

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL**

**OIL AND GAS DOCKET  
NO. 04-0270702**

**IN THE GATES RANCH (EAGLE  
FORD SHALE) FIELD, WEBB  
COUNTY, TEXAS**

**FINAL ORDER  
AMENDING FIELD RULE 2  
FOR THE GATES RANCH (EAGLE FORD SHALE) FIELD  
WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS**

The Commission finds that after statutory notice in the above-numbered docket heard on June 9, 2011, the presiding examiner has made and filed a report and recommendation containing findings of fact and conclusions of law, for which service was not required; that the proposed application is in compliance with all statutory requirements; and that this proceeding was duly submitted to the Railroad Commission of Texas at conference held in its offices in Austin, Texas.

The Commission, after review and due consideration of the examiner's report and recommendation the findings of fact and conclusions of law contained therein, hereby adopts as its own the findings of fact and conclusions of law contained therein, and incorporates said findings of fact and conclusions of law as if fully set out and separately stated herein.

Therefore, it is ordered by the Railroad Commission of Texas that Field Rule 2 adopted in Final Order No. 04-0268007, effective November 30, 2010 for the Gates Ranch (Eagle Ford Shale) Field, Webb County, Texas, is amended as set out below:

**RULE 2:** No well for oil or gas shall hereafter be drilled nearer than THREE HUNDRED THIRTY(330) feet to any property line, lease line, or subdivision line. There is no minimum between well spacing requirement. The aforementioned distances in the above rule are minimum distances to allow an operator flexibility in locating a well; and the above spacing rule and the other rules to follow are for the purpose of permitting only one well to each drilling and proration unit. Provided however, that the Commission will grant exceptions to permit drilling within shorter distances and drilling more wells than herein prescribed, whenever the Commission shall have determined that such exceptions are necessary either to prevent waste or to prevent the confiscation of property. When exception to these rules is desired, application therefor shall be filed and will be acted upon in accordance with the provisions of Commission Statewide Rules 37 and 38, which applicable provisions of said rules are incorporated herein by reference.

Provided, however, that for purposes of spacing for horizontal wells, the following shall apply:

- a. A take point in a horizontal drainhole well is any point along a horizontal drainhole where oil and/or gas can be produced from the reservoir/field interval. The first take point may be at a different location than the

penetration point and the last take point may be at a location different than the terminus point.

- b. No horizontal drainhole well for oil or gas shall hereafter be drilled such that the first and last take point are nearer than ONE HUNDRED (100) feet to any property line, lease line or subdivision line.
- d. For each horizontal drainhole well, the perpendicular distance from any point on such horizontal drainhole between the first take point and the last take point to any point on any property line, lease line or subdivision line shall be a minimum of THREE HUNDRED THIRTY(330) feet

If the applicant has represented in the drilling application that there will be one or more no perf zones or “NPZ”s” (portions of the wellbore within the field interval without take points), then the as-drilled plat filed after completion of the well shall be certified by a person with knowledge of the facts pertinent to the application that the plat is accurately drawn to scale and correctly reflects all pertinent and required data. In addition to the standard required data, the certified plat shall include the as-drilled track of the wellbore, the location of each take point on the wellbore, the boundaries of any wholly or partially unleased tracts within a Rule 37 distance of the wellbore, and notations of the shortest distance from each wholly or partially unleased tract within a Rule 37 distance of the wellbore to the nearest take point on the wellbore.

For the purpose of assigning additional acreage to a horizontal well pursuant to Rule 86, the distance from the first take point to the last take point in the horizontal drainhole shall be used in such determination, in lieu of the distance from penetration point to terminus.

For any well permitted in this field configured as the above described wells, the penetration point need not be located on the same lease, pooled unit, unitized tract or production sharing agreement tract on which the well is permitted and may be located on an Offsite Tract. When the penetration point is located on such Offsite Tract, the applicant for such a drilling permit must give 21 days notice by certified mail, return receipt requested to the mineral owners of the Offsite Tract. For the purposes of this rule, the mineral owners of the Offsite Tract are (1) the designated operator; (2) all lessees of record for the Offsite Tract where there is no designated operator; and (3) all owners of unleased mineral interests where there is no designated operator or lessee. In providing such notice, applicant must provide the mineral owners of the Offsite Tract with a plat clearly depicting the projected path of the entire wellbore. In the event the applicant is unable, after due diligence, to locate the whereabouts of any person to whom notice is required by this rule, the applicant must publish notice of this application pursuant to the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure. If the mineral owners of the Offsite Tract object to the location of the penetration point, the applicant may request a hearing to demonstrate the necessity of the location of the penetration point of the well to prevent waste or to protect correlative rights. Notice of Offsite Tract penetration is not required if (a) written waivers of objection are received from all mineral owners of the Offsite Tract; or, (b) the applicant is the only

mineral owner of the Offsite Tract. To mitigate the potential for well collisions, applicant shall promptly provide copies of any directional surveys to the parties entitled to notice under this section, upon request.

In applying this rule, the general order of the Commission with relation to the subdivision of property shall be observed.

It is further ordered that the allocation formula in the Gates Ranch (Eagle Ford Shale) Field will remain suspended. The allocation formula may be reinstated administratively, in accordance with the Commission's rules, if the market demand for gas in the Gates Ranch (Eagle Ford Shale) Field drops below 100% of deliverability.

Done this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2011.

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**

**(Order approved and signatures affixed by  
OGC Unprotested Master Order dated August  
23, 2011)**