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

APPLICATION OF ROCKWOOD RESOURCES, LLC, ET AL., TO REOPEN MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY'S POOLING CASE NO. 21390, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Reopen Case No. 22539 Re: Case No. 21390; Order No. R-12527

APPLICATION OF ROCKWOOD RESOURCES, LLC, ET AL., TO REOPEN MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY'S POOLING CASE NO. 21391, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Reopen Case No. 22540 Re: Case No. 21391; Order No. R-12528

MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY'S MOTION TO DISMISS APPLICATIONS AND RESPONSE TO MOTION TO ESTABLISH FACTS AND LEGAL CONCLUSIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF HOLDING AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING ON MARCH 3, 2022

For the reasons discussed below, the Applications filed by Rockwood Resources, LLC, Christine Brock, and Rebecca J. Babbitt (collectively "Rockwood") should be dismissed, and Rockwood's Motion to Establish Facts and Legal Conclusions for the Purpose of Holding an Evidentiary Hearing on March 3, 2022 ("Motion") should be denied.

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

On July 31, 2020, Mewbourne Oil Company ("Mewbourne") filed its applications to pool uncommitted interests within the Bone Spring formation in two 320-acre horizontal spacing units located in the N/2 of Sections 3 and 4, Township 18 South, Range 32 East in Lea County. In Case No. 21390, Mewbourne sought to pool interests in a 323.8-acre standard horizontal spacing unit comprised of the N/2 N/2 of Sections 3 and 4, and in Case No. 21391, Mewbourne sought to pool interests in a 320-acre standard horizontal spacing unit comprised of the S/2 N/2 of Sections 3 and 4. Following a hearing, the Oil Conservation Division ("Division" or "OCD") issued orders

approving Mewbourne's applications on November 13, 2020. In the orders, the Division concluded that Mewbourne "satisfied the notice requirements for the Application and the hearing as required by 19.15.4.12 NMAC." *See* Order Nos. R-21527, R-21528 ("Orders") (Exh. 1).

After the Orders were issued, Rockwood apparently acquired, or is seeking to acquire, pooled interests held by Christine Brock and Rebecca Babbitt, both of whom were unlocatable, and now seeks to reopen the orders approximately 15 months after they were issued. Rockwood's applications are defective and should be dismissed, as Rockwood lacks standing to challenge the Orders and Mewbourne satisfied the Division's notice requirements. In addition, allowing parties to knowingly acquire interests from unlocatable parties and then seek to reopen pooling orders months, and even years, after the orders were issued is contrary to public policy as set out in the Oil and Gas Act.

Rockwood also seeks to sidestep the Oil Conservation Division's ("Division" or "OCD") rules and hearing process by asking the Division to: (1) "establish facts and conclusions of law" based on unverified, inadmissible, and irrelevant documents; and (2) hold an evidentiary hearing – instead of a status conference – on the first docket setting for these cases. Rockwood's Applications should be dismissed, and the Division should deny Rockwood's Motion.

II. ARGUMENT

A. Rockwood lacks standing to challenge the Division's pooling orders as to Babbitt's interest in the Wells.

In these cases, Rockwood claims that Mewbourne inappropriately identified several pooled parties, including Ms. Brock and Ms. Babbitt, as unlocatable. As such, Rockwood alleges these parties suffered an injury due to their inability to exercise their right to participate in the Wells.

¹ Although Rockwood's Motion attempts to raise issues regarding the interest of Delbert R. Utter, Mr. Utter is not a party to Rockwood's applications. Rockwood's attempt to inject into this case matters regarding Mr. Utter is improper and should be rejected. Rockwood cannot amend its applications through a subsequently filed motion.

Rockwood claims it has standing to submit its applications since it is the owner of Christine Brock's ("Brock") and Rebecca Babbit's ("Babbit") interests "who were both deprived of actual notice and proper opportunity for election...." *See* Rockwood's Applications at 5. This claim has no merit, as it is undisputed that Mewbourne allowed Rockwood/Babbit to participate in the wells.

A complainant must meet the following elements to establish standing: (1) injury in fact, (2) causation, and (3) redressability. *See*, *e.g.*, *ACLU v. City of Albuquerque*, 2008-NMSC-045, ¶ 1, 144 N.M. 471. To establish an "injury in fact", a complainant must "show that he is injured or threatened with injury in a direct and concrete way . . ." *Id.* ¶ 19. This requirement is critical to a finding of justiciability:

While it does not matter how many persons have been injured by the challenged action, the party bringing suit must show that the action injures him in a concrete and personal way. This requirement is not just an empty formality. It preserves the vitality of the adversarial process by assuring both that the parties before the court have an actual, as opposed to a professed, stake in the outcome, and that the legal questions presented . . . will be resolved, not in the rarified atmosphere of a debating society, but in a concrete factual context conducive to a realistic appreciation of the consequences of judicial action.

Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife, 504 U.S. 555, 581 (1992) (Kennedy, concurring).

Babbitt/Rockwood fail to satisfy this requirement. They have suffered no injury, as Rockwood's Applications concede that Rockwood acquired Babbitt's interests in the Wells and executed an agreement with Mewbourne to participate in and commit its interest to Mewbourne's Wells. *See* Rockwood's Applications at 3; *see also* Affidavit of Mitch Robb (Exh. 2). Accordingly, Rockwood is no longer subject to the pooling Orders with respect to Babbitt's interest, and there is no invasion of any legally protected interest. Rockwood/Babbitt lack standing, and considering their claim would waste resources of the parties and the Division.

B. Mewbourne Satisfied the Division's Notice Requirements.

Rockwood argues that Mewbourne's notices to Brock and Babbitt were defective because Mewbourne did not "exercise reasonable diligence" to locate the individuals as required by 19.15.4.12(B) NMAC. See Motion at 6. But the Division's rules and "reasonable diligence" do not require the type of search undertaken by Rockwood's counsel at some unknown time and for an unknown number of hours. Rule 19.15.4.12(1)(a) NMAC provides that a compulsory pooling applicant "shall give notice to each owner of an interest in the mineral estate of any portion of the lands the applicant proposes to be pooled or unitized whose interest is evidenced by a written conveyance document either of record or known to the applicant at the time the applicant filed the application...." Rule 19.15.4.12(B) goes on to state that "[w]hen an applicant has been unable to locate persons entitled to notice after exercising reasonable diligence, the applicant shall provide notice by publication, and submit proof of publication at the hearing."

Mewbourne complied with these requirements. *See* Exh. 2. In fact, Rockwood concedes that Mewbourne sent notice to Ms. Brock at the address contained in the BLM serial register *and* in county records. *See* Motion at ¶ 11 and Exhibit A. Thus, Rockwood's Motion demonstrates that there is no basis for its applications and that they should be dismissed.

Rockwood relies on *Uhden v. N.M. Oil Cons. Comm'n*, 1991-NMSC-089, to support the proposition that Mewbourne did not exercise reasonable diligence in locating Brock, Babbit, or Utter. *See* Motion at 8-9. The *Uhden* Court considered whether "royalty interests reserved by the lessor or an oil and gas estate were materially affected by a state proceeding so as to entitle the lessor to actual notice of the proceedings." 1991-NMSC-089, ¶ 2. After determining that the royalty interest reserved by the lessor created a property interest subject to due process protection, the Court undertook an analysis of whether the owner was entitled to actual notice, or whether

notice by publication would satisfy constitutional due process requirements. Id. at ¶¶ 8-13. The Court of Appeals held that "if a party's identity and whereabouts are known or could be ascertained through due diligence, the due process clause of the New Mexico and United States Constitutions requires the party who filed a[n]...application to provide notice of the pending proceeding by personal service to such parties whose property rights may be affected as a result." Id. at ¶ 13.

The *Uhden* owner's identity and whereabouts were known to the party who filed the application at issue, yet the applicant did not attempt to provide notice to the owner. *Id.* Similarly, in *Cravens v. Corp. Comm'n, et al.*, 613 P.2d 442 (Okla. 1980), a case relied on by the Court of Appeals in reaching the *Uhden* decision, an application was made to Oklahoma's state commission for an increase in well spacing. "Although the applicants knew the identify and whereabouts of a well operator whose interests would be affected by a change in spacing, they made no attempt to provide actual notice," and the *Cravens* court "held that when the names and addresses of affected parties are known, or are easily ascertainable by the exercise of diligence, notice by publication does not satisfy constitutional due process requirements. *Uhden*, 1991-NMSC-089, ¶ 12 (citing *Cravens*, 613 P.2d at 444).

