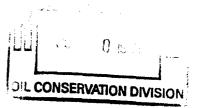
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

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



CASE NO. 6987 CASE NO. 11792

AMENDED APPLICATION OF DOYLE HARTMAN TO GIVE FULL FORCE AND EFFECT TO COMMISSION ORDER R-6447, TO REVOKE OR MODIFY ORDER R-4680-A, TO ALTERNATIVELY TERMINATE THE MYERS LANGLIE-MATTIX UNIT, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

AFFIDAVIT OF BRUCE M. KRAMER IN SUPPORT OF HARTMAN'S OPPOSITION TO OXY'S MOTION TO DISMISS

STATE OF TEXAS)
) ss
COUNTY OF LUBBOCK)

Bruce M. Kramer, being first duly sworn on oath, states as follows:

1. My name is Bruce M. Kramer. I reside in Lubbock, Texas. I am the Maddox Professor at Texas Tech University School of Law. I am the author or co-author of numerous articles or treatises on oil and gas, including "The Law of Pooling and Unitization" which I co-authored with Patrick H. Martin. Attached to this Affidavit as Exhibit A is a copy of my Curriculum Vitae.

- 2. I make this affidavit based upon my experience with the oil and gas industry, my knowledge of the law of pooling and unitization, my study of the pleadings filed of record in this case, my review of copies of various New Mexico Oil Conservation Division files concerning applications for statutory unitization under the New Mexico Statutory Unitization Act, which cases are reflected in the table attached to this Affidavit as Exhibit B, including the file in Case No. 6987, and my review of various Statutory Unitization Acts for the states of New Mexico, Michigan, Kansas, Colorado and Arizona.
- 3. The testimony stated in this Affidavit is the same as I would give in Court or before the Division under oath if called to testify as a witness in this matter.
- 4. The New Mexico Statutory Unitization Act authorizes the OCC to compel mineral, royalty or working interest owners to unitize their interests in order to prevent waste, conserve natural resources and protect correlative rights. The New Mexico Legislature has circumscribed the delegation of its police power to the OCC by mandating that the unit agreement or unit operating agreement contain certain specified provisions. One such mandatory provision is listed in § 70-7-7(F) which, when adopted in 1975, required the unit plan to include:
 - F. a provision for carrying any working interest owner on a limited, carried or net-profits basis, payable out of production, upon such terms and conditions determined by the division to be just and reasonable and allowing an appropriate charge for interest for such service payable out of the owner's share of production; provided that any nonconsenting working interest owner being so carried shall be deemed to have relinquished to the unit operator all of its operating rights and working interest in and to the unit until his share of the costs, service charge and interest are repaid to the unit operator;

The New Mexico provision appears to have been modeled after the Kansas Unitization Act (Kan.Stat.Ann § 55-1305(g), which was first enacted in 1967.

- 5. The OCC derives its power from the Legislature. Where the statute uses the term "shall" to describe an action, the OCC powers can only be exercised if such a provision or action is included. The requirements of the statute will supersede the terms of a voluntary unit agreement or unit operating agreement to the extent necessary to protect correlative rights, conserve natural resources and prevent waste. Since the OCC has found that those objectives will be served by the issuance of a statutory unitization order, it must include a "non-consent" provision in its orders, otherwise those objectives will not be achieved. Such a provision may be imposed on the unit agreement or the unit operating agreement if they are otherwise not expressed within the text of those documents.
- 6. In oil and gas law a "non-consent" provision gives an unleased owner or a working interest owner an option not to participate in drilling, reworking or other operations. By not participating the owner is not liable for the expenses incurred, except out of his or her share of production.
- 7. Section 70-7-7F. describes a situation which is common in oil and gas unit and/or joint operating agreements whereby a working interest owner is allowed to go "non-consent" and become a carried interest with respect to unit expenses. The term "carried interest" has a well-defined and generally accepted meaning within the oil and gas industry. 8 P. Martin & B. Kramer, Williams and Meyers Oil and Gas Law 135 (1996). Where a working interest owner has the right to go "non-consent" and become carried, that working interest owner is not personally liable for those costs. Id. at 696

(defining the term "nonconsent principle.") Rather, the operator or the working interest owners who have consented to the operation pay the carried interest owner's portion of operating costs and reimburse themselves out of the carried interest owner's share of revenue from oil and gas production. The person or persons advancing costs are described as the carrying parties while the other is described as the carried party. Id. at 138.

