

STATE OF OHIO
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL AND GAS RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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In re: :

The Matter of the :
Application of Ascent :
Resources - Utica, LLC : Application Date:
for Unit Operation August 14, 2025
:
RH Sparger S NTG HR
Unit :

- - - - -

UNITIZATION APPLICATION HEARING

- - - - -

Before Hearing Host Cynthia Marshall
All Parties Appearing Remotely
October 9, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

ON BEHALF OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES:

Cory Cosby

ON BEHALF OF ASCENT RESOURCES - UTICA, LLC:

Harris, Finley & Bogle, P.C.
777 Main Street, Suite 1800
Fort Worth, TX 76102
By Paul B. Westbrook, Esq.
(Via videoconference)

ALSO PRESENT:

Barbara Richardson (Via videoconference)
Kaylee Miller (Via videoconference)
Regina Bryant (Via videoconference)
Jeff Large (Via videoconference)
Dennis Myers (Via videoconference)
Caroline Sullivan (Via videoconference)
Amy Noel (Via videoconference)
Austin Schade (Via videoconference)
Blake Biggs (Via videoconference)
Jennifer Barrett (Via videoconference)
Wes McAlister (Via videoconference)
Rosie Hutton (Via videoconference)
Matt Padgham (Via videoconference)

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(PDF exhibits attached to the transcript.)

1 information from anyone who represents any of
2 these persons. We will make note of your name and
3 call upon you when it's time for comments.

4 If you have joined us via WebEx, please
5 unmute yourself now and tell us your name if you
6 wish to make comments.

7 Hearing none.

8 If you have joined us via phone, please
9 unmute yourself by pressing "star 6" and tell us
10 your name if you wish to make comments.

11 Hearing none.

12 Thank you. With that, we will begin
13 the hearing.

14 Mr. Cosby?

15 MR. COSBY: Today is Thursday,
16 October 9, 2025. And we are here on the matter of
17 the application of Ascent Resources - Utica, LLC
18 for the unit operation of the RH Sparger S NTG HR
19 unit. This hearing before the Ohio Department of
20 Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas
21 Resources Management, is convened pursuant to Ohio
22 Revised Code 1509.28.

23 My name is Cory Cosby. And I am a
24 program administrator for the Division. Also with

1 me today is Program Administrator Cynthia
2 Marshall. We are conducting the hearing today and
3 serve as the Chief's designees on this matter.

4 On August 14, 2025, Ascent filed with
5 the Division an application for unit operation for
6 a unit designated as the RH Sparger S NTG HR unit.
7 Ascent filed subsequent revisions to the
8 application. The unit is proposed to be located
9 in Harrison County, Ohio. In its application,
10 Ascent claims to have the mineral rights through
11 voluntary agreements to approximately 330.60053
12 acres of the desired approximately 344.973-acre
13 unit.

14 The purpose of today's hearing is to
15 determine whether Ascent's RH Sparger S NTG HR
16 unit application meets all the requirements of
17 Revised Code 1509.28. Under that section, the
18 Chief of the Division must issue an order if he
19 determines that the Applicant has shown that, one,
20 the unit is reasonably necessary to increase
21 substantially the ultimate recovery of oil and
22 gas; and two, that the estimated additional
23 recovery from the unit exceeds the additional
24 cost.

1 Neither the Chief nor any of us here
2 today have made any decision on Ascent's
3 application. After today's hearing, we will
4 review all the information provided to us in order
5 to make a determination. We have a court reporter
6 present as well, and we'll also have a copy of the
7 transcript of this hearing for review.

8 The Chief's decision will be issued
9 through a Chief's Order, which will be posted on
10 the Division's website. Pursuant to Revised Code
11 1509.36, any order may be appealed within 30 days
12 after the date upon which the person to whom the
13 order was issued received the order, and for all
14 other persons adversely affected by the order
15 within 30 days after the date of the order
16 complained of.

17 The hearing will proceed as follows:
18 Ascent will present its witnesses and exhibits and
19 will answer questions posed by the Division staff.
20 Any unleased mineral owners, working interest
21 owners, and those persons with property included
22 in the proposed RH Sparger S NTG HR unit will have
23 the opportunity to present questions and concerns
24 to the Division staff, and the Division staff may

1 take a break to determine if there are any
2 additional questions for the Applicant.

3 To proceed in an orderly fashion, we
4 ask that any interested parties who speak here
5 today pose any questions to the Division, and we
6 will then ask any questions to Ascent.
7 Additionally, anyone speaking today will be asked
8 to provide their information to the court
9 reporter. If you are uncomfortable speaking
10 during the hearing, we will also accept written
11 comments.

12 We'll now ask the Applicant to make
13 introductions and begin its presentation.

14 MR. WESTBROOK: Thank you, Mr. Cosby.
15 Good morning. My name is Paul Westbrook. And I
16 represent the Applicant in this matter. For the
17 clarity of the record, I will refer to the RH
18 Sparger S NTG HR unit as the RH Sparger South unit
19 throughout the hearing today.

20 Our first witness is Leilani Beard.

21 MS. MARSHALL: Please swear in the
22 witness.
23
24

1 - - - - -

2 LEILANI BEARD

3 being first duly sworn, testifies and says as
4 follows:

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. WESTBROOK:

7 Q. Good morning, Ms. Beard. Would you
8 please introduce yourself to the Division.

9 A. Good morning. My name is Leilani
10 Beard. And I'm an associate landman with Ascent
11 Resources.

12 Q. And can you please describe your
13 educational background.

14 A. I have a bachelor's degree in energy
15 commerce from Texas Tech University.

16 Q. Thank you. And would you also describe
17 your professional experience, please.

18 A. Yes. I began working with Ascent
19 Resources as an intern during college in 2023 and
20 began my current position with Ascent in June of
21 2024.

22 Q. And as a landman for Ascent, what are
23 your primary job responsibilities?

24 A. My job responsibilities include

1 negotiating lease acquisitions, managing field
2 brokers, handling title matters, and assisting
3 with Ascent's multi-rig development program. I'm
4 also responsible for overseeing our unitization
5 efforts regarding the RH Sparger South unit.

6 Q. All right. And I'm going to turn more
7 specifically to the application and try to share
8 Exhibit D on the screen. Do you see that?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Excellent. With reference to
11 Exhibit D, can you give a general description of
12 the RH Sparger South unit, please.

13 A. Yes. The RH Sparger South unit is
14 located in Nottingham and Moorefield Townships of
15 Harrison County, Ohio. And the unit is made up of
16 36 separate tracts and is comprised of 344.973
17 acres.

18 Q. Thank you. And can you also describe
19 Ascent's plan for development of the RH Sparger
20 South unit, please.

21 A. There is one lateral planned in the RH
22 Sparger South unit, the RH Sparger South 4H, which
23 is roughly 16,874 feet in lateral length. And the
24 pad will be located outside the northwest corner

1 of the unit.

2 As for the colors described in
3 Exhibit D, the yellow shows leased and consenting
4 parcels, red-and-yellow hatched parcels are
5 partially leased and committed and then partially
6 unleased, and green-and-yellow hatched parcels are
7 leased with part of the working interest committed
8 and part of the working interest uncommitted.

9 Q. Thank you. And can you tell us the
10 current status of the well pad for this unit?

11 A. The pad is built.

12 Q. And how did Ascent acquire the right to
13 build the pad where it's chosen for this unit?

14 A. Ascent has a surface use agreement with
15 the surface owners of the pad location, as well as
16 all necessary subsurface easements.

17 Q. Thank you. And assuming the Division
18 grants this application, when does Ascent intend
19 to drill the well in this unit?

20 A. The drilling of the RH Sparger South 4H
21 well is planned to start in the second quarter of
22 2026.

23 Q. Thank you. And now turning to
24 ownership in the unit, what percentage of the unit

1 are the committed working interest owners
2 committing to operations?

3 A. Ascent Resources - Utica is committing
4 88.45277 percent of the unit, RHDK Oil & Gas, LLC
5 is committing 6.334336 percent of the unit, Burj
6 Energy, LLC is committing 1.046635 percent of the
7 unit, which means that committed working interest
8 owners are collectively committing 95.833741
9 percent of the unit.

10 Q. Thank you. And are there any
11 uncommitted working interest owners in the unit?

12 A. Yes. The uncommitted working interest
13 owners are EAP Ohio, LLC, which owns 3.257180
14 percent of the unit. And since Ascent's latest
15 supplement, LPR PA Holdings has taken a lease with
16 PennMarc Resources II LP on the interest reflected
17 as unleased consisting of 0.909079 percent of the
18 unit.

19 Q. Thank you. So what percentage of the
20 unit is unleased now?

21 A. The latest supplement reflected
22 0.909079 percent as unleased; however, as I
23 previously stated, this interest has now been
24 leased with LPR PA Holdings, which Ascent plans to

1 update the Division and reflect this interest in a
2 post-hearing supplement.

3 Q. Thank you. And does Ascent intend to
4 seek to unitize all interest in this unit?

5 A. No. We are only seeking to unitize the
6 unitized formation as defined in the application
7 as being from the top of the Utica Shale Formation
8 to the base of the Utica Shale Formation, which is
9 also the base of the Point Pleasant interval.

10 Q. And how will production, revenue, and
11 expenses be allocated in this unit?

12 A. On a surface acreage basis.

13 Q. And to be clear, which owners will bear
14 the expenses in the unit?

15 A. The working interest owners.

16 Q. Thank you. And after the hearing
17 today, will Ascent continue its efforts to commit
18 the uncommitted working interest owners?