The instant case is readily distinguished from *Uhden* and *Cravens*. Unlike the applicants in those cases, Mewbourne exercised "reasonable diligence" and sent notice to the "last known address of the person to whom notice is to be given" with respect to its applications at issue in Case Nos. 21390 and 21391. *See* 19.15.4.12(B) NMRA. "Reasonable diligence" has been defined by the New Mexico Court of Appeals as an action that an "individual of ordinary prudence would undertake under the circumstances in order to be successful." *See Fulton v. Cornelius*, 1998-NMCA-057, ¶ 21. Rockwood admits in its Motion that Mewbourne sent notice to addresses derived from the Bureau of Land Management's ("BLM") Serial Register. *See* Motion at 5, ¶ 8.

In the case of an OCD compulsory pooling application, sending out notices to the individuals found in a title search and in the BLM's Serial Register for interest owners is "reasonable diligence." Rockwood, however, would like to impose a much more burdensome search requirement on applicants.

In its exhibits, Rockwood takes the OCD on a tour of the substantial amount of effort it took to locate Brock, Babbitt, and Utter. Rockwood's exhibits show that they located several different Christine Brocks with different middle names, middle initials, and addresses on the internet, and all of which are different from the Power of Attorney attached as Exhibit A-1 for the real Christine T. Brock. See Exhibits A-1 through A-6 to Rockwood's Motion (providing for a Christine C. Brock, Christine Patterson Brock, Christine P. Brock, and Christine V. Brock). Rockwood's exhibits also show that Ms. Babbitt's name was misspelled on the BLM's Serial Register, and she was finally discovered after searching several variations of her name. See Exhibit B to Rockwood's Motion. Finally, Rockwood finds fault with the notice given to Utter, who is deceased, because Mewbourne did not attempt to find names and addresses for all of Utter's potential next-of-kin because "reasonable diligence requires an inference that a 98 year-old man may be deceased or living with a relative, and therefore a search of the listed relatives" found online would have been necessary. See Exhibit C to Rockwood's Motion. This is a step too far as the Rule clearly provides that notice is only required to be given to each owner of an interest "whose interest is evidenced by a written conveyance document either or record or known to the

² As discussed below, Rockwood's exhibits are inadmissible, unauthenticated hearsay that should not be considered by the OCD.

applicant at the time the applicant filed the application." 19.15.4.12(A)(1)(a) NMAC. Mewbourne complied with this requirement.

Rockwood also claims that during a recent hearing in Case No. 22421, the OCD "expressed reservations that the owners of 16 acres...should be considered unlocatable given that federal lands were involved and leads to the owners' whereabouts are provided by federal records." *Id.* During the hearing, the Hearing Examiner inquired about the efforts the applicant had undertaken to find owners of property that had no mailing addresses. *See* Transcript of 2/6/22 hearing for Case No. 22421 (Exh. 3) at pg. 13, ln. 13-20. The applicant explained that they tried to locate the interest owners in title records and multiple public records searches but was unsuccessful. *See* Exh. 3 at pg. 13, ln. 21-25, pg. 14, ln. 1-17. Ultimately, the OCD concluded that the applicant satisfied the notice requirements for the application and the hearing as required by 19.15.4.12 NMAC and issued its Order (Order No. R-22020) pooling all uncommitted interests in the Unit. *See* Order No. R-22020 (Exh. 4).

Because Mewbourne complied with the notice requirements set out in 19.15.4.12 NMAC, Case Nos. 22539 and 21391 should not be reopened as requested by Rockwood. Rockwood's applications should be dismissed, and Rockwood's "Findings of fact" and "Conclusions of law" set out in Exhibit D to its Motion should be rejected.

C. Rockwood's attempt to challenge pooling orders over a year after they were issued, when it knowingly acquired interests that were pooled as unlocatable, is contrary to the Oil and Gas Act.

The Babbitt and Brock interests were identified as unlocatable in Mewbourne's hearing exhibits in Case Nos. 21390 and 21391, and the Orders were issued 15 months ago. Rockwood apparently expended significant effort to track down Ms. Babbitt and Ms. Brock when it knew their interests had been deemed unlocatable, sought to acquire their interests long after the orders

were issued, and now seeks to undo the orders. This conduct should not be permitted, as it is inconsistent with the Division's obligation under the Oil and Gas Act to protect correlative rights and prevent waste. NMSA 1978, § 70-2-11. Mewbourne's correlative rights are predicated on its ability to develop its acreage as the Division has allowed. Companies like Rockwood should not be permitted to track down unlocatable parties months or years after pooling orders were issued and then seek to nullify the orders. This result would call into question any pooling order that involves unlocatable parties and thereby interfere with the Division's pooling authority.

D. Rockwood's request to proceed directly to an evidentiary hearing in lieu of a status conference is contrary to OCD procedure and should be denied.

Rockwood requests that the OCD hold an evidentiary hearing on this matter on March 3, 2022, instead of a status conference. *See* Motion at 10, ¶ 20. In doing so, Rockwood asks the OCD to bypass the procedure put in place on July 22, 2020 for OCD hearings scheduled on or after August 6, 2020. *See* 7/22/20 Notice (Exh. 5). The OCD Notice provides that "[i]f the parties do not concur that the case may be taken by affidavit, and do not agree to continue the case, the Hearing Examiner will conduct a status conference, set the case for an electronic hearing, and direct the parties to submit a pre-hearing order setting forth the dates on which they will submit to OCD and exchange" information between the parties. Exh. 5 at pg. 1, 2. There is simply no basis for the OCD to upend its hearing procedures for two individuals who were contacted at some unknown time so Rockwood could attempt to reopen cases and nullify Orders issued by the OCD well over a year ago. And in any event, Rockwood's applications should be dismissed.

E. Rockwood's exhibits are unreliable and should be stricken.

The Division uses the Rules of Evidence as guidance in conducting adjudicatory hearings, and the Division's rules provide that an examiner may admit relevant evidence unless it is immaterial, repetitious, or otherwise unreliable." 19.15.4.17(A) NMAC. The exhibits attached to

Rockwood's Motion are unreliable and immaterial and should be stricken. *See Carter v. Burn Constr. Co.*, 1973-NMCA-156, ¶ 12 (striking recitations of what witnesses had told affiant, unauthenticated copies of accident report and death certificate).

If a party seeks to offer evidence through exhibits, the exhibits generally "must be identified by affidavit or otherwise made admissible in evidence." Cox v. Nat'l Football League, 29 F.Supp.2d 463, 467 (N.D. Ill. 1998) (quoting Martz v. Union Labor Life Insurance Co., 757 F.2d 135, 138 (7th Cir. 1985). Rockwood provides no affidavit, but rather Rockwood's counsel's own notes as to what process he used to locate Brock, Babbitt, and Utter. The failure to authenticate the printouts from various search websites renders the documents inadmissible as evidence in support of Rockwood's Motion and Rockwood's reliance on them is improper. See Rule 11-901 NMRA; see, e.g., Bank of Am. NA v. Quintana, No. 33,611, 2014 WL 809199, at *5 (N.M. Feb. 27, 2014) (citing Levy v. Disharoon, 1988–NMSC–009, ¶ 20, 106 N.M. 699, which rejected the admissibility of letters, reports, sales agreements, and other documents kept by a title company because no custodian of records testified about the documents' trustworthiness as required by Rule 11–803)); Mealand v. Eastern N.M. Med. Ctr., 2001-NMCA-089, ¶ 22, 131 N.M. 65, 73 (court is "required to disregard" unauthenticated exhibits); see Kelly v. Johns-Manville Corp., 590 F.Supp. 1089, 1097 (E.D. Penn. 1984) (for purposes of summary judgment, court could not consider letter because it did not qualify as an affidavit, nor did defendants authenticate the letter with an affidavit by the person who wrote the letter).

Furthermore, the printouts attached to Rockwood's motion are not time-stamped or dated and do not, in any respect, establish that the information was available at the time Mewbourne filed its applications, which is the relevant inquiry under the Division's rules. In fact, the exhibits

only demonstrate how difficult it was to locate Ms. Babbitt and Ms. Brock and confirm that Mewbourne's actions were reasonable.