- 8. A basic principle that follows from an owner's status as a carried interest is that he or she is not personally liable for any costs, except out of his or her share of production. It would be inconsistent with this principle to allow the carrying party to sue the carried party for any unpaid pro rata share of the costs to which the carried party has elected to go "non-consent." I am unaware of any authority supporting the proposition that a unit operator or the carrying parties have the right to sue a carried party who has elected to go "non-consent" to recover the carried party's share of expenses.
- 9. The Myers Langlie-Mattix Unit ("MLMU") was authorized as a statutory unit under New Mexico law by Order R-6447 issued by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission ("Commission") on August 27, 1980. (Case No. 6987) That Order specifically found that, as required by statute, the MLMU unit agreements included a provision for carrying any working interest owner on a limited, carried or net-profits basis, payable out of production. The written text of the MLMU unit operating agreement which was presented to the Oil Conservation Commission in Case No. 6987 and filed of record in the Lea County Clerk's Office in 1991 does not contain such a non-consent provision. A copy of Order R-6447 is attached as Exhibit C.

- 10. The creation of the MLMU as a statutory unit occurred when the unit operator (Getty Oil Company) obtained the requisite 75 percent ratification by both working interest owners and royalty interest owners as required by Section 70-7-8 NMSA 1978. On January 5, 1981, the Secretary of the Oil Conservation Division acknowledged receipt of proof of the statutorily required quantum of ratification and declared "that Commission Order No. R-6447 unitizing all interests in the Myers Langlie-Mattix Unit Area, Lea County, New Mexico, is in full force and effect." Attached to this Affidavit as Exhibit D is a copy of one of the 1980 ratifications of a working interest owner which I understand is typical of all working interest owner ratifications. The owners providing the ratifications acknowledged receipt of copies of Order No. R-6447.
- 11. Under § 70-7-7F. as implemented through Order R-6447, the right of MLMU working interest owners to go non-consent and become a carried interest is now part of the MLMU Unit Agreement and Unit Operating Agreement. Without such a provision, Order R-6447 would be ultra vires.
- 12. Once a working interest owner elects to become a carried interest by virtue of Order R-6447, the carrying parties would not have the right to sue the non-consenting working interest owners to recover the share of joint interest billing expenses. They are limited in recovering the non-consenting owner's share of expenses from the owner's share of production.
- 13. The MLMU unit operating agreement was an earlier version of the 1970 Model Form of Unit Operating Agreement (3rd Edition) issued by the American Petroleum Institute. A copy of that model form, which is included in The Law of Pooling

and Unitization, is attached as Exhibit E. Article 11 is the section which deals with unit expenses. Section 11.6 recognizes and provides for a situation where a working interest owner fails to pay its share of unit expense, authorizing those working interest owners who so desire to advance costs and obtain reimbursement of any costs advanced on behalf of a non-paying working interest owner. The remedies available to paying working interest owners are set forth in Section 11.5 of the Model Form Unit Operating Agreement, which provides the right of paying parties to bring suit and obtain a judgment against the non-paying working interest owner. In that regard, Article 11 of the 1970 Model Form Unit Operating Agreement is not a true carried interest provision. This basic structure of the 1970 form was continued in the 1993 Model Form of Unit Operating Agreements with additional remedies being afforded the parties paying the other owners' share of unit expenses.

