

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

**APPLICATION FOR SURFACE COMMINGLING  
SUBMITTED BY OXY USA, INC.**

**ORDER NO. PLC-716**

**ORDER**

The Director of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (“OCD”), having considered the application and the recommendation of the OCD Engineering Bureau, issues the following Order.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Oxy USA, Inc. (“Applicant”) submitted a complete application to surface commingle and off-lease measure the oil and gas production (“Application”) from the pools, leases, and wells identified in Exhibit A.
2. To the extent that ownership is identical, Applicant submitted a certification by a licensed attorney or qualified petroleum landman that the ownership in the pools, leases, and wells to be commingled is identical as defined in 19.15.12.7(B) NMAC.
3. Applicant proposed a method to allocate the oil and gas production to the pools, leases, and wells to be commingled.
4. To the extent that ownership is diverse, Applicant provided notice of the Application to all persons owning an interest in the oil and gas production to be commingled, including the owners of royalty and overriding royalty interests, regardless of whether they have a right or option to take their interests in kind, and those persons either submitted a written waiver or did not file an objection to the Application.
5. Applicant provided notice of the Application to the Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) or New Mexico State Land Office (“NMSLO”), as applicable.
6. Applicant certified the commingling of oil and gas production from the pools, leases, and wells will not in reasonable probability reduce the value of the oil and gas production to less than if it had remained segregated.
7. Applicant in the notice for the Application stated that it sought authorization to add additional pools, leases, and wells and identified the parameters to make such additions.
8. Applicant submitted or intends to submit one or more proposed communitization agreement(s) (“Proposed Agreement(s)”) to the BLM or NMSLO, as applicable, identifying the leases to be consolidated into a single pooled area (“Pooled Area”), as described in Exhibit B.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

9. OCD has jurisdiction to issue this Order pursuant to the Oil and Gas Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 70-2-6, 70-2-11, 70-2-12, 70-2-16, and 70-2-17, and 19.15.12 NMAC.
10. Applicant satisfied the notice requirements for the Application in accordance with 19.15.12.10(A)(2), (C)(4)(c), and (C)(4)(e) NMAC, as applicable.
11. Applicant's proposed method of allocation, as modified herein, complies with 19.15.12.10(B)(1) or (C)(1) NMAC, as applicable.
12. Commingling of oil and gas production from state, federal, or tribal leases shall not commence until approved by the BLM or NMSLO, as applicable, in accordance with 19.15.12.10(B)(3) and (C)(4)(h) NMAC.
13. Applicant satisfied the notice requirements for the subsequent addition of pools, leases, and wells in the notice for the Application, in accordance with 19.15.12.10(C)(4)(g) NMAC. Subsequent additions of pools, leases, and wells within Applicant's defined parameters, as modified herein, will not, in reasonable probability, reduce the commingled production's value or otherwise adversely affect the interest owners in the production to be added.
14. By granting the Application with the conditions specified below, this Order prevents waste and protects correlative rights, public health, and the environment.

## **ORDER**

1. Applicant is authorized to surface commingle and off-lease measure oil and gas production from the pools, leases, and wells identified in Exhibit A.
2. This Order supersedes Order OLM-152.
3. For each Pooled Area described in Exhibit B, Applicant shall submit a Proposed Agreement to the BLM or NMSLO, as applicable, prior to commencing oil and gas production. If Applicant fails to submit the Proposed Agreement, this Order shall terminate on the following day.
4. No later than sixty (60) days after the BLM or NMSLO approves or denies a Proposed Agreement, Applicant shall submit Form C-103 to OCD with a copy of the decision and a description of the approved lands, as applicable. If Applicant withdraws or the BLM or NMSLO denies a Proposed Agreement, this Order shall terminate on the date of such action, and Applicant shall cease commingling the production from the Pooled Area. If the BLM or NMSLO approves but modifies the Proposed Agreement(s), Applicant shall comply with the approved Agreement(s), and no later than sixty (60) days after such decision, Applicant shall submit a new surface commingle application to OCD to conform this Order with the approved Agreement(s). If OCD denies the new surface commingle application, this Order shall terminate on the date of such action.

5. Applicant shall allocate the oil and gas production to each lease within a Pooled Area in proportion to the acreage that each lease bears to the entire acreage of the Pooled Area described in Exhibit B.
6. The allocation of oil and gas production shall be based on the production life of each well as measured for three periods: (a) the initial production period shall be measured from the first production until the earlier of either the peak production rate or thirty (30) days after the first production; (b) the plateau period shall be measured from the end of the initial production period to the peak decline rate; and (c) the decline period shall be measured from the end of the plateau period until the well is plugged and abandoned.

During the initial production period, the oil and gas production for each well identified in Exhibit A shall be allocated using a production curve calculated from a minimum of ten (10) well tests per month, except that any day in which a well test cannot achieve an accurate result due to a temporary change in oil and gas production shall not be included in the computation of time determining the well test schedule. The production curve shall be calculated by interpolating daily production for each day using the known daily production obtained by well tests and shall use a method of interpolation that is at minimum as accurate as maintaining a constant rate of change for each day's production between the known daily production values.

During the plateau period, the oil and gas production for each well identified in Exhibit A shall be allocated using a minimum of three (3) well tests per month.

