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. 14284 ORDER NO. R-13110-A

APPLICATION OF BRANEX RESOURCES, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A UNIT AGREEMENT, CHAVES COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

NUNC PRO TUNC ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This case came on for hearing at 8:15 am on March 19, 2009, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Richard Ezeanyim.

On the 14th day of April, 2009, the Division issued Order No. R-13110 in this case.

Order No. R-13110 contains one or more clerical errors.

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 30th day of April, 2009, the Division Director, having considered all relevant matter, issues this Order <u>Nunc Pro Tunc</u> in place of Order No. R-13110. The Division Director:

FINDS THAT:

- (1) Due public notice has been given, and the Division has jurisdiction of this case and its subject matter.
- (2) The applicant, Branex Resources, Inc., ("Branex" or "Applicant"), seeks approval of its Thunderhead Unit Area Agreement for all oil and gas in all formations from the surface to <u>all depths</u> including the Strawn formation underlying the following-described 2,558.40 acres, more or less, of Federal, State, and Fee lands situated in Chaves County, New Mexico:

TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST, NMPM

Section 3: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, and S/2 (All) Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, and S/2 (All)

Section 9: All Section 10: All

- (3) The Applicant presented testimony that demonstrates that:
 - (a) Although one hundred (100%) percent of the lessees will join the unit, there are a few un-leased interest owners in the Unit who have not ratified the unit agreement;
 - (b) The royalty interest ownership in the Thunderhead Unit Area is 67.19% Federal, 31.25% State, and 1.56% Fee lands;
 - (c) There are some overriding royalty interests in the Unit Area who have not ratified the unit agreement;
 - (d) The Commissioner of Public Lands and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have given preliminary approval for the proposed Unit; and
 - (e) The primary target for the initial well will be the Strawn formation, but all formations will be evaluated down to the base of the Strawn formation.
- (4) Branex Resources, Inc. requested that Primero Operating, Inc be designated the operator of the Thunderhead Unit Area.
- (5) No other party appeared at the hearing or otherwise opposed this application.
- (6) All of the proposed unit acreage appears prospective for recovery of oil and gas from the target formations under the concept proposed by the applicant. These acres should be unitized and should equally share in the benefits from future oil and gas recovery.
- (7) The approval of the proposed unit agreement will serve to prevent waste and protect correlative rights within the lands assigned to the unit area.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) The Thunderhead Unit Area Agreement executed by Branex Resources, Inc. is hereby approved for all oil and gas in all formations from the surface to <u>all depths</u> including the Strawn formation underlying the following-described 2,558.40 acres, more or less, of Federal, State, and Fee lands situated in Chaves County, New Mexico:

TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST, NMPM

Section 3: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, and S/2 (All) Section 4: Lots 1-4, S/2 N/2, and S/2 (All)

Section 9: All Section 10: All

(2) Primero Operating, Inc. (OGRID 18100) is hereby designated the operator of the Thunderhead Unit Area.

- (3) The plan contained in the Thunderhead Unit Area Agreement for the development and operation of the above-described unit area is hereby approved in principle; provided, however, notwithstanding any of the provisions contained in the unit agreement, this approval shall not be considered as waiving or relinquishing, in any manner, any right, duty, or obligation that is now, or may hereafter be, vested in the Division to supervise and control operations for the unit and production of oil and gas therefrom.
- (4) The unit operator shall file with the Division an executed original or executed counterpart of the unit agreement within 30 days of the effective date thereof; in the event of subsequent joinder by any other party, or expansion or contraction of the unit area, the unit operator shall file with the Division, within 30 days thereafter, copies of the unit agreement reflecting the subscription of those interests having joined or ratified.
- (5) All: (i) plans of development and operation; (ii) creations, expansions or contractions of participating areas; and (iii) expansions or contractions of the unit area shall be submitted to the Division Director for approval.
- (6) This order shall become effective upon the approval of the unit agreement by the New Mexico State Land Office and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This order shall terminate upon the termination of the unit agreement. The last unit operator shall notify the Division immediately in writing of such termination.
 - (7) This Order supersedes Order No. R-13110.
- (8) 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.

SEAL

STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

MARK E. FESMIRE, P.E.

Director