

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

**APPLICATION OF DELAWARE ENERGY, LLC
FOR AUTHORIZATION TO INJECT SALT WATER
FOR PURPOSES OF DISPOSAL THROUGH ITS
PROPOSED BEAR TRAP SWD #1 WELL,
EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

CASE NO. 16258

PRE-HEARING STATEMENT

3Bear Delaware Operating – NM, LLC ("3Bear") provides this Pre-Hearing Statement as required by the rules of the Division.

APPEARANCES

APPLICANT

Delaware Energy, LLC

APPLICANT'S ATTORNEY

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OPPONENTS

Foundation Minerals, LLC, Mavros
Minerals LLC, and Oak Valley
Mineral and Land, L.P.

OPPONENTS' ATTORNEYS

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LLC

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STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Applicant seeks an order authorizing the injection of produced water for disposal purposes through its proposed Giant Panda SWD #1, with a surface location 240 feet from the South line and 175 feet from the East line Unit P of Section 9, Township 24 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico. The maximum proposed daily injection rate will be approximately 25,000 barrels per day. The proposed injection will occur within the Devonian formation at a depth of approximately 13,255 feet to 14,255 feet deep. The maximum injection pressure will be 2,656 psi.

Opponents Foundation Minerals, LLC, Mavros Minerals LLC, and Oak Valley Mineral and Land, L.P. (collectively “Foundation et al”) own mineral interests beneath the Black River Ranch, which is located in Sections 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11, Township 24 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico. The Black River Ranch’s surface is owned by BC Operating, Inc., of which the Opponents Foundation et al are wholly-owned subsidiaries. Opponents initially discussed with Applicant its plans to drill SWD wells on the Black River Ranch, but the parties were unable to come to agreement. Subsequently, Opponents Foundation et al entered into an agreement with 3Bear Delaware Operating - NM, LLC to drill and operate SWD wells on the

Ranch. 3Bear applied for a permit for the first of these planned wells—the Carlsbad 960 SWD well—on June 25, 2018.

Applicant filed the instant application shortly after Opponents Foundation et al proposed their SWD plans for the Black River Ranch to Applicant. In total, Applicant has proposed four SWD wells. In an apparent effort to interfere with Opponents' agreement with 3Bear, all four wells are located directly adjacent to the boundaries of the Black River Ranch. Applicant gave no notice to Foundation Minerals, LLC, Mavros Minerals LLC, Oak Valley Mineral and Land, L.P., BC Operating, or 3Bear of the filing of its SWD applications. Applicant does not have a business lease with the State Land Office and did not get a right of entry to survey from the State. The State Land Office has denied Applicant's location and will not grant Applicant an SWD agreement, business lease or right-of-way. Furthermore, Applicant did not have the surface owners' permission to cross their lands to survey its well location, and therefore has trespassed. For these reasons among others to be fully supported at hearing, all of the Opponents oppose the subject well.

Opponent 3Bear joins Opponents Foundation et al in opposing Applicant's proposed SWD well for all of the reasons stated above among others to be fully supported at hearing.

PROPOSED EVIDENCE

APPLICANT

WITNESSES

EST. TIME

EXHIBITS

Unknown at this time.

OPPONENT FOUNDATION ET AL

WITNESSES

EST. TIME

EXHIBITS

Brian Arnold – Landman

10 min.

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OPPONENT 3BEAR

WITNESSES

EST. TIME

EXHIBITS

Kevin Burns

10 min.

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PROCEDURAL MATTERS

None.

Respectfully submitted,

BEATTY & WOZNIAK, P.C.

By: 

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*Attorneys for 3Bear Delaware Operating –
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served on the following counsel of record by electronic mail on July 5, 2018:

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