COSO/O

Application, Transcript, Small Exhibits, Etc.

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF:

CASE 1748

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

AUGUST 19, 1959

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IN THE MATTER OF:

CASE 1748 Application of Magnolia Petroleum Company for: an automatic custody transfer system and for : permission to produce more than 16 wells in : a common tank battery. Applicant, in the : above-styled cause, seeks an order authoriz-ing it to install an automatic custody transfer system to transfer custody of oil from : all Horseshoe-Gallup oil wells on its Navajo: "A" Lease comprising certain acreage in Town-ship 31 North, Range 17 West, San Juan County: New Mexico.

BEFORE:

Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

MR. NUTTER: Take Case 1748.

MR. PAYNE: Case 1748. Application of Magnolia Petroleum Company for an automatic custody transfer system and for permission to produce more than 16 wells in a common tank battery.

MR. ERREBO: If the Commission please, Burns Errebo, Modrall, Seymour, Sperling, Roehl & Harris, Albuquerque, appearing on behalf of Magnolia Petroleum Company. We will have one witness, and we desire that he be sworn at this time.

(Witness sworn)

JOSEPH C. GORDON, JR.,

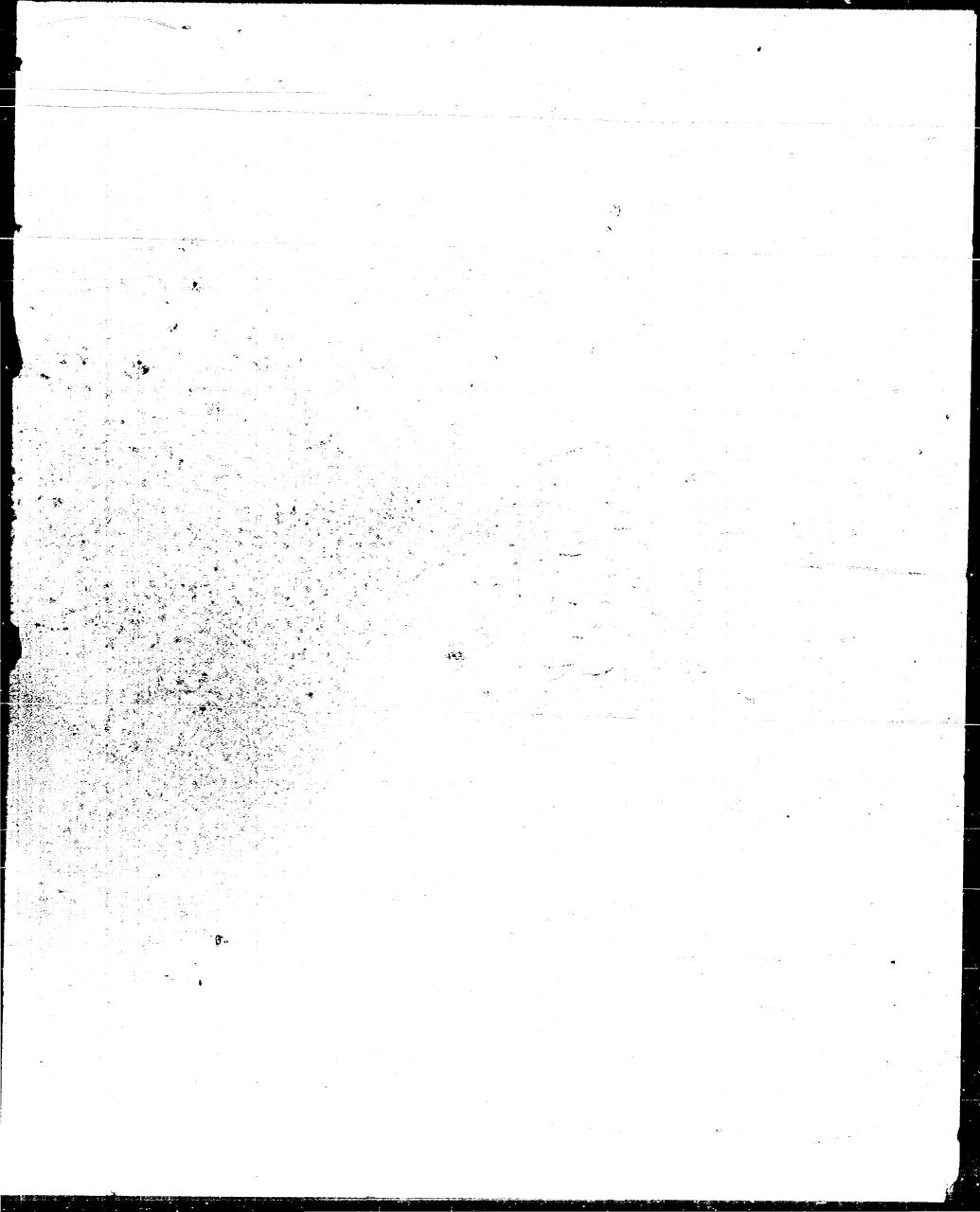
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called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. ERREBO:

- Q Will you state your name, by whom you are employed and your occupation, please?
- A Joseph C. Gordon, Jr., petroleum engineer for Magnolia Petroleum Company.
 - Q Where are you located, Mr. Gordon?
 - A In Hobbs, New Mexico.
 - Q Have you ever testified before this Commission?
 - A No, sir.
- Q Will you give them a brief outline of your qualifications insofar as your education and experience are concerned?
- A I have received a Bachelor of Engineering -- Mechanical Engineering -- from Vanderbilt University, and Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Oklahoma. I have been employed for eight years with Magnolia Fetroleum Company; five years as a field production engineer in the Gulf Coast and West Texas areas; two years on Marine Equipment in the offshore Gulf of Mexico; and one year on production equipment in New Mexico.
- Q Mr. Gordon, will you briefly explain to the Examiner what Magnolia seeks to accomplish by this application?
 - A Magnolia would like to establish one central tank



battery for all wells on its Navajo "A" Lease and install lease automatic custody transfer installation for delivery of the crude to the pipe line.

Q You expect that more than 16 wells will be produced into this common tank battery if this application is granted?

A Yes, sir. At the present time there are 18 wells completed on the Lease, and eventual development is now estimated to total 26 wells.

(Thereupon, Magnolia's Exhibit No. 1 was marked for identification.)

Q Now, will you please refer to the Exhibit which has been marked Exhibit No. 1, and explain to the Commission what it shows?

A Exhibit No. 1 shows Magnolia's Navajo "A" Lease, comprising the Sections 13 and 14, the NE/4 of Section 23, and the N/2 of Section 24 in Township 31 North, Range 17 West, San Juan County, New Mexico; approximately 1760 acres in all.

- Q This is a Navajo Lease, isn't it?
- A This is Navajo "A" Lease.
- Q And it has, therefore, the royalties common throughout, is that correct?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q Now, I notice that you have some colors indicated on there, outlining certain areas, and also colors indicating certain points. Will you explain to the Commission what all of that indi-

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A As shown by our legend, our small green circles with a letter inside denote test stations which are "A," "B," "C," and "D" in ascending order, going from south to the northwest.

The central battery denoted by a circle with red coloring is located in the southeast portion of the Lease. The connecting line or gathering system is also shown by small dashed -- large dashed lines connecting these test stations. The areas denoted by the different colors, the blue, the orange, green and an olive denote the areas served by these test stations. It is expected that upon completion of the wells on the Lease the wells in these roughly outlined areas will produce to the test stations and then production will be transmitted on to the central tank battery.

- Q Actually, these wells are all completed in the Horse-shoe-Gallup Oil Pool, is that correct?
 - A Yes, sir, all wells are in the Horseshoe-Gallup Pool.
 - Q And are they all completed and producing on the pump?
 - A Yes, sir.
 - Q And approximately what is the depth?
- A The wells vary in depth, producing depth from approximately 1000 to 1600 feet, the difference arising mainly from surface elevation.
- Q Now, then, in your gathering system, in particular, with regard to that part located nearest the well, what features or equipment have you installed for flow line protection?

