

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICATION OF SHELL WESTERN E&P INC.  
FOR APPROVAL OF AN UNORTHODOX GAS WELL  
LOCATION FOR ITS ANTELOPE RIDGE UNIT  
NO. 9 WELL TO BE DRILLED 1285 FEET FROM  
THE SOUTH LINE AND 660 FEET FROM THE EAST  
LINE (UNIT LETTER P) OF SECTION 33, TOWN-  
SHIP 23 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, N.M.P.M.,  
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, AND TO BE COMPLETED  
AS A WILDCAT GAS WELL IN THE ELLENBURGER  
FORMATION UNDERLYING SAID LOCATION OR AS  
A DEVELOPMENT WELL IN THE ANTELOPE RIDGE-  
DEVONIAN GAS POOL, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO,  
OR AS A MULTIPLE COMPLETION IN THE ZONES

CASE NO. 8272

APPLICATION

Comes now SHELL WESTERN E&P INC. ("Applicant"), and applies for an order granting it an exception to the well location requirements of Rule 104 B.I.(a) of the Division Rules and Regulations of statewide application and the well location requirements of Rule 4 of the Special Rules and Regulations for the Antelope Ridge-Devonian Gas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, for its Antelope Ridge Unit No. 9 Well, to be drilled at an unorthodox gas well location and in support of its application states:

I.

Applicant intends to drill its Antelope Ridge Unit No. 9 Well 1285 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the East

line (Unit Letter P) of Section 33, Township 23 South, Range 34 East, N.M.P.M., Lea County, New Mexico, and to complete the well as a wildcat gas well in the Ellenburger formation underlying said location or as a development well in the Antelope Ridge-Devonian Gas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, or as a multiple completion in the zones.

## II.

The Antelope Ridge Unit No. 9 Well will be drilled a distance of one mile or more from the outer boundary of any defined pool which has produced oil or gas from the Ellenburger formation. The Ellenburger formation may reasonably be presumed to be productive of gas rather than oil, and for the purposes of the Ellenburger test, the drilling tract will consist of the South one-half (S½) of Section 33, Township 23 South, Range 34 East, N.M.P.M., containing 320 surface contiguous acres, more or less, in accordance with Rule 104 B.I.(a) of the Division Rules and Regulations. The well will be located closer than 330 feet to a governmental quarter-quarter section line.

## III.

For the purposes of the Devonian test, the Antelope Ridge Unit No. 9 Well will be located on a standard unit containing 640 acres, more or less, consisting of Section 33, Township 23 South, Range 34 East, N.M.P.M., Lea County, New Mexico, in accordance with Rule 2 of the Special Rules and Regulations for

the Antelope Ridge-Devonian Gas Pool. Rule 4 of the special pool rules requires wells completed in the pool to be located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , or SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of a governmental section and no nearer than 330 feet to any governmental quarter-quarter section line. The well will be located in the Southeast quarter of the Southeast quarter (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section 33 and nearer than 330 feet to a governmental quarter-quarter section line.

IV.

The necessity for the unorthodox location is based upon geologic conditions.

V.

The persons identified on Exhibit "A" to this application are the only operators of proration or spacing units offsetting the units for which the unorthodox location is sought. The persons identified on Exhibit "A" have been notified by certified or registered mail of this application.

VI.

The granting of this application will prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

THEREFORE, Applicant requests that this application be set for hearing before an examiner and that notice of said hearing be given as required by law and that upon hearing, the Division enter its order granting the Applicant permission to drill a well 1285 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the East line (Unit Letter P) of Section 33, Township 23 South, Range 34

East, N.M.P.M., Lea County, New Mexico, as requested in this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for Applicant  
Shell Western E&P Inc.

EXHIBIT A  
TO  
APPLICATION OF SHELL WESTERN E&P INC.

Offset Operators

Conoco Inc.  
P.O. Box 1959  
Midland, TX 79702

Monsanto Oil Company  
1300 One First City Center  
Midland, TX 79701

Phillips Oil Company  
4001 Penbrook  
Odessa, TX 79762

Texas West Oil & Gas Corp.  
1480 One Midland National Center  
Midland, TX 79701

J. C. Williamson  
P.O. Box 16  
890 One Midland Center  
Midland, TX 79702