

The State of Texas



Austin, Texas

General Land Office
Relinquishment Act Lease
Form Revised 7/16 - 02

OIL AND GAS LEASE NO.

THIS OIL AND GAS LEASE is made and entered into to be effective _____ (the "effective date"), by and between the State of Texas,

acting by and through its agent,

whose address is:

said agent herein referred to as the owner of the soil (whether one or more) ("owner of the soil"), and _____ ("Lessee"),

whose address is:

1. GRANTING CLAUSE; RESERVATION; BONUS. For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, and the covenants contained herein, the State of Texas, acting by and through the owner of the soil, hereby demises, grants, leases and lets unto Lessee the non-exclusive right to explore for, and the exclusive right to produce and take, Oil and/or Gas from the Leased Premises (defined below) on the terms and conditions set out in this lease. Lessee's right hereunder to explore for Oil and Gas from the Leased Premises is non-exclusive. The Texas General Land Office (the "GLO") expressly retains and reserves the concurrent right to grant third parties (i) seismic, geophysical and geological permits, and to enter into other agreements with third parties, which permits or agreements shall allow such third parties to conduct geophysical, geological, or seismic surveys on, over, under, through, and across the land covered herein during the term of this lease, and which seismic, geophysical, or geological surveys shall not unreasonably interfere with Lessee's drilling or production activities on the Premises, and (ii) ingress and egress and use of the Leased Premises by the GLO and its lessees and permittees to explore for and produce minerals that are not covered, or that might not be covered in the future, under the terms of this lease, but that might be located within the surface boundaries of the Leased Premises. All of the rights in and to the Leased Premises retained by the GLO and all of the rights in and to the Leased Premises granted to Lessee herein shall be exercised in such a manner that neither shall unduly interfere with the operations of the other. This lease is made and entered into subject to any existing rights of way, easements, geophysical or geochemical exploration permits.

The bonus consideration paid for this lease is as follows:

To the State of Texas: _____

Dollars (\$ _____)

To the owner of the soil: _____

Dollars (\$ _____)

Total bonus consideration: _____

Dollars (\$ _____)

The total bonus consideration paid represents a bonus of _____ dollars (\$ _____) per acre, on _____ net acres.

2. TERM. This lease shall be for a term of _____ () years commencing on the effective date (the "primary term"), and as long thereafter as Oil or Gas is produced in paying quantities from the following "Leased Premises" (herein so called), to-wit:

Part/Section:

Block:

1

Abstract:

EXHIBIT B

Grantee:
Acres:
County:

3. DELAY RENTALS. If no well is commenced on the Leased Premises on or before one (1) year from the effective date, this lease shall terminate, unless on or before such anniversary date Lessee shall pay to the owner of the soil or to his credit in the _____ Bank, at _____ or its successors (which shall continue as the depository regardless of changes in the ownership of said land), the amount specified below; in addition, Lessee shall pay to the COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, AT AUSTIN, TEXAS, a like sum on or before said date. Payments under this paragraph shall operate as a rental and shall cover the privilege of deferring the commencement of a well for one (1) year from said date. Payments under this paragraph shall be in the following amounts:

To the owner of the soil:	Dollars (\$ _____)
To the State of Texas:	Dollars (\$ _____)
Total Delay Rental:	Dollars (\$ _____)

In a like manner and upon like payments annually, the commencement of a well may be further deferred for successive periods of one (1) year each during the primary term. All payments of rental to the owner of the soil may be made by check of Lessee or any assignee of this lease, and may be delivered on or before the rental paying date. If the bank designated in this paragraph (or its successor bank) should cease to exist, suspend business, liquidate, fail or be succeeded by another bank, or for any reason fail or refuse to accept rental, Lessee shall not be held in default for failure to make such payments of rental until thirty (30) days after the owner of the soil shall deliver to Lessee a proper recordable instrument naming another bank as agent to receive such payments.

