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2025 OCD Examiner Hearings

Docket Nos. 25241-25246, 25312, 25455, 25321-25324,  
25462-25466

Moderated by Gregory Chakalian, OCD Hearing Examiner  
Thursday, July 24, 2025  
8:54 a.m.

Remote Proceeding  
Pecos Hall - Wendell Chino Building - First Floor  
1220 South Saint Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Reported by: Amsale Maxwell  
JOB NO: 6973018

A P P E A R A N C E S

List of Attendees:

Gregory Chakalian, OCD Hearing Examiner

Kaitlyn Luck, Counsel

Sharon Shaheen, Counsel

Michael Feldewert, Counsel

Hardy McLean, Counsel

Gabrielle Gerholt, Counsel

James Bruce, Counsel

Jordan Kessler, Counsel

Keri Hatley, Counsel

Matthias Sayer, Counsel

Freya Tschantz, OCD Law Clerk

Tyler Patrick, Attendant

William Durant, Attendant

Yarithza Pena, Attendant

Molly Bretthauer, Attendant

Chase McCoy, Attendant

Kelton Powell, Attendant

Madia Corral, EMNRD

Carder McCoy, Attendant

Grace Moss, Attendant

Riley Morris, Attendant

Nick Weeks, Attendant

Kristin Wilpitz, Attendant

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A P P E A R A N C E S (Cont'd)  
Laci Strecher, Attendant  
Caroline Frederick, Attendant  
Regan, Attendant  
John, Attendant  
Pat Gray, Attendant  
Mikhail Gordista, Attendant

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P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. CHAKALIAN: Good morning. It is 8:54 a.m. on July 24, 2025. These are the status conferences of the Oil Conservation Division. It is the second regular docket of the month.

My name is Gregory Chakalian. I'm the hearing examiner. We do not have a technical examiner today because these are status conferences that don't require a review. We are conducting a special docket on Tuesday, the 29th of July, which we now have the potential of one contested hearing.

All the other contested hearings have turned into hearings by affidavit. I can't always promise that the hearings by affidavit will be conducted on the day that we schedule special dockets in the pre-hearing orders.

We do put that if the case is resolved, it may go to the next regular hearing by affidavit, but since we have so many of them, we thought, why move them all to August 7, when we already have a technical examiner?

So that being said, let's call the first group of cases. This is Rockwood Energy. This is number 1 through 6 on our docket 25241, 42,43,44,45, and 46. Entries please?

1 MS. LUCK: Good morning, Mr. Hearing  
2 Examiner. Kaitlyn Luck appearing for the applicant in  
3 this case, Rockwood Energy, LP.

4 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you.

5 MS. BENNETT: Good morning,  
6 Mr. Examiner. Deana Bennett appearing in these cases  
7 on behalf of Coterra.

8 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you. I believe  
9 that's all the parties; right, Ms. Luck?

10 MS. LUCK: That's correct.

11 MR. CHAKALIAN: Ms. Bennett, I'm going  
12 to start with you. You've entered an objection.  
13 What's happening with the objection?

14 MS. BENNETT: Thank you. So Coterra  
15 did enter an objection to all of these cases, because  
16 Coterra intends to develop the acreage. And as I've  
17 mentioned at prior hearings and status conferences,  
18 there's been some confusion with Coterra about who is  
19 actually going to be the opposing party in these  
20 cases.

21 The Rockwood cases were filed back in  
22 February, February 26th, and they requested an August,  
23 I'm sorry, April 10th hearing. And then, as you may  
24 recall, Coterra objected at the beginning of April,  
25 and then they were set for a status conference on

1 April 24th.

2 Well, in between our objection and the  
3 status conference, the prior counsel withdrew, and  
4 Ms. Luck entered her appearance the day before the  
5 status conference. And at that time, as I explained  
6 in prior status conferences, Coterra was under the  
7 impression that Rockwood was negotiating with  
8 Mewbourne, and so there was a little uncertainty about  
9 who the opposing party was.

10 And then right before our next status  
11 conference, Coterra learned that Mewbourne had not  
12 entered into a deal with Rockwood. Well, now on June  
13 15th, Rockwood's landman emailed Coterra's landman,  
14 and said that they had entered into a deal with  
15 Mewbourne for at least two of the cases that are on  
16 the docket, and that Mewbourne was going to be sending  
17 out proposals for those cases, different proposals, at  
18 least that's what was the implication.

19 So Coterra's been trying to figure out  
20 who to negotiate with and has been trying to negotiate  
21 with both Rockwood and Mewbourne. In July, Coterra  
22 did send out competing proposals. They weren't sent  
23 out in time to make the August 12th docket, which is  
24 when we have a contested hearing.

25 So at this point, I think there's, you

1 know, two options. One, we can go forward with the  
2 contested hearing on August 12th, which will be, in my  
3 opinion, a waste of the Division's time and a waste of  
4 the party's time because it appears that at least for  
5 two of the cases, Mewbourne is going to be sending out  
6 competing -- its own proposals.

7 Or we could try to reach an agreement  
8 about a different contested hearing date, and Coterra  
9 did reach out to Rockwood yesterday and proposed a  
10 schedule that's only a month delay, where Rockwood  
11 would either dismiss its cases, because I know the  
12 Division doesn't really condone continuances of  
13 contested hearings.

14 If the Division were to consider that  
15 in this case, that would be also helpful. But the  
16 proposal that Coterra sent was that Rockwood would  
17 dismiss its applications, and then Coterra, Rockwood  
18 and Mewbourne, to the extent Mewbourne is going to  
19 submit applications, would file applications for the  
20 September 11th docket.

21 And Coterra's willing to agree to the  
22 very first available contested hearing date in  
23 September. So that's a month delay, maximum, maybe  
24 six weeks, actually, maximum. And that gives Coterra,  
25 and Rockwood, and Mewbourne a chance to get the actual

1 applications before the Division.

2 The Division will have the actual  
3 parties to the contested hearings before it, and it  
4 also allows the parties a month to hopefully resolve  
5 this. In fact, this morning -- yesterday, Coterra, as  
6 I mentioned, emailed Rockwood, and this morning I  
7 tried to broker a four-way call between all four  
8 parties, the two attorneys, and Rockwood, and Coterra  
9 to see if there isn't a way we can just all get on a  
10 call and work this out.

11 And Rockwood is willing to have a call,  
12 but not today, maybe tomorrow, maybe next week.  
13 Rockwood isn't willing to change the August 12th  
14 hearing date, even though, you know, I have an email  
15 from their landman saying that Mewbourne is going to  
16 be sending out proposals for some of the same acreage.

17 I understand that Rockwood wants to  
18 move forward with August 12th, but there also has to  
19 be some flexibility to allow for the uncertainty that  
20 is present in these cases and to allow the Division to  
21 have the actual parties in front of it.

22 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you.

23 MS. BENNETT: Thank you.

24 MR. CHAKALIAN: Ms. Luck?

25 MS. LUCK: Well, I think that what



1 we're dealing with here is the fact that these cases  
2 have been pending for five months. They were filed  
3 quite some time before I entered an appearance. And  
4 as Ms. Bennett indicated, Coterra has known that  
5 Mewbourne may be involved or may not be involved the  
6 entire time that the cases have been pending because  
7 Rockwood has not drilled wells in New Mexico  
8 previously.

9 And it's actually, in our opinion,  
10 advantageous for there to possibly be a deal where  
11 Mewbourne is involved. So at this point, Rockwood  
12 wants to go to hearing on August 12th and present all  
13 of the cases to the Division, and have the Division  
14 decide whether or not pulling orders are appropriate  
15 at this point in time.

16 I have the pre-hearing order here that  
17 was issued by the Division on May 22nd. And at that  
18 point in time, Coterra could have filed applications  
19 to compete with the filed Rockwood applications. And  
20 once again, that was back in May, and then two more  
21 months have passed, and no applications have been  
22 filed.

23 These are basically the only two  
24 interest owners out there. Now that Mewbourne is  
25 involved, there's another working interest owner, but

1     it's a very simple situation to send out wall  
2     proposals and file applications within a five-month  
3     timeframe, and that hasn't happened.

4                     And so based on the fact that we have a  
5     pre-hearing order issued by the Division on May 22nd,  
6     Rockwood is ready to proceed to hearing on August  
7     12th. All of the arguments that Ms. Bennett's making  
8     with regards to operatorship, those are all things  
9     that can be brought up at the contested hearing on  
10    August 12th for the Division to hear and consider.

11                    I've been in her shoes before without  
12    competing applications, and those cases went to  
13    hearing at that point in time, the Division didn't  
14    grant continuances or move the applications from the  
15    contested hearing schedule where it was set under a  
16    pre-hearing order like we have here.

17                    So at this point in time, Rockwood is  
18    ready to proceed, and like Ms. Bennett indicated,  
19    Rockwood didn't want to have a last-minute call this  
20    morning to push out this hearing any further.

21                    We've had this hearing date set for a  
22    while, we're ready to go to hearing, and Rockwood is  
23    willing to continue voluntary negotiations in good  
24    faith with Coterra before the hearing date, as we  
25    understand our obligation. However, I don't--

1 Rockwood didn't see that that was appropriate before  
2 the hearing got started.

3 MR. CHAKALIAN: So Ms. Luck,  
4 Ms. Bennett mentioned a couple things that I'm not  
5 sure you addressed. So I'd like to hear your  
6 perspective on, first of all, she raised the issue  
7 that her client wanted to negotiate with someone, but  
8 they weren't sure who to negotiate with, whether it be  
9 Rockwood or Mewbourne, or someone. Do you know about  
10 that?

11 MS. LUCK: Yes. And I know that  
12 Rockwood has made lots of efforts to negotiate with  
13 Coterra since these applications were filed and  
14 before, by sending the wall proposal letters to  
15 Coterra, starting with good faith negotiations before  
16 these pooling applications were even filed in  
17 February.

18 And so Rockwood has made multiple  
19 attempts to have conversations with Coterra.  
20 Mewbourne has also conversed with Coterra. There have  
21 been conversations that happened before the offer that  
22 she's discussing this morning.

23 MR. CHAKALIAN: And you know that for a  
24 fact?

25 MS. LUCK: Yes, sir.

1 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. And then the  
2 next issue that Ms. Bennett brought up was that, I  
3 guess, Rockwood made a deal with Mewbourne, and  
4 Mewbourne is potentially filing competing applications  
5 or some sort of application as well?

6 MS. LUCK: And so there is a deal  
7 between Mewbourne and Rockwood, but Rockwood remains a  
8 working interest owner in the unit with a right to  
9 drill there on and can proceed with its pooling  
10 applications as filed, regardless of the agreement  
11 with Mewbourne at this point in time with respect to  
12 those two units.

13 And so Rockwood would like to proceed  
14 with its applications on those two units. And, if at  
15 any point in time, Mewbourne continues the operations  
16 of those units, that would be disclosed and, of  
17 course, Coterra would know about that.

18 MR. CHAKALIAN: Has Rockwood received  
19 Coterra's proposal letters?

20 MS. LUCK: Rockwood has received  
21 Coterra's wall proposal letters, yes, but no  
22 applications were filed.

23 MR. CHAKALIAN: Right. I'm just asking  
24 if your client has received the wall proposal letters  
25 that Ms. Bennett mentioned were sent out?

1 MS. LUCK: Yes.

2 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Do you know when  
3 they were received?