19 A. Yes, we will continue to negotiate with
20 the uncommitted working interest owners.

21 Q. Thank you. And just one final question
22 for now: How many wells will be drilled from the
23 pad associated with this unit?

24 A. Seven wells are planned to be drilled

1 from the pad. Three new wells are currently
2 planned to be drilled off this pad, including the
3 four within the RH Sparger South unit. And then
4 there are four existing wells to the north.

5 MR. WESTBROOK: All right. Thank you
6 very much, Ms. Beard. I have no further questions
7 at this time.

8 MS. MARSHALL: Thank you, Ms. Beard. I
9 have some questions for you. Describe your
10 efforts you have taken to identify unknown and
11 undetermined mineral owners.

12 THE WITNESS: So within the RH Sparger
13 South, we do not have any unknown mineral owners.
14 But we do have an unknown trustee that's listed on
15 Tract 13, so we were reviewing the recorded
16 documents for the trust specifically. There were
17 addresses reflected, so we were able to send them
18 notice. But there is no trustee of record for the
19 trust specifically.

20 MS. MARSHALL: Okay. If you were to
21 receive a unitization order, can you describe what
22 happens to any payments that would be owed to
23 unknown or unidentified mineral owners under that
24 order?

1 THE WITNESS: Yes. Those payments
2 would be withheld and placed in suspense until the
3 ownership could be determined. Ascent must agree
4 that the documentation cures and clears the title
5 issues, then the revenue will be released to the
6 appropriate owners.

7 MS. MARSHALL: What is the current
8 outstanding offer to the unleased mineral owners
9 in the proposed unit, average bonus and average
10 royalty?

11 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am. Currently,
12 there is no unleased interest in this unit, as
13 previously stated.

14 MS. MARSHALL: Sorry about that.

15 THE WITNESS: No, you're okay.

16 MS. MARSHALL: What is the average
17 offer that was accepted by the leased mineral
18 owners in the proposed unit, average bonus and
19 average royalty?

20 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am, so our
21 average accepted offer for the bonus was \$4,431.38
22 per acre. And then the average accepted royalty
23 was 18.44 percent, which is a mixture of both net
24 and gross.

1 MS. MARSHALL: Okay. That is all the
2 questions that I have.

3 Mr. Cosby, do you have any questions?

4 MR. COSBY: I do. Sorry, one second.
5 In this unit, you do have non-consenting working
6 interest owners, correct?

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. EAP Ohio and
8 then LPR PA Holdings.

9 MR. COSBY: Okay. Do you believe your
10 attempts to commit non-consenting working interest
11 owners have been reasonable, and, if so, why?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes, I believe our
13 attempts to commit the non-committed working
14 interest owners have been reasonable and that our
15 contact log reflects the extensive efforts made.
16 We believe that this is also evident in the fact
17 that we have more than 95 percent of the unit
18 leased and committed.

19 MR. COSBY: And will you continue
20 attempts to commit those non-consenting working
21 interest owners after today's hearing?

22 THE WITNESS: Yes, as long as they're
23 willing to work with Ascent to come to a mutually
24 agreeable form.

1 MR. COSBY: Do the leases in the unit
2 authorize drilling into and producing from the
3 proposed unitized formations?

4 THE WITNESS: Yes. All leases cover
5 the unitized formation.

6 MR. COSBY: And to establish bonus and
7 royalty amounts in leases, how are those generally
8 determined?

9 THE WITNESS: There's a number of
10 factors that go into that, including commodity
11 prices, lease acquisition timing, and estimated
12 well economics, as well as if there's any
13 competitor activity in the area.

14 MR. COSBY: And I'm sorry if this has
15 been asked already. Do you believe your lease
16 attempts have been reasonable, and why?

17 THE WITNESS: Yes, I believe our lease
18 attempts have been reasonable and that our contact
19 log also reflects these efforts based off of
20 95 percent of this unit being leased and
21 committed. And just to clarify, there's no more
22 unleased interests in this unit.

23 MR. COSBY: Thank you. Okay. That's
24 all the questions I have. Thank you.

1 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

2 MS. MARSHALL: Thank you.

3 Mr. Westbrook, please call your next witness.

4 MR. WESTBROOK: Thank you,
5 Ms. Marshall. Our next witness is Dilyn Delval.

6 MS. MARSHALL: Please swear in the
7 witness.

8 - - - - -

9 DILYN DELVAL

10 being first duly sworn, testifies and says as
11 follows:

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. WESTBROOK:

14 Q. Good morning, Ms. Delval. Would you
15 please introduce yourself to the Division.

16 A. Good morning. My name is Dilyn Delval.
17 And I am a geologist employed by Ascent Resources.

18 Q. Thank you. And could you please
19 describe your educational background.

20 A. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in
21 Geology from Edinboro University and a Master of
22 Science degree in Geology from the University of
23 North Dakota.

24 Q. And can you please describe your

1 professional experience as well.

2 A. I entered the oil and gas industry in
3 September of 2018 as a geologist at Ascent. All
4 of my operator experience, totaling seven years,
5 is in the Appalachian Basin.

6 Q. Thank you. And what are your
7 responsibilities as a geologist for Ascent?

8 A. In my current role at Ascent, my time
9 is primarily spent interpreting and integrating
10 subsurface data into our workflows. This is most
11 clearly expressed by creating and maintaining our
12 subsurface maps for use across a variety of
13 disciplines, as well as helping quality control
14 the data used to generate maps.

15 Additionally, I create geologic
16 exhibits to provide to the land department to help
17 them verify the geological accuracy of their
18 documentation. I also help maintain the integrity
19 of our operational data into our analysis.

20 Previously, as an operations geologist
21 at Ascent, my primary responsibilities included
22 formation mapping, determining target formations,
23 estimating casing points, and lead geosteering
24 wells as they were drilled.

1 Q. Thank you. And turning a little bit
2 more to the application, would you please begin by
3 defining a "pool" for the Division.

4 A. A pool is generally understood to be an
5 area of geologically consistent reservoir
6 properties such as thickness, porosity,
7 permeability, and rock type that share an
8 accumulation of hydrocarbons.

9 Q. Thank you. And is it your
10 understanding that the proposed unitized formation
11 for the RH Sparger South unit is the Utica Shale
12 Formation including the Point Pleasant interval?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And in your opinion, is that unitized
15 formation for the RH Sparger South unit a part of
16 a pool?

17 A. Yes, I believe the unitized formation
18 is part of a pool.

19 Q. Great. Thank you. Let me turn more
20 specifically to the exhibits in the application
21 and share Exhibit F to start. Do you see
22 Exhibit F on your screen?

23 A. Yes, I do.

24 Q. Great. If you would walk us through

1 Exhibit F, and then when you're ready I'll flip to
2 Exhibit E, and just explain the data that are
3 shown on these two exhibits and how they generally
4 relate to your opinion that the unitized formation
5 in the RH Sparger South unit is a part of a pool.

6 A. So Exhibit F is a subsea structure map
7 of the Point Pleasant interval around the proposed
8 RH Sparger South unit, which is outlined in blue.

9 The purple crosses are wells that have
10 penetrated the Point Pleasant in this area. This
11 map was created using those control points. The
12 orange dots were used to create a two-well
13 cross-sectional line through the RH Sparger South
14 unit. They mark the location of two of the
15 closest vertical wells to this unit with a full
16 suite of logs. These are only two of the vertical
17 wells in the area that were used -- they were only
18 two of the few that were used during this
19 analysis.

20 From this structure map, looking at the
21 gentle curve of the black contour lines, there is
22 no reason to think there are any structural
23 features that would separate the Utica-Point
24 Pleasant reservoir within the proposed unit.

1 Q. All right. Thank you. Now I'll flip
2 to Exhibit E and ask you to walk us through that
3 data as well.

4 A. Exhibit E is a stratigraphic
5 cross-section of two of the closest wells near the
6 proposed RH Sparger South unit. They are the
7 Zechman Thomas Unit 1 well and the Alpha ATH HR 2P
8 well. The log data curve displayed in both the
9 wells are the gamma ray in the left track, and the
10 deep resistivity in the right track.

11 As seen on this exhibit, the log data
12 demonstrates that the Utica formation is very
13 consistent and does not significantly change near
14 the proposed RH Sparger South unit. Geologic
15 properties in general, like thickness and
16 resistivity, are laterally consistent throughout
17 the proposed unit.

18 Q. All right. Thank you very much. And
19 is this method of analysis that you've described
20 walking through these exhibits a commonly accepted
21 method in your industry? I'm sorry. I didn't
22 hear --

23 A. Yes, it is.

24 Q. Sorry about that. And as Ms. Beard

1 testified, production, revenue, and expenses for
2 the RH Sparger South unit will be allocated on a
3 surface acreage basis. In your opinion, is that
4 allocation method appropriate?

5 A. Yes, because the relative thickness in
6 reservoir qualities of the Utica-Point Pleasant
7 are expected to be consistent across the RH
8 Sparger South unit. As we saw on Exhibit E, there
9 are no substantial variations expected across the
10 proposed unit, and, therefore, there is no
11 geologic reason to allocate production using any
12 other method rather than surface acreage.

13 MR. WESTBROOK: All right. Thank you
14 very much, Ms. Delval. I have no further
15 questions at this time.

16 MS. MARSHALL: Ms. Delval, good
17 morning. I have a couple questions. What is the
18 anticipated true vertical depth of the horizontal
19 portion of the wellbores?

