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					amesbruc@ao	1.com

#### JAMES BRUCE ATTORNEY AT LAW

POST OFFICE BOX 1056 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504

369 MONTEZUMA, NO. 213 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

(505) 982-2043 (Phone) (505) 660-6612 (Cell) (5050 982-2151 (Fax)

jamesbruc@aol.com

March 6, 2006

Hand Delivered

Michael E. Stogner Oil Conservation Division 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Dear Mr. Stogner:

Pursuant to Division Rule 104.F(2), Apache Corporation applies for administrative approval of an unorthodox oil well location for the following well:

Well Name:	Rinewalt Well No. 7
Well Location:	1090 feet FNL & 1810 feet FEL
Well Unit:	Lot 3 (NE <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> NW <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> ) of Section 4, Township 22 South, Range 37
	East, N.M.P.M., Lea County, New Mexico

The well will test the Grayburg formation (Penrose Skelly Pool) and San Andres formation Southerst (Undesignated Eunice-San Andres Pool), and applicant requests unorthodox location approval in both zones. Both pools are developed on statewide rules, with 40 acre spacing, and wells to be located no closer than 330 feet to a quarter-quarter section line.<sup>1</sup>

The application is based on geological and engineering reasons. A complete discussion, with exhibits, is attached as Exhibit A (including a Form C-102). As to the Grayburg formation, the well is located midway between Grayburg wells to the north and south. The well data shows that wells in the Grayburg drain considerably less than 40 acres. Therefore, the proposed location will recover undrained reserves in the Grayburg. Lot 3 of Section 4 will be simultaneously dedicated, in the Grayburg formation, to the proposed well and the existing Rinewalt Well No. 5.

<sup>1</sup> 

The limiting GOR in the Eunice-San Andres Pool is 5000:1 under Order No. R-4940.

There has been no San Andres production from Lot 3 of Section 4, and applicant's data indicates that San Andres production is marginal. Thus, using the well to test both the Grayburg and the San Andres will prevent waste.

Exhibit B is a land plat. The Rinewalt fee lease covers Lot 3 and the  $S^{1/2}NW^{1/4}$  of Section 4, and no offset owner is adversely affected by the application. Therefore, notice has not been provided to anyone.

Please call me if you need any further information on this matter.

Very truly yours,

ul

ames Bruce

Attorney for Apache Corporation

# Application of Apache Corporation for administrative approval of an unorthodox well location:

# 40 acres – 1090' FNL & 1810' FWL Section 4, Township 22 South, Range 37 East, NMPM Lea County, New Mexico

## PRIMARY OBJECTIVE: GRAYBURG

### SECONDARY OBJECTIVE: SAN ANDRES

In support:

- 1. Apache Corporation (Apache) is the operator of the proposed **Rinewalt #7** (Exhibit 1). The proposed total depth is 4375' in the San Andres formation.
- The proposed location encroaches toward the following wells in the effected Penrose Skelly; Grayburg and Southwest Eunice; San Andres Pools (Exhibit
  This location is a standard distance from the west unit boundary, so Grayburg and San Andres wells in Units D and E will not be encroached upon.

API					Cum	Daily
30-025-	Op.	Well	Loc	Pool	O/G/W	O/G/W
34582	Apache	Rinewalt #5	04-C	Penrose Skelly; Grayburg	18/253/197	6/78/66
10035	Apache	Rinewalt #2	04-C	Penrose Skelly; Grayburg	62/0/0	0/0/0
10034	Apache	Rinewalt #1	04-F	Penrose Skelly Grayburg	61/0/0	0/0/0
10034	Apache	Rinewalt #1	04-F	SW Eunice; San Andres	3/246/192	2/100/82
37325	Apache	Rinewalt #6	04-F	Penrose Skelly; Grayburg	1/9/3	22/273/101

MBO	BOPD
MMCFG	MCFGPD
MBW	BWPD

3. The proposed **Rinewalt #7** unorthodox Grayburg-San Andres location of 1090' from north line and 1810' from west line is based on drainage considerations.

# a) Grayburg Reservoir

The Grayburg is a series of alternating subtidal and supratidal dolomites, with the subtidal rock having porosity and hydrocarbons and the supratidal rock being tight. The Grayburg environments varied rapidly so that porous and tight intervals do not necessarily correlate well-to-well. Tight dolomite and/or anhydrite intervals within the Grayburg additionally create vertical hydraulic barriers between different zones of porosity. Average porosity of the Grayburg is less than 10% and average permeability is less than 1 millidarcy. Grayburg wells are thus not capable of draining an entire 40 Acre Spacing Unit.



