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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:

CASE NOS: 22935, 22936

APPLICATION OF PRIDE ENERGY COMPANY  
FOR COMPULSORY POOLING,  
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF VIRTUAL PROCEEDINGS  
EXAMINER HEARING  
AUGUST 4, 2022  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

This matter came on for virtual hearing before  
the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, HEARING OFFICER  
WILLIAM BRANCARD and TECHNICAL EXAMINER JOHN GARCIA on  
Thursday, August 4, 2022, through the Webex Platform.

Reported by: PAUL BACA PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTERS  
500 Fourth Street, NW, Suite 105  
Albuquerque, NM 87102  
505-843-9241

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A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Applicant:  
JAMES BRUCE  
P.O. Box 1056  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1056  
505-982-2151  
jamesbruce@aol.com  
For ConocoPhillips:  
Joby Rittenhouse  
ConocoPhillips  
1048 Paseo de Peralta  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

I N D E X

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1 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: With that, now we are  
2 on cases 22935, 22936, Pride Energy.

3 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, Jim Bruce representing  
4 Pride Energy.

5 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Thank you.  
6 ConocoPhillips?

7 MR. RITTENHOUSE: Thank you, Mr. Examiner. This  
8 is it Joby Rittenhouse appearing on behalf of  
9 ConocoPhillips.

10 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Thank you, and I  
11 believe Conoco has objected to this case being heard by  
12 affidavit.

13 MR. RITTENHOUSE: Yes, we have.

14 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Are you talking about  
15 filing competing applications here?

16 MR. RITTENHOUSE: I think at this point that's  
17 still being evaluated.

18 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: All right. We need  
19 to set a date for a contested hearing?

20 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I was told that  
21 ConocoPhillips was negotiating a JOA with Pride Energy, and  
22 that the objection was filed simply to get more time to  
23 conduct further negotiations. And these two matters are --  
24 there is also another nearby well -- and I forget the case  
25 number, and I should have looked that up -- where

1 ConocoPhillips did the same thing and has gotten it  
2 continued a couple of times because they simply wanted to  
3 negotiate.

4 I will do -- go with whatever way the Division  
5 wants it, but we would like to get it set for a hearing.  
6 And what I heard was that they were close to agreeing on  
7 certain things, and I would rather not have a contested  
8 hearing, but if that's what the Division desires to set it  
9 for, so be it.

10 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Mr. Rittenhouse?

11 MR. RITTENHOUSE: Thank you, Mr. Examiner. I  
12 don't necessarily disagree with anything that was said, I  
13 think that is part of the evaluation. The parties have  
14 already reached an agreement that would forego  
15 ConocoPhillips filing anything, so I think at this point we  
16 would be perfectly content with a continuance to a future  
17 date to allow the parties additional time.

18 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Continuance to a  
19 hearing? Continuance to a status conference?

20 MR. BRUCE: I would rather just set a hearing,  
21 Mr. Examiner.

22 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Why don't I set a  
23 hearing for October 6.

24 MR. BRUCE: Thank you.

25 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: I will issue a

1 prehearing order. You can always say, "Vacate the  
2 prehearing order, this is going to be by affidavit," so  
3 that's not a problem.

4 MR. BRUCE: Thank you.

5 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Is there anyone here  
6 on cases 22935, 22936?

7 (No audible response.)

8 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Hearing none, I think  
9 we are now done with status conferences.

10 (Concluded.)

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that I reported the foregoing virtual proceedings in stenographic shorthand and that the foregoing pages are a true and correct transcript of those proceedings to the best of my ability.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither employed by nor related to any of the parties or attorneys in this case and that I have no interest in the final disposition of this case.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that the Virtual Proceeding was of poor to good quality.

Dated this 4th day of August 2022.

Irene Delgado  
Court Reporter  
License Expires: 12-31-22

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