20 THE WITNESS: The anticipated landing
21 TVD in the unit is estimated to be 8,046. Please
22 note this is a prog top and the landing depth
23 could change as we are actively drilling the well.

24 MS. MARSHALL: What is the anticipated

1 true vertical depth of the top of the Utica, the
2 Point Pleasant, and the Trenton?

3 THE WITNESS: The Utica is 7,865 feet
4 TVD, the Point Pleasant is 7,985 feet TVD, and the
5 Trenton, or the base of the Utica, is 8,106 feet
6 TVD.

7 MS. MARSHALL: Do you expect production
8 from outside the Point Pleasant?

9 THE WITNESS: Most of the hydrocarbon
10 production will come from the Point Pleasant. But
11 we would expect a small amount of production to
12 come from the upper Utica over the lifetime of the
13 well.

14 MS. MARSHALL: Okay. Thank you.
15 That's all the questions that I have.

16 Mr. Cosby, do you have any questions?

17 MR. COSBY: I do not. Thank you.

18 MS. MARSHALL: Thank you.

19 Mr. Westbrook, please call your next witness.

20 MR. WESTBROOK: Thank you,
21 Ms. Marshall. Our final witness today is Lindsey
22 Hall-Wiist.

23 MS. MARSHALL: Please swear in the
24 witness.

1 - - - - -

2 LINDSEY HALL-WIIST

3 being first duly sworn, testifies and says as
4 follows:

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. WESTBROOK:

7 Q. Good morning, Ms. Hall-Wiist. Would
8 you please introduce yourself to the Division,
9 tell us a little bit about your educational and
10 professional background, and your responsibilities
11 at Ascent currently.

12 A. Sure. Good morning, everyone. My name
13 is Lindsey Hall-Wiist. So I have a Bachelor of
14 Science in Chemical Engineering from Oklahoma
15 State University. I have 18 years of industry
16 experience.

17 I started here at Ascent in January of
18 last year. And then prior to that I worked at
19 Chesapeake Energy. I held various engineering and
20 leadership roles there across a variety of the
21 basins, including the Marcellus, the Eagle Ford,
22 the Haynesville, and the Mid-Con.

23 I am a licensed professional engineer
24 in the state of Oklahoma. I'm an active member in

1 the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers,
2 Society of Petroleum Engineers, and Women's Energy
3 Network.

4 Some of my responsibilities at Ascent
5 include working with a multidisciplinary team to
6 optimize the development of our horizontal well
7 drilling program. I'll use reservoir
8 characterization to understand well performance
9 and forecast out future production expectations
10 through creating type curves. I'm also
11 responsible for managing the producing well
12 forecasts and the associated reserves with those
13 properties.

14 I also work with the land team to
15 support leasing evaluations and unitization work
16 like we're doing today.

17 Q. Thank you very much for that. Turning
18 a little more specifically to the RH Sparger South
19 unit application, would you please describe your
20 general methodology in relation to this
21 application.

22 A. Sure. So to forecast an undeveloped
23 well, I'll use existing analogue wells to group
24 similar performance expectations and create a type

1 well. So generally wells that have similar
2 geologic parameters, similar development design,
3 so well spacing and completion design, we'll group
4 those together to come up with an average
5 production forecast, couple that with costs
6 provided from the operations team, and then we'll
7 run economics like we're about to look at.

8 Q. Thank you. And then turning
9 specifically to those economics, I will share
10 Exhibit -- or, sorry, Section 5 to the latest
11 supplement to our application -- Ascent's
12 application for this unit. Do you see that on
13 your screen?

14 A. I do.

15 Q. Great. If you would just walk us
16 through the data shown in the three tables here,
17 starting with the unitized scenario at the top.

18 A. Sure. So we have three tables here.
19 The top table is our unitized scenario, the middle
20 table is the non-unitized scenario, and then the
21 bottom table is simply the difference between the
22 top two tables.

23 So starting with the top table in the
24 unitized scenario, if we're able to unitize, we

1 have an expected lateral length of just shy of
2 17,000 feet. The operating cost associated with
3 that is about 24 million, our capital costs are
4 just under 11 million, PV0 associated with those
5 costs and operating costs are about 36 million,
6 PV10, about 17 million, and then the estimated
7 gross recovery is just shy of 12 BCFe.

8 In the non-unitized scenario, our
9 lateral length is about 8,400 feet, operating
10 costs for that lateral length are just under
11 13 million, with capital costs around 7 million,
12 PV0 of about 15 million, with the PV10 of about
13 6.7 million, and our estimated gross recovery of
14 about 6 BCFe.

15 So the difference between those in this
16 bottom table, the difference in lateral length is
17 about 8,400 feet, the difference in operating
18 costs is just under 11 million, the difference in
19 capital is about 3.5 million, the difference in
20 PV0 is about 21 million, the difference in PV10 is
21 about 10.6 million, and then the difference in the
22 estimated gross recovery is just shy of 6 BCFe.

23 Q. All right. Thank you for walking
24 through that data. I have just a couple of

1 specific statutory questions to wrap up. Your
2 analysis shows that the value of the estimated
3 additional recovery of oil or gas in the unitized
4 scenario for the RH Sparger South unit exceeds the
5 estimated additional cost; is that correct?

6 A. Yes. And you can see that in the value
7 in the PV10 in that bottom table of 10.6 million.

8 Q. Thank you. And finally, based on your
9 analysis and your professional opinion, unit
10 operation of the RH Sparger South unit is
11 reasonably necessary to increase substantially the
12 recovery of oil and gas from this unit; is that
13 also correct?

14 A. Yes, that's also correct. Again,
15 looking at the bottom table there, that difference
16 in the estimated gross recovery of about 6 BCFe.

17 MR. WESTBROOK: All right. Thank you,
18 Ms. Hall-Wiist. I have no further questions at
19 this time.

20 MS. MARSHALL: Thank you.

21 Ms. Hall-Wiist, I have a couple questions. What
22 is the estimated economic life of the wells in
23 years?

24 THE WITNESS: We run the wells for 50

1 years.

2 MS. MARSHALL: What price was used in
3 your economic calculations?

4 THE WITNESS: At the time of running
5 economics, I used a June 30th of 2025 strip price.
6 We use a four-year strip price, holding the fourth
7 year flat, and that price was \$3.81 per MCF and
8 \$61.94 per barrel of oil.

9 MS. MARSHALL: Okay. When do you
10 estimate to recover the cost of drilling, testing,
11 and completing the wells at one times, one and a
12 half times, two times, and three times?

13 THE WITNESS: Sure. So the payout at
14 one time is 2.5 years, payout at 1.5 times is 4.6
15 years, payout at two times is 8.3 years, and
16 three-times payout is 25.5 years.

17 MS. MARSHALL: How many total wells
18 will be drilled from the pad?

19 THE WITNESS: There are currently four
20 existing wells, and then we plan to add three
21 wells. So there will be a total of seven wells on
22 the pad.

23 MS. MARSHALL: Have you factored in
24 costs for shutdowns of the existing wells due to

1 simultaneous operations? If no, why not?

2 THE WITNESS: No. If we have SIMOPs
3 costs for existing wells, those wells will be
4 burdened with that cost, not the new developed
5 wells. There is uncertainty in if we will have
6 SIMOPs operations, so we don't bake in an expected
7 cost because it's highly variable depending on the
8 age of existing wells. So this kind of industry
9 standard is to whatever well has the SIMOPs cost,
10 that well will be burdened with its own cost.

11 MS. MARSHALL: How are pad costs
12 accounted for in your calculations?

13 THE WITNESS: Pad costs are evenly
14 distributed among the wells on the pad, so total
15 cost divided by the seven wells.

16 MS. MARSHALL: Are the pad costs shared
17 equally between the wells? You just answered
18 that.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes, they are.

20 MS. MARSHALL: Yes. Thank you. I'm
21 sorry about that. Did you use actual pad costs or
22 estimated pad costs in your economics?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes, so it's actually a
24 combination. So it's an existing pad, so we do

1 have an actual cost for that, plus a little bit
2 additional work to get it ready for additional
3 wells.

4 MS. MARSHALL: What amount is included
5 for plugging and restoration costs in your
6 economic evaluation --

7 THE WITNESS: 200- --

8 MS. MARSHALL: -- economic calculations
9 per well?

10 THE WITNESS: Sorry about that.
11 250,000 per well. And that includes the
12 restoration of the pad.

13 MS. MARSHALL: So that is plugging and
14 restoration?

15 THE WITNESS: Yes.

16 MS. MARSHALL: Okay. Thank you. What
17 is the estimated BCFe per 1,000 feet?

18 THE WITNESS: 0.7 BCFe per 1,000 feet.

19 MS. MARSHALL: What is the estimated
20 recovery factor in the area?

21 THE WITNESS: Approximately 26 percent.

22 MS. MARSHALL: Does the value of the
23 estimated recovery of oil and gas exceed the
24 estimated additional cost?

1 THE WITNESS: Yes, it does.

2 MS. MARSHALL: Okay. That is all the
3 questions that I have.

4 Mr. Cosby, did you have any questions?

5 MR. COSBY: I do not. Thank you.

6 MS. MARSHALL: Once again, if you would
7 like to make comments, I am first going to take
8 all of your names and note whether you are an
9 unleased mineral owner, working interest owner, or
10 an owner with property in the unit. Only one
11 person may speak at a time to properly record the
12 hearing. And please mute your microphone once you
13 have delivered your comments or questions to avoid
14 any feedback.