During the decline period, the oil and gas production for each well identified in Exhibit A shall be allocated as follows: (a) a minimum of three (3) well tests per month when the decline rate is greater than twenty-two percent (22%) per month; (b) a minimum of two (2) well tests per month when the decline rate is between twenty-two percent (22%) and ten percent (10%) per month; and (c) a minimum of one (1) well test per month when the decline rate is less than ten percent (10%) per month.

Upon OCD's request, Applicant shall submit a Form C-103 to the OCD Engineering Bureau that contains the decline rate curve and other relevant information demonstrating the production life of a well.

Applicant shall conduct a well test by separating and metering the oil and gas production from that well for either (a) a minimum of twenty-four (24) consecutive hours; or (b) a combination of nonconsecutive periods that meet the following conditions: (i) each period shall be a minimum of six (6) hours; and (ii) the total duration of the nonconsecutive periods shall be a minimum of eighteen (18) hours.

The well test requirements of this Order shall be suspended for any well shut-in for a period that continues for more than fifteen (15) days until the well commences production.

7. Applicant shall measure the commingled oil at a central tank battery described in Exhibit A in accordance with 19.15.18.15 NMAC or 19.15.23.8 NMAC.

8. Applicant shall measure the commingled gas at a central delivery point or central tank battery described in Exhibit A in accordance with 19.15.19.9 NMAC, provided however that if the gas is flared, and regardless of whether OCD has granted an exception pursuant to 19.15.18.12(B) NMAC, Applicant shall report the gas in accordance with 19.15.18.12(F) NMAC.
9. Applicant shall calibrate the meters used to measure or allocate oil and gas production in accordance with 19.15.12.10(C)(2) NMAC.
10. If the commingling of oil and gas production from any pool, lease, or well reduces the value of the commingled oil and gas production to less than if it had remained segregated, no later than sixty (60) days after the decrease in value has occurred Applicant shall submit a new surface commingling application to OCD to amend this Order to remove the pool, lease, or well whose oil and gas production caused the decrease in value. If Applicant fails to submit a new application, this Order shall terminate on the following day, and if OCD denies the application, this Order shall terminate on the date of such action.
11. Applicant may submit an application to amend this Order to add pools, leases, and subsequently drilled wells with spacing units adjacent to or within the tracts commingled by this Order by submitting a Form C-107-B via the OCD Fee Portal in accordance with 19.15.12.10(C)(4)(g) NMAC.
12. Applicant shall not commence commingling oil or gas production from state, federal, or tribal leases until approved by the BLM or NMSLO, as applicable.
13. OCD retains jurisdiction and reserves the right to modify or revoke this Order as it deems necessary to prevent waste or protect correlative rights, public health, or the environment.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

  
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**ADRIENNE SANDOVAL**  
**DIRECTOR**  
AS/dm

**DATE:** 3/17/2021

## Exhibit A

Order: PLC-716

Operator: Oxy USA, Inc. (16696)

Central Tank Battery: Salt Ridge CC 17 Central Tank Battery

Central Tank Battery Location (NMPM): W/2 NW/4 Section 17, Township 24 South, Range 29 East

Gas Custody Transfer Meter Location (NMPM): W/2 NW/4 Section 17, Township 24 South, Range 29 East

### Pools

| Pool Name                    | Pool Code |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| CEDAR CANYON; BONE SPRING    | 11520     |
| PIERCE CROSSING; BONE SPRING | 50371     |

### Leases as defined in 19.15.12.7(C) NMAC

| Lease       | Location (NMPM) |                  |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------|
| NMNM 117120 | S/2 N/2         | Sec 8-T24S-R29E  |
| Fee         | N/2 SW/4        | Sec 17-T24S-R29E |
| NMNM 094651 | S/2 SW/4        | Sec 17-T24S-R29E |
| NMNM 017224 | W/2             | Sec 20-T24S-R29E |

### Wells

| Well API     | Well Name                            | Location (NMPM) | Pool Code | Train |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 30-015-44945 | Salt Ridge CC 20 17 Federal Com #21H | E-17-24S-29E    | 50371     |       |
| 30-015-44947 | Salt Ridge CC 20 17 Federal Com #23H | F-17-24S-29E    | 50371     |       |
| 30-015-37644 | Morning Federal Com #1H              | E-08-24S-29E    | 11520     |       |

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

**Exhibit B**

Order: PLC-716

Operator: Oxy USA, Inc. (16696)

**Pooled Areas**

| Pooled Area | Location (NMPPM)    |                                      | Acres | Pooled Area ID |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------|
| CA BS BLM   | W/2 W/2<br>W/2 SW/4 | Sec 20-T24S-R29E<br>Sec 17-T24S-R29E | 240   | A              |
| CA BS BLM   | E/2 W/2<br>E/2 SW/4 | Sec 20-T24S-R29E<br>Sec 17-T24S-R29E | 240   | B              |

**Leases Comprising Pooled Areas**

| Lease       | Location (NMPPM) |                  | Acres | Pooled Area ID |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|-------|----------------|
| Fee         | NW/4 SW/4        | Sec 17-T24S-R29E | 40    | A              |
| NMNM 094651 | SW/4 SW/4        | Sec 17-T24S-R29E | 40    | A              |
| NMNM 017224 | W/2 W/2          | Sec 20-T24S-R29E | 160   | A              |
| Fee         | NE/4 SW/4        | Sec 17-T24S-R29E | 40    | B              |
| NMNM 094651 | SE/4 SW/4        | Sec 17-T24S-R29E | 40    | B              |
| NMNM 017224 | E/2 W/2          | Sec 20-T24S-R29E | 160   | B              |