

**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 NO. 14545  
ORDER NO. R-7707-A**

**APPLICATION OF HESS CORPORATION FOR APPROVAL OF  
ENLARGEMENT OF THE WEST BRAVO DOME CARBON DIOXIDE GAS  
UNIT, HARDING COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

**ORDER OF THE DIVISION**

**BY THE DIVISION:**

This case came on for hearing September 16, 2010 at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner William V. Jones.

NOW, on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2010, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner,

**FINDS THAT:**

(1) Due public notice has been given, and the Division has jurisdiction of this case and its subject matter.

(2) The applicant, Hess Corporation, seeks approval of the horizontal enlargement of the West Bravo Dome Carbon Dioxide Gas Unit so that, after enlargement, it will consist of the following-described 76,949.58 acres, more or less, of Federal, State of New Mexico and fee lands in Harding County, New Mexico:

**TOWNSHIP 20 NORTH, RANGE 29 EAST, NMPM**

Section 21: SW/4 SW/4, E/2 W/2, W/2 SE/4, SE/4 SE/4

Section 27: W/2 SW/4, SE/4 SW/4

Section 28: S/2 NE/4, NW/4 NE/4, NW/4, S/2

Section 29: S/2

Section 30: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, SW/4 NE/4, SE/4

Section 31: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)

Sections 32 through 33: All

Section 34: W/2 NE/4, SE/4 NE/4, NW/4, S/2

Section 35: SW/4

**TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 29 EAST, NMPM**

Section 1: Lot 4, SW/4 NW/4, S/2  
Section 2: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 3: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 6: Lots 1-7, SE/4 NW/4, S/2 NE/4, E/2 SW/4, SE/4 (All)  
Section 7: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Sections 8 through 17: All  
Section 18: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 19: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Sections 20 through 22: All  
Sections 23 through 29: All  
Section 30: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 31: Lots 1-2, E/2 W/2, E/2  
Sections 32 through 36: All

**TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 30 EAST, NMPM**

Section 5: Lots 3 and 4, S/2 NW/4, SW/4  
Section 6: Lots 1-7, SE/4 NW/4, S/2 NE/4, SE/4 SW/4, SW/4 SE/4  
Section 7: Lots 1-4, E/2 NW/4, W/2 NE/4, SE/4 NE/4, NE/4 SW/4,  
NW/4 SE/4, SE/4 SE/4  
Section 8: N/2 SW/4, SW/4 SW/4  
Section 17: SW/4  
Section 18: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, W/2 NE/4, SE/4 NE/4, SE/4  
Section 19: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 20: W/2, E/2 NE/4, N/2 SE/4  
Section 29: W/2, SE/4  
Section 30: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 31: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 32: W/2, W/2 E/2, SE/4 NE/4, E/2 SE/4  
Section 33: NW/4 SW/4, SE/4 NE/4, NE/4 SE/4, S/2 S/2  
Section 34: SW/4, W/2 SE/4

**TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 29 EAST, NMPM**

Section 1: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 2: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 3: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 6: Lots 1-3, S/2 NE/4, SE/4 NW/4, E/2 SW/4, SE/4

Section 7: E/2 NW/4, E/2  
Sections 8 through 16: All  
Section 17: W/2, NE/4, W/2 SE/4, NE/4 SE/4  
Section 18: E/2  
Section 19: E/2 E/2  
Sections 20 through 28: All  
Section 29: E/2, E/2 W/2, W/2 NW/4, NW/4 SW/4  
Section 32: E/2, E/2 NW/4  
Sections 33 through 36: All

**TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 30 EAST, NMPM**

Section 3: Lots 2, 3, 4, SW/4 NE/4, NW/4 SE/4, S/2 NW/4, SW/4  
Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 6: Lots 1-7, SE/4 NW/4, S/2 NE/4, E/2 SW/4, SE/4 (All)  
Section 7: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 8: All  
Section 9: All  
Section 10: W/2 NE/4, SE/4, W/2  
Section 11: S/2  
Sections 15 through 17: All  
Section 18: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 19: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Sections 20 through 22: All  
Section 23: W/2 W/2  
Section 25: SW/4 SW/4  
Section 26: W/2 NW/4, S/2 S/2  
Sections 27 through 29: All  
Section 30: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 31: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Sections 32 through 35: All

**TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 29 EAST, NMPM**

Section 1: Lots 1-4, SE/4 NE/4  
Section 2: Lots 1-4, SW/4 NE/4, S/2 NW/4  
Section 3: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, NW/4 SE/4, SW/4  
Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 5: Lot 1, SE/4 NE/4  
Section 9: NE/4 NW/4

**TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 30 EAST, NMPM**

Section 1: W/2 SW/4  
Section 2: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)