The reservoir was analyzed by mapping hydrocarbon pore volume (SoPhiH) (**Exhibit 3**). SoPHiH is the product of feet of net pay (H) times average porosity (PhiA) times oil saturation (So). The values were obtained as follows:

- Net Pay was read from modern neutron-density logs which have contractor calculated cross-plotted porosity (XPhi) using a minimum of 6% and a maximum of 18%. Additionally, gamma ray (40 APIU) and water saturation (10% - 50%, using a standard equation with a=1 and m=n=2) cutoffs were also employed.
- 2. Average Porosity was calculated for intervals meeting those criteria.
- 3. Oil Saturation is the additive inverse of water saturation.

The following table provides drainage areas calculated from the SoPhiH map and reserves of the offsetting wells. Values determined from modern logs will have an asterisk after the pool name, others are estimates from the grid.

				SoPhiH	Area	EUR	EUR
Op.	Well	Loc	Pool		A	MBO	MMCF
Apache	Rinewalt #5	04-C	Penrose Skelly; Grayburg*	10.2	6	55	754
Apache	Rinewalt #2	04-C	Penrose Skelly; Grayburg	10.4	7	62	0
Apache	Rinewalt #1	04-F	Penrose Skelly Grayburg	11.0	14	13	519
Apache	Rinewalt #6	04-F	Penrose Skelly; Grayburg*	10.3	4	38	467

The intent of the well is to recover reserves that cannot be recovered by the existing wells. The location was placed in the center of the vacant area between the existing wells and then moved due to surface conditions and cultural obstructions.

Reserves for the proposed **Rinewalt #7** were calculated by planimetering the undrained area of the SoPhiH isopach which lies under a drainage circle (the size of which is the average of the direct offset drainage areas) centered on the proposed location. Any competitive drainage is shared between the proposed well and the existing offset wells. The results are as follows:

WELL	LOC	SoPhiH	AREA	EUR	EUR
			Α	MBO	MMCFG
Rinewalt #7	04-C	11.72	7.8	82	656

# b) San Andres Reservoir

The San Andres is the secondary objective of the **Rinewalt #7**. Like the super-adjacent Grayburg, it is a shallow shelf carbonate. The upper 200'-300' is tighter and tends to be oil productive, whereas the lower part of the

formation is much more porous and generally productive of water and gas. Apache is targeting only the upper, oil prone interval.

Testing of and production from the upper San Andres to date by Apache, suggest that it is only marginally commercial. Reserves from the upper interval will not support drilling a well targeting only this interval. Testing and production further suggest that the wells will not drain an entire 40 Acre Drilling and Spacing Unit.

San Andres potential was evaluated using the Net Pay map (Exhibit 4), analyzing the interval above a drill depth of 4200'. Petrophysical parameters are:

- 1. Gamma Ray less than 40 APIU
- 2. XPhi between 5% and 15%
- 3. LLD between 50 ohm\*m and 500 ohm\*m.

The following table provides drainage areas calculated from the Net Pay map and reserves of the offsetting wells. Values determined from modern logs will have an asterisk after the pool name.

					Area	EUR	EUR
Op.	Well	Loc	Pool	Pay	A	MBO	MMCF
Apache	Rinewalt #1	04-F	SW Eunice; San Andres	74.0	17	13	519

Reserves for the proposed **Rinewalt #7** were calculated by planimetering the undrained area of the Net Pay isopach which lies under a drainage circle (the size of which is the average of the direct offset drainage areas) centered on the proposed location. Any competitive drainage is shared between the proposed well and the existing offset wells. The results are as follows:

WELL	LOC	Pay	AREA	EUR	EUR
			Α	MBO	MMCFG
Rinewalt #7	04-C	67	17	12	483

#### 4. Notice

Apache is the operator and only working interest owner of the Grayburg and San Andres wells toward which the proposed **Rinewalt #7** will encroach.

5. Approval of this application will afford the interest owners in these spacing units an opportunity to recover oil and gas which would not otherwise be recovered.

#### DISTRICT I 1625 N. FRENCE DR., HOBBS, NM 88240

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State of New Mexico

Energy. Minersis and Natural Resources Department

DISTRICT II 1301 W. GRAND AVENUE, ABTESIA, NM 88210

DISTRICT III 1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztee, NM 87410

#### OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 1220 SOUTH ST. FRANCIS DR. Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Form C-102 Revised JUNE 10, 2003 Submit to Appropriate District Office State Lease - 4 Copies Fee Lease - 3 Copies

DISTRICT IV			WELL LO	CATION	AND ACREA	GE DEDICATI	ON PLAT	CI AMENDE	D REPORT
API	API Number Pool Code Pool Name								
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		<u> </u>		<u> </u>					
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