

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 NADEL AND GUSSMAN )  
PERMIAN, L.L.C., FOR A NONSTANDARD )  
GAS SPACING AND PRORATION UNIT AND )  
AN UNORTHODOX GAS WELL LOCATION, OR )  
FOR ALTERNATIVE RELIEF, EDDY COUNTY, )  
NEW MEXICO )

CASE NO. 13,115

ORIGINAL

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

EXAMINER HEARING

RECEIVED

AUG 21 2003

Oil Conservation Division

BEFORE: WILLIAM V. JONES, JR., Hearing Examiner

August 7th, 2003

Santa Fe, New Mexico

This matter came on for hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, WILLIAM V. JONES, JR., Hearing Examiner, on Thursday, August 7th, 2003, at the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, 1220 South Saint Francis Drive, Room 102, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Steven T. Brenner, Certified Court Reporter No. 7 for the State of New Mexico.

\* \* \*

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August 7th, 2003  
 Examiner Hearing  
 CASE NO. 13,115

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\* \* \*

## A P P E A R A N C E S

## FOR THE DIVISION:

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1220 South St. Francis Drive  
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## FOR THE APPLICANT:

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## FOR SNOW OIL AND GAS, INC.:

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Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2307  
By: PAUL R. OWEN

\* \* \*

## ALSO PRESENT:

MICHAEL E. STOGNER  
Hearing Examiner  
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division  
1220 South Saint Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

GAIL MacQUESTEN  
Deputy General Counsel  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
1220 South St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

\* \* \*

1           WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had at  
2 10:43 a.m.:

3           EXAMINER JONES: At this time we'll call Case  
4 13,115, which was continued from July 24th, Application of  
5 Nadel and Gussman Permian, L.L.C., for a nonstandard gas  
6 spacing and proration unit and an unorthodox gas well  
7 location, or for alternative relief, Eddy County, New  
8 Mexico.

9           Call for appearances in this case.

10          MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, Jim Bruce of Santa Fe,  
11 representing the Applicant.

12          I have three witnesses.

13          MR. OWEN: May it please the Examiner, Paul Owen  
14 of the Santa Fe law firm of Montgomery and Andrews,  
15 appearing on behalf of Snow Oil and Gas, Inc.

16          I have no witnesses and do not anticipate  
17 presenting testimony today.

18          EXAMINER JONES: How do you spell Noe?

19          MR. OWEN: Snow.

20          EXAMINER JONES: Snow, okay.

21          Any witnesses in this case?

22          MR. BRUCE: I have three witnesses.

23          EXAMINER JONES: Three witnesses. Will the  
24 witnesses please stand to be sworn?

25          (Thereupon, the witnesses were sworn.)

1                                    SAM H. JOLLIFFE, IV,

2        the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn upon  
3        his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

4                                    DIRECT EXAMINATION

5        BY MR. BRUCE:

6                    Q.     Would you please state your name and city of  
7        residence?

8                    A.     Yes, my name is Sam Jolliffe. I live in Midland,  
9        Texas.

10                  Q.     Who do you work for and in what capacity?

11                  A.     I work for Nadel and Gussman Permian as land  
12        manager.

13                  Q.     Have you previously testified before the  
14        Division?

15                  A.     Yes, I have.

16                  Q.     And were your credentials as an expert landman  
17        accepted as a matter of record?

18                  A.     Yes.

19                  Q.     And are you familiar with the land matters  
20        involved in this case?

21                  A.     Yes, sir.

22                  MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I tender Mr. Jolliffe  
23        as an expert petroleum landman.

24                  EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Jolliffe is so qualified.

25                  Q.     (By Mr. Bruce) Mr. Jolliffe, would you identify

1 Exhibit 1 for the Examiner?

2 A. Yes, Exhibit 1 is a land plat covering Section 28  
3 in Township 21 South, Range 27 East in Eddy County. In  
4 particular it highlights the Tucker Fee Well Number 1Y,  
5 located 1600 feet from the south line and 2300 from the  
6 east line of Section 28.

7 Q. What pool is the well completed in?

8 A. It is in the North Esperanza-Delaware Pool. It's  
9 an oil pool developed on statewide rules.

10 Q. In looking at your Exhibit 1, you show the Tucker  
11 Fee 1Y. There's a well to the west northwest. Is that  
12 well now completed in and producing from the North  
13 Esperanza-Delaware Oil Pool, just immediately to the west  
14 of your well?

15 A. I'm not sure, I believe it is.

16 Q. Okay. And is -- then to the southeast of your  
17 well there's also a Delaware oil well; is that correct?

18 A. Yes. Yes, that's correct.

19 Q. Okay. Now this is statewide rules, so normally  
20 statewide spacing is 40 acres for a Delaware oil pool, is  
21 that not --

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. And what is Exhibit 2?

24 A. Exhibit 2 is the Form C-102 originally filed on  
25 the well, with the northwest of the southeast of Section 28

1 being dedicated to the well.

2 Q. When was the well drilled?

3 A. The well was commenced on February 6th, 2003, and  
4 completed on April 18th, 2003.

5 Q. When the well was completed, was it producing as  
6 an oil well?

7 A. Yes, but after producing for a number of weeks it  
8 became a gas well. It is currently shut in, and our  
9 engineer will go into this in more detail.

10 Q. Okay. Now, potentially or conceivably, if it's a  
11 gas well, could spacing be 160 acres?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. What was the cost of the well?

14 A. The dryhole cost was approximately \$650,000, the  
15 completed cost was \$200,000, approximately.

16 Q. Okay, for a total of \$850,000?

17 A. Yes, that's correct.

18 Q. What does Nadel and Gussman seek in this case?

19 A. We seek either an 80-acre nonstandard unit  
20 comprised of the west half of the southeast quarter of  
21 Section 28 or an order by the Division holding that the  
22 well should be governed by statewide rules for the North  
23 Esperanza-Delaware Pool, including 40-acre spacing.

24 Q. Now, is the west half, southeast quarter of  
25 Section 28 a single tract?

1 A. Yes, it is.

2 Q. So it has common royalty, overriding royalty, and  
3 working interest?

4 A. That's correct, everything is uniform.

5 Q. So if a west half, southeast quarter unit is  
6 formed, equities in the well would not be affected?

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. Now, is the east half, southeast quarter of  
9 Section 28, the offsetting 80 acres, also a single tract?

10 A. Yes, it is covered by a federal oil and gas  
11 lease.

12 Q. Okay. And are the interest owners in that 80-  
13 acre tract listed in Exhibit 3?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And were they notified of this hearing?

16 A. Yes, they were, even though we could not locate  
17 an address for David DeMarco and Lowell Todd Armstrong,  
18 they had a very minor interest.

19 Q. Okay. And Mr. Owen's client, Snow Oil and Gas,  
20 was notified as an interest owner in the east half,  
21 southeast, was it not?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. When I asked you earlier about the Delaware well  
24 in the southwest quarter, in the northeast quarter of the  
25 southwest quarter, is that well operated by Snow Oil and

1 Gas also?

2 A. Yes, I believe it is.

3 Q. Okay, so they were also notified as an offset  
4 operator?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Now, you gave the footage location as 1600 feet  
7 from the north line and 2300 feet from the east line. If  
8 this is an oil well, that location would be unorthodox,  
9 correct?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. It's too close to the quarter quarter section?

