## STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

APPLICATION OF BACK NINE PROPERTIES, CASE NO. 15716 LLC FOR A NONSTANDARD OIL SPACING AND PRORATION UNIT AND COMPULSORY POOLING, CHAVES COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

EXAMINER HEARING

June 8, 2017

Santa Fe, New Mexico

BEFORE: MICHAEL McMILLAN, CHIEF EXAMINER WILLIAM V. JONES, TECHNICAL EXAMINER

This matter came on for hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, Michael McMillan, Chief Examiner and William V. Jones, Technical Examiner on Thursday, June 8, 2017, at the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Wendell Chino Building, 1220 South St. Francis Drive, Porter Hall, Room 102, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

REPORTED BY: Mary C. Hankins, CCR, RPR New Mexico CCR #20 Paul Baca Professional Court Reporters 500 4th Street, Northwest, Suite 105 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

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2	FOR APPLICANT BACK NINE PROPERTIES, LLC:	
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1 (11:43 a.m.)

2 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Call Case Number 15716,

- 3 application of Back Nine Properties, LLC for a
- 4 nonstandard oil spacing and proration unit and
- 5 compulsory pooling, Chaves County, New Mexico.
- 6 Call for appearances.
- 7 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, Gary Larson of
- 8 the Santa Fe office of Hinkle Shanor, for the Applicant,
- 9 Back Nine Properties.
- 10 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Any other appearances?
- 11 Please proceed.
- 12 (Mr. Cherry, Mr. Bahlburg and Mr. Maxey
- previously sworn earlier in the day.)
- DAVID L. CHERRY, JR.,
- 15 after having been previously sworn under oath, was
- 16 questioned and testified as follows:
- 17 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 18 BY MR. LARSON:
- 19 Q. Good morning, Mr. Cherry. Would you state your
- 20 full name for the record?
- 21 A. David Louis Cherry, Jr.
- 22 Q. Where do you reside?
- 23 A. Dallas, Texas.
- Q. And what is your position with Back Nine?
- 25 A. I'm a manager at Back Nine, and I specifically

- 1 focus on land activities.
- 2 Q. And does that include land matters pertaining
- 3 to Back Nine's acreage in southeast New Mexico?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And are you familiar with the land matters that
- 6 pertain to Back Nine's application in this case?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Have you previously testified at a Division
- 9 hearing?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Did the Examiner qualify you as an expert in
- 12 petroleum land matters?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I'd tender
- 15 Mr. Cherry as an expert in petroleum land matters.
- 16 EXAMINER McMILLAN: So qualified.
- Q. (BY MR. LARSON) Would you identify the document
- 18 marked as Exhibit Number 1?
- 19 A. It's a Form C-102 for the Pinehurst 5H well.
- Q. And is this a true and correct copy of the
- 21 **C-102?**
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And what formation is Back Nine seeking to
- 24 **pool?**
- 25 A. The San Andres.

1 Q. And the pool name is the Chisum; San Andres,

- 2 East?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And the pool code is 12358; is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Are there any depth exceptions in the San
- 7 Andres in this proposed project area?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. And will Back Nine be drilling and operating
- 10 the Pinehurst 5H?
- 11 A. No. We've hired Hadaway Consulting &
- 12 Engineering to be our contract operator for this
- 13 project.
- 14 Q. And where is Hadaway based?
- 15 A. I believe Canadian, Texas.
- 16 Q. And is Hadaway a Division-approved operator?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Would you next identify the document marked as
- 19 **Exhibit 2?**
- 20 A. It's the location map for our project area for
- 21 the Pinehurst 5H well.
- Q. Did you prepare this document?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And is all the acreage in the area fee?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And are the leasehold interests all uniform?

- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. And directing your attention to the bottom
- 4 right-hand corner of Exhibit 2, does it include a
- 5 breakdown of the interests in the project area?
- 6 A. It does. Back Nine Properties has
- 7 81-and-a-quarter leased. We have 6-and-a-quarter
- 8 participating and 12-and-a-half percent currently
- 9 unleased.
- 10 O. Does Back Nine hold an interest in each 40-acre
- 11 unit within the project area?
- 12 A. Yes. Our leasehold interest is undivided.
- 13 Q. Would you identify the document marked as
- 14 Exhibit 3?
- 15 A. It's our well-proposal letter and green cards.
- 16 Q. And is Exhibit 3 a true and correct copy of one
- of the well-proposal letters?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And did you receive returned green cards for
- 20 all these letters?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And after you proposed the well, did you
- 23 communicate with any of the interest owners?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And what was the result of those