4 Or Ms. Bennett, do you know when they  
5 were sent?

6 MS. BENNETT: They were sent on July  
7 10th.

8 MR. CHAKALIAN: July 10th, okay. And  
9 is it for -- and I don't know anything about these  
10 competing the proposal letters, but does it overlap  
11 the exact -- is it the same acreage?

12 MS. BENNETT: No, it's not the same  
13 acreage. In two cases -- well, in all six cases,  
14 Coterra is proposing a larger spacing unit than  
15 Rockwood is. So Coterra's completely overlap  
16 Rockwood's spacing units, but Rockwood's do not  
17 completely overlap with Coterra's.

18 And Coterra is the majority interest  
19 holder in its units. And I do. Just, if I could  
20 briefly address something that Ms. Luck said?

21 MR. CHAKALIAN: In just --

22 MS. BENNETT: Yes, certainly.

23 MR. CHAKALIAN: In just a moment. I'd  
24 like to get to that point.

25 So Ms. Luck, something that Ms. Bennett

1 just said, which was Coterra is the majority interest  
2 owner in its unit, and it sounds like its unit  
3 encompasses all of Rockwood's. What is the ownership  
4 of Rockwood in its proposed area?

5 MS. LUCK: And I believe that we  
6 reviewed this at one of the earlier status  
7 conferences. It's approximate, like in each unit it  
8 differs slightly, but in some units it's like 35/65,  
9 one unit's 45/55.

10 The split is very close amongst the  
11 interest owners, as between Rockwood and Coterra in  
12 all of these units. And I do have the ownership  
13 interest breakdown. I can pull it up and call it out  
14 for the Division.

15 MR. CHAKALIAN: Why don't you pull it  
16 up while I hear this follow up?

17 MS. BENNETT: Thank you. So the  
18 interest ownership that Ms. Luck will be sharing, I  
19 believe, predates the deal with Mewbourne. So if in  
20 fact, Mewbourne and Rockwood did enter into an a deal,  
21 Rockwood's ownership interest would be lower, even if  
22 they did retain a working interest, so I just want to  
23 make that point before we go too far down that road.  
24 But --

25 MR. CHAKALIAN: Are you saying that

1 they negotiated away some of their --

2 MS. BENNETT: Yes, they would've had  
3 to.

4 MR. CHAKALIAN: -- in the unit?

5 MS. BENNETT: I mean, I don't know  
6 anything about their deal, but if Mewbourne was going  
7 to send out well proposals, it needed to have acquired  
8 a working interest in the unit. But I do have an  
9 email here from Kelton Powell dated June 16, 2025, to  
10 Coterra where Mr. Powell writes Shepard, which are two  
11 or four of the cases, I can't remember, "We signed a  
12 deal with MOC on this acreage Friday, and they will be  
13 sending you guys proposals here shortly."

14 So the implication from that is that  
15 Coterra should be expecting proposal letters from  
16 Mewbourne. Not that Coterra needs to -- there's been  
17 no, like, bad faith negotiations on Coterra's part,  
18 it's been a moving target.

19 Even as of June 16th, Coterra was now  
20 under the impression that they should be expecting  
21 proposal letters from Mewbourne, from Rockwood's own  
22 landman. This isn't a situation where Coterra's been  
23 just sitting on its hands idly waiting to see what  
24 happens.

25 There's been a moving target about when

1 the -- who's sending out proposal letters. You know,  
2 in June it was going to be Mewbourne for the Shepard  
3 Wells. In June, Kelton Powell mentioned a trade deal  
4 with Coterra.

5 I've asked Coterra to provide me with  
6 dates that they tried to call Rockwood back to talk  
7 about the trade deal. This isn't a situation where,  
8 you know, the parties are at a standstill. This is a  
9 situation where discussions have been kind of a moving  
10 target, but now we seem to have things worked out.

11 Mewbourne has acquired its interest in  
12 Shepard. Rockwood and Coterra, and potentially  
13 Mewbourne, if they're going to be the operator of  
14 George Mitchell, can now have discussions that the  
15 playing field has sort of been cleared up at this  
16 point. So that's why it feels premature to have a  
17 hearing on August 12th.

18 MR. CHAKALIAN: Have you received  
19 Mewbourne's proposal letters?

20 MS. BENNETT: No.

21 MR. CHAKALIAN: So it's been more than  
22 a month since you got that email, and you haven't  
23 received anything?

24 MS. BENNETT: No.

25 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay.



1 MS. BENNETT: But I do know that  
2 Coterra has been in discussions with Mewbourne about  
3 this acreage and has been in discussions about joining  
4 a JOA, talking about the competing development plans,  
5 who's going to operate. So Coterra has been in  
6 discussions with Mewbourne about the Shepard acreage.

7 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay.

8 Ms. Luck?

9 MS. LUCK: Well, and I think that what  
10 Ms. Bennett is presenting to the Division, these are  
11 all arguments that should be made at the contested  
12 hearing.

13 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay.

14 MS. LUCK: She needs to show up with  
15 her witnesses and cross-examine Rockwood's witnesses  
16 that are presented at the hearing for the Division to  
17 consider whether or not pulling orders should be  
18 issued to Rockwood under these circumstances.

19 These are all arguments for the  
20 contested hearing, and I think that that's why we're  
21 here today for a status conference to say yes, we're  
22 still intending to proceed to the August 12th hearing  
23 set by this pre-hearing order.

24 Rockwood has lease expirations in these  
25 units, and there's a reason why these applications

1 were filed in February to proceed to hearing within  
2 short order, as expected under the Division's  
3 docketing.

4 And so I think at this point in time,  
5 there's been a lot of back and forth between Rockwood,  
6 Coterra, Mewbourne, all as detailed by Coterra's  
7 counsel just now. Coterra has been in contact with  
8 both Mewbourne and Rockwood and understands the trades  
9 and the negotiations that happen on the ground in oil  
10 and gas deals.

11 And delay of the hearing is not going  
12 to change that fact. The parties could have worked  
13 out a deal previously.

14 MR. CHAKALIAN: Did you find the  
15 interest that you were looking up?

16 MS. LUCK: Yes.

17 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. What is it? And  
18 by the way, did your client negotiate away a certain  
19 amount of interest to Mewbourne?

20 MS. LUCK: Correct. So now the numbers  
21 that I'll be calling out will be a working interest  
22 that's now owned, by both Rockwood and Mewbourne.

23 MR. CHAKALIAN: But are Mewbourne and  
24 Rockwood aligned?

25 MS. LUCK: They are not related

1 companies, but they are, correct, aligned in a sense  
2 that yes, they --

3 MR. CHAKALIAN: Who's representing  
4 Mewbourne? Is anyone representing Mewbourne here?

5 MS. LUCK: Well, Mewbourne is not a  
6 party in this case.

7 MR. CHAKALIAN: They're not. Okay.

8 MS. LUCK: Yes, yeah.

9 MR. CHAKALIAN: But I mean, they have  
10 an interest in these cases; right?

11 MS. LUCK: Yes, they will have an  
12 interest in these cases. Collectively, all of them,  
13 they do have an interest in a portion of them at this  
14 point in time.

15 MR. CHAKALIAN: And when was this  
16 negotiation finalized with Mewbourne?

17 MS. LUCK: And I think it was mid-June,  
18 that's what Ms. Bennett had discussed is --

19 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay.

20 MS. LUCK: -- and that's only with  
21 respect to a portion of the cases; it's not all of the  
22 cases.

23 MR. CHAKALIAN: I understand, but  
24 they've not entered an appearance in these cases, that  
25 I know of, and you don't know of it either, and you

1 don't know of it either. Okay. So here's what -- I  
2 mean, I've heard a lot of back and forth about what's  
3 going on here.

4 When would your competing applications  
5 be ready to file?

6 MS. BENNETT: I can file them today.

7 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. You can file  
8 them today. Okay. And of course, we have to give 20  
9 days' notice once they're filed, before we have the  
10 hearing. In the past, what we've done in a situation  
11 like this, and Ms. Luck was involved in a case such as  
12 this, is we began the hearing, and then we continued  
13 the hearing to perfect notice so that we could hear  
14 all the cases at the same time.

15 These are old cases. If these were not  
16 February cases, I would lean more toward your  
17 solution, which is let's just kick it down to  
18 September. But in a way, that's what we will do. In  
19 a way, we will continue the hearing to 20 days after  
20 today, whenever that may be, we'll figure it out in a  
21 bit, to cure notice.

22 But, you know, to be consistent, I have  
23 always leaned toward the applicant. You know your  
24 client has known about these. I realize that there's  
25 a moving target for you, but their client is known,

1 and I'm sure they're sophisticated enough to  
2 understand how all this works.

3 But I lean toward the applicant to move  
4 things along or dismiss the cases, and we're not doing  
5 that, obviously. So we'll keep this on track for  
6 August 12.

7 Ms. Bennett, if you file your  
8 applications today, when is the 20 days that we could  
9 do a special notice, when is that?

10 MS. BENNETT: That would be August  
11 13th.

12 MR. CHAKALIAN: Oh, the next day? Oh,  
13 well, then that makes that easy, doesn't it?

14 MS. BENNETT: If I thought that you  
15 need -- okay, so the Division only needs 20 days to  
16 notice?

17 MR. CHAKALIAN: We only need 20, that I  
18 know of. Does someone want to tell me differently?

19 MS. BENNETT: Well, there is the  
20 requirement that we file the application 30 days under  
21 the rule, 30 days before the hearing date, even though  
22 the Division only has to give 20 days' notice. So I  
23 guess I was assuming it was 30 days for me to follow  
24 the rule, 20 days for you all to follow the rule, but  
25 yeah, I just did some quick math, today's the 24th.

1 If we need 20 days, that's August 13th-ish.

2 MR. CHAKALIAN: That works. Is there  
3 anyone who has an opinion that that can't be done?

4 MS. BENNETT: Mr. Hearing Examiner?

5 MR. CHAKALIAN: I'm not hearing anyone  
6 volunteer anything. Yes?

7 MS. BENNETT: So technically I would be  
8 out of compliance with the rules if I did that,  
9 because the rule does require an applicant to file  
10 their application 30 days before the hearing.

11 MR. CHAKALIAN: Is there an objection,  
12 Ms. Luck?

13 MS. LUCK: Well, I don't object if it  
14 holds our August 12th hearing date.

15 MR. CHAKALIAN: Right.

16 MS. BENNETT: The other option would be  
17 there is a contested hearing set for August 26th, and  
18 that would allow me to comply with the rule and still  
19 allow for 20 days.

20 MR. CHAKALIAN: Hold on a second.  
21 Ms. Bennett, you've been doing this a long time. Is  
22 there a reason why the rule says that you need to file  
23 an application 30 days before the hearing, and yet we  
24 only need to provide 20 days' notice?

25 MS. BENNETT: I don't know the answer

1 to that. I do know that Mr. Bruce said at a hearing,  
2 and Mr. Bruce has been doing this longer than I have,  
3 that the rule used to say that the application had to  
4 be filed 20 days before a hearing, and then at some  
5 point, the rule was changed to require 30 days.

6 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Well that  
7 doesn't -- okay. That doesn't mean -- so far, I've  
8 not heard anything that changes my mind about why we  
9 would require you to file 30 days in advance, and yet  
10 we have to notice 20.

