

5434

OIL AND GAS LEASE

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 30th day of July, 1980 by and between

Frances Roberts Darling Estate; Conservator Robert J. Duden, Banker and

Conservator John R. O'Hanlon, Attorney of 1569 Washington Street, Blair, Nebraska 680

hereinafter called lessor (whether one or more) and LOCHFAYNE RESOURCES, INC.

P.O. Box 385, Blair, Nebraska 68008 hereinafter called lessee:

1. WITNESSETH: That the lessor, for and in consideration of \$ 10.00 and more cash in hand paid, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and of the covenants and agreements hereinafter contained on the part of the lessee to be paid, kept and performed, has granted, demised, leased and let and by these presents does grant, demise, lease and let exclusively unto said lessee, with the exclusive right of mining, exploring by geophysical and other methods and operating for and producing therefrom oil and all gas of whatsoever nature or kind, and laying pipe lines, telephone and telegraph lines, housing and boarding employees, building tanks, power stations, gasoline plants, ponds, roadways, and structures thereon to produce, save, market and take care of said products and the exclusive surface and subsurface rights and privileges related in any manner to any and all such operations and any and all other rights and privileges necessary, incident to, or convenient for the economical operation alone or conjointly with neighboring land for such purposes, all that certain

tract or tracts of land situated in the County of Washington, State of Nebraska, described as follows, to-wit:

Township 17 North, Range 11 East
Section 33: N 1/2

Township 17 North, Range 10 East
Section 15: SW 1/4
Section 22: NW 1/4

of Section Township Range and containing 640.0 acres, more or less.

2. It is agreed that this lease shall remain in force for a term of five years from date and as long thereafter as oil, or gas of whatsoever nature or kind, or either of them is produced from said land or premises pooled therewith or drilling operations are continued as hereinafter provided. If prior to discovery of oil or gas on said land, or on acreage pooled therewith, lessee should drill a dry hole or holes thereon, or if after discovery of oil or gas production thereafter should cease for any cause, this lease shall not terminate if lessee commences additional drilling or reworking operations within sixty (60) days thereafter, or (if it be within the primary term) commences or resumes the payment or tender of rental on or before the rental-paying date next ensuing after the expiration of three (3) months from the date of completion of a dry hole or cessation of production. If, at the expiration of the primary term of this lease, oil or gas is not being produced on or from said land or said pooled premises but lessee is then engaged in drilling or reworking operations thereon, then this lease shall continue in force so long thereafter as drilling or reworking operations are being continuously prosecuted on said land or on a drilling or reworking development or operating unit which includes all or a part of said land; and drilling or reworking operations shall be considered to be continuously prosecuted if not more than sixty days shall elapse between the completion or abandonment of one well and the beginning of operations for the drilling or reworking of another well. If oil or gas shall be discovered and/or produced from any such well or wells drilled, being drilled or reworked at or after the expiration of the primary term of this lease, this lease shall continue in force so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from the leased premises or from any such unit which includes all or a part of said lands.

3. In consideration of the premises the said lessee covenants and agrees:

(a) To deliver to the credit of lessor, free of cost in the pipe line to which lessee may connect his wells, the equal one-eighth part of all oil produced and saved from the leased premises, or at the lessee's option, may pay to the lessor for such one-eighth royalty, the market price for oil of like grade and gravity prevailing on the day such oil is run into the pipe line or into storage tanks.

(b) To pay lessor for gas of whatsoever nature or kind produced and sold, or used off the premises, or used in the manufacture of any products therefrom, one-eighth, at the market price at the well for the gas sold, used off the premises, or in the manufacture of products therefrom. Where gas from a well producing gas only is not sold or used, lessee may pay or tender as royalty One Dollar per year per net royalty acre retained hereunder, such payment or tender to be made on or before the anniversary date of this lease next ensuing after the expiration of 90 days from the date such well is shut in and thereafter on or before the anniversary date of this lease during the period such well is shut in, to the royalty owners or to the royalty owners' credit in the rental depository bank herein designated. If such payment or tender is made, it will be considered that gas is being produced within the meaning of this lease.

