# BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

| IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MERIT ENERGY COMPANY, LLC,       | ) DOCKET NO. 18-CONSCWLE     |
|--|------------------------------|
| FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF AND A LOCATION EXCEPTION FOR THE               | )<br>) CONSERVATION DIVISION |
| RIVER BEND 5 WELL LOCATED 186'<br>FNL AND 280' FEL OF LOT 1, SECTION | )                            |
| 27, TOWNSHIP 24 SOUTH, RANGE 32 WEST, IN FINNEY COUNTY, KANSAS       | ) LICENSE NO. 32446<br>)     |
|  | )                            |

### **APPLICATION**

COMES NOW Merit Energy Company, LLC, 13727 Noel Road, Suite 1200, Dallas, TX 75240, Applicant herein and respectfully states to the Commission as follows:

- 1. The Applicant is the owner of oil and gas leasehold interests and operates numerous wells located in Finney County, Kansas.
- 2. The Applicant proposes to drill the River Bend 5 at a location of 186 feet from the North line and 280 feet from the East line of Lot 1, Section 27, Township 24 South, Range 32 West, Finney County, Kansas, and complete the well in the St. Louis formation.
- 3. That the River Bend 5 well will not be drilled at a regular location as prescribed by K.A.R. 82-3-108 in that it will be closer than 330 feet from a lease boundary line.
- 4. That the Applicant seeks to drill the River Bend 5 well at the requested location in order to maximize its geological position and encounter a narrow channel in the St. Louis formation and maximize recovery from the St. Louis formation in the subject area. The location exception is based purely on the geologic setting into which the River Bend 5 will be drilled. The River Bend oil production area is comprised of wells producing from an oil-bearing sand found at the base of an incised narrow Chesterian-aged channel. The channel averages approximately 800' in width, necessitating very accurate placement of each offset well. The proposed River Bend 5 location is positioned west of the River Bend 3. This distance falls within the optimal well spacing for development within the channel but places the location within the 330' lease line distance limitation. Relocating of the current River Bend 5 proposed location westward will cause the well to miss the productive channel sands.

- 5. The St. Louis formation is not subject to a special order or basic proration order of the Commission and as such a standard drilling unit is established by K.A.R. 82-3-207 as ten acres. Applicant seeks to assign a full ten acres to the River Bend 5 well and to receive a full allowable therefor.
- 6. That the Applicant has a market for the subject well and the production and sale from the River Bend 5 well will be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission and for purposes permitted by the laws of the State of Kansas so as not to constitute waste.
- 7. That there are no unleased offset mineral owners. Applicant is the offset operator. Attached as Exhibit "1" is a listing of the names of Applicant's lessor(s) in the lease operated by Applicant that is situated less than the minimum distance from the proposed well location.
- 8. That the Applicant has sent by regular mail a copy of this Application and Notice of Pending Application to all persons listed on the attached Exhibit "1".
- 9. That attached hereto and made a part of this Application marked Exhibit "2" is a Plat showing the property on which the River Bend 5 well is sought to be drilled and completed, partially drilled or permitted wells on the property and all adjacent property and wells.
- 10. That Applicant is causing the Notice of this Pending Application to be published as required by the Commission, in *The Wichita Eagle* and *The Garden City Telegram* newspapers. Said Notice provides that unless a written protest is received by the Commission within 15 days after the date of publication of said Notice, the Application in this matter will be granted administrative approval after the 15-day period.

WHEREFORE, Applicant prays that this cause be docketed and, in the event, that no protest is made to the Commission within the time period provided, an Order be entered granting the location exception and assignment of a full allowable at the appropriate time to the River Bend 5 well and that Applicant be permitted to drill the well and complete in the St. Louis formation.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN, PRINGLE, OLIVER, WALLACE & BAUER, L.L.P.

Stanford J. Smith, Jr. #11353 100 North Broadway, Suite 500

Wichita, KS 67202

Attorneys for OXY USA Inc.

#### **VERIFICATION**

| STATE OF KANSAS    | )    |
|--------------------|------|
|                    | ) ss |
| COUNTY OF SEDGWICK | )    |

COMES NOW, Stanford J. Smith, Jr., of lawful age, being first duly sworn on his oath states:

That he is employed by Merit Energy Company, LLC, as their attorney and is authorized to make this verification; that he has read the above and foregoing Application and is familiar with the contents thereof and that the statements made therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Stanford J. Smith, Jr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this <u>Q+++</u> day of May, 2018.

