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

Before Commissioners:

Susan K. Duffy, Chair Shari Feist Albrecht Dwight D. Keen

In the matter of the failure of Prairie Gas ) Operating, LLC ("Operator") to comply with ) K.A.R. 82-3-111 at the Watson Farms #1, ) Monroe #2-4H, and Fecht D #1 in Greeley County, Kansas.

Docket No: 20-CONS-3220-CPEN CONSERVATION DIVISION

License No: 35442

## **ORDER DESIGNATING PREHEARING OFFICER** AND SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE

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This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission). Having examined its files and records, and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission finds the following:

1. On February 13, 2020, the Commission issued a *Penalty Order* against Prairie Gas Operating, LLC (Operator) for three violations of K.A.R. 82-3-111 because three wells had been inactive in excess of the time allowed by regulation without being plugged, returned to service, or approved for temporary abandonment status.<sup>1</sup> On March 13, 2020, Operator requested a hearing.<sup>2</sup>

2. The Commission finds a Prehearing Officer should be designated in this proceeding to address any matters listed in K.S.A. 77-517(b),<sup>3</sup> and a Prehearing Conference should be scheduled.

3. Although a Prehearing Officer is designated, parties are still required to file pleadings with the Commission, and filings shall be made with the Commission's Docket Room before 5:00 p.m. on the date scheduled for service. Any electronic service received after the deadline set forth in the procedural schedule, or any filing made after 5:00 p.m. on the date scheduled for service, shall be accompanied by a Motion to File Out-of-Time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Penalty Order, ¶¶ 6, 12 (Feb. 13, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Written Request for Hearing (Mar. 13, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See also K.S.A. 77-551(c).

### THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

A. The Prehearing Officer in this proceeding shall be Jonathan R. Myers, Assistant General Counsel, Kansas Corporation Commission, 266 N. Main Street, Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas, 67202-1513, telephone number (316) 337-6245, email address j.myers@kcc.ks.gov. The Commission may designate other Staff members to serve in this capacity. <u>The Commission directs</u> <u>electronic service of all filings in the docket to include service on the Prehearing Officer and</u> mailed service of all filings to be directed to the Prehearing Officer's attention.

B. A Prehearing Conference is scheduled for **Thursday**, **May 28, 2020**, **at 4:00 p.m.** by telephone. The conference call information is: telephone number (866) 620-7326, Conference Code PIN: 3902542751.

C. At the Prehearing Conference, parties shall be prepared to discuss deadlines for filing testimony and briefs, discovery procedures, scheduling of a hearing with the Commission, and any other issues that will promote the orderly and prompt resolution of this proceeding.

D. At the Prehearing Conference, without further notice, this proceeding may be converted into a conference hearing or a summary proceeding for disposition of this matter as provided by the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act (KAPA). Any party that fails to attend or participate in the Prehearing Conference, hearing, or other stage of this proceeding may be held in default under the KAPA.<sup>4</sup>

E. A corporation shall appear before the Commission by a Kansas licensed attorney.<sup>5</sup>

F. The attorney designated to appear on behalf of the agency in this proceeding is Kelcey Marsh, Litigation Counsel, telephone number (316) 337-6200, k.marsh@kcc.ks.gov.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> K.S.A. 77-506; K.S.A. 77-516(c)(7)-(8).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> K.S.A. 77-515(c); K.A.R. 82-1-228(d)(2).

# BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Duffy, Chair; Albrecht, Commissioner; Keen, Commissioner

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynn M. Retz

Executive Director

Mailed Date: \_\_\_\_\_05/12/2020

JRM

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

### 20-CONS-3220-CPEN

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of

first class mail and electronic service on 05/12/2020

FRED MACLAREN KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 1 210 E. FRONTVIEW SUITE A DODGE CITY, KS 67801 Fax: 785-271-3354 e.maclaren@kcc.ks.gov

JONATHAN R. MYERS, ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 266 N. Main St., Ste. 220 WICHITA, KS 67202-1513 Fax: 316-337-6211 j.myers@kcc.ks.gov

IAN B. ACREY Prairie Gas Operating, LLC PO BOX 2170 TULSA, OK 74101 iacrey@pge-llc.com KELCEY MARSH, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION CENTRAL OFFICE 266 N. MAIN ST, STE 220 WICHITA, KS 67202-1513 Fax: 785-271-3354 k.marsh@kcc.ks.gov

MICHELE PENNINGTON KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 1 210 E. FRONTVIEW SUITE A DODGE CITY, KS 67801 Fax: 785-271-3354 m.pennington@kcc.ks.gov

LEE THOMPSON, ATTORNEY THOMPSON LAW FIRM, LLC D/B/A THOMPSON LAW FIRM, LLC 1919 N Amidon Avenue, Ste 315 WICHITA, KS 67203-1480 Fax: 316-267-3901 Ithompson@tslawfirm.com

/S/ DeeAnn Shupe DeeAnn Shupe