1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015) 3 HOUSE BILL 2177 By: Hickman 4 5 6 AS INTRODUCED 7 An Act relating to oil and gas; amending 52 O.S. 2011, Sections 87.6, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 400, O.S.L. 2014, 87.7, 87.8, as amended by 8 Section 2, Chapter 400, O.S.L. 2014 and 87.9 (52 O.S. 9 Supp. 2014, Sections 87.6 and 87.8), which relate to the 2011 Shale Reservoir Development Act; changing 10 name of act to the Extended Lateral Horizontal Well Development Act; modifying definitions; providing an 11 alternate development method to creating a new unit or changing an existing drilling and spacing unit for 12 certain horizontal development; limiting allowance of multiunit horizontal wells to targeted reservoir or 1.3 reservoirs; modifying requirements for allocation of certain costs; expanding authority of the Corporation 14 Commission to adjust allocation factors; changing pooling requirements to targeted reservoirs; updating 15 statutory citations; and declaring an emergency. 16 17 18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 19 SECTION 1. 52 O.S. 2011, Section 87.6, as AMENDATORY 20 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 400, O.S.L. 2014 (52 O.S. Supp. 21 2014, Section 87.6), is amended to read as follows: 22 Section 87.6 A. Sections 87.6 through 87.9 of this title shall 23 be known and may be cited as the "2011 Shale Reservoir Extended 24 Lateral Horizontal Well Development Act".

B. As used in the 2011 Shale Reservoir Extended Lateral Horizontal Well Development Act:

- 1. "Allocation factor" means the percentage of costs, production or proceeds allocated to a unit affected by a multiunit horizontal well;
- 2. "Application" means a written request filed by an owner of the right to drill seeking approval to drill, complete and produce a multiunit horizontal well or to create a horizontal well unitization;
- 3. "Associated common source of supply" means a common source of supply which is subject to a drilling and spacing unit formed by the Corporation Commission and located in all or a portion of the lands in which the completion interval of a multiunit horizontal well is located, or which is located within the boundaries of a unit created through a horizontal well unitization, and which is immediately adjoining the shale common source of supply in which the completion interval of the horizontal well is located, and which is inadvertently encountered in the drilling of the lateral of such horizontal well when such well is drilled out of or exits, whether on one or multiple occasions, such shale common source of supply;
 - 4. "Commission" means the Corporation Commission;
- 5. "Completion interval" means, for an open hole completion in a horizontal well, the interval from the point of entry to the terminus and, for a cased and cemented completion in a horizontal

well, the interval from the first perforations to the last perforations;

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- 6. "Horizontal well" means a well drilled, completed, or recompleted with one or more laterals which, for at least one lateral, the horizontal component of the completion interval exceeds the vertical component of the completion interval and the horizontal component extends a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) feet in the formation;
- 7. "Horizontal well unitization" means a unitization for a shale reservoir created pursuant to Section 87.9 of this title;
- 8. "Horizontal component" means the calculated horizontal distance from the point of entry to the terminus;
- 9. "Lateral" means the portion of the wellbore of a horizontal well from the point of entry to the terminus;
- 10. "Marmaton common source of supply" means a common source of supply located within Texas and Beaver Counties and designated as the Marmaton by the Commission through rule or order;
- 11. "Multiunit horizontal well" means a horizontal well in a targeted reservoir wherein the completion interval of the well is located in more than one unit formed for the same targeted reservoir, with the well being completed in and producing from such targeted reservoir in two or more of such units;
- 12. "Plan of development" means the proposed plan for developing the shale reservoir unitized pursuant to Section 87.9 of

this title, which plan, based upon the information and knowledge then available to the applicant, shall include:

