

## **Department of Natural Resources**

DIVISION OF OIL & GAS

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April 3, 2018

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Cody Terrell Hilcorp Alaska, LLC 3800 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 1400 Anchorage, AK 99503

Re: 2018 Plan of Development for the Lewis River Unit - Approval

Dear Mr. Terrell:

On March 1, 2018, the State of Alaska (State) Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas (Division) received the proposed Lewis River Unit (LRU) 2017 Plan of Development (POD). The Division notified the operator Hilcorp Alaska, LLC (Hilcorp) by email on March 7, 2018 that the POD application was incomplete. Hilcorp modified the POD and resubmitted POD on March 8, 2018 at which time it was deemed complete. The Division conducted a technical meeting with Hilcorp on March 20, 2018.

The LRU has been on production since 1984 and has produced 15.4 Billion Standard Cubic Feet (BSCF) of cumulative gas through December 2017. Hilcorp has continued to produce gas over the past year, increasing from 128 Million Standard Cubic Feet Per Day (MMSCFD) in 2016 to 137 MMSCFD in 2017.

During the 2017 POD, Hilcorp continued production from the Lewis River Gas Pool #2. One well produced all unit production. No drilling or well work was performed during the 2017 period, however a permanent sand separator was installed.

During the 2018 POD, Hilcorp plans to continue to produce from the Lewis River Gas Pool #2. Hilcorp also plans to continue a comprehensive field study for further development. No major facilities upgrades are planned however, Hilcorp will address needs as they arise.

When considering a POD, the Division must consider the criteria in 11 AAC 83.303(a) and (b). Accordingly, the Division considered the public interest, conservation of natural resources, prevention of economic and physical waste, protection of all interested parties including the state, environmental costs and benefits, geological and engineering characteristics of reservoirs or potential hydrocarbon accumulations, prior exploration activities, plans for exploration or development, economic costs and benefits to the state, and any other relevant factors, including mitigation measures. 11 AAC 83.303(a), (b).

In approving the prior POD(s) for the LRU, the Division considered 11 AAC 83.303 and found that the POD(s) promoted conservation of natural resources, promoted prevention of waste, and protected the parties' interests. The Division incorporates those findings by reference.

This 2018 POD will continue production from the LRU, economically benefitting the State of Alaska.

Having considered the 11 AAC 83.303 (a) and (b) criteria, the Division finds that the 2018 POD complies with the provisions of 11 AAC 83.303. Accordingly, the 2018 POD is approved for the period June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019.

This approval is only for a general plan of development. Specific field operations will require an approved Plan of Operations. Under 11 AAC 83.343, the 2019 POD is due on March 3, 2019, 90 days before the 2018 POD expires.

An eligible person affected by this decision may appeal it, in accordance with 11 AAC 02. Any appeal must be received within 20 calendar days after the date of "issuance" of this decision, as defined in 11 AAC 02.040(c) and (d) and may be mailed or delivered to Andrew T. Mack, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; faxed to 1-907-269-8918, or sent by electronic mail to dnr.appeals@alaska.gov. This decision takes effect immediately. An eligible person must first appeal this decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to Superior Court. A copy of 11 AAC 02 may be obtained from any regional information office of the Department of Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

Chantal Walsh,

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Director