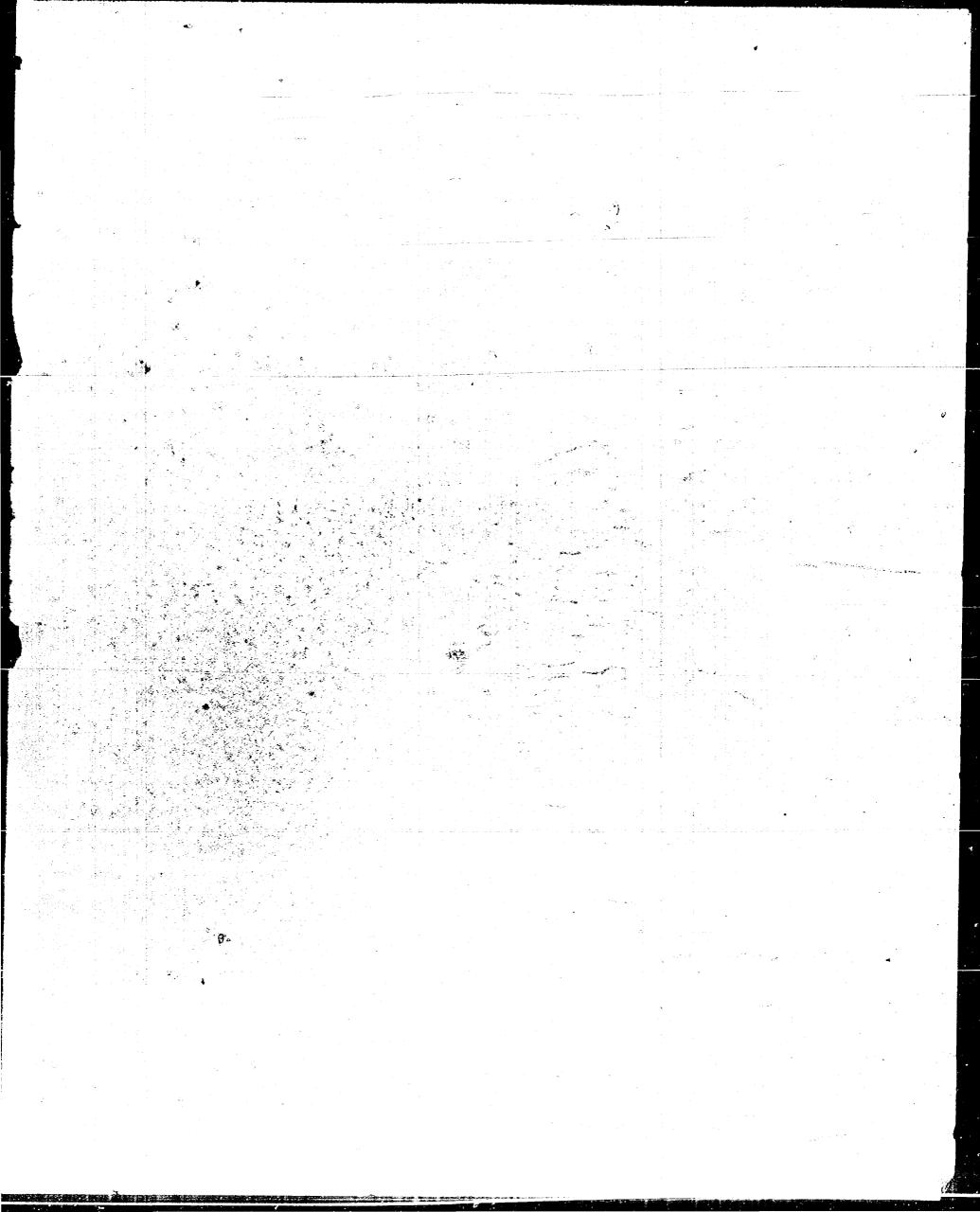
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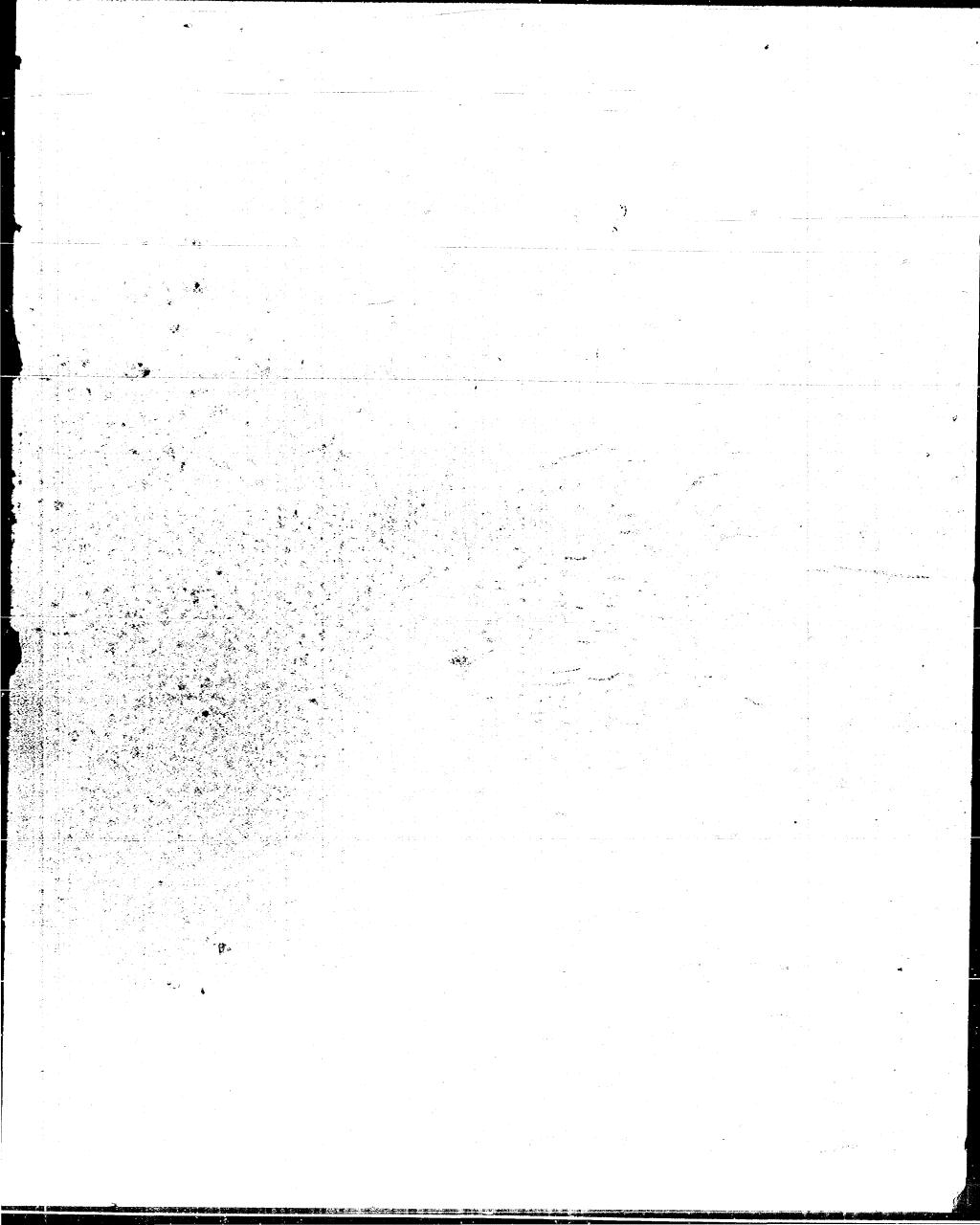
A I would like to refer on now, to Exhibit No. 2, the large double sheet there, as a schematic diagram of the well production from the well through the LACT unit and its delivery to the pipe line. We have used here a color code where the well fluid denoting oil, water and gas as it comes from the well bore is shown by brown, the oil alone by green, the gas is yellow, and any water as blue. Starting on the left-hand side from the well, near the wellhead is to be installed a high-low pressure shut-in control to shut down the power supply to the well in the event of either high or low pressure occurring in the flow line. This is to protect us in case of a flow line stoppage or flow line leak.

