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

APPLICATION OF STRATA PRODUCTION CO. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

## **APPLICATION**

Strata Production Company, OGRID No. 21712 ("Strata"), through its undersigned counsel Montgomery & Andrews, P.A. (Sharon T. Shaheen and Troy S. Lawton), hereby files this application with the Oil Conservation Division pursuant to the provisions of NMSA 1978, § 70-2-17, for an order pooling all mineral interests in the Delaware formation (Forty Niner Ridge; Delaware [24750]) in a standard 400-acre, more or less, horizontal spacing and proration unit ("HSU") comprised of the NW/4 NW/4 of Section 31, the W/2 W/2 of Sections 30 and 19 and the SW/4 SW/4 of Section 18, Township 23 South, Range 31 East in Eddy County, New Mexico. In support of its application, Strata states as follows:

- 1. Strata is a working interest owner in the proposed HSU and has the right to drill thereon.
- 2. Strata proposes to drill the 2.5-mile **Pajarito Fed Com 31 18 DML #1H** well, to be horizontally drilled from an approximate surface hole location 215' FNL and 325' FWL of Section 31, T23S-R31E, to an approximate bottom hole location 1220' FSL and 660' FWL of Section 18, T23S-R31E.
- 3. The completed interval and first and last take points will meet the setback requirements set forth in the statewide rules for horizontal oil wells.

- 4. Strata has in good faith sought and been unable to obtain voluntary agreement for the development of these lands from all of the mineral interest owners in the HSU.
- 5. Approval of the HSU and the pooling of all mineral interest owners in the Delaware formation underlying the HSU will avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, prevent waste, and protect correlative rights.
- 6. In order to permit Strata to obtain its just and fair share of the oil and gas underlying the subject lands, all uncommitted interests in this HSU should be pooled and Strata should be designated the operator of the HSU. The only uncommitted interest in this HSU is owned by OXY USA Inc., and therefore OXY USA Inc. is the only interest owner to be pooled in this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, Strata requests that this application be set for hearing before an examiner of the Oil Conservation Division on September 1, 2022, and that, after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter an order:

- A. Creating a standard 400-acre, more or less, HSU comprised of the NW/4 NW/4 of Section 31, the W/2 W/2 of Sections 30 and 19, and the SW/4 SW/4 of Section 18, Township 23 South, Range 31 East in Eddy County, New Mexico;
  - B. Pooling all mineral interests in the Delaware formation underlying the HSU;
  - C. Allowing the drilling of the Pajarito Fed Com 31 18 DML #1H well;
  - D. Designating Strata as operator of the HSU and the well to be drilled thereon;
- E. Authorizing Strata to recover its costs of drilling, equipping and completing the well;
- F. Approving the operating charges and costs of supervision while drilling of \$8,000/month and, after completion, \$800/month, together with a provision adjusting the rates pursuant to the COPAS accounting procedures; and

G. Imposing a 200% penalty for the risk assumed by Strata in drilling and completing the well against any interest owner who does not voluntarily participate in the drilling of the well.

Respectfully submitted,

MONTGOMERY & ANDREWS, P.A.

Sharon T. Shaheen
Sharon T. Shaheen
Troy S. Lawton
Post Office Box 2307
Santa Fe, NM 87504-2307
(505) 986-2678
sshaheen@montand.com
tlawton@montand.com

Attorneys for Strata Production Company

Application of Strata Production Co. for Compulsory Pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant in the above-styled cause seeks an order from the Division pooling all uncommitted mineral interests in the Delaware formation (Forty Niner Ridge; Delaware [24750]) in a standard 400-acre, more or less, horizontal spacing and proration unit ("HSU") comprised of the NW/4 NW/4 of Section 31, the W/2 W/2 of Sections 30 and 19, and the SW/4 SW/4 of Section 18, Township 23 South, Range 31 East in Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant proposes to drill the following 2.5-mile well in the HSU: Pajarito Fed Com 31 18 DML #1H well, to be horizontally drilled from an approximate surface hole location 215' FNL and 325' FWL of Section 31, T23S-R31E, to an approximate bottom hole location 1220' FSL and 660' FWL of Section 18, T23S-R31E. The completed interval and first and last take points will meet the setback requirements set forth in the statewide rules for horizontal oil wells. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the allocation of the costs, the designation of Applicant as Operator of the well, and a 200% charge for the risk involved in drilling and completing the well. The well and lands are located approximately 16 miles East of Loving, New Mexico.