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

# APPLICATIONS OF CIMAREX ENERGY CO. FOR A HORIZONTAL SPACING UNIT AND COMPULSORY POOLING, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

### Case Nos. 23452, 23453, 23454 & 23455

### AMENDED PREHEARING STATEMENT

Cimarex Energy Co., ("Cimarex"), OGRID No. 215099, through its undersigned attorneys, submits the following Amended Prehearing Statement pursuant to the rules of the Oil Conservation Division ("Division") for the above-referenced Cases which are consolidated with the Case Nos. 23448 – 23451, 23594 – 23601 and 23508 – 23523 for a contested hearing pursuant to that certain "Further Amended Pre-Hearing Order" issued on June 8, 2023. This Prehearing Statement describes Cimarex's Case Nos. 23452 – 23455, which propose to pool the Bone Spring formation underlying Sections 4 and 9, in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County ("Subject Lands") and which compete directly against Case Nos. 23508 – 23511 filed by Read & Stevens, Inc., in association with Permian Resources Operating, LLC (collectively referred to herein as "Permian Resources") which also propose to pool the Bone Spring formation underlying the Subject Lands.

#### **APPEARANCES**

### APPLICANT

Cimarex Energy Co.

### ATTORNEY

Darin C. Savage Andrew D. Schill William E. Zimsky Abadie & Schill, PC 214 McKenzie Street Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 Telephone: 970.385.4401

Facsimile: 970.385.4901 darin@abadieschill.com andrew@abadieschill.com bill@abadieschill.com

# COMPETING PARTY

Read & Stevens, Inc., in association with Permian Resources Operating, LLC

Michael H. Feldewert Adam G. Rankin Julia Broggi Paula M. Vance Holland & Hart LLP Post Office Box 2208 Santa Fe, NM 87504 505-988-4421 Facsimile: 505-983-6043 mfeldewert@hollandhart.com agrankin@hollandhart.com jbroggi@hollandhart.com

# ADDITIONAL PARTIES

Sandstone Properties, LLC	Sealy Cavin, Jr. Scott S. Morgan
	Brandon D. Hajny
	P.O. Box 1216
	Albuquerque, NM 87103
	505-243-5400
	scavin@cilawnm.com
	smorgan@cilawnm.com
	bhajny@cilawnm.com
Northern Oil and Gas, Inc.	Blake C. Jones
	Steptoe & Johnson PLLC
	1780 Hughes Landing Blvd.

Steptoe & Johnson PLLC 1780 Hughes Landing Blvd., Ste 750 The Woodlands, TX 77380 281-203-5730 Facsimile: 281-203-5701 blake.jones@steptoe-johnson.com

#### APPLICANT'S STATEMENT OF THE CASES

Cimarex provides this Prehearing Statement to provide a summary of Case Nos. 23452, 23453, 23454 and 23455. These four cases seek to develop the Bone Spring formation in the Subject Lands (i.e., Sections 4 and 9), and these cases are grouped and organized in a logical manner to present to the Division an intelligible overview of the cases that can be readily followed.

In Case No. 23452, Cimarex seeks an order pooling all uncommitted mineral interests in the Bone Spring formation, more specifically, the Teas; Bone Spring, East [Pool Code 96637], designated as an oil pool, underlying a standard 320.89-acre, more or less, spacing and proration unit comprised of Lot 1 (NE/4 NE/4 equivalent), the SE/4 NE/4, and the E/2 SE/4 of Section 4 and the E/2 E/2 of Section 9, in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico. Cimarex proposes and dedicates to the unit the Loosey Goosey 4-9 Fed Com 204H Well and the Loosey Goosey 4-9 Fed Com 304H Well, as initial wells, to be drilled to a sufficient depth to test the Bone Spring formation. The proposed wells are orthodox in their locations, and the take points and completed intervals comply with setback requirements under statewide rules.

In Case No. 23453, Cimarex seeks an order pooling all uncommitted mineral interests in the Bone Spring formation, more specifically, the Teas; Bone Spring, East [Pool Code 96637], designated as an oil pool, underlying a standard 320.21-acre, more or less, spacing and proration unit comprised of Lot 4 (NW/4 NW/4 equivalent), the SW/4 NW/4, and the W/2 SW/4 of Section 4 and the W/2 W/2 of Section 9, in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico. Cimarex proposes and dedicates to the unit the **Loosey Goosey 4-9 Fed Com 301H Well,** as the initial well, to be drilled to a sufficient depth to test the Bone Spring formation. The proposed well is orthodox in its location, and the take points and completed interval comply with setback requirements under statewide rules.