DEBRA J. JACKSON

Notary Public - State of Kansas

My Appt. Expires / 0/19/2020

Notary Public

My Appointment Expires: 10/19/2020

#### **EXHIBIT 1**

### OFFSET LESSOR(S)

Section 22: JEFCO Investments, LLC PO BOX 918

Garden City, KS 67846

Arkoma Basin Exploration Company c/o Arkoma Basin Mineral, Inc. 203 East Interstate 30 Rockwall, TX 75087

The Board of Trustees of Leland Stanford Junior University c/o Bank of America PO Box 840738 Dallas, TX 75284

Chesapeake Royalty Company PO Box 18496 Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496

Hugoton II Partnership c/o JP Morgan Chase Bank PO Drawer 99084 Fort Worth, TX 76199

Regent Oil & Gas Company, L. P. PO Box 25204 Dallas, TX 75225

Kansas Royalty Holdings c/o Levent Kecik 705 Sunset Hill Rockwall, TX 75087

State of Kansas Director of Revenue Oil & Gas Division 915 SW Harrison, 3rd Floor Topeka, KS 66625 Sylvia L. Lehman, Kylie E. Mohler and Dana B. Lehman, as joint tenants c/o Sylvia Lehman 2906 Mt. Gretna Rd. Elizabethtown, PA 17022

ARJO Properties, LTD PO Box 4827 Horseshoe Bay, TX 78657

Nadine V. Hall (probably deceased in 2004) 2001 address: 16620 County Rd 220 Salida, CO 81201 (a reasonable search shows that she died in 2004 in Colorado~ no probate found)

National By-Products, Inc. PO Box 615 Des Moines, IA 50303

Thomas Felix, Arminda Felix, Jose Luis Felix and Mayra Felix, as joint tenants PO Box 2147 Garden City, KS 67846

Transportation Partners & Logistics, LLC PO Box 51647 Casper, WY 82605

O'Brate Realty, L.L.C. PO Box 1195 Garden City, KS 67846

Bonanza BioEnergy L.L.C. 1701 N. Kansas Ave. Liberal, KS 67901

Concrete By-Products of Garden City, Inc. (this corporation was dissolved in 1998 per Kansas Sec. of State website) could be care of Glen Woods 1910 E. Harding Garden City, KS 67846

Section 23: Swift Beef Company successor to Val Agri, Inc. 1770 Promontory Circle Greeley, CO 80634

> Virginia Ann Baker 112 Mohawk Hiawatha, KS 66434

> Virginia Ann Baker 522 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Hiawatha, KS 66434

Sandra Knowles 1206 Northwestern Perryton, TX 79070

Sandra Knowles 12 Rex Circle Salida, CO 81202

Frances Ruth Shalla Trust Life Estate Remainderman: Donald Gary Shalla, Robert David Shall, Richard Allan Shalla c/o Sandra Knowles 1206 Northwestern Perryton, TX 79070

Frances Ruth Shalla Trust Life Estate Remainderman: Donald Gary Shalla, Robert David Shall, Richard Allan Shalla c/o Sandra Knowles 12 Rex Circle Salida, CO 81202

BJS Main, LLC 1101 Mockingbird Lane Garden City, KS 67846 Section 26: Brookover Land Enterprises LP