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- a. a map or maps indicating the location of each existing well in the proposed unit and the anticipated location of each horizontal well proposed to be drilled in the proposed unit that is anticipated to be necessary, based upon the information and knowledge then available to the applicant, for the full and efficient development and operation of the proposed unit for the recovery of oil and gas from the shale reservoir within the proposed unit,
- b. any applicable proposed allocation factor or factors for allocating the costs, production and proceeds from the proposed unit,
- c. the anticipated timing and anticipated sequence of drilling of each horizontal well in the proposed unit, and
- d. any other specific terms, provisions, conditions and requirements set forth in Section 87.9 of this title or determined by the Commission to be reasonably necessary or proper to effectuate or accomplish the purpose of Section 87.9 of this title;
- 13. "Point of entry" means the point at which the borehole of a horizontal well first intersects the top of the targeted reservoir;

14. "PRSA" means the Production Revenue Standards Act;

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15. "Shale reservoir" means a common source of supply which is a shale formation that is so designated by the Commission through rule or order, and shall also may, for good cause shown, include any associated common source of supply in relation thereto as defined in this section;

- 16. "Targeted reservoir" means any shale reservoir or any portion of the Marmaton common source of supply or any other common source of supply which has been:
 - a. designated by the Commission through a rule or

 emergency rule as a common source of supply that is

 potentially suited for development through a multiunit

 horizontal well, or
 - b. determined by the Commission as part of the order approving the multiunit horizontal well as a common source of supply that is appropriately suited for development through a multiunit horizontal well for the particular application, and

in designating or determining whether a particular common source of supply should be considered a targeted reservoir, the Commission may limit its designation to certain geographical areas;

17. "Terminus" means the end point of the borehole of a horizontal well;

18. "Wellbore royalty interest" means, for each separate multiunit horizontal well, the sum of resulting products of each affected unit's royalty share for that unit, as defined by the PRSA, multiplied by that unit's allocation factor for production and proceeds;

- 19. "Wellbore royalty proceeds" means the proceeds or other revenue derived from or attributable to any production of oil and gas from the multiunit horizontal well multiplied by the wellbore royalty interest;
- 20. "Unit" means a drilling and spacing unit for a single common source of supply created pursuant to Section 87.1 of this title or a horizontal well unitization an extended lateral horizontal unit created pursuant to Section 87.9 of this title;
- 21. "Unit's royalty contribution factor" means the royalty share for an affected unit, as defined by PRSA, multiplied by that unit's allocation factor, then divided by the total wellbore royalty interest; and
- 22. "Vertical component" means the calculated vertical distance from the point of entry to the terminus.
- SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 52 O.S. 2011, Section 87.7, is amended to read as follows:
- 22 Section 87.7 Corporation Commission Jurisdiction.
- The Corporation Commission shall have jurisdiction, upon the filing of a proper application therefor, to permit the drilling,

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    completing and producing of a multiunit horizontal well in
    conformity with Section 4 87.8 of this act title, or to create a
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    horizontal well unitization in conformity with Section \frac{5}{8} 87.9 of
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    this act title, if the Commission finds that the multiunit
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    horizontal well or the horizontal well unitization will prevent
    waste and will protect the correlative rights of the owners of oil
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    and gas rights. Furthermore, for the planned development of a
    common source of supply through the use of horizontal well
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    technology where there is currently production from the common
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    source of supply within an existing unit or units, and the planned
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    horizontal well or wells would extend beyond the boundaries of one
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    or more of the existing units, an alternative to creating a new unit
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    or units pursuant to Section 87.1 or 87.9 of this title, or
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    modifying, superseding, amending or vacating the existing drilling
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    and spacing unit or units, to accommodate the horizontal development
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    is the utilization of a multiunit horizontal well or wells pursuant
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    to Section 87.8 of this title.
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        SECTION 3.
                       AMENDATORY 52 O.S. 2011, Section 87.8, as
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    amended by Section 2, Chapter 400, O.S.L. 2014 (52 O.S. Supp. 2014,
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    Section 87.8), is amended to read as follows:
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        Section 87.8 A. Under the conditions contained in this
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    section, the Corporation Commission is authorized to allow multiunit
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    horizontal wells in any targeted reservoir or reservoirs in order to
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prevent waste and protect the correlative rights of the owners of oil and gas rights.