- 14. In March, 1974, the American Petroleum Institute issued its First Edition Model Form of Unit Operating Agreement for Statutory Unitization. This Model Form was developed in response to the adoption by numerous states of Statutory Unitization Acts. A copy of the 1974 Model Form for Statutory Unitization is attached as Exhibit F.
- 15. Sections 11.5 and 11.6 are the provisions which deal with unpaid unit expense. The 1974 Model Form expressly recognizes the need to insert language in the form to deal with a situation where a working interest owner elects to be "carried or otherwise financed." Kansas, Colorado, Michigan, Nebraska, Oregon, South Dakota and Utah, the states which had such a statutory provision in 1974, are specified in the 1974 Model Form. One year later, in 1975, New Mexico adopted its Act with its non-

consent provision. New Mexico Statutory Units would thus need to have a non-consent provision in order to comply with the statutory requirement of Section 70-7-7(F) NMSA.

- 16. Section 11.6 of the 1974 Model Form deletes the language from the 1970 Model Form of Unit Operating Agreement which provides the right to bring a suit to collect indebtedness from a non-paying working interest owner. This change is consistent with the provision in various Statutory Unitization Acts mandating the right of a unit and working interest owner to go non-consent and become a carried interest.
- 17. In the operation of the MLMU, Oxy proposed a substantial redevelopment program in 1994. Based upon the correspondence I have reviewed, it is clear that Hartman objected to the redevelopment program and voiced a desire to go non-consent with respect to Oxy's proposal. Oxy wrote Hartman by letter dated August 19, 1994 denying that Hartman and other MLMU working interest owners have the right to go non-consent with respect to unit operations. In my opinion, Oxy's position is contrary to the prescription of NMSA 1978 § 70-7-7F. and Order R-6447 which was ratified in writing by the working interest owners. It requires the agreement to provide for a right of a working interest owner to elect to go non-consent and be carried on a limited, carried or net-profits basis, payable solely out of production.
- 18. Where the governing instruments provide for the right of a working interest owner to be a non-consenting party and become a carried interest, it is standard practice in the industry for an operator, when proposing unit operations, to circulate an Authority for Expenditure as the means by which a working interest owner can consent or withhold consent to the expenditure. None of the Oxy's AFEs related to the 1994 redevelopment program and subsequent proposals that I have seen, contain

any method by which a working interest owner could disclose an election to go nonconsent.

- 19. I have reviewed the Motion to Dismiss filed by Oxy in this case, whereby Oxy contends that Hartman cannot seek enforcement of Order R-6447, because the interests of Hartman's predecessors-in-interest in the MLMU allegedly were not statutorily unitized or otherwise subject to the terms of the application for statutory unitization for the MLMU filed by Getty Oil Company in 1980 or Order R-6447.
- 20. As I understand Oxy's position it is that any owner who committed to the unit voluntarily before statutory unitization has no right to go non-consent and must always pay his or her share of any unit expense undertaken by the operator; that conversely, the holdout owners whose interests were compulsorily unitized do have the benefit of electing to be a non-consent party and to do so without penalty. Oxy's position is inconsistent with the express terms of Getty's Application in Case No. 6987, the testimony offered in support of the application, the express terms of Order R-6447 and the letter and spirit of the New Mexico Statutory Unitization Act. The MLMU statutory unitization order is very similar to many such orders issued by the Commission and the Division in statutory unitization proceedings. They uniformly provide that all MLMU mineral interests were approved for statutory unitization and that the interest of "all persons" within the unit area were thereby unitized "whether or not such persons have approved the Unit Agreement or the Unit Operating Agreement in writing." The finding in paragraph 21(b) of Order R-6447, which found or prescribed a provision for carrying any working interest owner in the MLMU, does not limit its application to those working interest owners who had not previously agreed to voluntarily unitize.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

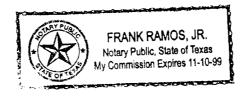
Drug M. Kransa

Bruce M. Kramer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me on this 2332 day of June, 1997

by Bruce M. Kramer.