## 1 communications?

- 2 A. We ended up getting a lease from the Selma
- 3 Andrews Trust. We got an election to participate by
- 4 Chisos. We got an election to not participate by Black
- 5 Shale Minerals, and we are currently negotiating a lease
- 6 with Samedan.
- 7 Q. So the two parties would be Samedan and Black
- 8 Shale?
- 9 A. As it currently sits, yes.
- 10 Q. But there's a possibility that Samedan will
- 11 lease?
- 12 A. Correct. We're hopeful.
- Q. Will you next identify the document marked as
- 14 Exhibit 4?
- 15 A. It's our notice letters to the uncommitted
- 16 interest owners.
- Q. And were these letters sent under your
- 18 direction and supervision?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And were green cards received for all of the
- 21 letters?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And would you next identify the document marked
- 24 as Exhibit 5?
- 25 A. It's our notice letter for the offset interests

- 1 and green cards.
- 2 Q. And was this letter also sent at your direction
- 3 and supervision?
- 4 A. It was.
- 5 Q. And were all the green cards returned?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And even though you've got 100 percent returns
- 8 on the green cards, as a conservative matter, did Back
- 9 Nine also publish notice?
- 10 A. That is correct.
- 11 Q. Would you identify the document marked as
- 12 Exhibit 6?
- 13 A. I'm sorry. It's the notice in the "Roswell
- 14 Daily Record" and Affidavit of Publication.
- 15 Q. Is Exhibit 6 a true and correct copy of the
- 16 Affidavit of Publication?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And what day did the notice run?
- 19 A. May 17th, 2017.
- 20 Q. And would you identify the document marked as
- 21 **Exhibit 7?**
- 22 A. It's the AFE for the Pinehurst 5H well.
- Q. And was this AFE prepared by Hadaway?
- 24 A. It was.
- 25 O. And what are the total estimated costs

- 1 indicated on the AFE?
- 2 A. We estimate the cost to be \$1,637,556.
- 3 Q. And is this similar to the costs incurred by
- 4 Hadaway for other San Andres horizontal wells?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And do you have a recommendation for the
- 7 amounts Back Nine should be paid for supervision and
- 8 administrative expenses?
- 9 A. Yes. We believe it should be 8,000 per month
- 10 for drilling and 800 per month for producing wells.
- 11 Q. And were those numbers provided to you by
- 12 Hadaway?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And are they consistent with and similar to
- 15 those charged by Hadaway for other San Andres wells?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And do you also recommend that the rates for
- 18 supervision and administrative expenses be adjusted
- 19 periodically pursuant to the COPAS accounting
- 20 procedures?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Is Back Nine requesting a 200 percent charge
- 23 for the risk of drilling and completing the wells?
- A. Yes, we are.
- 25 Q. Is Back Nine further requesting that Hadaway

1 Consulting & Engineering be designated as the operator

- 2 of the well?
- 3 A. Yes, the contract operator.
- 4 Q. In your opinion, will the granting of Back
- 5 Nine's application avoid the drilling of unnecessary
- 6 wells, protect correlative rights and serve the
- 7 interests of conservation and the prevention of waste?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move the
- 10 admission of Back Nine Exhibits 1 through 7.
- 11 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Exhibits 1 through 7
- 12 may now be accepted as part of the record.
- 13 (Back Nine Properties, LLC Exhibit Number 1
- through 7 are offered and admitted into
- 15 evidence.)
- 16 MR. LARSON: And I pass the witness.
- 17 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 18 BY EXAMINER McMILLAN:
- 19 Q. Okay. So, once again, you wouldn't object to
- 20 moving the location 10 feet?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- 23 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Go ahead, Will.

24

25

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 2 BY EXAMINER JONES:
- 3 Q. The JOA -- you're going to do a JOA?
- 4 A. We are. We're currently constructing one for
- 5 Chisos and then eventually Selma Andrews Trust.
- 6 EXAMINER JONES: I don't have any more
- 7 questions.
- 8 MR. LARSON: I have a couple of follow-up
- 9 questions.
- 10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 11 BY MR. LARSON:
- 12 Q. Would moving the well, as Mr. McMillan
- 13 suggested, change the AFE costs?
- 14 A. As far as I know, no.
- 15 Q. And what would be the administrative expenses
- 16 you'll include in the JOA? Would it be the 8,000 and
- 17 800?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 EXAMINER JONES: I was going to ask the
- 20 same thing. I forgot.
- 21 MR. LARSON: I anticipated that.
- That's all I have for Mr. Cherry.
- 23 EXAMINER JONES: Thank you.
- 24 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Thank you very much.