4. If operations for the drilling of a well for oil or gas are not commenced or if there is no oil or gas being produced on said land or on acreage pooled therewith as hereinafter provided on or before one year from the date hereof, this lease shall terminate as to both parties, unless the lessee on or before

that date shall pay or tender to the lessor or to the lessor's credit in the Washington County Bank at

Blair, Nebraska 68008

ownership of said land, the sum of Six Hundred Forty and 00/100 DOLLARS

(\$ 640.00) which shall operate as a rental and cover the privilege of deferring the commencement of operations for drilling of a well for twelve months from said date. In like manner and upon like payments or tenders the commencement of operations for drilling of a well may be further deferred for like periods of the same number of months successively. All payments or tenders may be made by check or draft of lessee or any assignee thereof, deferred for like periods of the same number of months successively. It is understood and agreed that the consideration first recited herein, the down payment, covers not mailed or delivered on or before the date when said first rental is payable as aforesaid, but also the lessee's right of extending that period as aforesaid, and any only the privilege granted to the date when said first rental is payable as aforesaid, but also the lessee's right of extending that period as aforesaid, and any all other rights conferred. Should the depository bank hereafter close without a successor, lessee or its assigns may deposit rental or royalties in any National bank located in the same county with the first named bank, due notice of such deposit to be mailed to lessor at last known address.

5. Lessee, at its option, is hereby given the right and power at any time from time to time as a recurring right, either before or after production, as to all or any part of the land described hereon and as to any one or more of the formations hereunder, to pool or unitize the leasehold estate and the mineral estate covered by this lease with other land, lease or leases in the immediate vicinity for the production of oil and gas, or separately for the production of either, when in lessee's judgment it is necessary or advisable to do so, and irrespective of whether authority similar to this exists with respect to such other land, lease or leases. Likewise, units previously formed to include formations not producing oil or gas, may be reformed to exclude such non-producing formations. The forming or reforming of any unit shall be accomplished by lessee executing and filing of record a declaration of such unitization or reformation, which declaration shall describe the unit. Any unit may include land upon which a well has theretofore been completed or upon which operations for drilling have theretofore been commenced. Production, drilling or reworking operations or a well shut in for want of a market anywhere on a unit which includes all or a part of this lease shall be treated as if it were production, drilling or reworking operations or a well shut in for want of a market anywhere on the unit so pooled royalties only on the portion of such production allocated to this lease; such royalties, lessor shall receive on production from the unit so pooled royalties on the portion of such production allocated to this lease; such allocation shall be that proportion of the unit production that the total number of surface acres covered by this lease and included in the unit bears to the total number of surface acres in such unit. In addition to the foregoing, lessee shall have the right to unitize, pool, or combine all or any part of the above described lands as to one or more of the formations thereunder with other lands in the same general area by entering into a cooperative or unit plan of development approved by any governmental authority and, from time to time, with like approval, to modify, change or terminate any such plan or agreement and, in such event, the terms, conditions, and provisions of this lease shall be deemed modified to conform to the terms, conditions, and provisions of such approved cooperative or unit plan of development or operation and, particularly, all drilling and development requirements of this lease, express or implied, shall be satisfied by compliance with the drilling and development requirements of such plan or agreement, and this lease shall not terminate or expire during the life of such plan or agreement. In the event that said above described such plan or agreement, and this lease shall hereafter be operated under any such cooperative or unit plan of development or operation whereby the production for lands or any part thereof, shall hereafter be allocated to any particular tract of land shall, for the purpose of computing the royalties to be paid hereunder to lessor, be regarded as having been produced from the particular tract of land to which it is allocated and not to any other tract or tracts of land; and the royalty payments to be made hereunder to lessor shall be based upon production only as so allocated. Lessor shall formally express lessor's consent to any cooperative or unit plan of development or operation adopted by lessee and approved by any governmental agency by executing the same upon request of lessee.

6. Lessee may, at any time, release this lease as to any stratum or strata and as to part or all of the lands above described, after which all payments and liabilities thereafter to accrue, as to the lands released, shall cease and determine. In the event of a partial release, the annual delay rental above mentioned shall be reduced proportionately.

7. Lessee shall have the right to use, free of cost, gas, oil and water produced on said land for its operation thereon, except water from ditches, ponds, reservoirs, or wells of lessor.

When requested by the lessor, lessee shall bury its pipe lines on cultivated portions below plow depth.

No well shall be drilled nearer than 200 feet to the house or barn now on said premises, without the written consent of the lessor.