4. ROYALTY: All capitalized terms used in this lease that are not defined in this lease shall have the meanings given them in Title 31, Part 1, Chapter 9 of the Texas Administrative Code (the "Rules"). Upon production of Oil, Gas, and/or other products from the Leased Premises, Lessee agrees to pay or cause to be paid one-half (1/2) of the royalty provided for in this lease to the GLO, for the use and benefit of the State of Texas, and one-half (1/2) of such royalty to the owner of the soil, each of the following royalties as applicable to the substances actually produced from the Leased Premises and/or subsequent processing:

(a) **OIL:** As a royalty on Oil, a monetary royalty of _____ percent (_____ %) of the value of the Gross Production, unless the Commissioner of the General Land Office of the State of Texas (the "Commissioner") or the owner of the soil, at the option of either, elects to receive its royalty in kind pursuant to section 4(l). The value of the Gross Production shall be calculated at the point the Oil is Ready for Sale and Use and without deduction for expenses, as described in section (4)(k), and determined by the greatest of: (i) the highest posted price, plus premium, if any, paid or offered for Oil of a like type and gravity in the general area where produced and when run, (ii) the highest market price thereof paid or offered in the general area where produced and when run, or (iii) the gross proceeds of the sale thereof.

(b) **NON-PROCESSED GAS:** As a royalty on any Non-Processed Gas, a monetary royalty of _____ percent (_____ %) of the value of the Gross Production, unless the Commissioner or the owner of the soil, at the option of either, elects to receive its royalty in kind pursuant to section 4(l). The value of the Gross Production shall be calculated (i) at the point at which the Non-Processed Gas is Ready for Sale and Use and without deduction for expenses, as described in section (4)(k), (ii) on a Dry Gas basis as to both volume and energy content (as described in the section 30 definitions below), and (iii) based on the higher of:

(A) the highest market price paid or offered for Gas of comparable quality in the general area where produced and when run; or

(B) the gross price paid or offered to the Lessee; provided that the maximum pressure base in measuring the Gas under this lease contract shall equal 14.65 pounds per square inch absolute, and the standard base temperature shall be sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit, correction to be made for pressure according to Boyle's Law, and for specific gravity according to a test made by chromatographic analysis or the Balance Method.

Provided, however, that if Non-Processed Gas is sold to a parent, subsidiary or affiliate of Lessee, then the royalty due hereunder shall be based on the value of the Gas as either Non-Processed Gas or Processed Gas, as the case may be, in the first sale to a third party in an agreement negotiated at arms' length.

(c) **PROCESSED GAS:** As a royalty on any Processed Gas, Lessee agrees to pay a monetary royalty of _____ percent (_____ %) of the value of the Residue Gas and the NGLs extracted, unless the Commissioner or the owner of the soil, at the option of either, elects to receive its royalty in kind pursuant to section 4(l). The value of the Gross Production shall be calculated at the point the Residue Gas and/or the NGLs, respectively, are Ready for Sale and Use. All royalties due herein shall be on 100% of the volume of the Gas produced from the Leased Premises (calculated on a Dry Gas basis as to both volume and energy content, as described in the section 30 definitions below) as measured or attributed at the inlet of the Processing Plant. The royalty due from Lessee hereunder shall be based on the greater value of:

(1) the sum of the values of (A) 100% of the Residue Gas MMBtus attributable to the Gas determined at the plant recovery efficiency applicable to each NGL component, plus (B) the net value of the NGLs after deduction of all applicable Gas processing fees and/or the value of the NGLs at the applicable liquids percent of proceeds accruing to the Processing Plant; or

(2) the sum of the values of (A) 100% of the available Residue Gas MMBtus attributable to the Gas, plus (B) the value of the NGLs at the applicable minimum liquids POP%, established herein in section 4(d), without deduction or reduction in the value of the NGLs by a percent of proceeds or any other fees or adjustments of any type, form, or character; or

(3) the "keep whole" value of the Gas as described in section (4)(f).