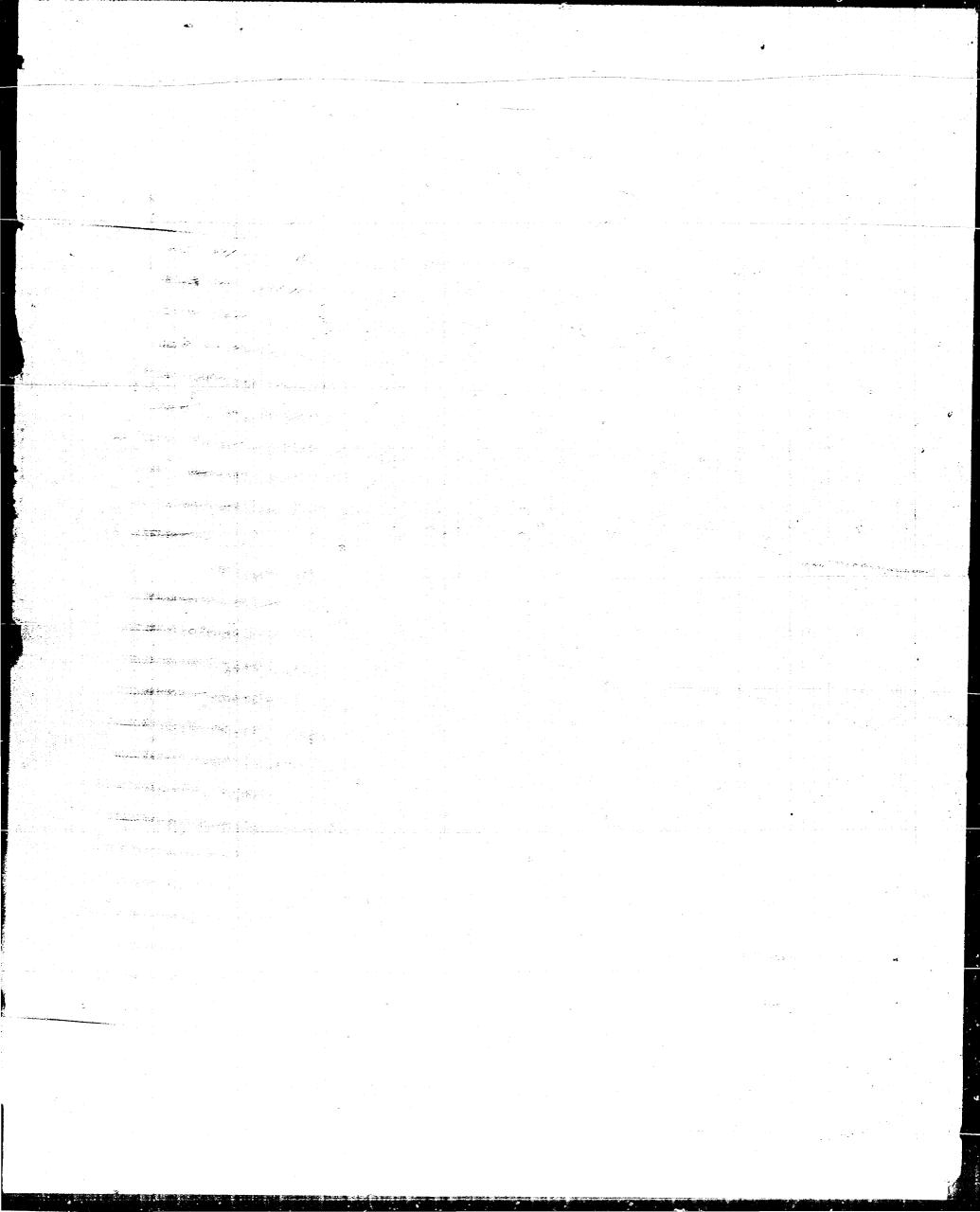
Q By that, I take it that you will expect that these wells within a short period of time will be operated by electric motors, is that correct?

A Yes, sir. At the present time our motive power is by internal combustion engines, but we are starting the installation of electric power to the whole Lease. Now, as we come on from the individual flow lines, the individual flow lines are grouped, as shown on Exhibit No. 1, in test stations through header manifold which are capable of dividing the wells to either test or production. The testing well production goes through a line heater which is to be installed for our severe wintertime conditions, and then into a three-phase metering test separator. This metering

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test separator will meter the oil and water to dump type meters which are integral with the separator. At the present time, since there is no water production from this reservoir, our water switch or water controls are marked off, but they aren't installed, and the positions are there for them so that we can install controls later. The production of the gas and oil through the test separator will be brought back together, and all test production will be measured again with production from the other wells producing to this test station, and it will flow from there on to the central battery.

Now, the test station shown on Exhibit 2 is the facilities which are available at test station "A," "B," "C" and "D", as shown on Exhibit No. 1. The other four lines coming into the central facilities battery there is the gathering system from our other test station. At test stations "C" and "D" on the northern half of the Lease, because of terrain conditions, we have installed small surge tanks, 210-barrel surge tanks, and are pumping into the gathering system from those surge tanks by means of small pumps and gas engines. This motive power will be changed over to electric motors when we have electricity available at those points. The lease gathering system starts test station "D" and comes through the lease picking up production from the other test stations and brings it all to the central battery. Now, at the central battery our facilities shown on Exhibit No. 2 are principally a heater treater, surge tanks and LACT unit. The



treater takes all production from the lease and transmits oil to the surge tanks through the fill line. All gas from the heater treater which is broken out by heat treatment is discharged through the gas outlet which also has a connection. You'll note above the heater treater Item No. 9 which is a pressure regulator to supply a constant pressure to the vent or vapor space of the surge tanks. Item No. 8, just above that, is a pop-off valve to maintain pressure on the gas section of the heater treater. The oil coming through the fill line to these two surge tanks will customarily enter the first surge tank. There will be a diverting valve installed; that is Item No. 18, on the first surge tank, for switchcontain float switches for operation of the LACT unit. ing to the reserve tank.

MR. NUTTER: Excuse me just a minute. This green line

running from the diverting valve

-- over toward the surge tank is a con-Yes, sir. MR. NUTTER:

tinuous line?

Yes, sir. We've omitted it there for clarity. MR. NUTTER: But those two sections are actually con-

The lowest float switch in the control booth, I tem No. 13 is to shut down the pipeline pump contained in nected? The upper switch -- float switch, Item No. 12, is a start switch for the pipeline pump, and normal operations will the LACT unit.

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be between switch 12 and switch 13. The float switch No. 11, shown there as the uppermost switch, would be installed at such a level as to actuate if the surge tank level reached that height, actuate the diverting valve No. 18 to send production into the reserve tank noted here. This is a temporary measure for right now in case of some possible shutdown or reason for inability to deliver oil through the HACT unit, in which case our surge tank, or first surge tank, would start to overflow. It would indicate by the high level switch No. 11 and the diverting valve would then send oil to the reserve tank, which would normally be left empty or almost empty, and this second tank, reserve surge tank, would give us an adequate overnight reserve for -- so that we would have no waste or spillage of oil due to inability to deliver to the pipeline. In the morning the opeating personnel would be able to take further corrective measures as needed. tanks are to be interconnected and would be separated here for the time being by manually controlled valves so that we would not be trying to pump out of this reserve surge tank unless we had placed oil in them. When we do have complete electric supply available to the entire lease, the float switch No. 11 would then become a lease shutdown switch, and at that time we would be able to stop the flow of oil through the entire central battery, if we were unable to deliver to the pipeline. Also at that time just ahead of the heater treater on the incoming crude line, Item No. 6 is a shut-in valve which would be actuated in conjunction with the

lease shutdown switch to prevent gravity drainage of our field gathering system flooding the heater treater in the case of the -in the event of lease shutdown. The coming out of the surge tank, this is a schematic diagram here, and it does not show clearly that the LACT unit will be drawing oil only from our principal surge tank, but that is where its principal source of supply would be, coming off of --at a line going to the LACT unit. Item No. 15 is a BS & W. Item No. 14, a constant circulating pump will provide a constant check upon the quality of the oil capable of being delivered to the pipeline. This BS & W monitor will actuate to lock out the LACT unit and prevent pipeline deliveries and start up our recirculating unit, in case we exceed our limit on BS & W content. There will also be a slight delay built in to the BS & W monitor to allow for the small occasional overpercentages which are of very short duration, but we don't want to shut down operation of the LACT or the entire lease for a momentary surge. That would be a three-minute delay which I believe is rather common.

The recirculating pump No. 10, which is noted below the surge tank and treater takes from drain lines in both surge tanks which are coned bottom tanks, and is to be an automatic recirculating pump upon a daily cycle basis, approximately one to two hours to continually draw off bottoms and subject them to further heat treatment and prevent the accumulation. The BS & W monitor will then be serving merely as a final check upon the delivery

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of the oil, and in the event that we do come up with that oil, the recirculating pump would then recirculate until the situation was corrected. Then, when the BW & W monitor showed that the oil was of correct gravity, correct BS & W content, the LACT unit could then get -- resume deliveries to the pipeline.

rating. Our maximum production estimated to the 26 wells would be approximately 1600 barrels per day, and we have oversized the LACT unit requirements here as a fifty percent overrate. The LACT unit would be provided with a PD meter, positive displacement meter, positive pressure pump, deaerator strainer, positive displacement meter with temperature compensation, a proportional sampler for monthly checks upon the BS & W gravity of the oil delivered, a back pressure valve to help maintain accuracy of reading through the positive displacement meter, a set stop valve to shut in delivery to the pipeline upon running of the total monthly allowable, and prover connections for proving of the positive displacement meter as required.

