# KELLAHIN & KELLAHIN Attorney at Law

W. THOMAS KELLAHIN 706 GONZALES ROAD SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

TELEPHONE 505-982-4285 FACSIMILE 505-982-2047 TKELLAHIN@COMCAST.NET

August 20, 2007

### HAND DELIVERED

Mr. Mark E. Fesmire, P.E., Director Oil Conservation Division 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Re:

San Juan 30-6 Unit

Application of Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP for the establishment

of a Downhole Commingling Reference Case Pursuant to Division Rule 303.E

Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

Case 13988

Dear Mr. Fesmire:

On behalf of Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP, please find enclosed our referenced application which we request be set for hearing on the Examiner's docket now scheduled for September 20, 2007.

Also enclosed is our proposed advertisement of this case for the NMOCD docket.

truly yours,

Thomas Kellahin

Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company cc: Attn: Mr. Alan Alexander

RECEIVED 2007 AUG 20 PM 4 40

### PROPOSED ADVERTISEMENT

Case 13988. Application of Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP for the establishment of a downhole commingling reference case for its San Juan 30-6 Unit, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, in accordance with Division Rule 303.E seeks to establish a downhole commingling reference case to modify the notification rules on an area-wide basis authorization for downhole commingling of Dakota and Mesaverde gas production in the wellbores of existing or future wells drilled anywhere within the San Juan 30-6 Unit located in Township 30 North, Range 6 West and Township 30 North Range 7 West, NMPM, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, said production being portions of the Basin-Dakota Gas Pool, the Blanco-Mesaverde Gas Pool.

The center of said area is located approximately 6 miles east from the spillway of the Navajo Dam, New Mexico.

## 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:

APPLICATION OF BURLINGTON RESOURCES OIL & GAS COMPANY LP FOR DOWNHOLE COMMINGLING REFERENCE CASE FOR ITS SAN JUAN 30-6UNIT PURSUANT TO DIVISION RULE 303.E, RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO. CASE NO. /3988

### **APPLICATION**

Comes now BURLINGTON RESOURCES OIL & GAS COMPANY LP, by and through its attorneys, Kellahin and Kellahin, and applies to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for the establishment of a downhole commingling reference case pursuant to its San Juan 30-6 Unit, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, in accordance with Division Rule 303.E, seeks to establish a downhole commingling reference case to modify the notification rules on an area-wide basis authorization for downhole commingling of Dakota and Mesaverde production in the wellbores of existing or future wells drilled anywhere within the San Juan 30-6 Unit located in Township 30 North Range 6 West and Township 30 North Range 7 West, NMPM, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, said production being portions of the Basin-Dakota Gas Pool and the Blanco-Mesaverde Gas Pool.

In support of its application, Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP ("Burlington"). states:

- (1) Burlington is the operator of the San Juan 30-6 Unit which currently includes 57 wells in the Basin Dakota Gas Pool and 149 wells of the Blanco-Mesaverde Gas pool all located within an area known as the "San Juan 30-6 Unit" consisting of 30,845.18 acres, more or less of acreage, as identified on Exhibit "A".
- (2) The absence of the establishment of a "reference case" as provided in Rule 303.E, Division general state-wide Rule 303.C requires that administrative applications for downhole commingling of gas production be submitted, processed and approved on a well by well basis including notification by certified mail return receipt requested to each interest owner where ownership is not common in the zones to be commingled.

### NMOCD Application of Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company Page 3

- (3) As a result of the entry of Order R-11363, dated April 26, 2000, the Basin-Dakota and the Blanco-Mesaverde Pools were approved as "pre-approved pools" for downhole commingling of production thus eliminating the need to justify pressure and economic criteria on a well by well basis.
- (4) In additional, allocation formula are administered and approved by the District Office of the Division.
- (5) Currently, the Division still requires the applicant for downhole commingling for this unit to notify in writing to each interest owner where ownership is not common in the zones to be commingled.
- (6) For the San Juan 30-6Unit this rule requires notice to some 221\_ interest owners at current development levels.
- (7) In support of its request to establish a "reference case" to delete the requirement that each application for downhole commingling be sent to each interest owner affected, Burlington will provided evidence and testimony which will demonstrated that:
  - (a) because this is a "divided" unit with various participating areas, the interest ownership between any zones to be downhole commingled within a given wellbore in the Unit will not be common;
  - (b) pursuant to Division Rule 303. D, applicant is currently required to notify all interest owners in the unit every time a Form C-107-A is submitted to the Division which can involve as many as 221 different owners; and,
  - (c) providing notice to each interest owner in the unit of subsequent downhole commingling application is unnecessary and is an excessive burden to the applicant.
- (8) In seven prior Burlington cases, the Division has entered orders in DHC referenced cases that have eliminated the notice requirements:
  - (a) Order R-10692, Nov 1, 1996, Case 11601 for the San Juan 32-9 Unit,
  - (b) Order R-10694, Nov 12, 1996, Case 11626 for the San Juan 27-5 Unit
  - (c) Order R-10695, Nov 12, 1996, Case 11627 for the San Juan 28-5 Unit
  - (d) Order R-10696, Nov 18, 1996, Case 11628 for the San Juan 28-6 Unit
  - (e) Order R-10697, Oct 8, 1996, Case 11629 for the San Juan 29-7 Unit
  - (f) Order R-10786, April 2, 1997, Case 11685 for the Canyon Largo Unit
  - (g) Order R-10476-B, Oct 17, 1997, Case 11815 for the San Juan 28-7 Unit