11 Maybe it gives the Division ten days to  
12 put the notice together. I don't know. But that  
13 being said, unless I hear an argument that it's not  
14 going to work --

15 Freya, are you able to do a special  
16 notice for the 13th?

17 MS. TSCHANTZ: I can if I get the  
18 applications sometime early enough today, but I can  
19 still prepare the notice and get it sent out today.

20 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay.

21 Ms. Bennett?

22 MS. BENNETT: I will file as soon as I  
23 get back to the office.

24 MR. CHAKALIAN: Perfect. So it sounds  
25 like everyone's going to get what they want. We'll

1 get a contested hearing, your client will hear their  
2 competing cases, Ms. Luck will get to move forward  
3 with her cases. Is there anything else?

4 MS. LUCK: Nothing further. Thank you.

5 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay.

6 MS. BENNETT: Thank you.

7 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you.

8 MS. LUCK: And I just want to confirm,  
9 this starts at 1 or 1:30 on the 12th.

10 MR. CHAKALIAN: Even better.

11 MS. LUCK: The afternoon; that's right?

12 MR. CHAKALIAN: You know we're going to  
13 go into the 13th, so it's even better. So you'll  
14 present your case on the 12th. If you finish your  
15 case, we'll end for the day there, and then Ms.  
16 Bennett can present her case on the 13th, starting at  
17 9:00 a.m.

18 MS. LUCK: Thank you.

19 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you.

20 Ms. Bennett, your witnesses are  
21 available?

22 MS. BENNETT: Yes.

23 MR. CHAKALIAN: Good.

24 MS. BENNETT: They may be appearing  
25 virtually, given the limitations on timing, but they



1 will be available, yes.

2 MR. CHAKALIAN: You know that's fine.  
3 Okay. We're off the record in those cases. Thank  
4 you.

5 Calling Pride Energy. This is case  
6 number 7, 25455 entries, please?

7 MS. SHAHEEN: Sharon Shaheen on behalf  
8 of Pride Energy.

9 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you.

10 MR. FELDEWERT: Michael Feldewert from  
11 the Santa Fe Office of Holland & Hart on behalf of EOG  
12 Resources, and I believe, let's see, you called 25455,  
13 that would be the EOG case, and that is combined with  
14 25312.

15 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you. Let me also  
16 call 25312. Thank you.

17 MS. HARDY: And Mr. Examiner, Dana  
18 Hardy -- oh, sorry. Dana Hardy with Hardy McLean on  
19 behalf of 3R Operating and Red River Energy Partners,  
20 in these cases.

21 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you.

22 Mr. Bruce?

23 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, Jim Bruce  
24 representing Kaiser-Francis Oil Company.

25 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay, thank you.

1 MS. HATLEY: Good morning,  
2 Mr. Examiner. Keri Hatley representing COG Operating  
3 and ConocoPhillips Company.

4 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you, Ms. Hatley.

5 Okay, Ms. Shaheen, it's your case, who  
6 has entered an objection in your case?

7 MS. SHAHEEN: I know that EOG has  
8 entered an objection. I believe all the parties  
9 entered objections, but the good news is that Pride  
10 and EOG have been conferring in good faith, they have  
11 reached an agreement in principle, they're in the  
12 process of negotiating the final details, and papering  
13 that agreement up.

14 So we would ask that the contested  
15 hearing set on August 12th be vacated and continue to  
16 a status conference, if necessary, on August 21st.

17 MR. CHAKALIAN: Are you saying that  
18 your negotiations with Pride and -- I don't know, did  
19 you say COG?

20 MS. SHAHEEN: EOG.

21 MR. CHAKALIAN: EOG, thank you. But  
22 you said that there were other objecting parties?

23 MS. SHAHEEN: That is correct,  
24 objecting to Pride's application, and actually, I  
25 don't know whether they objected to EOG'S application.

1 But if Pride papers up its agreement with EOG, Pride  
2 will be dismissing its applications.

3 MR. CHAKALIAN: So we wouldn't have a  
4 contested hearing, you're saying?

5 MS. SHAHEEN: That is correct.

6 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Ms. Hardy?

7 MS. HARDY: Mr. Examiner, at this  
8 point, 3R and Red River are monitoring these cases,  
9 although it's possible that 3R could end up objecting,  
10 but they haven't yet. But they weren't aware of this  
11 turn of events with Pride and EOG, so I would need to  
12 consult my client about their position.

13 MR. CHAKALIAN: Mr. Feldewert?

14 MR. FELDEWERT: Mr. Examiner, so EOG  
15 does have a competing pooling case.

16 MR. CHAKALIAN: Right.

17 MR. FELDEWERT: That's why we have a  
18 contested hearing. They overlap in the west half of  
19 the west half of Section 29. The parties who have  
20 objected to Pride's case, my understanding, they  
21 support EOG's more extensive development.

22 I know that the parties were in  
23 discussions, and I knew that they were having very  
24 fruitful discussions. I'll take Ms. Shaheen's word  
25 that they reached a agreement in principle. I know

1     that they're looking at things very closely.

2                     We don't disagree that it would make  
3     sense to go ahead and vacate this hearing, since the  
4     parties are so close to an agreement, and that  
5     agreement would seem to accommodate, or will  
6     accommodate, the interest of a vast majority of the  
7     working interest, not only in these sections, but also  
8     in the west half of the west half of section 29.

9                     So I'm glad that they were able to  
10    reach an agreement, because I couldn't figure out why  
11    we were going to have to go to hearing. So I do think  
12    we can help you with your docket on August 12th by  
13    having that hearing vacated and setting it for a  
14    status conference.

15                    And I would expect, based on  
16    Ms. Shaheen's representation, that the parties will  
17    have an agreement, and they will be dismissing their  
18    case, and we'll be able to proceed with our pooling  
19    case by affidavit.

20                    MR. CHAKALIAN: Ms. Hatley?

21                    MS. HATLEY: I have no objection to  
22    vacating the August 12th hearing.

23                    MR. CHAKALIAN: Mr. Bruce?

24                    MR. BRUCE: No objection.

25                    MS. SHAHEEN: If it's helpful,

1 Mr. Examiner, I note that these cases were initially  
2 on the May docket, so it hasn't been very long that  
3 they've been pending.

4 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Well, from what  
5 I understand from you and Mr. Feldewert, the parties  
6 have an agreement in principle that they need to  
7 reduce to a writing. And once that's done, you're  
8 going to dismiss your case?

9 MS. SHAHEEN: That is correct.

10 MR. CHAKALIAN: And thereby, EOG will  
11 present its case by affidavit. It wouldn't be on the  
12 August 12th docket.

13 MR. FELDEWERT: That would be fine.

14 MR. CHAKALIAN: It would be in the  
15 September, whatever the first September docket is. I  
16 think that's what the pre-hearing order said anyway.

17 MR. FELDEWERT: Right.

18 MR. CHAKALIAN: So I agree that the  
19 hearing should be vacated and that the cases should be  
20 continued by the parties to the second docket in  
21 August for a status conference.

22 MR. FELDEWERT: Let me, just for the  
23 record, I don't know if EOG has agreed to what Pride  
24 has proposed. I know that they are looking at it, and  
25 that it looks favorable, but I don't think they've

1 actually said we agree.

2 MR. CHAKALIAN: I see.

3 MR. FELDEWERT: But I agree that it's  
4 close enough, and the facts of this case make sense,  
5 that this matter shouldn't have to go to hearing.

6 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you.

7 Anything further, Ms. Shaheen?

8 MS. SHAHEEN: Not for me, thank you.

9 MR. CHAKALIAN: We're off the record in  
10 those two cases.

11 MR. FELDEWERT: Thank you.

12 MR. CHAKALIAN: Let's call the next two  
13 cases, 25321, 25322, 3R Operating, excuse me, but then  
14 there's two other cases by 3R, but I don't think  
15 they're joined, so we'll call them separately.

16 MS. HARDY: Thank you, Mr. Examiner.  
17 Dana Hardy with Hardy McLean on behalf of 3R  
18 Operating.

19 MS. BENNETT: Good morning,  
20 Mr. Examiner. Deana Bennett on behalf of Cimarex  
21 Energy Company of Colorado.

22 MS. GERHOLT: Gabrielle Gerholt on  
23 behalf of Civitas Permian Operating.

24 MR. CHAKALIAN: Welcome. Do you want  
25 to enter an appearance?

1 MS. GERHOLT: Yes, I would enter my  
2 appearance at this time in both cases.

3 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. And you'll file  
4 a substitution of counsel?

5 MS. GERHOLT: Yes sir.

6 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you. Are you  
7 also going to enter an appearance on the next two  
8 cases as well?

9 MS. GERHOLT: Yes sir.

10 MR. CHAKALIAN: You are? Okay. All  
11 right.

12 Ms. Hardy, these are your cases. How  
13 do you want to proceed?

14 MS. HARDY: Mr. Examiner, these cases  
15 are set for a contested hearing currently on August  
16 26th, and the parties are negotiating and making  
17 significant progress, so I am cautiously optimistic  
18 that a contested hearing may not be necessary, but I  
19 don't know yet.

20 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Is that all you  
21 wanted to say?

22 MS. HARDY: At this point, I would  
23 request that we keep the August 26th contested hearing  
24 date, and then we can vacate it or present by  
25 affidavit once we have a final determination.

1 MR. CHAKALIAN: And Ms. Bennett, are  
2 you objecting?

3 MS. BENNETT: Yes.

4 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay.

5 MS. BENNETT: I filed an objection on  
6 April 17th, and Cimarex agrees with Ms. Hardy that  
7 negotiations are progressing well, but that it also  
8 makes sense to keep the August 26th docket date for  
9 now, and hopefully we'll be before the Division before  
10 then to vacate that hearing.

11 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay.

12 MS. BENNETT: In the meantime though,  
13 Cimarex did file competing applications, which are not  
14 identified on the pre-hearing order, and so I'll file  
15 a joint motion to amend the pre-hearing order to add  
16 the Cimarex cases.

17 MR. CHAKALIAN: And do those appear on  
18 the first docket in August? Is that --

19 MS. BENNETT: They did, but 3R  
20 objected, and so Freya moved them.

21 MR. CHAKALIAN: To the 24th?

22 MS. BENNETT: I don't know if she moved  
23 them to the 24th or if they're just pending being  
24 moved to the 26th, but either way I'll work that out  
25 with Ms. Chance [ph].



1 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Do you happen to  
2 know the case numbers?

3 MS. BENNETT: I do. They are case  
4 numbers 25506 and 25507.

5 MR. CHAKALIAN: And it's -- are you  
6 saying it's Civitas, or are you saying it's --

7 MS. BENNETT: It's Cimarex --

8 MR. CHAKALIAN: -- Coterra?

9 MS. BENNETT: It's a subsidiary of  
10 Coterra, it's Cimarex Energy Company of Colorado.

11 MR. CHAKALIAN: Cimarex, Coterra, okay.  
12 Thank you.

13 MS. BENNETT: Thank you.

14 MR. CHAKALIAN: So you'll file a  
15 motion, we'll amend the pre-hearing order, we'll stay  
16 with August 26th for now, and the parties will then  
17 negotiate.

18 MS. BENNETT: Yes. Thank you.

19 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Ms. Gerholt,  
20 anything?

