James Piotrowski, ISB # 5911 Marty Durand, ISB # 5111 PIOTROWSKI DURAND, PLLC P.O. Box 2864 Boise, ID 83701 Telephone: (208 331-9200 Facsimile: (208) 331-9201 james@idunionlaw.com marty@idunionlaw.com

## BEFORE THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

)

)

)

)

)

) )

In the matter of the Application of Snake River Oil and Gas, LLC for an Order Establishing a Spacing Unit Consisting of the NE ¼ of Section 9 and the NW¼ of Section 10, Township 8 North, Range 5 West, Payette County, Idaho

Agency Case No. CC-2024-OGR-01-001

OAH Case No. 24-320-0G-01 OBJECTION TO SPACING APPLICATION

COME NOW Citizens Allied for Integrity and Accountability (CAIA), and Karen Oltman, by and through counsel and hereby give notice of their objections to the Spacing Application in this case. CAIA is a non-profit, membership-based association whose members seek to ensure that industry and government protect and respect the rights of property owners and the natural resources on which Idahoans rely. Karen Oltman is an effected landowner with mineral interests.

An application for a spacing unit is a first step towards integration of personal and real property rights of effected, non-leasing owners. The failure to provide notice of this application to all effected owners violates due process of law requirements set out in the U.S. and Idaho constitutions. The proposed spacing unit is inappropriate for both statutory and practical reasons. The proposed spacing unit is smaller than is necessary and thus would result in the construction of more wells than is necessary and appropriate. The proposed spacing unit is smaller than the statutory default spacing unit. The proposed spacing unit manages to be both under-inclusive and over-inclusive, thus excluding some mineral owners whose mineral interests will simply be taken by any eventual well operator, while including other owners who have no demonstrable mineral interest. The proposed spacing unit is not an appropriate unit for siting a well, and approval would violate the rights of effected mineral rights owners.

Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2024.

## PIOTROWSKI DURAND, PLLC

/s/ James M. Piotrowski James M. Piotrowski Attorneys for CAIA and Karen Oltman

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing document to be served on the parties indicated below, via electronic mail, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2024.

Idaho Department of Lands Attn: Mick Thomas 300 N. 6th Street, Suite 103 PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720 kromine@idl.idaho.gov

Snake River Oil and Gas c/o Michael Christian Hardee, Pinol & Kracke, PLLC 1487 S. David Lane Suite 930 Boise, ID 83705 mike@hpk.law

Hayden Marotz Deputy Attorney General PO Box 83720 Boise ID 83720-0010 Hayden.martoz@ag.idaho.gov

James Thum Idaho Department of Lands PO Box 83720 Boise ID 83720-0050 jthum@idl.idaho.gov

<u>/s/ James M. Piotrowski</u> James M. Piotrowski