Notary Public



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

ı ner	eby certify that I have cau	sed a true and correct copy of Bruce M.
Kramer's Affidavit	in Support of Hartman's Op	position to Oxy's Motion to Dismiss to be
hand-delivered on	this day of June, 199	7 to the following counsel of record:
Cam 110 I Santa Thon Kella 117 I	im F. Carr obell, Carr, Berge & Sherida N. Guadalupe, Suite 1 a Fe, New Mexico 87501 nas W. Kellahin hin & Kellahin N. Guadalupe a Fe, New Mexico 87501	an
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	Applicant	Teraco Expl & Prod., inc.	ARCO Off & Gas Company	Siete Oil & Cas Company	Grand Resources, Inc.	Harrson Operating Company, Inc.	Mewbourne Oil Company	Marhob Energy Corporation	The Wiser Oil Company Caprock Maljamer Unit	Mewbourne Oil Compeny	Great Western Drilling Co.	Gillespie-Crow, Inc.	Execut Corp	Shahara Off Corp.	Parker & Parsky Dev., Lusk West (Definians)
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Footnotes:

- Statutory Unitization approved by 100% of the Working Interest Owners but has than 100% of the Royalty Interest Owners.

 At the statutory unitization hearing, Oxy's attorney agreed to the exclusion of a non-consent penalty against non-consenting parties.

 Non-consent penalty reduced by NMOCD from 400% to 200%.

- (4) Per Florene Davidson, OCD orders not lesued as of 6-6-97.

382 PACE 584

RATIFICATION AND APPROVAL

OF THE PLAN FOR UNIT OPERATIONS

AS STATED IN THE UNIT AGREEMENT AND

UNIT OPERATING AGREEMENT OF THE

MYERS LANGLIE-MATTIX UNIT

LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT:

For consideration and the purposes stated in those certain agreements, entitled as above, both being dated January 1, 1973, and to obtain the benefits of unitized management, operation and further development of the oil and gas properties in the Myers Langlie-Mattix Unit pursuant to New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission Order No. R-6447 entered on August 27, 1980, approving statutory unitization of the Myers Langlie-Mattix Unit, the undersigned (whether one or more) represents that it is a Working Interest Owner within the meaning of that term as used in the captioned Unit Agreement and, as such, does hereby consent to ratify and approve the plan for unit operations contained in the captioned Unit Agreement and Unit Operating Agreement, said Agreements being incorporated herein by reference and said plan for unit operations having been approved by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission in Order No. R-6447.

If the undersigned is also a Royalty Owner, within the meaning of that term as used in said Unit Agreement, then for the considerations and purposes hereinabove stated, this ratification and approval shall extend to the undersigned's Royalty Interest as well as to its Working Interest.

The undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of copies of said New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission Order No. R-6447, Unit Agreement and Unit Operating Agreement and further acknowledges that the plan for unit operations prescribed in said documents has been ratified and approved and unconditionally delivered on the date set out hereinbelow.

This ratification shall extend to and be binding upon the undersigned, his heirs, legal representatives, successors and assigns.

The undersigned, whether one or more, is referred to in the neuter gender.

EXHIBIT

C

GETTY O'L COMPANY

DECL 3 tom

HACLAND TO DITTAIOT

in witness whereof, the day of November	his instrument is executed	this <u>26th</u>
	Cities Service Commany	
	Tit total len	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
ATTEST	L. H. Stayton Vice Prenident	•
H. E. Bockelken Assisiant semicing	<u></u>	
STATE OF Oklahoma COUNTY OF Tulsa)) ss.)	
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN	TO before me this 26th	day of
Thousander Thomas	<u>, 198</u> <u>O</u> .	
THE STATE OF THE S	Cindy Thompson Notary Public Cindy Thompson	
My Commission Expires: FEBRUARY 8, 1984	STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LEA FILED	
	JAN 6 1981	

165

JAN 6 1981

at #: 05 stock A-M
and recorded in Book 382

Page 584

Donna Benge, County Clerk

By, Deputy

U0/11/81 11/87 144 000 000 000 000

CURRICULUM VITA

BRUCE MORRIS KRAMER 3728 64th Drive Lubbock, Texas 79413 Telephone: (806) 799-1562 Birthdate: May 26, 1947 Birthplace: Brooklyn, N.Y. Marital Status: Married Children: Four