15 Additionally, anyone speaking today
16 will be asked to provide their information to the
17 court reporter. If you are uncomfortable speaking
18 during the hearing, we will also accept written
19 comments.

20 If you have joined us via WebEx and
21 would like to make comments, please unmute
22 yourself and state your name.

23 Hearing none.

24 If you have joined us via phone and

1 would like to make comments, please unmute
2 yourself by pressing "star 6" and state your name.

3 Hearing none.

4 Mr. Cosby, do you have any additional
5 questions for the Applicant?

6 MR. COSBY: No, I do not. Thank you.

7 MS. MARSHALL: Does the Applicant have
8 any closing remarks?

9 MR. WESTBROOK: We do not. Thank you,
10 Ms. Marshall and Mr. Cosby, for your time this
11 morning.

12 MS. MARSHALL: Thank you, everyone.
13 The hearing is now concluded.

14 - - - - -

15 Thereupon, the foregoing proceedings
16 concluded at 9:32 a.m.

17 - - - - -

18

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22

23

24

1 State of Ohio : C E R T I F I C A T E
2 County of Franklin: SS

3 I, Katherine Konneker, a Notary Public in and
4 for the State of Ohio, do hereby certify that I
5 transcribed or supervised the transcription of the
6 audio recording of the aforementioned proceedings;
7 that the foregoing is a true record of the
8 proceedings.

9 I do further certify I am not a relative,
10 employee or attorney of any of the parties hereto,
11 and further I am not a relative or employee of any
12 attorney or counsel employed by the parties
13 hereto, or financially interested in the action.

14 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
15 hand and affixed my seal of office at Columbus,
16 Ohio, on October 30, 2025.

17
18
19 *Katherine J. Konneker*

20 _____
21 Katherine Konneker, Notary Public - State of Ohio
22 My commission expires February 28, 2027.

**STATE OF OHIO
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL AND GAS RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**

| | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| In re the Matter of the Application of Ascent | : | |
| Resources – Utica, LLC for Unit Operation | : | |
| | : | Application Date: August 14, 2025 |
| | : | Hearing Date: October 9, 2025 |
| <u>RH Sparger S NTG HR Unit</u> | : | |

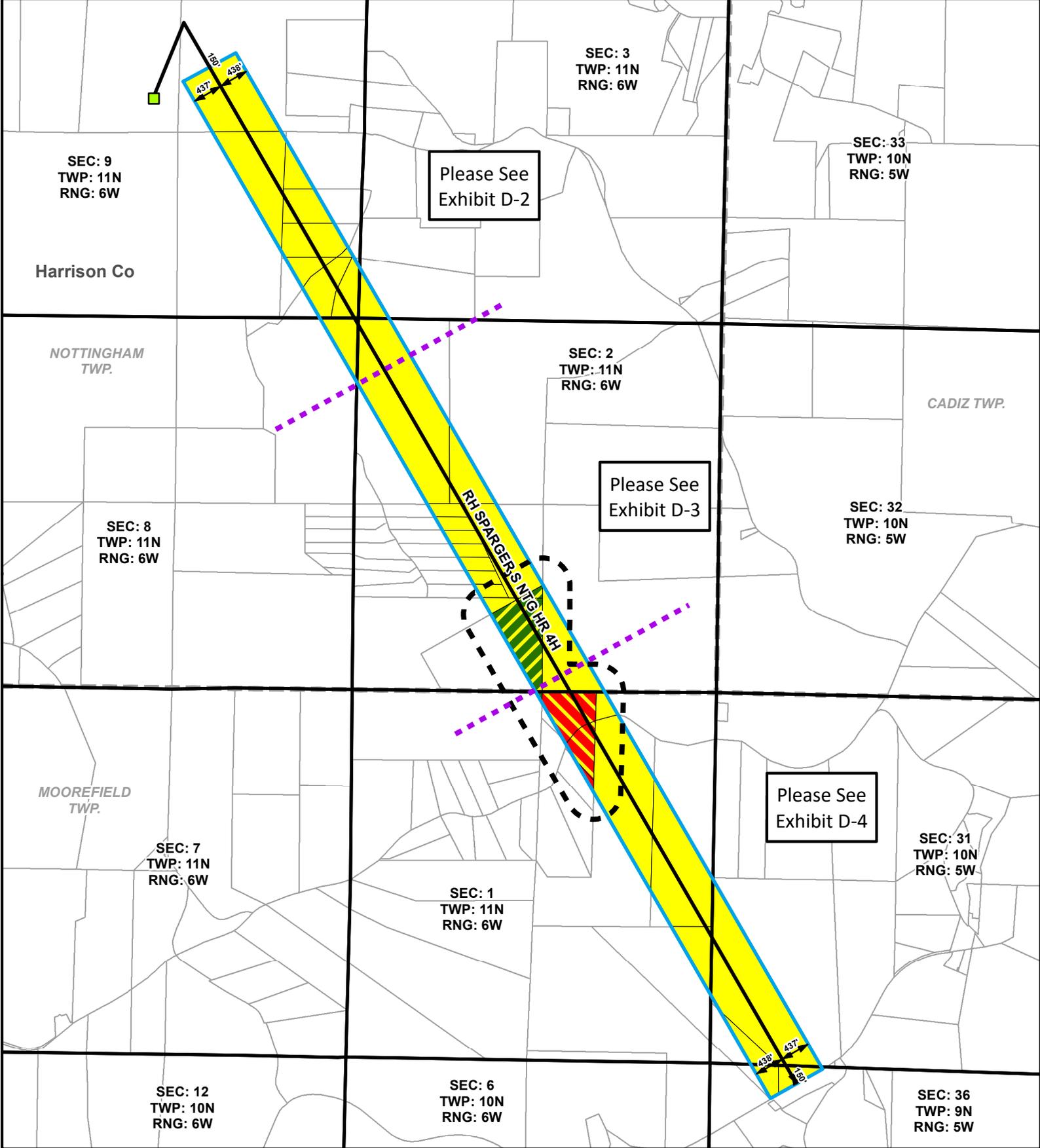
APPLICANT’S HEARING EXHIBITS

ASCENT RESOURCES – UTICA, LLC

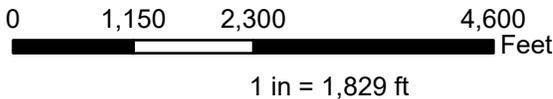
October 9, 2025

Paul B. Westbrook (0092870)
HARRIS, FINLEY & BOGLE, P.C.
777 Main Street, Suite 1800
Fort Worth, Texas 76102
Tel. (817) 870-8700
Email: pwestbrook@hfblaw.com

Attorneys for Applicant,
Ascent Resources – Utica, LLC



**RH SPARGER S NTG HR
EXHIBIT D-1**



| | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------|
| | Consenting | | Lateral |
| | Partially Consenting/ Partially Non-Consenting | | 400 Ft Buffer |
| | Partially Consenting/Partially Unleased | | Counties |
| | RH SPARGER S NTG HR - 344.973 Ac | | Townships |
| | Pad | | PLSS Section |
| | | | Tax Parcels |

Harrison Co
 NOTTINGHAM TWP.

| TRACT NO. | PARCEL NO. | AREA IN UNIT (ACRES) |
|-----------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 22-000090.003 | 22.006 |
| 2 | 22-000090.005 | 21.406 |
| 3 | 22-000090.004 | 3.821 |
| 4 | 22-000040.004 | 6.916 |
| 5 | 22-000040.005 | 9.952 |
| 6 | 22-000040.003 | 0.420 |
| 7 | 22-000040.006 | 3.551 |
| 8 | 22-000040.007 | 7.471 |
| 9 | 22-000040.000 | 5.770 |
| 10 | 22-000028.007 | 3.838 |
| 11 | 22-000073.000 | 6.083 |
| 12 | 22-0000116.000 | 47.611 |