12 A. Right, right, and it actually is 1600 feet from  
13 the south line.

14 Q. What was the original location of the well?

15 A. 1650 from the south and 2300 from the east.

16 Q. What happened to cause the location to be moved?

17 A. We had to skid the rig.

18 Q. Okay, so you encountered some downhole problems  
19 and skidded the rig --

20 A. Right, right.

21 Q. -- 50 feet --

22 A. -- 50 feet, and we did get an approval from the  
23 OCD.

24 Q. And is that Administrative Order NSL-4925?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Okay. Now, this is kind of an odd case, Mr.  
2 Jolliffe, but if Nadel and Gussman had to form a 160-acre  
3 unit because it's gas well production, would the working  
4 interest owners in that well be entitled to share in all  
5 Delaware production?

6 A. We don't think so. As our geologic and  
7 engineering witnesses will testify, there are prospective  
8 zones uphole in the Delaware but they will be oil-bearing  
9 and will be spaced on 40 acres. Therefore, if others join  
10 in the well and pay their proportionate share of well  
11 costs, they will share in production only from this one  
12 limited Delaware zone.

13 Q. Okay. And is Exhibit 4 my affidavit of notice to  
14 the offset owners?

15 A. Yes, sir.

16 Q. Were Exhibits 1 through 4 prepared by you or  
17 under your supervision or compiled from company business  
18 records?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And in your opinion, is the granting of Nadel and  
21 Gussman's Application in the interests of conservation and  
22 the prevention of waste?

23 A. Yes.

24 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I'd move the admission  
25 of Nadel and Gussman Exhibits 1 through 4.

1 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Owen?

2 MR. OWEN: No objection.

3 EXAMINER JONES: Exhibits 1 through 4 will be  
4 admitted to evidence.

5 Mr. Owen?

6 MR. OWEN: No questions.

7 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, Mr. Bruce, do you have a  
8 letter that you got yesterday?

9 MR. BRUCE: Yes, I really just got it this  
10 morning.

11 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, have you looked at it?

12 MR. BRUCE: I did, Mr. Examiner.

13 EXAMINER JONES: Can you talk about it a  
14 minute --

15 MR. BRUCE: Sure.

16 EXAMINER JONES: -- explain that and your  
17 reaction to the letter?

18 MR. BRUCE: Well, I mean, before I begin, does  
19 Mr. Owen have a copy of that letter?

20 MR. OWEN: I don't know what you're talking  
21 about.

22 (Mr. Bruce hands a document to Mr. Owen.)

23 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Owen, I gave you a copy of the  
24 letter I received from Michael Stogner this morning. I  
25 pulled it up off of -- It was an e-mail, so it doesn't have

1 the OCD letterhead on it.

2 I just want to give Mr. Owen a chance to read the  
3 letter.

4 (Mr. Bruce hands another document to Mr. Owen.)

5 MR. OWEN: Jim, do you have another copy? Is  
6 this mine?

7 MR. BRUCE: That's yours.

8 MR. OWEN: Okay. Okay.

9 MR. BRUCE: A couple of things. There's a couple  
10 of reasons why -- I read the letter, and I agree with what  
11 Mr. Stogner said in the matter. I looked at the Rule, and  
12 we do have an approved unorthodox location, and we could  
13 produce. There's a couple of factors, which is why I would  
14 like to present the evidence today, especially of our  
15 engineer, there's a couple of factors.

16 It is our understanding that Mr. Owen's client  
17 has filed a -- Take a step back.

18 The well came on at about a million cubic feet of  
19 gas a day, Mr. Examiner, which obviously is in excess of  
20 the allowable which would apply under Rule 506. And  
21 although it had produced oil, the oil dropped off. There  
22 is pressure decline in this well, and as you will see from  
23 the evidence we think it is a limited reservoir.

24 Mr. Owen's client, Mr. Snow, as we understand it  
25 -- or Snow Oil and Gas, Inc. -- filed a complaint with the

1 Artesia Office regarding the well, to the effect that it  
2 was a gas well and should be shut in pending some type of  
3 approval, which is why we're here today, we want to make  
4 sure that we don't produce outside the bounds of what the  
5 Division would allow.

6 And there is a -- certain operational  
7 difficulties with the well, which the engineer will also  
8 address, with respect to producing at this allowable, and  
9 we may have to amend the Application, but I would like to  
10 go ahead and present the evidence today, so that you have  
11 all the facts in front of you and so that Mr. Owen has all  
12 the facts.

13 EXAMINER JONES: Well, that's acceptable to me.  
14 And Mr. Owen, you can have a chance to talk and question  
15 anybody here and then make a statement at the end.

16 MR. OWEN: That would be fine, Mr. Examiner. It  
17 is -- My client's concern is that it is, in fact, a gas  
18 well, and may be draining reserves under my acreage, which  
19 my client holds. My client has had extensive discussions  
20 with the Applicant and has reviewed a number of the  
21 technical exhibits and the data underlying the technical  
22 exhibits, but it has not resolved all of his concerns.  
23 That's why I'm here to monitor the proceedings today, but  
24 not to present affirmative testimony at this point.

25 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, before we go -- let's make

1 sure we finish with Mr. Jolliffe, because if indeed it  
2 turns out to be a potential nonstandard proration unit in a  
3 gas zone, which -- Is that right? That's -- Yeah, gas  
4 spacing and proration unit. We need to make sure that we  
5 have all the notices that would be -- by Rule 1207, would  
6 be required in that case. Can you talk about that?

7 MR. BRUCE: Yeah, and perhaps I glossed over  
8 that, Mr. Examiner.

9 EXAMINER JONES: Yeah, you've talked about it to  
10 the -- directly to the east, but I didn't hear you say  
11 anything about all the way around the proration unit.

12 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I believe that we did  
13 notify everyone in the east half, southeast, who would be  
14 the people excluded from a 160-acre unit, so we have  
15 notified all of them.

16 EXAMINER JONES: Okay.

17 MR. BRUCE: So -- Now, I don't have the Rules in  
18 front of me, but I believe those would be the only people  
19 we would have to notify insofar as the nonstandard unit.

20 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, can you talk about the  
21 size of the proration units and the other boundaries around  
22 the proposed spacing unit? Are they 160?

23 MR. BRUCE: Oh, the -- Mr. Examiner --

24 EXAMINER JONES: There's no gas, so --

25 MR. BRUCE: -- there are only Delaware oil

1 wells --

2 EXAMINER JONES: Right, okay, so there's no --

3 MR. BRUCE: -- and so they're all 40-acre units,  
4 of the existing Delaware oil wells. And we did not -- We  
5 notified Snow Oil and Gas, which is the Delaware operator  
6 to the west in the southwest quarter, because if this was  
7 deemed a gas well, the well would be too close to the  
8 quarter section line.

9 EXAMINER JONES: But if it was deemed a gas well,  
10 it would also be potentially draining people to -- all  
11 around it, even the people that are classified in the  
12 Delaware as oil.

13 MR. BRUCE: Well, I don't think under Rule 120-  
14 -- actually, if you look at the location, the only one we  
15 would be encroaching upon for the unorthodox-location rules  
16 would be the southwest quarter. We are not encroaching  
17 upon people, say, in the northwest quarter. If you --

18 EXAMINER JONES: Even at a gas location?

19 MR. BRUCE: Even at a gas -- Even at this  
20 location. We would have to be further north to be  
21 encroaching on people in the northwest quarter, or in the  
22 northeast quarter as far as the unorthodox location goes.  
23 So the only ones adversely affected, as far as an  
24 unorthodox gas well location are the people in the  
25 southwest quarter, and we have given notice to the operator

1 as required by the Rules.