21 MS. GERHOLT: Mr. Hearing Officer, I'll  
22 just say on behalf of Civitas Permian Operating that  
23 we have also sent competing proposals and are  
24 attempting to work through agreements. I believe  
25 there will be a path to resolution, and we would have

1 no objection to the current calendaring.

2 MR. CHAKALIAN: Perfect. Thank you.

3 Anything further, Ms. Hardy?

4 MS. HARDY: No, thank you.

5 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay, we're off the  
6 record in these two cases. Let's call your next two  
7 cases, 25323, 25324. Entries, please?

8 MS. HARDY: Dana Hardy with Hardy  
9 McLean on behalf of 3R Operating.

10 MS. SHAHEEN: Sharon Shaheen, Spencer  
11 Fane, on behalf of Flat Creek Resources.

12 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you.

13 MS. SHAHEEN: We are not objecting, we  
14 are simply monitoring.

15 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you.

16 MS. GERHOLT: And Gabrielle Gerholt on  
17 behalf of Civitas Permian Operating.

18 MR. CHAKALIAN: And did you object?

19 MS. GERHOLT: I believe we are  
20 monitoring these. I will contact opposing counsel. I  
21 do greatly apologize, our personal changes are not  
22 other company's problems, however, I have very limited  
23 information on this.

24 MR. CHAKALIAN: I understand.

25 Ms. Hardy, who's objecting?

1 MS. HARDY: Civitas did object,  
2 actually, in these cases.

3 MR. CHAKALIAN: All right.

4 MS. GERHOLT: We continue our  
5 objections.

6 MR. CHAKALIAN: All right. Are these  
7 set for a hearing?

8 MS. HARDY: These are, like the prior  
9 cases, set for a contested hearing on August 26th.  
10 And I think we're basically in the same situation in  
11 these cases, except with respect to Civitas. So there  
12 are ongoing negotiations and cautiously optimistic  
13 that they'll be resolved, but at this point, we'd like  
14 to keep the hearing date.

15 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Perfect.

16 Do you know if, Ms. Gerholt, are there  
17 any plans to file anything that competes, or will you  
18 just come to the hearing and object?

19 MS. GERHOLT: I believe we will have a  
20 resolution before then, and I do not anticipate any  
21 competing application.

22 MR. CHAKALIAN: All right, thank you.  
23 Okay.

24 Anything further, Ms. Hardy?

25 MS. HARDY: No, thank you.

1 MR. CHAKALIAN: All right. We'll keep  
2 these on the docket. Thank you very much.

3 All right, moving on to numbers 13  
4 through -- well, I think the end of our docket, 13  
5 through 17, these are Tumbler operating cases, 25462,  
6 63, 64, 65, and 66.

7 MS. SHAHEEN: Sharon Shaheen, Spencer  
8 Fane on behalf of the applicant, Tumbler Operating.

9 MS. HARDY: Dana Hardy with Hardy  
10 McLean on behalf of Marathon Oil Permian.

11 MR. SAYER: Mr. Examiner, Matthias  
12 Sayer with Bradfute Sayer on behalf of EOG Resources.

13 MR. CHAKALIAN: Thank you. Okay. I  
14 think that's all the parties.

15 Ms. Shaheen?

16 MS. SHAHEEN: Thank you, Mr. Examiner.  
17 These applications were filed on June 11th for hearing  
18 on July 10th. Both Marathon and EOG filed objections.  
19 I understand that Marathon has sent out well proposals  
20 and that they should be momentarily filing  
21 applications. Tumbler would like to have this set for  
22 a contested hearing as soon as possible.

23 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Thank you. And  
24 you said something about filed on one day and set to  
25 hear on the day before, you said 11th and 10th?

1 MS. SHAHEEN: June 11th and July 10th.

2 MR. CHAKALIAN: There we go. Thank  
3 you.

4 Ms. Hardy?

5 MS. HARDY: Mr. Examiner, Ms. Shaheen  
6 is correct, Marathon has sent out competing proposals,  
7 and we will be filing competing applications, and  
8 those should be set on the September 11th docket,  
9 based on the filing timing.

10 And we would also request a contested  
11 hearing, and any time after our applications arrive on  
12 September 11th, is fine with Marathon. Second half of  
13 September is fine.

14 MR. CHAKALIAN: We have two dates in  
15 September to offer, that would be the 12th and the  
16 16th?

17 MS. HARDY: I think either one of those  
18 is fine with Marathon.

19 MR. CHAKALIAN: Ms. Shaheen?

20 MS. SHAHEEN: Same for Tumbler, either  
21 one.

22 MR. CHAKALIAN: Well, I think it's your  
23 applications, or your initial applications, which date  
24 do you prefer?

25 MS. SHAHEEN: I think I should just

1 double check my calendar real quick, if you don't  
2 mind?

3 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay -- while I hear  
4 from Mr. Sayer, and then we can move on.

5 Mr. Sayer?

6 MR. SAYER: Yeah, nothing to add.  
7 Those dates are workable.

8 MR. CHAKALIAN: Did you object,  
9 Mr. Sayer?

10 MR. SAYER: I believe the EOG did file  
11 competing proposals, but that's as much as I know  
12 right now.

13 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. I'm confused.  
14 When did you file them?

15 MR. SAYER: I don't have that  
16 information in front of me right now. I apologize.  
17 Information was late coming to me.

18 MR. CHAKALIAN: Ms. Shaheen, do you  
19 know, have you heard of the EOG competing  
20 applications?

21 MS. SHAHEEN: The latest that I heard  
22 is that EOG is not going to be filing competing  
23 applications, that is as of yesterday. I understand  
24 that Tumbler has been conferring with EOG, and that  
25 was their understanding, that EOG had decided, at

1     least at this time, not to file competing  
2     applications.

3                     MR. CHAKALIAN:   Thank you.

4                     Do we have another entry of appearance?

5                     MS. KESSLER:    Good morning,  
6     Mr. Examiner.   This is Jordan Kessler on behalf of  
7     EOG.   Just to briefly summarize, I think, the past  
8     couple of days, EOG will not be filing competing  
9     pooling applications in this case.   I'm unclear  
10    whether or not we objected, but at this point, we're  
11    simply monitoring.   Thank you.

12                    MR. CHAKALIAN:   Thank you.   And so you  
13    and Mr. Sayer are both representing EOG?

14                    MS. KESSLER:    Following this statement,  
15    I'll be deferring to Mr. Sayer.   Thanks.

16                    MR. CHAKALIAN:   Okay, thanks.   So  
17    Mr. Sayer, it doesn't look like you're filing  
18    competing applications?

19                    MR. SAYER:    That's good news.

20                    MR. CHAKALIAN:   Okay.   Okay, so you're  
21    not objecting.   Are you objecting still or --

22                    MR. SAYER:    No, I do not believe so.   I  
23    believe at this point we'll be monitoring.

24                    MR. CHAKALIAN:   Okay.   Very good.

25                    So Ms. Hardy, this is between you and

1 Ms. Shaheen, it looks like.

2 MS. HARDY: Looks like it. And I've  
3 conferred with Ms. Shaheen, and I think we both agree  
4 on the September 16th hearing date.

5 MR. CHAKALIAN: Perfect. And I wonder,  
6 do we have the case numbers that we need to issue the  
7 consolidated pre-hearing order? I know we have  
8 Tumbler cases in front of me. Do we have your case  
9 numbers?

10 MS. HARDY: We do not, because they  
11 will be filed shortly for the September 11th docket.

12 MR. CHAKALIAN: Oh, okay. So you're  
13 saying by August 10th or so --

14 MS. HARDY: Yes.

15 MR. CHAKALIAN: -- you're going to be  
16 filing the -- so we don't have the numbers yet?

17 MS. HARDY: Correct.

18 MR. CHAKALIAN: Okay. Will you file a  
19 motion when you do file yours so we can consolidate?

20 MS. HARDY: Yes, I will do that.

21 MR. CHAKALIAN: All right. We'll issue  
22 a pre-hearing order today, though, for September 16th.

23 Anything else, Ms. Shaheen?

24 MS. SHAHEEN: Not from Tumbler. Thank  
25 you.



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MR. CHAKALIAN: Ms. Hardy?

MS. HARDY: No, thank you.

MR. CHAKALIAN: Mr. Sayer?

MR. SAYER: No, thank you sir.

MR. CHAKALIAN: Perfect. That  
concludes our visit today. We're off the record.  
Thank you.

(Whereupon, at 9:33 a.m., the  
proceeding was concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE

I, AMSALE MAXWELL, the officer before whom the foregoing proceedings were taken, do hereby certify that any witness(es) in the foregoing proceedings, prior to testifying, were duly sworn; that the proceedings were recorded by me and thereafter reduced to typewriting by a qualified transcriptionist; that said digital audio recording of said proceedings are a true and accurate record to the best of my knowledge, skills, and ability; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this was taken; and, further, that I am not a relative or employee of any counsel or attorney employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

August 7, 2025



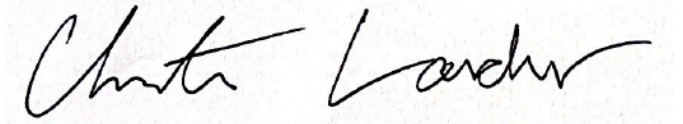
AMSALE MAXWELL  
Notary Public in and for the  
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I, CHRISTINE LAUDER, do hereby certify that this transcript was prepared from the digital audio recording of the foregoing proceeding, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skills, and ability; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this was taken; and, further, that I am not a relative or employee of any counsel or attorney employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

August 7, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine Lauder", is written over a light pink rectangular background.

