

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

**APPLICATION OF EARTHSTONE OPERATING,
LLC FOR COMPULSORY POOLING,
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

CASE NO. _____

APPLICATION

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 70-2-17, Earthstone Operating, LLC (OGRID No. 331165) (“Earthstone” or “Applicant”) applies for an order pooling all uncommitted interests in the First Bone Spring formation underlying a 319.86-acre, more or less, standard horizontal spacing unit comprised of the E/2 E/2 of Section 34, Township 19 South, Range 33 East, and Lot 1, SE/4 NE/4, and E/2 SE/4 (E/2 E/2 equivalent) of irregular Section 3, Township 20 South, Range 33 East, Lea County, New Mexico (“Unit”). In support of this application, Earthstone states the following:

1. Applicant is a working interest owner in the Unit and has the right to drill wells thereon.
2. The Unit will be dedicated to the **Jade 34-3 Fed 1BS Com 12H** well (“Well”), to be drilled from a surface hole location in the NE/4 NE/4 (Unit A) of Section 34, Township 19 South, Range 33 East to a proposed bottom hole location in the SE/4 SE/4 (Unit P) of Section 3, Township 20 South, Range 33 East.
3. The completed interval of the Well will be orthodox.
4. There is a depth severance in the Bone Spring formation within the Unit. Accordingly, Applicant seeks to pool interests from the top of the Bone Spring Formation to the base of the First Bone Spring formation at a stratigraphic equivalent of approximately 9,560’ TVD.

5. Applicant has undertaken diligent, good-faith efforts to obtain voluntary agreements from all interest owners to participate in the drilling of the Well but has been unable to obtain voluntary agreements from all interest owners.

6. The pooling of uncommitted interests will avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, prevent waste, and protect correlative rights.

7. In order to allow Applicant to obtain its just and fair share of the oil and gas underlying the subject lands, all uncommitted interests in the Unit should be pooled and Applicant should be designated as the operator of the Well and Unit.

WHEREFORE, Applicant requests that this application be set for hearing before an Examiner of the Oil Conservation Division on February 2, 2023, and, after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter an order:

- A. Pooling all uncommitted interests in the Unit;
- B. Approving the Well in the Unit;
- C. Designating Applicant as operator of the Unit and the Well to be drilled thereon;
- D. Authorizing Applicant to recover its costs of drilling, equipping and completing the Well;
- E. Approving the actual operating charged and costs of supervision while drilling and after completion, together with a provision adjusting the rated pursuant to the COPAS accounting procedures; and
- F. Imposing a 200% penalty for the risk assumed by Applicant in drilling and completing the Well against any working interest owner who does not voluntarily participate in the drilling of the Well.

Respectfully submitted,

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