I believe that covers everything that we have shown.

Q Mr. Gordon, now, in your design of these facilities that you have just described and reviewed for the Commission, has the Magnolia Petroleum Company used equipment insofar as component parts are concerned which is generally accepted and used by the industry for purposes of this type?

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A Yes, sir, I think we've followed a rather common procedure. It may differ in slight details, but it certainly is representative of similar installations throughout the country.

Q Insofar as this equipment is concerned, how does it compare with any installations which might be presently existing on offset leases?

A Well, referring again to Exhibit No. 1, we have denoted the names of offset operators. Humble, on leases immediately to the north of our lease, in Section 14, is -- has received permission to install equipment of this general nature. And a company to the east of us is also --

Q And that is pursuant to hearing and notice of this Commission permitting that installation, is that correct?

A Yes, sir.

Q Now, with regard to your electric supply situation, would you develop that a little further here for the benefit of the Examiner?

A At the present time electricity is not available for us. We are expecting to construct our own power line system and hook into a present established system which is now on the Atlantic Lease. We estimate now that approximately two months would be required for complete installation of electric supply to the Lease, but we can have almost immediate supply of electricity to our central battery location, which is immediately next to the power line now on the Atlantic Lease.

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- How far, actually, is it down from the central battery location to the prover line connections?
 - A It is approximately 1500 feet.
- Q Now, by that, do I understand you to say that it might be a while, a month or so, before power will be available to operate the wells?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q Now, then, I understand that in your design of the flow lines from these wells that you provide for automatic cut-off in case of a failure in the central tank battery facilities, is that correct, or shutdown of the wells?
- A Yes, sir, that would be back to the electric supply company and shutdown.
 - Q They will be manually operated for this period?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q Can you see any danger that the failure to have these wells electrified will in any way affect the safety and the proper operating of the central tank battery facilities?
 - A No, sir.
- Q Actually, you have sufficient tankage there, do you not, to carry you over at least more than one day's production?
- A Yes, sir. At the present time we can handle approximately a day and a half's worth of production.
- Q And how often does a pumper or a switcher or other supervisory personnel employed by Magnolia or the pipeline company,

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appear there and is present on the lease?

A At the present time and in the future we will have daily attendance of lease personnel on the lease. The pipeline at present is in daily attendance, and in the future we expect to not see them quite as often.

Q Actually, that's one of the advantages, is it not, of this system, in that it requires less supervision than a standard type of tank battery in lease transfer facilities?

A Yes, sir. We expect to hold our personnel requirements to one man, and not require any additional labor.

(Thereupon, Magnolia's Exhibit No. 3 was marked for identification.)

Now, using your next Exhibit, which I believe has been marked on as copies furnished to the Commission, as No. 3, using that, will you describe some of the advantages of this installation?

A Exhibit No. 3 is a rather abbreviated topographical layout. It's almost identical to Exhibit No. 1, but showing the terrain features. Starting in the upper left-hand corner, we have a very low area. Moving back to the southeast, we run into tablelike or mesa formations which are shown here. We've lettered them cut as high, high and low, being relative terms. In actual footage, there is probably approximately 500 feet of elevation difference between those two areas. There is also a medium area in and around test station C which is approximately in between

this high and low in regard to elevation differences. Then, coming on down to the southeast corner of the lease, we have a canyon or wash or gully through there which gives us another low spot on the lease at our central battery location, so that we have more or less gravity drainage into our central battery location. This terrain, in addition to furnishing quite outstanding elevation differences, also furnishes transportation difficulties in asking our personnel to completely travel all around the lease and perform various jobs at different spots. The travel time now from the central battery out to the test station D is approximately one hour by road, and this would tend to his attendance being required out there for tank gauging duties and such would represent an added cost and might require the attendance of more than our established minimum of one man operation.

- Q Do you expect, then, that if the Commission grants your application that reduced maintenance costs and operation costs will result?
 - A Yes, sir, very definitely.
- Q Would you review any other advantages which may accrue
- A Aside from the terrain features just now mentioned, the establishment of central battery in itself permits us to reduce our investment, it reduces our maintenance costs just because we have less equipment to maintain. In bringing all of our oil to a central point, it will enable us to obtain savings

DEARNLEY - MEIER & ASSOCIATES GENERAL LAW REPORTERS ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO Phone CHope! 3-6691 in treating costs, we will reduce our weather loss and gravity loss due to our vapor control system installed, and by use of LACT and constant throughput of crude to the pipeline, we expect to obtain very substantial savings and permit more production of oil from the lease.

Q What will this do to the expected producing life of the lease?

A Well, in reducing costs, the operating and investment cost to Magnolia of this lease, it will permit us to extend our economic limit on production from the lease and thereby produce more oil.

Q In other words, then, you will produce oil that would not otherwise be produced under the standard type of installation?

A Yes, sir.

Q And it is your opinion, therefore, that waste will be prevented?

A Yes, sir, it would.

Q Now, with regard to the testing facility. I understand you to say that those are automatic, is that correct?

A At the present time they are not. With the establishment of electric supply throughout, we plan the installation of automation testing throughout the entire lease, which will permit us to go on to even more wells added to the field personnel load.

Q Will that provide, that test result in an automatic means which does not require manual gathering --

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- A Yes, sir.
- Q -- of data and reproduction?

A It will present the test results to the field personnel in printed form.

Q Actually, I assume that the advantages of this automatic testing procedure are obvious, and you don't care to go into them further at this time?

A No, I believe they are more of a personal nature to the operator.

- Q In other words, they provide him with information that will enable him to better operate the reservoir, is that correct?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q Now, actually, do you know whether or not lease automatic custody transfer is widely accepted in New Mexico as well as other states?

Corners areas, the LACT unit and in some cases automatic facilities are generally accepted procedure. In this particular case the pipeline, which receives the oil, has quite a few installations where they receive oil through LACT units of a similar nature, and they themselves are selling oil through LACT -- in the LACT unit by positive displacement meters.

Q Have you prepared an Exhibit showing comparative installation costs, of the conventional system as compared to the system which you propose here today?

Yes, sir, that is Exhibit No. 1. Comparative cost estimates of conventional facility compared to centralized faci-These are the figures -- estimated figures -- drawn up for the subject lease, and show a breakdown of the cost of different items as between -- compared between conventional type facility and centralized type facility. By conventional, I mean Magnolia's conventional where you have a grouping of wells producing into a tank battery, and in this case our tank batteries would have been set up at our test station locations. We have substituted test stations for conventional type tank batteries. On this particular lease the flow lines, of course, represent the same amount of investment. The tank batteries present an outstanding difference there. The conventional tank batteries, \$60,000, while with centralized tank batteries, we have only exestimated to have cost pended \$22,000. For tank battery facilities, on testing facilities, under the conventional method, we estimated we would have spent \$6,000, while under the proposed installation, as shown here we would spend approximately \$12,000 on testing facilities. gathering system in either case required would be approximately This is a unique situation in that in this area the pipeline cost is borne by the operator under agreement, and whether we install four tank batteries in the pipeline or whether we install one tank battery, and have one gathering system, the total cost is borne by us. As shown here, the cost of only these items, these are not complete items required for lease development, of

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course, but have been gathered here to show the comparison of the same and different type items, the cost for conventional type installation would be \$157,000, while with central battery facilities, an expenditure of only \$125,000 will be required. The saving here, based strictly on the savings in tank battery and the differential of test facility investment required, is \$32,000.

Q Pending action by the Commission upon this application has Magnolia asked for and obtained temporary permission to operate its leases as they now exist?

A Yes, sir, we have received temporary exception to Rule 309 by letter from the representative of the Oil Conservation Commission in Aztec; letter dated July 31, 1959. A copy of that letter has been sent to the Oil Conservation Commission.

MR. PAYNE: Do you have a copy of that with you? We have a Thermo-Fax copy.

MR. ERREBO: We would like to introduce that, if the Commission desires.

QUESTIONS BY MR. NUTTER:

Q Does this also include permission to operate more than 16 wells into these facilities?

MR. ERREBO: No, it does not Mr. Examiner. I think that the permission here granted relates primarily to the operation of 2 wells which are located -- well, perhaps the witness ought to explain that situation. He is more familiar with it.

A I believe here, sir, we are more concerned with the installation as soon as possible of LACT facilities which can be

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done. And we asked for and received this exception in order to permit us to get ahead with the work as fast as we can. At the present time we do not have specific equipment names. We have our specifications, and they are being set out, and we look forward to ordering of the equipment within the very near future and its immediate installation.

