

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

**APPLICATION OF NORDSTRAND ENGINEERING,
INC. TO REMOVE NORTHERN PACIFIC OIL AND
GAS, INC. AS OPERATOR OF RECORD FOR THE
BULL MOOSE 2 STATE COM #001H WELL
ROOSEVELT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

CASE NO. 23551

**COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS'
PRE-HEARING STATEMENT**

Stephanie Garcia Richard, Commissioner of Public Lands of the State of New Mexico (the “Commissioner”) and the New Mexico State Land Office, by and through undersigned counsel, hereby provides this pre-hearing statement as required by 19.15.4.13(B) NMAC and the Pre-Hearing Order issued on June 5, 2023 in the above title action. The Commissioner supports Nordstrand Engineering, Inc’s (“Nordstrand”) application to take operatorship of Bull Moose 2 State Com #001H (API 30-041-20935) (the “Well”) for the purpose of plugging the Well and reclaiming the site.

The Commissioner does not dispute the following facts stated in Nordstrand’s Pre-Hearing Statement, filed on May 25, 2023:

1. Nordstrand was the last lessee of record for state oil and gas lease V0-8065-02 (the “Lease”);
2. No assignment of the Lease was submitted to or approved by the Commissioner before the Lease was cancelled and Nordstrand remains the last lessee of record;

3. The State Land Office requested on June 21, 2021 that Nordstrand plug the Well and reclaim the site;

4. Subsequently, the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division approved a change of operator from Nordstrand to Northern Pacific Oil & Gas, Inc. (“Northern Pacific”);

5. The State Land Office renewed its request that Nordstrand, or Northern Pacific, plug the Well and reclaim the site on November 2, 2022;

6. The Commissioner filed suit on February 14, 2023, seeking *inter alia* an injunction requiring Nordstrand and Northern Pacific to plug the Well and reclaim the site;

7. The Commissioner and Nordstrand are in negotiations concerning the settlement of the lawsuit.

Proposed Evidence

The Commissioner does not intend to present witness testimony or exhibits other than any rebuttal testimony or exhibits which may be necessary. If necessary, the Commissioner intends to call Allison Marks, Director of the Oil, Gas & Minerals Division of the State Land Office to offer rebuttal testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Richard H. Moore

Richard Moore
Associate Counsel
NEW MEXICO STATE LAND OFFICE
P.O. Box 1148
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1148
(505) 827-5752
rmoore@slo.state.nm.us
*Counsel for Stephanie Garcia Richard,
Commissioner of Public Lands of the State
of New Mexico, and New Mexico
State Land Office*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on June 29, 2023, I served a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance by electronic mail on the following:

Sharon T. Shaheen
Montgomery & Andrews, P.A.
P.O. Box 2307
Santa Fe, NM 87504-2307
325 Paseo de Peralta
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 986-2678
sshveen@montand.com
Attorney for Nordstrand Engineering, Inc.

Santiago Garcia
Chief Executive Officer
Northern Pacific Oil and Gas, Inc.
3050 Post Oak Blvd Suite #510
Houston, TX 77056
(713) 903-7048
santiago.garcia@npacificoil.com

/s/ Richard H. Moore