2 EXAMINER JONES: Okay.

3 MR. BRUCE: And so I think we've satisfied that.  
4 And then as far as the nonstandard unit, I believe we only  
5 have to notify the people in the -- who are excluded from  
6 the proration unit.

7 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, that was my main concern.

8 Mr. Jolliffe, do you have any -- do you want to  
9 talk about that anymore or --

10 THE WITNESS: No, sir, I don't have any  
11 further --

12 EXAMINATION

13 BY EXAMINER JONES:

14 Q. Do you have evidence of notification here?

15 A. Yes, in Exhibit 3 --

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. -- and 4, right.

18 Q. 3 and 4, which we have already entered into  
19 evidence here.

20 A. Yes, sir.

21 MR. BROOKS: I had a concern about Exhibit 4,  
22 that it states the hearing will be on July 24, and the  
23 notice -- oh, yeah, that's okay, I overlooked that. The  
24 docket sheet does say this was continued.

25 MR. BRUCE: Yes, sir, it was continued at Snow

1 Oil and Gas's request.

2 MR. BROOKS: Okay. I think you're right about  
3 Section 1207, but I have it right in front of me so if  
4 you'll give me a minute here I'll just check that.

5 Q. (By Examiner Jones) And while he's checking  
6 that, Mr. Jolliffe, that 80 acres, is it -- did you talk  
7 about how many owners are in that 80 acres?

8 A. From a mineral standpoint?

9 Q. Minerals and working interest.

10 A. Okay, there are two mineral owners. Mr. James  
11 Tucker and Mrs. Ciserine Sanchez each own 40 net acres  
12 apiece. Working interest ownership, it's us, and we have  
13 an internal partner, Rubicon Oil and Gas.

14 Q. And you have tried to contact them and get them  
15 to be part of this -- well, this is not a compulsory  
16 pooling at all, but they're --

17 (Off the record)

18 MR. BROOKS: Let me clarify a couple of things.  
19 This is a standard unit for oil, right?

20 MR. BRUCE: It is a standard unit for oil.

21 MR. BROOKS: It's nonstandard for gas?

22 MR. BRUCE: It would be nonstandard for gas, and  
23 that 80-acre nonstandard unit has uniform ownership.

24 MR. BROOKS: Okay. Now tell me, what is -- the  
25 standard unit for gas would be 160; is that right?

1 MR. BRUCE: Yes, sir.

2 MR. BROOKS: And you're asking -- if it's  
3 classified as a gas well, you're asking for an 80-acre --

4 MR. BRUCE: Yes, sir.

5 MR. BROOKS: And the 80 acres would be --

6 MR. BRUCE: West half.

7 MR. BROOKS: -- the west half of the southeast  
8 quarter?

9 MR. BRUCE: Yes, sir.

10 MR. BROOKS: So the people you would have to  
11 notify, then, would be everyone in the east half of the --  
12 all the mineral owners in the east half of the southeast  
13 quarter?

14 MR. BRUCE: It is a -- Mr. Jolliffe can confirm  
15 this. It is a federal lease --

16 MR. BROOKS: Right.

17 MR. BRUCE: -- obviously the BLM, plus all of the  
18 working and overriding royalty owners were notified.

19 MR. BROOKS: And that's what you've done?

20 MR. BRUCE: Yes, sir.

21 MR. BROOKS: Okay, I think you're okay on notice,  
22 then.

23 MR. BRUCE: And in the west half, southeast, none  
24 of those four owners -- Nadel and Gussman, and Rubicon and  
25 the two royalty owners -- would have their interests

1 diluted --

2 EXAMINER JONES: Okay --

3 MR. BRUCE: -- so therefore we did not notify  
4 them of this Application?

5 MR. BROOKS: Right.

6 MR. BRUCE: They would be in the well regardless.

7 EXAMINER JONES: Okay.

8 MR. BROOKS: Yeah.

9 EXAMINER JONES: I think that's all I have of Mr.  
10 Jolliffe.

11 Mr. Brooks, do you have anything more on the land  
12 question?

13 MR. BROOKS: Yeah, for the -- the location is  
14 unorthodox for a gas well, as well as being a nonstandard  
15 unit; is that correct?

16 MR. BRUCE: Yes, it -- instead of --

17 MR. BROOKS: It's 2300 from the east, which would  
18 make it 340 from the half-section line?

19 MR. BRUCE: That's correct, yes.

20 MR. BROOKS: And the 160 acres is supposed to be  
21 660, right?

22 MR. BRUCE: That's correct.

23 MR. BROOKS: So you then -- you also notified  
24 everybody in the -- you also notified the --

25 MR. BRUCE: We notified Snow Oil and Gas as the

1 Delaware operator in the southwest quarter.

2 MR. BROOKS: Okay, okay, and so they would be the  
3 only person you would be required to notify?

4 MR. BRUCE: Yes, sir.

5 MR. BROOKS: Okay, thank you.

6 EXAMINER JONES: Thanks, Mr. Jolliffe.

7 KEITH LOGAN,

8 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn upon  
9 his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. BRUCE:

12 Q. Would you please state your name for the record?

13 A. Keith Logan.

14 Q. Where do you reside?

15 A. Midland, Texas.

16 Q. Who do you work for and in what capacity?

17 A. Nadel and Gussman as an exploration geologist.

18 Q. Have you previously testified before the Division  
19 as a geologist?

20 A. Yes, I have.

21 Q. And were your credentials accepted as a matter of  
22 record?

23 A. Yes, they were.

24 Q. And does your area of responsibility at Nadel and  
25 Gussman include this portion of Eddy County?

1 A. Yes, it does.

2 Q. And are you familiar with the geology involved in  
3 this well?

4 A. Yes, I am.

5 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I'd tender Mr. Logan as  
6 an expert petroleum geologist.

7 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Owen?

8 MR. OWEN: No objection.

9 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Logan is so qualified.

10 Q. (By Mr. Bruce) Mr. Logan, could you identify  
11 Exhibit 5 for the Examiner?

12 A. Okay, Exhibit 5 is a production map showing just  
13 the Delaware production in the area around Section 28 of 21  
14 South, 27 East. As you can see on this production map,  
15 I've also colored in yellow the 80-acre unit we're  
16 proposing.

17 To the west of us, Snow Oil and Gas operates the  
18 -- it was a re-entry of an old Cities Service well, the  
19 Cawley. The well is an oil well, it has made 57,000  
20 barrels, it's making 65 barrels of oil a day.

21 Then they also show to -- completed a well to the  
22 north, in the northwest quarter, but I have not found any  
23 production on that one as yet.

24 Q. Completed in the Delaware?

25 A. In the Delaware, yes. The remaining gas wells in

1 this area are either -- are generally Morrow, but there are  
2 some Wolfcamp and Atoka wells scattered throughout.

3 Then on the subject acreage, of course, is the  
4 Tucker Fee 1Y, which has produced gas, made about 46  
5 million out of the lower Delaware sand. It's currently  
6 shut in.

7 Q. Mr. Logan, so offsetting your well to the west  
8 northwest is an oil well, and the same -- there is an oil  
9 well to the southeast?

10 A. Right, and all I'm showing there is -- and that's  
11 the -- it was originally a Morrow test also by KCS  
12 Medallion. That was re-entered by Snow and has made 2.5  
13 MBO, but I'm not showing any current rate from that point.

