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

APPLICATION OF XTO ENERGY INC. FOR A NON-STANDARD SPACING AND PRORATION UNIT, AND COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO. CASE NO. 15832

## **APPLICATION**

XTO Energy Inc., ("XTO") through its undersigned attorneys, hereby files this application with the Oil Conservation Division pursuant to the provisions of N.M. Stat. Ann. § 70-2-17, for an order (1) authorizing a non-standard spacing unit in the Purple Sage Wolfcamp Gas Pool (98220); (2) creating a 480-acre non-standard spacing and proration unit comprised of the W/2 of Section 24 and the NW/4 of Section 25, Township 23 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico; (3) pooling all uncommitted interests in the Wolfcamp formation underlying this acreage. In support of its application, XTO states:

- 1. XTO Energy Inc. (OGRID No. 5380) is a working interest owner in the subject acreage and has the right to drill thereon.
- 2. XTO proposes to dedicate the above-referenced spacing and proration unit as the project area for its proposed **Remuda North 25 State No. 101H Well**, which will be horizontally drilled from a surface location in the NW/4 SW/4 of Section 25 (Unit L) to a bottom hole location in the NW/4 NW/4 (Unit D) of Section 24.
- 3. The Division's district office has placed this well in the Purple Sage Wolfcamp Gas Pool (Pool Code 98220), which is subject to Special Rules pursuant to Order R-14262. The Special Rules for the Purple Sage Pool require 320-acre standard spacing for all wells. XTO requests

approval of a non-standard 160-acre spacing unit to be combined with a 320-acre standard spacing unit for the purposes of drilling a 1.5 mile well. The completed interval for this well will remain within the 330-foot standard offset required by the Special Rules.

- 4. XTO has sought and been unable to obtain voluntary agreement for the development of these lands from all of the working interest owners in the subject spacing unit.
- 5. The pooling of interests will avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, will prevent waste and will protect correlative rights.
- 6. In order to permit XTO to obtain it's just and fair share of the oil and gas underlying the subject lands, all mineral interests in this non-standard spacing unit should be pooled and XTO Energy Inc. should be designated the operator of this proposed horizontal well and spacing unit.

WHEREFORE, XTO requests that this application be set for hearing before an Examiner of the Oil Conservation Division on September 28, 2017, and, after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter an order:

- A. Authorizing a non-standard spacing unit in the Purple Sage Wolfcamp Gas Pool (98220) comprised of the NW/4 of Section 25, Township 23 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico;
- B. Creating a non-standard 480-acre non-standard spacing and proration unit comprised of the W/2 of Section 24 and the NW/4 of Section 25, Township 23 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico for compulsory pooling;
- C. Pooling all uncommitted interests in the non-standard spacing and proration unit;
- D. Designating XTO Energy Inc. operator of this non-standard spacing unit and the horizontal well to be drilled thereon;

- E. Authorizing XTO to recover its costs of drilling, equipping and completing the well;
- F. Approving the actual operating charges and costs of supervision while drilling and after completion, together with a provision adjusting the rates pursuant to the COPAS accounting procedures; and
- G. Imposing a 200% penalty for the risk assumed by XTO in drilling and completing the well against any working interest owner who does not voluntarily participate in the drilling of the well.

Respectfully submitted,

**HOLLAND & HART, LLP** 

Michael H. Feldewert

Jordan L. Kessler

Post Office Box 2208

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2208

(505) 988-4421

(505) 983-6043 Facsimile

mfeldewert@hollandhart.com

jlkessler@hollandhart.com

ATTORNEYS FOR XTO ENERGY INC.

CASE <u>158</u>32

Application of XTO Energy Inc. for a non-standard spacing and proration unit, and compulsory pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant in the above-styled cause seeks an order (1) authorizing a nonstandard spacing unit in the Purple Sage Wolfcamp Gas Pool (98220); (2) creating a 480-acre non-standard spacing and proration unit comprised of the W/2 of Section 24 and the NW/4 of Section 25, Township 23 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico; (3) pooling all uncommitted interests in the Wolfcamp formation underlying this acreage. Said non-standard unit is to be dedicated to applicant's proposed **Remuda** North 25 State No. 101H Well, which will be horizontally drilled from a surface location in the NW/4 SW/4 of Section 25 (Unit L) to a bottom hole location in the NW/4 NW/4 (Unit D) of Section 24. The completed interval for this well will remain within the 330-foot standard offset required by the Special Rules for the Purple Sage Pool. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of XTO Energy Inc. as operator of the well and a 200% charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said area is located approximately 19 miles southeast of Carlsbad, New Mexico.