CHRISTINE LAUDER

<b>&amp;</b>	<b>2025</b> 1:1,8 4:3	<b>3</b>	<b>ability</b> 42:10
<b>&amp;</b> 25:11	15:9 42:17	<b>30</b> 21:20,21,23	43:7
<b>1</b>	43:13	22:10,23 23:5	<b>able</b> 23:15 28:9
<b>1</b> 4:24 24:9	<b>21st</b> 26:16	23:9	28:18
<b>10th</b> 5:23 13:7	<b>22nd</b> 9:17 10:5	<b>35/65</b> 14:8	<b>accommodate</b>
13:8 36:18,25	<b>24</b> 1:8 4:3	<b>3r</b> 25:19 27:8,9	28:5,6
37:1 40:13	<b>24th</b> 6:1 21:25	30:13,14,17	<b>accurate</b> 42:9
<b>11th</b> 7:20 36:17	32:21,23	32:19 34:9	43:5
36:25 37:1,8	<b>25241</b> 4:24	<b>4</b>	<b>acquired</b> 15:7
37:12 40:11	<b>25241-25246</b>	<b>42,43,44,45</b>	16:11
<b>12</b> 21:6	1:3	4:25	<b>acreage</b> 5:16
<b>1220</b> 1:14	<b>25312</b> 1:3	<b>45/55</b> 14:9	8:16 13:11,13
<b>12th</b> 6:23 7:2	25:14,16	<b>46</b> 4:25	15:12 17:3,6
8:13,18 9:12	<b>25321</b> 30:13	<b>6</b>	<b>action</b> 42:12,16
10:7,10 16:17	<b>25321-25324</b>	<b>6</b> 4:24	43:8,12
17:22 22:14	1:3	<b>63</b> 36:6	<b>actual</b> 7:25 8:2
24:9,14 26:15	<b>25322</b> 30:13	<b>64</b> 36:6	8:21
28:12,22 29:12	<b>25323</b> 34:7	<b>65</b> 36:6	<b>actually</b> 5:19
37:15	<b>25324</b> 34:7	<b>66</b> 36:6	7:24 9:9 26:24
<b>13</b> 36:3,4	<b>25455</b> 1:3 25:6	<b>6973018</b> 1:22	30:1 35:2
<b>13th</b> 21:11 22:1	25:12	<b>7</b>	<b>add</b> 32:15 38:6
23:16 24:13,16	<b>25462</b> 36:5	<b>7</b> 4:20 25:6	<b>address</b> 13:20
<b>15th</b> 6:13	<b>25462-25466</b>	42:17 43:13	<b>addressed</b> 11:5
<b>16</b> 15:9	1:4	<b>8</b>	<b>advance</b> 23:9
<b>16th</b> 15:19	<b>25506</b> 33:4	<b>8</b>	<b>advantageous</b>
37:16 40:4,22	<b>25507</b> 33:4	<b>87505</b> 1:15	9:10
<b>17</b> 36:5	<b>25759</b> 42:18	<b>8:54</b> 1:9 4:3	<b>affidavit</b> 4:13
<b>17th</b> 32:6	<b>26th</b> 5:22 22:17	<b>9</b>	4:14,18 28:19
<b>1:30</b> 24:9	31:16,23 32:8	<b>9:00</b> 24:17	29:11 31:25
<b>2</b>	32:24 33:16	<b>9:33</b> 41:8	<b>afternoon</b>
<b>20</b> 20:8,19 21:8	35:9	<b>a</b>	24:11
21:15,17,22,24	<b>29</b> 27:19 28:8	<b>a.m.</b> 1:9 4:3	<b>agree</b> 7:21
22:1,19,24	<b>29013</b> 43:14	24:17 41:8	29:18 30:1,3
23:4,10	<b>29th</b> 4:10		40:3

<p><b>agreed</b> 29:23</p> <p><b>agreement</b> 7:7 12:10 26:11,13 27:1,25 28:4,5 28:10,17 29:6</p> <p><b>agreements</b> 33:24</p> <p><b>agrees</b> 32:6</p> <p><b>ahead</b> 28:3</p> <p><b>aligned</b> 18:24 19:1</p> <p><b>allow</b> 8:19,20 22:18,19</p> <p><b>allows</b> 8:4</p> <p><b>amend</b> 32:15 33:15</p> <p><b>amount</b> 18:19</p> <p><b>amsale</b> 1:21 42:2,19</p> <p><b>answer</b> 22:25</p> <p><b>anticipate</b> 35:20</p> <p><b>anyway</b> 29:16</p> <p><b>apologize</b> 34:21 38:16</p> <p><b>appear</b> 32:17</p> <p><b>appearance</b> 6:4 9:3 19:24 30:25 31:2,7 39:4</p> <p><b>appearing</b> 5:2 5:6 24:24</p> <p><b>appears</b> 7:4</p> <p><b>applicant</b> 5:2 20:23 21:3</p>	<p>22:9 36:8</p> <p><b>application</b> 12:5 21:20 22:10,23 23:3 26:24,25 35:21</p> <p><b>applications</b> 7:17,19,19 8:1 9:18,19,21 10:2,12,14 11:13,16 12:4 12:10,14,22 17:25 20:4 21:8 23:18 27:2 32:13 36:17,21 37:7 37:11,23,23 38:20,23 39:2 39:9,18</p> <p><b>appropriate</b> 9:14 11:1</p> <p><b>approximate</b> 14:7</p> <p><b>april</b> 5:23,24 6:1 32:6</p> <p><b>area</b> 14:4</p> <p><b>argument</b> 23:13</p> <p><b>arguments</b> 10:7 17:11,19</p> <p><b>arrive</b> 37:11</p> <p><b>asked</b> 16:5</p> <p><b>asking</b> 12:23</p> <p><b>assuming</b> 21:23</p> <p><b>attempting</b> 33:24</p>	<p><b>attempts</b> 11:19</p> <p><b>attendant</b> 2:14 2:15,16,17,18 2:19,21,22,23 2:24,25 3:2,3,4 3:5,6,7</p> <p><b>attendees</b> 2:2</p> <p><b>attorney</b> 42:14 43:10</p> <p><b>attorneys</b> 8:8</p> <p><b>audio</b> 42:8 43:3</p> <p><b>august</b> 4:20 5:22 6:23 7:2 8:13,18 9:12 10:6,10 16:17 17:22 21:6,10 22:1,14,17 26:15,16 28:12 28:22 29:12,21 31:15,23 32:8 32:18 33:16 35:9 40:13 42:17 43:13</p> <p><b>available</b> 7:22 24:21 25:1</p> <p><b>aware</b> 27:10</p> <p><b>b</b></p> <p><b>back</b> 5:21 9:20 16:6 18:5 20:2 23:23</p> <p><b>bad</b> 15:17</p> <p><b>based</b> 10:4 28:15 37:9</p> <p><b>basically</b> 9:23 35:10</p>	<p><b>began</b> 20:12</p> <p><b>beginning</b> 5:24</p> <p><b>behalf</b> 5:7 25:7 25:11,19 30:17 30:20,23 33:22 34:9,11,17 36:8,10,12 39:6</p> <p><b>believe</b> 5:8 14:5 14:19 25:12 26:8 33:24 34:19 35:19 38:10 39:22,23</p> <p><b>bennett</b> 5:5,6 5:11,14 8:23 9:4 10:18 11:4 12:2,25 13:4,6 13:12,22,25 14:17 15:2,5 16:20,24 17:1 17:10 19:18 20:6 21:7,10 21:14,19 22:4 22:7,16,21,25 23:21,22 24:6 24:16,20,22,24 30:19,20 32:1 32:3,5,12,19,22 33:3,7,9,13,18</p> <p><b>bennett's</b> 10:7</p> <p><b>best</b> 42:10 43:6</p> <p><b>better</b> 24:10,13</p> <p><b>bit</b> 20:21</p> <p><b>bradfute</b> 36:12</p>
--	---	--	---

[breakdown - company]

<b>breakdown</b> 14:13	33:2,3 39:9 40:6,8	18:17,23 19:3 19:7,9,15,19,23 20:7 21:12,17 22:2,5,11,15,20 23:6,20,24 24:5,7,10,12,19 24:23 25:2,9 25:15,21,25 26:4,17,21 27:3,6,13,16 28:20,23 29:4 29:10,14,18 30:2,6,9,12,24 31:3,6,10,20 32:1,4,11,17,21 33:1,5,8,11,14 33:19 34:2,5 34:12,15,18,24 35:3,6,15,22 36:1,13,23 37:2,14,19,22 38:3,8,13,18 39:3,12,16,20 39:24 40:5,12 40:15,18,21 41:1,3,5	<b>check</b> 38:1 <b>chino</b> 1:13 <b>christine</b> 43:2 43:15 <b>cimarex</b> 30:20 32:6,13,16 33:7,10,11 <b>circumstances</b> 17:18 <b>civitas</b> 30:23 33:6,22 34:17 35:1,11 <b>cleared</b> 16:15 <b>clerk</b> 2:13 <b>client</b> 11:7 12:24 18:18 20:24,25 24:1 27:12 <b>close</b> 14:10 28:4 30:4 <b>closely</b> 28:1 <b>cog</b> 26:2,19 <b>collectively</b> 19:12 <b>colorado</b> 30:21 33:10 <b>combined</b> 25:13 <b>come</b> 35:18 <b>coming</b> 38:17 <b>companies</b> 19:1 <b>company</b> 25:24 26:3 30:21 33:10
<b>bretthauer</b> 2:17	<b>cases</b> 4:23 5:6 5:15,20,21 6:15,17 7:5,11 8:20 9:1,6,13 10:12 13:13,13 15:11 19:10,12 19:21,22,24 20:14,15,16 21:4 24:2,3 25:3,20 27:8 29:1,19 30:10 30:13,14 31:2 31:8,12,14 32:16 34:6,7 35:2,9,11 36:5 40:8		
<b>briefly</b> 13:20 39:7			
<b>broker</b> 8:7			
<b>brought</b> 10:9 12:2			
<b>bruce</b> 2:9 23:1 23:2 25:22,23 25:23 28:23,24			
<b>building</b> 1:13			
<b>c</b>			
<b>c</b> 2:1 3:1 4:1 <b>calendar</b> 38:1 <b>calendaring</b> 34:1 <b>call</b> 4:22 8:7,10 8:11 10:19 14:13 16:6 25:16 30:12,15 34:6 <b>called</b> 25:12 <b>calling</b> 18:21 25:5 <b>carder</b> 2:21 <b>caroline</b> 3:3 <b>case</b> 4:17 5:3 7:15 19:6 20:11 24:14,15 24:16 25:5,13 26:5,6 27:15 27:20 28:18,19 29:8,11 30:4	<b>cautiously</b> 31:17 35:12 <b>certain</b> 18:18 <b>certainly</b> 13:22 <b>certificate</b> 42:1 43:1 <b>certify</b> 42:4 43:2 <b>chakalian</b> 1:7 2:3 4:2,6 5:4,8 5:11 8:22,24 11:3,23 12:1 12:18,23 13:2 13:8,21,23 14:15,25 15:4 16:18,21,25 17:7,13 18:14	<b>chance</b> 7:25 32:25 <b>change</b> 8:13 18:12 <b>changed</b> 23:5 <b>changes</b> 23:8 34:21 <b>chase</b> 2:18	

[company's - deal]

<b>company's</b> 34:22 <b>compete</b> 9:19 <b>competes</b> 35:17 <b>competing</b> 6:22 7:6 10:12 12:4 13:10 17:4 20:4 24:2 27:15 32:13 33:23 35:21 37:6,7 38:11 38:19,22 39:1 39:8,18 <b>completely</b> 13:15,17 <b>compliance</b> 22:8 <b>comply</b> 22:18 <b>concluded</b> 41:9 <b>concludes</b> 41:6 <b>condone</b> 7:12 <b>conducted</b> 4:15 <b>conducting</b> 4:9 <b>conference</b> 5:25 6:3,5,11 17:21 26:16 28:14 29:21 <b>conferences</b> 4:4 4:8 5:17 6:6 14:7 <b>conferred</b> 40:3 <b>conferring</b> 26:10 38:24 <b>confirm</b> 24:8	<b>confused</b> 38:13 <b>confusion</b> 5:18 <b>conocophillips</b> 26:3 <b>conservation</b> 4:4 <b>consider</b> 7:14 10:10 17:17 <b>consistent</b> 20:22 <b>consolidate</b> 40:19 <b>consolidated</b> 40:7 <b>consult</b> 27:12 <b>cont'd</b> 3:1 <b>contact</b> 18:7 34:20 <b>contested</b> 4:11 4:12 6:24 7:2,8 7:13,22 8:3 10:9,15 17:11 17:20 22:17 24:1 26:14 27:4,18 31:15 31:18,23 35:9 36:22 37:10 <b>continuances</b> 7:12 10:14 <b>continue</b> 10:23 20:19 26:15 35:4 <b>continued</b> 20:12 29:20	<b>continues</b> 12:15 <b>conversations</b> 11:19,21 <b>conversed</b> 11:20 <b>corral</b> 2:20 <b>correct</b> 5:10 18:20 19:1 26:23 27:5 29:9 37:6 40:17 <b>coterra</b> 5:7,14 5:16,18,24 6:6 6:11,21 7:8,16 7:17,24 8:5,8 9:4,18 10:24 11:13,15,19,20 12:17 13:14,18 14:1,11 15:10 15:15,16,19 16:4,5,12 17:2 17:5 18:6,7 33:8,10,11 <b>coterra's</b> 6:13 6:19 7:21 12:19,21 13:15 13:17 15:17,22 18:6 <b>counsel</b> 2:4,5,6 2:7,8,9,10,11 2:12 6:3 18:7 31:4 34:20 42:11,14 43:7 43:10	<b>couple</b> 11:4 39:8 <b>course</b> 12:17 20:8 <b>creek</b> 34:11 <b>cross</b> 17:15 <b>cure</b> 20:21 <b>current</b> 34:1 <b>currently</b> 31:15 <b>d</b> <b>d</b> 4:1 <b>dana</b> 25:17,18 30:17 34:8 36:9 <b>date</b> 7:8,22 8:14 10:21,24 21:21 22:14 31:24 32:8 35:14 37:23 40:4 <b>dated</b> 15:9 <b>dates</b> 16:6 37:14 38:7 <b>day</b> 4:15 6:4 21:12 24:15 36:24,25 <b>days</b> 20:9,19 21:8,15,20,21 21:22,23,24 22:1,10,19,23 22:24 23:4,5,9 23:11 39:8 <b>deal</b> 6:12,14 9:10 12:3,6 14:19,20 15:6
---	---	--	---

