RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS HEARINGS DIVISION

OIL & GAS DOCKET NO. 03-0321561

SINGLE SIGNATURE P-4 FILING BY CPML LLC (OPERATOR NO. 120802) FOR THE LABAY, JOE (GAS ID NO. 226911), LEASE, WELL NO. 1, ENGLEHART, S. (6200) FIELD, COLORADO COUNTY, TEXAS, TO CHANGE THE OPERATOR FROM POWELL-MCCARROLL PARTNERSHIP (OPERATOR NO. 674803) TO CPML LLC

FINAL ORDER

The Commission finds that after notice and opportunity for hearing, the operator of the captioned lease did not respond, and the docket proceeded as a default. The proceeding having been duly submitted to the Railroad Commission of Texas at conference held in its offices in Austin, Texas, the Commission makes the following Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. At least twenty days' notice was given to Powell-McCarroll Partnership (Operator No. 674803), ("PMP"), and CPML LLC (Operator No. 120802), ("CPML").
- 2. PMP is the operator of record for the Labay, Joe (Gas ID No. 226911) Lease, Well No. 1, Englehart, S. (6200) Field, Colorado County, Texas.
- 3. On or about June 20, 2019, CPML submitted to the Commission a Form P-4 *Certificate of Compliance and Transportation Authority* requesting transfer of the Labay, Joe (Gas ID No. 226911) Lease, Well No. 1, Englehart, S. (6200) Field, Colorado County, Texas, from PMP to CPML, as operator of record.
- 4. All Commission correspondence to PMP was sent via United States Postal Service first-class mail to PMP's address of record, as set forth on PMP's most recent Form P-5 Organization Report.
- 5. All Commission correspondence to CPML was sent via United States Postal Service first-class mail to CPML's address of record, as set forth on CPML's most recent Form P-5 *Organization Report*.
- 6. On or about July 24, 2019, the Administrative Law Judge requested in writing that PMP either (1) provide evidence that it holds a good faith claim to a continuing right to operate the referenced property or (2) request a hearing on the matter on or before August 25, 2019. This writing expressly notified the operator that failure to timely request a hearing would constitute waiver of the opportunity to request a hearing on the matter.
- 7. PMP's Form P-5 is delinquent. PMP had a \$50,000.00 bond as its financial assurance at the time of the last Form P-5 annual renewal submission.

- 8. CPML's Form P-5 is active. CPML has a \$0,000.00 Exempt as its financial assurance.
- 9. A "good faith claim" is defined in Commission Statewide Rule (15)(a)(5) as "a factually supported claim based on a recognized legal theory to a continuing possessory right in the mineral estate, such as evidence of a currently valid oil and gas lease or a recorded deed conveying a fee interest in the mineral estate."
- 10. No production has been reported on the subject lease since May 2009.
- 11. PMP failed to reply to the Administrative Law Judge's letter dated July 24, 2019, with any documents that it holds a "good faith claim" to a continuing right to operate the subject lease and failed to timely request a hearing.
- 12. PMP does not have a "good faith claim" to operate the subject lease.
- 13. Pursuant to Tex. Gov'T Code §§ 2001.056 and 2001.062(e), PMP and CPML have waived the opportunity to request a hearing on the matter.
- 14. CPML now asserts a "good faith claim" to a continuous right to operate the subject lease. In support of its "good faith claim," CPML submitted a copy of a contractual oil and gas lease, the primary term of which has not expired, purporting to cover the subject property.
- 15. The Labay, Joe (Gas ID No. 226911) Lease, Well No. 1, Englehart, S. (6200) Field, Colorado County, Texas, should be transferred to CPML as operator of record.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Proper notice of hearing was timely issued to appropriate persons entitled to notice.
- 2. All things necessary to the Commission attaining jurisdiction has occurred.
- 3. Resolution of this docket is a matter committed to the jurisdiction of the Commission. Tex. Gov't Code §§ 81.051.
- 4. PMP does not have a "good faith claim" to continue to operate the Labay, Joe (Gas ID No. 226911) Lease, Well No. 1, Englehart, S. (6200) Field, Colorado County, Texas.
- 5. CPML does have a "good faith claim" to continue to operate the Labay, Joe (Gas ID No. 226911) Lease, Well No. 1, Englehart, S. (6200) Field, Colorado County, Texas.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the application of CPML LLC for transfer of the Form P-4 "Certificate of Compliance and Transportation Authority" is hereby **APPROVED**, subject to the provisions of Tex. NAT. Res. CODE §§ 91.1041, 91.1042, 91.107, 91.114, 91.142 and Tex. Admin. Code § 3.15, 3.58, and 3.78. If after 90 days after the order becomes final, CPML LLC has not met the requirements of the listed provisions, this

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Order shall be **VOID** and the subject Form P-4 shall be marked as *Unable to Process* and archived.

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 100 days from the date Commission Order is signed.

All pending motions and requests for relief not previously or herein granted are denied.

Done this 11th day of September 2019, Austin, Texas.

Railroad Commission of Texas (Order approved and signatures affixed by Hearings Division Unprotested Master Order dated September 11, 2019)