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September 30, 2008

Florene Davidson Oil Conservation Division 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505 Case 14202

RECEIVED

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Dear Florene:

Enclosed for filing, on behalf of Mewbourne Oil Company, are an original and one copy of an application for an order authorizing the drilling of a well in the potash area, together with a proposed advertisement. The advertisement has also been e-mailed to the Division. Please set this matter for the October 30, 2008 Examiner hearing. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

ames Bruce

Attorney for Mewbourne Oil Company

## Parties Being Notified

Intrepid Potash, Inc. Suite 1700 700 17<sup>th</sup> Street Denver, Colorado 80202

Jeff Albers Oil, Gas and Minerals Division Commissioner of Public Lands 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICATION OF MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE DRILLING OF A WELL IN THE POTASH AREA, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

## **APPLICATION**

Mewbourne Oil Company, pursuant to the provisions of Division Order No. R-111-P ("The Rules and Regulations Governing the Exploration and Development of Oil and Gas in Certain Areas Herein Defined, Which Are Known to Contain Potash Reserves"), applies for an order approving the drilling of its Parkway "26" State Com. Well No. 1 to test the Morrow formation within the Potash Area, at a location 875 feet from the north line and 660 feet from the west line (Unit D) of Section 26, Township 19 South, Range 29 East, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico, and in support of thereof, states:

- 1. Applicant is an owner of oil and gas rights under the W½ of Section 26, and has the right to develop the oil and gas reserves underlying this property.
- 2. Applicant proposes to drill its Parkway "26" State Com. Well No. 1 to a total depth of approximately 11,800 feet to test the Morrow formation (Undesignated West Parkway-Morrow Gas Pool) on a standard 320-acre gas spacing unit comprised of the W½ of Section 26.
- 3. The NW¼ of Section 26, the tract upon which applicant proposes to drill, is state land that is located within the Potash Area.
- 4. Order No. R-111-P states that "no mining operations shall be conducted in the Potash Area that would, in the opinion of the Division or its duly authorized representative, constitute a hazard to oil or gas production, or that would unreasonably interfere with the orderly development and production from any oil or gas pool." C(2).

- 5. Applicant proposes to drill in an area where oil and gas are currently being produced, and therefore potash mining operations would unreasonably interfere with oil and gas development and production.
- 6. Applicant's application for permit to drill ("APD") was improperly rejected because it was not afforded the opportunity to show that potash would not be unduly affected by applicant's well.
- 7. Applicant should be afforded the opportunity to show that its proposed well location would not unduly waste commercial potash. See Order No. R-111-P  $\P$  20.
- 8. Further, by rejecting applicant's APD, the Division has denied applicant, its lessor, and other owners of the oil and gas rights underlying the W½ of Section 26 the opportunity to produce the recoverable oil and gas under their property. Unless reversed, this will cause the waste of hydrocarbons. Applicant therefore requests that this matter be set for hearing before the Division.
- 9. Since the W½ of Section 26 is unsuitable for potash mining, future oil and gas drilling in the W½ of Section 26 should be approved without the necessity of coming to hearing. Therefore, applicant also requests that applications for permit to drill in the W½ of Section 26 should not be denied simply because the area is within an LMR or the buffer zone of an LMR.
- 10. Approval of this application will protect correlative rights for it will afford applicant and the other owners of the oil and gas rights in the W½ of Section 26 the opportunity to produce their just and equitable share of the reserves under their property, for it will honor the mutual agreement between the owners of both the potash and the oil and gas interests for the development of these lands. Approval of this application will otherwise be in the best interests of conservation and the prevention of waste.

WHEREFORE, applicant requests that this application be set for hearing before an Examiner of the Division, and that, after notice and hearing, the Division enter its order authorizing applicant to drill its proposed Parkway "26" State Com. Well No. 1 to test the Morrow formation, and granting other appropriate relief.

Respectfully submitted,

ames Bruce

Post Office Box 1056

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

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Attorney for Mewbourne Oil Company

## PROPOSED ADVERTISEMENT

Case No. 14202: Application of Mewbourne Oil Company for an order authorizing the drilling of a well in the Potash Area, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order approving the drilling of its proposed Parkway "26" State Com. Well No. 1 to an approximate depth of 11,800 feet to test the Morrow formation (Undesignated West Parkway-Morrow Gas Pool) within the Oil-Potash Area, at a location 875 feet from the north line and 660 feet from the west line (Unit D) of Section 26, Township 19 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico. The W/2 of Section 26 will be dedicated to the well. Applicant also seeks approval of future oil and gas drilling in the W/2 of Section 26 without the necessity of going to hearing. The unit is located approximately 13-1/2 miles south-southwest of Loco Hills, New Mexico.