B. Ownership, Allocation of Costs, Commingled Production, and Proceeds.

The Commission shall require the allocation to each of the units affected by a multiunit horizontal well of the actual and reasonable drilling, completion and production costs associated with a multiunit horizontal well to each of the affected units which the well actually penetrates within the completion interval and shall further require the allocation to each of the units affected by a multiunit horizontal well of the commingled production and the proceeds from the sale thereof, from the completion interval of a multiunit horizontal well, with any allocation to be in a manner that will prevent waste and protect the correlative rights of the owners of the oil and gas rights in each of the affected units which the well actually penetrates within the completion interval.

1. The allocation factor for each affected unit shall be determined by dividing the length of the completion interval located within the affected unit by the entire length of the completion interval in the subject multiunit horizontal well. The Commission shall have the authority to adjust the allocation factors or participation in the subject multiunit horizontal well, based upon reasonable testimony and evidence presented to the Commission, if necessary to prevent waste and adequately protect the correlative

rights or vested rights, or both, of the owners of the oil and gas rights in each of the affected units.

- 2. Each party who participates as a working interest owner in a multiunit horizontal well shall own an undivided interest in all portions of the wellbore of the well and in the equipment on or in the well in the same ratio that the party's allocated portion of the total costs of the well and equipment bears to the total costs of the well and equipment. The ownership of undivided interest described in this paragraph shall not affect or prejudice the ownership of oil and gas rights of the affected owners outside of the targeted reservoir for the multiunit horizontal well.
- 3. A multiunit horizontal well shall be treated as a well in each of the affected units and shall be subject to all of the rules otherwise applicable to any other well in any of the affected units. In allowing a multiunit horizontal well, the Commission, under Section 87.1 of this title, may grant any necessary exceptions to the permitted well location tolerances in each of the affected units for the well and permit the well as an additional well in each of the affected units. When an owner has drilled or proposes to drill a multiunit horizontal well or wells and the owners of a present right to drill in any of the affected units have not agreed to pool their interests in the unit or units for the affected common sources of supply targeted reservoir, the Commission, under Section 87.1 of this title, may, upon the filing of a proper application therefor,

1 require the owners to pool their interests in the targeted reservoir in each affected unit on a unitwide basis as to the respective unit 3 in regard to the development involving the portion of the multiunit horizontal well or wells located within the affected unit. 5 Furthermore, if the Commission has previously entered an order 6 pooling the interests of owners in an affected unit in which a 7 multiunit horizontal well or wells have been drilled or are proposed 8 to be drilled, the Commission, under Section 87.1 of this title may, upon the filing of a proper application therefor, amend the pooling 10 order to the extent necessary to have the pooling order cover the 11 development involving the portion of the multiunit horizontal well 12 or wells located within the affected unit.

4. The application shall include:

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- a. the approximate anticipated location of the proposed multiunit horizontal well or wells,
- b. a map or maps indicating the location of each currently existing well in each affected unit which is the subject of the application and the anticipated location of each multiunit horizontal well currently proposed to be drilled in each affected unit as a result of the application and any other horizontal well not included in the current application, but anticipated to be necessary, based upon the information and knowledge then available to the

applicant, for the full and efficient development and operations of the targeted reservoir within the affected units if the well or wells are approved by the Commission upon the filing of a proper application at a future date, and

- c. any applicable proposed allocation factor or factors for allocating the costs, production and proceeds from each proposed multiunit horizontal well under the application.
- 5. Production from the completion interval in the targeted reservoir from each of the affected units in which a multiunit horizontal well is completed may be commingled in the wellbore of the well and produced to the surface. The commingled production from a multiunit horizontal well shall be allocated to each of the affected units based upon the allocation factors approved by the Commission.