EDUCATION:

B.A. 1968, J.D. 1972 University of California at Los Angeles

LL.M. 1975 University of Illinois, College of Law

BAR ADMISSIONS:

California and Texas

EMPLOYMENT:

Private Practice
Los Angeles, California
June 1972 - August 1973

Assistant Professor (1974-1977)
Associate Professor (1977-1979)
Professor (1979-1992)
Maddox Professor (1992-Present)
School of Law, Texas Tech University

Visiting Professor

Indiana University School of Law (Bloomington) (Fall 1979);
Lewis & Clark Law School (Summer 1980); University of
Florida, Holland Law Center (1982-1983); University of
Texas, School of Law (Summer 1987).

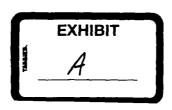
BOOK PUBLICATIONS:

Martin & Kramer, Williams & Meyers Oil & Gas Law (1996).

Maxwell, Williams, Martin & Kramer, Cases and Materials on Oil & Gas Law. (Foundation Press) (6th ed. 1992) with Teacher's Manual.

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- Kramer & Martin, The Law of Fooling & Unitisation. (Matthew Bender & Co.) - 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996 Supplements.
- Antieau, Municipal Corporation Law. (Matthew Bender & Co.)
 Chapter 11A Statutes Governing Local Governmental Tort
 Liability
- Powell, Real Property. (Matthew Bender & Co.) Chapter 77 - Accretion (1989, 1994) Chapter 79A - Flood Plain Zoning
- Rohan, Home Owner Associations and Planned Unit Developments.

 (Matthew Bender & Co.)

 Chapter 3 Planned Unit Development
- Rohan, Zoning and Land Use Controls. (Matthew Bender & Co.) Chapter 5 - Contract and Conditional Zoning Chapter 42 - Measurement Controls
- Rose, J. (editor). Tax and Expenditure Limitations (2 chapters) (1982).
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LAW REVIEW PUBLICATIONS:

- Rramer, Modern Applications of the Rule Against Perpetuities to
 Oil and Gas Transactions: What the Duke of Norfolk Didn't
 Tell You, ____ Nat. Res. J. ____ (1996).
- Kramer, Local Land Use Regulation of Extractive Industries:

 Evolving Judicial and Regulatory Approaches, 14 UCLA Journal
 of Envtl. Law & Policy 42 (1996).
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- Book Review, Williams, American Land Planning Law: Cases and Materials (2 vol.), 7 Ecol. L.Q. 1045 (1979).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS: (Partial Listing)

- The Pros and Cons of Mandatory Dedication (with J.D. Mertes), Urban Land (April 1979) reprinted in V Management & Control of Growth, 59-63 (Urban Law Inst. 1980).
- An Analysis of State Laws and Regulations Impacting Animal Waste Management (with G. Whetstone and D. Wells) (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) (1977).
- A Review and Summary of State Laws Regarding the Disposal of Reservoir Clearing and Cleaning Debris (with L. Urban and G. Whetstone) (Corps of Engineers) (1978).
- An Analysis of Federal Statutes Impacting Forest Service Planning and Management Responsibilities (with F. Skillern and C. Bubany) (Vol. I Planning Sheets, Vol. II Comprehensive Review).
- Air Quality Modeling (Invited Paper), American Meteorological Society/Air Pollution Control Agency, Second Joint Conference on Applications of Air Pollution Meteorology (March 24-27, 1980).
- Contract Zoning: Old Myths and New Realities American Planning Association Planning Advisory Service Publication Series (Summer 1982).
- Forest Resource Laws in Wenger, (ed.) Forestry Handbook (2d ed. 1984) (with Siegler and Mertes).
- (Since 1980 I have prepared papers and given speeches at approximately 60-70 continuing education programs sponsored by such groups as the State Bar of Texas, State Bar of Wyoming, Eastern Mineral Law Foundation, Southwestern Legal Foundation, Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Texas Tech University School of Law and the University of Texas School of Law.)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

Member and Chair of various Law School and University Committees including Personnel, Curriculum, Faculty Development, Affirmative Action, Intellectual Property Policy, Faculty Grievance Panel, and Athletic Council.