For purposes of calculating the royalty due hereunder, the respective values of the Residue Gas and the NGLs shall be based on the greater of:

(1) the highest market price paid or offered in the general area for (A) any Pipeline-Quality Residue Gas, and (B) NGLs, as either Raw Mix or merchantable and marketable commercial grades and/or blends of each of the individual components, after fractionation, of comparable quality in the general area, or

(2) the (A) gross price paid or offered to Lessee for such Pipeline-Quality Residue Gas, and (B) weighted monthly average gross selling price for the respective grades of NGLs, as either Raw Mix or merchantable and marketable commercial grades and/or blends of each of the individual components, after fractionation.

No fees or costs of any kind shall be deducted from the value of Gas that is bypassed around a Gas Processing Plant and then blended with Gas that was processed to remove liquefiable hydrocarbons at, or at a point downstream of, the tailgate of the Processing Plant, a.k.a. "conditioning". The value of Gas bypassed around a plant in which no liquefiable hydrocarbons or NGLs are removed from the Gas shall equal that for Non-Processed Gas per section 4(b).

Provided, however, that if NGLs are recovered from Gas processed in a plant in which Lessee (or its parent, subsidiary or affiliate) owns an interest, then the POP% applicable to NGLs shall be the greater of (x) the applicable POP% per section 4(d), or (y) the highest percent accruing to a third party processing Gas through such plant under a processing agreement negotiated at arms' length.

- (d) **APPLICABLE MINIMUM LIQUIDS PERCENT OF PROCEEDS:** (1) The applicable minimum liquids percent of proceeds ("POP%") of the total available liquid hydrocarbon content volume for all NGLs, except ethane, shall, regardless of the natural Gas liquids recovery process or Gas processing agreement terms and/or conditions, be equal to the following:

- (A) 70% for Gas with a heating content or BTU value equal to or greater than 1100 BTU/SCF;
- (B) 60% for Gas with a heating content or BTU value equal to or greater than 1070 BTU/SCF but less than 1100 BTU/SCF; and
- (C) 50% for Gas with a heating content or BTU value less than 1070 BTU/SCF.

(2) The available liquid hydrocarbon volume, in gallons, of each NGL component used to calculate the value of the NGLs at the applicable POP% shall equal the product of (A) the Processing Plant inlet Gas volume, in MSCF, on a Dry Gas basis, times (B) the gallons per MSCF of each component calculated per the applicable standards, at 14.65 pounds per square inch absolute and 60° Fahrenheit, according to a test made by chromatographic analysis of the Gas, except ethane, where the theoretical gallons of ethane available in the Gas shall be reduced by the Processing Plant recovery efficiency of ethane then being specified in processing agreements negotiated at arm's length between the Lessee and the plant for each dedicated Processing Plant and each Processing Plant that may process the Gas in a series of plants.

(3) The available Residue Gas MMBtu amount used in the calculation of the royalty value in section 4(c)(2) shall equal the product of (A) the Processing Plant inlet Gas MMBtu amount less the sum total MMBtu of shrinkage calculated for the available liquid hydrocarbon volume in section 4(d)(2) for each NGL component, times (B) one (1.0) minus the lesser of (1) the plant fuel MMBtu percentage divided by 100%, or (2) 0.035.

- (e) **OTHER PRODUCTS:** As a royalty on carbon black, carbon dioxide, sulphur or any other products (including water) produced (excepting Oil, Gas, or NGLs, addressed separately above), Lessee agrees to pay a monetary royalty of _____ percent (%) of the value of the Gross Production of such products, unless the Commissioner of the General Land Office of the State of Texas (the "Commissioner") or the owner of the soil, at the option of either, elects to receive its royalty in kind pursuant to section 4(1). The value of the Gross Production shall be calculated at the point the other products are Ready for Sale and Use and without deduction for expenses, as described in section 4(k), such value to be based on the higher of:

- (1) the highest market price of each product, during the same month in which such product is produced; or
- (2) the average gross sale price of each product for the same month in which such products are produced.

