#### BEFORE THE OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF OXY USA WTP LP FOR AN ORDER ESTABLISHING WELL DENSITY, LOCATION AND SETBACK RULES FOR THE WILLIAMS FORK AND THE ILES FORMATIONS OF THE MESAVERDE GROUP FOR CERTAIN DESCRIBED LANDS IN THE GRAND VALLEY FIELD AREA, GARFIELD COUNTY, COLORADO

CAUSE NO. 510

DOCKET NO.

#### VERIFIED APPLICATION

COMES NOW, OXY USA WTP LP ("Applicant"), a Texas limited partnership, by its attorneys, Poulson, Odell & Peterson, LLC, and makes verified application to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado for an order establishing well density, location, and setback rules applicable to the drilling and producing of wells from the Williams Fork and the Iles Formation of the Mesaverde Group covering certain described lands in the Grand Valley Field area in Garfield County and in support of its application states and alleges as follows:

1. That Applicant is a limited partnership duly authorized to conduct business in the State of Colorado.

2. That Applicant either owns a mineral interest by fee or leasehold in all or a substantial portion of the following described lands, or has been granted the approval of such owners to include their respective lands in this Application (hereinafter "Application Lands"):

Township 5 South, Range 96 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Section 31: SE <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, and Lots 1 and 2

Township 6 South, Range 97 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

Section 2: S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, and Lots 9, 10, 15, 16, 21 and 22

Section 3: Lots 7 through 16, and S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Sections 4 and 5: All

Section 6: Lots 13 through 18, Lots 22 through 25, and E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Section 8: E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, and SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Sections 9 and 10: All

Section 11: W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, and SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Section 14: S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Sections 15 through 17: All

Section 18:  $E^{1/2}_{2}$  and  $SE^{1/4}_{4}$  NW<sup>1/4</sup>

Section 19: NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Sections 20 t	hrough 22: All
Section 23:	
Section 28 a	
Sections 32 t	
	South, Range 96 West, 6 <sup>th</sup> P.M.
Section 9:	
Section 10:	
Section 15:	
	All
	NE¼ and S½
Section 18:	N <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> , and SW <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
	N <sup>72</sup> , and SW <sup>74</sup>
Section 30:	
Dection 50.	
Township 7 South, Range 97 West, 6 <sup>th</sup> P.M.	
	Tracts 71 and 72, Amended Tract 75, Lots 5-7, and SE <sup><math>1/4</math></sup> SE <sup><math>1/4</math></sup>
	and 9: Tract 77F
•	Tracts 77B, 77C, 79E, 79F and 79G
Section 5:	Subtracts A and B of Tract 82, Subtracts A and B of Tract 83, and the
	portions of Tracts 80 and 81 lying in Section 5, and Lots 5 -10, Tracts 84
	and 85
Sections 6 and 7: All	
Section 8:	The E <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> of Tract 39 and 1.26 acres out of the NW corner of Tract 39, Lots
	1 – 8, and Tracts 85, 88 and 89
Section 9:	Lots 1 and 2, Tracts 92, 93, 94A, 94B, 94C, 94D, 94E, 94F and 95
	All
Section 11:	
Section 12:	
	All
Section 14:	
Sections 15 and 16: All	
Section 17:	Lots 1 – 9, Tracts 103 and 111, S <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> SE <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> , and Tract 89
Section 18:	Lots 5 – 10, Tracts 103 and 104, SE¼ SW¼ , SW¼ SE¼, and Tracts 89 and 91
Section 19:	Lots 5 – 9, $W^{1/2}$ NE <sup>1/4</sup> , and E <sup>1/2</sup> NW <sup>1/4</sup>
Section 20:	Lots 1-3, $E_{2}^{1/2}$ , $E_{2}^{1/2}$ , $W_{2}^{1/2}$ , and $SW_{4}^{1/2}$ SW <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Section 21:	Lots 3 and 4, Tract 112A (Echo #2), Tract 113 (Echo #3), Tract 114A,
0000011211	Tract 114 B (Echo #1 claim), tract 115A (Echo #4), Tract 124 A1 (Echo
	#6), and Lots 112B and 112 C
Section 22:	All
Sections 23 and 24: All	
Section 25:	
	N <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> and Tracts 121B and 121C