Rockwood's exhibits also contain unauthenticated hearsay. Hearsay "consists of an out-of-court statement offered to prove the truth of the matter asserted, and is inadmissible as substantive evidence unless it falls within an exclusion or exception to the hearsay rule." *State v. Largo*, 2012-NMSC-015, ¶ 24 (internal quotation marks and citation omitted); *see* Rule 11–801(C) NMRA (defining hearsay as "a statement, other than one made by the declarant while testifying at the trial or hearing, offered in evidence to prove the truth of the matter asserted"); Rule 11–802 NMRA (providing "[h]earsay is not admissible except as provided by these rules or by other rules adopted by the supreme court or by statute"). Rockwood's counsel's annotations outlining various internet search constitutes inadmissible hearsay as it is an out-of-court statement that is being offered to prove the truth of the matter asserted – that Brock, Babbitt, and Utter were able to be located – and should be disregarded by the OCD.

Because Rockwood's exhibits are unauthenticated, are unreliable, and constitute inadmissible hearsay, they should be stricken.

III. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

For the reasons set forth herein, Mewbourne respectfully request the OCD dismiss Rockwood's applications and deny Rockwood's Motion.

Respectfully submitted,

HINKLE SHANOR LLP

/s/ Dana S. Hardy

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on February 21, 2022, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing to be emailed to:

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/s/ Dana S. Hardy
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STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION FOR COMPULSORY POOLING SUBMITTED BY MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY

CASE NO. 21390 ORDER NO. R-21527

ORDER

The Director of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division ("OCD"), having heard this matter through a Hearing Examiner on November 3, 2020, and after considering the testimony, evidence, and recommendation of the Hearing Examiner, issues the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Mewbourne Oil Company ("Operator") submitted an application ("Application") to compulsory pool the uncommitted oil and gas interests within the spacing unit ("Unit") described in Exhibit A. The Unit is expected to be a standard horizontal spacing unit. 19.15.16.15(B) NMAC. Operator seeks to be designated the operator of the Unit.
- 2. Operator will dedicate the well(s) described in Exhibit A ("Well(s)") to the Unit.
- 3. Operator proposes the supervision and risk charges for the Well(s) described in Exhibit A.
- 4. Operator identified the owners of uncommitted interests in oil and gas minerals in the Unit and provided evidence that notice was given.
- 5. The Application was heard by the Hearing Examiner on the date specified above, during which Operator presented evidence through affidavits in support of the Application. No other party presented evidence at the hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 6. OCD has jurisdiction to issue this Order pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 70-2-17.
- 7. Operator is the owner of an oil and gas working interest within the Unit.
- 8. Operator satisfied the notice requirements for the Application and the hearing as required by 19.15.4.12 NMAC.

EXHIBIT 1

- 9. OCD satisfied the notice requirements for the hearing as required by 19.15.4.9 NMAC.
- 10. Operator has the right to drill the Well(s) to a common source of supply at the depth(s) and location(s) in the Unit described in Exhibit A.
- 11. The Unit contains separately owned uncommitted interests in oil and gas minerals.
- 12. Some of the owners of the uncommitted interests have not agreed to commit their interests to the Unit.
- 13. The pooling of uncommitted interests in the Unit will prevent waste and protect correlative rights, including the drilling of unnecessary wells.
- 14. This Order affords to the owner of an uncommitted interest the opportunity to produce his just and equitable share of the oil or gas in the pool.

ORDER

- 15. The uncommitted interests in the Unit are pooled as set forth in Exhibit A.
- 16. The Unit shall be dedicated to the Well(s) set forth in Exhibit A.
- 17. Operator is designated as operator of the Unit and the Well(s).
- 18. If the location of a well will be unorthodox under the spacing rules in effect at the time of completion, Operator shall obtain the OCD's approval for a non-standard location in accordance with 19.15.16.15(C) NMAC.
- 19. The Operator shall commence drilling the Well(s) within one year after the date of this Order, and complete each Well no later than one (1) year after the commencement of drilling the Well.
- 20. This Order shall terminate automatically if Operator fails to comply with Paragraph 19 unless Operator obtains an extension by amending this Order for good cause shown.
- 21. The infill well requirements in 19.15.13.9 NMAC through 19.15.13.12 NMAC shall be applicable.
- 22. Operator shall submit each owner of an uncommitted working interest in the pool ("Pooled Working Interest") an itemized schedule of estimated costs to drill, complete, and equip the well ("Estimated Well Costs").
- 23. No later than thirty (30) days after Operator submits the Estimated Well Costs, the owner of a Pooled Working Interest shall elect whether to pay its share of the Estimated Well Costs or its share of the actual costs to drill, complete and equip the

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well ("Actual Well Costs") out of production from the well. An owner of a Pooled Working Interest who elects to pay its share of the Estimated Well Costs shall render payment to Operator no later than thirty (30) days after the expiration of the election period, and shall be liable for operating costs, but not risk charges, for the well. An owner of a Pooled Working Interest who fails to pay its share of the Estimated Well Costs or who elects to pay its share of the Actual Well Costs out of production from the well shall be considered to be a "Non-Consenting Pooled Working Interest."

- 24. No later than one hundred eighty (180) days after Operator submits a Form C-105 for a well, Operator shall submit to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest an itemized schedule of the Actual Well Costs. The Actual Well Costs shall be considered to be the Reasonable Well Costs unless an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a written objection no later than forty-five (45) days after receipt of the schedule. If an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a timely written objection, OCD shall determine the Reasonable Well Costs after public notice and hearing.
- 25. No later than sixty (60) days after the expiration of the period to file a written objection to the Actual Well Costs or OCD's order determining the Reasonable Well Costs, whichever is later, each owner of a Pooled Working Interest who paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs shall pay to Operator its share of the Reasonable Well Costs that exceed the Estimated Well Costs, or Operator shall pay to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest who paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs its share of the Estimated Well Costs that exceed the Reasonable Well Costs.
- 26. The reasonable charges for supervision to drill and produce a well ("Supervision Charges") shall not exceed the rates specified in Exhibit A, provided however that the rates shall be adjusted annually pursuant to the COPAS form entitled "Accounting Procedure-Joint Operations."
- 27. No later than within ninety (90) days after Operator submits a Form C-105 for a well, Operator shall submit to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest an itemized schedule of the reasonable charges for operating and maintaining the well ("Operating Charges"), provided however that Operating Charges shall not include the Reasonable Well Costs or Supervision Charges. The Operating Charges shall be considered final unless an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a written objection no later than forty-five (45) days after receipt of the schedule. If an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a timely written objection, OCD shall determine the Operating Charges after public notice and hearing.
- 28. Operator may withhold the following costs and charges from the share of production due to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest who paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs: (a) the proportionate share of the Supervision Charges; and (b) the proportionate share of the Operating Charges.

- 29. Operator may withhold the following costs and charges from the share of production due to each owner of a Non-Consenting Pooled Working Interest: (a) the proportionate share of the Reasonable Well Costs; (b) the proportionate share of the Supervision and Operating Charges; and (c) the percentage of the Reasonable Well Costs specified as the charge for risk described in Exhibit A.
- 30. Operator shall distribute a proportionate share of the costs and charges withheld pursuant to paragraph 29 to each Pooled Working Interest that paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs.
- 31. Each year on the anniversary of this Order, and no later than ninety (90) days after each payout, Operator shall provide to each owner of a Non-Consenting Pooled Working Interest a schedule of the revenue attributable to a well and the Supervision and Operating Costs charged against that revenue.
- 32. Any cost or charge that is paid out of production shall be withheld only from the share due to an owner of a Pooled Working Interest. No cost or charge shall be withheld from the share due to an owner of a royalty interests. For the purpose of this Order, an unleased mineral interest shall consist of a seven-eighths (7/8) working interest and a one-eighth (1/8) royalty interest.
- 33. Except as provided above, Operator shall hold the revenue attributable to a well that is not disbursed for any reason for the account of the person(s) entitled to the revenue as provided in the Oil and Gas Proceeds Payment Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 70-10-1 *et seq.*, and relinquish such revenue as provided in the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 7-8A-1 *et seq.*
- 34. The Unit shall terminate if (a) the owners of all Pooled Working Interests reach a voluntary agreement; or (b) the well(s) drilled on the Unit are plugged and abandoned in accordance with the applicable rules. Operator shall inform OCD no later than thirty (30) days after such occurrence.
- 35. OCD retains jurisdiction of this matter for the entry of such orders as may be deemed necessary.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
ADRIENNE SANDOVAL
DIRECTOR