25

- 1 WILLIAM C. BAHLBURG,
- 2 after having been previously sworn under oath, was
- 3 questioned and testified as follows:
- 4 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 5 BY MR. LARSON:
- 6 Q. Mr. Bahlburg, please state your full name for
- 7 the record.
- 8 A. William Carl Bahlburg.
- 9 Q. Where do you reside?
- 10 A. Frisco, Texas.
- 11 Q. What is your position with Back Nine?
- 12 A. I'm a company manager and exploration
- 13 geologist.
- 14 Q. And do your responsibilities include Back
- 15 Nine's interest in southeast New Mexico?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And are you familiar with the geologic aspect
- 18 of the Pinehurst 5H well in the matters addressed in
- 19 Back Nine's application?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And you've previously testified at Division
- 22 hearings; is that correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And did the Examiner qualify you as an expert
- 25 in petroleum geology?

- 1 A. Yes.
- MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I would tender
- 3 Mr. Bahlburg as an expert in petroleum geology.
- 4 EXAMINER McMILLAN: So qualified.
- 5 Q. (BY MR. LARSON) Mr. Bahlburg, I direct your
- 6 attention to the document marked as Exhibit 2.
- 7 A. Exhibit 2 is a map or plat showing the 320-acre
- 8 project area for the Pinehurst 5H and the well location.
- 9 Q. And will the bottom-hole and surface-hole
- 10 locations both be 330 feet from the section lines?
- 11 A. They will be.
- MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I request
- 13 adoption by reference of Mr. Bahlburg's testimony in
- 14 Cases 15714 and 15715 regarding his experience with
- 15 San Andres horizontal drilling in southeast New Mexico
- 16 and West Texas.
- 17 EXAMINER McMILLAN: So accepted.
- 18 Q. (BY MR. LARSON) Would you identify the document
- 19 marked as Exhibit 8?
- 20 A. Exhibit 8 is a plat showing San Andres
- 21 structure, the 320-acre project area for the Pinehurst
- 22 5H in the Pinehurst 5H well location.
- 23 Q. And was this document prepared under your
- 24 direction and supervision?
- 25 A. It was.

1 Q. And what does it tell you about the geology in

- 2 the area of this project area?
- 3 A. Just -- we have gentle eastward monoclinal dip
- 4 throughout the entire area.
- 5 Q. Would you identify the document marked as
- 6 Exhibit 9?
- 7 A. Exhibit 9 is a two-well cross section that has
- 8 taken a very nearby well in the surface location of the
- 9 Pinehurst 5H and tied it in. It shows the stratigraphic
- 10 zonation of the San Andres. It also shows the target
- 11 interval, which is labeled SAPD1 [sic], in red, and it
- 12 shows the horizontal location -- proposed location of
- 13 the horizontal leg of our Pinehurst 5H well.
- 14 Q. And was this document prepared under your
- 15 direction?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And is it representative of the geology in the
- 18 proposed project area?
- 19 A. Yes, it is.
- 20 Q. And to the best of your knowledge, are there
- 21 any geologic impediments in the target interval?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. In your opinion, will the proposed well be
- 24 productive along the entire length of the completed
- 25 lateral?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Would you identify the document marked as
- 3 Exhibit 10?
- 4 A. Exhibit 10 is a plat that shows the 320-acre
- 5 project area, the initial Pinehurst 5H horizontal well
- 6 and two additional horizontal wells that we intend to
- 7 drill within that 320-acre project area.
- 8 MR. LARSON: Again, Mr. Examiner, I request
- 9 the adoption by reference of Mr. Bahlburg's testimony
- 10 regarding the three-well drilling pattern in Cases 15714
- 11 and 15715.
- 12 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Show testimony about
- 13 the three-well pattern presented in Case Number 15714
- 14 and Case 15715 and may now be part of the record for
- 15 15716.
- MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Examiner.
- 17 Q. (BY MR. LARSON) And Exhibit 10 illustrates, as
- 18 the exhibits in 15714 and 15715 show, Back Nine's
- 19 long-term drilling pattern for these areas?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. In your opinion, is this three-well drilling
- 22 program an optimal approach for horizontally developing
- 23 the San Andres in this area?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And in your opinion, is the three-well drilling