14 Q. Okay. Would you identify your Exhibit 6 for the  
15 Examiner and tell us what zones the various Delaware wells  
16 in this area are producing from?

17 A. Okay, this exhibit is really just a one-inch  
18 cross-section, because I wanted to show the entire Delaware  
19 interval. If you start on the left side of the cross-  
20 section or the west, you've got the old Cities Service  
21 Cawley A Number 1, which -- I've shown the producing  
22 interval and the perforations in red. As you can see, they  
23 perforated in some upper Delaware sand and then something  
24 what I would call in the Cherry Canyon.

25 And I've got two correlation points I've used in

1 here, the Manzanita marker, which is used frequently  
2 throughout the area, and to anchor it I've used the Bone  
3 Spring lime at the bottom.

4 And if you look across the cross-section from the  
5 Cawley to our well, which is the second well, you can see  
6 that we're really -- the interval we've perforated is what  
7 I would call in the lower Brushy Canyon, just above the top  
8 of the Bone Spring.

9 And the well next to it to the east, the KCS  
10 Medallion well, was re-entered by Snow. It has  
11 perforations up in a similar interval to what the Cawley  
12 produces from, but then I've also colored in in yellow the  
13 correlative sand to what we've perforated in our well.

14 And continuing to the east, in Section 27, I  
15 again show the correlation points. That well was a  
16 Wolfcamp producer but never attempted any of these Delaware  
17 sands.

18 Q. So in looking at the well on the left, which is  
19 one of the Snow oil wells, that is completed in and  
20 producing from an interval substantially above your current  
21 completion interval?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. And so same thing with the Snow well to the  
24 southeast of you, it is producing -- or its perforated  
25 interval is quite a bit above your producing interval?

1 A. Right.

2 Q. Now, in looking at it, the interval that you're  
3 producing from -- that is, producing the gas -- is it  
4 present in this Snow oil well to the west?

5 A. It sure does not look like it is, no.

6 Q. What about the Snow oil well to the southeast?

7 A. I'm just saying it would have a trace of sand.

8 Q. You've highlighted in red --

9 A. In red, yes.

10 Q. -- but there's not much there?

11 A. Right --

12 Q. But --

13 A. -- and I have here, soon, another exhibit that's  
14 got a blow-up of that, of those two logs, so...

15 Q. Okay. Now, you've got a couple of structure  
16 maps, Exhibits 7 and 8. Could you identify those for the  
17 Examiner?

18 A. Right, what I wanted to do here too was just -- I  
19 mentioned that the Manzanita marker is a common interval or  
20 a common point that's mapped in the area in the Delaware,  
21 so I've used that point and done a structure map on that.  
22 And as you can see, in Section 28 you've got a strong  
23 structural nose, even a slight closure across the center of  
24 Section 28, which could explain some of the production  
25 we're seeing in there.

1           But I've also followed it with -- since the pay  
2 interval that we've perforated is closer to the Bone  
3 Spring, I've also put in a Bone Spring map, which is really  
4 considered the base of the Delaware out here. And again  
5 you see a nose, it's just -- some of the -- Well, the well  
6 to the -- in the northwest quarter shows not -- did not  
7 penetrate that interval, so there's not as much control  
8 there, but it is a little closer to the interval we're  
9 talking about today.

10           Q.    What is Exhibit 9?

11           A.    Exhibit 9 is a net isopach map of what we call  
12 the Delaware "D5" sand, which is the sand in question. And  
13 as you can see, I've drawn in an isopach, and a lot of this  
14 is based on engineering data that will be presented by our  
15 engineering witness.

16           Q.    Okay, so you took the well control and also  
17 incorporated pressure information that the engineer has?

18           A.    Correct.

19           Q.    And he will discuss that further?

20           A.    Right, and I've gone ahead and planimetered  
21 volumes in here to match data that he will present --

22           Q.    Okay.

23           A.    -- to make my isopach in Section 28.

24           Q.    So the conclusion, based not only on the well  
25 logs but on the engineering, is that the gas-producing zone

1 within the Delaware zone is limited in extent?

2 A. It's limited. I just know it can't be very big.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. And if it gets -- if for some reason it's  
5 thicker, then it's even smaller in areal extent --

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. -- so...

8 Q. Before we move on to the final exhibit, I forgot  
9 to ask you one question. With respect to your Tucker 1Y  
10 well, are there other zones uphole from your current  
11 completion that look like they can -- that you will  
12 perforate them?

13 A. Yes, I mean I would think it -- especially if,  
14 you know, we have difficulty with this, we will perforate  
15 some oil-producing intervals.

16 Q. And they do appear to be oil-producing?

17 A. Yes, they do.

18 Q. Let's move on to your final exhibit, Number 10.  
19 What does that show?

20 A. Okay, this is just a -- this is a 2-1/2-inch of  
21 just the "D5" sand, which is the sand that we've perforated  
22 in our well, compared to the only well in the area that we  
23 see even a remnant of this correlative sand. Our well, I  
24 gave it 6 feet of pay greater than 14 percent, which I feel  
25 is -- really in the Delaware, cutoffs are normally that or

1 higher. So I've given it 6 feet.

2 And as you can see, the well on the right is the  
3 Snow Oil and Gas Esperanza 28, and it's got, I'm saying,  
4 just a trace of sand in that interval.

5 Q. And that well was there before yours, and nobody  
6 ever tried to complete in that zone?

7 A. Correct, it was originally drilled by KCS.

8 Q. As a Morrow well?

9 A. As a Morrow well.

10 Q. Okay. Now, if the well was considered a gas well  
11 and it was unorthodox, do you believe that your well is  
12 adversely affecting any offset interests?

13 A. No, I don't.

14 Q. It's just because of the limited extent of the  
15 reservoir?

16 A. Right, and what I'm seeing is quality of  
17 potential pay in the offset wells.

18 Q. Okay. Now, if Nadel and Gussman couldn't produce  
19 this gas-bearing zone, what might happen? I mean, could  
20 those reserves be left behind?

21 A. Yes, I believe they would be left behind.

22 Q. Okay, if you completed uphole first?

23 A. Yes, and then I -- I think then you would a  
24 difficulty going back and recapturing those reserves.

25 Q. Were Exhibits 5 through 10 prepared by you or

1 under your supervision?

2 A. Yes, they were.

3 Q. And in your opinion is the granting of this  
4 Application in the interests of conservation and the  
5 prevention of waste?

6 A. Yes, it is.

7 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I tender the admission  
8 of Exhibits 5 through 10.

9 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Owen?

10 MR. OWEN: No objection.

11 EXAMINER JONES: Exhibits 5 through 10 will be  
12 admitted into evidence.

13 Mr. Owen?

14 MR. OWEN: No questions.

15 EXAMINATION

16 BY EXAMINER JONES:

17 Q. Mr. Logan, the well was skidded. Was it skidded  
18 while it was drilling or -- how much --

19 A. Yeah, we drilled it to about 500 feet and had --

20 Q. Oh --

21 A. -- had some problems -- had to --

22 Q. -- Okay.

23 A. -- skid the rig. Our next witness could give you  
24 a little more detail on that.

25 Q. Okay. And you just happened to hit a really good

1 porosity zone in the upper part of the "D5" sand; is that  
2 right?