- 6. In granting an application for a multiunit horizontal well or wells, the Commission shall find, based on the testimony and evidence presented, that given the information and knowledge then available, the proposed multiunit horizontal well or wells will prevent waste, protect correlative rights and likely will aid in the full and efficient development of each of the affected units.
- 7. The wellbore royalty proceeds for a multiunit horizontal well shall be allocated to each affected unit by multiplying the

royalty contribution factor of the unit by the wellbore royalty proceeds, with the resulting product being the royalty proceeds for that unit. Each royalty interest owner in an affected unit shall be entitled to receive the owner's proportionate royalty share of the allocated royalty proceeds for that unit.

- 8. The multiunit horizontal well shall be subject to the provisions of the Product Revenue Standards Act (PRSA). The operator of the multiunit horizontal well shall be the designated royalty distributor pursuant to the PRSA for the multiunit horizontal well, unless there is a diversity of operators in the affected units from which the multiunit horizontal well is producing and another operator in each of the affected units agrees to perform separately the PRSA royalty distribution functions for the unit.
 - C. Application, Notice and Retained Jurisdiction.

Application for approval of a multiunit horizontal well shall be in a form prescribed by the Commission. The application, and the notice of hearing on the application, shall be served no less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the hearing, by regular mail, upon each person or governmental entity having the right to share in production from each of the affected units covered by the application, as well as other persons or governmental entities required by the rules of the Commission. Upon approval of a multiunit horizontal well, the Commission shall retain jurisdiction over the well. The retained jurisdiction of the Commission set

- forth herein shall neither preclude nor impair the right of any
 affected party to obtain through the district courts of this state
 any remedy or relief available at law or in equity for injuries
 caused by any action or inaction of the applicant, operator or any
 other affected party.
- 6 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 52 O.S. 2011, Section 87.9, is 7 amended to read as follows:
- 8 Section 87.9 A. Horizontal Well Unitization for Shale 9 Reservoirs.
 - Under limited circumstances and conditions contained in this section, the Corporation Commission is authorized to unitize a shale reservoir for the drilling of horizontal wells to the end that a greater ultimate recovery of oil and gas may be had therefrom, waste is prevented, and the correlative rights of the owners are protected. Unless and until a unit created pursuant to this section is effective, nothing in this section shall prohibit the drilling of a horizontal well within a drilling and spacing unit created pursuant to Section 87.1 of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title.
 - B. Prerequisites for Unitization.

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- Upon the filing of an appropriate application, and after notice and hearing, the Commission shall determine if:
- 1. The proposed unitization of the shale reservoir is
 reasonably calculated to increase the ultimate recovery of oil and

gas from the shale reservoir through the use of horizontal well technology to drill one or more horizontal wells in the unit;

- 2. The use of horizontal well technology to drill the horizontal well or wells in the shale reservoir is feasible, will prevent waste, will protect correlative rights and will with reasonable probability result in the increased recovery of substantially more oil and gas from the shale reservoir within the unit than would otherwise be recovered;
- 3. The estimated additional cost, if any, of conducting the horizontal well operations is not anticipated to exceed the value of the additional oil and gas to be recovered; and
- 4. The unitization and the use of horizontal well technology to drill one or more horizontal wells is for the common good and will result in the general advantage of the owners of the oil and gas rights within the unit.

Upon making these findings, the Commission may enter an order creating the unit and providing for the unitized operation of the shale reservoir described in the order, all upon terms and conditions as may be shown by the evidence to be fair, reasonable, equitable and which are necessary or proper to protect and safeguard the respective rights and obligations of the several persons affected, including royalty owners, owners of overriding royalties and others, as well as the lessees. The application shall set forth a description of the proposed unit with a map or plat thereof

attached, shall allege the existence of the facts required to be
found by the Commission as provided in this subsection and shall
have attached thereto a recommended plan of development which is
applicable to the proposed unit and which is fair, reasonable and
equitable.

