

**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 15674
ORDER NO R 14351**

**APPLICATION OF MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY FOR A NON STANDARD
SPACING AND PRORATION UNIT AND COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION

This case came on for hearing at 8 15 a m on April 27 2017 at Santa Fe New Mexico before Examiner William V Jones

NOW, on this 15th day of May, 2017 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 Division has jurisdiction of this case and the subject matter

(2) Mewbourne Oil Company (the Applicant) seeks approval of a 478 39 acre more or less non standard gas spacing unit and project area (the ' Unit) for oil and gas production from the Wolfcamp formation, Purple Sage Wolfcamp Gas Pool (Pool code 98220) comprising the W/2 (equivalent) of Section 6 and the NW/4 (equivalent) of Section 7, both in Township 24 South Range 28 East NMPM Eddy County New Mexico Applicant further seeks an order pooling all uncommitted interests in the Unit for the Wolfcamp formation

(3) The Unit will be dedicated to Applicant s Motley 6 7 W2DE Federal Com Well No 1H (the proposed well API No 30-015 44140) a horizontal well to be drilled from a surface location 220 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line (Lot 4 or Unit D) of Section 6 to a bottom-hole location 2310 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line (Lot 2 or Unit E) of Section 7, both in Township 24 South Range

28 East NMPM The location of the completed interval will be standard for gas production within the Unit

(4) The proposed gas well is within the Purple Sage, Wolfcamp Gas Pool and is subject to Special Rules promulgated in Order No R 14262 issued in Case No 15535. Said rules created the gas pool in the Wolfcamp formation effective February 1, 2017, and provided for 330-foot setbacks from the unit boundaries. The proposed Unit and project area consists of one standard gas spacing unit oriented as the W/2 of Section 6 and one half of one standard gas spacing unit consisting of the NW/4 of Section 7. The proposed well will be drilled from north to south within the proposed Unit.

(5) Applicant appeared through counsel and presented the following land and geologic evidence:

- (a) the Wolfcamp formation in this area is suitable for development by horizontal drilling
- (b) the proposed orientation of the horizontal well from north to south is appropriate for the Unit and for lands in this portion of Eddy County
- (c) both the full half section (standard spacing unit) in the W/2 of Section 6 and the NW/4 of Section 7 are expected to be productive in the Wolfcamp formation so that the Unit as requested will not impair correlative rights
- (d) the lands within the proposed Unit are primarily owned in Fee with the remainder of ownership consisting of federal lands
- (e) notice of the application and hearing in this case was provided to lessees or operators of surrounding tracts including those owners in the SW/4 of Section 7 as affected parties of the proposed non-standard spacing unit
- (f) notice by certified mail was provided to all uncommitted interest owners in the proposed Unit whose interests were evidenced by a conveyance instrument either of record or known to Applicant when the application was filed and to heirs known to Applicant of deceased persons who appear as owners in such instruments and whose identity and whereabouts could be ascertained by exercise of reasonable diligence and
- (g) those potentially affected parties whose whereabouts could not be ascertained were noticed by publication as provided in Rule 19.15.4.12 B NMAC

(6) COG Operating LLC entered an appearance in this case and was represented at the hearing through counsel. No other party entered an appearance or otherwise opposed this application.

The Division concludes as follows:

(7) The proposed non standard unit should be approved to enable Applicant to drill a horizontal well that will efficiently produce the reserves underlying the Unit, thereby preventing waste and protecting correlative rights.

(8) Two or more separately owned tracts are embraced within the Unit, and/or there are royalty interests and/or undivided interests in oil and gas minerals in one or more tracts included in the Unit that are separately owned.

(9) Applicant is owner or affiliate of an owner of an oil and gas working interest within the Unit. Applicant has the right to drill and proposes to drill the proposed well to a common source of supply within the Unit at the proposed location.

(10) There are interest owners in the Unit that have not agreed to pool their interests.

(11) To avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, protect correlative rights, prevent waste, and afford to the owner of each interest in the Unit the opportunity to recover or receive without unnecessary expense a just and fair share of hydrocarbons, this application should be approved by pooling all uncommitted interests, whatever they may be, in the oil and gas within the Unit.

(12) Mewbourne Oil Company should be designated the operator of the proposed well and the Unit.

(13) Any pooled working interest owner who does not pay its share of estimated well costs should have withheld from production its share of reasonable well costs plus an additional 200% thereof as a reasonable charge for the risk involved in drilling the proposed well.

(14) Reasonable charges for supervision (combined fixed rates) should be fixed at \$8000 per month while drilling and \$800 per month while producing, provided that these rates should be adjusted annually pursuant to Section III 1 A 3 of the COPAS form titled *Accounting Procedure Joint Operations*.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT

(1) Pursuant to the application of Mewbourne Oil Company, a 478.39-acre more or less non standard gas spacing unit (the "Unit") is hereby established for oil and gas production from the Wolfcamp formation, Purple Sage Wolfcamp Gas Pool (Pool code

98220) comprising the W/2 (equivalent) of Section 6 and the NW/4 (equivalent) of Section 7, both in Township 24 South, Range 28 East, NMPM Eddy County New Mexico

(2) All uncommitted interests whatever they may be in the oil and gas in the Wolfcamp formation underlying the Unit are hereby pooled

