# 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 PURPOSES **OF CONSIDERING:** 

CASE NO. 14106

APPLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR A COMPLIANCE ORDER AGAINST XERIC OIL & GAS CORPORATION ("XERIC").

## RESPONDENT'S ENTRY OF APPEARANCE AND PRE-HEARING STATEMENT

This Pre-Hearing Statement is submitted by Holland & Hart LLP, as required by the Oil Conservation Division.

#### APPEARANCES OF PARTIES

**APPLICANT** 

Oil Conservation Division

**ATTORNEY** 

Mikal Altomare, Esq. New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 1220 S. St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505

(505) 476-3480

Ronald St. John Xeric Oil & Gas Corp. 14781 Memorial Drive Ste 1754 Houston, Texas 77079

Ocean Munds-Dry Holland & Hart, LLP P.O. Box 2208 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 (505) 988-4421

#### STATEMENT OF CASE

### **APPLICANT**

The Applicant seeks an Order finding that Operator Xeric is in violation of OCD Rule 101 as to 69 wells and Rule 201 &/or 1115 as to 80 wells, that such violations are knowing and willful, assessing an appropriate civil penalty and requiring Xeric to bring all such wells into full compliance with OCD Rules by a date certain. The Division further seeks authority to forfeit any

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associated financial assurances, and to plug and abandon the subject wells should the Operator fail to meet the deadline established by the order. The subject wells are all located in Lea County. The Crosby Deep and Gregory Units are located approximately 2 miles South/Southeast of Jal; the Mesa Queen Unit is located approximately 4 miles North of Maljamar and 2 miles East of the Eddy County line; the South Pearl Queen, West Pearl Queen and the East Pearl Queen Units are located between 12 and 20 miles Northwest of Eunice and 10 to 20 miles Southwest of Hobbs; and the Mexico U wells are located just Southwest of Hobbs (within 3 miles). The specific wells involved in this matter include the following:

		South Pearl Queen Unit #006 30-025-03315
Crosby Deep #002 30-	025-24287	South Pearl Queen Unit #007 30-025-03316
Crosby Deep #004 30-	025-25985	West Pearl Queen Unit #103 30-025-03247
East Pearl Queen Unit #00	01 30-025-03189	West Pearl Queen Unit #107 30-025-03231
East Pearl Queen Unit #00	04 30-025-03186	West Pearl Queen Unit #108 30-025-03234
East Pearl Queen Unit #00	7 30-025-03183	West Pearl Queen Unit #110 30-025-03254
East Pearl Queen Unit #00	08 30-025-03182	West Pearl Queen Unit #112 30-025-03244
East Pearl Queen Unit #00	9 30-025-03185	West Pearl Queen Unit #117 30-025-03241
East Pearl Queen Unit #01	11 30-025-03175	West Pearl Queen Unit #118 30-025-03248
East Pearl Queen Unit #01	12 30-025-03174	West Pearl Queen Unit #119 30-025-03240
East Pearl Queen Unit #01	14 30-025-03184	West Pearl Queen Unit #120 30-025-03224
East Pearl Queen Unit #01	15 30-025-03181	West Pearl Queen Unit #121 30-025-03225
East Pearl Queen Unit #01	16 30-025-03180	West Pearl Queen Unit #122 30-025-03228
East Pearl Queen Unit #01	18 30-025-03216	West Pearl Queen Unit #124 30-025-03229
East Pearl Queen Unit #02	21 30-025-03237	West Pearl Queen Unit #125 30-025-03227
East Pearl Queen Unit #02	22 30-025-03235	West Pearl Queen Unit #126 30-025-03226
East Pearl Queen Unit #02	23 30-025-03236	West Pearl Queen Unit #127 30-025-03242
East Pearl Queen Unit #02	26 30-025-03222	West Pearl Queen Unit #128 30-025-03249
East Pearl Queen Unit #02	28 30-025-03215	West Pearl Queen Unit #129 30-025-03243
East Pearl Queen Unit #02	29 30-025-03208	West Pearl Queen Unit #130 30-025-03250
East Pearl Queen Unit #03	30 30-025-03213	West Pearl Queen Unit #134 30-025-03262
East Pearl Queen Unit #03	36 30-025-03221	West Pearl Queen Unit #135 30-025-03261
East Pearl Queen Unit #03	37 30-025-03219	West Pearl Queen Unit #140 30-025-03283
East Pearl Queen Unit #03	39 30-025-03295	West Pearl Queen Unit #143 30-025-03286
East Pearl Queen Unit #04		West Pearl Queen Unit #153 30-025-03265
East Pearl Queen Unit #04	46 30-025-03302	West Pearl Queen Unit #154 30-025-03266
East Pearl Queen Unit #05		West Pearl Queen Unit #163 30-025-22870
East Pearl Queen Unit #05	57 30-025-23409	West Pearl Queen Unit #164 30-025-23083
East Pearl Queen Unit #05	59 30-025-23427	West Pearl Queen Unit #169 30-025-25365
East Pearl Queen Unit #0'	77 30-025-31106	West Pearl Queen Unit #191 30-025-30861
Mesa Queen Unit #010	30-025-20340	West Pearl Queen Unit #192 30-025-30867
Mesa Queen Unit #011	30-025-20230	West Pearl Queen Unit #195 30-025-31021
Mesa Queen Unit #018	30-025-20313	West Pearl Queen Unit #202 30-025-31125
Mesa Queen Unit #020	30-025-20269	30-025-23891 Crosby Deep #001
Mexico U #001	30-025-12512	30-025-24287 Crosby Deep #002
Mexico U #003	30-025-30954	30-025-11870 Crosby Deep #003
South Pearl Queen Unit #	003 30-025-21772	30-025-25985 Crosby Deep #004

