# 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:

APPLICATION OF THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR ORDERS AMENDING APDS AND TO ORDER TEMPORARY CESSATION OF DRILLING AND COMLETION ACTIVITIES, EDDYCOUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

Case No. 22472

# AMENDED PRE-HEARING STATEMENT

This amended pre-hearing statement is submitted by Mewbourne Oil Company ("Mewbourne") as required by the Oil Conservation Division.

## **APPEARANCES**

APPLICANT

Oil Conservation Division

OTHER PARTIES

Mewbourne Oil Company

APPLICANT'S ATTORNEY

Eric Ames

Jesse Tremaine

OTHER PARTIES' ATTORNEYS

James Bruce

Post Office Box 1056

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-2043

Tap Rock Operating, LLC Matador Production Company WPX Energy Permian, LLC Michael Feldewert Adam Rankin Julia Broggi

# STATEMENT OF THE CASE

#### **APPLICANT**

The Division seeks a temporary cessation of drilling and completion activities for certain wells within 5 miles of the Carlsbad Brine Well Cavity.

#### OTHER PARTIES

Mewbourne is the operator of certain enumerated wells in the application. Mewbourne does not oppose the application and does not intend to present a witness unless the Division has questions for Mewbourne. The Division first raised concerns to Mewbourne regarding the Carlsbad Brine Well Cavity in April 2021, which was after Mewbourne had already drilled four wells. From this conversation, Mewbourne voluntarily delayed the completions of its drilled wells due to the OCD's concerns about the potential impact on the Carlsbad Brine Well remediation efforts. Mewbourne has worked with, andwill continue to work with the Division on this matter.

However, the following four Mewbourne wells have been drilled to the point where they can be completed:

- MIGHTY DUCKS 15/16 W0PM STATE COM #1H, API # 30-015-46808
  - o APD approved by OCD 3/9/2020, Spud 2/1/2021
- MIGHTY DUCKS 15/16 WOIL STATE COM #1H, API # 30-015-46807
  - APD approved by OCD 3/9/2020, Spud 2/26/2021
- WATERBOY 27/26 W0DA FEE #1H, API # 30-015-47305
  - APD approved by OCD 7/24/2020, Spud 3/25/2021
- CITY SLICKERS 28/29 W0AD FEE #1H, API # 30-015-48087
  - APD approved by OCD 3/5/2021, Spud 4/11/2021

Mewbourne is concerned prolonged completion delay could risk pipe integrity of the aforementioned wells, which could lead to loss of capital investment, but more importantly lead to safety concerns when the wells are eventually completed. It has expended considerable sums of money, which it is not allowed to recover. In addition, the Division has allowed Devon Energy Production Company, L.P. ("Devon") to complete the following wells which offset Mewbourne's wells during the months of July and August of 2021:

- BEAGLE 35 34 22 27 FEE #401H, API # 30-015-45682
  - o Section 35, Township 22S, Range 27 East
- BEAGLE 35 34 22 27 FEE #402H, API # 30-015-47278
  - Section 35, Township 22S, Range 27 East
- COLLIE 35 34 22 27 FEE #401H, API # 30-015-45643
  - o Section 35, Township 22S, Range 27 East
- COLLIE 35 34 22 27 FEE #402H, API # 30-015-47294
  - o Section 35, Township 22S, Range 27 East

This raises correlative rights issues for Mewbourne and its interest owners. Mewbourne owns rights in Sections 25, 26, 27, 28, & 33, all adjacent to Devon's wells.

Mewbourne requests that once remediation is complete, approval of completion activities be approved in an expedited manner.

## PROPOSED EVIDENCE

**APPLICANT** 

WITNESSES

EST. TIME

**EXHIBITS** 

OTHER PARTIES

WITNESSES

EST. TIME

**EXHIBITS** 

Corey Mitchell (landman)

POSSIBLE WITNESS

10 minutes

#### PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1 1

Respectfully submitted,

James Bruce

Post Office Box 1056

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-2043

jamesbruc@aol.com

Attorney for Mewbourne Oil Company

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing pleading was served upon the following counsel of record this \_\_\_\_\_ day of February, 2022 by e-mail:

<u>Eric Ames</u> eric.ames@state.nm.us

Jesse K. Tremaine jessek.tremaine@state.nm.us

Michael Feldewert <a href="mailto:mfeldewert@hollandhart.com">mfeldewert@hollandhart.com</a>

Adam Rankin *agrankin@hollandhart.com* 

Julia Broggi jbroggi@hollandhart.com

James Bruce

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

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

Action 77436

#### **QUESTIONS**

Operator:	OGRID:
MEWBOURNE OIL CO	14744
P.O. Box 5270	Action Number:
Hobbs, NM 88241	77436
	Action Type:
	[HEAR] Prehearing Statement (PREHEARING)

#### QUESTIONS

Testimony	
Please assist us by provide the following information about your testimony.	
Number of witnesses	Not answered.
Testimony time (in minutes)	Not answered.