1 pattern the most efficient and economical way to develop

- 2 the San Andres on this acreage?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And do you anticipate that the other two San
- 5 Andres horizontal wells identified in Exhibit 10 will
- 6 also be productive along the entire length of the
- 7 lateral?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. In your opinion, will the Pinehurst #5H well
- 10 effect, develop and drain each of the 40-acre spacing
- units in the proposed project area?
- 12 A. Yes.
- MR. LARSON: And one last time, Mr.
- 14 Examiner, I'd ask to adopt by reference Mr. Bahlburg's
- 15 testimony in 15714 and 15715 regarding the center well
- 16 and three-well pattern effecting, developing and
- 17 draining all of the 40 acres within the proposed project
- 18 area.
- 19 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Okay. The information
- 20 presented about draining of the units as presented in
- 21 Case Number 15714 and Case Number 15715 may now be
- 22 accepted as part of the record in Case Number 15716.
- MR. LARSON: Thank you.
- Q. (BY MR. LARSON) Finally, Mr. Bahlburg, in your
- opinion, will the granting of Back Nine's application

1 avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, protect

- 2 correlative rights and serve the interests of
- 3 conservation and the prevention of waste?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move the
- 6 admission of Exhibits 8, 9 and 10.
- 7 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Exhibits 8, 9 and 10
- 8 shall be accepted as part of the record.
- 9 (Back Nine Properties, LLC Exhibit Number 8
- 10 through 10 are offered and admitted into
- 11 evidence.)
- MR. LARSON: And I pass the witness.
- 13 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 14 BY EXAMINER McMILLAN:
- 15 Q. For clarity purposes, will the penetration
- 16 point and final penetration point be 330 feet from the
- southern and northern portions of the project area?
- 18 A. More correctly, the perforated intervals will
- 19 be.
- Q. Okay. That is the project area?
- 21 A. Right.
- 22 O. Will be 330 feet from the northern and southern
- 23 boundaries?
- A. Absolutely.
- 25 Q. Okay. On that point, you kind of waffled on

- 1 your question there.
- 2 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Go ahead, Will.
- 3 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 4 BY EXAMINER JONES:
- 5 Q. Can you talk a little bit about that Chisum
- 6 Field to the north? Is that a strat trap? Is that what
- 7 that was?
- 8 A. You know what that -- you know the way we view
- 9 this stuff is -- is there was a lot of deep exploration
- 10 along kind of a structural trend that ran through there,
- and they drilled some Devonian wells.
- 12 Q. Okay.
- 13 A. And then every once in a while, they would bomb
- 14 out in the Devonian, and they'd come up in the San
- 15 Andres and they might have a good well. And then they'd
- offset it. And if the offset was good, they'd continue
- 17 to offset it until it wasn't so good, and then they'd
- 18 stop.
- 19 And so we've seen numerous cases, to answer
- 20 your question, where the well is at a strat trap, only
- 21 to the extent the whole area is a strat trap.
- 22 **Q.** Okay.
- 23 A. We view the whole thing as a Paleo trap. And
- 24 there are many Chisums that have yet to be found because
- 25 you just haven't drilled those areas and developed those

- 1 lands.
- 2 And we found places where people would go
- 3 in, depending upon who the operator is, and they'd drill
- 4 it. They were happy with the results, then they became
- 5 unhappy. For whatever reason, they would stop. Seven
- 6 years later, somebody would offset it half a mile in any
- 7 direction, find even a better well than they had in the
- 8 field, and it would be a dry hole in between. You know,
- 9 because somebody's dry hole could be another quy's "I'm
- 10 going to try to milk this thing as hard as I can for the
- 11 next 20 years and get five barrels a day out of it," and
- 12 it becomes a producer. This guy didn't even bother with
- 13 that. So you've got that kind of variability all over
- 14 the map, so you've got to back away from it to
- 15 understand the picture.
- 16 We view the whole thing as saturated with
- 17 hydrocarbon, with a tremendous amount of variability,
- 18 which is why we think we have to go chase it with
- 19 horizontal wells and try to exploit it.
- 20 RECROSS EXAMINATION
- 21 BY EXAMINER McMILLAN:
- Q. Is this the field that's right by the highway?
- 23 A. Chisum?
- 24 Q. Yeah.
- 25 A. Yeah. There's that and Racetrack.

