# STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT VED OCD OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 7015 NOV -5 P 1: 54

APPLICATION OF BURNETT OIL CO., INC. FOR A NON-STANDARD SPACING AND PRORATION UNIT AND COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Case No. 15404

## PRE-HEARING STATEMENT

This Pre-hearing Statement is submitted by Ard Oil, Ltd. and Ard Energy Group, Ltd. by and through its undersigned counsel, Ernest L. Padilla, PADILLA LAW FIRM, P.A., as required by the Oil Conservation Division.

## **APPEARANCES OF PARTIES**

APPLICANT:

Burnett Oil Co., Inc.

ATTORNEY:

James Bruce Attorney at Law PO Box 1056

Santa Fe, NM 87504 jamesbruc@aol.com 505-982-2043

OPPOSITION OR OTHER PARTY:

Ard Oil, Ltd. and

Ard Energy Group, Ltd.

ATTORNEY:

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#### STATEMENT OF CASE

#### APPLICANT:

Applicant proposes to drill its Nosier 12 Fed. DB Well No. 4H to a depth sufficient to test the Glorieta-Yeso formation (Fren Glorieta-Yeso Pool). Applicant seeks to dedicate the NW4/NE/4 and N/2NW/4 of Section 12 to the well to form a 120 acre non-standard unit in the Glorieta-Yeso formation (project area) for all pools developed on 40 acre spacing within that vertical extent. The well is a horizontal well, with a surface location in the NE4/NE/4 of adjoining Section 11, a first take point at an orthodox location in the NW/4NW/4 of Section 12, and a terminus at an orthodox location in the NW4/NE/4 of Section 12.

#### OPPOSITION OR OTHER PARTY:

1) Ard Oil, Ltd. and Ard Energy Group, Ltd.

Ernest L. Padilla Padilla Law Firm, P.A. PO Box 2523 Santa Fe, NM 87504 padillalaw@qwetoffice.net 505-988-7577

#### **PROPOSED EVIDENCE**

## <u>APPLICANT</u>

WITNESSES EST. TIME EXHIBITS

#### **OPPOSITION**

Applicant has failed to negotiate in good faith to join the Ard interests in the proposed well. The Ard entities, through Houston Kaufman, their land man, has attempted to negotiate with the Applicant but has been informed that due to contractual relations by and among the Applicant and other interest owners, including COG Operating, Inc., Applicant is precluded from negotiating with the Ard entities. COG Operating, Inc., has apparently invoked the contractual relationship which precludes Applicant to make any offer to the Ard entities. This arrangement effectively is a restraint of trade and a restraint of alienation which materially affects the Ard entities because it undermines the value of its working interests. Furthermore, because of the apparent COG Operating, Inc. position, COG Operating, Inc. is an indispensable party to this compulsory pooling proceeding.

WITNESSES	EST. TIME	EXHIBITS
Houston Kaufman	20 minutes	Joint Operating Agreement dated January 20, 2012 Email correspondence

#### PROCEDURAL MATTERS

None.

Respectfully submitted,

PADILLA LAW FIRM, P.A.

/s/ ERNEST L. PADILLA

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing was electronically transmitted on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015 to the following:

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> /s/ ERNEST L. PADILLA ERNEST L. PADILLA