[deal - faith]

15:12 16:3,7 18:13 <b>dealing</b> 9:1 <b>deals</b> 18:10 <b>deana</b> 5:6 30:20 <b>decide</b> 9:14 <b>decided</b> 38:25 <b>deferring</b> 39:15 <b>delay</b> 7:10,23 18:11 <b>detailed</b> 18:6 <b>details</b> 26:12 <b>determination</b> 31:25 <b>develop</b> 5:16 <b>development</b> 17:4 27:21 <b>different</b> 6:17 7:8 <b>differently</b> 21:18 <b>differs</b> 14:8 <b>digital</b> 42:8 43:3 <b>disagree</b> 28:2 <b>disclosed</b> 12:16 <b>discussed</b> 19:18 <b>discussing</b> 11:22 <b>discussions</b> 16:9,14 17:2,3 17:6 27:23,24 <b>dismiss</b> 7:11,17 21:4 29:8	<b>dismissing</b> 27:2 28:17 <b>division</b> 4:4 7:12,14 8:1,2 8:20 9:13,13 9:17 10:5,10 10:13 14:14 17:10,16 21:15 21:22 23:11 32:9 <b>division's</b> 7:3 18:2 <b>docket</b> 1:3 4:5 4:9,24 6:16,23 7:20 28:12 29:2,12,15,20 32:8,18 36:2,4 37:8 40:11 <b>docketing</b> 18:3 <b>dockets</b> 4:15 <b>doing</b> 21:4 22:21 23:2 <b>double</b> 38:1 <b>drill</b> 12:9 <b>drilled</b> 9:7 <b>drive</b> 1:14 <b>duly</b> 42:5 <b>durant</b> 2:15	<b>efforts</b> 11:12 <b>either</b> 7:11 19:25 20:1 32:24 37:17,20 <b>email</b> 8:14 15:9 16:22 <b>emailed</b> 6:13 8:6 <b>emnrd</b> 2:20 <b>employed</b> 42:11,14 43:8 43:11 <b>employee</b> 42:13 43:10 <b>encompasses</b> 14:3 <b>energy</b> 4:23 5:3 25:5,8,19 30:21 33:10 <b>enter</b> 5:15 14:20 30:25 31:1,7 <b>entered</b> 5:12 6:4,12,14 9:3 19:24 26:6,8,9 <b>entire</b> 9:6 <b>entries</b> 4:25 25:6 34:7 <b>entry</b> 39:4 <b>eog</b> 25:11,13 26:7,10,20,21 27:1,11,14 29:10,23 36:12 36:18 38:10,19 38:22,24,25	39:7,8,13 <b>eog's</b> 26:25 27:21 <b>es</b> 42:4 <b>events</b> 27:11 <b>everyone's</b> 23:25 <b>exact</b> 13:11 <b>examine</b> 17:15 <b>examiner</b> 1:1,7 2:3 4:7,7,21 5:2,6 22:4 25:17,23 26:2 27:7,14 29:1 30:16,20 31:14 36:11,16 37:5 39:6 <b>except</b> 35:11 <b>excuse</b> 30:13 <b>expect</b> 28:15 <b>expected</b> 18:2 <b>expecting</b> 15:15,20 <b>expirations</b> 17:24 <b>explained</b> 6:5 <b>extensive</b> 27:21 <b>extent</b> 7:18
	<b>e</b>		<b>f</b>
	<b>e</b> 2:1,1 3:1,1 4:1 4:1 <b>earlier</b> 14:6 <b>early</b> 23:18 <b>easy</b> 21:13		<b>fact</b> 8:5 9:1 10:4 11:24 14:20 18:12 <b>facts</b> 30:4 <b>faith</b> 10:24 11:15 15:17



26:10 <b>fane</b> 34:11 36:8 <b>far</b> 14:23 23:7 <b>favorable</b> 29:25 <b>fe</b> 1:15 25:11 <b>february</b> 5:22 5:22 11:17 18:1 20:16 <b>feels</b> 16:16 <b>feldewert</b> 2:6 25:10,10 27:13 27:14,17 29:5 29:13,17,22 30:3,11 <b>field</b> 16:15 <b>figure</b> 6:19 20:20 28:10 <b>file</b> 7:19 10:2 20:5,6,7 21:7 21:20 22:9,22 23:9,22 31:3 32:13,14 33:14 35:17 38:10,14 39:1 40:18,19 <b>filed</b> 5:21 9:2 9:18,19,22 11:13,16 12:10 12:22 18:1 20:9 23:4 32:5 36:17,18,24 40:11 <b>filing</b> 12:4 36:20 37:7,9 38:22 39:8,17	40:16 <b>final</b> 26:12 31:25 <b>finalized</b> 19:16 <b>financially</b> 42:15 43:11 <b>find</b> 18:14 <b>fine</b> 25:2 29:13 37:12,13,18 <b>finish</b> 24:14 <b>first</b> 1:13 4:23 7:22 11:6 29:15 32:18 <b>five</b> 9:2 10:2 <b>flat</b> 34:11 <b>flexibility</b> 8:19 <b>floor</b> 1:13 <b>follow</b> 14:16 21:23,24 <b>following</b> 39:14 <b>foregoing</b> 42:3 42:4 43:4 <b>forth</b> 18:5 20:2 <b>forward</b> 7:1 8:18 24:2 <b>four</b> 8:7,7 15:11 <b>francis</b> 1:14 25:24 <b>frederick</b> 3:3 <b>freya</b> 2:13 23:15 32:20 <b>friday</b> 15:12 <b>front</b> 8:21 38:16 40:8	<b>fruitful</b> 27:24 <b>further</b> 10:20 24:4 30:7 34:3 35:24 42:13 43:9	40:15 <b>good</b> 4:2 5:1,5 10:23 11:15 24:23 26:1,9 26:10 30:19 39:5,19,24 <b>gordista</b> 3:7 <b>grace</b> 2:22 <b>grant</b> 10:14 <b>gray</b> 3:6 <b>greatly</b> 34:21 <b>gregory</b> 1:7 2:3 4:6 <b>ground</b> 18:9 <b>group</b> 4:23 <b>guess</b> 12:3 21:23 <b>guys</b> 15:13
		<b>g</b>	<b>h</b>
		<b>g</b> 4:1 <b>gabrielle</b> 2:8 30:22 34:16 <b>gas</b> 18:10 <b>george</b> 16:14 <b>gerholt</b> 2:8 30:22,22 31:1 31:5,9 33:19 33:21 34:16,16 34:19 35:4,16 35:19 <b>give</b> 20:8 21:22 <b>given</b> 24:25 <b>gives</b> 7:24 23:11 <b>glad</b> 28:9 <b>go</b> 4:18 7:1 9:12 10:22 14:23 24:13 28:3,11 30:5 37:2 <b>going</b> 5:11,19 6:16 7:5,18 8:15 15:6 16:2 16:13 17:5 18:11 20:3 23:14,25 24:12 28:11 29:8 31:7 38:22	<b>half</b> 27:18,19 28:8,8 37:12 <b>hall</b> 1:13 <b>hands</b> 15:23 <b>happen</b> 18:9 33:1 <b>happened</b> 10:3 11:21 <b>happening</b> 5:13 <b>happens</b> 15:24 <b>hardy</b> 2:7 25:17,18,18,18 27:6,7 30:16 30:17,17 31:12 31:14,22 32:6 34:3,4,8,8,8,25

<p>35:1,8,24,25  36:9,9,9 37:4,5  37:17 39:25  40:2,10,14,17  40:20 41:1,2  <b>hart</b> 25:11  <b>hatley</b> 2:11  26:1,2,4 28:20  28:21  <b>hear</b> 10:10 11:5  14:16 20:13  23:13 24:1  36:25 38:3  <b>heard</b> 20:2 23:8  38:19,21  <b>hearing</b> 1:7 2:3  4:7,11,16,18  5:1,23 6:24 7:2  7:8,22 8:14  9:12,16 10:5,6  10:9,13,15,16  10:20,21,22,24  11:2 16:17  17:12,16,20,22  17:23 18:1,11  20:10,12,13,19  21:21 22:4,5  22:10,14,17,23  23:1,4 24:1  26:15 27:4,18  28:3,11,13,22  29:16,19 30:5  31:15,18,23  32:10,14,15  33:15,21 35:7</p>	<p>35:9,14,18  36:17,22 37:11  40:4,7,22  <b>hearings</b> 1:1  4:12,13,14  5:17 7:13 8:3  <b>help</b> 28:12  <b>helpful</b> 7:15  28:25  <b>hereto</b> 42:15  43:11  <b>hold</b> 22:20  <b>holder</b> 13:19  <b>holds</b> 22:14  <b>holland</b> 25:11  <b>hopefully</b> 8:4  32:9</p>	<p><b>interest</b> 9:24,25  12:8 13:18  14:1,11,13,18  14:21,22 15:8  16:11 18:15,19  18:21 19:10,12  19:13 28:6,7  <b>interested</b>  42:15 43:12  <b>involved</b> 9:5,5  9:11,25 20:11  <b>ish</b> 22:1  <b>issue</b> 11:6 12:2  40:6,21  <b>issued</b> 9:17  10:5 17:18</p>	<p><b>k</b></p> <p><b>kaiser</b> 25:24  <b>kaitlyn</b> 2:4 5:2  <b>keep</b> 21:5 31:23  32:8 35:14  36:1  <b>kelton</b> 2:19  15:9 16:3  <b>keri</b> 2:11 26:2  <b>kessler</b> 2:10  39:5,6,14  <b>kick</b> 20:17  <b>kind</b> 16:9  <b>knew</b> 27:23  <b>know</b> 7:1,11  8:14 11:9,11  11:23 12:17  13:2,4,9 15:5  16:1,8 17:1  19:25,25 20:1  20:22,23 21:18  22:25 23:1,12  24:12 25:2  26:7,18,25  27:22,25 29:23  29:24 31:19  32:22 33:2  35:16 38:11,19  40:7  <b>knowledge</b>  42:10 43:6  <b>known</b> 9:4  20:24,25  <b>kristin</b> 2:25</p>
	<p><b>i</b></p> <p><b>identified</b>  32:14  <b>idly</b> 15:23  <b>implication</b>  6:18 15:14  <b>impression</b> 6:7  15:20  <b>indicated</b> 9:4  10:18  <b>information</b>  34:23 38:16,17  <b>initial</b> 37:23  <b>initially</b> 29:1  <b>intending</b>  17:22  <b>intends</b> 5:16</p>	<p><b>j</b></p> <p><b>james</b> 2:9  <b>jim</b> 25:23  <b>joa</b> 17:4  <b>job</b> 1:22  <b>john</b> 3:5  <b>joined</b> 30:15  <b>joining</b> 17:3  <b>joint</b> 32:15  <b>jordan</b> 2:10  39:6  <b>july</b> 1:8 4:3,10  6:21 13:6,8  36:18 37:1  <b>june</b> 6:12 15:9  15:19 16:2,3  19:17 36:17  37:1</p>	

