# STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATIONDIVISON FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ENERGEN RESOURCES CORPORATION FOR APPROVAL OF A PILOT PROJECT, UNORTHDOX WELL LOCATION AND FOR EXCEPTION RULE 19.15.15.11 NMAC DETERMINE PROPER WELL DENSITIES FOR PICTURED CLIFFS FORMATION WELLS IN PORTIONS OF THE GAVILAN, TAPACITO AND SOUTH BLANCO-PICTURED CLIFFS POOLS, RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

**CASE NO. 14539** 

#### PRE-HEARING STATEMENT

This pre-hearing statement is submitted by Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP as required by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division.

#### APPEARANCES OF THE PARTIES

APPLICANT
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### **ATTORNEY**

**Energy Resources Corporation** 

J. Scott Hall, Esq.

#### INTERESTED PARTY

Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP P. O. Box 4289 Famington, New Mexico 87499-4289 Attn: Richard Corcoran 505-326-9589 W. Thomas Kellahin 706 Gonzales Road Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 505-982-4285 Fax: 505-612-2780

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

#### INTERESTED PARTY:

Burlington Resources Oil Gas Company LP ("Burlington") was the principle operator involved in obtaining Division approval for the original Pictured Cliffs Pilot Infill Project with the hearing held on May 2, 2002 in Case 12857 and the approval Order R-11848 dated October 25, 2002. Thereafter, based upon the data from this infill pilot project by September 2005, Burlington concluded that the majority of available data suggests infilling the PC across the basin is not appropriate at that time. Today, Burlington continues to conclude that it is not appropriate to increase the density for the Pictured Cliffs spacing units within those pools in the San Juan Basin.

Burlington is the offsetting operator to some of the Energen's proposed infill Pictured Cliffs pilot wellbores and is potentially affected.

Burlington will request that the Division apply the same protocals that were used in the original pilot project as set forth in Order R-11848, including:

- (1) The pilot program in intended to:
  - (a) enable the applicants to gather layer pressure measurements;
  - (b) accumulate comprehensive technical data for study and reservoir simulation;
  - (c) accurately determine formation water saturations; and
  - (d) make an estimation of original gas-in-place and remaining reserves.
- (2) The pilot program well should be chosen based upon the following criteria:
  - (a) they must each be located 900 feet or more from an existing Pictured Cliffs well;
  - (b) the existing Pictured Cliffs gas wells muss be in good producing condition;
  - (c) if any Basin-Fruitland Coal (Gas) Well exists within a subject 160-acre unit, it must not have higher production rates or cumulative recoveries;
  - (d) offset Pictured Cliffs wells' cumulative recoveries should be between 0.7 and 1.5 BCF;

- (e) they represent a variety of Pictured Cliffs pools; and
- (f) they include wells located in both high and low permeability areas.
- (3) Criteria used for selecting the wellbores to be recompleted should be:
  - (a) current well production is less than 50 MCFD;
  - (b) casing and cement are in good mechanical condition; and
  - (c) production from the current producing formation can be commingled with production from the Pictured Cliffs formation.

# **BURLINGTON'S PROPOSED EVIDENCE**

WITNESSES

EST. TIME

**EST. EXHIBITS** 

None at this time

Counsel for Burlington may cross-examine Applicant's witnesses

# PROCEDURAL MATTERS

None at this time

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on August 26, 2010, I served a copy of the foregoing documents by:	
<ul><li>[ ] US Mail, postage prepaid</li><li>[ ] Hand Delivery</li><li>[ ] Facsimile</li><li>[ XX ] Email</li></ul>	

to the following:

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