In Case No. 23454, Cimarex seeks an order pooling all uncommitted mineral interests in the Bone Spring formation, more specifically, the Teas; Bone Spring, East [Pool Code 96637], designated as an oil pool, underlying a standard 320.44-acre, more or less, spacing and proration unit comprised of Lot 3 (NE/4 NW/4 equivalent), the SE/4 NW/4, and the E/2 SW/4 of Section 4 and the E/2 W/2 of Section 9, in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico. Cimarex proposes and dedicates to the unit the **Loosey Goosey 4-9 Fed Com 302H Well**, as the initial well, to be drilled to a sufficient depth to test the Bone Spring formation. The proposed well is orthodox in its location, and the take points and completed interval comply with setback requirements under statewide rules.

In Case No. 23455, Cimarex seeks an order pooling all uncommitted mineral interests in the Bone Spring formation, more specifically, the Teas; Bone Spring, East [Pool Code 96637], designated as an oil pool, designated as an oil pool, underlying a standard 320.66-acre, more or less, spacing and proration unit comprised of Lot 2 (NW/4 NE/4 equivalent), the SW/4 NE/4, and the W/2 SE/4 of Section 4 and the W/2 E/2 of Section 9, in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico. Cimarex proposes and dedicates to the unit the **Loosey Goosey 4-9 Fed Com 303H Well**, as the initial well, to be drilled to a sufficient depth to test the Bone Spring formation. The proposed well is orthodox in its location, and the take points and completed interval comply with setback requirements under statewide rules.

Cimarex's four cases described herein and its plans for development compete directly with Case Nos. 23508, 23509, 23510, and 23511 filed by Permian Resources for the Subject Lands. In Case No. 23508, Permian Resources seeks to pool all uncommitted interests in the Bone Spring formation underlying a standard 320-acre, more or less, spacing and proration unit comprised of Lot 4 (NW/4 NW/4 equivalent), the SW/4 NW/4, and the W/2 SW/4 of Section 4 and the W/2 W/2

4

of Section 9, in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, dedicating the Bane 4-9 Federal Com 111H, 121H, 122H, 171H, and 131H wells to said unit.

In Case No. 23509, Permian Resources seeks to pool all uncommitted interests in the Bone Spring formation underlying a standard 320-acre, more or less, spacing and proration unit comprised of Lot 3 (NE/4 NW/4 equivalent), the SE/4 NW/4, and the E/2 SW/4 of Section 4 and the E/2 W/2 of Section 9, in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, dedicating the Bane 4-9 Federal Com 112H, 123H, 124H, 172H, and 132H wells to said unit.

In Case No. 23510, Permian Resources seeks to pool all uncommitted interests in the Bone Spring formation underlying a standard 320-acre, more or less, spacing and proration unit comprised of Lot 2 (NW/4 NE/4 equivalent), the SW/4 NE/4, and the W/2 SE/4 of Section 4 and the W/2 E/2 of Section 9, in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, dedicating the Bane 4-9 Federal Com 113H, 125H, 126H, 173H, and 133H wells to said unit.

In Case No. 23511, Permian Resources seeks to pool all uncommitted interests in the Bone Spring formation underlying a standard 320-acre, more or less, spacing and proration unit comprised of Lot 1 (NE/4 NE/4 equivalent), the SE/4 NE/4, and the E/2 SE/4 of Section 4 and the E/2 E/2 of Section 9, in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, dedicating the Bane 4-9 Federal Com 114H, 127H, 128H, 174H, and 134H wells to said unit.

# APPLICANT'S PROPOSED EVIDENCE AND WITNESS QUALIFICATIONS

### WITNESS

# ESTIMATED TIME

EXHIBITS

Landman: John Coffman Approx. 45 min Approx. 11 Qualifications: I graduated in 2018 from Texas Tech University with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with an emphasis on Energy Commerce. I have worked at Cimarex and Coterra Energy Inc. ("Coterra") for approximately 4 years, and I have been working in New Mexico for 4 years. (I was originally employed by Cimarex. Since October 1, 2021, when Cimarex merged with Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation to form Coterra, I have been an employee of Coterra.) My credentials as an expert witness in petroleum land matters have been accepted by the Division and made a matter of record.

Geologist: Staci MeullerApprox. 45 minApprox. 21Qualifications: I have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geophysical Engineering from ColoradoSchool of Mines, and a Master of Science Degree in Geophysics from Colorado School of Mines.I have worked on New Mexico Oil and Gas matters since July 2018. My credentials as an expertwitness in geology have been accepted by the Division and made a matter of record.

Reservoir Engineer: Eddie Behm Approx. 45 minutes Approx. 23 Qualifications: I attended the University of Tulsa and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering in 2011. I have worked for Occidental, California Resources prior to working for Cimarex and have been employed as a Production and Reservoir Engineer for Cimarex and Coterra (as of October 1, 2021) for the last 6 years, working in the Delaware Basin with a primary focus on Lea County, New Mexico. I have previously testified before the Division as an expert in Reservoir Engineering, and my credentials have been accepted of record.