3 A. Right.

4 Q. Is that the -- the entire Delaware interval is --  
5 for gas would be wildcat, for oil would be the North  
6 Esperanza-Delaware oil. So the well strictly to the west,  
7 that one is completed in an oil zone above your well; is  
8 that right?

9 A. Oh, yes, it's what I would call -- Well, they  
10 perforated, now, something -- an interval, probably what I  
11 would call in the Bell Canyon, but then they've also  
12 perforated an interval in the Cherry Canyon between 3400  
13 and 3500 feet, which looks to be a really good well. It's  
14 made 60,000 barrels or 50,000 barrels, and it's still  
15 making 65 a day.

16 Q. Okay. And they didn't even try the same  
17 equivalent gas zone that you've got in your well?

18 A. Well, it doesn't look like they have it, to me.

19 Q. Okay. And so you don't see this gas zone in any  
20 well around you?

21 A. Well, and the numbers that we're seeing tell us  
22 that, I mean, that the ultimate recovery is about 213  
23 million, so it can't be very big.

24 Q. So you're talking .2 BCF?

25 A. Correct.

1 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, that's all the questions I  
2 have.

3 Mr. Brooks?

4 MR. BROOKS: No questions.

5 EXAMINER JONES: Thank you, Mr. Logan.

6 KEM E. McCREADY,

7 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn upon  
8 his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. BRUCE:

11 Q. Would you please state your name and city of  
12 residence for the record?

13 A. Kem Ed McCready, Midland, Texas.

14 Q. Who do you work for and in what capacity?

15 A. I work for Nadel and Gussman as an operations  
16 engineer.

17 Q. Have you previously testified before the  
18 Division?

19 A. No, I have not.

20 Q. Would you please summarize your educational and  
21 employment background?

22 A. I graduated in 1980 from New Mexico State with a  
23 bachelor of science in chemical engineering. I've worked  
24 in the E&P industry since that time. From graduation until  
25 2000 I worked for Mobil Oil in southeastern New Mexico and

1 west Texas. From 2000 to 2002 I worked for a company  
2 called CMS Energy. Since April of 2002 I've been employed  
3 by Nadel and Gussman.

4 Q. Does your area of responsibility include  
5 southeast New Mexico?

6 A. Yes, it does --

7 Q. And are you --

8 A. -- almost exclusively.

9 Q. And are you familiar with the operational matters  
10 regarding this well?

11 A. Yes, I am.

12 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I tender Mr. McCready  
13 as an expert operations engineer.

14 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Owen?

15 MR. OWEN: No objection.

16 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. McCready, do you ever regret  
17 going into the oil business?

18 THE WITNESS: Sometimes, but it's a fun business,  
19 I enjoy it.

20 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. McCready is qualified.

21 Q. (By Mr. Bruce) Mr. McCready, could you identify  
22 Exhibit 11 and discuss -- maybe go into the history of the  
23 drilling of the well and the operation of the well and the  
24 production --

25 A. Yeah, let me go into the history, and then we can

1 address how it affects the production plot that we see  
2 here.

3           You had some questions originally about the  
4 original well, the Tucker Fee Number 1. That well was  
5 originally spudded on January 30th of this year. At 505  
6 feet we stuck our bit in our stabilizer, we had to back it  
7 off eventually, we lost that equipment in the hole.  
8 Various attempts over the next two to three days to get  
9 down to that equipment to fish it. We just -- the hole  
10 just kept caving in on it. The last time, our attempt to  
11 get into the well, we couldn't past about 60 feet.

12           At that time, the Artesia District granted us  
13 permission to plug the well and then skid the rig south and  
14 redrill the well, which we did. And as previously  
15 testified, we went ahead and spudded that well on the 6th  
16 of February.

17           On the 1Y, on the 21st of February we were  
18 drilling ahead at 4978 feet when we took a -- with 8.5-  
19 pound-per-gallon mud -- when we took a gas kick, requiring  
20 us to increase our mud weight to 9.2 pound per gallon.  
21 This was rather surprising to us.

22           The offset records that we had from the east and  
23 the west well show that they had drilled this interval with  
24 a normal weight 8.3- to 8.5-pound-per-gallon fluids, had  
25 seen no evidence of any gas. They had a little bit of

1 drilling break on the well to the east, but no flow and  
2 never had to weight up. They did not see any gas. And we  
3 didn't really -- We were drilling to the top of the Bone  
4 Springs, just so we'd have the entire Delaware section  
5 drilled. We didn't really expect to see anything in this  
6 interval either. We went ahead and set pipe and started  
7 completion operations on the well on March 13th.

8 On the 15th of March of this year, we perforated  
9 the Delaware from 4964 to 4970. That well, we shut it in  
10 for 48 hours. The next -- when we came back on that  
11 Monday, we had 1900 pounds of surface pressure.

12 We then attempted -- We then acidized the  
13 formation and got it broken down, got a little flow out of  
14 it. It was swabbed, just a little gas. We didn't really  
15 flow a significant volume of gas to surface.

16 We again shut the well in for a pressure buildup  
17 on March the 21st. This was for an 87-hour buildup. The  
18 buildup indicated that we had bottomhole pressure of 2250  
19 and a surface pressure of right under 1900 pounds. It was  
20 1893 when we pulled the bomb. So a little bit of drawdown,  
21 but we didn't expect to -- you know, but the significant  
22 portion of this was that we got an initial pressure early  
23 in the life of the well. This would help out later in  
24 determining just what our reserves were, because we were  
25 concerned, since it wasn't present in the offsets, just how

1 big we were, if it was even worth messing with.

2 We then elected to go ahead and frac the well.  
3 We frac'd the well on April 1st, we cleaned the well up  
4 from April 2nd to April 6th. From April 6th until the 18th  
5 the well was shut in, waiting on our gas-line connection.

6 During this period that the well was shut in to  
7 the 18th, we never saw more than 1800 pounds of tubing  
8 pressure. So this indicated to us immediately that we've  
9 gone from 1900 to 1800, we've flowed very little gas, that  
10 we were dealing with a limited reservoir. This was just an  
11 indication that we did not have a very large reservoir.

12 On April 18th we put the well on production. We  
13 tried to open it on a smaller choke, around a 16- to a  
14 17/64 choke. We experienced freeze-up problems, we could  
15 not flow the well at that rate. We had to increase the  
16 choke to keep a sustained flow for 24 hours till we were  
17 flowing about a million a day.

18 When we tested the well on the 23rd of April, we  
19 were flowing 1096 MCF a day, 20 barrels of oil and 30  
20 barrels of water. This GOR is about 56-, 57,000, so it  
21 looked like we were possibly dealing with an oil well. At  
22 this time on the 29th I filed a request for a testing  
23 C-104, and we began production of the well.

24 As you can see if we refer to Exhibit 11 here, we  
25 have a production plot, and you can see that from -- the

1 green line shows the oil, the red line is indicative of the  
2 gas rate, and the water is shown in blue.

3 From when we first put the well on until mid-May  
4 or so, the oil fluctuated from day to day, it gradually --  
5 but it was still running below 100,000 and gradually began  
6 to creep up. The tubing pressure -- I mean the choke  
7 setting, was -- from May 4th until May 24th was fairly  
8 constant, though the rate was slightly dropping. But we  
9 also saw our flowing tubing pressure coming down, which  
10 once again is significant that we may have good perm but  
11 we're drawing the zone down fairly quickly.