Q Well, actually, does not this permission also relate to the producing and selling of oil from two wells which are not connected into the system?

A No, sir, I do not believe that is so. This Rule 309-A specifically relates to the production of more than 16 wells into a battery, and says that you shall adequately measure and store production.

MR. NUTTER: In tanks?

A Beg pardon?

MR. NUTTER: In tanks?

A In tanks, yes, sir.

MR. PAYME: It also provides that only the Secretary-Director can grant exception to 309-A and not a District Engineer.

MR. ERREBO: Do you have anything further?

A We believe that by the use of the metering test separators, install a test station, we will be able to provide adequate testing facilities for testing the lease, we will be able to test these wells at least three times a month minimum. Under our expected operating conditions, we believe that we provided

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for adequate reserve storage on the lease, and that we have adequate flow line protection and will have adequate lease shutdown shutdown protection to prevent any waste.

The positive displacement type meter has received widespread and very general acceptance throughout this area and other
areas of the country for use as a meter for pipeline sales, and we
also believe that through our reduced investment and operating
costs we will obtain greater recovery of oil from the lease.

Q Mr. Gordon, were Exhibits 1 through 4 prepared by you or under your supervision?

A Yes, sir.

MR. ERREBO: We would like to offer them in evidence at this time.

MR. NUTTER: Magnolia's Exhibits 1 through 4 will be admitted.

(Thereupon, Magnolia's Exhibits Nos. 1 through h were received in evidence)

MR. ERREBO: That's all we have, Mr. Nutter.

MR. NUTTER: Anyone have any questions of Mr. Gordon?

MR. PAYNE: Just one question.

Q (By Mr. Payne) Mr. Gordon, do you feel that positive displacement meters are accurate?

A Yes, sir.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. NUTTER:

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- Q Mr. Gordon, I'm having a little bit of difficulty following this schematic on Exhibit No. 2. Now, the oil initially goes into the first surge tank, correct?
 - A Yes, sir.
 - Q And when that tank reaches level No. 18, --
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q -- it actuates the diverting valve flowing the oil automatically into the second surge tank?
 - A Yes, sir.
 - Q And the second surge tank is normally empty, however?
 - A Yes, sir.
 - Q What is the capacity of the second surge tank?
 - A Both of these tanks are 1,000 barrels.
- Q Now, for normal operating procedure, the first surge tank fluctuates between empty and full, is that correct?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q So in the event of a breakdown here of the LACT system and a failure of the oil to be transferred to the pipeline you have 1,000 barrels stockage available?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q Now, when this 1,000 barrels of storage is filled up does that actuate this valve 6, just upstreet from the treater?
- A Sir, under our interim operation, without electric supply to all of our pumping units located at the well, we have to depend on manual operation for shutdown when personnel find oil in the reserve tank, which will be determined every day.

He would then have to find out his cause of trouble and take steps to shut down his wells, if he can't correct his pipeline or the LACT trouble. Now, when we have electric supply available so that we have electric power at the wells, at that time we can use our high level float switch in the control booth as a shutdown switch to stop the operation of all electric motors and close in that value immediately ahead of the heater treater, that value No. 6.

- Q In other words, that would be this float switch No. 11 -
- A Yes, sir.
- Q -- will close No. 6 as well as activate these highlow pressure well. shut-in valves?

A No, sir, we are not depending on the high-low pressure for operation. We would be pulling the main switch on the lease to stop operation of all electric motors on the lease.

Q In other words, that would cut off the main supply line to the whole lease?

Yes, sir. It would not prevent operation of the central battery facilities which can be separated from the remainder of the lease here on electric supply, but we could interrupt the power supply to the remainder of the lease.

Q Now, what does one of these high-low pressure well shut-in controls cost, for one of these wells?

A They range in price, sir, depending on the various case, type of construction and all, but the average price for these is approximately \$70.00.

Q And how does that price compare with the high pressure shut-off only? I mean by adding the low pressure shut-off feature to the switch, how much change in cost is that?

A None. In the ones that I have looked at closely, there was no difference. It is furnished as a standard high-low pressure switch.

- Q What particular make do you propose to use there?
- A It would be a Mercoid or a Murphy. No certain set specifications have been drawn up on that yet.
- Q Have Humble and the Atlantic Refining Company installed their facilities already on their leases?
- A I don't know their status as to installation. They have received permission from the Oil Conservation Commission.
- Q I thought maybe you were acquainted with them and had observed them and knew if they were functioning all right.
- A No, sir. I could tell you tomorrow, but I can't tell you today. I'm going on up there.
- Q Your LACT system here on No. 15, the monitor, and the monitor supply pump No. 14 --
 - A Yes, sir.
 - Q -- are in constant operation, is that correct?
 - A They are in constant operation.
- Q However, the recirculating pump No. 10 is not tied in with the monitor or the monitor supply pump in any way, is it?
 - A Not on the hydraulic system.

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- Q On this system which has your monitor and your monitor supply pump does is take a reading on this oil?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q But it doesn't cause the tank bottom to be recirculated if it runs into bad oil, does it?
- A Yes, sir. If the BS & W monitor indicates that your percentage cut exceeds your required limit, then your recirculation pump will go into operation.
 - Q Your No. 10 pump here will?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q I understood you to say that No. 10 would just be operated on a time clock basis and would operate every day?
 - A Both methods.
 - Q It will also be tied into the BS & W monitor?
- A Yes, sir. We hope to eliminate operation of it from the BS & W monitor by doing the daily recirculation.
- Q And then what type of a meter will you use out here in the LACT system?
 - A Positive displacement meter.
 - Q What make will that be?
- A I couldn't say right now, sir. We have not specified as to the make of the meter.
- Q You don't share the pessimism of the previous witness today on these PD meters?
 - A No, sir. I believe that both of them are accurate.

madr. 12/ M 6:32

DEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MAGNOLIA PETROLEUM COMPANY FOR EXCEPTION TO STATEWIDE RULE 309 TO PERMIT PRODUCTION OF MORE THAN SIXTEEN OIL WELLS INTO A COMMON TANK BATTERY AND TO ALLOW LEASE AUTOMATIC CUSTODY TRANSFER OF PRODUCTION FROM TTS NAVAJO "A" LEASE, HORSESHOE-GALLUP OIL POOL, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

APPLICATION

Comes now Magnolia Petroleum Company and respectfully alleges and states as follows:

(1) That it is the owner and operator of an oil and gas lease known as its Navajo "A" lease in the Horseshoe-Gallup oil pool, San Juan County, New Mexico, comprising the following described acreage:

Township 31 North, Range 17 West, N.M.P.M.

Section 13: All

Section 14: All

Section 23:

Section 24:

NET) docent motole explubite!

- (2) That Applicant anticipates that in its development of said lease, more than sixteen oil wells will be drilled thereon, but that all of said wells can be efficiently produced into a common tank battery.
- (3) That Applicant proposes to install a lease automatic custody transfer system for the production from Horseshoe-Gallup oil pool wells on said lease which will result in the efficient handling of oil and gas produced therefrom.

WHEREFORE Applicant prays that this matter be set for hearing, that notice be given as required by law, and that upon the evidence adduced at said hearing, Applicant be granted the relief sought and such other relief as may be indicated therein.

MAGNOLIA PETROLEUM COMPANY

BY MODRALL, SEYMOUR, SPERLING, ROEHL & HARRIS

By Burns H. Errebo 1200 Simms Building Albuquerque, New Mexico MR. NUTTER: That's all.

Any further questions?

MR. ERREBO: That's all we have.

MR. NUTTER: Does anyone have anything further they wish to offer in Case 1748? The witness may be excused.

(Witness excused)

MR. MUTTER: Take the case under advisement.

DEARNLEY - MEIER & ASSOCIATES
GENERAL LAW REPORTERS
ALBUQUERQUE. NEW MEXICO
Phone CHopel 3-6691

STATE OF NEW MEXICO) COUNTY OF BERNALILLO) ss

I, J. A. Trujillo, Notary Public in and for the county of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Proceedings before the New Mexico Cil Conservation Commission was reported by me in Stenotype and reduced to typewritten transcript by me, and that the same is ability.

