

**BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA**

JOINT APPLICATION OF BRANDY L. WREATH, )  
DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY )  
DIVISION, AND ROBYN STRICKLAND, DIRECTOR )  
OF THE OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION )  
DIVISION, OKLAHOMA CORPORATION )  
COMMISSION, FOR AN ORDER OF THE )  
COMMISSION AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY )  
INCREASE OF THE STATEWIDE PRORATION )  
FORMULA FOR UNALLOCATED GAS WELLS IN )  
RESPONSE TO THE EXISTING SEVERE WEATHER )  
DISASTER THREATENING THE PUBLIC HEALTH, )  
SAFETY AND PEACE )

CAUSE NO. CD 202100238



**APPLICATION AND MOTION TO ADVANCE TO THE COMMISSION *EN BANC***  
**FOR HEARING**

COME NOW Brandy L. Wreath, Applicant, Director of the Public Utility Division (“PUD”), and Robyn Strickland, Director of the Oil and Gas Conservation Division (“OGCD”), of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (“Commission”) by and through the undersigned counsel and hereby state and allege as follows:

**I. PARTIES**

Applicants are PUD Director Brandy L. Wreath and OGCD Director Robyn Strickland of the Commission, located at the Jim Thorpe Office Building, 2101 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73105.

**II. ALLEGATION OF FACTS**

Beginning in March, 2020, Governor J. Kevin Stitt issued numerous executive orders declaring an emergency in all seventy-seven Oklahoma Counties caused by the threat of COVID-19 to the people of the State. Most recently, on February 12, 2021, Governor Stitt issued Executive Order 2021-07, again declaring an emergency in all seventy-seven Oklahoma Counties caused by the threat of COVID-19 to the people of the State.

On February 12, 2021, Governor J. Kevin Stitt issued Executive Order 2021-06, declaring a disaster emergency caused by severe winter weather in all seventy-seven Oklahoma Counties, recognizing such weather is expected to cause damage to utilities, including electric and gas systems within the State of Oklahoma causing undue hardship on the citizens of this State.

On February 13, 2021, Governor J. Kevin Stitt issued an Emergency Natural Gas Curtailment to certain natural gas utility non-residential customers, effective beginning at 9a.m. February 14, 2021.

On February 14, 2021, the Southwest Power Pool (“SPP”), the regional transmission organization and independent system operator whose territory includes Oklahoma, issued a notice of an Energy Emergency Alert Level 1 to be effective beginning on February 15, 2021, due to restraints on the system to meet firm load obligations and the potential to be unable to sustain its required contingency reserves.

Also on February 14, 2021, the SPP issued a statement addressing its efforts to prepare for worsening conditions due to extreme cold—noting coordination with its members and market participants to respond to high demand for electricity and inadequate supply of natural gas.

Upon information and belief, Oklahoma natural gas utilities, and natural gas fired electric generation facilities, are experiencing reduced pressures and facing a commodity shortage. Applicants assert that to best address the natural gas supply shortage, immediate action to increase the current maximum permitted rates of production for unallocated gas wells is necessary. The dangerous cold, in addition to the ongoing pandemic response, make it necessary to take any steps possible to ensure heat and power to critical services.

This Application is of an emergency nature and time sensitive. The time requirements for public notice of a special meeting or a regular meeting of the Commission would make the procedure for such a meeting impractical and increase the likelihood of injury or damage or immediate financial loss. Therefore, Applicants request and urge that it be set for hearing immediately before the Commission *en banc*.

### **III. LEGAL AUTHORITY**

The Commission has jurisdiction over this Cause pursuant to Article IX, § 18, of the Oklahoma Constitution, 17 O.S. §152, 52 O.S. §29, OAC 165:5-9-3(c) and OAC 165:10-17-11.

### **IV. RELIEF SOUGHT**

WHEREFORE, Applicants respectfully request that the Commission, in response to the existing emergency described *supra*, immediately increase the current proration formula percentage used to calculate the allowable production for unallocated gas wells to 100% of the calculated absolute open flow until otherwise ordered by the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy L. Wreath  
Director of the Public Utility Division  
OKLAHOMA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
-and-  
Robyn Strickland  
Director of the Oil and Gas Conservation  
Division  
OKLAHOMA CORPORATION COMMISSION

s/ Michael L. Velez  
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