- (9) The ownership is not common between these two pools/formations within the San Juan 30-6 Unit and notification in this case by certified mail return receipt constitutes satisfactory notification in all subsequent cases to each interest owner where ownership is not common in the zones to be commingled.
- (10) Burlington therefore requests that the Division authorize that all downhole commingling applications received by the Division after October 1, 2007 for downhole commingling of production from Mesaverde and Dakota wells within the San Juan 30-6 Unit may cite the order entered in this case as a reference case for:

elimination of unnecessary notice: such that any future or further notice concerning downhole commingling applications within this unit shall not be required to any owner (including royalty, overriding royalty or working interest owners) in instances where ownership are not common or percentages are not identical in the zones to be commingled

- (11) Applicant requests that this matter be docketed for hearing on the Division's Examiner docket now scheduled for September 20, 2007.
- (12) Notice of this application has been sent to all interest owners entitled to receive production within the unit.

WHEREFORE Applicant requests that this matter be set for hearing on September 20, 2007 before a duly appointed Examiner of the Oil Conservation Division and that after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter its order granting this application.

Respectfully submitted

W. Thomas Kellahin

KELLAHIN and KELLAHIN

706 Gonzales Road

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

(505) 982-4285

Attorneys for Applicant

651	36	31.4	32	1 3	3 34	35	32 867 1	v 3213+18V	V 32	33	34	35	36	3 31	20
2	1	â	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	1/3	2		6	5
11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	16	11	12	7	3
14	13 31N-8W	M	31N-7W 3517	16	15	14	13	i≋ 18	17	16	15	14	. 13	18	Legend San_Juan_30_6_M
23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20. 20	21	22	23	24	19 31N-5W	FORMATION1 LEWIS
26	25	1	29	28	<b>&gt;</b> 27	<b>\$</b> 6	25	30	31 N-6W 29	28	27	26	25	30	MESAVERE POINT LOC
36	36	31	32	33	34		) - Si (	31	32	33	34	35	36	31	FORMATION1 DAKOTA
2	1	<del>3</del> //	5.1	4	3. 3	2	1		5	San .	Juan 30	≗6 Ynit I	1	6	
11	12			9	10	11	o 12	08	8 8 0 0 0	9	<b>9</b> 10		12	7	8
14	13	18	2011-7W		15	9 14	9 9 13 9	9 18	17 0	16	15	14	93 8 8	18	17.
23	24 30N-8VV	19 19	20	21	22	23	24	19	200	21	30N-6W 22	23 • •	© 24 ©	19 30N-5V	v a
26	25	9 g 9		90 <sub>28</sub>	60 <sub>7</sub>	<b>6 0 0</b> 26 €	25 **	9 <b>6</b> 30	29 •	9 28 6 28 6	9 9 9 27	26	25 °	30	
35	36	31 e	e •	933 o	34 0 0 0	35 0	36 0	9 <b>9</b> 6 31 6	32 8	933 <sub>0</sub>	9 34 <b>9</b>	935 0	©35 € ⊗ &	31	BURLINGTON PASSCHURCES Outpublished Work, 8 trib gton Reso
2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1	6	1:147 293 1 " equals 12.3
11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	GCS North American 1927
14	13	29N-7W 18	17	16	15	14	13	29N-6W 18	17	16	15	14	13	18 29N-5W	BURLINGTON RES
23	24 29N-8W	19 1	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	San Juan 30-6 Fed
26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25	30	2
-		ı i	32	33	34	35	36	31	32	1	1	1	1	Ī	Prepared By: blemesa Da

FIGURE ARRIBA

20 ALL RIO ARRIBA

20 ALL RIO ARRIBA