Lessee shall pay for damages caused by his operation to growing crops on said lands.

Lessee shall have the right at any time to remove all machinery and fixtures placed on said premises, including the right to draw and remove casing.

8. If the estate of either party hereto is assigned, and the privilege of assigning in whole or in part is expressly allowed, although it is agreed that no change or division in ownership of the land, rentals or royalties, however accomplished, shall operate to enlarge the obligations or diminish the rights of the lessee, the covenants hereof shall extend to their heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, but no change in the ownership of the land or assignment of rentals or royalties shall be binding on the lessee until after the lessee has been furnished with certified copies of muniments of title designating title from the lessor, and it is hereby agreed in the event this lease shall be assigned as to a particular part of the rents due from him or them, such default shall not operate of such part or parts shall fail or make default in the payment of the proportionate or parts of the rents due from him or them, such default shall not operate to defeat or affect this lease insofar as it covers a part or parts of said lands hereunder, lessee may pay or tender such rentals to the credit of the deceased or the estate of the deceased until such time as lessee is furnished with proper evidence of the appointment and qualification of an executor or administrator of the estate, or if there be none, then until lessee is furnished with evidence satisfactory to it as to the heirs or devisees of the deceased.

9. Lessor hereby warrants and agrees to defend the title to the lands herein described, and agrees that the lessee shall have the right at any time to pay for lessor, any mortgage, taxes or other liens on the above-described lands in the event of default of payment by lessor, and be subrogated to the rights of the holder thereof, and lessor hereby agrees that any such payments made by the lessee for the lessor may be deducted from any amounts of money which may become due the lessor under the terms of this lease.

10. If said lessor owns a less interest in the above-described land than the entire and undivided fee simple estate therein, then the royalties and rentals herein provided shall be paid the lessor only in proportion which his interest bears to the whole and undivided fee. Any interest in the production from the lands herein described to which the interest of lessor may be subject shall be deducted from the royalty herein reserved.

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COUNTY CLERK
WASHINGTON COUNTY

11. Lessee shall comply with all laws and regulations of any Governmental body purporting to exercise taxing authority over the lands covered by this lease or the person of the lessor herein and in so complying lessee shall not be responsible for determining the legality, validity or constitutionality of any such law or regulation enacted or issued by any such Governmental body.

12. Should any person, firm or corporation have an interest in the above-described land not leased to lessee, or should any one or more of the parties named above as lessors not execute this lease, it shall nevertheless be binding upon the party or parties executing the same.

13. The undersigned lessors for themselves and their heirs, successors, and assigns, hereby expressly release and waive all rights under and by virtue of the homestead exemption laws of said state, insofar as the same may in any way affect the purposes for which this lease is made as recited herein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned execute this instrument as of the day and year first above written.

Frances Roberts Darling Estate

By: Robert J. Duden
Conservator Robert J. Duden

John R. O'Hanlon
Conservator John R. O'Hanlon

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

STATE OF Nebraska } ss.
COUNTY OF Washington }

INDIVIDUAL, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska

On this 30 day of July, 1980, before me, personally appeared

Conservators John R. O'Hanlon & Robert J. Duden to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing

instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same as their free act and deed.

My commission expires:



Mary Ann Matthes
Notary Public.

STATE OF _____ } ss.
COUNTY OF _____ }

INDIVIDUAL, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska

On this _____ day of _____, 19____, before me, personally appeared _____

to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing

instrument, and acknowledged to me that _____ executed the same as _____ free act and deed.

My commission expires:

Notary Public.

No. _____
Oil and Gas Lease
FROM _____
TO _____

Dated _____, 19____

Acres _____
Washington County 1619

Term _____
This instrument was filed for record on _____ at _____ day of _____ 1980, at _____ o'clock _____ M., and duly recorded in Book _____ Page _____ of the records of this office.

Charlotte S. Peterson
Register of Deeds.

Bruce W. _____ Deputy

When recorded return to _____

Recorded _____
General _____
Numerical _____
Photostat _____

STATE OF _____ } ss.
COUNTY OF _____ }

CORPORATE, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska

On this _____ day of _____ in the year _____, before me, a Notary Public,

personally appeared _____ of the Corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that such Corporation executed the same.

My commission expires:

Notary Public.