Facilities Engineer: Calvin Boyle Approx. 15 min Approx. 2 Qualifications: I attended the University of Oklahoma and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering in 2016 followed by Oklahoma State University where I graduated with a Master of Business Administration in 2018. I worked for Halliburton prior to working for Cimarex and have been employed as a Field, Production, and Facilities engineer for Cimarex and Coterra (as of October 1, 2021) for the last 4 years, working in the Delaware Basin with a primary focus on Lea County, New Mexico. I am familiar with the subject applications filed in the abovereferenced Cases and the facilities proposed by Cimarex involved. I have not testified previously before the Division and am providing a one-page resume.

# LIST OF MATERIAL FACTS NOT IN DISPUTE

Parties are in general agreement that the Bone Spring formation underlying the Subject

Lands would be productive if developed and should be developed; however, there are factual

differences regarding the best way to achieve optimum development and productivity or the Bone Spring.

### LIST OF DISPUTED FACTS AND ISSUES

The central issue in Cimarex's Case Nos. 23452 – 23455 and Permian Resources' competing Case Nos. 23508 – 23511 is which party should be the designated operator for the Bone Spring formation in the Subject Lands. In addition, there are specific disagreements between the parties regarding (1) the number of wells that should be used to develop the Bone Spring, (2) the depths and spacing of the wells, (3) the costs of developing the Bone Spring underlying the Subject Lands; and (4) a dispute about whether the Upper Wolfcamp should be drilled and to what extent it should be developed (Cimarex asserts that the drilling of the Upper Wolfcamp would result in waste and harm to correlative rights; while Permian Resources proposes to drill the Upper Wolfcamp).

#### **PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

This contested hearing includes Cimarex's Case Nos. 23452 – 23455 and Permian Resources' competing applications in Case Nos. 23508 – 23511, as described herein, but the hearing also includes numerous additional cases for the Bone Spring in Sections 5 and 8, Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, and consideration of whether to drill the Wolfcamp formation. In all, the Division will need to review and consider 32 cases addressing both the Bone Spring and Wolfcamp in Sections 5 and 8 and Sections 4 and 9, all in Township 20 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico. The Prehearing Statements submitted in these matters, three Prehearing Statements in all, are organized in an effort to provide a manageable approach to reviewing the cases by addressing (1) the 8 competing cases in the Bone

Spring for Sections 5 and 8; (2) the 8 competing cases in the Bone Spring for Sections 4 and 9;

and finally (3) the status of the competing cases filed for the Wolfcamp formation in both Sections

4 and 9 and Sections 5 and 8.

Respectfully submitted,

ABADIE & SCHILL, PC

/s/ Darin C. Savage

Darin C. Savage

Andrew D. Schill William E. Zimsky 214 McKenzie Street Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 Telephone: 970.385.4401 Facsimile: 970.385.4901 darin@abadieschill.com andrew@abadieschill.com

Attorneys for Cimarex Energy Co.

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was filed with the New Mexico

Oil Conservation Division and was served on counsel of record via electronic mail on August 2,

2023:

Michael H. Feldewert – mfeldewert@hollandhart.com Adam G. Rankin – agrankin@hollandhart.com Julia Broggi – jbroggi@hollandhart.com Paula M. Vance – pmvance@hollandhart.com

Attorneys for Read & Stevens, Inc.; and Permian Resources Operating, LLC

Blake C. Jones - blake.jones@steptoe-johnson.com

Attorney for Northern Oil and Gas, Inc.

Sealy Cavin, Jr. – scavin@cilawnm.com Scott S. Morgan – smorgan@cilawnm.com Brandon D. Hajny – bhajny@cilawnm.com

Attorneys for Sandstone Properties, LLC

/s/ Darin C. Savage

Darin C. Savage

District I 1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240 Phone:(575) 393-6161 Fax:(575) 393-0720 District II

811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210 Phone:(575) 748-1283 Fax:(575) 748-9720

District III 1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410 Phone:(505) 334-6178 Fax:(505) 334-6170

District IV 1220 S. St Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505 Phone: (505) 476-3470 Fax: (505) 476-3462

# **State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Oil Conservation Division** 1220 S. St Francis Dr. Santa Fe, NM 87505

QUESTIONS

Operator:	OGRID:
CIMAREX ENERGY CO.	215099
6001 Deauville Blvd	Action Number:
Midland, TX 79706	247479
	Action Type:
	[HEAR] Prehearing Statement (PREHEARING)
QUESTIONS	
Testimony	

Please assist us by provide the following information about your testimony.		
Number of witnesses	4	
Testimony time (in minutes)	150	

Page 10 of 10

Action 247479