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS:

- Texas Tech University President's Academic Achievement Award 1995-1996
- State Bar of Texas, Oil, Gas & Mineral Law Section Research Grant Summer 1991
- Texas Tech University Dub Rushing Research Award 1986-1987, 1992-1993

Texas Tech University Dad's Association Research Award - 1980-1981

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE: (Partial Listing)

Indexing Author

Southwestern Legal Foundation, Oil and Gas Reporter - Volumes 59-124 (Matthew Bender & Co.)

Council Member

State Bar of Texas, Oil Gas & Mineral Law Section - 1991-1994

Participant

Seventh Annual Law and Economics Symposium, San Diego, California July 29 - August 20, 1976

Consultant

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Workshop on Air Quality Modeling, Airlie House, Virginia May 3-7, 1981

Member and Treasurer

Advisory Board, Municipal Legal Studies Center, Southwestern Legal Foundation

Member

Editorial Board, Oil & Gas Reporter, Southwestern Legal Foundation

Interim Director and Research Associate

Applied Planning Research Institute of Municipalities, Environments and Regions, Texas Tech University (January 1985 - 1989)

Contributing Author

State Bar of Texas, General Practice Digest - Governmental Entities, 1988-Present

Member and Chair

State Bar of Texas, Oil, Gas & Mineral Law Specialization Exam Committee, 1990-Present

Trustee

Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 1989-present. Eastern Mineral Law Foundation, 1990-present.

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BRUCE MORRIS KRAMER Curriculum Vita Page 7

Consultant or Export Witness

Campbell & Carr, Santa Fe, N.M.

Gene Gallegos, Esq., Santa Fe, N.M.

Fullbright & Jaworski, Houston, TX

City of Garland, TX.

Southwestern Bell Telephone, Dallas, TX

Feez Ruthning, Brisbanc, Australia

Matthews & Branscomb, Corpus Christi, TX

Faulkner, Banfield, Doogan & Holmes, Juneau, AK

Amoco Production Co., Houston, TX

Exxon Corp., Houston, TX

OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS:

Legal Advisor and Associate Investigator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency project, "Analysis of
State Laws and Regulations Impacting the Management of
Animal Wastes" October 1976 - November 1977.

Legal Advisor

U.S. Corps of Engineers project, "Review of Environmental Laws Impacting Disposal of Reservoir Clearing and Cleaning Debris" May 1977 - November 1977.

Associate Investigator

U.S. Forest Service project, "Review of Federal Laws and Regulations that Affect the Land Management and Flanning Process" April 1977 to December 1980.

Co-Principal Investigator

Texas Tech University, Center for Energy Research Project, "Model Ordinances - Covenants for the Solar Energy Residence" October 1, 1977 - September 30, 1979.

Principal Investigator

U.S. Forest Service project, "Legal Constraints on Rural Recreation Wildland Development" June 1978 - December 1979.

Principal Investigator

U.S. Forest Service project, "Legal Constraints Imposed by the Clean Air Act on Recreational Land Use Planning" March 1979 - December 1980.

Principal Investigator

U.S. Forest Service project, "Legal Aspects of Use and Development of Wildlife Resources on Private Lands" May 1979 - December 1980.

Principal Investigator

Texas Energy & Natural Resources Advisory Council project, The Developing Problem of Reconciling Surface Mining to Oil and Gas Development March - July 1982

COURSES TAUGHT:

*

Property
Land Use Planning
International Petroleum
Transactions
Oil & Gas

Water Law
Copyright
Oil & Gas Seminar
State and Local Government Law

REFERENCES:

will be furnished on request.