<b>l</b>	<b>luck</b> 2:4 5:1,2,9 5:10 6:4 8:24 8:25 11:3,11 11:25 12:6,20 13:1,20,25 14:5,18 17:8,9 17:14 18:16,20 18:25 19:5,8 19:11,17,20 20:11 22:12,13 24:2,4,8,11,18	<b>mccoy</b> 2:18,21 <b>mclean</b> 2:7 25:18 30:17 34:9 36:10 <b>mean</b> 15:5 19:9 20:2 23:7 <b>mentioned</b> 5:17 8:6 11:4 12:25 16:3 <b>mewbourne</b> 6:8,11,15,16,21 7:5,18,18,25 8:15 9:5,11,24 11:9,20 12:3,4 12:7,11,15 14:19,20 15:6 15:16,21 16:2 16:11,13 17:2 17:6 18:6,8,19 18:22,23 19:4 19:4,5,16 <b>mewbourne's</b> 16:19 <b>mexico</b> 9:7 <b>michael</b> 2:6 25:10 <b>mid</b> 19:17 <b>mikhail</b> 3:7 <b>mind</b> 23:8 38:2 <b>minute</b> 10:19 <b>mittchell</b> 16:14 <b>moc</b> 15:12 <b>moderated</b> 1:7 <b>molly</b> 2:17	<b>moment</b> 13:23 <b>momentarily</b> 36:20 <b>monitoring</b> 27:8 34:14,20 39:11,23 <b>month</b> 4:5 7:10 7:23 8:4 10:2 16:22 <b>months</b> 9:2,21 <b>morning</b> 4:2 5:1,5 8:5,6 10:20 11:22 26:1 30:19 39:5 <b>morris</b> 2:23 <b>moss</b> 2:22 <b>motion</b> 32:15 33:15 40:19 <b>move</b> 4:20 8:18 10:14 21:3 24:2 38:4 <b>moved</b> 32:20 32:22,24 <b>moving</b> 15:18 15:25 16:9 20:25 36:3 <b>multiple</b> 11:18
<b>laci</b> 3:2 <b>landman</b> 6:13 6:13 8:15 15:22 <b>larger</b> 13:14 <b>late</b> 38:17 <b>latest</b> 38:21 <b>lauder</b> 43:2,15 <b>law</b> 2:13 <b>lean</b> 20:16 21:3 <b>leaned</b> 20:23 <b>learned</b> 6:11 <b>lease</b> 17:24 <b>letters</b> 11:14 12:19,21,24 13:10 15:15,21 16:1,19 <b>limitations</b> 24:25 <b>limited</b> 34:22 <b>list</b> 2:2 <b>little</b> 6:8 <b>long</b> 22:21 29:2 <b>longer</b> 23:2 <b>look</b> 39:17 <b>looking</b> 18:15 28:1 29:24 <b>looks</b> 29:25 40:1,2 <b>lot</b> 18:5 20:2 <b>lots</b> 11:12 <b>lower</b> 14:21 <b>lp</b> 5:3	<b>m</b> <b>made</b> 11:12,18 12:3 17:11 <b>madia</b> 2:20 <b>majority</b> 13:18 14:1 28:6 <b>make</b> 6:23 14:23 28:2 30:4 <b>makes</b> 21:13 32:8 <b>making</b> 10:7 31:16 <b>marathon</b> 36:10,18,19 37:6,12,18 <b>math</b> 21:25 <b>matter</b> 30:5 <b>matthias</b> 2:12 36:11 <b>maximum</b> 7:23 7:24 <b>maxwell</b> 1:21 42:2,19	<b>n</b> <b>n</b> 2:1 3:1 4:1 <b>name</b> 4:6 <b>necessary</b> 26:16 31:18 <b>need</b> 21:15,17 22:1,22,24	

[need - parties]

27:11 29:6 40:6 <b>needed</b> 15:7 <b>needs</b> 15:16 17:14 21:15 <b>negotiate</b> 6:20 6:20 11:7,8,12 18:18 33:17 <b>negotiated</b> 15:1 <b>negotiating</b> 6:7 26:12 31:16 <b>negotiation</b> 19:16 <b>negotiations</b> 10:23 11:15 15:17 18:9 26:18 32:7 35:12 <b>neither</b> 42:11 43:7 <b>new</b> 9:7 <b>news</b> 26:9 39:19 <b>nick</b> 2:24 <b>nm</b> 1:15 <b>nos</b> 1:3 <b>notary</b> 42:20 <b>note</b> 29:1 <b>notice</b> 20:9,13 20:21 21:9,16 21:22 22:24 23:10,12,16,19 <b>number</b> 4:24 25:6	<b>numbers</b> 18:20 33:2,4 36:3 40:6,9,16	<b>oil</b> 4:4 18:9 25:24 36:10 <b>okay</b> 12:1 13:2 13:8 16:25 17:7,13 18:17 19:7,19 20:1,7 20:8 21:15 23:6,7,20 24:5 25:3,25 26:5 27:6 29:4 31:3 31:10,20 32:4 32:11 33:1,11 33:19 34:5 35:15,23 36:13 36:23 38:3,13 39:16,20,20,24 40:12,18 <b>old</b> 20:15 <b>once</b> 9:20 20:9 29:7 31:25 <b>ongoing</b> 35:12 <b>operate</b> 17:5 <b>operating</b> 25:19 26:2 30:13,18,23 33:22 34:9,17 36:5,8 <b>operations</b> 12:15 <b>operator</b> 16:13 <b>operatorship</b> 10:8 <b>opinion</b> 7:3 9:9 22:3	<b>opposing</b> 5:19 6:9 34:20 <b>optimistic</b> 31:17 35:12 <b>option</b> 22:16 <b>options</b> 7:1 <b>order</b> 9:16 10:5 10:16 17:23 18:2 29:16 32:14,15 33:15 40:7,22 <b>orders</b> 4:16 9:14 17:17 <b>outcome</b> 42:16 43:12 <b>overlap</b> 13:10 13:15,17 27:18 <b>own</b> 7:6 15:21 <b>owned</b> 18:22 <b>owner</b> 9:25 12:8 14:2 <b>owners</b> 9:24 14:11 <b>ownership</b> 14:3 14:12,18,21
	<b>o</b>		
	<b>o</b> 4:1 <b>object</b> 22:13 34:18 35:1,18 38:8 <b>objected</b> 5:24 26:25 27:20 32:20 39:10 <b>objecting</b> 26:22 26:24 27:9 32:2 34:13,25 39:21,21 <b>objection</b> 5:12 5:13,15 6:2 22:11 26:6,8 28:21,24 32:5 34:1 <b>objections</b> 26:9 35:5 36:18 <b>obligation</b> 10:25 <b>obviously</b> 21:5 <b>ocd</b> 1:1,7 2:3,13 <b>offer</b> 11:21 37:15 <b>office</b> 23:23 25:11 <b>officer</b> 33:21 42:2 <b>oh</b> 21:12,12 25:18 40:12		
			<b>p</b>
			<b>p</b> 2:1,1 3:1,1 4:1 <b>papering</b> 26:12 <b>papers</b> 27:1 <b>part</b> 15:17 <b>parties</b> 5:9 8:3 8:4,8,21 16:8 18:12 26:8,22 27:19,22 28:4

[parties - reason]

28:16 29:5,20 31:16 33:16 36:14 42:12,14 43:8,11 <b>partners</b> 25:19 <b>party</b> 5:19 6:9 19:6 <b>party's</b> 7:4 <b>passed</b> 9:21 <b>past</b> 20:10 39:7 <b>pat</b> 3:6 <b>path</b> 33:25 <b>patrick</b> 2:14 <b>pecos</b> 1:13 <b>pena</b> 2:16 <b>pending</b> 9:2,6 29:3 32:23 <b>perfect</b> 20:13 23:24 34:2 35:15 40:5 41:5 <b>permian</b> 30:23 33:22 34:17 36:10 <b>personal</b> 34:21 <b>perspective</b> 11:6 <b>ph</b> 32:25 <b>plans</b> 17:4 35:17 <b>playing</b> 16:15 <b>please</b> 4:25 25:6 34:7 <b>point</b> 6:25 9:11 9:15,18 10:13	10:17 12:11,15 13:24 14:23 16:16 18:4 19:14 23:5 27:8 31:22 35:13 39:10,23 <b>pooling</b> 11:16 12:9 27:15 28:18 39:9 <b>portion</b> 19:13 19:21 <b>position</b> 27:12 <b>possible</b> 27:9 36:22 <b>possibly</b> 9:10 <b>potential</b> 4:11 <b>potentially</b> 12:4 16:12 <b>powell</b> 2:19 15:9,10 16:3 <b>pre</b> 4:16 9:16 10:5,16 17:23 29:16 32:14,15 33:15 40:7,22 <b>predates</b> 14:19 <b>prefer</b> 37:24 <b>premature</b> 16:16 <b>prepare</b> 23:19 <b>prepared</b> 43:3 <b>present</b> 8:20 9:12 24:14,16 29:11 31:24 <b>presented</b> 17:16	<b>presenting</b> 17:10 <b>previously</b> 9:8 18:13 <b>pride</b> 25:5,8 26:9,18 27:1,1 27:11 29:23 <b>pride's</b> 26:24 27:20 <b>principle</b> 26:11 27:25 29:6 <b>prior</b> 5:17 6:3,6 35:8 42:5 <b>problems</b> 34:22 <b>proceed</b> 10:6 10:18 12:9,13 17:22 18:1 28:18 31:13 <b>proceeding</b> 1:12 41:9 43:4 <b>proceedings</b> 42:3,5,6,9 43:6 <b>process</b> 26:12 <b>progress</b> 31:17 <b>progressing</b> 32:7 <b>promise</b> 4:14 <b>proposal</b> 7:16 11:14 12:19,21 12:24 13:10 15:15,21 16:1 16:19 <b>proposals</b> 6:17 6:17,22 7:6 8:16 10:2 15:7	15:13 33:23 36:19 37:6 38:11 <b>proposed</b> 7:9 14:4 29:24 <b>proposing</b> 13:14 <b>provide</b> 16:5 22:24 <b>public</b> 42:20 <b>pull</b> 14:13,15 <b>pulling</b> 9:14 17:17 <b>push</b> 10:20 <b>put</b> 4:17 23:12
			<b>q</b>
			<b>qualified</b> 42:7 <b>quick</b> 21:25 38:1 <b>quite</b> 9:3
			<b>r</b>
			<b>r</b> 2:1 3:1 4:1 <b>raised</b> 11:6 <b>reach</b> 7:7,9 28:10 <b>reached</b> 26:11 27:25 <b>ready</b> 10:6,18 10:22 20:5 <b>real</b> 38:1 <b>realize</b> 20:24 <b>really</b> 7:12 <b>reason</b> 17:25 22:22