C. Size of the Unit.

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Each unit shall be two governmental sections. However, the Commission may expand the size of the unit by including additional governmental sections up to a maximum unit size of four governmental sections, if for good cause shown the Commission finds the expansion of the unit size beyond two governmental sections is necessary to prevent waste, to protect correlative rights and will result in the increased recovery of substantially more oil and gas from the shale reservoir than would otherwise be recovered based upon, but not necessarily limited to:

- 1. Geological features existing within the proposed unit;
- 2. The proposed location or orientation of the horizontal wells:
 - 3. The length of the laterals of the proposed horizontal wells;
 - 4. The proposed use of multilateral wells; or
 - 5. Any combination thereof.
 - D. Ownership of Oil and Gas Rights within the Unit.

Where there are, or may thereafter be, two or more separately owned tracts within the unit, each owner of oil and gas rights

within the unit shall own an interest in the unit of the same character as the ownership of the owner in the separately owned tract. From and after the effective date of the order of the Commission creating the unit and subject to the provisions of any pooling order covering the unit, the interest of each owner in the unit shall be defined as the percentage of interest owned in each separate tract by the owner, multiplied by the proportion that the acreage in each separately owned tract bears to the entire acreage of the unit. The costs incurred in connection with and the production and proceeds from the wells in the unit shall be allocated to each separate tract in the unit and shall be borne or shared by the owners in each separate tract based upon and determined by the interest of each owner in the tract. However, if a well or wells already exist within the area of the proposed unit which are producing or have produced or appear to be productive from the shale reservoir being unitized, the Commission may adjust the sharing of future costs incurred in connection with and future production and proceeds from any existing well or any subsequent well in the proposed unit in any manner deemed necessary by the Commission in order to protect the correlative rights of the owners within the proposed unit, including providing for the sharing of future costs incurred in connection with and future production and proceeds from any existing well or any subsequent well in a manner different from any other well in the unit so long as the various

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methods of sharing future costs, production and proceeds from the existing and subsequent wells in the proposed unit prevents waste and protects the correlative rights of all the affected owners. For the purpose of this section, any owner or owners of oil and gas rights in and under an unleased tract of land within the unit, unless the owner has relinquished the drilling rights or working interest of the owner in the applicable shale reservoir in the tract of land under a pooling order entered by the Commission which order remains in effect, shall be regarded as a lessee to the extent of a seven-eighths (7/8) interest in and to the rights and a lessor to the extent of the remaining one-eighth (1/8) interest therein.

E. The Plan of Development.

The application shall include a proposed plan of development.

Based upon the facts and conditions found to exist with respect to a proposed unit, the Commission shall determine the necessary terms, provisions, conditions and requirements to be included in the plan of development for the unit. If a well or wells already exist within the area of the proposed unit which are producing or have produced or appear to be productive from the shale reservoir being unitized, the plan of development shall also include:

1. Any adjustments to the sharing of future costs incurred in connection with future development and production, and the sharing of proceeds, from any existing well or any subsequent well which the Commission determines to be necessary in order to be fair,

- reasonable and equitable, and to protect the correlative rights of the owners, considering the existing development in and the prior and anticipated future production from the shale reservoir within the proposed unit; and
 - 2. The procedure and basis upon which existing wells, equipment and other properties of the several lessees within the unit area are to be taken over and used for unit operations, including the method of arriving at the compensation therefor, or of otherwise proportionately equalizing or adjusting the investment of the several lessees in the project as of the effective date of unit operation.
 - F. Order of the Commission.

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- 13 The order of the Commission creating the unit shall:
 - 1. Designate the size and shape of the unit;
- 2. Set forth the drilling pattern and setbacks for the unit, including the permitted well location tolerances for the permitted wells within the unit;
 - 3. Approve and adopt the plan of development for the unit, with a copy thereof attached to the order;
 - 4. Designate the unit operator; and
- 5. Provide for the conditions upon which the unit, and the order creating the unit, shall terminate.
 - G. Consent by Owners.