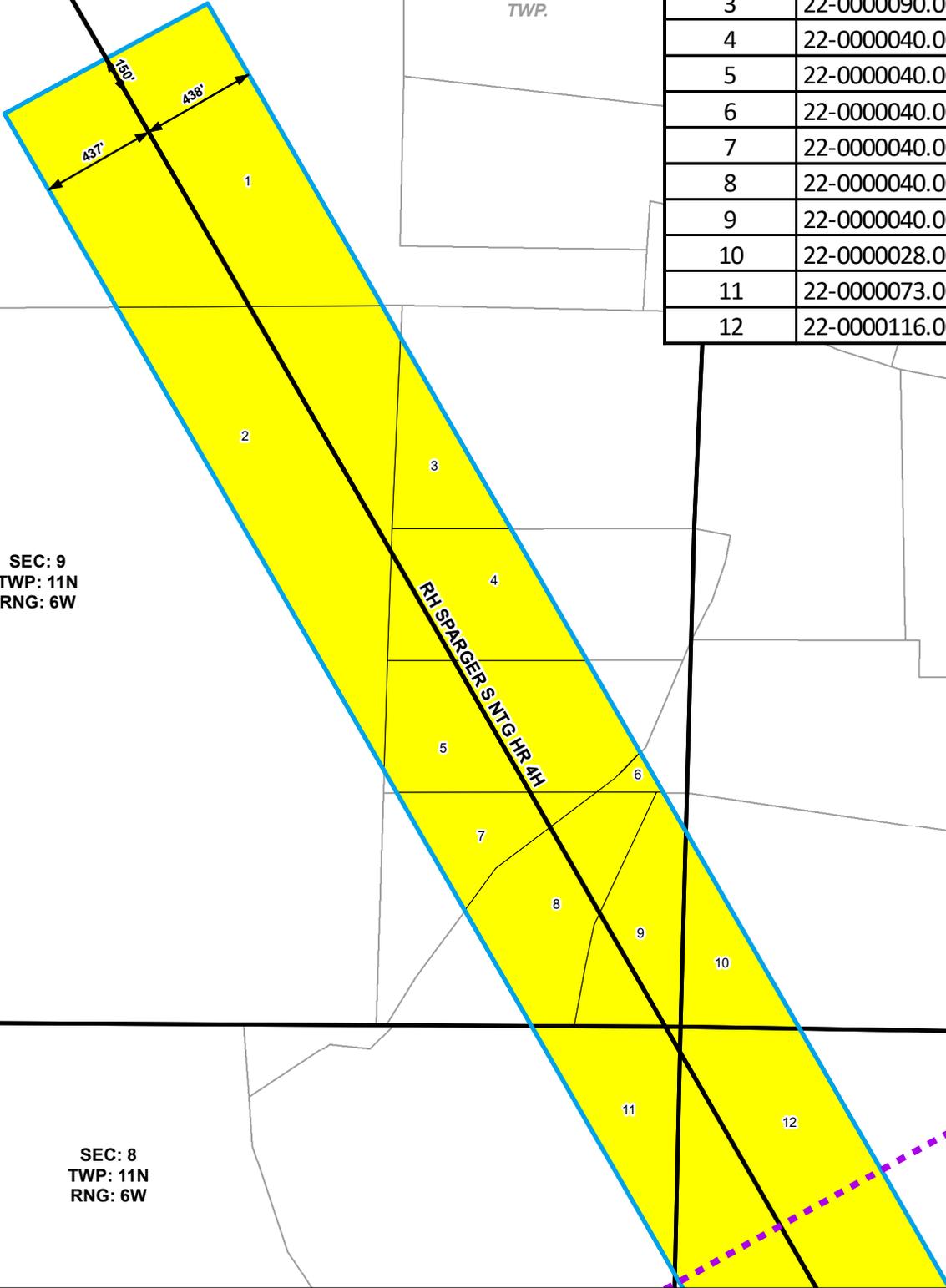
SEC: 9
 TWP: 11N
 RNG: 6W

SEC: 3
 TWP: 11N
 RNG: 6W

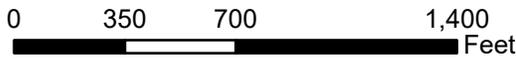
SEC: 8
 TWP: 11N
 RNG: 6W

SEC: 2
 TWP: 11N
 RNG: 6W

RH SPARGER S NTG HR 4H



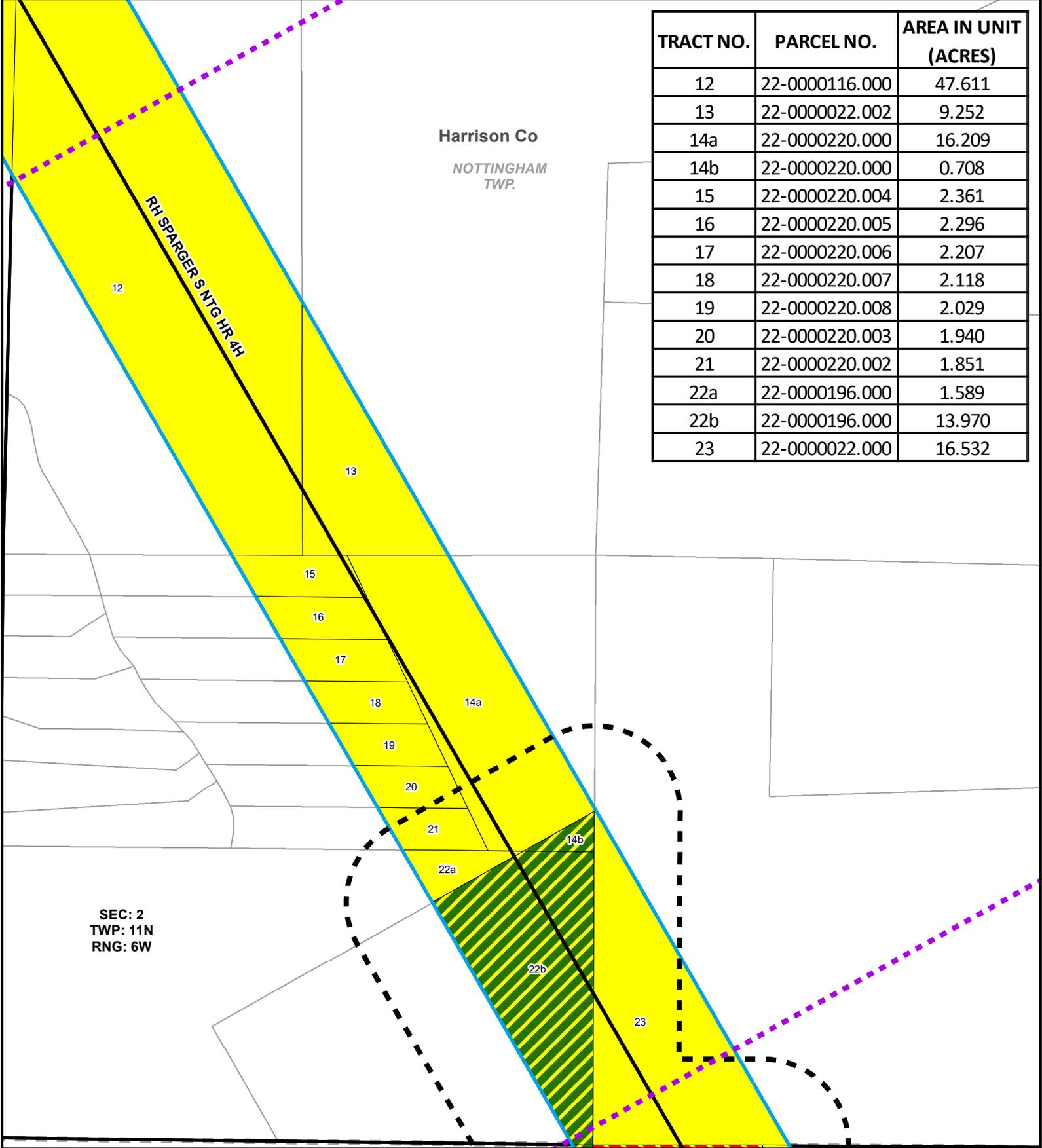
RH SPARGER S NTG HR
 EXHIBIT D-2



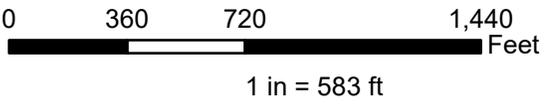
1 in = 604 ft

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Consenting | Lateral |
| Partially Consenting/ Partially Non-Consenting | 400 Ft Buffer |
| Partially Consenting/Partially Unleased | Counties |
| RH SPARGER S NTG HR - 344.973 Ac | Townships |
| Pad | PLSS Section |
| | Tax Parcels |

| TRACT NO. | PARCEL NO. | AREA IN UNIT (ACRES) |
|-----------|----------------|----------------------|
| 12 | 22-0000116.000 | 47.611 |
| 13 | 22-000022.002 | 9.252 |
| 14a | 22-0000220.000 | 16.209 |
| 14b | 22-0000220.000 | 0.708 |
| 15 | 22-0000220.004 | 2.361 |
| 16 | 22-0000220.005 | 2.296 |
| 17 | 22-0000220.006 | 2.207 |
| 18 | 22-0000220.007 | 2.118 |
| 19 | 22-0000220.008 | 2.029 |
| 20 | 22-0000220.003 | 1.940 |
| 21 | 22-0000220.002 | 1.851 |
| 22a | 22-0000196.000 | 1.589 |
| 22b | 22-0000196.000 | 13.970 |
| 23 | 22-0000022.000 | 16.532 |