30-025-03189 East Pearl Oueen Unit #001 30-025-03186 East Pearl Queen Unit #004 30-025-03183 East Pearl Queen Unit #007 30-025-03182 East Pearl Queen Unit #008 30-025-03185 East Pearl Queen Unit #009 30-025-03175 East Pearl Queen Unit #011 30-025-03174 East Pearl Queen Unit #012 30-025-03184 East Pearl Queen Unit #014 30-025-03181 East Pearl Queen Unit #015 30-025-03180 East Pearl Queen Unit #016 30-025-03216 East Pearl Queen Unit #018 30-025-03237 East Pearl Queen Unit #021 30-025-03235 East Pearl Queen Unit #022 30-025-03236 East Pearl Queen Unit #023 30-025-03222 East Pearl Queen Unit #026 30-025-03215 East Pearl Oueen Unit #028 30-025-03208 East Pearl Oueen Unit #029 30-025-03213 East Pearl Queen Unit #030 30-025-03221 East Pearl Queen Unit #036 30-025-03219 East Pearl Queen Unit #037 30-025-03295 East Pearl Queen Unit #039 30-025-03298 East Pearl Queen Unit #042 30-025-03302 East Pearl Queen Unit #046 30-025-23302 East Pearl Queen Unit #056 30-025-23409 East Pearl Queen Unit #057 30-025-23427 East Pearl Queen Unit #059 30-025-31106 East Pearl Queen Unit #077 30-025-30869 East Pearl Queen Unit #084 30-025-11884 Gregory A #005 30-025-11867 Gregory A #007 30-025-11865 Gregory C #001 30-025-11871 Gregory El Paso Federal 004 30-025-00396 Mesa Queen Unit #006 30-025-20340 Mesa Queen Unit #010 30-025-20230 Mesa Queen Unit #011 30-025-20347 Mesa Queen Unit #015 30-025-20313 Mesa Queen Unit #018 30-025-20269 Mesa Queen Unit #020 30-025-23483 Mesa Queen Unit #025 30-025-12512 Mexico U #001 30-025-30954 Mexico U #003 30-025-21772 South Pearl Queen Unit #003 30-025-03328 South Pearl Queen Unit #005 30-025-03315 South Pearl Queen Unit #006 30-025-03316 South Pearl Queen Unit #007

30-025-03317 South Pearl Queen Unit #008

30-025-03325 South Pearl Oueen Unit #011 30-025-03321 South Pearl Queen Unit #016 30-025-03319 South Pearl Queen Unit #019 30-025-03342 South Pearl Oueen Unit #021 30-025-03341 South Pearl Queen Unit #022 30-025-03247 West Pearl Oueen Unit #103 30-025-03231 West Pearl Queen Unit #107 30-025-03234 West Pearl Queen Unit #108 30-025-03244 West Pearl Queen Unit #112 30-025-03241 West Pearl Queen Unit #117 30-025-03248 West Pearl Queen Unit #118 30-025-03240 West Pearl Queen Unit #119 30-025-03224 West Pearl Queen Unit #120 30-025-03228 West Pearl Oueen Unit #122 30-025-03229 West Pearl Queen Unit #124 30-025-03227 West Pearl Queen Unit #125 30-025-03226 West Pearl Queen Unit #126 30-025-03242 West Pearl Queen Unit #127 30-025-03249 West Pearl Queen Unit #128 30-025-03243 West Pearl Queen Unit #129 30-025-03262 West Pearl Queen Unit #134 30-025-03261 West Pearl Queen Unit #135 30-025-03283 West Pearl Queen Unit #140 30-025-03286 West Pearl Oueen Unit #143 30-025-03265 West Pearl Queen Unit #153 30-025-03266 West Pearl Queen Unit #154 30-025-23083 West Pearl Queen Unit #164 30-025-23313 West Pearl Queen Unit #167 30-025-25365 West Pearl Queen Unit #169 30-025-30868 West Pearl Oueen Unit #180

### **RESPONDENT**

Xeric was recently purchased by new owners. Since the transfer in ownership, the new owners have been working to bring each non-compliant well into compliance. Xeric's main focus has been to address any environmental issues. Xeric is diligently working on its wells and has kept the Division apprised of its progress and next steps. Xeric requests additional time to bring its wells into compliance and that no civil penalty be assessed at this time.

#### PROPOSED EVIDENCE

# **APPLICANT**

WITNESSES ESTIMATED TIME EXHIBITS

# **RESPONDENT**

WITNESSES ESTIMATED TIME EXHIBITS

Ronald St. John 30 minutes Approx. 5

Adam Hirschfeld 30 minutes Approx. 10

#### PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Xeric has none at this time.

Attorney for Xeric Oil & Gas Corporation

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on August 28, 2008 I served a copy of the foregoing document to the following by
<ul> <li>U.S. Mail, postage prepaid</li> <li>⋈ Hand Delivery</li> <li>Fax</li> <li>Electronic Service by LexisNexis File &amp; Serve</li> </ul>
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