest is herein specified or not) then the royalties, shut-in royalties, and other payments, if any, accruing from any part as to which this lease covers less than such full interest, shall be paid only in the proportion with the interest therein, if any, covered by this lease, bears to the whole and undivided fee simple estate therein. Should any one or more of the parties named above as lessors fail to execute this lease, it shall nevertheless be binding upon the party or parties executing the same.

11. Lessee, its or his successors, heirs and assigns, shall have the right at any time to surrender this lease in whole or in part, to lessor or his heirs, successors, and assigns by delivering or mailing a release thereof to the lessor, or by placing a release of record in the county in which said land is situated; thereupon lessee shall be relieved from all obligations, expressed or implied, of this agreement as to acreage so surrendered, and thereafter the shut-in royalty payable hereunder shall be reduced in the proportion that the acreage covered hereby is reduced by said release or releases.

Executed the day and year first above written.

The New Mexico State Highway Dept.  
By:

\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

2013, by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

3/11/2013-3/11/2013

# Firmbook Report

DNUNEZ : TLB DLN 13 - LAND

7112 4369 4680 2642 8535

CMN	NAME	ADDRESS	COMMENTS
7112 4369 4680 2642 8535	NEW MEXICO HIGHWAY & TRANSPORTATION DEPT.	1120 CERRILLOS ROAD	SANTA FE, NM 87501 cz ropco 16-1H