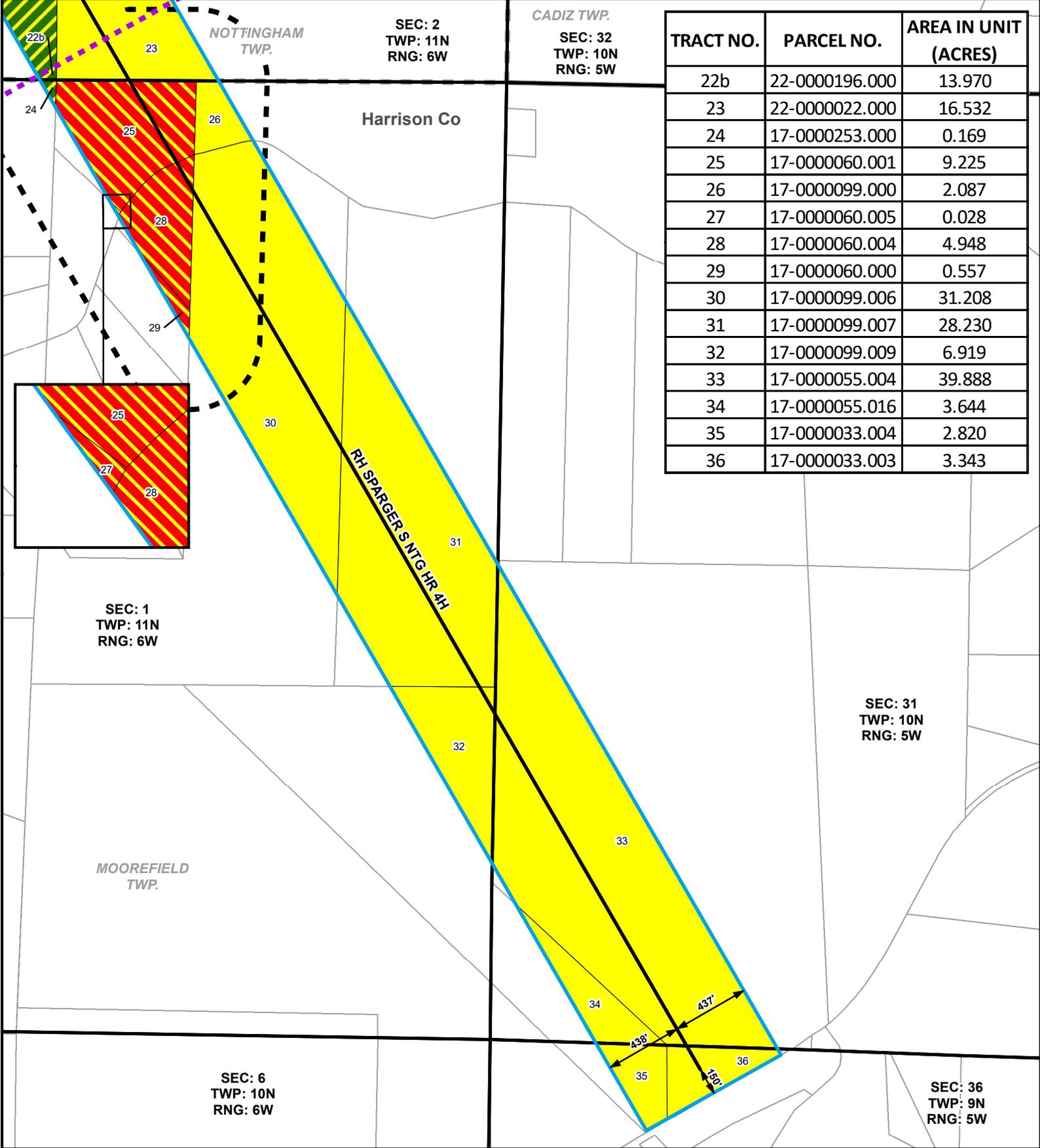


RH SPARGER S NTG HR EXHIBIT D-3



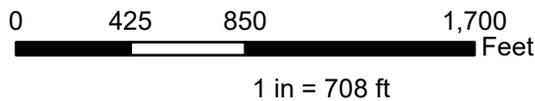
NAD 1927 UTM Zone 17N

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Consenting | Lateral |
| Partially Consenting/ Partially Non-Consenting | 400 Ft Buffer |
| Partially Consenting/Partially Unleased | Counties |
| RH SPARGER S NTG HR - 344.973 Ac | Townships |
| Pad | PLSS Section |
| | Tax Parcels |



NAD 1927 UTM Zone 17N

RH SPARGER S NTG HR EXHIBIT D-4



| | |
|---|---------------|
| Consenting | Lateral |
| Partially Consenting/ Partially Non-Consenting | 400 Ft Buffer |
| Partially Consenting/Partially Unleased | Counties |
| RH SPARGER S NTG HR - 344.973 Ac | Townships |
| Pad | PLSS Section |
| | Tax Parcels |

| TRACT NO. | PARCEL NO. | AREA IN UNIT (ACRES) | EXHIBIT |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------------|---------|
| 1 | 22-000090.003 | 22.006 | D-2 |
| 2 | 22-000090.005 | 21.406 | D-2 |
| 3 | 22-000090.004 | 3.821 | D-2 |
| 4 | 22-000040.004 | 6.916 | D-2 |
| 5 | 22-000040.005 | 9.952 | D-2 |
| 6 | 22-000040.003 | 0.420 | D-2 |
| 7 | 22-000040.006 | 3.551 | D-2 |
| 8 | 22-000040.007 | 7.471 | D-2 |
| 9 | 22-000040.000 | 5.770 | D-2 |
| 10 | 22-000028.007 | 3.838 | D-2 |
| 11 | 22-000073.000 | 6.083 | D-2 |
| 12 | 22-0000116.000 | 47.611 | D-2/D-3 |
| 13 | 22-000022.002 | 9.252 | D-3 |
| 14a | 22-0000220.000 | 16.209 | D-3 |
| 14b | 22-0000220.000 | 0.708 | D-3 |
| 15 | 22-0000220.004 | 2.361 | D-3 |
| 16 | 22-0000220.005 | 2.296 | D-3 |
| 17 | 22-0000220.006 | 2.207 | D-3 |
| 18 | 22-0000220.007 | 2.118 | D-3 |
| 19 | 22-0000220.008 | 2.029 | D-3 |
| 20 | 22-0000220.003 | 1.940 | D-3 |
| 21 | 22-0000220.002 | 1.851 | D-3 |
| 22a | 22-0000196.000 | 1.589 | D-3 |
| 22b | 22-0000196.000 | 13.970 | D-3/D-4 |
| 23 | 22-000022.000 | 16.532 | D-3/D-4 |
| 24 | 17-0000253.000 | 0.169 | D-4 |
| 25 | 17-0000060.001 | 9.225 | D-4 |
| 26 | 17-0000099.000 | 2.087 | D-4 |
| 27 | 17-0000060.005 | 0.028 | D-4 |
| 28 | 17-0000060.004 | 4.948 | D-4 |
| 29 | 17-0000060.000 | 0.557 | D-4 |
| 30 | 17-0000099.006 | 31.208 | D-4 |
| 31 | 17-0000099.007 | 28.230 | D-4 |
| 32 | 17-0000099.009 | 6.919 | D-4 |
| 33 | 17-0000055.004 | 39.888 | D-4 |
| 34 | 17-0000055.016 | 3.644 | D-4 |
| 35 | 17-0000033.004 | 2.820 | D-4 |
| 36 | 17-0000033.003 | 3.343 | D-4 |
| | TOTALS: | 344.973 | |

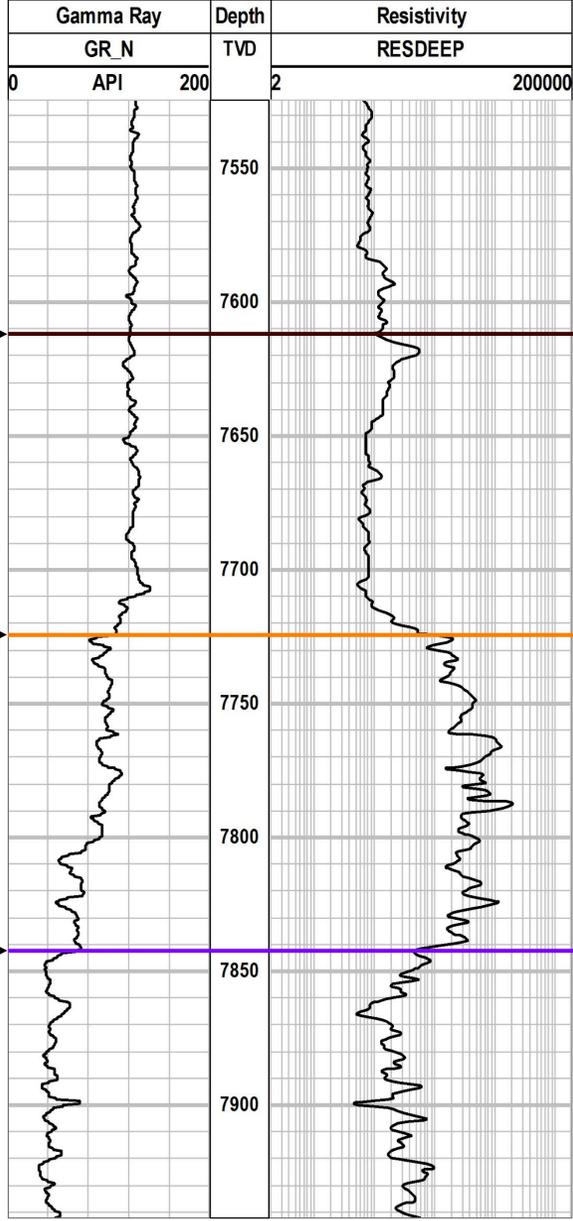
RH SPARGER S NTG HR
MAP TABLE



Exhibit E

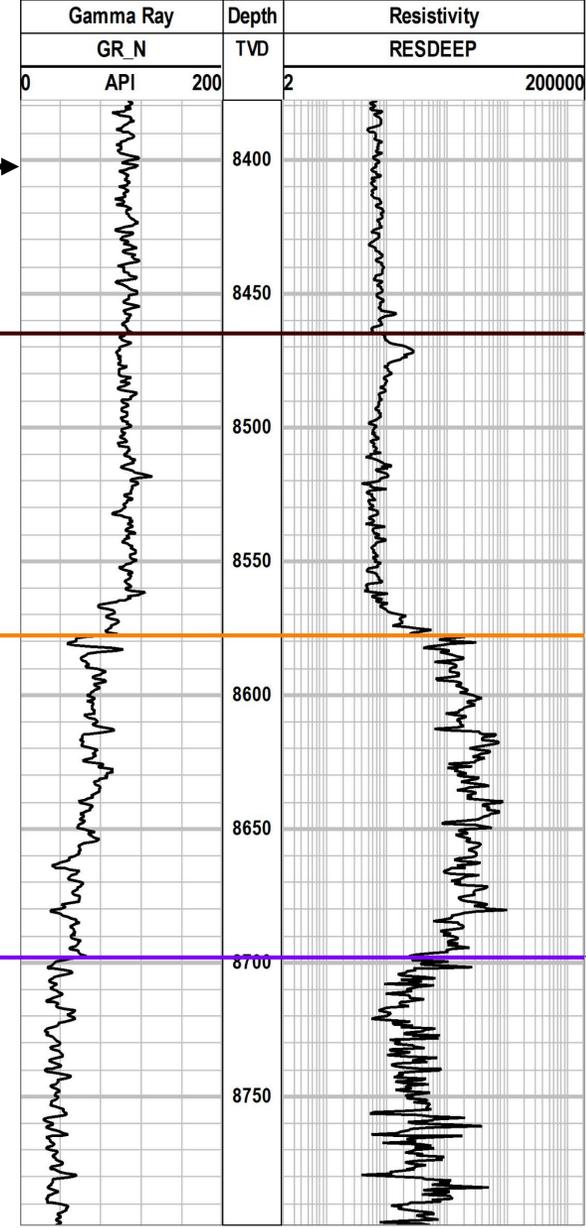
A
Zechman Thomas Unit 1
API#: 34067207370000