WITNESS my Hand and Seal this, the Ch day of Letters, 1959, in the City of Albuquerque, County of Bernalillo, State of

Jampe a Junier NOTARY PBULTO

My Commission Expires:

October 5, 1960

1959 JUL 21/ MI 9: 32
BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MACNOLIA FETROLEUM COMPANY FOR EXCEPTION TO STATEWIDE RULE 309
TO PERMIT PRODUCTION OF MORE THAN SIXTEM OIL WELLS INTO A COMMON TANK EATTERY AND TO ALLOW LEASE AUTOMATIC CUSTODY TRANSFER OF PRODUCTION FROM ITS NAVAJO "A" LEASE, HORSESHOE-GALLUP OIL POOL, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

CASE NO. ////8

APPLICATION

Comes now Magnolia Petroleum Company and respectfully alleges

(1) That it is the owner and operator of an oil and gas lease known as its Mavajo "A" lease in the Horseshoe-Gallup oil pool, San Juan County, New Mexico, comprising the following described acreage;

Township 31 Worth, Range 17 West, N.M.P.M.

Section 13: All

Section 23: NEL

Section 24: NE

- (2) That Applicant anticipates that in its development of said lease, more than sixteen oil wells will be drilled into a common tank battery.
- (3) That Applicant proposes to install a lease automatic custody transfer system for the production from Horseshoe-Gallup oil pool wells on said lease which will result in the efficient handling of oil and gas produced therefrom.

WHEREFORE Applicant prays that this matter be set for hearing, that notice be given as required by law, and that upon the evidence adduced at said hearing, Applicant be granted the relief sought and such other relief as may be indicated therein.

MAGNOLIA PETROLEUM COMPANY

BY MODRALL, SEYMOUR, SPERLING, ROEHL & HARRIS

By Burns H. Errebo 1200 Simms Building

Albuquerque, New Mexico

DEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 1748 Order No. R-1480-A

APPLICATION OF MAGNOLIA PETROLEUM COMPANY FOR AN AUTOMATIC CUSTODY TRANSFER SYSTEM AND FOR PERMISSION TO PRODUCE MORE THAN 16 WELLS IN A COMMON TANK BATTERY IN THE HORSE-SHOE-GALLUP OIL POOL, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

NUNC PRO TUNC

BY THE COMMISSION:

It appearing to the Commission that Order No. R-1480, dated September 14, 1959, does not correctly state the intended order of the Commission,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the description of the Navajo "A" Lease appearing in finding No. 2 and in Paragraph 1 of the Order portion be and the same is hereby changed to read as follows:

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 17 WEST, NAMPAI Section 13: All Section 14: All Section 23: NE/4 Section 24: N/2

2. That the corrections set forth in this order be and the same are hereby entered nunc pro tunc as of September 14, 1959.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

JOHN BURROUGHS, Chairman

MURRAY E. MORGAN, Member

A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary

ler

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION P. O. BOX 871 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

September 29, 1959

Mr. Burns Errebo P. O. Box 466 Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Errebo:

On behalf of your client, Magnolia Petroleum Company, we enclose two copies of Order No. R-1480-A issued in Case No. 1748.

Very truly yours,

A. L. PORTER, Jr. Secretary-Director

ir/

Enclosures

Capies to Agles

MODRALL, SEYMOUR, SPERLING, ROEHL & HARRIS J. R. MODRALL
AUGUSTUS T. SEYMOUR 1030 SEP (1) M 8 1 A 6 SIMMS SUILDING
JAMES E. SPERLING 1030 SEP (1) M 8 1 A 6 SIMMS SUILDING
P. O. BOX 466
JOSEPH E. ROCHL
GEORGE T. HARRIS
DANIEL A. SISK

TELEPHONE CHAPEL 3-4:
September 18, 19 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO TELEPHONE CHAPEL 3-4514 September 18, 1959 LELAND S. SEDBERRY BURNS H. ERREBO ALLEN C. DEWEY ЮНИ Г. SIMMS (1885-1954)

> Mr. Oliver Payne 011 Conservation Commission Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Payne:

Re: Case No. 1748

Order No. R-1480 In accordance with our telephone conversation of today, this is to request that you issue a "nunc pro tunc" order correcting description of lands in Sections 23 and 24 of Section 24. This lease also covers all of Sections 13 and 14, which descriptions correctly appear in your order number R-1480.

Very truly yours,

Burns H. Errebo

BHE/b

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 1748 Order No. R-1480

APPLICATION OF MAGNOLIA PETROLEUN
COMPANY FOR AN AUTOMATIC CUSTODY
TRANSFER SYSTEM AND FOR PERMISSION
TO PRODUCE MORE THAN 16 WELLS IN A
COMMON TANK BATTERY, IN THE HORSESHOE-GALLUP OIL POOL, SAN JUAN COUNTY,
NEW MEXICO

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 o'clock a.m. on August 19, 1959, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner duly appointed by the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," in accordance with Rule 1214 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

NOW, on this ______ day of September, 1959, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the application, the evidence adduced, and the recommendations of the Examiner, Daniel S. Nutter, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

- (1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That the applicant, Magnolia Petroleum Company, is the owner and operator of the Navajo "A" Lease in the Horse-shoe-Gallup Oil Pool, San Juan County, New Mexico, comprising the following described acreage:

TOWNSHIP	31	NORTH.	RANGE	17	WEST,	NM PM
Section	13:	A1.	1			
Section	14:	Λ1				
Section	23:	N/				
Section	241	6.3524 1.4844	/4			

-2-Case No. 1748 Order No. R-1480

- (3) That the applicant proposes to produce into a common tank battery all the Horseshoe-Gallup oil wells presently or hereafter completed on the above-described Navajo "A" Lease.
- (4) That the applicant proposes to install a lease automatic custody transfer system to handle the Herseshoe-Gallup Gil Pool production from all wells on said Navajo "A" Lease.
- (5) That the applicant proposes to measure the oil passing through the automatic custody transfer equipment by means of positive displacement meters.
- (6) That the above-described system should be so equipped as to prevent the undue waste of oil in the event of malfunction or flow-line break.
- (7) That the positive displacement meters used in the automatic custody transfer system should be checked for accuracy once each month until further direction by the Secretary-Director.
- (8) That the previous use of automatic custody transfer equipment, similar to that proposed by the applicant, has shown that such equipment is a reliable and the use of such equipment should be permitted.
- (9) That approval of the subject application will neither cause waste nor impair correlative rights provided adequate testing and storage facilities are installed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED!

That the applicant, Magnolia Petroleum Company, be and the same is hereby authorized to produce into a common tank battery all oil wells presently or hereafter completed in the Horseshee-Gallup Oil Pool on the applicant's Navajo "A" Lease comprising the following-described acreage in San Juan County, New Mexico:

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 17 WEST, NAPA Section 13: All Section 14: All Section 23: N/2 Section 24: NE/4

-3-Case No. 1748 Order No. R-1480

PROVIDED HOWEVER, That the applicant shall install adequate facilities to permit the testing of each well at lease once each month.

PROVIDED FURTHER, That the applicant shall install sufficient storage tanks to prevent the everflow and wasting of oil produced into said common tank hattery.

(2) That the applicant be and the same is hereby authorized to install automatic custody transfer equipment to handle the Horseshoe-Gallup Oil Pool production from all wells presently completed or hereafter drilled on the above-described Navajo "A" Lease.

PROVIDED HOWEVER, That the automatic custody transfer system shall be so equipped as to prevent the undue waste of oil in the event of malfunction or flow-line break.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

That all meters used in the above-described automatic custody transfer system shall be operated and maintained in such a manner as to ensure an accurate measurement of the liquid hydrocarbon production at all times.

That meters shall be checked for accuracy at least once each month until further direction by the Secretary-Director.

Meters shall be calibrated against a master meter or against a test tank of measured volume and the results of such calibrations filed with the Commission on the Commission form entitled "Meter Test Report."

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

> STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

- Burraych JOHN BURROUGHS, Chairman

MURRAY E. MORGAN, Member

A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary

ler/

No. 30-59

CASE 1743:

Application of Newmont Oil Company for an unorthodox water injection well location. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order author-izing it to reopen and utilize for water injection a well located on an unorthodox location at a point 1620 feet from the North line and 1020 feet from the West line of Section 32, Township 16 South, Range 31 East, Square

CASE 1744.

Application of Cities Service Oil Company for approval of a unit agreement. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order approving its Drickey Queen Sand Unit embracing 5242 acres, more or less, of Federal, State and Lea and Chaves Counties, New Mexico.

GASE 1745:

Application of Phillips Petroleum Company for an automatic custody transfer system. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing of oil produced on the West Ranger Unit comprising certain acreage in County, New Mexico.

CASE 1746:

Application of Skelly Oil Company for an oil-gas dual completion. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing the dual completion of its Mexico-Fed. "A" Well No. 1, located 1650 feet from the South line and 990 feet from the East line of Section 1, Township 24 North, Range 6 from an undesignated Gallup pool and to produce gas from an undesignated Dakota pool through parallel strings of tubing.