Section 26:  $N_{2}^{1/2}$ , and Tracts 121B and 121C

Section 27: Tract 120A (Texas #41), Tracts 121 B and C (Ransom #6 claim), Tract 122 (Texas #30), Tracts 123A and B (Ransom #5 claim), and Tract 124 A1 (Echo #6)

Section 28: Tract 124 A1

3. That as to a minor portion of the Application Lands, Applicant owns a leasehold interest in the following described lands (both the surface and mineral estate of which are owned by the United States of America):

Township 7 South, Range 97 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

Section 8: The E½ of Tract 39 and 1.26 acres out of the NW corner of Tract 39 Section 17: Tract 89 Section 18: Tracts 89 and 91 Section 21: Lots 112B and 112C Section 22: Tract 112B Section 26: Tracts 121C and 121B

4. That, as to the foregoing described lands in Paragraph 3 above, and the following lands included herein:

Township 5 South, Range 96 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Section 31: SE <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, and Lots 1 and 2

with respect to both the Williams Fork and Iles Formations, these two minor portions of the Application Lands are unspaced and thus subject to Commission Rule 318(a) which provides that wells to be drilled in excess of two thousand five hundred (2,500) feet in depth shall be located not less than six hundred (600) feet from any lease line, and shall be located not less than twelve hundred (1,200) feet from any other producible or drilling oil or gas well when drilling to the same common source of supply, unless authorized by order of the Commission upon hearing.

5. That other operators have drilled, tested and completed various wells in the Williams Fork and Iles Formations of the Mesaverde Group upon lands either adjoining or in the vicinity of the Application Lands on 10-acre density and with the well setbacks proposed hereinbelow, including under Commission Order 510-29 entered the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2006, as of November 27, 2006; under Commission Order 510-43 entered the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of July, 2008, as of July 15, 2008; and, under Commission Order 510-44 entered the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of August 2008, as of August 19, 2008.

6. That to promote efficient drainage within the Williams Fork and the Iles Formations of the Mesaverde Group of the Application Lands, the Commission should increase the number of wells which can be optionally drilled into and produced from the Williams Fork or the Iles Formations, or both, on these Application Lands listed hereinabove in Paragraphs 3 and 4 to the equivalent of one well per 10 acres, and furthermore, that as to all future Williams Fork and Iles Formation wells to be drilled upon the Application Lands, each well may be located downhole anywhere but no closer than one hundred (100) feet from the outside boundary of the Application Lands unless such boundary abuts or corners land in respect of which the Commission has not at the time of the drilling permit application granted the right to drill 10-acre density wells, in which event the Williams Fork and Iles Formation wells to be drilled upon the Application Lands shall be drilled downhole no closer than two hundred (200) feet from that portion of the boundary which so abuts or corners the lands in respect of which 10acre density downhole drilling for the Williams Fork or Iles Formation wells have not been ordered by the Commission.

7. That, as to the Williams Fork Formation of the Mesaverde Group alone, most of the Application Lands, save for those referenced in Paragraphs 3 and 4 hereinabove, previously have been approved for 10-acre density drilling with the 100-foot and 200-foot well setbacks referenced in Paragraph 6 hereinabove as follows:

a. As per Commission Order 510-15 entered the 26<sup>th</sup> Day of July, 2005, as of July 11, 2005:

Township 6 South, Range 97 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Section 3: Lots 7 through 16, and S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Sections 4 and 5: All Lots 13 through 18, Lots 22 through 25, and E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Section 6: E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, and SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Section 8: Sections 9 and 10: All Sections 15 through 17: All Section 18: E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Section 19: NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, and E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Sections 20, 29 and 32: All

Township 7 South, Range 97 West, 6th P.M.Section 5:Subtracts A and B of Tract 82, Subtracts A and B of Tract 83, and<br/>the portions of Tracts 80 and 81 lying in Section 5Sections 6 and 7:All

b. As per Commission Order 510-18 entered the 8<sup>th</sup> Day of February, 2006, as of January 9, 2006:

Township 6 South, Range 97 West,  $6^{th}$  P.M.Section 2: S½Section 11: W½, and SE ¼Section 14: S½Sections 21 and 22: AllSections 28 and 33: All

c. As per Commission Order 510-20 entered the 9<sup>th</sup> Day of May, 2006, as of April 24, 2006:

Township 6 South, Range 97 West, 6th P.M.Section 14:N½ (?)Section 23:NW¼Section 27:All (?)

d. As per Commission Order 510-26 entered October 11, 2006, as of September 18, 2006:

Township 6 South, Range 97 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Section 34: Lots 1 and 2

Township 7 South, Range 96 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

- Section 9: S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Section 10: SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>
- Section 15: NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>
- Section 15: INVV
- Section 16: All
- Section 17: NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>
- Section 18: S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>
- Section 19: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>
- Section 20: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>
- Section 30: NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Township 7 South, Range 97 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

Section 3: Tracts 71 and 72, Amended Tract 75, Lots 5-7, and SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Sections 3, 4 and 9: Tract 77F

- Section 4: Tracts 77B, 77C, 79E, 79F and 79G
- Section 5: Lots 5 -10, Tracts 84 and 85
- Sections 6 and 7: All
- Section 8: Lots 1 8, Tracts 85, 88 and 89
- Section 9: Lots 1 and 2, Tracts 92, 93, 94A, 94B, 94C, 94D, 94E, 94F and 95 Section 10: All
- Section 11: S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>
- Section 12: S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>
- Section 13: All
- Section 13. All Section 14:  $W_{2}^{1/2}$
- Sections 15 and 16: All
- Section 17: Lots 1 9, Tracts 103 and 111, and S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>
- Section 18: Lots 5 10, Tracts 103 and 104, SE<sup> $\frac{1}{4}$ </sup> SW<sup> $\frac{1}{4}$ </sup>, and SW<sup> $\frac{1}{4}$ </sup> SE<sup> $\frac{1}{4}$ </sup>
- Section 19: Lots 5 9, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, and E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>
- Section 20: Lots 1-3, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, and SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>
- Section 21: Lots 3 and 4, Tract 112A (Echo #2), Tract 113 (Echo #3), Tract 114A, Tract 114 B (Echo #1 claim), tract 115A (Echo #4), Tract 124 A1 (Echo #6)

Section 22: All except Tract 112B
Sections 23 and 24: All
Section 25: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>
Section 26: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>
Section 27: Tract 120A (Texas #41), Tracts 121 B and C (Ransom #6 claim), Tract 122 (Texas #30), Tracts 123A and B (Ransom #5 claim), and Tract 124 A1 (Echo #6)
Section 28: Tract 124 A1

e. And, as per Commission Order 510-41 entered the 30<sup>th</sup> Day of May, 2008, as of May 8, 2008:

Township 6 South, Range 97 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Section 19: E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

That, as to the lles Formation of the Mesaverde Group, now subject to 8. Commission Rule 318(a) with respect to well density and setbacks as cited in Paragraph 6 hereinabove, the Application Lands listed hereinabove in Paragraph 7 should be approved for drilling on 10-acre density also in the Iles Formation consistent with current well density for the Williams Fork Formation, and furthermore, that as to all future Williams Fork and Iles Formation wells to be drilled upon the Application Lands, each well may be located downhole anywhere but no closer than one hundred (100) feet from the outside boundary of the Application Lands unless such boundary abuts or corners land in respect of which the Commission has not at the time of the drilling permit application granted the right to drill 10-acre density wells, in which event the Williams Fork and Iles Formation wells to be drilled upon the Application Lands shall be drilled downhole no closer than two hundred (200) feet from that portion of the boundary which so abuts or corners the lands in respect of which 10-acre density downhole drilling for the Williams Fork or Iles Formation wells have not been ordered by the Commission.

9. Applicant commits that wells to be drilled under this Application will be drilled from the surface either vertically or directionally from no more than one drilled pad located on a given quarter quarter section unless exception is granted by the Commission's Oil and Gas Director, and that both the Williams Fork and Iles Formations will be reached from a single well bore to limit drilling and promote economic gas recovery from both formations, such that separate wells will not be drilled to reach each formation.

10. That the above-proposed spacing, density and well location rules will allow development of both the Williams Fork and the Iles Formations to occur; will not promote waste; will not violate correlative rights; and, will assure the greatest ultimate recovery of gas and associated hydrocarbon substances from the reservoir at issue.

11. That the names and addresses of the interested parties according to the information and belief of the Applicant are set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests that this matter be set for hearing in March, 2009; that notice be given as required by law; and, that upon such hearing this Commission enter its order consistent with Applicant's proposals as set forth above.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of February, 2009.