(3) The Unit shall be dedicated to Applicant's Motley 6 7 W2DE Federal Com Well No 1H (the proposed well API No 30-015-44140) a horizontal well to be drilled from a surface location 220 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line (Lot 4 or Unit D) of Section 6 to a bottom hole location 2310 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line (Lot 2 or Unit E) of Section 7 both in Township 24 South Range 28 East NMPM The location of the completed interval will be standard for gas production within the Unit

(4) The operator of the Unit shall commence drilling the proposed well on or before May 31 2018 and shall thereafter continue drilling the proposed well with due diligence to test the Wolfcamp formation

(5) In the event the operator does not commence drilling the proposed well on or before May 31 2018 Ordering Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be of no effect unless the operator obtains a time extension from the Division Director for good cause demonstrated by satisfactory evidence

(6) Should the proposed well not be drilled and completed within 120 days after commencement thereof then Ordering Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be of no further effect and the Unit and project area created by this order shall terminate unless operator appears before the Division Director and obtains an extension of the time for completion of the proposed well for good cause shown by satisfactory evidence If the proposed well is not completed in both of the gas spacing units included in the proposed project area (or Unit) then the operator shall apply to the Division for an amendment to this order to contract the Unit so that it includes only the spacing unit in which the well is completed

(7) Upon final plugging and abandonment of the proposed well and any other well drilled on the Unit pursuant to Division Rule 19 15 13 9 NMAC the pooled Unit created by this order shall terminate unless this Order has been amended to authorize further operations

(8) Mewbourne Oil Company (OGRID 14744) is hereby designated the operator of the well and the Unit

(9) After pooling uncommitted working interest owners are referred to as pooled working interest owners (Pooled working interest owners are owners of working interests in the Unit including unleased mineral interests who are not parties to an operating agreement governing the Unit) After the effective date of this order the operator shall furnish the Division and each known pooled working interest owner in the Unit an

itemized schedule of estimated costs of drilling completing and equipping the proposed well (well costs)

(10) Within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished, any pooled working interest owner shall have the right to pay its share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying its share of reasonable well costs out of production as hereinafter provided and any such owner who pays its share of estimated well costs as provided above shall remain liable for operating costs but shall not be liable for risk charges. Pooled working interest owners who elect not to pay their share of estimated well costs as provided in this paragraph shall thereafter be referred to as non-consenting working interest owners.

(11) The operator shall furnish the Division and each known pooled working interest owner (including non-consenting working interest owners) an itemized schedule of actual well costs within 90 days following completion of the proposed well. If no objection to the actual well costs is received by the Division and the Division has not objected within 45 days following receipt of the schedule the actual well costs shall be deemed to be the reasonable well costs. If there is an objection to actual well costs within the 45-day period the Division will determine reasonable well costs after public notice and hearing.

(12) Within 60 days following determination of reasonable well costs any pooled working interest owner who has paid its share of estimated costs in advance as provided above shall pay to the operator its share of the amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and shall receive from the operator the amount if any that the estimated well costs it has paid exceed its share of reasonable well costs.

(13) The operator is hereby authorized to withhold the following costs and charges from production from each well:

- (a) The proportionate share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner, and
- (b) As a charge for the risk involved in drilling the well
200% of the above costs

(14) The operator shall distribute the costs and charges withheld from production proportionately to the parties who advanced the well costs.

(15) Reasonable charges for supervision (combined fixed rates) for the well are hereby fixed at \$8000 per month while drilling and \$800 per month while producing provided that these rates shall be adjusted annually pursuant to Section III 1 A 3 of the COPAS form titled *Accounting Procedure Joint Operations*. The operator is authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of both the supervision charges and

the actual expenditures required for operating the well not more than what are reasonable attributable to pooled working interest owners

(16) Except as provided in Paragraphs (13) and (15) above, all proceeds from production from the proposed well that are not disbursed for any reason shall be held for the account of the person or persons entitled thereto pursuant to the Oil and Gas Proceeds Payment Act (NMSA 1978 Sections 70 10 1 through 70 10 6, as amended) If not disbursed such proceeds shall be turned over to the appropriate authority as and when required by the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act (NMSA 1978 Sections 7-8A-1 through 7 8A 31 as amended)

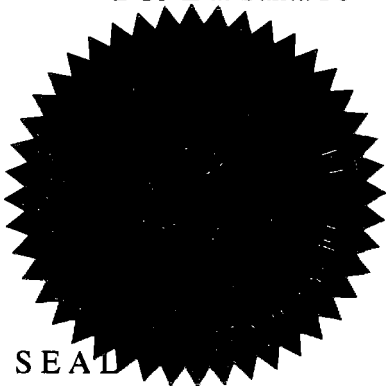
(17) Any unleased mineral interest shall be considered a seven eighths (7/8) working interest and a one-eighth (1/8) royalty interest for the purpose of allocating costs and charges under this Order Any well costs or charges that are to be paid out of production shall be withheld only from the working interests share of production and no costs or charges shall be withheld from production attributable to royalty interests

(18) Should all the parties to this compulsory pooling order reach voluntary agreement after entry of this order this order shall thereafter be of no further effect

(19) The operator of the well and the Unit shall notify the Division in writing of the subsequent voluntary agreement of parties subject to the compulsory pooling provisions of this order

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

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



SEAL

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

DAVID R. CATANACH
Director