## BEFORE THE BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF WHITE ROCK OIL & GAS, LLC FAILURE TO MEET THE HYDRAULIC FRACTURING REQUIREMENTS FOR PUTNAM 24X-20 WELL, API # 25-083-22047.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 5-A-2023

White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC (White Rock) is the operator of the Putnam 24X-20 well, API # 25-083-22047, located in the SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of Section 20, T23N-R57E, Richland County, Montana.

On the Sundry Notice filed on April 18, 2022, for well work to prepare the Putnam 24X-20 to be hydraulically fractured, White Rock stated, "the frac disclosure will be submitted at a later date for frac approval prior to the stimulation." Conditions of approval attached to the Sundry Notice also stated, "Fracture stimulation not approved until sundry with chemical disclosure received and approved." The chemical disclosure for proposed hydraulic fracture stimulation was not filed prior to stimulation being completed.

On March 24, 2023, Board staff notified White Rock that the Putnam 24X-20 well was in violation of ARM 36.22.1010 for failure to have approval prior to hydraulically fracturing the well.

Board staff recommended a penalty of \$2,500 be assessed for this violation. Due to White Rock's prior compliance issues, the Board discussed a higher penalty.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Board that White Rock is fined \$5,000 for failure to meet the fracturing requirements of ARM 36.22.1010 for the Putnam 24X-20 well.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation

Benjamin Jones, Administrator