Date:

11/13/2020

CASE NO. 21390 ORDER NO. R-21527

AES/jag

Exhibit A

ALL INFORMATION IN THE APPLICATION MUST	BE SUPPORTED BY SIGNED AFFIDAVITS	
Case: #21390	APPLICANT'S RESPONSE	
Date: November 3, 2020		
Applicant	Mewbourne Oil Company	
Designated Operator & OGRID (affiliation if applicable)	Mewbourne Oil Company, 14744	
Applicant's Counsel:	Hinkle Shanor LLP, Dana S. Hardy	
Case Title:	APPLICATION OF MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO	
Entries of Appearance/Intervenors:	MRC Permian, LLC	
Well Family	Eastwatch	
Formation/Pool		
Formation Name(s) or Vertical Extent:	Bone Spring Formation	
Primary Product (Oil or Gas):	Oil	
Pooling this vertical extent:	Bone Spring Formation	
Pool Name and Pool Code:	Young Bone Spring North Pool, Code 65350	
Well Location Setback Rules:	Standard Oil, 100' setback	
Spacing Unit Size:	40 acres	
Spacing Unit		
Type (Horizontal/Vertical)	Horizontal	
Size (Acres)	323.8 acres	
Building Blocks:	40 acres	
Orientation:	West to East	
Description: TRS/County	N/2 N/2 Sections 3 and 4, Township 18 South, Range 32 East, Lea County	
Standard Horizontal Well Spacing Unit (Y/N), If No, describe	Yes	
Other Situations		
Depth Severance: Y/N. If yes, description	No	
Proximity Tracts: If yes, description	No	
Proximity Defining Well: if yes, description	No	
Applicant's Ownership in Each Tract	Exhibit A-5	
Vell(s)		
Name & API (if assigned), surface and bottom hole location, ootages, completion target, orientation, completion status standard or non-standard)		

Well #1	Eastwatch 4/3 B2DA Fed Com #1H (API # unassigned); SHL: 2140' FNL & 300' FWL (Sec. 4); BHL: 660' FNL & 100' FEL (Sec. 3); laydown; standard
Well #2	
Horizontal Well First and Last Take Points	FTP: 660' FNL and 100' FWL (Sec. 4); LTP: 660' FNL & 100' FEL (Sec. 3)
Completion Target (Formation, TVD and MD)	Bone Spring Formation; TVD: 8,350'; MD: 17,330'
AFE Capex and Operating Costs	
Drilling Supervision/Month \$	\$8,000, Exhibit A
Production Supervision/Month \$	\$800, Exhibit A
Justification for Supervision Costs	Exhibit A
Requested Risk Charge	200%, Exhibit A
Notice of Hearing	
Proposed Notice of Hearing	Exhibit A-8
Proof of Mailed Notice of Hearing (20 days before hearing)	Exhibit A-9
Proof of Published Notice of Hearing (10 days before hearing)	Exhibit A-10
Ownership Determination	
Land Ownership Schematic of the Spacing Unit	Exhibit A-3
Tract List (including lease numbers and owners)	Exhibit A-5
Pooled Parties (including ownership type)	Exhibit A-5
Unlocatable Parties to be Pooled	Exhibit A-5
Ownership Depth Severance (including percentage above & bel	ov N/A
loinder	
Sample Copy of Proposal Letter	Exhibit A-6
List of Interest Owners (ie Exhibit A of JOA)	Exhibit A-5
Chronology of Contact with Non-Joined Working Interests	Exhibit A-7
Overhead Rates In Proposal Letter	Exhibits A, A-6

Exhibit A-11
EXHIBIT A-11
Exhibit A-11
Exhibit B
Exhibits B-1, B-2
Exhibit B-6
Exhibit B
Exhibit B
Exhibit B-4
Exhibit B
Pending
Exhibit A-3
Exhibits A-3, A-4, A-5
Exhibit B-1
Exhibits B-1, B-2
Exhibit B-2
Exhibit B-2
Exhibit B-4
No special provision/stipulations

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION FOR COMPULSORY POOLING SUBMITTED BY MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY

CASE NO. 21391 ORDER NO. R-21528

ORDER

The Director of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division ("OCD"), having heard this matter through a Hearing Examiner on November 3, 2020, and after considering the testimony, evidence, and recommendation of the Hearing Examiner, issues the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Mewbourne Oil Company ("Operator") submitted an application ("Application") to compulsory pool the uncommitted oil and gas interests within the spacing unit ("Unit") described in Exhibit A. The Unit is expected to be a standard horizontal spacing unit. 19.15.16.15(B) NMAC. Operator seeks to be designated the operator of the Unit.
- 2. Operator will dedicate the well(s) described in Exhibit A ("Well(s)") to the Unit.
- 3. Operator proposes the supervision and risk charges for the Well(s) described in Exhibit A.
- 4. Operator identified the owners of uncommitted interests in oil and gas minerals in the Unit and provided evidence that notice was given.
- 5. The Application was heard by the Hearing Examiner on the date specified above, during which Operator presented evidence through affidavits in support of the Application. No other party presented evidence at the hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 6. OCD has jurisdiction to issue this Order pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 70-2-17.
- 7. Operator is the owner of an oil and gas working interest within the Unit.
- 8. Operator satisfied the notice requirements for the Application and the hearing as required by 19.15.4.12 NMAC.

- 9. OCD satisfied the notice requirements for the hearing as required by 19.15.4.9 NMAC.
- 10. Operator has the right to drill the Well(s) to a common source of supply at the depth(s) and location(s) in the Unit described in Exhibit A.
- 11. The Unit contains separately owned uncommitted interests in oil and gas minerals.
- 12. Some of the owners of the uncommitted interests have not agreed to commit their interests to the Unit.
- 13. The pooling of uncommitted interests in the Unit will prevent waste and protect correlative rights, including the drilling of unnecessary wells.
- 14. This Order affords to the owner of an uncommitted interest the opportunity to produce his just and equitable share of the oil or gas in the pool.

ORDER

- 15. The uncommitted interests in the Unit are pooled as set forth in Exhibit A.
- 16. The Unit shall be dedicated to the Well(s) set forth in Exhibit A.
- 17. Operator is designated as operator of the Unit and the Well(s).
- 18. If the location of a well will be unorthodox under the spacing rules in effect at the time of completion, Operator shall obtain the OCD's approval for a non-standard location in accordance with 19.15.16.15(C) NMAC.
- 19. The Operator shall commence drilling the Well(s) within one year after the date of this Order, and complete each Well no later than one (1) year after the commencement of drilling the Well.
- 20. This Order shall terminate automatically if Operator fails to comply with Paragraph 19 unless Operator obtains an extension by amending this Order for good cause shown.
- 21. The infill well requirements in 19.15.13.9 NMAC through 19.15.13.12 NMAC shall be applicable.
- 22. Operator shall submit each owner of an uncommitted working interest in the pool ("Pooled Working Interest") an itemized schedule of estimated costs to drill, complete, and equip the well ("Estimated Well Costs").
- 23. No later than thirty (30) days after Operator submits the Estimated Well Costs, the owner of a Pooled Working Interest shall elect whether to pay its share of the Estimated Well Costs or its share of the actual costs to drill, complete and equip the

CASE NO. 21391 ORDER NO. R-21528

Page 2 of **7**

well ("Actual Well Costs") out of production from the well. An owner of a Pooled Working Interest who elects to pay its share of the Estimated Well Costs shall render payment to Operator no later than thirty (30) days after the expiration of the election period, and shall be liable for operating costs, but not risk charges, for the well. An owner of a Pooled Working Interest who fails to pay its share of the Estimated Well Costs or who elects to pay its share of the Actual Well Costs out of production from the well shall be considered to be a "Non-Consenting Pooled Working Interest."