CASE 1747:

Application of George L. Buckles Company for a non-standard oil proration unit. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the establishment of a 49.82-acre non-standard oil proration unit in an undesignated Delaware pool consisting of lots 1 and 2 of section 34, Township 26 South, Range cant's Elliott-Federal Well No. 1, located 330 feet from the South and

CASE 1748:

Application of Magnolia Petroleum Company for an automatic custody transfer system and for permission to produce more than 16 wells in a common tank it to install an automatic custody transfer system to custody transfer authorizing of oil from all Horseshoe-Gallup oil wells on its Navajo "A" Lease comprising certain acreage in Township 31 North, Range 17 West, San Juan County,

EXAMINER HEARING AUGUST 19, 1959

Oil Conservation Commission - 9 a.m., Mabry Hall, State Capitol, Santa Fe, New Mexico

The following cases will be heard before Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner, or A. L. Porter, Jr.,

CONTINUED CASE

CASE 1683:

(Continued) Application of Gulf Oil Corporation for a non-standard gas proration unit and for an order force pooling the interests therein. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the establishment of a 477-acre non-standard gas proration unit in the Eumont Gas Pool consisting of the N/2 and the SE/4 of Section 19, Township 19 South, Range 37 East, Lea County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to applicant's B. V. Culp "A" Well No. 3, located 1980 feet from the North and West lines of said Section 19. Applicant further seeks an order force pooling the interests of those in said non-standard gas proration unit who have gas rights within the vertical limits of the Eumont

NEW CASES

- CASE 1739:
- Application of Shell Oil Company for approval of a unit agreement. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order approving its Henshaw Deep Unit Agreement comprising 4824 acres, more or less, of Federal and State lands in Township 16 South, Ranges 30 and 31 East, Eddy County, New Mexico.
- CASE 1740:
- Application of Shell Oil Company for two salt water disposal wells. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing the disposal of produced salt water into the Queen Formation through its Allen Estate Well No. 3, located in the SE/4 SE/4 of Section 27 and through its Record Well No. 1, located in the NW/4 SW/4 of Section 26, both in Township 19 South, Range 35 East, Lea County, New Mexico. The proposed injection interval in said Allen Estate Well No. 3 is from 4900 feet to 4918 feet and the proposed injection interval in said Record Well No. 1 is from 4870 feet to 4884 feet.
- CASE 1741:
- Application of El Paso Natural Gas Company for a gas-gas dual completion. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing the dual completion of its Hancock Well No 4 in the SW/4 SW/4 of Section 23, Township 28 North, Range 9 West, San Juan County, New Mexico, in such a manner as to produce gas from the Aztec-Pictured Cliffs Pool and to produce gas from the Blanco-Mesaverde Pool through the casing-tubing annulus and tubing respectively. Applicant proposes to utilize a retrievable-type packer in
- CASE 1742:
- Application of El Paso Natural Gas Company for a gas-gas dual completion. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing the dual completion of its San Juan 27-4 Unit Well No. 21, located in the NW/4 NE/4 of Section 30, Township 27 North, Range 4 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, in such a manner as to produce gas from the Tapacito-Pictured Cliffs Pool and to produce gas from the Blanco-Mesaverde Pool through the casingtubing annulus and the tubing respectively. Applicant proposes to utilize a retrievable-type packer in said well.

Pare 1748 MAIN OFFICE OCC LAW OFFICES OF MODRALL, SEYMOUR, SPERLING, ROEHL & HARRIS ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO JOSEPH E.ROEHL GÉORGE T. HARRIS DANIEL A.SISK TELEPHONE CHAPEL 3-4514 JOHN F. SIMMS (1885-1954) July 24, 1959 DEAN P. KIMBALL LELAND S. SEDBERRY BURNS H. ERREBO ALLEN C. DEWEY Oil Conservation Commission Santa Fe, New Mexico Gentlemen: Enclosed herewith in triplicate is Application of Magnolia Petroleum Company for Exception to Statewide Rule 309 requiring the 16 well limitation and also for permission to install Automatic Custody Transfer on its Navajo "A" lease, Horseshoe-Gallup oil pool, San Juan County, New Mexico. We would appreciate your setting this for hearing on the August 19 Examiners' Docket. Burns Rerreto Burns H. Errebo

Mailed 8-4-59 Dh

GOVERNOR JOHN BURROUGHS

State of New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission

RAY E. HORGAN



STATE GEOLOGIST A. L. PORTER, JR.

1000 RIO BRAZOS ROAD AZTEC

July 31, 1959

Magnolla Petroleum Company Box 2406 Hobbs. New Mexico

Attn: Mr. C. T. Spans District Petroleum Engineer

Dear Mr. Svans:

Temporary exception to Rule 309 (a) is hereby authorized for the operation of your Navajo "A" lease in the Someshoe Julius 312 Pool 377 east to the following limitations:

This authority shall terminate on the Jake in order is issued following the Examiner Hearing of this case as docketed for August 19, 1955.

All oil produced on the lease shall be measured by tank gauge or meter before being transported from the leave.

All meters used shall be re-calibrated at least once each 30 days in service.

Yours very truly

A. R. Kendrick Engineer, District #3

ARKINE

cc: EPNG Products Co. Farmington, N. N.

> 011 Conservation Commission Santa Fe, N.M.

Copies to Endy on the Walker

No. 30-59

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING AUGUST 19, 1959

Oil Conservation Commission - 9 a.m., Mabry Hall, State Capitol, Santa Fe, New Mexico

The following cases will be heard before Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner, or A. L. Porter, Jr.,

CONTINUED CASE

CASE 1683:

(Continued)

Application of Gulf Oil Corporation for a non-standard gas proration unit and for an order force pooling the interests therein. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the establishment of a 477-acre non-standard gas proration unit in the Eumont Gas Pool consisting of the N/2 and the SE/4of Section 19, Township 19 South, Range 37 East, Lea County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to applicant's B. V. Culp "A" Well No. 3, located 1980 feet from the North and West lines of said Section 19. Applicant further seeks an order force pooling the interests of those in said non-standard gas proration unit who have gas rights within the vertical limits of the Eumont

NEW CASES

CASE 1739

Application of Shell Oil Company for approval of a unit agreement. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order approving its Henshaw Deep Unit Agreement comprising 4824 acres, more or less, of Federal and State

ひきり 1740:

lands in Township 16 South, Ranges 30 and 31 East, Eddy County, New Mexico. Application of Shell Oil Company for two salt water disposal wells. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing the dispusal of produced salt water into the Queen Formation through its Allen Estate Well No. 3, located in the SE/4 SE/4 of Section 27 and through its Record Well No. 1, located in the NW/4 SW/4 of Section 26, both in Township 19 South, Range 35 East, Lea County, New Mexico. The proposed injection interval in said Allen Estate Well No. 3 is from 4900 feet to 4918 feet and the proposed injection interval in said Record Well No. 1 is from 4870 feet to 4884 feet.

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No. 30-59

CASE 1743:

Application of Newmont Oil Company for an unorthodox water injection well location. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing it to reopen and utilize for water injection a well located on an unorthodox location at a point 1620 feet from the North line and 1020 feet from the West line of Section 32, Township 16 South, Range 31 East, Square Lake Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

CASE 1744: Killahun GEDruk Donglow Application of Cities Service Oil Company for approval of a unit agreement. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order approving its Drickey Queen Sand Unit embracing 5242 acres, more or less, of Federal, State and fee lands in Townships 13 and 14 South, Range 31 East, Caprock-Queen Pool,

CASE 1745:

morgan

Application of Phillips Petroleum Company for an automatic custody transfer system. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing it to install an automatic custody transfer system to transfer the custody of oil produced on the West Ranger Unit comprising certain acreage in Township 12 South, Range 34 East, Ranger Lake-Pennsylvanian Pool, Lea

CASE 1746:

Application of Skelly Oil Company for an oil-gas dual completion. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing the dual completion of its Mexico-Fed. "A" Well No. 1, located 1650 feet from the South line and 990 feet from the East line of Section 1, Township 24 North, Range 6 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, in such a manner as to produce oil Dakota pool through parallel strings of tubing.

