COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD HEARING MINUTES AUGUST 20, 2024

Pursuant to Sections 45.2-1609.C and 45.2-1624.B of the Code of Virginia, the Virginia Gas and Oil Board held its scheduled monthly hearing commencing at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, August 20, 2024. Those who wish to join the meeting online, please contact the Gas and Oil office at 276-393-5507, prior to the day of the hearing. If you wish to call-in to the meeting, you may do so by dialing 1-434-230-0065, Conference ID: 753948247#.

Board members present were Bill Harris (Public Representative), Bruce A. Prather (Oil and Gas Industry Representative), Donald Lewis Ratliff (Coal Industry Representative), Gus W. Janson (Public Representative), Mary Gibson (Public Representative), Patrick Owens (Public Representative) and Willart Cochran (Virginia Energy Representative).

Also present were Bradley Boyd (Gas and Oil Operations Manager), Jackson Brown (Assistant Attorney General), Lydia Sinemus (Program Administration Manager II), Phil Skorupa (Director, Division of Gas and Oil) and Sarah Gilmer (Division of Gas and Oil).

1. The Board reviewed and approved the remote attendance resolution for board member(s) that attended the meeting remotely.

The docket item was approved.

2. The Board received public comments.

There were no public comments.

 A petition from Keyrock Energy, LLC, for the creation of a sealed gob unit and pooling. Unit Slope Drain Vent Pipe. Docket Number VGOB 24-0416-4281. Continued from June 2024.

The docket item was approved. No escrowing required.

4. A petition from Keyrock Energy, LLC, for a well location exception, pursuant to Virginia Code § 45.2-1616. Unit Slope Drain Vent Pipe. Docket Number VGOB 24-0416-4281-01.

The docket item was approved.

5. A petition from Keyrock Energy, LLC, for the creation of a sealed gob drilling unit and pooling. Unit Keyrock #8. Docket Number VGOB 24-0820-4289.

The docket item was approved. No escrowing required.

 A petition from Keyrock Energy, LLC, for a well location exception, pursuant to Virginia Code § 45.2-1616. Unit Keyrock #8. Docket Number VGOB 24-0820-4290.

The docket item was approved.

7. A petition from Pocahontas Gas, LLC, for the creation of a sealed gob drilling unit and pooling. Unit BUC1SGU7. Docket Number VGOB 24-0820-4288.

The docket item was approved. Escrowing required.

 A petition from Pocahontas Gas, LLC, for modification of the VS16 unit to remove acreage being pooled under sealed gob area BUC1SGU7. Docket Number VGOB 21-0420-4237-01.

The docket item was approved.

9. The Board received an update of Board and Division activities from the staff.

Mr. Skorupa provided the board with the updated escrow account pie charts showing the remaining funds in the Virginia Gas and Oil Board Escrow Account. He also updated the board on the status of code changes regarding the unknown/unlocatable funds that are sent to the Department of Treasury instead of being escrowed in the Virginia Gas and Oil Board escrow account.

The Board approved for the OGS program to begin the request for proposal(s) process for an escrow agent to the Virginia Gas and Oil Board escrow account. The contract with First Bank and Trust Company will expire at the end of the year.

Mr. Skorupa provided the board with a copy of the inspector's territory map that is now on the website which shows the inspector's areas and contact information.

Mr. Jackson Brown, Assistant Attorney General, discussed the legalities of allowing the No W-9 account to be escheated to the Department of Treasury. He will provide a written statement to the board and the board will discuss further.

10. The Board reviewed the July 2024 minutes for approval.

The docket item was approved.

The hearing adjourned at 12:15 p.m.