

**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. 13971
ORDER NO. R-12825**

**APPLICATION OF XTO ENERGY, INC. FOR
AN EXCEPTION TO THE WELL DENSITY
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BLANCO-
MESAVERDE GAS POOL AND
SIMULTANEOUS DEDICATION, SAN JUAN
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This case came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on August 23, 2007, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David K. Brooks.

NOW, on this 24th day of October, 2007, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record and the recommendations of the Examiner,

FINDS THAT:

- (1) Due notice has been given, and the Division has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this case.
- (2) In this application, XTO Energy, Inc. ("XTO" or "Applicant") seeks approval to complete a fifth well in the Blanco-Mesa Verde Gas Pool (72319), within a previously established, non-standard 409.25-acre gas spacing and proration unit comprising the N/2 and N/2 S/2 of irregular Section 19, Township 29 North, Range 9 West, NMPM, in San Juan County, New Mexico ("the subject unit").
- (3) This case was consolidated for purposes of hearing with Case No. 13970. However, since the two cases involve different lands, separate orders are being issued.

(4) Well spacing and density in the Blanco-Mesaverde Gas Pool are governed by Rules I.A and I.B of the Special Rules and Regulations for the Blanco-Mesaverde Gas Pool, as amended by Order No. R-10987-A(1), effective December 2, 2002, which generally provide for 320-acre units, and allow up to four wells per unit, no more than two of which may be in a quarter section, and no more than one of which may be in a quarter/quarter section.

(5) By Order No. R-1097, issued in Case No. 1345 on December 18, 1957, the Oil Conservation Commission approved the establishment of the subject unit.

(6) There are presently four wells that are completed in the Mesaverde within the subject unit, as follows:

3004508174 G -19-29N-9W 1750 FNL & 1750 FEL
Well Name & Number: SNYDER GAS COM No. 001
Operator: XTO ENERGY, INC

3004522792 F -19-29N-9W 2330 FNL & 790 FWL
Well Name & Number: SNYDER GAS COM No. 001A
Operator: XTO ENERGY, INC

3004531385 I -19-29N-9W 2200 FSL & 700 FEL
Well Name & Number: SNYDER GAS COM B No. 001F
Operator: XTO ENERGY, INC

3004531889 F -19-29N-9W 2100 FNL & 780 FWL
Well Name & Number: SNYDER GAS COM B No. 001M
Operator: XTO ENERGY, INC

(7) XTO seeks to simultaneously dedicate the subject unit to its Snyder Gas Com B No. 1N (API No. 30-045-34290), to be located 1980 feet from the South line and 1125 feet from the West line (Unit K) of Section 19, in addition to the four existing wells.

(8) Division records reflect that the bottomhole location of the Snyder Gas Com B Well No. 1M is 875 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the West line (Unit C) of Section 19. Hence, although the surface locations of the Snyder Gas Com Well No. 1A and the Snyder Gas Com B Well No. 1M are both in Unit F of Section 19, these wells are completed in different quarter/quarter sections, as the special pool rules require.

(9) Since the subject unit contains 409.25 acres, instead of the 320 acres in a standard Blanco Mesaverde unit, dedication of the subject unit to five, instead of the prescribed four, wells would equate to approximately 80 acres per well, the same average well density as the special pool rules allow for a standard unit.

(10) At the hearing, XTO presented geologic testimony to the effect that:

(a) The Mesaverde in this area "is generally of low porosity and not great permeability," such that the existing wells are not draining the entire unit.

(b) While the productive zones in the Mesaverde can generally be correlated in the existing wells in the subject unit and its immediate vicinity, they are characterized by a high degree of variability in thickness, and stringers exist that are discontinuous between proximate wells, indicating that an additional well would likely encounter productive zones not present in any of the existing wells.

(11) In addition, XTO presented engineering testimony to the effect that the average drainage area calculated for the wells in the subject unit and the adjacent unit to the south, based on available geologic information and on the indicated decline curves of these wells, would be approximately 57 acres - considerably less than the 80 acres per well contemplated by the special pool rules.

(12) No other party appeared at the hearing or otherwise opposed this application.

(13) Allowing simultaneous dedication of the subject unit to the additional well proposed by Applicant would prevent waste by enabling Applicant to recover gas underlying the subject unit that cannot be produced from the existing wells, and would not impair correlative rights.

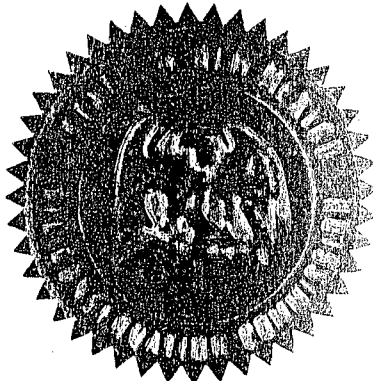
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) Applicant is granted an exception to the four-wells per unit well density provided in the Special Pool Rules for the Blanco-Mesaverde Gas Pool, as herein provided.

(2) Simultaneous dedication of the subject unit to Applicant's proposed Snyder Gas Com B No. 1N (API No. 30-045-34290), to be located 1980 feet from the South line and 1125 feet from the West line (Unit K) of Section 19, and to the four existing wells located on the subject unit and completed in the Blanco-Mesaverde Gas Pool, is hereby approved.

(3) Jurisdiction of this case is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.



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STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mark E. Fesmire".

MARK E. FESMIRE, P.E.
Director