[recall - set]

<b>recall</b> 5:24 <b>received</b> 12:18 12:20,24 13:3 16:18,23 <b>record</b> 25:3 29:23 30:9 34:6 41:6 42:9 43:5 <b>recorded</b> 42:6 <b>recording</b> 42:8 43:4 <b>red</b> 25:19 27:8 <b>reduce</b> 29:7 <b>reduced</b> 42:7 <b>regan</b> 3:4 <b>regardless</b> 12:10 <b>regards</b> 10:8 <b>regular</b> 4:5,18 <b>related</b> 18:25 42:11 43:7 <b>relative</b> 42:13 43:10 <b>remains</b> 12:7 <b>remember</b> 15:11 <b>remote</b> 1:12 <b>reported</b> 1:21 <b>representation</b> 28:16 <b>representing</b> 19:3,4 25:24 26:2 39:13 <b>request</b> 31:23 37:10	<b>requested</b> 5:22 <b>require</b> 4:9 22:9 23:5,9 <b>requirement</b> 21:20 <b>resolution</b> 33:25 35:20 <b>resolve</b> 8:4 <b>resolved</b> 4:17 35:13 <b>resources</b> 25:12 34:11 36:12 <b>respect</b> 12:11 19:21 35:11 <b>retain</b> 14:22 <b>review</b> 4:9 <b>reviewed</b> 14:6 <b>right</b> 5:9 6:10 12:8,23 19:10 22:15 24:11 27:16 29:17 31:11 35:3,6 35:22 36:1,3 38:12,16 40:21 <b>riley</b> 2:23 <b>river</b> 25:19 27:8 <b>road</b> 14:23 <b>rockwood</b> 4:23 5:3,21 6:7,12 6:21 7:9,10,16 7:17,25 8:6,8 8:11,13,17 9:7 9:11,19 10:6	10:17,19,22 11:1,9,12,18 12:3,7,7,13,18 12:20 13:15 14:4,11,20 16:6,12 17:18 17:24 18:5,8 18:22,24 <b>rockwood's</b> 6:13 13:16,16 14:3,21 15:21 17:15 <b>rule</b> 21:21,24 21:24 22:9,18 22:22 23:3,5 <b>rules</b> 22:8	<b>second</b> 4:5 22:20 29:20 37:12 <b>section</b> 27:19 28:8 <b>sections</b> 28:7 <b>see</b> 8:9 11:1 15:23 25:12 30:2 <b>seem</b> 16:10 28:5 <b>send</b> 6:22 10:1 15:7 <b>sending</b> 6:16 7:5 8:16 11:14 15:13 16:1 <b>sense</b> 19:1 28:3 30:4 32:8 <b>sent</b> 6:22 7:16 12:25 13:5,6 23:19 33:23 36:19 37:6 <b>separately</b> 30:15 <b>september</b> 7:20 7:23 20:18 29:15,15 37:8 37:12,13,15 40:4,11,22 <b>set</b> 5:25 10:15 10:21 17:23 22:17 26:15 31:15 35:7,9 36:21,24 37:8
		<b>s</b> 2:1 3:1 4:1 <b>saint</b> 1:14 <b>santa</b> 1:15 25:11 <b>sayer</b> 2:12 36:11,12,12 38:4,5,6,9,10 38:15 39:13,15 39:17,19,22 41:3,4 <b>saying</b> 8:15 14:25 26:17 27:4 33:6,6 40:13 <b>says</b> 22:22 <b>schedule</b> 4:15 7:10 10:15	

[setting - timeframe]

<b>setting</b> 28:13 <b>shaheen</b> 2:5 25:7,7 26:5,7 26:20,23 27:5 28:25 29:9 30:7,8 34:10 34:10,13 36:7 36:7,15,16 37:1,5,19,20,25 38:18,21 40:1 40:3,23,24 <b>shaheen's</b> 27:24 28:16 <b>sharing</b> 14:18 <b>sharon</b> 2:5 25:7 34:10 36:7 <b>shepard</b> 15:10 16:2,12 17:6 <b>shoes</b> 10:11 <b>short</b> 18:2 <b>shortly</b> 15:13 40:11 <b>show</b> 17:14 <b>signature</b> 42:18 43:14 <b>signed</b> 15:11 <b>significant</b> 31:17 <b>simple</b> 10:1 <b>simply</b> 34:14 39:11 <b>sir</b> 11:25 31:5,9 41:4 <b>sitting</b> 15:23	<b>situation</b> 10:1 15:22 16:7,9 20:10 35:10 <b>six</b> 7:24 13:13 <b>skills</b> 42:10 43:6 <b>slightly</b> 14:8 <b>solution</b> 20:17 <b>soon</b> 23:22 36:22 <b>sophisticated</b> 21:1 <b>sorry</b> 5:23 25:18 <b>sort</b> 12:5 16:15 <b>sounds</b> 14:2 23:24 <b>south</b> 1:14 <b>spacing</b> 13:14 13:16 <b>special</b> 4:9,15 21:9 23:15 <b>spencer</b> 34:10 36:7 <b>split</b> 14:10 <b>standstill</b> 16:8 <b>start</b> 5:12 <b>started</b> 11:2 <b>starting</b> 11:15 24:16 <b>starts</b> 24:9 <b>state</b> 42:21 <b>statement</b> 39:14	<b>status</b> 4:3,8 5:17,25 6:3,5,6 6:10 14:6 17:21 26:16 28:14 29:21 <b>stay</b> 33:15 <b>strecher</b> 3:2 <b>submit</b> 7:19 <b>subsidiary</b> 33:9 <b>substitution</b> 31:4 <b>summarize</b> 39:7 <b>support</b> 27:21 <b>sure</b> 11:5,8 21:1 <b>sworn</b> 42:5 <b>t</b> <b>take</b> 27:24 <b>taken</b> 42:3,12 43:9 <b>talk</b> 16:6 <b>talking</b> 17:4 <b>target</b> 15:18,25 16:10 20:25 <b>technical</b> 4:7 4:21 <b>technically</b> 22:7 <b>tell</b> 21:18 <b>ten</b> 23:11 <b>testifying</b> 42:5 <b>texas</b> 42:21 <b>thank</b> 5:4,8,14 8:22,23 14:17	24:4,6,7,18,19 25:3,9,15,16,21 25:25 26:4,21 30:6,8,11,16 31:6 33:12,13 33:18 34:2,4 34:12,15 35:22 35:25 36:2,13 36:16,23 37:2 39:3,11,12 40:24 41:2,4,7 <b>thanks</b> 39:15 39:16 <b>things</b> 10:8 11:4 16:10 21:4 28:1 <b>think</b> 6:25 8:25 17:9,20 18:4 19:17 28:11 29:16,25 30:14 35:10 36:4,14 37:17,22,25 39:7 40:3 <b>thought</b> 4:19 21:14 <b>thursday</b> 1:8 <b>time</b> 6:5,23 7:3 7:4 9:3,6,15,18 10:13,17 12:11 12:15 18:4 19:14 20:14 22:21 31:2 37:11 39:1 <b>timeframe</b> 10:3
---	--	---	--

[timing - yesterday]

<b>timing</b> 24:25 37:9 <b>today</b> 4:8 8:12 17:21 20:6,8 20:20 21:8 23:18,19 40:22 41:6 <b>today's</b> 21:25 <b>together</b> 23:12 <b>tomorrow</b> 8:12 <b>toward</b> 20:16 20:23 21:3 <b>track</b> 21:5 <b>trade</b> 16:3,7 <b>trades</b> 18:8 <b>transcriber</b> 43:1 <b>transcript</b> 43:3 43:5 <b>transcriptionist</b> 42:8 <b>tried</b> 8:7 16:6 <b>true</b> 42:9 43:5 <b>try</b> 7:7 <b>trying</b> 6:19,20 <b>tschantz</b> 2:13 23:17 <b>tuesday</b> 4:10 <b>tumbler</b> 36:5,8 36:21 37:20 38:24 40:8,24 <b>turn</b> 27:11 <b>turned</b> 4:13 <b>two</b> 6:15 7:1,5 8:8 9:20,23	12:12,14 13:13 15:10 30:10,12 30:14 31:7 34:6,6 37:14 <b>tyler</b> 2:14 <b>typewriting</b> 42:7	<b>vacated</b> 26:15 28:13 29:19 <b>vacating</b> 28:22 <b>vast</b> 28:6 <b>virtually</b> 24:25 <b>visit</b> 41:6 <b>voluntary</b> 10:23 <b>volunteer</b> 22:6	<b>william</b> 2:15 <b>willing</b> 7:21 8:11,13 10:23 <b>wilpitz</b> 2:25 <b>withdrew</b> 6:3 <b>witness</b> 42:4 <b>witnesses</b> 17:15 17:15 24:20 <b>wonder</b> 40:5 <b>word</b> 27:24 <b>work</b> 8:10 23:14 32:24 33:24 <b>workable</b> 38:7 <b>worked</b> 16:10 18:12 <b>working</b> 9:25 12:8 14:22 15:8 18:21 28:7 <b>works</b> 21:2 22:2 <b>would've</b> 15:2 <b>writes</b> 15:10 <b>writing</b> 29:7
	<b>u</b>		
	<b>uncertainty</b> 6:8 8:19 <b>unclear</b> 39:9 <b>under</b> 6:6 10:15 15:20 17:18 18:2 21:20 <b>understand</b> 8:17 10:25 19:23 21:2 29:5 34:24 36:19 38:23 <b>understanding</b> 27:20 38:25 <b>understands</b> 18:8 <b>unit</b> 12:8 13:14 14:2,2,7 15:4,8 <b>unit's</b> 14:9 <b>units</b> 12:12,14 12:16 13:16,19 14:8,12 17:25 <b>used</b> 23:3	<b>w</b> <b>waiting</b> 15:23 <b>wall</b> 10:1 11:14 12:21,24 <b>want</b> 10:19 14:22 21:18 23:25 24:8 30:24 31:13 <b>wanted</b> 11:7 31:21 <b>wants</b> 8:17 9:12 <b>waste</b> 7:3,3 <b>way</b> 8:7,9 18:18 20:18,19 32:24 <b>we've</b> 10:21 20:10 <b>week</b> 8:12 <b>weeks</b> 2:24 7:24 <b>welcome</b> 30:24 <b>wells</b> 9:7 16:3 <b>wendell</b> 1:13 <b>went</b> 10:12 <b>west</b> 27:18,19 28:8,8	<b>yarithza</b> 2:16 <b>yeah</b> 19:8 21:25 38:6 <b>yesterday</b> 7:9 8:5 38:23
	<b>v</b>		
	<b>vacate</b> 28:3 31:24 32:10		
			<b>y</b>