1 Q. Okay. Yeah. I remember driving back from

- 2 school and seeing the flaring there.
- 3 A. Yeah. It's a problem with the gas. But there
- 4 is actually a lot of gas in the reservoir, so we plan
- 5 on -- we plan on capturing the gas and marketing it.
- 6 EXAMINER JONES: Thank you very much.
- 7 EXAMINER McMILLAN: All right. Thank you
- 8 very much.
- JOHN C. MAXEY,
- 10 after having been previously sworn under oath, was
- 11 questioned and testified as follows:
- 12 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 13 BY MR. LARSON:
- 14 Q. Mr. Maxey, would you please state your full
- 15 name for the record?
- 16 A. John C. Maxey.
- 17 Q. Where do you reside?
- 18 A. Roswell, New Mexico.
- 19 Q. And what is the nature of your business?
- 20 A. I'm a consulting petroleum engineer.
- 21 Q. And what is your relationship with Back Nine
- 22 **Properties?**
- 23 A. Back Nine retained me to evaluate their
- 24 southeast New Mexico acreage for horizontal San Andres
- 25 development.

1 Q. And are you familiar with horizontal well

- 2 development of the San Andres in the southeast New
- 3 Mexico?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And are you familiar with the matters addressed
- 6 in Back Nine's application?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And you've previously testified at the Division
- 9 and Commission hearings; is that correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And you were qualified as an expert petroleum
- 12 engineer?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I tender
- 15 Mr. Maxey as an expert in petroleum engineering.
- 16 EXAMINER McMILLAN: So qualified.
- Q. (BY MR. LARSON) Would you identify the document
- 18 marked as Exhibit 11?
- 19 A. Exhibit 11 is a map of the San Andres Field in
- 20 southeastern New Mexico.
- Q. And did you prepare this exhibit?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And was this identical exhibit admitted in
- 24 Cases 15714 and 15715?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Would you identify the document marked as

- 2 Exhibit 12?
- A. That is a map of the portion of the Milnesand
- 4 San Andres Unit.
- 5 Q. Did you also prepare this document?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And was an identical exhibit admitted in Cases
- 8 **15714** and **15715?**
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I request the
- adoption by reference of Mr. Maxey's testimony regarding
- 12 Exhibits 11 and 12 in Cases 15714 and 15715.
- 13 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Exhibits 11 and 12 --
- 14 the testimony in Cases 15714 and 15715 shall be accepted
- as part of the record in Case Number 15716.
- MR. LARSON: Thank you.
- 17 Q. (BY MR. LARSON) And would you identify the
- 18 final exhibit, which is Exhibit 13?
- 19 A. That is a map of the Chisum Field with the
- 20 Pinehurst -- the center well in the Pinehurst 5H.
- 21 Q. Did you prepare this exhibit?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And what is it intended to depict?
- 24 A. This depicts the average reserves in the Chisum
- 25 Field and the estimated reserves in the lateral that are

- 1 going to be drilled.
- 2 Q. Can you draw any conclusions in regard to the
- 3 Pinehurst well?
- 4 A. Yes. The Chisum reserves were normalized to
- 5 320 acres. The Chisum Field is drilled on a 10-acre
- 6 spacing. The Chisum Field has produced 1.1 million
- 7 barrels of oil and 554 million cubic feet of gas.
- 8 Normalizing the average production over a 320-proration
- 9 unit, 320 acres would produce 819,000 barrels of oil.
- 10 That would be 25,600 barrels of oil per well.
- 11 There is an uplift anticipated in
- 12 horizontal laterals due to connecting pay discontinuity
- in the San Andres. An approximate 2 percent increase in
- 14 the recovery factors are anticipated. So using
- 15 normalized data from the vertical wells and projecting
- 16 reserves for the horizontal wells, we're looking at
- 17 three wells on the 320 acres producing 983,000 estimated
- 18 EURs. That would be approximately 328,000 barrels per
- 19 well.
- 20 Q. You heard a question from Mr. McMillan about
- 21 moving the Pinehurst 5H, which is the well in the center
- of the project area, 10 feet or something in that range.
- 23 Would that affect the AFE costs?
- A. That will not change the AFE costs.
- Q. And do you agree with Mr. Bahlburg's view that