12 We continued to -- Starting about May 18th or  
13 19th, the well started to level off at about 3 barrels of  
14 oil a day. And with this happening and all that, it became  
15 evident that -- with a gas well in an oil zone. I  
16 continued to open the choke slightly in an effort to bring  
17 in more fluid and maybe increase the relative perm of oil  
18 to gas, see if we could get more oil and decrease our GOR.  
19 It brought our flow rate up a little bit, back up to a  
20 million, but had no effect on the oil.

21 Around June the 6th or June the 7th, we received  
22 notice that Snow Oil and Gas was concerned about what we  
23 were producing here. We cut the well back to a 10/64 choke  
24 in an attempt to see if we could produce at a GOR that  
25 would be acceptable under the oil rules, under the 80-acre

1 yardstick rules for an oil well. What this indicated when  
2 we cut it back, we lost all of our oil, we were still at  
3 127,000 GOR at 400 MCF a day, which slightly above what the  
4 GOR allowable is for this depth, so we had a problem, we  
5 had a gas well.

6 On the 6th -- 7th of June we began a pressure  
7 buildup test, which we can get into here slightly. If we  
8 go through there, the next exhibit is a -- I'll get to the  
9 pressure data in a minute. On Exhibit 12, that's the C-105  
10 which we filed on June the 9th from a test based on June  
11 7th, once again indicating that at that time we went on a  
12 reduced choke with a reduced amount of gas. We're still at  
13 127,000 GOR.

14 We felt on this well that we really needed to  
15 flow it at a higher rate for a couple of reasons. One,  
16 when you get this low we were making water, I was concerned  
17 that we may load up the well, we were seeing freeze-up, and  
18 we just were unable to produce the well unless we were  
19 producing at about a million a day.

20 Q. Now, have you kept the Artesia District Office  
21 fully informed of what you've been doing?

22 A. Yes, we have. Once we decided that we were going  
23 to seek hearing they were informed of that, they've been  
24 informed of the pressure work that we've done, and  
25 currently we've told them that the well would be shut in

1 until we have resolved the issue on this well.

2 Q. And the Artesia Office did inform you that Snow  
3 Oil and Gas had filed some type of protest or something --

4 A. And around June the 5th, June the 6th, I received  
5 a call from Tim Gum saying that Snow Oil and Gas had filed  
6 a complaint. And we talked about what the production was.  
7 He said, Well, if you've got a gas well you're going to  
8 have to shut it in. And so we then proceeded to do so.

9 Q. Okay. Before we move on to the pressure data, or  
10 maybe this is part of the pressure data, you've mentioned  
11 -- Mr. Logan has said that there are uphole zones that  
12 could be perforated and produced and that those would  
13 probably be oil zones. Do you agree with that?

14 A. Yes, I do.

15 Q. Could you safely or properly perforate those  
16 zones and produce this gas zone while you were producing  
17 those upper oil zones?

18 A. That could cause us significant production  
19 problems, operational problems that could in fact -- that  
20 could affect the production. I'd be concerned that we  
21 could have problems -- The offset wells, the upper zones,  
22 do not have enough gas, they would have to be rod-pumped.  
23 With a gas zone below you, if you have to rod-pump the  
24 well, you can gaslock the pump. You get so much  
25 interference you just can't move any fluid. It would be

1 extremely difficult, with a gas zone below you, to  
2 commingle in a pumping situation.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. In all probability, if we moved uphole, if this  
5 zone was still productive, we would plug it off with a  
6 bridge plug, we would isolate it.

7 Q. Okay, so the favorable way to Nadel and Gussman  
8 to produce this well is to first deplete that gas zone --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- and then complete uphole?

11 A. Yes, that is the most efficient way and  
12 preventive of -- the least amount of waste, it would  
13 minimize any waste.

14 Q. And actually where you would be completing next  
15 would probably be in the interval that Snow's offset well  
16 to the west is producing?

17 A. Right, it would be that equivalent interval in  
18 our well.

19 Q. Okay, why don't you move on to your Exhibit 14?

20 A. Okay. This is the -- When we shut the well in on  
21 June 7th we ran bombs in the hole to obtain a buildup.  
22 This was a buildup that would last about 164 hours. The  
23 purpose of this buildup was enabling us with knowing the  
24 original pressure to gather enough pressure information to  
25 obtain an estimate of what size of reservoir that we were

1 looking at.

2 Exhibit 14 is a P/Z plot indicating that -- with  
3 the points there indicating that since this is a reservoir  
4 that has declining pressure, we don't think we have any  
5 water influx, that we can treat it as just a simple  
6 material balance, and it's applicable to a P/Z of giving  
7 you an estimate of reserves.

8 What the pressure data shows, that when we pulled  
9 the bombs on June 17th, we had a bottomhole pressure of  
10 1850. This is a P\*, this is a theoretical pressure that if  
11 we left the well shut in for an infinite amount of time we  
12 would equilibrate to. This compared to the P\* of about  
13 2264 that we had seen back in March 26th.

14 So what we're looking here roughly is, we've got  
15 400 pounds of drawdown on reservoir pressure, and our  
16 producing days are right at about 60 producing days,  
17 indicating once again we've got a limited reservoir.

18 After going through the analysis based on this  
19 plot and extrapolating out and using an abandonment  
20 pressure of about 230 pounds, 250 pounds, we ended up with  
21 an original gas in place of about 239 million standard  
22 cubic feet and estimated recoverable reserves of 213  
23 million. To date we've recovered about 46 million.

24 We felt that we needed to get this testing time  
25 -- we've produced about 10 percent of the -- to produce

1 enough gas from the reservoir to make a P/Z plot  
2 meaningful. If you do a P/Z plot early in the life of the  
3 plot, you actually end up in an overestimation of what your  
4 reserves. Our estimation of reserves, this is probably 90-  
5 to 95-percent accurate of what the well could recover if we  
6 produced it to abandonment.

7 Q. So again, you're estimating a little bit over .2  
8 BCF?

9 A. Right, a little bit over .2 BCF. So the next  
10 question that brought forth is, what areal extent are we  
11 talking about, since from our geological analysis and bulk  
12 analysis we didn't see it in the well to the west. We saw  
13 maybe a trace of it in the well to the east.

14 The pages behind the P/Z plot are a volumetric  
15 analysis, calculating an acreage area that we would have,  
16 assuming that we had 6 feet of pay, average porosity of  
17 about 15.4 percent and a water saturation of .44 percent  
18 off log calculations.

19 What this shows, that if we plugged in 40 acres,  
20 we ended up with a gas-in-place of 168 million, which is  
21 below what we calculated off the P/Z plot.

22 If we look at 60 acres, we end up with 252  
23 million in place, which is slightly above what we had  
24 calculated off the P/Z.

25 If you look at 80 acres, you ended up at 336,

1 which is about 50 percent above what we had calculated in  
2 place.

3           Therefore, based on this it's our belief that we  
4 are looking at a reservoir that is somewhere between 40 to  
5 60 acres, probably a little bit closer to 60 acres in size,  
6 which became the basis of our Application for a nonstandard  
7 proration unit.

8           Q.    Okay.  And again, because of the small extent of  
9 the reservoir, you don't believe that producing the gas  
10 from this reservoir will adversely affect the offsets?

11           A.   No, I do not.  Our estimation of this -- This is  
12 a one-well field.  If we do not produce the gas that's in  
13 this well, then it will probably not get produced,  
14 affecting our royalty owners, and -- primarily.

15           Q.   One final question.  Again, getting back to the  
16 producing rate, you've read the letter from Mr. Stogner,  
17 have you not?

