

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
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. 15172  
ORDER NO. R-13817-A**

**APPLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR  
CREATION OF A NEW MANCOS OIL POOL FOR HORIZONTAL WELL  
DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE WPX PROJECT AREA AS DEFINED IN CASE  
NO. 15102, ORDER NO. R-13817, IN SANDOVAL AND RIO ARRIBA  
COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO.**

**ORDER OF THE DIVISION**

**BY THE DIVISION:**

This case came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on September 4, 2014, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Scott Dawson.

NOW, on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2014, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner,

**FINDS THAT:**

(1) Due public notice has been given as required by law, and the Division has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this case.

(2) The applicant, the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division ("OCD" or "Applicant"), seeks an order to create a new Mancos oil pool for horizontal well development within the WPX Energy Production ("WPX") Northeast Chaco Horizontal Well Project Area as defined in Case No. 15102, Division Order No. R-13817 for the following-described area in Rio Arriba and Sandoval Counties, New Mexico.

**TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH, RANGE 6 WEST, NMPM**

Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2

Section 6: Lots 1-7, S/2 NE/4, SE/4 NW/4, E/2 SW/4, SE/4

Section 7: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2

Section 8: All

Section 16: S/2, NW/4

Section 17: Lots 1-7, NE/4 NE4, S/2  
Section 18: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2  
Section 19: All

**TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, NMPM**

Section 1: Lots 5-20  
Section 11: Lots 1-2, S/2 NW/4, NE/4, S/2  
Section 12: Lots 1-3, NW/4 SW/4, SE/4, N/2  
Section 13: All  
Section 14: All  
Section 15: E/2, SW/4  
Section 24: All

(3) The OCD provided an affidavit, marked and entered as Exhibit A, that reviewed Case No. 15102, Division Order No. R-13817, and provided the following information.

- (a) the approved 9,238-acre Project Area contains three Gallup pools; the Escrito- Gallup Associated Pool (pool code 22619), the Counselors-Gallup-Dakota Oil Pool (pool code 13379), and the Lybrook-Gallup Oil Pool (pool code 42289).
- (b) the three Gallup pools are laterally continuous across the entire project area and reservoir data indicates that reservoir pressures and fluids are consistent and compatible. The affidavit also stated the three pools are essentially one pool and have a common source of supply.
- (c) there are no fluid sensitivity issues, no loss of reserves due to cross flow, and the value of the total remaining reserves will not be reduced by combining the three pools into one horizontal oil pool.
- (d) the vertical limits of this pool should be from the base of the Point Lookout Sandstone to the base of the Greenhorn Member of the Mancos formation.
- (e) all existing and future vertical wells in the Mancos formation within the Project Area should remain dedicated and subject to the existing Gallup oil pools in the Project Area.
- (f) horizontal wells drilled within the Project Area should be drilled anywhere within the Project Area so long as no portion of the completed interval is closer than 330 feet to the outer boundary of the Project Area unless allowed by the Division pursuant to 19.15.15.13 NMAC.
- (g) to prevent waste and protect correlative rights, the new horizontal oil pool should be developed on 320-acre spacing units.

- (h) two non-standard 160-acre proration units in Section 16, Township 23 North, Range 6 West, NMPM, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico and in Section 15, Township 23 North, Range 7 West, NMPM, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico should be allowed.
- (i) creation of this new Mancos oil pool for horizontal oil wells in the approved Project Area will enable more orderly development of this resource with less waste and continued protection of correlative rights.
- (j) creation of this new Mancos oil pool for horizontal wells in the approved Project Area should allow for regulatory ease in reporting production.
- (k) the new Mancos oil pool for horizontal well development should be named the Northeast Chaco Unit HZ Oil Pool.

(4) WPX provided exhibits marked and entered as Exhibits 1 and 2 containing Communitization Agreement (CA) Approval letters from the Bureau of Land Management (Exhibit 1- CA Approval Letter dated July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014) and New Mexico State Land Office (Exhibit 2 - CA Approval Letter dated September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014).

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) The creation of a new Mancos oil pool for horizontal oil well development solely within the WPX Northeast Chaco Horizontal Well Project Area as defined in Case No. 15102, Division Order No. R-13817, is hereby approved for the following-described area in Rio Arriba and Sandoval Counties, New Mexico.

**TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH, RANGE 6 WEST, NMPM**

Section 5: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, S/2  
Section 6: Lots 1-7, S/2 NE/4, SE/4 NW/4, E/2 SW/4, SE/4  
Section 7: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2  
Section 8: All  
Section 16: S/2, NW/4  
Section 17: Lots 1-7, NE/4 NE/4, S/2  
Section 18: Lots 1-4, E/2 W/2, E/2  
Section 19: All

**TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, NMPM**

Section 1: Lots 5-20  
Section 11: Lots 1-2, S/2 NW/4, NE/4, S/2  
Section 12: Lots 1-3, NW/4 SW/4, SE/4, N/2  
Section 13: All  
Section 14: All  
Section 15: E/2, SW/4  
Section 24: All