

C. When the division determines that the preceding conditions exist, it shall make findings to that effect and make an order creating the unit and providing for the unitization and unitized operation of the pool or portion thereof described in the order, all upon such terms and conditions as may be shown by the evidence to be fair, reasonable, equitable and which are necessary or proper to protect and safeguard the respective rights and obligations of the working interest owners and royalty owners.

History: 1953 Comp., § 65-14-6, enacted by Laws 1975, ch. 293, § 6; 1977, ch. 255, § 112.

70-7-7. Division orders.

The order providing for unitization and unit operation of a pool or part of a pool shall be upon terms and conditions that are fair, reasonable and equitable and shall approve or prescribe a plan or unit agreement for unit operation which shall include:

- A. a legal description in terms of surface area of the pool or part of the pool to be operated as a unit and the vertical limits to be included, termed "the unit area";
- B. a statement of the nature of the operations contemplated;
- C. an allocation to the separately owned tracts in the unit area of all the oil and gas that is produced from the unit area and is saved, being the production that is not used in the conduct of operations on the unit area or not unavoidably lost;
- D. a provision for the credits and charges to be made in the adjustment among the owners in the unit area for their respective investments in wells, tanks, pumps, machinery, materials and equipment contributed to the unit operations;
- E. a provision governing how the costs of unit operations, including capital investments, shall be determined and charged to the separately owned tracts and how the costs shall be paid, including a provision providing when, how and by whom the unit production allocated to an owner who does not pay the share of the costs of unit operations charged to that owner or the interest of that owner may be sold and the proceeds applied to the payment of costs;
- F. a provision for carrying any working interest owner on a limited, carried or net-profits basis, payable out of production, upon such terms and conditions determined by the division to be just and reasonable and allowing an appropriate charge for interest for such service payable out of the owner's share of production; provided that any nonconsenting working interest owner being so carried shall be deemed to have relinquished to the unit operator all of its operating rights and working interest in and to the unit until his share of the costs are repaid, plus an amount not to exceed two hundred percent of such costs as a nonconsent penalty, with maximum penalty amount in each case to be determined by the division;
- G. a provision designating the unit operator and providing for the supervision and conduct of the unit operations, including the selection, removal or substitution of an operator from among the working interest owners to conduct the unit operations;
- H. a provision for a voting procedure for the decision of matters to be decided by the working interest owners in respect to which each working interest owner shall have a voting interest equal to its unit participation;
- I. the time when the unit operation shall commence and the manner in which and the circumstances under which the operations shall terminate and for the settlement of accounts upon termination; and
- J. such additional provisions as are found to be appropriate for carrying on the unit operations and for the protection of correlative rights and the prevention of waste.

History: 1953 Comp., § 65-14-7, enacted by Laws 1975, ch. 293, § 7; 1977, ch. 255, § 113; 1986, ch. 55, § 1.

The 1986 amendment, effective May 21, 1986, at

the end of Subsection F, added the language following "in and to the unit until" and made minor stylistic changes throughout the section.

BEFORE THE
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Case No. 13503 & 04 Exhibit No. 18

Submitted By:

Apache Corporation

Hearing Date: June 16, 2005