

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
BOARD OF MINERALS AND ENVIRONMENT

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CONTINENTAL RESOURCES, INC. FOR AN ORDER OF THE BOARD AMENDING ANY APPLICABLE ORDERS FOR THE BUFFALO FIELD TO POOL ALL INTERESTS IN A 1280-ACRE SPACING UNIT DESCRIBED AS SECTIONS 3 AND 10, TOWNSHIP 21 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST, HARDING COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA; AND FOR OTHER RELIEF AS THE BOARD DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

OIL AND GAS  
CASE NO. 24-2013

ORDER

**SECRETARY'S ORDER UNDER SDCL 45-9-74**

A Petition and Application of Continental Resources, Inc. ("Continental") to pool all interests in the 1280-acre spacing unit comprised of the above-referenced lands was submitted to the South Dakota Board of Minerals and Environment ("Board") on June 27, 2013. The Board prepared and published a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. No petition requesting a hearing was received. Therefore, pursuant to South Dakota Codified Laws (SDCL) 45-9-74 and SDCL 45-9-30 through 36 and based upon Continental's application and supporting documents, the Secretary makes and enters the following Order:

Continental is the owner of an interest in the oil and gas leasehold estate in portions of Sections 3 and 10, Township 21 North, Range 3 East, Harding County, South Dakota ("the Subject Lands"). In Order No. 3-2013, the Board established the Subject Lands as a 1280-acre spacing unit in the Buffalo Field, and authorized the issuance of a permit for the drilling of a horizontal well within the spacing unit.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources issued a permit to drill the Cernan 24-10H well as a horizontal well on the Subject Lands.

There are both separately owned tracts and separately owned interests in the spacing unit comprised of the Subject Lands. Voluntary pooling of the Subject Lands has not been accomplished.

Under the current case, Continental has requested that the Board pool all interests in the aforementioned spacing unit, and that Continental be designated as operator of the Cernan 24-10H well, the authorized horizontal well within said spacing unit.

In Continental's opinion, pooling the Subject Lands will increase the ultimate recovery of the pool, prevent waste, prevent the drilling of unnecessary wells and protect correlative rights.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED**

A. Pooling of all interests in the 1280-acre spacing unit comprised of Sections 3 and 10, Township 21 North, Range 3 East, Harding County, South Dakota, is hereby granted for the Buffalo Field. Continental is hereby authorized to drill, equip, and operate the Cernan 24-10H well.

B. All expenses incurred in drilling, equipping and operating the Cernan 24-10H well on the spacing unit, plus a reasonable charge for supervision and interest, and all production from the well, shall be allocated to the various tracts within the spacing unit on the basis of the ratio of the number of acres contained in each separately owned tract to the number of acres in the spacing unit.

C. Operations incident to the drilling of a well on any portion of the spacing unit shall be deemed for all purposes the conduct of such operation upon each separately owned tract in the spacing unit, and production allocated to each tract shall, when produced, be deemed for all purposes to have been produced from each tract by a well drilled thereon.

D. Any owner of mineral interests in the spacing unit may elect to participate in the risk and cost of the drilling and operation of the Cernan 24-10H well at any time prior to completion

of the well upon the basis of full participation or upon terms and conditions mutually agreeable to Continental and the mineral interest owner.

E. Owners of mineral interests in the spacing unit who participate in the costs of drilling, equipping, and operating the Cernan 24-10H well or continue to pay future operating costs for the Cernan 24-10H well for the benefit of nonparticipating owners of mineral interests in the spacing unit are entitled to the share of production from the spacing unit accruing to the interest of the nonparticipating owners, exclusive of a royalty not to exceed one-eighth of the production, until the market value of the nonparticipating owners' share of the production exclusive of the royalty, equals the sums payable by or charged to the interest of the nonparticipating owners.

F. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit Continental, its successors and assigns, from making further application to the Board for a risk penalty to be imposed against any nonparticipating owners as provided for by SDCL Ch. 45-9 and Administrative Rules of South Dakota Ch. 74:12:10 (2013).

G. In the event of a dispute as to the costs of drilling, equipping, or operating the well, the South Dakota Board of Minerals and Environment shall determine the costs in accordance with SDCL 45-9-35.

H. That all portions of previous orders of the Board, if any, which are not specifically amended by this Order remain in full force and effect until further order of the Board or Secretary.

Dated and signed this 19th day of August 2013.



Steven M. Pirner  
Secretary  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources