

INSTRUMENT PREPARED BY
VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

ORDER RECORDED UNDER CODE
OF VIRGINIA SECTION 45.1-361.26

V I R G I N I A:

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

APPLICANT: Columbia Natural Resources LLC)
) VIRGINIA GAS
) AND OIL BOARD
RELIEF SOUGHT: EXCEPTION TO STATEWIDE SPACING)
)
) LIMITATIONS PRESCRIBED BY VA. CODE) DOCKET NO.
) § 45.1-361.17(a)(2) FOR WELL 824544) 05/05/17-1458
)
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:)
)
)
) DRILLING UNIT SERVED BY WELL NUMBERED)
) 824544 TO BE DRILLED IN THE LOCATION)
) DEPICTED ON EXHIBIT A HERETO,)
) Big Sandy)
) Tract 5, 82.90 Acres)
) Harman QUADRANGLE,)
) Rocklick MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT,)
) Buchanan COUNTY, VIRGINIA)
) (the "Subject Lands" are more particularly)
) described on Exhibit "A" attached hereto)
) and made a part hereof)

REPORT OF THE BOARD

FINDINGS AND ORDER

1. Hearing Date and Place: This matter came on for hearing before the Virginia Gas and Oil Board (hereafter "Board") at 9:00 a.m. on June 21, 2005, Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center on the campus of Virginia Highlands Community College, Abingdon, Virginia.
2. Appearances: James E. Kaiser appeared for the Applicant.
3. Jurisdiction and Notice: Pursuant to Va. Code § 45.1-361.1 et seq., the Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the subject matter. Based upon the evidence presented by Applicant, the Board also finds that the Applicant has (1) exercised due diligence in conducting a meaningful search of reasonably available sources to determine the identity and whereabouts of each gas and oil owner, coal owner, or mineral owner having an interest in Subject Drilling Unit underlying and comprised of Subject Lands; (2) has represented to the Board that it has given notice to those parties (hereafter sometimes "person(s)" whether referring to individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, companies, businesses, trusts, joint ventures or other legal entities) entitled by Va. Code § 45.1-361.19 to notice of this application; and (3) that the persons set forth in Exhibit B hereto have been identified by Applicant as owners of Gas interests underlying Subject Drilling Unit, including those who have

not heretofore leased, sold or voluntarily agreed with the Applicant to pool their Gas interests in Subject Drilling Unit. Further, the Board has caused notice of this hearing to be published as required by Va. Code § 45.1-361.19.B. Whereupon, the Board hereby finds that the notices given herein satisfy all statutory requirements, Board rule requirements and the minimum standards of state due process.

4. Amendments: None
5. Dismissals: None
6. Relief Requested: Applicant requests (1) an exception to the statewide spacing limitations set forth in Va. Code § 45.1-361.17 for Well No. 824544.
7. Relief Granted: The requested relief in this cause be and hereby is granted. The Board hereby grants Applicant consent to permit and drill proposed Well No. 824544, 2362.67 feet from existing Well No. 24629; at the locations depicted on the Plat attached hereto;
8. Special Findings: The Board specifically and specially finds:
 - 8.1. Applicant is Columbia Natural Resources LLC. Applicant is duly authorized and qualified to transact business in the Commonwealth of Virginia;
 - 8.2. Applicant Columbia Natural Resources LLC is an operator in the Commonwealth of Virginia and has satisfied the Board's requirements for operations in Virginia;
 - 8.3. Applicant claims ownership of Conventional Gas leases on 100% percent of Subject Drilling Unit and the right to explore for, develop and produce Gas from same, i.e., Well No. 824544, as well as from reciprocal well, i.e., Well No. 24629.
 - 8.4. The proposed Well 824544 is located on a surface, coal, oil and gas tract consisting of 82.90 acres known as Big Sandy, Tract-5, and the surface, coal, gas and oil owner has consented to the proposed location for Well 824544 that is depicted on the Plat attached hereto as Exhibit A;
 - 8.5. The Applicant testified it has the right to operate and develop the reciprocal Well No. 24629, and that the granting of the application filed herein will not impact the correlative rights of any person;
 - 8.6. An exception to the well spacing requirements of Va. Code § 45.1-361.17 for Well 824544 is necessary to efficiently drain a portion of the common sources of supply (reservoir) underlying Subject Drilling Unit, and the Board's granting of the requested location exception is in the best interest of preventing the waste of 400 million cubic feet of Conventional Gas underlying Subject Drilling Unit, and to generally effect the purposes of the Virginia Gas and Oil Act;
 - 8.7. Applicant proposes the drilling of Well No. 824544 to a depth of 5595 feet on the Subject Drilling Unit at the location

depicted in Exhibit A to produce all the Mississippian and Devonian age formations including, but not limited to, Big Lime, Weir, Berea, and Devonian Shale from surface to a total depth of 5595 feet (Subject Formations");

8.8. Applicant proposes to drill Well 824544 a distance of 137.33 feet closer to Gas Well 24629, than the 2500 feet mandated by statewide spacing;

8.9 Applicant proposes to complete and operate Well 824544 for the purpose of producing Conventional Gas;

9. Mailing Of Order And Filing Of Affidavit: Applicant or its Attorney shall file an affidavit with the Secretary of the Board within sixty (60) days after the date of receipt of this Order stating that a true and correct copy of said Order was mailed within seven (7) days from the date of receipt of this Order to each person pooled by this Order whose address is known.

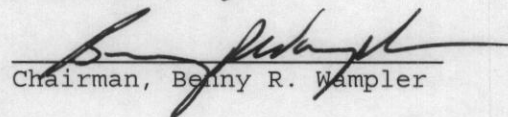
10. Availability of Unit Records: The Director shall provide all persons not subject to a lease with reasonable access to all records for Subject Drilling Unit which are submitted by the Unit Operator to said Director and/or his Inspector(s).

11. Conclusion: Therefore, the requested relief and all terms and provisions set forth above be and hereby are granted and IT IS SO ORDERED.

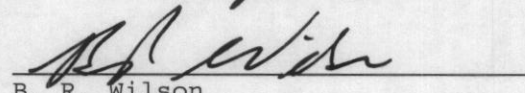
12. Appeals: Appeals of this Order are governed by the provisions of Va. Code Ann. § 45.1-361.9 which provides that any order or decision of the Board may be appealed to the appropriate circuit court. Such appeals must be taken in the manner prescribed in the Administrative Process Act, Va. Code Ann. § 9-6.14:1 et seq. and Rule 2A of the Rules of the Virginia Supreme Court.

13. Effective Date: This Order shall be effective on the date of its execution.

DONE AND EXECUTED this 16th day of August, 2005 by a majority of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board.


Chairman, Benny R. Wampler

DONE AND PERFORMED this 17th day of August, 2005 by Order of this Board.


B. R. Wilson
Principal Executive to the Staff
Virginia Gas and Oil Board

STATE OF VIRGINIA)
COUNTY OF ~~WISE~~)
Washington

Acknowledged on this 16th day of August, 2005 personally before me a notary public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia, appeared Benny Wampler, being duly sworn did depose and say that he is Chairman of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board, that he executed the same and was authorized to do so.

Diane J. Davis

Notary Public

My commission expires: 9/30/05

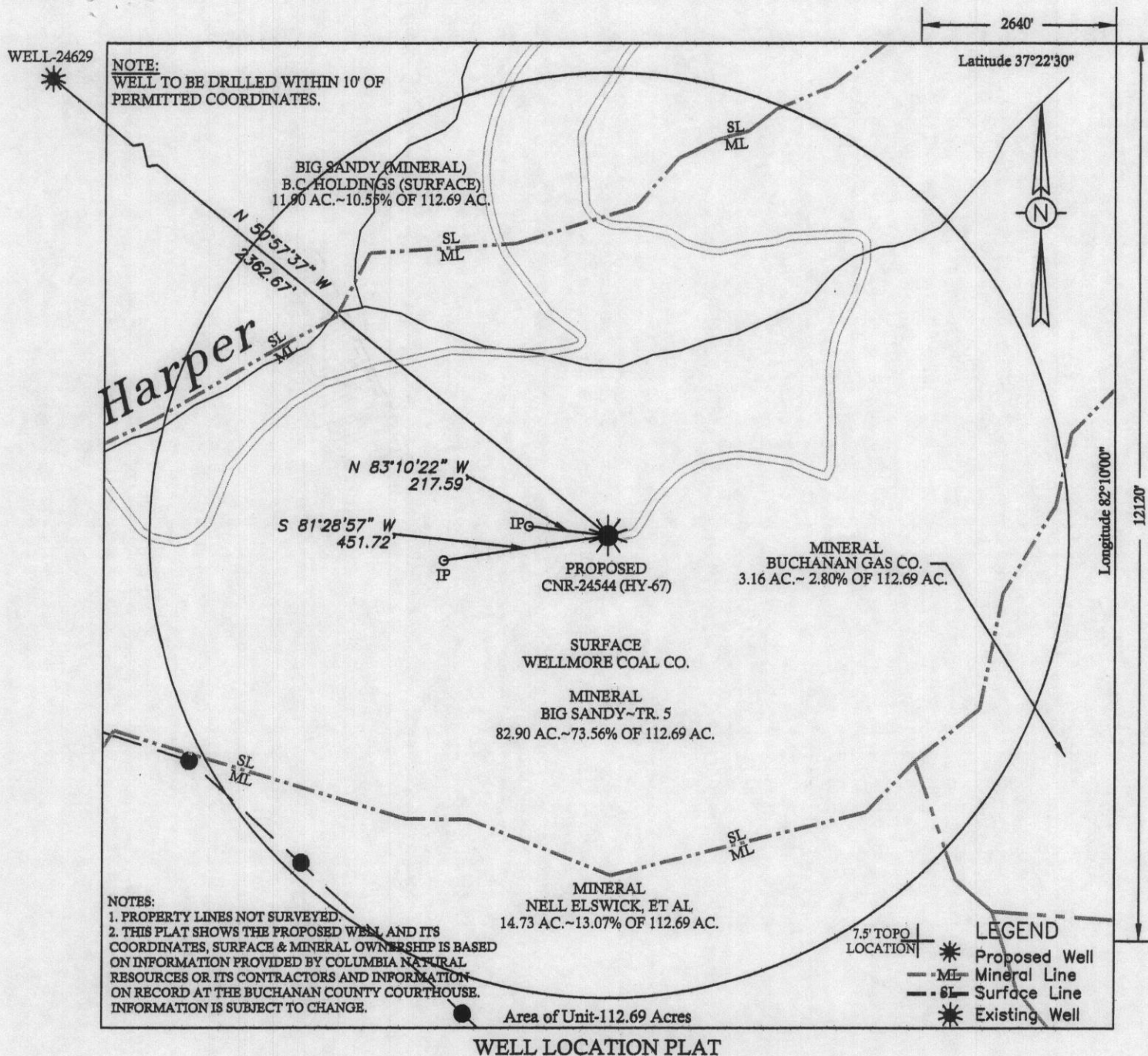
STATE OF VIRGINIA)
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON)

