2017-12-07 11:01:01 Kansas Corporation Commission /s/ Lynn M. Retz

### THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION **OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

Before Commissioners:

Pat Apple, Chairman Shari Feist Albrecht Jay Scott Emler

In the matter of an Order to Show Cause issued to Midwest Energy, a General Partnership ("Operator") regarding responsibility under K.S.A. 55-179 for unplugged wells on an expired ) license.

Docket No.: 18-CONS-3102-CSHO CONSERVATION DIVISION

License No.: 8835

## **MOTION TO CLOSE DOCKET**

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Commission Staff (Staff) of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) files this Motion requesting the Commission close this docket. Closure of this docket would render unnecessary the prehearing conference scheduled for January 16, 2018. In support of its Motion, Staff states as follows:

1. On August 18, 2017, Staff filed a Motion to Show Cause, alleging an unplugged well remained on Operator's expired license in violation of Commission regulations. On October 24, 2017, the Commission issued an Order to Show Cause, setting a November 14, 2017, prehearing conference. At the prehearing conference, attorney Timothy Murphy appeared on behalf of Operator<sup>1</sup>, and the prehearing conference was continued to January 16, 2018.

2. Operator was licensed as a general partnership between Leroy & Joan Parrish, husband and wife. The license was originally issued in August 1985 and expired in July 2012. One unplugged well remains on the license.

Staff has reviewed the Parrish's most recent tax returns<sup>2</sup> and confirmed their age 3. and health status. Based upon this information, which was not available to Staff when it filed its Motion to Show Cause, Staff has concluded that the Parrish's do not have the funds to plug any

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mr. Murphy has not submitted a formal entry of appearance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Exhibit A.

wells, are unlikely to ever obtain such funds, and that further prosecution of this matter would not be a prudent use of state resources.

4. Staff believes all remaining issues regarding the well currently on Operator's license can be handled by Staff administratively, without further formal proceedings.
Accordingly, Staff moves that this docket be closed. Staff has consulted with Operator's counsel, who is not opposed to this motion.

WHEREFORE, Staff requests this motion be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan R. Myers, #25975 Litigation Counsel, Kansas Corporation Commission 266 N. Main, Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202 Phone: 316-337-6200; Fax: 316-337-6211

#### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF KANSAS ) ) ss. COUNTY OF SEDGWICK )

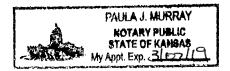
Jonathan R. Myers, of lawful age, being duly sworn upon his oath deposes and states that he is Litigation Counsel for the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas; that he has read and is familiar with the foregoing *Motion*, and attests that the statements therein are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Jonathan R. Myers, S. Ct. #25975 Litigation Counsel State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this <u>7</u> day of <u>bec</u>, 2017.

Murre Notary Public

My Appointment Expires: <u>307/19</u>



# Exhibit A Redacted

# Contains Confidential Information

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on  $\frac{12}{12}$ , I caused a complete and accurate copy of this Motion to be served via United States mail, with the postage prepaid and properly addressed to the following:

Timothy J. Murphy The Murphy Law Firm 5310 B College Boulevard Leawood, KS 66211

And via e-mail to:

Jonathan R. Myers, Litigation Counsel KCC Central Office

Michael J. Duenes, Assistant General Counsel KCC Topeka Office

<u>/s/ Paula J. Murray</u> Paula J. Murray Legal Assistant Kansas Corporation Commission