No order of the Commission creating a unit pursuant to this section shall become effective unless and until the proposed unitization has been consented to in writing, and the written consent submitted to the Commission, by lessees of record of not less than sixty-three percent (63%) of the working interest in the shale reservoir in the area to be included in the unit and by owners of record of not less than sixty-three percent (63%), exclusive of any royalty interest owned by any lessee or by any subsidiary of any lessee, of the one-eighth (1/8) royalty interest in the shale reservoir in the area to be included in the unit in an express writing separate from the oil and gas lease. The Commission shall make a finding in the order creating the unit as to whether the requisite consent has been obtained. Where the requisite consent has not been obtained at the time the order creating the unit is entered, the Commission shall, upon application and notice, hold any additional and supplemental hearings as may be requested or required to determine if and when the requisite consent has been obtained and the date the unitization will become effective. In the event lessees and royalty owners, or either, owning the required percentage interest in and to the unit area have not so consented to the unitization within a period of six (6) months from and after the date on which the order creating the unit is entered, the order creating the unit shall cease to be of further force and effect and shall be revoked by the Commission.

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H. Notice.

The application for the creation of a horizontal well unitization for a shale reservoir under this section, and the notice of hearing on the application, shall be served no less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the hearing, by regular mail, upon each person or governmental entity having the right to share in production from the proposed unit covered by the application, as well as other persons or governmental entities required by Commission rules. Any person aggrieved by any order of the Commission made pursuant to this section may appeal therefrom to the Supreme Court of the State of Oklahoma upon the same conditions, within the same time and in the same manner as is provided for in Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title, for the taking of appeals from the orders of the Commission made thereunder.

I. Pooling of the Unit.

From and after the effective date of an order creating a unit pursuant to this section and subject to the provisions of the order in regard to the matters to be found by the Commission in the creation of the unit and the provisions of the applicable plan of development, an owner of the right to drill for and produce oil or gas from the unit may request the Commission to pool the oil and gas interests of the owners in the unit on a unitwide basis pursuant to the provisions of subsection (e) of Section 87.1 of Title 52 of the

Oklahoma Statutes this title in regard to the development of the unit involving a horizontal well or wells.

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J. Effect on Existing Spacing Units and Pooling Orders.

From and after the effective date of an order creating a unit pursuant to this section, the operation of any well producing from the shale reservoir within the unit defined in the order by persons other than the unit operator, or except in the manner and to the extent provided in the order shall be unlawful and is hereby prohibited. Once the order of the Commission creating a unit pursuant to this section becomes effective, the unit so created shall supersede any drilling and spacing unit previously formed by the Commission pursuant to Section 87.1 of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title for the same shale reservoir within the area of the new unit. Any pooling order which was entered by the Commission pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 87.1 of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title covering any drilling and spacing unit superseded by a unit created pursuant to this section and which was in effect at the time of the creation of the unit shall remain in full force and effect as to any oil and gas interests in the shale reservoir which were relinquished and transferred by operation of law under the pooling order. However, further development of the shale reservoir in the area of the unit created pursuant to this section shall not be subject to any of the other provisions of any prior pooling order, but shall be governed by and pursuant to the

order creating the unit, including the applicable plan of development, and any subsequent pooling order covering the unit.

K. Payment of Proceeds.

Units created pursuant to this section shall be subject to the terms and provision of the PRSA.

L. The Commissioners of the Land Office.

The Commissioners of the Land Office, or other proper board or officer of the state having the control and management of state land, and the proper board or officer of any political, municipal, or other subdivision or agency of the state, are hereby authorized and shall have the power on behalf of the state or of any political, municipal, or other subdivision or agency thereof, with respect to land or oil and gas rights subject to the control and management of the respective body, board, or officer, to consent to or participate in any unitization adopted pursuant to the 2011 Shale Reservoir Extended Lateral Horizontal Well Development Act.

M. Retained Jurisdiction.

Upon the creation of a unit pursuant to this section, and approval of the plan of development in connection therewith, the Commission shall retain jurisdiction over the unit and the plan of development. The retained jurisdiction of the Commission set forth herein shall neither preclude nor impair the right of any affected party to obtain through the district courts of this state any remedy or relief available at law or in equity for injuries caused by any

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action or inaction of the applicant, operator or any other affected
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    party.
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        SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
    of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
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    declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
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