P. O. Box 917

Garden City, KS 67846

Delbert Stinemetz P. O. Box 75

Garden City, KS 67846

#### **WORKING INTEREST OWNERS**

Section 22: Manuel Corporation

2020 North Bramblewood

Wichita, KS 67208

Beresco Properties, Inc. 2020 North Bramblewood

Wichita, KS 67208

Aikman Brothers, LLC 2201 Civic Circle, Suite 509 Amarillo, TX 79109

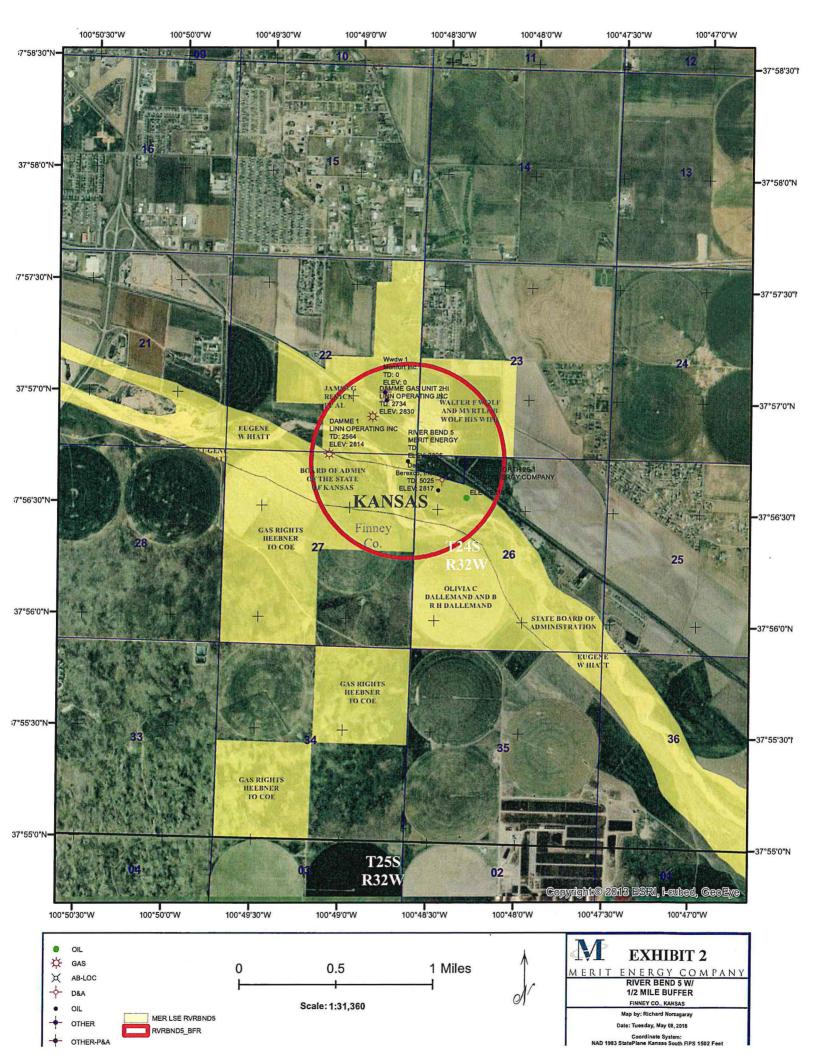
El Terico, LLC P. O. Box 2606 Amarillo, TX 79105

Rhodes Interests, LTD 110 West Louisiana Avenue Midland, TX 79701

Olive H. Daube c/o Daube Partnership LTD P. O. Box 38 Ardmore, OK 73402

Carol Daube Sutton c/o Sutton-Williams, LP P. O. Box 38 Ardmore, OK 73402

Jere Clayton Hubbard c/o Craig E. Hubbard 303 West Wall Street Midland, TX 79701



# BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

| IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION   | ) DOCKET NO. 18-CONSCWLE |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| OF MERIT ENERGY COMPANY, LLC,      | )                        |
| FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF AND A        | )                        |
| LOCATION EXCEPTION FOR THE         | ) CONSERVATION DIVISION  |
| RIVER BEND 5 WELL LOCATED 186'     | )                        |
| FNL AND 280' FEL OF LOT 1, SECTION | )                        |
| 27, TOWNSHIP 24 SOUTH, RANGE 32    | ) LICENSE NO. 32446      |
| WEST, IN FINNEY COUNTY, KANSAS     | )                        |
|                                    | )                        |

## **NOTICE OF PENDING APPLICATION**

THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS TO:

ALL OIL AND GAS PRODUCERS AND OIL AND GAS PURCHASERS, ROYALTY OWNERS, LAND OWNERS, AND ALL PERSONS WHATSOEVER CONCERNED:

YOU, and each of you, are hereby notified that Merit Energy Company, LLC, has filed an Application with the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas requesting an Order for the assignment of allowable at the appropriate time and a location exception to the River Bend 5 well located 186 feet from the North line and 280 feet from the East line of Lot 1, Section 27, Township 24 South, Range 32 West, Finney County, Kansas.

YOU are further notified that the Applicant will drill the well and complete in the St. Louis formation, and requests assignment of a full allowable to the River Bend 5 well.

YOU are further notified that unless written protest is received by the State Corporation Commission within 15 days after publication of this Notice, the Application in this matter will be granted by administrative approval after said 15-day period. Any such protest should be mailed to the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas, Conservation Division, 266 North Main, Suite 220, Wichita, Kansas 67202 and to the Applicant at the address below.

All parties in anywise interested or concerned shall take notice of the foregoing and govern themselves accordingly.

MERIT ENERGY COMPANY, LLC By: Katherine McClurkan Regulatory Analyst 13727 Noel Road, Suite 120 Dallas, TX 75240 (972) 628-1660