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WRITER:

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November 16, 2015

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Florene Davidson
Oil Conservation Division
1220 S. St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Case 15417

Re: COG Operating LLC Application

Dear Florene:

Enclosed please find: (i) for filing, the original and one (1) copy of an application by COG Operating LLC for approval of a 240-acre non-standard oil spacing and proration unit to be dedicated to COG's Sombrero Federal Com No. 4H well and compulsory pooling; and (ii) a proposed hearing notice. I will email the proposed hearing notice to you in Word format.

As stated in the application, COG requests that the application be placed on the Division's December 17, 2015 hearing docket.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

Gary W. Larson

GWL:rc
Enclosures

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

**APPLICATION OF COG OPERATING
LLC FOR A NON-STANDARD
SPACING AND PRORATION UNIT
AND COMPULSORY POOLING,
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

Case No. 15417

APPLICATION

Pursuant to NMSA § 70-2-17, COG Operating LLC (“COG”) applies for an order (i) approving a 240-acre non-standard spacing and proration unit in the W/2 SW/4 of Section 12 and the W/2 W/2 of Section 13, Township 24 South, Range 34 East, N.M.P.M., Lea County, New Mexico, and (ii) pooling all uncommitted mineral interests in the Avalon Shale portion of the Bone Spring formation. In support of its Application, COG states:

1. COG (OGRID No. 229137) is a working interest owner in the W/2 SW/4 of Section 12 and the W/2 W/2 of Section 13, and has the right to drill a well thereon.
2. COG proposes to dedicate the above-referenced non-standard spacing and proration unit as the project area for its Sombrero Federal Com No. 4H well, which will be horizontally drilled from a surface location in Unit M of Section 13, Township 24 South, Range 34 East to a bottom hole location in Unit L of Section 12, Township 24 South, Range 34 East.
3. The completed interval for the proposed Sombrero Federal Com No. 4H well will remain within the 330-foot standard offset required by 19.15.15.9(A) NMAC.
4. COG has undertaken diligent, good-faith efforts to obtain voluntary agreements from all mineral interest owners in the proposed project area to participate in the drilling of the well, but has been unable to obtain voluntary agreements from all of the mineral interest owners.

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

6. In order to allow COG to obtain its just and fair share of the oil and gas underlying the subject lands, all uncommitted mineral interest owners in the non-standard spacing and proration unit should be pooled and COG should be designated the operator of the proposed horizontal well and project area.

WHEREFORE, COG requests that this Application be set for hearing on December 17, 2015 and that, after notice and hearing, the Division enter an order:

A. Approving a 240-acre non-standard spacing and proration unit (project area) in the Avalon Shale portion of the Bone Spring formation in the W/2 SW/4 of Section 12 and the W/2 W/2 of Section 13, Township 24 South, Range 34 East, N.M.P.M., in Lea County;

B. Pooling all uncommitted mineral interests in the proposed project area;

C. Designating COG as the operator of the project area and the Sombrero Federal Com No. 4H well;

D. Authorizing COG to recover its costs of drilling, equipping, and completing the well;

E. Considering the cost of drilling and completing the Sombrero Federal Com No. 4H well and allocating the cost among the uncommitted working interest owners;

F. Approving the actual operating charges and costs of supervision during drilling and after completion, together with a provision for adjusting the rates pursuant to the COPAS accounting procedure; and

G. Imposing a 200% penalty for the risk assumed by COG in drilling and completing the Sombrero Federal Com No. 4H well against any mineral interest owner who does not voluntarily participate in the drilling of the well.

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Counsel for Applicant COG Operating LLC

PROPOSED NOTICE

Case No. 15417: Application of COG Operating LLC for a non-standard oil spacing and proration unit and compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order (i) creating a 240-acre non-standard oil spacing and proration unit (project area) comprised of the W/2 SW/4 of Section 12 and the W/2 W/2 of Section 13, Township 24 South, Range 34 East, N.M.P.M., in Lea County, and (ii) pooling all mineral interests in the Avalon Shale portion of the Bone Spring formation underlying this acreage. The project area is to be dedicated to applicant's Sombrero Federal Com No. 4H well, which will be horizontally drilled from a surface location in Unit M of Section 13, Township 24 South, Range 34 East to a bottom hole location in Unit L of Section 12, Township 24 South, Range 34 East. The completed interval for the well will remain within the 330-foot standard offset required by the Division's rules. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the allocation of the cost, the designation of COG Operating LLC as the operator of the well, and a 200% charge for the risk involved in drilling and completing the well. The proposed project area is located approximately two miles northeast of Ochoa, New Mexico.