# STATE OF NEW MEATOU 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. 13550 ORDER NO. R-12429

APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR APPROVAL OF A UNIT AGREEMENT, CHAVES COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

## **ORDER OF THE DIVISION**

# **BY THE DIVISION:**

This case came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on September 8, 2005, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005, 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, Yates Petroleum Corporation ("Yates"), seeks approval of the Lacrosse State Exploratory Unit Agreement for all oil and gas in any and all formations from the surface to the top of the Pre-Cambrian formation underlying the following-described 3,840 acres, more or less, of State and fee lands in Chaves County, New Mexico:

### TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST. NMPM,

Section 22: All Sections 27 and 28: All Sections 32 through 34: All

- (3) The applicant appeared at the hearing through legal counsel. Evidence was presented at the hearing to support the application.
- (4) At the hearing, legal counsel for the applicant stated that the publication notice and the docket advertisement for this case incorrectly described the proposed unit as containing 3,800 acres. The Division determined that re-advertisement of this case is not necessary because 100% of the working interest is voluntarily committed to the unit and therefore, there are no affected parties.
  - (5) The evidence presented to support this application further demonstrates that:
    - (a) the primary objective within the Lacrosse State Exploratory Unit is the Siluro-Devonian interval; and
    - (b) the initial well will be drilled at a standard gas well location 660 feet from the North and West lines (Unit D) of Section 32, Township 11 South, Range 27 East.
- (6) No other interested party appeared at the hearing or otherwise objected to the proposed unit.
- (7) Approval of the proposed unit agreement should promote the prevention of waste and protection of correlative rights within the unit area.

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) Pursuant to the application of Yates Petroleum Corporation, the Lacrosse State Exploratory Unit Agreement is hereby approved for all oil and gas in any and all formations from the surface to the top of the Pre-Cambrian formation underlying the following-described 3,840 acres, more or less, of State and fee lands in Chaves County, New Mexico:

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Section 22: All Sections 27 and 28: All Sections 32 through 34: All

- (2) The plan contained in the unit agreement for the development and operation of the unit area is hereby approved in principle as a proper conservation measure; provided however, 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 hereafter be, vested in the Division to supervise and control operations for the unit and production of oil and gas therefrom.
- (3) The unit operator shall file with the Division an executed original or executed counterpart of the unit agreement within 30 days after the effective date thereof. In the event of subsequent joinder by any other party or expansion or contraction of the unit area, the unit operator shall file with the Division, within 30 days, copies of the unit agreement reflecting the subscription of those interests having joined or ratified.
- (4) All plans of (i) development and operation; (ii) creation, expansion or contraction of participating areas; or (iii) expansion or contraction of the unit area shall be submitted to the Director for approval.
- (5) This order shall become effective upon the approval of the unit agreement by the Commissioner of Public Lands for the State of New Mexico. This order shall terminate upon the termination of the unit agreement. The last unit operator shall notify the Division immediately in writing of such termination.
- (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.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

MARK E. FESMIRE, P.E.

Director

SEAL