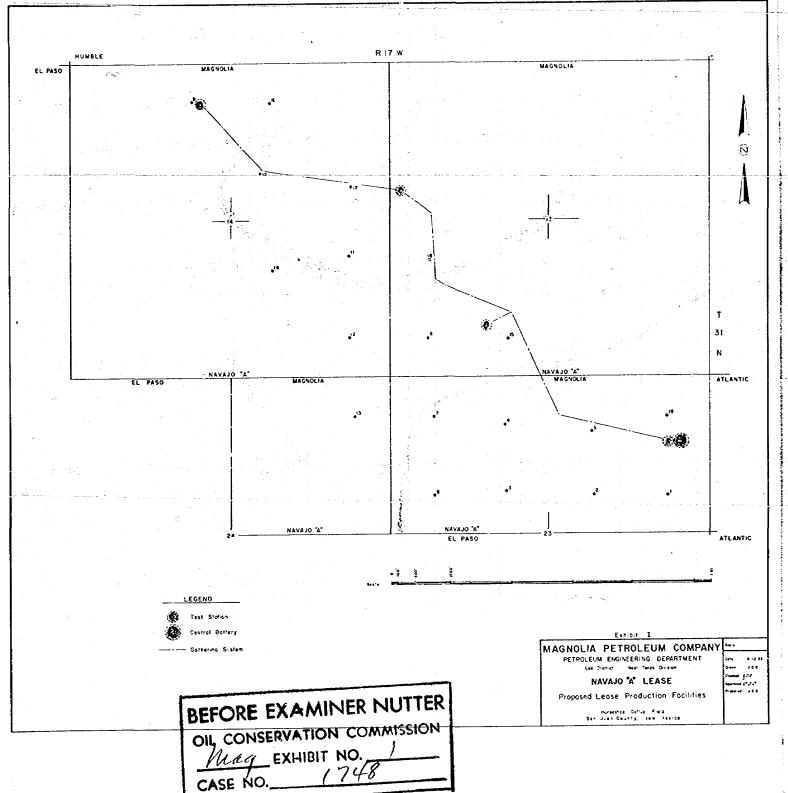
CASE 1747:

Application of George L. Buckles Company for a non-standard oil proration unit. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the establishment of a 49.82-acre non-standard oil proration unit in an undesignated Delaware pool consisting of lots 1 and 2 of section 34, Township 26 South, Range 32 East, Lea County, New Mexico, said unit to be dedicated to the applicant's Elliott-Federal Well No. 1, located 330 feet from the South and East lines of said Section 34.

CASE 1748:

Application of Magnolia Petroleum Company for an automatic custody transfer system and for permission to produce more than 16 wells in a common tank battery. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing it to install an automatic custody transfer system to transfer custody of oil from all Horseshoe-Gallup oil wells on its Navajo "A" Lease comprising certain acreage in Township 31 North, Range 17 West, San Juan County, New Mexico.

Moreces mais 1824.



CASE NO.

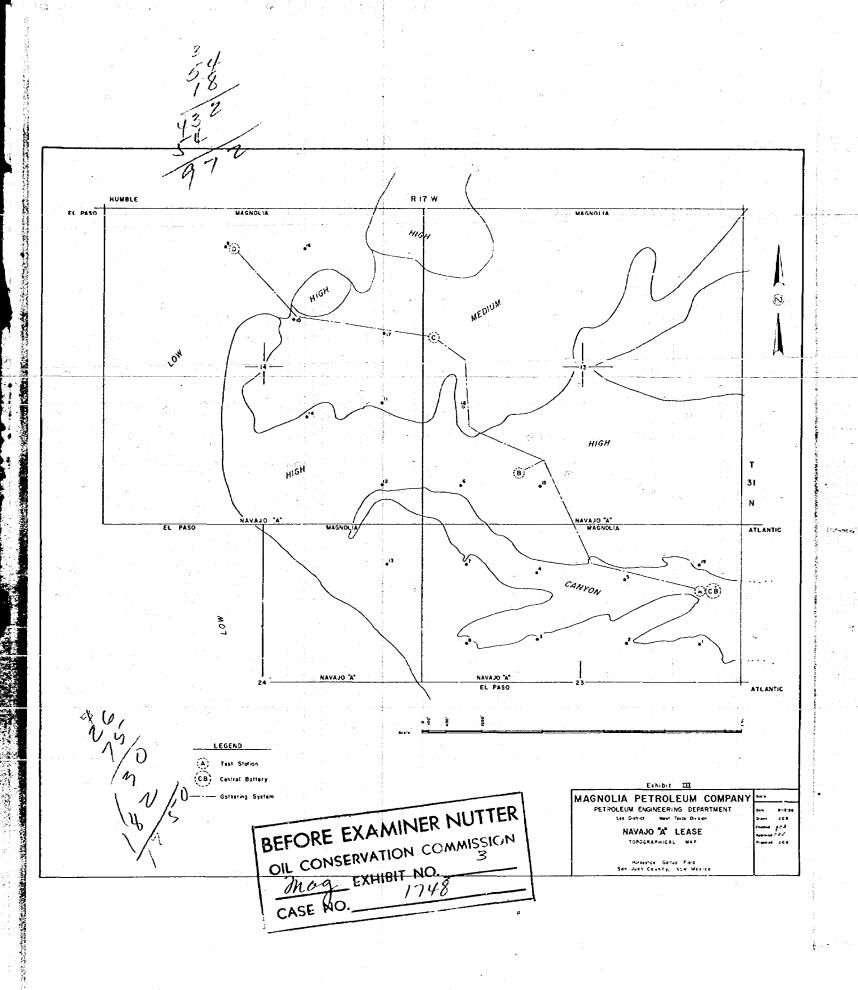


EXHIBIT IV

COMPARATIVE COST ESTIMATES
CONVENTIONAL FACILITIES COMPARED TO
CENTRALIZED FACILITIES

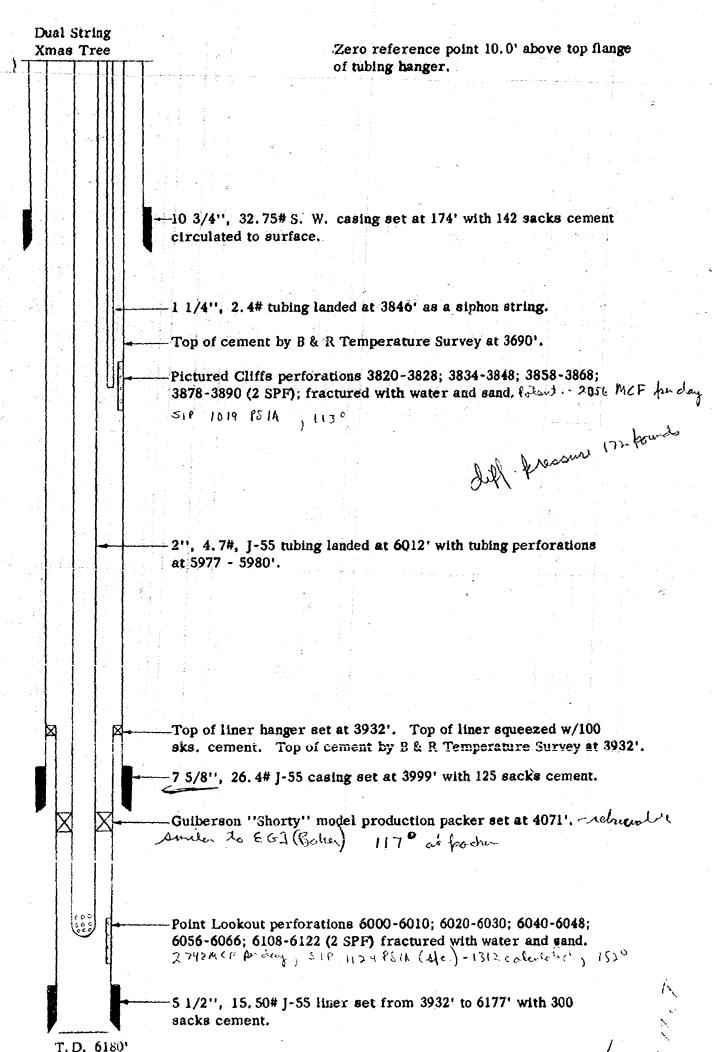
Magnolia Petroleum Company Navajo "A" Lease Horseshoe Gallup Field San Juan County, New Mexico

Item		
Flowlines Tank Batteries Test Facilities Gathering System TOTAL	\$ 60,000 60,000 6,000 31,000	Gentralized \$ 60,000 22,000 12,000 31,000
Savings	\$ 157,000	\$ 125,000 \$ 32,000

BEFORE EXAMINER NUTTER OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Mag EXHIBIT NO. 4 CASE NO.

Schematic Diagram of Dual Completion El Paso Natural Gas Co. San Juan 27-4 Unit No. 21 (PM) NE/4 Section 30, T-27-N, R-4-W



Can48 ...