- 24. No later than one hundred eighty (180) days after Operator submits a Form C-105 for a well, Operator shall submit to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest an itemized schedule of the Actual Well Costs. The Actual Well Costs shall be considered to be the Reasonable Well Costs unless an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a written objection no later than forty-five (45) days after receipt of the schedule. If an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a timely written objection, OCD shall determine the Reasonable Well Costs after public notice and hearing.
- 25. No later than sixty (60) days after the expiration of the period to file a written objection to the Actual Well Costs or OCD's order determining the Reasonable Well Costs, whichever is later, each owner of a Pooled Working Interest who paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs shall pay to Operator its share of the Reasonable Well Costs that exceed the Estimated Well Costs, or Operator shall pay to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest who paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs its share of the Estimated Well Costs that exceed the Reasonable Well Costs.
- 26. The reasonable charges for supervision to drill and produce a well ("Supervision Charges") shall not exceed the rates specified in Exhibit A, provided however that the rates shall be adjusted annually pursuant to the COPAS form entitled "Accounting Procedure-Joint Operations."
- 27. No later than within ninety (90) days after Operator submits a Form C-105 for a well, Operator shall submit to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest an itemized schedule of the reasonable charges for operating and maintaining the well ("Operating Charges"), provided however that Operating Charges shall not include the Reasonable Well Costs or Supervision Charges. The Operating Charges shall be considered final unless an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a written objection no later than forty-five (45) days after receipt of the schedule. If an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a timely written objection, OCD shall determine the Operating Charges after public notice and hearing.
- 28. Operator may withhold the following costs and charges from the share of production due to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest who paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs: (a) the proportionate share of the Supervision Charges; and (b) the proportionate share of the Operating Charges.

- 29. Operator may withhold the following costs and charges from the share of production due to each owner of a Non-Consenting Pooled Working Interest: (a) the proportionate share of the Reasonable Well Costs; (b) the proportionate share of the Supervision and Operating Charges; and (c) the percentage of the Reasonable Well Costs specified as the charge for risk described in Exhibit A.
- 30. Operator shall distribute a proportionate share of the costs and charges withheld pursuant to paragraph 29 to each Pooled Working Interest that paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs.
- 31. Each year on the anniversary of this Order, and no later than ninety (90) days after each payout, Operator shall provide to each owner of a Non-Consenting Pooled Working Interest a schedule of the revenue attributable to a well and the Supervision and Operating Costs charged against that revenue.
- 32. Any cost or charge that is paid out of production shall be withheld only from the share due to an owner of a Pooled Working Interest. No cost or charge shall be withheld from the share due to an owner of a royalty interests. For the purpose of this Order, an unleased mineral interest shall consist of a seven-eighths (7/8) working interest and a one-eighth (1/8) royalty interest.
- 33. Except as provided above, Operator shall hold the revenue attributable to a well that is not disbursed for any reason for the account of the person(s) entitled to the revenue as provided in the Oil and Gas Proceeds Payment Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 70-10-1 *et seq.*, and relinquish such revenue as provided in the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 7-8A-1 *et seq.*
- 34. The Unit shall terminate if (a) the owners of all Pooled Working Interests reach a voluntary agreement; or (b) the well(s) drilled on the Unit are plugged and abandoned in accordance with the applicable rules. Operator shall inform OCD no later than thirty (30) days after such occurrence.
- 35. OCD retains jurisdiction of this matter for the entry of such orders as may be deemed necessary.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

ADRIENNE SANDOVAL DIRECTOR

AES/jag

Date: 11/13/2020

Exhibit A

ALL INFORMATION IN THE APPLICATION MUST	BE SUPPORTED BY SIGNED AFFIDAVITS	
Case: #21391	APPLICANT'S RESPONSE	
Date: November 3, 2020		
Applicant	Mewbourne Oil Company	
Designated Operator & OGRID (affiliation if applicable)	Mewbourne Oil Company, 14744	
Applicant's Counsel:	Hinkle Shanor LLP, Dana S. Hardy	
Case Title:	APPLICATION OF MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO	
Entries of Appearance/Intervenors:	MRC Permian, LLC	
Well Family	Eastwatch	
Formation/Pool		
Formation Name(s) or Vertical Extent:	Bone Spring Formation	
Primary Product (Oil or Gas):	Oil	
Pooling this vertical extent:	Bone Spring Formation	
Pool Name and Pool Code:	Young Bone Spring North Pool, Code 65350	
Well Location Setback Rules:	Standard Oil, 100' setback	
Spacing Unit Size:	40 acres	
Spacing Unit		
Type (Horizontal/Vertical)	Horizontal	
Size (Acres)	320 acres	
Building Blocks:	40 acres	
Orientation:	West to East	
Description: TRS/County	S/2 N/2 Sections 3 and 4, Township 18 South, Range 32 East, Lea County	
Standard Horizontal Well Spacing Unit (Y/N), If No, describe	Yes	
Other Situations		
Depth Severance: Y/N. If yes, description	No	
Proximity Tracts: If yes, description	No	
Proximity Defining Well: if yes, description	No	
Applicant's Ownership in Each Tract	Exhibit A-5	
Well(s) Name & API (if assigned), surface and bottom hole location, ootages, completion target, orientation, completion status standard or non-standard)		

Well #1	Eastwatch 4/3 B2EH Fed Com #1H (API # unassigned); SHL: 2170' FNL & 300' FWL (Sec. 4); BHL: 1980' FNL & 100' FEL (Sec. 3); laydown; standard
Well #2	
Horizontal Well First and Last Take Points	FTP: 1980' FNL and 100' FWL (Sec. 4); LTP: 1980' FNL & 100' FEL (Sec. 3)
Completion Target (Formation, TVD and MD)	Bone Spring Formation; TVD: 8,530'; MD: 17,480'
AFE Capex and Operating Costs	
Drilling Supervision/Month \$	\$8,000, Exhibit A
Production Supervision/Month \$	\$800, Exhibit A
Justification for Supervision Costs	Exhibit A
Requested Risk Charge	200%, Exhibit A
Notice of Hearing	
Proposed Notice of Hearing	Exhibit A-8
Proof of Mailed Notice of Hearing (20 days before hearing)	Exhibit A-9
Proof of Published Notice of Hearing (10 days before hearing)	Exhibit A-10
Ownership Determination	
Land Ownership Schematic of the Spacing Unit	Exhibit A-3
Tract List (including lease numbers and owners)	Exhibit A-5
Pooled Parties (including ownership type)	Exhibit A-5
Unlocatable Parties to be Pooled	Exhibit A-5
Ownership Depth Severance (including percentage above & belo loinder	N/A
Sample Copy of Proposal Letter	Exhibit A-6
List of Interest Owners (ie Exhibit A of JOA)	Exhibit A-5
Chronology of Contact with Non-Joined Working Interests	Exhibit A-7
Overhead Rates In Proposal Letter	Exhibits A, A-6

	Exhibit A-11	
Cost Estimate to Equip Well	Exhibit A-11	
Cost Estimate for Production Facilities	Exhibit A-11	
Geology		
Summary (including special considerations)	Exhibit B	
Spacing Unit Schematic	Exhibits B-1, B-2	
Gunbarrel/Lateral Trajectory Schematic	Exhibit B-6	
Well Orientation (with rationale)	Exhibit B	
Target Formation	Exhibit B	
HSU Cross Section	Exhibit B-4	
Depth Severance Discussion	Exhibit B	
Forms, Figures and Tables		
C-102	Pending	
Tracts	Exhibit A-3	
Summary of Interests, Unit Recapitulation (Tracts)	Exhibits A-3, A-4, A-5	
General Location Map (including basin)	Exhibit B-1	
Well Bore Location Map	Exhibits B-1, B-2	
Structure Contour Map - Subsea Depth	Exhibit B-2	
Cross Section Location Map (including wells)	Exhibit B-2	
Cross Section (including Landing Zone)	Exhibit B-4	
Additional Information	No special provision/stipulations	

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

APPLICATIONS OF ROCKWOOD RESOURCES, LLC, et al., TO REOPEN MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY'S POOLING CASE NO. 21390, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 22539

APPLICATIONS OF ROCKWOOD RESOURCES, LLC, et al., TO REOPEN MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY'S POOLING CASE NO. 21391, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 22540

SELF-AFFIRMED STATEMENT OF MITCH ROBB

- 1. I am a landman for Mewbourne Oil Company ("Mewbourne"). I am over 18 years of age, have personal knowledge of the matters addressed herein, and am competent to provide this Self-Affirmed Statement. I have previously testified before the Division, and my qualifications as an expert in petroleum land matters were accepted.
- I am familiar with the applications filed by Mewbourne in Case Nos. 21930 and
 21391 that pertain to the above-referenced cases.
- 3. On November 13, 2020, the Division issued Order Nos. R-21527 and R-21528 ("Orders") in Case Nos. 21390 and 21391 ("Cases"), respectively. The Orders pooled all uncommitted interests within the Bone Spring formation in a 323.8-acre standard horizontal spacing unit comprised of the N/2N/2 of Sections 3 and 4, Township 18 South, Range 32 East in Lea County, New Mexico (Case No. 21390) and a 320-acre standard horizontal spacing unit comprised of the S/2N/2 of Sections 3 and 4, Township 18 South, Range 32 East in Lea County, New Mexico (Case No. 21391) (collectively referred to as the "Units"). The Orders further dedicated the Units to Mewbourne's Eastwatch 4/3 B2DA Fed Com #1H and Eastwatch 4/3 B2EH

EXHIBIT 2

1

Fed Com #1H wells (collectively referred to as the "Wells") and designated Mewbourne as Operator of the Units and Wells.

