# RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

#### OIL AND GAS DOCKET NO. 7B-0321420

ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST ARROWHEAD PRODUCTIONS, LP (OPERATOR NO. 033523) FOR VIOLATION OF STATEWIDE RULE ON THE SIMMONS-RAMSEY LEASE, WELL NO. 1 (GAS ID NO. 077302), MEEKER (CONGLOMERATE 4400) FIELD, PALO PINTO COUNTY, TEXAS

### **FINAL ORDER**

The Railroad Commission of Texas ("Commission") finds that statutory notice of the captioned enforcement proceeding was provided pursuant to Commission rules, and that the respondent, Arrowhead Productions, LP, failed to appear or respond to the **Notice of Opportunity for Hearing**. Pursuant to § 1.25 of the Commission's General Rules of Practice and Procedure, 16 Texas Administrative Code § 1.25, and after being duly submitted to the Commission at a Conference held in its offices in Austin, Texas, the Commission makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Arrowhead Productions, LP ("Respondent"), Operator No. 033523, was sent the Original Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing by certified and first-class mail, addressed to the most recent Commission Form P-5 (Organization Report) ("Form P-5") address.
- 2. The certified mail envelope containing the Original Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing addressed to the Respondent was signed for and delivered on November 19, 2019. The first-class mail was not returned. Record of the delivery and return of certified mail has been on file with the Commission for more than 15 days, exclusive of the day of receipt and day of issuance. Respondent was given more than 30 days' notice of the Original Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. Respondent has not entered into an agreed settlement order, filed an answer or requested a hearing.
- 3. On September 30, 2019, Respondent, a limited partnership, filed a Form P-5 with the Commission reporting that its officer consists of the following individuals: Stephen Ray Moore, Manager, and Betsy Boley Moore, Manager.
- 4. Stephen Ray Moore and Betsy Boley Moore were in a position of ownership or control of Respondent, as defined in Texas Natural Resources Code § 91.114, during the time period of the violations of Commission rules committed by Respondent.
- 5. Respondent's Form P-5 is active-ext. Respondent had a \$250,000.00 letter of credit as its financial assurance at the time of the last Form P-5 annual renewal submission.
- 6. Respondent designated itself to the Commission as the operator of the Simmons-Ramsey Lease, Well No. 1 (Gas ID No. 077302), by filing a Commission Form P-4 (Certificate of

Compliance and Transportation Authority), effective January 1, 2012, approved January 11, 2012.

- 7. Commission records reflect that on October 31, 2016, the Commission gave Respondent notice by certified mail of the alleged facts or conduct of the Respondent in the operation or production of oil or gas from the Simmons-Ramsey Lease, Well No. 1 (Gas ID 077302) that appeared to violate oil and gas conservation laws of this state, or rules or orders of the Commission adopted under those laws, to warrant the cancellation of the certificate of compliance. Said notice gave Respondent an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of law for retention of the certificate of compliance.
- 8. Commission records reflect that Respondent failed to timely show compliance with all requirements of law for retention of the certificate of compliance and, as a result, the certificate of compliance for the Simmons-Ramsey Lease, Well No. 1 (Gas ID 077302) was cancelled, and Respondent given notice of the cancellation, on November 30, 2016.
- 9. Commission records indicate that a second cancellation was issued for the Simmons-Ramsey Lease, Well No. 1 (Gas ID 077302) on April 18, 2018.
- 10. Commission records reflect that the certificate of compliance for the Simmons-Ramsey Lease, Well No. 1 (Gas ID 077302) has not been reissued.
- 11. Commission District inspections of the Simmons-Ramsey Lease, Well No. 1 (Gas ID 077302) conducted on June 15, 2018, show that Respondent was actively producing. Further, Commission records reflect that Respondent reported production from December 2017 through April 2019.
- 12. The Respondent has no prior history of violations of Commission Rules.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Proper notice was issued by the Commission to Respondent and all other appropriate persons legally entitled to notice.
- 2. All things necessary to the Commission attaining jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties have been performed or have occurred.
- 3. Respondent is responsible for maintaining the subject lease in compliance with all applicable Commission rules and Texas Natural Resources Code, Chapters 89 and 91.
- 4. Respondent is in violation of Statewide Rule 73(i). 16 Texas Administrative Code § 3.73(i).
- 5. The documented violations committed by Respondent constitute acts deemed serious, and a hazard to the public health, and demonstrate a lack of good faith pursuant to Texas Natural Resources Code § 81.0531(c).
- 6. Respondent is responsible for maintaining the subject lease in compliance with Statewide Rule 73(i), which provides that upon notice from the Commission that a certificate of compliance

has been cancelled, it is unlawful for an operator of a well to produce oil, gas, or geothermal resources until a new certificate of compliance has been issued by the Commission.

- 7. Pursuant to Texas Natural Resources Code § 81.0531, the Commission may assess administrative penalties against Respondent for the subject violations of up to \$10,000 per day for each violation, with each day such violations continued constituting a separate violation.
- 8. An assessed administrative penalty in the amount of SEVEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$7,500.00) is justified considering the facts and violations at issue.
- 9. Respondent violated Commission rules related to safety and the control of pollution. Any other organization in which an officer of this organization holds a position of ownership or control, is subject to the restriction in Texas Natural Resources Code § 91.114.

### **ORDERING PROVISIONS**

IT IS ORDERED THAT within 30 days from the day immediately following the date this order becomes final:

- 1. Arrowhead Productions, LP (Operator No. 033523) shall place the Simmons-Ramsey (077302) Lease, Well No. 1, in compliance with Statewide Rule 73(i), and any other applicable Commission rules and statutes.
- 2. Arrowhead Productions, LP (Operator No. 033523) shall pay to the Railroad Commission of Texas, for disposition as provided by law, an administrative penalty in the amount of **SEVEN THOUSAND**, FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$7,500.00).

It is further **ORDERED** by the Commission that this order shall not be final and effective until 25 days after the order is signed, unless the time for filing a motion for rehearing has been extended under Texas Government Code § 2001.142, by agreement under Texas Government Code § 2001.147, or by written Commission order issued pursuant to Texas Government 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 Texas Government 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 the Commission order is signed.

Any other organization in which an officer of this organization holds a position of ownership or control at the time Respondent violated Commission rules related to safety and the control of pollution, shall be subject to the restriction in Texas Natural Resources Code § 91.114(a)(2) for a period of no more than seven years from the date the order entered in this matter becomes final, or until the conditions that constituted the violations herein are corrected or are being corrected in accordance with a schedule to which the Commission and the organization have agreed, and all administrative, civil, and criminal penalties and all cleanup and plugging costs incurred by the State relating to those conditions are paid or are being paid in accordance with a schedule to which the Commission and the organization have agreed.

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All requested findings of fact and conclusions of law, which are not expressly adopted herein, are denied. All pending motions and requests for relief not previously granted or granted herein are denied.

Noncompliance with the provisions of this order is subject to enforcement by the Attorney General and subject to civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per day per violation.

## **RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**

(Signatures	affixed	by	Default	Master	Order

dated MAR 0 4 2020

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