A'
Alpha ATH HR 2P
API#: 34067210740000



Approx. Location of
RH Sparger S NTG HR Unit

4.8 miles 4.0 miles



Utica Shale Formation

Top of the Utica
7,612' TVD
-6,714' Subsea

Point Pleasant Interval

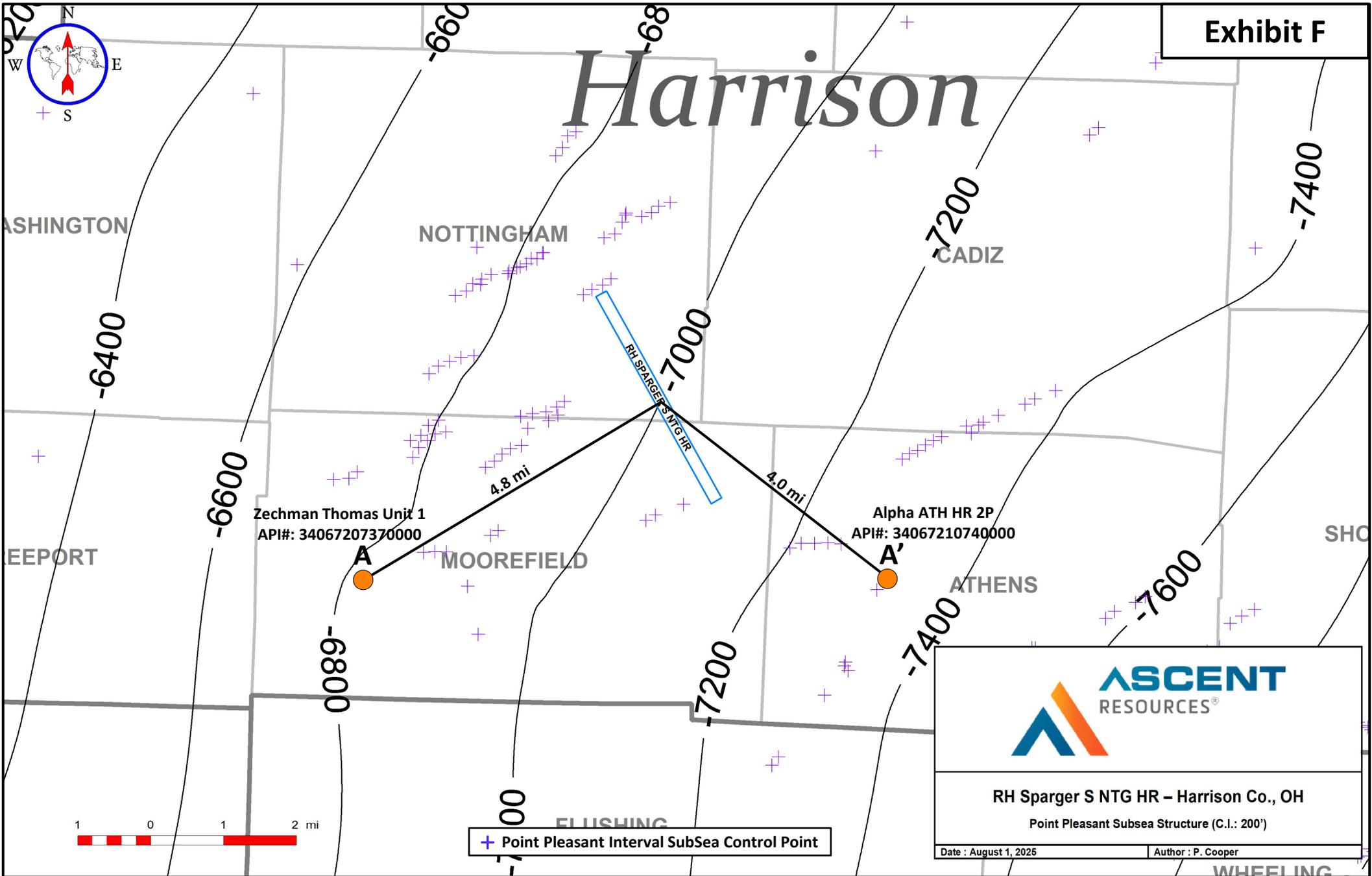
Base of Utica
7,842' TVD
-6,944' Subsea

Top of Utica
8,465' TVD
-7,213' Subsea

Base of Utica
8,698' TVD
-7,446' Subsea

Proposed
Unitized
Formation

Harrison



+ Point Pleasant Interval SubSea Control Point



RH Sparger S NTG HR – Harrison Co., OH
 Point Pleasant Subsea Structure (C.I.: 200')

Date : August 1, 2025 Author : P. Cooper

Section 5. Economic Calculation Summaries *Required*

Unitized Scenario

| Well Name | Lateral Length (ft) | Measured Depth (ft) | Operating Costs (MM\$) | Capital Costs (MM\$) | Undiscounted Value of Estimated Recovery (MM\$) | PV0 (MM\$) | PV10 (MM\$) | Estimated Gross Recovery (BCFe) | Supplement |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| RH SPARGER S NTG HR 4H | 16,874 | 26,867 | 23.79 | 10.79 | 71.37 | 36.19 | 17.22 | 11.83 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Total: | 16,874 | 26,867 | 23.79 | 10.79 | 71.37 | 36.19 | 17.22 | 11.83 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Non-Unitized Scenario

| Well Name | Lateral Length (ft) | Measured Depth (ft) | Operating Costs (MM\$) | Capital Costs (MM\$) | Undiscounted Value of Estimated Recovery (MM\$) | PV0 (MM\$) | PV10 (MM\$) | Estimated Gross Recovery (BCFe) | Supplement |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| RH SPARGER S NTG HR 4H | 8,445 | 18,438 | 12.81 | 7.34 | 35.72 | 15.15 | 6.66 | 5.92 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Total: | 8,445 | 18,438 | 12.81 | 7.34 | 35.72 | 15.15 | 6.66 | 5.92 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Difference

| Well Name | Lateral Length (ft) | Measured Depth (ft) | Operating Costs (MM\$) | Capital Costs (MM\$) | Undiscounted Value of Estimated Recovery (MM\$) | PV0 (MM\$) | PV10 (MM\$) | Estimated Gross Recovery (BCFe) | Supplement |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| RH SPARGER S NTG HR 4H | 8,429 | 8,429 | 10.98 | 3.45 | 35.65 | 21.04 | 10.56 | 5.91 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Total: | 8,429 | 8,429 | 10.98 | 3.45 | 35.65 | 21.04 | 10.56 | 5.91 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Section 6. Attachments *Required*

Working Interest Approvals Form(s)