- (f) **KEEP WHOLE:** Notwithstanding any other provision of this lease to the contrary, Lessee may not pay a royalty hereunder for Processed Gas that is less than the royalty that would have been due under section 4(b) for the total energy content of the Processing Plant inlet Gas if it had not been processed.

- (g) **NON-SALES DISPOSITIONS:** As a royalty on non-sales dispositions of Gas, including but not limited to vented Gas, flared Gas, flash Gas and lease fuel Gas, Lessee agrees to pay a royalty based on the royalty provisions for Non-Processed Gas described in section 4(b) of this Lease (but without requirement of merchantability or marketability) if the Gas produced from the Leased Premises is not processed; otherwise, the royalty on non-sales dispositions of Gas shall be based on the royalty provisions for Processed Gas described in section 4(c) for Residue Gas. If, for whatever reason, there are no Gas sales dispositions, then Lessee agrees to pay royalty on one fourth (1/4) part of the total energy content of the Gas, in MMBtu determined on a Dry Gas basis, based on the posted market price of natural Gas at the nearest applicable Gas market hub in \$/MMBtu.

- (h) **PLANT FUEL AND RECYCLED GAS:** No royalty shall be payable on any Gas as may represent this lease's proportionate share of any fuel used to process Gas produced hereunder in any third party Gas processing plant pursuant to section 4(c); provided, however, that this lease's proportionate share of any such fuel used to process Gas shall be the lesser of (1) the plant fuel MMBtu percentage of the total plant inlet MMBtu amount (as determined by contract or, if none, by actual MMBtu amounts), or (2) 3.5%, and royalty shall be payable on any Gas in excess of that lesser amount. Subject to the consent in writing of the GLO, Lessee may inject Gas for secondary or enhanced recovery operations or for Gas lift purposes into any Oil- or Gas-producing formation in the Leased Premises after the liquid hydrocarbons contained in the Gas have been removed, and no royalty shall be payable on the Gas so injected until such time as the same may thereafter be produced and sold or used.

- (i) **CONSERVATION:** Lessee shall use all reasonable means to prevent the underground or above ground waste of Oil or Gas and to avoid the physical waste, flaring or venting of Gas produced from the Leased Premises.

- (j) **DUTY TO MARKET:** Lessee shall exercise due diligence and use all reasonable efforts in marketing any and all production from the Leased Premises, at no cost to owner of the soil, to obtain the best price reasonably available for the Oil and Gas.

- (k) **NO DEDUCTIONS:** Except for fees or deductions that may be permitted pursuant to section 4(c), Lessee shall pay or cause to be paid royalty due under this lease without deduction for the cost of producing, gathering, storing, separating, treating, dehydrating, conditioning, compressing, processing, transporting and otherwise making the Oil, Non-Processed Gas, Processed Gas, and other products hereunder Ready For Sale and Use, whether borne by Lessee or by third-party purchasers and whether stated as a deduction from the price or an adjustment to the price based on location or condition. If any contract by which Lessee or an Affiliate of Lessee sells Oil or Gas produced hereunder makes deductions or adjustments to the price to account for costs of producing, gathering, storing, separating, treating, dehydrating, conditioning, compressing, processing, or transporting of Oil or Gas produced from the Leased Premises, then such deductions shall be added back to the price received for purposes of computing the Gross Production upon which royalties are to be paid. The owner of the soil, the GLO, and Lessee agree that the foregoing provision is to be given full effect and is not to be construed as "surplusage" under *Heritage Resources, Inc. v. Nationsbank*, 939 S.W.2d 118 (Tex. 1996).

Also available as part of the eCourse

[2020 Ernest E. Smith Oil, Gas, and Mineral Law eConference](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the
46th Annual Ernest E. Smith Oil, Gas and Mineral Law Institute session
"Relinquishment Act Lands, Leasing, and Development"