## OXY USA WTP LP

Applicant's Address:

OXY USA WTP LP 5 E. Greenway Plaza, Suite 110 Houston, Texas 77046 By: \_

Scott M. Campbell Nick A. Swartzendruber Poulson, Odell & Peterson, LLC 1775 Sherman Street, Suite 1400 Denver, Colorado 80203 Phone: (303) 861-4400 STATE OF TEXAS ) ) ss. COUNTY OF HARRIS )

Brent G. Sonnier, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that he is the Senior Regulatory Advisor for OXY USA WTP LP, the he has read the foregoing Application, and that the matters therein contained are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Brent G. Sonnier

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of January, 2009.

Witness my hand and official seal.

My commission expires:

Notary Public

**EXHIBIT A** 

PUCKETT LAND COMPANY 5460 S. QUEBEC ST. STE 250 GREENWOOD VLG, CO 80011-1917

PICEANCE OPERATION CO LLC 5201 TRUXTON AVE BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309-0640

SHELL FRONTIER OIL & GAS INC. C/O SHEEL OIL COMPANY PO BOX 4854 HOUSTON, TX 77010

PGR PARTNERS, LLC 370 17<sup>TH</sup> ST., STE 4300 DENVER, CO 80202

CHEVRON USA INC C/O CHEVRON TEXACO PROPERTY TAX PO BOX 285 HOUSTON, TX 77001

GARFIELD COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE PO BOX 426 RIFLE, CO 81650

#15 ENTERPRISES LLC 1218 WEBSTER STREET HOUSTON, TX 77002 DONNA J. KOEHLER PO BOX 300 DEBEQUE, CO 81630

OIL SHALE CORPORATION 7711 S. ROSEMARY WAY CENTENNIAL, CO 80112

TETON PICEANCE LLC 410 17<sup>TH</sup> ST. STE 1850 DENVER,CO 80202

JOAN L. SAVAGE 5953 COUNTY ROAD 320 RIFLE, CO 81650

MR. RODERICK B. POTTER 14337 NORTH COPPERSTONE DR. ORO VALLEY, AZ 85755-9318

MR. NED PRATHER 3445 COUNTY ROAD 204 DEBEQUE, CO 81630

PATRICIA P. COYNE 800 COLLEGE PARKWAY LEWISVILLE, TX 75077 MR. WILLIAM PRATHER 2376 COUNTY ROAD 204 DEBEQUE, CO 81630

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT 50629 HIGHWAY 6 & 24 GLENWOOD SPRGS, CO 81601

MR. RICHARD PRATHER 2098 45 ½ ROAD DEBEQUE, CO 81630

PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT CORP. PO BOX 26 BRIDGEPORT, WV 26330

SAVAGE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP I 5953 COUNTY ROAD 320 RIFLE,CO 81650

GEORGE M. ANDERSON REVOCABLE TRUST PO BOX 37 DEBEQUE, CO 81630

FEDERAL OIL SHALE LLC 3520 SOUTH GLENDOE ST. DENVER, CO 80237 STROOCK, DANIEL W. 55 FROST ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02140-2247

Scott M. Campbell Poulson, Odell & Peterson, LLC 1775 Sherman Street, Suite 1400 Denver, CO 80203 OXY USA INC. ATTN: TAX DEPT PO BOX 27270 HOUSTON, TX 77227-7570

Judith H. Jordan Garfield County 0735 County Road 352, Bldg 2060 Rifle, CO 81650 LYLE PRATHER 4556 W ROAD DEBEQUE, CO 81630

Bret G. Sonnier Senior Regulatory Advisor OXY USA WPT, LP 5 Greenway Plaza, Suite 110 Houston, TX 77227-0521

## BEFORE THE OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF OXY USA WTP LP FOR AN ORDER ESTABLISHING WELL DENSITY, LOCATION AND SETBACK RULES FOR THE WILLIAMS FORK AND THE ILES FORMATIONS OF THE MESAVERDE GROUP FOR CERTAIN DESCRIBED LANDS IN THE GRAND VALLEY FIELD AREA, GARFIELD COUNTY, COLORADO

CAUSE NO.

DOCKET NO.

# AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

STATE OF COLORADO ) ) ss. CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER )

Scott M. Campbell, of lawful age, and being first duly sworn upon his oath, states and declares:

That he is the attorney for OXY USA WTP LP, that on February \_\_\_\_\_, 2009, he caused a copy of the attached Application in the subject docket to be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the parties listed on Exhibit A to the Application.

Scott M. Campbell

Subscribed and sworn to before me on February \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

Witness my hand and official seal.

My commission expires:

Notary Public