Acknowledged on this 17th day of August, 2005 personally before me a notary public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia, appeared B. R. Wilson, being duly sworn did depose and say that he is Principal Executive to the Staff of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board, that he executed the same and was authorized to do so.

Diane J. Davis

Notary Public

My commission expires: 9/30/05



Company COLUMBIA NATURAL RESOURCES, LLC Well Name or Number CNR-24544 (HY-67)

Tract No. BIG SANDY ~ TRACT 5 Quadrangle HARMAN

District ROCKLICK

Well Coordinates (Virginia State Plane) N: 391,961.70 E: 931,807.08

Elevation: 1578.5 Method Used to Determine Elevation: Trig. Levels from GPS derived elevation.

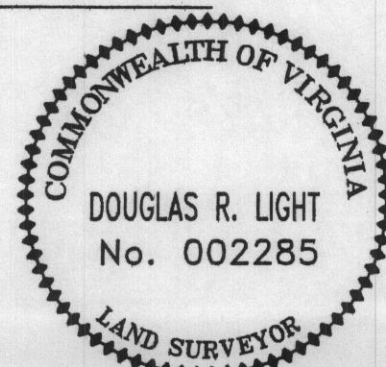
County BUCHANAN Scale: 1" = 400' Date 12-29-04

This Plat is a new plat X ; an updated plat _____ ; or a final location plat _____ ;

+ Denotes the location of a well on United States topographic maps, scale 1 to 24,000,
latitude and longitude lines being represented by border lines as shown.

Douglas R. Light

Licensed Professional Engineer or Licensed Land Surveyor



VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF MINES, MINERALS, AND ENERGY
ABINGDON, VIRGINIA

DOCKET NUMBER: VGOB-05/05/17-1458

APPLICANT: Columbia Natural Resources LLC

RELIEF SOUGHT: WELL LOCATION EXCEPTION
Va. Code Ann. § 45.1-361.17

WELL NO. 824544

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Big Sandy
Tract 5, 82.90 Acres
Harman Quadrangle
Rocklick District
Buchanan County, VA



NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: See Exhibit B

Notice is hereby given that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the Virginia Gas and Oil Board to grant a variance to authorize the drilling of the proposed well to produce formations from surface to total depth drilled.

Notice is further given that this matter is set for hearing before the Virginia Gas and Oil Board on the 17th day of May, 2005, at 9:00 o'clock at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, Abingdon, Virginia at which time and place all interested persons may appear and be heard.

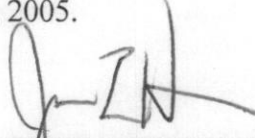
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. E. Kaiser".

James E. Kaiser
WILHOIT & KAISER

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, James E. Kaiser, of counsel for Columbia Natural Resources LLC, hereby certify that I have this day caused the foregoing notice and application to be served upon the parties listed herein, at their address, by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Dated this the 15th day of Aril, 2005.



James E. Kaiser
WILHOIT & KAISER

