RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS HEARINGS DIVISION

OIL AND GAS DOCKET NO. 01-0301686 IN THE EAGLEVILLE (EAGLE FORD-1) FIELD, LA SALLE COUNTY, TEXAS

FINAL ORDER

GRANTING THE APPLICATION OF CHESAPEAKE OPERATING, L.L.C. FOR A SOUR GAS PIPELINE, PURSUANT TO STATEWIDE RULE 106, LEDWIG EAST E LATERAL, EAGLEVILLE (EAGLE FORD-1) FIELD, LA SALLE COUNTY, TEXAS

The Commission finds that after statutory notice and opportunity for hearing, the above-numbered docketed application meets the requirements of Statewide Rule 106 (16 Tex. Admin. Code §3.106 Sour Gas Pipeline Construction Permit.) The proceeding having been duly submitted to the Railroad Commission of Texas at conference held in its office in Austin, Texas, the Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On September 7, 2016, Chesapeake Operating, L.L.C. ("Chesapeake") filed with the Railroad Commission an application to construct a sour gas pipeline pursuant to 16 Tex. Admin. Code §3.106, the Ledwig East E Lateral, La Salle County, Texas.
- 2. On September 13, 2016, Chesapeake filed a copy of the application with the County Clerk offices of La Salle County, Texas.
- 3. On September 8, 2016, Chesapeake published notice of the application in the *Frio-Nueces Current*, a newspaper of general circulation in La Salle County, Texas.
- 4. The Commission's Oversight and Safety Division has reviewed Form T-4 (Application for Permit to Operate a Pipeline in Texas) and recommends the pipeline permit be issued.
- 5. The Commission's Field Operations Section reviewed Form H-9 (Certificate of Compliance with Statewide Rule 36), contingency plan and supporting data for the subject sour gas pipeline and recommends the pipeline permit be issued.
- 6. On October 31, 2016, the application was received for review by the Commission's Hearings Division.

- 7. No protests were received.
- 8. On December 16, 2016, the Technical Examiner recommended the permit be issued by the Commission at the next available conference.
- 9. The proposed sour gas pipeline is approximately 4 miles south of Dilley, Texas on Chesapeake's Ledwig East Lease. It will connect the Ledwig East Unit I Pad to the Ledwig C Pad Central Production Facility.
- 10. The propose six-inch sour gas pipeline will be about 2.64 miles long. It will be newly constructed and will connect into an existing pipeline system.
- 11. The pipeline will transport up to 1,400 thousand cubic feet ("mcf") gas per day containing 1,000 parts per million ("ppm") hydrogen sulfide.
- 12. The pipeline will have a maximum allowable operating pressure of 1,440 psig.
- 13. The system will be equipped with low/high pressure emergency shutdown systems along the line and all pipeline and compressor station operations will be remotely monitored 24 hours per day via a SCADA system.
- 14. Pipeline materials and construction meet the NACE and API standards, as required by Statewide Rule 36 for hydrogen sulfide service.
- 15. The pipeline will be constructed subject to Commission inspections for compliance with the appropriate Commission Rules pursuant to Statewide Rule 36.
- 16. The 100 ppm radius of exposure ("ROE") of the pipeline is 124 feet. There is one public area within the 100 ppm ROE.
- 17. The 500 ppm ROE of the pipeline is 56 feet. There is one public area within the 500 ppm ROE.
- 18. The pipeline will be constructed in a rural and sparsely populated area.
- 19. The contingency plan submitted by Chesapeake complies with the provisions of Statewide Rule 36(c)(9).
- 20. The materials to be used in and method of construction and operation of the facility comply with the applicable rules and safety standards adopted by the Commission.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Resolution of the subject application is a matter committed to the jurisdiction of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Tex. Nat. Res. Code § 81.051
- 2. All notice requirements have been satisfied. 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 3.106
- 3. The application complies with Statewide Rule 106. 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 3.106
- 4. Approving the application for a permit to construct and operate the proposed gas pipeline is consistent with the rules and safety standards adopted by the Commission.

Therefore, it is **ORDERED** by the Railroad Commission of Texas that the application of Chesapeake Operating, L.L.C. to construct and operate a sour gas pipeline, Ledwig East E Lateral, in La Salle County, Texas, is hereby approved. Chesapeake Operating, L.L.C. shall comply with all applicable rules and safety standards adopted by the Commission for the construction and operation of hydrogen sulfide gas pipelines.

It is further **ORDERED** by the Commission that this order shall not be final and effective until 25 days after the Commission's order is signed, unless the time for filing a motion for rehearing has been extended under Tex. Gov't Code §2001.142, by agreement under Tex. Gov't Code §2001.147, or by written Commission Order issued pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code §2001.146(e). If a timely motion for rehearing of an application is filed by any party at interest, this order shall not become final and effective until such motion is overruled, or if such motion is granted, this order shall be subject to further action by the Commission. Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code §2001.146(e), the time allotted for Commission action on a motion for rehearing in this case prior to its being overruled by operation of law is hereby extended until 90 days from the date Commission Order is signed.

Done this 24th day of January, 2017.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

(Order approved and signatures affixed by Hearings Division's Unprotested Master Order dated January 24, 2017)