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STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICATION OF MARATHON
OIL PERMIAN LLC FOR APPROVAL
OF A SPACING UNIT, COMPULSORY POOLING

LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 20169 (Re-opened)

**APPLICATION** 

Marathon Oil Permian LLC ("Marathon"), OGRID Number 372098, through its

undersigned attorneys, hereby makes an application to the Oil Conservation Division to re-open

Case No. 20619. In Case No. 20169, Marathon sought an order: (1) approving the creation of a

320-acre, more or less, spacing unit covering the W/2 of Section 18, Township 24 South, Range

34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico underlying the Wolfcamp formation; and (2) pooling

all uncommitted mineral interests in the proposed spacing unit. In support of this application,

Marathon states as follows:

1. Marathon is an interest owner in the subject lands and has a right to drill a well

thereon.

2. Marathon seeks to dedicate the W/2 of Section 18, Township 24 South, Range 34

East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico underlying the Wolfcamp formation to form a 320-acre,

more or less, spacing unit.

3. Marathon plans to drill the Ned Pepper 18 WA Federal Com 2H, Ned Pepper 18

WXY Federal Com 6H, and Ned Pepper 18 WA Federal Com 9H wells to a depth sufficient to

test the Wolfcamp formation. These wells will be horizontally drilled and will comply with the

Division's setback requirements. The location of the Ned Pepper Federal 24 34 18 WXY 6H well is less than 330' from the adjoining 40-acre tracts and the Division's rules allow for the inclusion of proximity tracts within the proposed spacing unit for the wells.

- 4. This case went to hearing on May 16, 2019.
- 5. After hearing, Marathon discovered additional mineral owners who were not provided notice of the May 16, 2019 compulsory pooling hearing.
- 6. To provide proper notice to these additional mineral owners and to bring their interests under the terms of the order Marathon seeks in this case, Marathon requests that this case be re-opened for the limited purpose of pooling the newly identified mineral interest owners.

WHEREFORE, Marathon requests this case be re-opened and that this application be set for hearing before an Examiner of the Oil Conservation Division on August 22, 2019, and after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter its order:

- A. Approving the creation of a 320-acre, more or less, spacing unit covering the W/2 of Section 18, Township 24South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico covering the Wolfcamp formation;
- B. Pooling all mineral interests in the Wolfcamp formation underlying this spacing unit;
- C. Designating Marathon as operator of this unit and the well to be drilled thereon;
- D. Authorizing Marathon to recover its costs of drilling, equipping and completing this well;
- E. Approving actual operating charges and costs charged for supervision, together with a provision adjusting the rates pursuant to the COPAS accounting procedure;

- F. Setting a 200% charge for the risk involved in drilling and completing the well in the event a working interest owner elects not to participate in the well.
- G. Allowing a period of one (1) year between when the first well is drilled and when completion operations are commenced for the first well under the order.

Respectfully submitted,

MODRALL, SPERLING, ROEHL, HARRIS & SISK, P.A.

By:

Deana M. Bennett Post Office Box 2168

500 Fourth Street NW, Suite 1000

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-2168

Telephone: 505.848.1800 Attorney for Applicant CASE NO. 20169 (Re-Opened): Application of Marathon Oil Permian LLC to Re-Open Case 20169, Lea County, New Mexico To Pool Additional Mineral Owners. Applicant seeks to reopen Case No. 20169 to pool additional mineral owners not previously identified. Applicant seeks an order from the Division: (1) approving the creation of a 320-acre, more or less, spacing unit covering the W/2 of Section 18, Township 24 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico underlying the Wolfcamp formation; and (2) pooling all uncommitted mineral interests in the proposed spacing unit. This proposed spacing unit will be dedicated to the Ned Pepper 18 WA Federal Com 2H, Ned Pepper 18 WXY Federal Com 6H, and Ned Pepper 18 WA Federal Com 9H wells, to be horizontally drilled. The producing area for the wells will be orthodox. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said wells, the allocation of these costs as well as the actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of Marathon as operator of the wells, and a 200% charge for risk involved in drilling said wells, and allowing a one year period between when the first well is drilled and when completion operations are commenced for the first well drilled. Said area is located approximately 20 miles northwest of Jal, New Mexico.