1 drilling three horizontal wells across a half section is

- 2 the optimal approach to producing from the San Andres in
- 3 this area?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And once the three wells identified in Exhibit
- 6 10 are completed, will there be any possibility of
- 7 stranded acreage in the project area?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. In your opinion, is drilling three wells in the
- 10 proposed project area the most efficient and economical
- 11 well to developing the -- I'm sorry -- most economical
- 12 way to develop the San Andres in this acreage?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. In your opinion, will the Pinehurst 5H well
- 15 effect, develop and drain portion of the lands in each
- 16 and every quarter-quarter section included in the
- 17 proposed project area?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. In your opinion, will the production from the
- 20 Pinehurst 5H well be reasonably uniform across the
- 21 entire length of the lateral?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And in your opinion, will the #4 and #6 wells,
- 24 indicated on Exhibit 10, also produce uniformly across
- 25 the length of the laterals?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And in your opinion, will the granting of Back
- 3 Nine's application avoid the drilling of unnecessary
- 4 wells, protect correlative rights and serve the
- 5 interests of conversation and the prevention of waste?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move the
- 8 admission of Exhibit Numbers 11, 12 and 13?
- 9 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Exhibits 11, 12 and 13
- 10 shall be accepted as part of the record.
- 11 (Back Nine Properties, LLC Exhibit Numbers
- 12 11 through 13 are offered and admitted into
- evidence.)
- MR. LARSON: And I will pass the witness.
- 15 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Go ahead.
- 16 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 17 BY EXAMINER JONES:
- 18 Q. I've never asked this before. A well that's
- 19 2,300 feet deep and drilling it, you know, almost twice
- that horizontally is doable nowadays?
- 21 A. Yes, it's doable. You have to move around
- 22 collars a little bit more than you might deeper in the
- 23 vertical section.
- Q. Okay. So is it electricity out here?
- 25 A. Yes, electrified.

1 Q. And is there a salt section you have to case

- 2 off or immediate somewhere down here?
- A. Actually, how the wells are going to be planned
- 4 is to actually put all -- everything salt -- have any
- 5 salt -- potential salt anhydrite behind the first
- 6 string.
- 7 Q. Okay.
- 8 A. That's been done in the area and approved.
- 9 Q. Okay. Okay. So just two strings of pipe in
- 10 these wells?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And producing through gas lift or some kind of
- 13 pumping units or --
- 14 A. Depends on the type of production, but with the
- 15 lower water cut, the rod pump would probably work fine.
- 16 This shallow, you can use progressive cavity pumps.
- 17 That's an option.
- 18 Q. Used to be those were kind of dangerous if they
- 19 twist off or something, but if you can use them, you can
- 20 use them.
- 21 A. I've had very successful runs, and they can run
- 22 for a very long time.
- Q. Will they -- can you get them down in the --
- A. You're going to pump from above.
- Q. You have to -- it's totally vertical?

1 A. Yeah. You can't run them below. I mean -- but

- 2 you -- and normally you would run above, and then as you
- 3 draw down fluid level, you could consider running them
- 4 around the corner.
- 5 Q. Yeah. At least they will move your frac sand
- 6 and everything.
- 7 A. Yeah. They're better at moving sand and
- 8 debris.
- 9 Q. Thank you very much.
- 10 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Thank you very much.
- 11 Case Number 15716 shall be taken under
- 12 advisement.
- 13 (Case Number 15716 concludes, 12:08 p.m.)
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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO

2 COUNTY OF BERNALILLO

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4 CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

5 I, MARY C. HANKINS, Certified Court

- 6 Reporter, New Mexico Certified Court Reporter No. 20,
- 7 and Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify
- 8 that I reported the foregoing proceedings in
- 9 stenographic shorthand and that the foregoing pages are
- 10 a true and correct transcript of those proceedings that
- 11 were reduced to printed form by me to the best of my
- 12 ability.
- I FURTHER CERTIFY that the Reporter's
- 14 Record of the proceedings truly and accurately reflects
- 15 the exhibits, if any, offered by the respective parties.
- I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither
- 17 employed by nor related to any of the parties or
- 18 attorneys in this case and that I have no interest in
- 19 the final disposition of this case.

20

21

MARY C. HANKINS, CCR, RPR

22 Certified Court Reporter
New Mexico CCR No. 20

Date of CCR Expiration: 12/31/2017

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