Section 3: Lots 1-4, SW/4 NE/4, S/2 NW/4, S/2  
Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, N/2 S/2, S/2 SW/4  
Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, SE/4, E/2 SW/4  
Section 6: Lots 1-7, SE/4 NW/4, S/2 NE/4, E/2 SW/4, W/2 SE/4  
Section 8: N/2  
Section 9: N/2, NE/4 SW/4, SE/4  
Section 10: All  
Section 11: N/2, W/2 SW/4  
Section 12: W/2 NW/4  
Section 14: NW/4 NW/4  
Section 15: N/2 N/2, NW/4 SE/4, N/2 SW/4

(3) By Order No. R-7707 dated November 1, 1984, the Oil Conversation Division granted the application of Cities Service Oil & Gas Corporation for approval of the West Bravo Dome Carbon Dioxide Gas Unit ("the Unit") unitizing all carbon dioxide in the Tubb (unitized) formation under certain lands in Harding County, New Mexico.

(4) The Unit is governed by the Unit Agreement for the Bravo Dome Carbon Dioxide Gas Unit ("the Unit Agreement") which provides for enlargement and contraction of the Unit Area. Article 12.1 of the Unit agreement provides:

"The Unit Area may be enlarged from time to time to include acreage reasonably proved to be productive of Unitized Substances upon such terms as may be determined by Working Interest Owners and the owners of such acreage and upon approval by the Commissioner and the AO with regard to State and Federal lands, respectively...."

(5) Pursuant to the Unit Agreement, from time to time, the Unit Areas has been enlarged (May 1, 1986) and contracted (July 14, 1995) and now contains 34,619 acres, more or less, of Federal, State and Fee lands.

(6) Hess Corporation became the operator of the unit on August 1, 1994 and now seeks an order approving the enlargement of the Unit Area by adding approximately 42,331 acres of additional Federal, State and Fee lands.

(7) Hess Corporation owns 100% of the working interest in the proposed enlarged Unit Area, has sufficient interest within the proposed enlarged Unit Area to provide effective control of unit operations, and has determined that the Unit Area should be enlarged.

(8) On August 6, 2010, the Bureau of Land Management advised Hess Corporation that it concurred with the proposed enlargement of the unit pursuant to the terms and conditions of the West Bravo Dome Carbon Dioxide Gas Unit Agreement.

(9) On August 10, 2010, the Commissioner of Public Lands granted preliminary approval of the proposed enlargement of the West Bravo Dome Carbon

Dioxide Gas Unit Area and found that the proposed enlargement of the Unit Area (i) will tend to promote the conservation of oil and gas and the better utilization of reservoir energy, (ii) will result in the State of New Mexico receiving its fair share of the recoverable oil or gas in place under its lands and the proposed unit area, and (iii) in other respects is in the best interest of the trust.

(10) All acreage in the enlarged Unit Area has been reasonably proven productive of carbon dioxide and the allocation of unitized substances to the separately owned tracts on a straight acreage basis as required by the Unit Agreement will therefore be fair, reasonable and will protect the correlative rights of all owners in the enlarged Unit Area.

(11) Hess presented testimony that demonstrates that:

- A. Sufficient working interest and royalty interest within the expanded Unit area have been voluntarily committed to afford effective control of unit operations to the Unit Plan;
- B. The unit as expanded covers an area that can be reasonably developed under a unit plan;

(12) No interested party appeared or otherwise objected to the proposed unit agreement.

(13) The approval of the proposed enlargement of the Unit Area for the West Bravo Dome Carbon Dioxide Gas Unit will serve to prevent waste and protect correlative rights within the lands being assigned to the Unit Area.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) The application of Hess Corporation is hereby approved for enlargement of the West Bravo Dome Carbon Dioxide Gas Unit. The horizontal boundaries of the Unit as enlarged shall comprise the following-described 76,949.58 acres, more or less, of federal, State of New Mexico, and fee lands in Harding County, New Mexico, save and except any tracts or interests that have not been effectively committed to the Unit.

**TOWNSHIP 20 NORTH, RANGE 29 EAST, NMPM**

Section 21: SW/4 SW/4, E/2 W/2, W/2 SE/4, SE/4 SE/4  
Section 27: W/2 SW/4, SE/4 SW/4  
Section 28: S/2 NE/4, NW/4 NE/4, NW/4, S/2  
Section 29: S/2  
Section 30: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, SW/4 NE/4, SE/4  
Section 31: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Sections 32 through 33: All  
Section 34: W/2 NE/4, SE/4 NE/4, NW/4, S/2  
Section 35: SW/4

**TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 29 EAST, NMPM**

Section 1: Lot 4, SW/4 NW/4, S/2  
Section 2: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 3: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 6: Lots 1-7, SE/4 NW/4, S/2 NE/4, E/2 SW/4, SE/4 (All)  
Section 7: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
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Section 19: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Sections 20 through 22: All  
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Section 31: Lots 1-2, E/2 W/2, E/2  
Sections 32 through 36: All

**TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 30 EAST, NMPM**

Section 5: Lots 3 and 4, S/2 NW/4, SW/4  
Section 6: Lots 1-7, SE/4 NW/4, S/2 NE/4, SE/4 SW/4, SW/4 SE/4  
Section 7: Lots 1-4, E/2 NW/4, W/2 NE/4, SE/4 NE/4, NE/4 SW/4,  
NW/4 SE/4, SE/4 SE/4  
Section 8: N/2 SW/4, SW/4 SW/4  
Section 17: SW/4  
Section 18: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, W/2 NE/4, SE/4 NE/4, SE/4  
Section 19: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 20: W/2, E/2 NE/4, N/2 SE/4  
Section 29: W/2, SE/4  
Section 30: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 31: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 32: W/2, W/2 E/2, SE/4 NE/4, E/2 SE/4  
Section 33: NW/4 SW/4, SE/4 NE/4, NE/4 SE/4, S/2 S/2  
Section 34: SW/4, W/2 SE/4

**TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 29 EAST, NMPM**

Section 1: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 2: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 3: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 6: Lots 1-3, S/2 NE/4, SE/4 NW/4, E/2 SW/4, SE/4  
Section 7: E/2 NW/4, E/2  
Sections 8 through 16: All

Section 17: W/2, NE/4, W/2 SE/4, NE/4 SE/4  
Section 18: E/2  
Section 19: E/2 E/2  
Sections 20 through 28: All  
Section 29: E/2, E/2 W/2, W/2 NW/4, NW/4 SW/4  
Section 32: E/2, E/2 NW/4  
Sections 33 through 36: All

**TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 30 EAST, NMPM**

Section 3: Lots 2, 3, 4, SW/4 NE/4, NW/4 SE/4, S/2 NW/4, SW/4  
Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 6: Lots 1-7, SE/4 NW/4, S/2 NE/4, E/2 SW/4, SE/4 (All)  
Section 7: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Section 8: All  
Section 9: All  
Section 10: W/2 NE/4, SE/4, W/2  
Section 11: S/2  
Sections 15 through 17: All  
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Sections 27 through 29: All  
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Section 31: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2 (All)  
Sections 32 through 35: All

**TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 29 EAST, NMPM**

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Section 2: Lots 1-4, SW/4 NE/4, S/2 NW/4  
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Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 5: Lot 1, SE/4 NE/4  
Section 9: NE/4 NW/4

**TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 30 EAST, NMPM**

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Section 2: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2 (All)  
Section 3: Lots 1-4, SW/4 NE/4, S/2 NW/4, S/2  
Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, N/2 S/2, S/2 SW/4

Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, SE/4, E/2 SW/4  
Section 6: Lots 1-7, SE/4 NW/4, S/2 NE/4, E/2 SW/4, W/2 SE/4  
Section 8: N/2  
Section 9: N/2, NE/4 SW/4, SE/4  
Section 10: All  
Section 11: N/2, W/2 SW/4  
Section 12: W/2 NW/4  
Section 14: NW/4 NW/4  
Section 15: N/2 N/2, NW/4 SE/4, N/2 SW/4

(2) Notwithstanding any of the provisions contained in the unit agreement, this approval shall not be considered as waiving or relinquishing, in any manner, any right, duty, or obligation that is now, or may hereinafter be, vested in the Division to supervise and control operations for the unit and production of carbon dioxide gas there from.

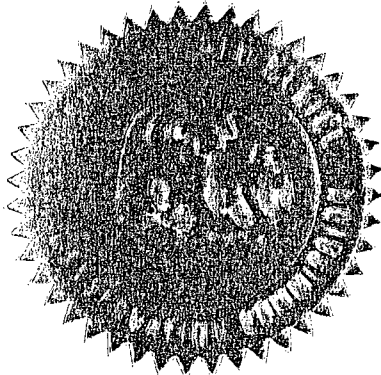
(3) The unit operator shall file with the Division, within 30 days after the date of this Order, copies of the Unit Agreement reflecting the subscription of those interests having joined or ratified in the enlarged Unit Area.

(4) All: (i) plans of development and operation; (ii) creations, expansions or contractions of participating areas; and (iii) expansions or contractions of the unit area shall be submitted to the Division Director for approval.

(5) This order shall become effective upon approval of the expansion of the Unit Area by the Commissioner of Public Lands for the State of New Mexico and the Authorized Officer of the Bureau of Land Management for the United States of America.

(6) Jurisdiction of this case is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.



SEAL

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mark E. Fesmire".

MARK E. FESMIRE, P.E.  
Acting Director