- 4. Mewbourne used due diligence to attempt to locate all affected owners subject to compulsory pooling in Mewbourne's applications, including Christine Brock ("Brock") and Rebecca J. Babbitt ("Babbitt").
- 5. Mewbourne located Christine Brock through the BLM Serial Register and sent a well proposal and hearing notice to the address contained therein. Mewbourne also searched county records and made numerous phone calls in an attempt to locate Ms. Brock. See Exh. A-7 in Case Nos. 21390 and 21391.
- 6. Mewbourne attempted to locate Ms. Babbitt by searching county records but was unable to confirm a valid address. Mewbourne also made numerous phone calls in an attempt to locate Ms. Babbitt. See Exh. A-7 in Case Nos. 21390 and 21391. Regardless, Rockwood purchased Babbitt's interests within the Units and executed an agreement with Mewbourne wherein Rockwood elected to participate in and commit the interests it acquired from Babbitt to Mewbourne's Wells, subject to Rockwood's ability to resolve title defects.
- 7. Notice of Mewbourne's applications and the Division hearing was provided to all interested parties entitled to notice of its applications at least 20 days prior to the hearing date via certified mail at the parties' most recent addresses. *See* Exhibit A-9 in Case Nos. 21390 and 21391. A certified mail response card was received on the mailing to Ms. Babbitt, although it was unsigned. *See id*.
- 8. Additionally, Mewbourne timely published notice of hearing of its application in Lea County and listed Babbitt and Brock as affected parties subject to compulsory pooling. *See* Exhibit A-9 in Case Nos. 21390 and 21391.

9. I understand this Self-Affirmed Statement will be used as written testimony in these cases. I affirm that my testimony in paragraphs 1 through 9 above is true and correct and is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of New Mexico. My testimony is made as of the date identified next to my signature below.

Mitch Robb

02/18/2022 Date

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 SPC RESOURCES, LLC For Compulsory Pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico

Case No. 22421

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022

EXAMINER HEARING

This matter came on for hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, William Brancard, Esq. Hearing Examiner, John Garcia Technical Examiner, on Thursday, January 6, 2022, via Webex Virtual Conferencing Platform hosted by the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department --

Reported by: Mary Therese Macfarlane

New Mexico CCR #122

PAUL BACA COURT REPORTERS

500 Fourth Street NW, Suite 105 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

(505) 843-9241

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1	APPEARANCES.	
2	FOR SPC RESOURCES, LLC:	
3	Kaitlyn A. Luck, Esq	
4	Holland & Hart 110 North Guadalupe, Su	
5	Santa Fe, New Mexico 879 (505) 988-4421	501
6	kaluck@hollandhart.com	
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- 1 And Ms. Sandoval used to work for them, the
- 2 Director. I mean, all that should be brought up.
- 3 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Thank you.
- 4 Ms. Luck, you may proceed. We are on Case
- 5 No. 22421.
- 6 MS. LUCK: Thank you.
- 7 This case was filed, and it was understood
- 8 that all the parties were unlocatable that SPC Resources
- 9 needs to pool, and so the standard set of exhibits were
- 10 filed with the Division on Tuesday. Those exhibits start
- off with the checklist as Exhibit A, followed by a copy of
- 12 the Application as Exhibit B.
- 13 The next exhibit in the packet is the
- 14 Affidavit of SPC's landman Mr. Gary Waldrop. He has
- 15 previously testified before the Division and in his
- 16 affidavit he explains that in this case SPC is seeking to
- 17 pool a standard Wolfcamp spacing unit in a 321.84-acre
- 18 unit comprised of the north half of Section 23. This is
- 19 all in Township 21 South, Range 26 East in Eddy County,
- 20 New Mexico.
- 21 And this unit will be dedicated to the
- 22 South Avalon AUA Fed. Com 402H well.
- The details for that well are provided in
- 24 Mr. Waldrop's affidavit.
- 25 He also provides pool codes for the well, as

- 1 well as a copy of the C-102.
- 2 He provides first a Project Locator Map and
- 3 that shows where the unit is located at in relation to the
- 4 overall Eddy County area. And he also shows that this
- 5 unit is comprised of only fee acreage.
- 6 His next map has some color coding. That's
- 7 Exhibit C-2, and that corresponds with his Exhibit C-4
- 8 which is the Unit Recap.
- 9 And you will see that again in this case
- 10 SPC is only seeking to pool several unlocatable interest
- 11 owners in a small portion of this unit, and so up to this
- 12 point SPC hasn't had any contact information for these
- 13 parties and Notice was published to them. However,
- 14 because we had some communication issues with the Eddy
- 15 County, I quess, this publication went out late, so our
- 16 publication as reflected in the exhibit packet as Exhibit
- 17 C-6 shows that our Notice went to the parties on December
- 18 26th, so we would request that this hering be continued
- 19 just so that the publication timeframe can run, and ensure
- 20 that there are no objections to the case being taken under
- 21 advisement.
- The last exhibit in the packet is the
- 23 affidavit of SPC's geologist Mr. John Weibe. He has
- 24 previously testified before the Division and provides the
- 25 standard Wolfcamp exhibits, which include a Structure Map,

- 1 a Cross Section Map, a Cross Section, and he provides his
- 2 opinion that the Wolfcamp is appropriate for horizontal
- 3 well development in this area.
- 4 So with that I would move the admission of
- 5 Exhibits A through E and I would ask that this case
- 6 be admitted into the record and the case be continued, and
- 7 SPC will file a Motion for Continuance, if required by the
- 8 Division, just to allow the Publication of Notice
- 9 timeframe to continue to run.
- 10 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Thank you.
- 11 Mr. Garcia, questions?
- MR. GARCIA: I have no questions.
- 13 EXAMINER BRANCARD: So let me get this straight.
- 14 You have got 16 acres that are owned by
- other parties here and you have no addresses for them?
- MS. LUCK: That --
- 17 EXAMINER BRANCARD: In the county records, in
- 18 the deeds or anything about how to locate? I see a list
- 19 of five names here on your Exhibit C-4, and there are no
- 20 addresses where you can mail anything to them?
- MS. LUCK: That's correct.
- 22 So the title has been run, and in Exhibit
- 23 C-6 to the landman's affidavit he explains the effort of
- 24 SPC to try to locate any person who had relations to these
- 25 names that are in the title records, and there are no

- 1 addresses that have been located for these parties and
- 2 that's why we did the Notice of Publication. There were
- 3 no mailing addresses to be mailed to.
- 4 And I can read off those names, as well. I
- 5 am looking at the publication now.
- 6 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Yeah, I see a Pearl Colony,
- 7 a Lizzie Colony, Albert Lang, Alma Green, William Packard,
- 8 Lizzie Stephenson.
- 9 I guess I'm just puzzled as to why there
- 10 were no attempts to even try to find anything, any
- 11 attempts to mail to any of these people at any last-known
- 12 address.
- MS. LUCK: Yeah. So we've run these names that
- 14 we found in the title records through multiple public
- 15 record searches to try to locate either related persons to
- 16 them to be able to contact them, but nothing has turned up
- 17 for these five parties.
- 18 EXAMINER BRANCARD: I will for the record
- 19 indicate that our department did get a call from someone
- 20 saying they were related to someone who had an interest in
- 21 this property, and I simply informed them that they should
- 22 file an Entry of Appearance, which they apparently did
- 23 not.
- 24 And they learned about this by reading the
- 25 newspaper, wondering why they had not been contacted

