

**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 HEARING:**

**APPLICATION OF RB OPERATING COMPANY  
FOR A CENTRALIZED FACILITY WITH A  
COMMON TANK BATTERY INCLUDING  
SURFACE COMMINGLING AND OFF-LEASE  
MEASUREMENT AND STORAGE,  
EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

**2005 APR 15 PM 1:53  
CASE 13474**

**PRE-HEARING STATEMENT**

RB Operating Company submits this pre-hearing statement as required by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division.

**APPEARANCES OF THE PARTIES**

**APPLICANT**

RB Operating Company  
777 Main St. Suite 800  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102  
Attn: Bobby Ebeier  
817-810-1907  
Fax 817-870-2316

**ATTORNEY**

Thomas Kellahin, Esq.  
P. O. Box 2265  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504  
505-982-4285  
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**OPPONENTS**

None

**ATTORNEY**

## STATEMENT OF THE CASE

### APPLICANT:

RB Operating Company ("RB") applies to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for an order granting an exception to Rule 303.A and, in accordance with Rule 303.B and approving a centralized facility with a common tank battery including surface commingling and off-lease storage and measurement of oil production for its Brantley Tank Battery for the following described wells/leases with diverse ownership with the SW/4 and the S/2SE/4 of Section 23 and the N/2NE/4 of Section 26, T23S, R28E:

Location	Well name	API Number
Section 23:		
Unit K:	South Culebra Bluff "23" Well No. 1	30-015-25841
Unit L:	South Culebra Bluff "23" Well No. 2	30-015-26213
Unit M:	South Culebra Bluff "23" Well No. 3	30-015-26284
Unit N:	South Culebra Bluff "23" Well No. 14	30-015-33607
Unit O:	South Culebra Bluff "23" Well No. 9	30-015-26369
Unit P:	South Culebra Bluff Unit Well No. 10	30-015-33606

### Section 26:

Unit A:	Merland Well No. 2	30-015-33838
Unit B:	Merland Well No. 1	30-015-33840

which shall be stored and measured at its centralized facility located in Unit N of Section 23. The applicant further seeks the adoption of an Administrative procedure for the expansion of this facility including the addition of other wells and production from other pools.

1. RB Operating is the operator of the above-described wells being produced from the East Loving Brushy Canyon Pool.

2. RB Operating also will operate a centralized facility with the common tank battery located in SE/4SW/4 (Unit N) of Section 23, T23S, R28E for the gathering of oil production from all these wells.

3. Effective April 1, 2003, See Order R-11972, Division Rule 303.B (4) provided:

"Specific Requirements and Provisions for Commingling of leases, Pool or Leases and Pools with Diverse Ownership.

(a) Measurement and Allocation Methods. Where there is diversity of ownership between two or more leases, two or more pools, or between different pools and leases, the surface commingling of production there from shall be permitted only if production from each of such pools or leases is accurately metered, or determined by other methods specifically approved by the Division, prior to such commingling.”

4. RB Operating seeks approval to establish a measurement and allocation method for this production.

5. Any production for a designated gas pool will continue to be separately and continually metered in accordance with Division rules.

6. RB Operating also seeks an administrative procedure for the expansion of this project in order to add addition wells and /or pools.

7. As a result of different ownership among the spacing units for the wells within the SW/4 and S/2SE/4 of 23 Section and the N/2NE/4 of Section 26, the owners of the proposed commingled production is not identical in terms of parties or interest.

8. In accordance with Division Rule 1207.A and Rule 303.B(d) applicant has sent a copy of this application and notice for hearing to be held on April 21, 2005 to all the proper parties entitled to said notice.

**PROPOSED EVIDENCE**

**APPLICANT**

<b>WITNESSES</b>	<b>EST. TIME</b>	<b>EST. EXHIBITS</b>
<b>Bill Frey (PE)</b>	<b>30-45 min</b>	<b>about 8</b>

**PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

**None**

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