

BEFORE THE BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
IN AND FOR THE STATE OF UTAH

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION \*  
OF ALTA ENERGY CORPORATION FOR \*  
AN ORDER EXTENDING TO SECTION 30, \*  
TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 21 EAST, \*  
S.L.M., UINTAH COUNTY, UTAH, THE \*  
80 ACRE DRILLING/SPACING UNITS \*  
PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED BY THIS \*  
BOARD IN CAUSE NO. 127-1 FOR THE \*  
PRODUCTION OF OIL FROM THE GREEN \*  
RIVER FORMATION. \*

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**FINDINGS AND ORDER**

Docket No. 84-077  
Cause No. 127-2

Pursuant to the Petition of Alta Energy Corp., this cause came on for hearing before the Board of Oil, Gas & Mining, Department of Natural Resources, State of Utah, on Thursday, December 6, 1984, at 10 o'clock a.m. in the Board Room of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, 355 West North Temple, 3 Triad Center, Suite 301, Salt Lake City, Utah. The following Board members were present:

Gregory P. Williams, Chairman,  
Richard B. Larsen,  
John M. Garr,  
E. Steele McIntyre,  
Constance K. Lundberg,  
James W. Carter,  
Charles R. Henderson.

Appearances were made as follows: For Alta Energy Corp. (Petitioner), John R. Kunz of Hugh C. Garner & Associates, 310 South

Main, Suite 1400, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101; and Robert G. Pruitt, Jr. for American Petrofina Company.

Appearing on behalf of the Division were Dr. Dianne R. Nielson, Director; Ronald J. Firth, Associate Director, Oil & Gas; and John R. Baza, Petroleum Engineer. Representing the Division was Barbara W. Roberts, Esq., Assistant Attorney General. Representing the Board was David S. Christensen, Esq., Assistant Attorney General.

The following witnesses were called by Petitioner Alta Energy Corporation: John Osmond, geologist; and John Harja, attorney at law.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Board having considered the testimony adduced and the exhibits reviewed in said hearing, and being fully advised in the premises, makes and enters the following:

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

1. Due and regular notice of the time, place and purpose of the hearing was given to all interested parties as required by law and the Rules and Regulations of the Board.

2. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Petition and over all parties interested therein and has jurisdiction to make and promulgate the order hereinafter set forth.

3. In Cause No. 127-1, this Board has previously ordered that 80 acre stand-up drilling/spacing units be established for the

production of oil from the Green River Formation and the Green River-Wasatch Transition Zone at a stratigraphic depth of not greater than 7,727 feet underlying Section 19, Township 6 South, Range 21 East, S.L.M. This described section of land is immediately north of and adjoining to the lands which are the subject of the Petition.

4. The 80 acre drilling/spacing units established in Cause No. 127-1 were formed by dividing each governmental quarter section into two units to consist, respectively, of the E1/2 and the W1/2 of each such quarter section. No more than one well is permitted in each such drilling/spacing unit. The permitted well sites within each such drilling/spacing unit are the SE1/4 of the E1/2 and the NW1/4 of the W1/2 of each governmental quarter section.

5. Paragraph 10 (page 3) of the Petition states that petitioner intends to drill, for the production of oil from the Green River Formation and the Green River Wasatch Transition Zone, a well in the NE1/4 NE1/4 of Section 30, Township 6 South, Range 21 East, S.L.M. However, pursuant to a motion made by petitioner's counsel, and after due discussion of the same by the Board, the Division, and Mr. Robert G. Pruitt, Jr., making an appearance for American Petrofina Company, petitioner was allowed to amend its Petition to indicate that its proposed well site is in the SE1/4 NE1/4 of said Section, Township, and Range, in lieu of the location stated in the Petition.

6. After granting the above motion, the Board also allowed the petitioner to amend paragraph 5 (page 4) of the prayer to its Petition to ask, in lieu of the information stated there, that the permitted well sites in each 80 acre drilling/spacing unit in Section 30 be the SE1/4 of the E1/2 and the NW1/4 of the W1/2 of each governmental quarter section.

7. Geologic evidence indicates that an oil and gas producing reservoir underlies the lands in Section 30, Township 6 South, Range 21 East, S.L.M., and that this structure is an extension of the oil and gas producing reservoir underlying Section 19, Township 6 South, Range 21 East, S.L.M.

8. Geologic evidence indicates that 80 acre drilling/spacing units will most efficiently drain the oil and gas producing reservoir underlying the lands in said Section 30, and that such drilling/spacing units will prevent the drilling of unnecessary wells, prevent waste, and protect correlative rights.

Sufficient evidence now being available upon which to reach a decision, the Board issues the following:

**ORDER**

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** by this Board as follows:

1. The 80 acre stand-up drilling/spacing units previously established by this Board in Cause No. 127-1 for the production of oil from the Green River Formation and the Green River-Wasatch Transition Zone at a stratigraphic depth of not greater than 7,727 feet be, and

hereby are, extended to cover Section 30, Township 6 South, Range 21 East, S.L.M.

2. No more than one well shall be drilled on any such 80 acre drilling/spacing unit in said Section 30 for the production of oil from the above-described interval.

3. The permitted well sites in each such 80 acre drilling/spacing unit in said Section 30 shall be the SE1/4 of the E1/2 and the NW1/4 of the W1/2 of each governmental quarter section.

4. All wells in the spaced area shall be located no closer than 500 feet from the exterior boundaries of each such governmental quarter quarter section, provided, however, that exceptions to the foregoing "500 foot rule" may be had without notice or hearing:

a) Upon the filing with the Board, of a petition showing the necessity for the proposed exception location which is based on topographical and/or geological conditions; and

b) 1) Where the ownership of all oil and gas leases within a radius of 660 feet of the proposed exception location is common with the ownership of the oil and gas leases under the proposed exception location; or

2) All owners of oil and gas leases within such 660 foot radius consent in writing to the proposed exception location.

5. The effective date of this Order shall be December 6, 1984, the date of hearing of this matter.

DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1985.

STATE OF UTAH  
BOARD OF OIL, GAS & MINING

  
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Gregory P. Williams, Chairman

Approved as to form:

  
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David S. Christensen  
Assistant Attorney General