- 1 directly.
- 2 So okay. We can continue this case to deal
- 3 with the newspaper publication, but I guess I need
- 4 something further from your landman about why no possible
- 5 addresses could be found in this. Just doing newspaper
- 6 publication does not seem adequate in this situation where
- 7 you're dealing with people who own 16 acres of land right
- 8 in the middle of your spacing unit.
- 9 MS. LUCK: And I just want to confirm whether
- 10 the Division has contact information for the person that
- 11 you mentioned that contacted the Division.
- 12 EXAMINER BRANCARD: I can get you the phone
- 13 number.
- 14 MS. LUCK: That would be fantastic if there is a
- 15 number that we can contact them back. We would be happy
- 16 to do so.
- 17 And another question that I have is: Mr.
- 18 Waldrop, who is SPC's landman, is currently on the hearing
- 19 now and he can answer any other questions the Division has
- 20 right now about why there aren't mailing addresses for
- 21 these five persons that have been identified.
- But I mean I'm happy to just reference the
- 23 Division back to our Exhibit C, the landman's affidavit,
- 24 that explains what we did to try to contact the people
- 25 that are in the title records. But there is not even tax

	Page 16
1	information for these people to contact them. There's
2	just been nothing for a very long time for this section of
3	land.
4	Excuse me. It's not a whole section but
5	it's a tract.
6	And the title dropped off here almost 100
7	years ago. These people have not been identified since
8	the 1920s.
9	EXAMINER BRANCARD: Okay. So probably a lot of
10	this stuff has been probated but there is no probate
11	records in the county records.
12	All right. I will forward you the phone
13	number that was given to me, and then otherwise we will
14	continue this case to January 20th.
15	MS. LUCK: Okay. Thank you.
16	EXAMINER BRANCARD: Thank you.
17	(Time noted 10:31 a.m.)
18	
19	
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25	

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Page 17
     STATE OF NEW MEXICO
                              )
 2
                               : ss
 3
     COUNTY OF TAOS
                               )
 4
 5
                       REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
 6
               I, MARY THERESE MACFARLANE, New Mexico Reporter
     CCR No. 122, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that on Thursday,
8
     January 6, 2022, the proceedings in the above-captioned
     matter were taken before me; that I did report in
9
     stenographic shorthand the proceedings set forth herein,
10
     and the foregoing pages are a true and correct
11
12
     transcription to the best of my ability and control.
13
               I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither employed by
14
     nor related to nor contracted with (unless excepted by the
15
     rules) any of the parties or attorneys in this case, and
16
     that I have no interest whatsoever in the final
17
     disposition of this case in any court.
18
                          /s/ Mary MacFarlane
19
20
                         MARY THERESE MACFARLANE, CCR
                         NM Certified Court Reporter No. 122
21
                         License Expires: 12/31/2022
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STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION FOR COMPULSORY POOLING SUBMITTED BY SPC RESOURCES, LLC

CASE NO. 22421 **ORDER NO.** R-22020

<u>ORDER</u>

The Director of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division ("OCD"), having heard this matter through a Hearing Examiner on January 20, 2022, and after considering the testimony, evidence, and recommendation of the Hearing Examiner, issues the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. SPC Resources, LLC ("Operator") submitted an application ("Application") to compulsory pool the uncommitted oil and gas interests within the spacing unit ("Unit") described in Exhibit A. The Unit is expected to be a standard horizontal spacing unit. 19.15.16.15(B) NMAC. Operator seeks to be designated the operator of the Unit.
- 2. Operator will dedicate the well(s) described in Exhibit A ("Well(s)") to the Unit.
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- 4. Operator identified the owners of uncommitted interests in oil and gas minerals in the Unit and provided evidence that notice was given.
- 5. The Application was heard by the Hearing Examiner on the date specified above, during which Operator presented evidence through affidavits in support of the Application. No other party presented evidence at the hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 6. OCD has jurisdiction to issue this Order pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 70-2-17.
- 7. Operator is the owner of an oil and gas working interest within the Unit.
- 8. Operator satisfied the notice requirements for the Application and the hearing as required by 19.15.4.12 NMAC.
- 9. OCD satisfied the notice requirements for the hearing as required by 19.15.4.9 NMAC.
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- depth(s) and location(s) in the Unit described in Exhibit A.
- 11. The Unit contains separately owned uncommitted interests in oil and gas minerals.
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- 18. If the location of a well will be unorthodox under the spacing rules in effect at the time of completion, Operator shall obtain the OCD's approval for a non-standard location in accordance with 19.15.16.15(C) NMAC.
- 19. The Operator shall commence drilling the Well(s) within one year after the date of this Order, and complete each Well no later than one (1) year after the commencement of drilling the Well.
- 20. This Order shall terminate automatically if Operator fails to comply with Paragraph 19 unless Operator obtains an extension by amending this Order for good cause shown.
- 21. The infill well requirements in 19.15.13.9 NMAC through 19.15.13.12 NMAC shall be applicable.
- 22. Operator shall submit each owner of an uncommitted working interest in the pool ("Pooled Working Interest") an itemized schedule of estimated costs to drill, complete, and equip the well ("Estimated Well Costs").
- 23. No later than thirty (30) days after Operator submits the Estimated Well Costs, the owner of a Pooled Working Interest shall elect whether to pay its share of the Estimated Well Costs or its share of the actual costs to drill, complete and equip the well ("Actual Well Costs") out of production from the well. An owner of a Pooled Working Interest who elects to pay its share of the Estimated Well Costs shall render payment to Operator no later than thirty (30) days after the expiration of the election period, and shall be liable for operating costs, but not risk charges, for the

CASE NO. 22421 ORDER NO. R-22020

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well. An owner of a Pooled Working Interest who fails to pay its share of the Estimated Well Costs or who elects to pay its share of the Actual Well Costs out of production from the well shall be considered to be a "Non-Consenting Pooled Working Interest."

- 24. No later than one hundred eighty (180) days after Operator submits a Form C-105 for a well, Operator shall submit to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest an itemized schedule of the Actual Well Costs. The Actual Well Costs shall be considered to be the Reasonable Well Costs unless an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a written objection no later than forty-five (45) days after receipt of the schedule. If an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a timely written objection, OCD shall determine the Reasonable Well Costs after public notice and hearing.
- 25. No later than sixty (60) days after the expiration of the period to file a written objection to the Actual Well Costs or OCD's order determining the Reasonable Well Costs, whichever is later, each owner of a Pooled Working Interest who paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs shall pay to Operator its share of the Reasonable Well Costs that exceed the Estimated Well Costs, or Operator shall pay to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest who paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs its share of the Estimated Well Costs that exceed the Reasonable Well Costs.
- 26. The reasonable charges for supervision to drill and produce a well ("Supervision Charges") shall not exceed the rates specified in Exhibit A, provided however that the rates shall be adjusted annually pursuant to the COPAS form entitled "Accounting Procedure-Joint Operations."
- 27. No later than within ninety (90) days after Operator submits a Form C-105 for a well, Operator shall submit to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest an itemized schedule of the reasonable charges for operating and maintaining the well ("Operating Charges"), provided however that Operating Charges shall not include the Reasonable Well Costs or Supervision Charges. The Operating Charges shall be considered final unless an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a written objection no later than forty-five (45) days after receipt of the schedule. If an owner of a Pooled Working Interest files a timely written objection, OCD shall determine the Operating Charges after public notice and hearing.
- 28. Operator may withhold the following costs and charges from the share of production due to each owner of a Pooled Working Interest who paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs: (a) the proportionate share of the Supervision Charges; and (b) the proportionate share of the Operating Charges.
- 29. Operator may withhold the following costs and charges from the share of production due to each owner of a Non-Consenting Pooled Working Interest: (a) the proportionate share of the Reasonable Well Costs; (b) the proportionate share

- of the Supervision and Operating Charges; and (c) the percentage of the Reasonable Well Costs specified as the charge for risk described in Exhibit A.
- 30. Operator shall distribute a proportionate share of the costs and charges withheld pursuant to paragraph 29 to each Pooled Working Interest that paid its share of the Estimated Well Costs.
- 31. Each year on the anniversary of this Order, and no later than ninety (90) days after each payout, Operator shall provide to each owner of a Non-Consenting Pooled Working Interest a schedule of the revenue attributable to a well and the Supervision and Operating Costs charged against that revenue.
- 32. Any cost or charge that is paid out of production shall be withheld only from the share due to an owner of a Pooled Working Interest. No cost or charge shall be withheld from the share due to an owner of a royalty interests. For the purpose of this Order, an unleased mineral interest shall consist of a seven-eighths (7/8) working interest and a one-eighth (1/8) royalty interest.
- 33. Except as provided above, Operator shall hold the revenue attributable to a well that is not disbursed for any reason for the account of the person(s) entitled to the revenue as provided in the Oil and Gas Proceeds Payment Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 70-10-1 *et seq.*, and relinquish such revenue as provided in the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 7-8A-1 *et seq.*
- 34. The Unit shall terminate if (a) the owners of all Pooled Working Interests reach a voluntary agreement; or (b) the well(s) drilled on the Unit are plugged and abandoned in accordance with the applicable rules. Operator shall inform OCD no later than thirty (30) days after such occurrence.
- 35. OCD retains jurisdiction of this matter for the entry of such orders as may be deemed necessary.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

ADRIENNE SANDOVAL DIRECTOR AES/jag

Date: 2/07/2022

Exhibit A

COMPULSORY POOLING APPLICATION CHECKLIST (pdf) ALL INFORMATION IN THE APPLICATION MUST BE SUPPORTED BY SIGNED AFFIDAVITS		
Case: 22421	APPLICANT'S RESPONSE	
Date: January 6, 2022		
Applicant	SPC Resources, LLC	
Designated Operator & OGRID (affiliation if applicable)	SPC Resources, LLC (OGRID No. 372262)	
Applicant's Counsel:	Holland & Hart LLP	
Case Title:	APPLICATION OF SPC RESOURCES, LLC FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.	
Entries of Appearance/Intervenors:	n/a	
Well Family	South Avalon AUA Federal Com #402H	
Formation/Pool		
Formation Name(s) or Vertical Extent:	Wolfcamp	
Primary Product (Oil or Gas):	Oil	
Pooling this vertical extent:	Wolfcamp formation	
Pool Name and Pool Code:	Carlsbad; Wolfcamp, East (Gas) (Pool Code 74160)	
Well Location Setback Rules:	Statewide horizontal rules	
Spacing Unit Size:	321.84 acres, more or less	
Spacing Unit		
Type (Horizontal/Vertical)	Horizontal	
Size (Acres)	321.84 acres, more or less	
Building Blocks:	320 acres	
Orientation:	West to East	
Description: TRS/County	N/2 of Section 23, Township 21 South, Range 26 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.	
Standard Horizontal Well Spacing Unit (Y/N), If No, describe	Yes	
Other Situations		
Depth Severance: Y/N. If yes, description	No	
Proximity Tracts: If yes, description	N/A BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISIO Santa Fe, New Mexico Exhibit No. REVISED Exhibit A	

Submitted by: SPC Resources, LLC Hearing Date: January 6, 2022 Case No. 22421

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xhibit C-4
dd ac waadad
.dd as needed
outh Avalon AUA Federal Com #402H (API No. 30-015-31001):
HL: 1650 FNL and 200 FEL (Unit H) of Section 23, 213, 26E
ompletion Target: Wolfcamp formation
/ell Orientation: West to East ompletion Location expected to be: Standard
xhibit C-3
xhibit C-3
8,000
800
xhibit C
00%
xhibit B
xhibit C, C-6
xhibit C-6
xhibit C-2, C-4
xhibit C-4
xhibit C-4, C-6
xhibit C-4, C-6
I/A
xhibit C-5
HH 0/60

Received by OCD: 1/19/2022 3:23:21 PM	Page 4 of
List of Interest Owners (ie Exhibit A of JOA)	Exhibit C-4, C-6
Chronology of Contact with Non-Joined Working Interests	Exhibit C
Overhead Rates In Proposal Letter	Exhibit C-5
Cost Estimate to Drill and Complete	N/A
Cost Estimate to Equip Well	N/A
Cost Estimate for Production Facilities	N/A
Geology	
Summary (including special considerations)	Exhibit D
Spacing Unit Schematic	Exhibit D-1, D-2
Gunbarrel/Lateral Trajectory Schematic	Exhibit D-1, D-2
Well Orientation (with rationale)	Exhibit C-2, D
Target Formation	Exhbit D
HSU Cross Section	Exhibit D-3, D-4, D-5
Depth Severance Discussion	N/A
Forms, Figures and Tables	
C-102	Exhibit C-3
Tracts	Exhibit C-4
Summary of Interests, Unit Recapitulation (Tracts)	Exhibit C-4
General Location Map (including basin)	Exhibit C-1, C-2
Well Bore Location Map	Exhibit C-1, D-1, D-2
Structure Contour Map - Subsea Depth	Exhibit D-1, D-2
Cross Section Location Map (including wells)	Exhibit D-3
Cross Section (including Landing Zone)	Exhibit D-4, D-5
Additional Information	
CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the information p	rovided in this checklist is complete and accurate.
Printed Name (Attorney or Party Representative):	Adam G. Rankin
Signed Name (Attorney or Party Representative):	
Date:	1/19/2022

Released to Imaging: 1/19/2022 3:30:45 PM

State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD Deputy Secretary

Adrienne Sandoval, Division Director Oil Conservation Division



NOTICE

July 22, 2020

OCD Hearings Scheduled for August 6, 2020 and After

On March 11, 2020, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham issued Executive Order 2020-004 declaring a Public Health Emergency to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus. The Executive Order closed government buildings to the public.

Additionally, Secretary Cottrell Propst directed the Oil Conservation Division (OCD) to take prudent precautionary steps to encourage the public and OCD staff to maintain social distance by cancelling, postponing, or taking other actions to limit public interaction.

To comply with these directives, OCD has been conducting electronic hearings in accordance with the New Mexico Attorney General's Open Government Division Advisory During COVID-19 State of Public Emergency.

HEARINGS ON AUGUST 6, 2020 AND AFTER

This notice governs OCD hearings on August 6, 2020 and after, and supersedes the earlier notices entitled "OCD Hearings Scheduled for April 16, 2020 and After" and "Oil Conservation Division's Instructions for April 30, 2020 Hearing Docket."

The Hearing Examiner will call each case and inquire whether the parties agree that the case can be taken by affidavit. If the parties concur, the Hearing Examiner will hear the case by affidavit, provided that the applicant submitted the exhibits, including the public notice affidavit and the compulsory pooling checklist, if applicable, to the Hearings Bureau at ocd.hearings@state.nm.us no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the hearing date. The Hearing Examiner will inquire whether any party requests a special provision or stipulation, and the OCD's technical reviewer may ask questions of the applicant and parties, if any.

If the parties do not concur that the case may be taken by affidavit, and do not agree to continue the case, the Hearing Examiner will conduct a status conference, set

July 22, 2020

Page 2

the case for an electronic hearing, and direct the parties to submit a pre-hearing order setting forth the dates on which they will submit to OCD and exchange between the parties the following information:

- a. a list of material facts not in dispute;
- b. a list of disputed facts and issues;
- c. identification of witnesses and their qualifications;
- d. a full narrative of the direct testimony and exhibits for witnesses;
- e. the filing of prehearing motions, including evidentiary objections, and a briefing schedule; and
- f. the date and time for a telephonic conference to hear prehearing motions and address questions regarding the conduct of the hearing.

Any party may request a status conference to resolve disputes regarding the preparation of the pre-hearing order.

The Hearing Examiner in her sole discretion will call cases on the docket in any order.

The hearings will be transcribed by a court reporter. Participants are reminded to identify themselves when they speak and to speak clearly so that the audio is understandable.

The Hearing Examiner in her sole discretion may continue any application to a future date for any reason.

Applicants for a hearing are advised to provide the following statement in their public notice:

During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, state buildings are closed to the public and hearings will be conducted remotely. The hearing will be conducted on [date] beginning at 8:15 a.m. To participate in the electronic hearing, see the instructions posted on the docket for the hearing date: http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/OCD/hearings.html.