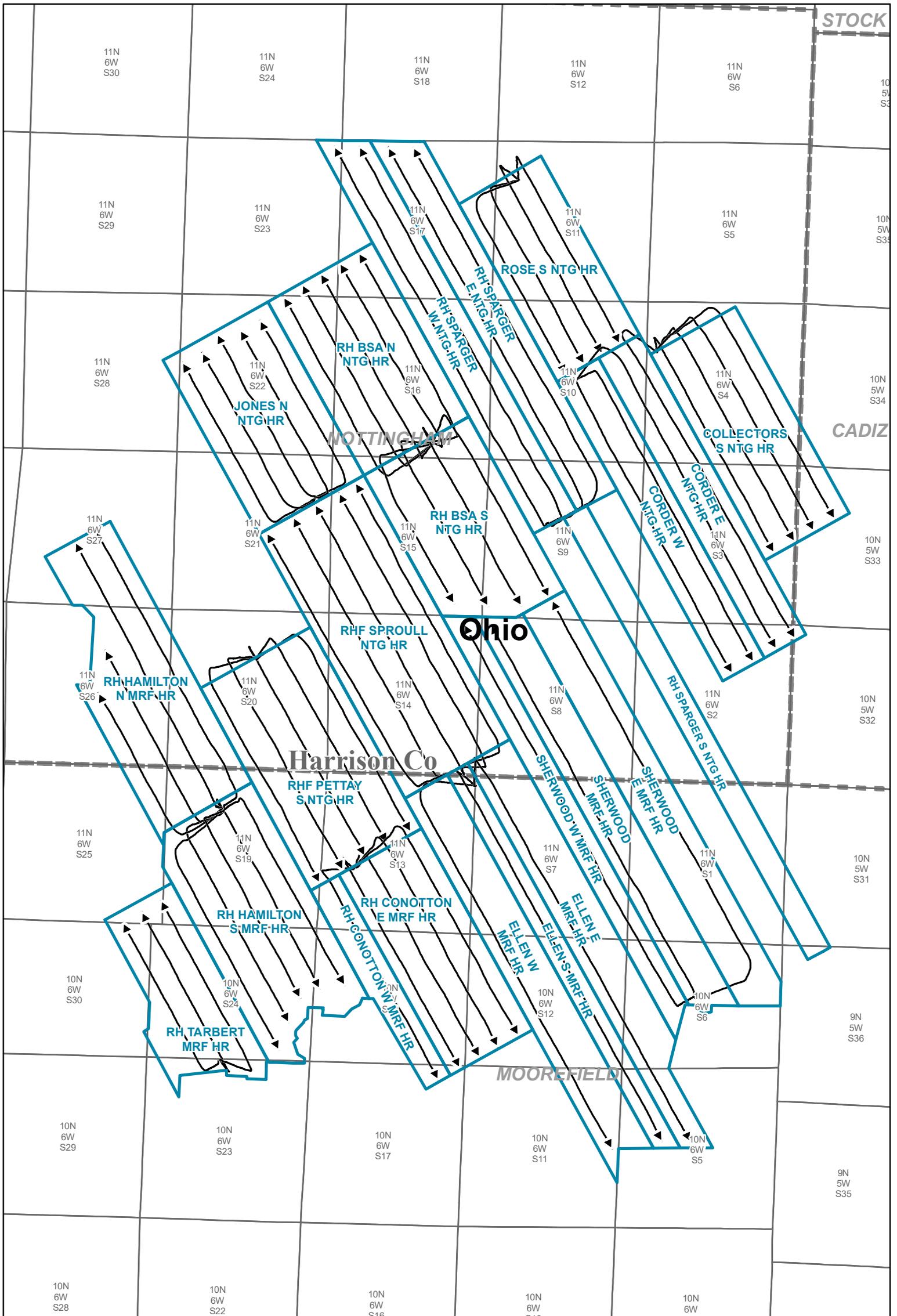
Supplement

Applicant's Operating Agreement

Affidavit of Operating Agreement (*if applicable*)

Georeferenced File

Optional only for requests to amend orders for unit operations



RH SPARGER S NTG HR EXHIBIT 7: RESERVE CALCULATION



NAD 1927 UTM Zone 17N

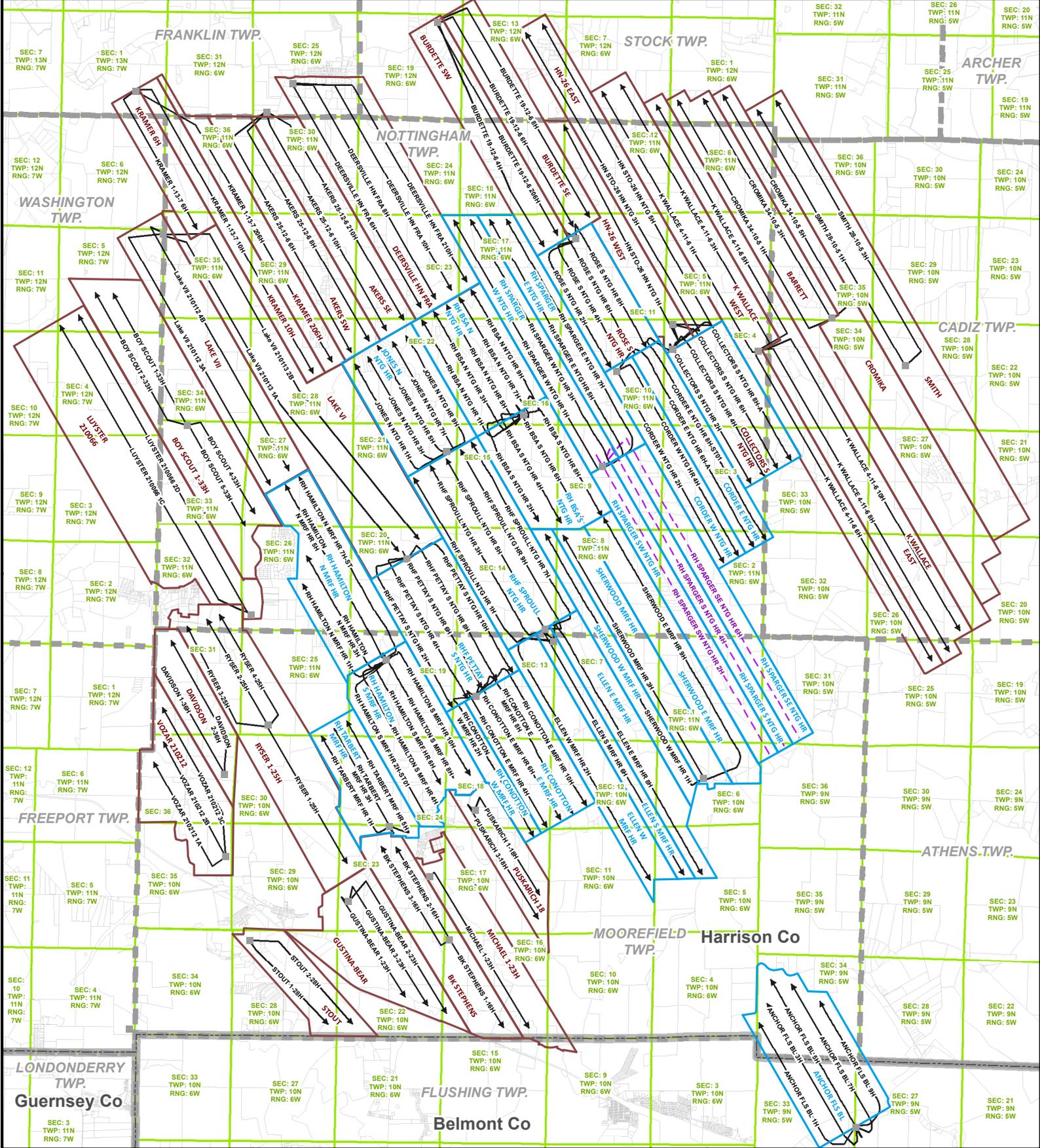


1 INCH = 3,786 FEET

| Legend | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| ▭ | Working Units |
| ▶ | Producing |

RH Sparger S Unit - Reserve Calculation Wells

| API NO. | WELL NAME | LATERAL LENGTH (ft.) | PROD. START DATE | DISTANCE FROM UNIT (mi.) |
|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 34067214450000 | CORDER W NTG HR 2H | 10,701 | 09-Nov-16 | 0.389 |
| 34067214460000 | CORDER W NTG HR 4H | 10,581 | 09-Nov-16 | 0.389 |
| 34067214470000 | SHERWOOD W MRF HR 1H | 14,253 | 17-Apr-19 | 0.595 |
| 34067214850000 | CORDER E NTG HR 6H-A | 11,229 | 15-Nov-16 | 0.696 |
| 34067214840000 | CORDER E NTG HR 8H | 11,257 | 26-Dec-16 | 0.696 |
| 34067214490000 | RHF SPROULL NTG HR 3H | 9,651 | 01-Mar-19 | 0.774 |
| 34067214420000 | ELLEN E MRF HR 8H | 14,289 | 15-May-19 | 0.776 |
| 34067214430000 | COLLECTORS S NTG HR 2H | 7,617 | 26-Dec-16 | 1.003 |
| 34067215630000 | COLLECTORS S NTG HR 4H | 7,575 | 22-Dec-16 | 1.003 |
| 34067215620000 | COLLECTORS S NTG HR 6H | 7,575 | 23-Dec-16 | 1.003 |
| 34067213970000 | COLLECTORS S NTG HR 8H-A | 7,564 | 23-Dec-16 | 1.003 |
| 34067213960000 | ELLEN S MRF HR 6H | 13,838 | 15-May-19 | 1.088 |
| 34067212580000 | RHF PETTAY S NTG HR 10H | 7,228 | 05-Dec-15 | 1.552 |
| 34067212760000 | RHF PETTAY S NTG HR 2H | 7,437 | 05-Dec-15 | 1.552 |
| 34067212700000 | RHF PETTAY S NTG HR 4H | 7,437 | 03-Dec-15 | 1.552 |
| 34067214180000 | RH CONOTTON E MRF HR 4H | 7,419 | 10-Jan-17 | 1.553 |
| 34067214150000 | RH CONOTTON E MRF HR 6H | 7,274 | 15-Jan-17 | 1.553 |
| 34067214160000 | RH CONOTTON W MRF HR 2H | 7,278 | 16-Jan-17 | 2.164 |
| 34067214020000 | RH HAMILTON S MRF HR 2H | 7,021 | 12-Dec-15 | 2.369 |
| 34067215350000 | RH TARBERT MRF HR 3H | 5,406 | 05-Dec-14 | 3.138 |



RH Sparger S NTG HR ADJACENT UNITS MAP



NAD 1927 UTM Zone 17N



1 in = 6,417 ft

- Working Units
- Non-Applicant Units
- Townships
- PLSS Section
- Pad
- Counties
- Tax Parcels
- Producing Laterals
- Proposed Laterals