18           A.   Right.

19           Q.   And regarding the gas allowable which would apply  
20 in this pool of about 160 MCF per day, in this limited  
21 instance is that practical for this well?

22           A.   It is my belief it is not.  I have concerns that.  
23 One is, the volume of water that we're making on this well  
24 is 15 to 20 barrels a day.  At that low rate it would be  
25 extremely difficult with our line pressure to move the

1 water, the well would be loaded up.

2 We would also probably experience some freeze-up  
3 problems, which would involve having us to spend some more  
4 money on this well, to invest more money in the well to fix  
5 that.

6 Q. And because of the downhole problems you  
7 encountered with the initial well, unfortunately you've  
8 already spent more than you desired to?

9 A. Yeah, we've spent at least \$200,000 more than  
10 what we anticipated to spend on this well.

11 Q. So in essence, you would like to be able to  
12 produce this well at its ability to produce?

13 A. Right, we would like to be able to -- and we feel  
14 this is in the best interest of everyone, you know,  
15 particularly of Mr. Tucker and the other royalty owners.

16 Q. Were Exhibits 11 through 15 prepared by you or  
17 under your supervision?

18 A. Yes, they were.

19 Q. And in your opinion is the granting of Nadel and  
20 Gussman's Application in the interests of conservation and  
21 the prevention of waste?

22 A. Yes, it is.

23 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I would move the  
24 admission of Nadel and Gussman Exhibits 11 through 15.

25 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Owen?

1 MR. OWEN: No objection.

2 EXAMINER JONES: Any questions, Mr. Owen?

3 MR. OWEN: I may have a couple.

4 EXAMINER JONES: We'll admit Exhibits 11 through  
5 15.

6 EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. OWEN:

8 Q. Mr. McCready, you have calculated the areal  
9 extent of the gas reserves as between 40 and 60 acres; is  
10 that right?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. But you don't have an idea of where that 40 to 60  
13 acres lies, do you?

14 A. We have -- We think it probably trends more north  
15 to south, based on the available geological evidence. I  
16 believe the -- We know it's not present in the well to the  
17 east, we see a minimal amount of it present into the --  
18 present to the west, rather. We see a minimal amount of it  
19 in the east. So our opinion, if I'm not mistaken, is that  
20 it does lie more north-south than it does --

21 Q. And that's based --

22 A. -- east-west.

23 Q. -- partly upon the assumption that the Snow Oil  
24 and Gas well to the west didn't have any show?

25 A. That and also partly from the pressure analysis.

1 If you look at the pressure curves and the derivatives of  
2 those curves, we indicated that we had a bounded reservoir.  
3 We saw one boundary at approximately 213 feet and another  
4 one at 400-and-some-odd feet.

5 I do not know what direction these are because  
6 it's pressure buildup, but the curve analysis did indicate  
7 that we had a bounded reservoir.

8 Q. The curve analysis indicates that it has a  
9 bounded reservoir, but it doesn't tell you which direction  
10 those boundaries --

11 A. That is correct.

12 Q. And your assumption that it does not trend to the  
13 west is based upon the fact there was minimal show in the  
14 Snow Oil and Gas well to the west; is that right?

15 A. Yes, sir.

16 Q. Have you discussed this matter with any  
17 representatives of Snow Oil and Gas?

18 A. I have not directly, no, sir.

19 Q. Do you know if Snow Oil and Gas is considering  
20 recompleting their well to the west?

21 A. I do not know. We would not be adverse to that.  
22 We have furnished under my direction all this information  
23 presented here, plus the raw pressure data has been  
24 transmitted to Snow Oil and Gas. We did this back in July,  
25 and after this data was transmitted to them I received no

1 communication from them questioning the data.

2 Q. Okay. And your well is unorthodox -- as a gas  
3 well it's unorthodox, too close to the west; is that right?

4 A. That is -- I believe that's what we have  
5 testified to, yes.

6 Q. All right. And it's too close to Snow Oil and  
7 Gas's interests; is that right?

8 A. I believe that's what we have testified to, yes.

9 MR. OWEN: Okay, that's all the questions I have,  
10 Mr. Examiner.

11 EXAMINATION

12 BY EXAMINER JONES:

13 Q. Okay, so you did see a boundary, 230 feet?

14 A. 213 was one, the other one was 400-and-some-odd  
15 feet, approximately.

16 Q. Okay, I think this is a lot of good data here.  
17 I'm kind of concerned about the dates you had, though. You  
18 said that the well went on line for production April 18th?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And you didn't get a nonstandard location  
21 approved until July the 22nd?

22 A. That was our oversight, not getting it submitted  
23 in a timely manner. We had received a verbal permission  
24 when we skidded the well, and at the time we were trying to  
25 determine if we had gas or oil.

1 Q. So when you skidded the well, you didn't really  
2 realize that all of a sudden you were in a nonstandard  
3 situation?

4 A. I discussed that with the Artesia District,  
5 and --

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. -- they were in agreement that we could go ahead  
8 and skid the well. So our timing on this was that we did  
9 not follow up in a timely manner to file the appropriate  
10 application, but we did have a verbal approval and we did  
11 receive --

12 Q. To skid the well?

13 A. -- a C-102 to skid the well, yes.

14 Q. But you didn't really have approval yet to  
15 produce the well until you had a nonstandard location  
16 approved -- Artesia didn't give you that approval, did  
17 they?

18 A. I filed the testing C-104 in a -- to allow us to  
19 test the well, in a timely manner. I did not receive any  
20 communication saying, Hey, you all might need to do  
21 something about this before you produce the well.

22 Q. And then all of a sudden Snow objected, and on  
23 June 5th Tim Gum called you guys?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Okay. And all of a sudden we're maybe in a --

1 And you ran your second pressure buildup when? It was June  
2 17th.

3 A. Yeah, he called -- I think June 5th I was out of  
4 the office. He called me on a Friday, and it may not have  
5 been the 5th. But anyway, I got back to him on Monday, I  
6 told him we would shut the well in on the following Tuesday  
7 and -- at that point, because I wanted to get a buildup at  
8 that point too --

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. -- for agreement, so we shut the well in on the  
11 7th.

12 Q. And at that point, all of a sudden you realized  
13 you were in a limited-reservoir situation for sure, you --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- you realized that, and you knew your GOR was  
16 still really high.

17 A. We knew we couldn't produce it at a reduced rate,  
18 that --

19 Q. Just -- Okay. Okay, well, I guess I'd just  
20 advise you to keep -- It's your business, but I would keep  
21 your attorney informed of things like this that go on so  
22 that things like this won't happen again as far as  
23 producing before you get approval for a nonstandard  
24 location.

25 I shouldn't be talking to you, I probably should

1 be talking to Sam Jolliffe.

2 A. Well, when we first brought the well on, you  
3 know, we thought we were looking at an oil well. It wasn't  
4 till we had later produced the well during the testing  
5 period that we realized it was looking more and more like a  
6 gas well.

7 Q. Of course the oil was what was -- the oil was  
8 nonstandard?

9 A. Yeah.

10 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Brooks, any questions?

11 MR. BROOKS: No thanks.

12 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Stogner?

13 EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. STOGNER:

15 Q. I'm Michael Stogner, engineer here at the New  
16 Mexico Oil Conservation Commission.

17 On your Tucker Fee Well Number 1Y, I want to make  
18 sure I understand your methodology of producing this well.  
19 You want to produce the gas for a certain amount of time?

20 A. Till depletion, or --

21 Q. Till depletion?

22 A. -- an economic limit, yes.

23 Q. And then go after the upper oil zones?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Now, will -- the lower gas zone, will that be

1 abandoned?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And squeezed?

4 A. Squeezed, yes, as required by the Rules.

5 Q. Did you discuss a possible vertical detachment of  
6 this pool, having an upper North Esperanza oil and a lower  
7 gas zone or a gas pool, where there are two separate common  
8 sources in which they could be treated as two different  
9 pools?

10 A. No, we --

11 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, if I could answer that.  
12 Perhaps Mr. McCready wasn't in on the conversation, but I  
13 believe Mr. Logan and Mr. Jolliffe -- we had that  
14 conversation at one point. We decided not to pursue that  
15 at the time.

16 I've always found that with the Division it's not  
17 easy getting the Delaware separated that much, or at  
18 least -- you know, it has been done, I understand, but we  
19 decided not to pursue that.

20 MR. STOGNER: Okay. Just like -- Let's see, you  
21 wanted an alternative in which --

22 MR. BRUCE: Yeah.

23 MR. STOGNER: -- the well was designated an oil  
24 pool or an oil well, and it had 40-acre spacing and that  
25 the well was orthodox -- Well, you already had an

1 unorthodox.

2 MR. BRUCE: Yeah.

3 Q. (by Mr. Stogner) All of a sudden today, Mr.  
4 McCready -- You got what you wanted, but that's not good  
5 enough? Am I to read that right? You asked for an  
6 alternative and you were given that alternative, and that's  
7 not good enough?

8 A. I'm not sure I understand the question, sir.

9 Q. Well, you've asked for a nonstandard -- Look at  
10 your Application --

11 A. Right, right.

12 Q. -- look at the ad.

13 A. Right.

14 Q. You've asked for two things. You got one of  
15 them, but you're declining to go for that; is that correct?

16 A. We now have it -- we were -- It has always been  
17 our belief that the best solution to this and to enable us  
18 to produce the well most efficiently with prevention of the  
19 least amount of waste would be to satisfy it as a  
20 nonstandard 80-acre gas well.

21 Q. Are you familiar with the associated pool rule?

22 A. No, sir, I am not. Oh, the associated -- the  
23 associated oil and gas -- yes, sir.

24 Q. Okay, would that be an alternative solution,  
25 perhaps?

1 A. In this --

2 Q. This is one, you get one. I've suggested another  
3 one, but your attorney said --

4 MR. BRUCE: Well --

5 Q. (by Mr. Stogner) -- you didn't want to go that  
6 way, so --

7 THE WITNESS: I think the producing -- I think  
8 the producing characteristics of this well says that we  
9 have to move a significant -- more gas than would be  
10 allowed by the associated gas rules to keep the water from  
11 loading up in the wellbore on us.

12 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner --

13 Q. (by Mr. Stogner) Could you ask for a higher GOR  
14 or a gas if that would be the case? Couldn't you adjust  
15 the associated pool rules to fit this particular situation?

16 A. That could have been a -- yes.

17 Q. Or even come in and ask for the North Esperanza-  
18 Delaware Pool to have a higher GOR, could maybe satisfy  
19 your needs; is that --

20 A. That would have been an al- -- that could have  
21 also been an alternative, yes.

22 Q. -- fourth or fifth possibilities that you  
23 could -- Well, I'm sorry, I interrupted you, Mr. Bruce.

24 MR. BRUCE: Well, Mr. Examiner, if I could  
25 respond to one of Mr. Stogner's questions, I believe that

1 based on the testimony today I would have to amend the  
2 Application anyway, either to get the higher allowable to  
3 produce the well at the -- You know, it's currently capable  
4 of producing 900,000 or a million a day, which would exceed  
5 the 160,000.

6 So I believe I would have to amend the  
7 Application to produce it -- or to allow Nadel and Gussman  
8 to produce it at that higher rate. Otherwise, they would  
9 have to produce -- if Mr. Stogner is right in his letter,  
10 then we would have to produce it at 160,000 a day, which we  
11 do not believe is practical.

12 EXAMINER JONES: So you want to amend this  
13 Application to --

14 MR. BRUCE: Yes, and I would --

15 EXAMINER JONES: -- and refile?

16 MR. BRUCE: Well, amend the Application, but I --  
17 the witnesses --

18 EXAMINER JONES: Continue --

19 MR. BRUCE: -- are here, which is why I wanted to  
20 present the testimony.

21 EXAMINER JONES: Yeah, we've got the testimony on  
22 the record, at least.

23 Mr. Owen, what do you think?

24 MR. OWEN: I don't have an objection to that. I  
25 do have an advertisement issue that I should have raised

1 with the initial witness, and I had to work through it  
2 before I could raise it.

3 The notice for the unorthodox well location was  
4 given to the one operator to the west, which is Snow oil  
5 and Gas, because it is an operator of a Delaware oil pool.  
6 There is no operator of the Delaware gas, it's a wildcat.

7 Therefore, I believe under 1207.A.(2) Nadel and  
8 Gussman would need to provide notice to all mineral owners  
9 to the west.

10 EXAMINER JONES: If they're unsigned.

11 MR. OWEN: Well, they are unsigned as to gas, it  
12 is a --

13 EXAMINER JONES: As to gas.

14 MR. OWEN: There is no operator as to gas.

15 EXAMINER JONES: Yes.

16 MR. OWEN: Kind of analogous situation is,  
17 oftentimes there are shallow gas pools being operated and  
18 an unorthodox well location is requested in the Morrow.  
19 You only provide notice to Morrow owners or to Morrow  
20 operators upon whom you're encroaching. You don't provide  
21 notice to all the unit operators which are uphole and  
22 you're not encroaching on, because it's different pools.

23 In this case we're talking about different pools,  
24 and the gas is not being operated --

25 EXAMINER JONES: Yes.

1 MR. OWEN: -- so all those interest owners in the  
2 160 to the west should probably be included within the  
3 notice.

4 MR. BRUCE: Let me ask Mr. Owen this question.  
5 Is Snow the operator in the Delaware in the southwest  
6 quarter?

7 MR. OWEN: Snow is an operator of the Delaware  
8 within the southeast of the southwest. I don't know about  
9 the remainder of the acreage within the southwest.

10 MR. BRUCE: Okay.

11 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, so we have a few issues  
12 here, and -- Is that the completion of the testimony in  
13 this case?

14 MR. BRUCE: I just did have one other question --  
15 two other questions of Mr. McCready.

16 FURTHER EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. BRUCE:

18 Q. You are aware, Mr. McCready, that Mr. Edelson of  
19 Nadel and Gussman's Oklahoma office has been in contact  
20 with Mr. Snow?

21 A. Yes, I am.

22 Q. Several times?

23 A. Yes, they have been.

24 Q. Okay. And so Mr. Snow has been kept informed  
25 of --

1 A. Yes, he has.

2 Q. -- this matter?

3 One other question. Do you happen to have any  
4 idea of -- the offset well to the west, what the GOR is of  
5 that well?

6 A. No, I do not.

7 MR. BRUCE: Okay. That's all I have, Mr.  
8 Examiner.

9 EXAMINER JONES: Okay.

10 (Off the record)

11 MR. BROOKS: I take it what you propose, Mr.  
12 Bruce, is that we will -- this testimony is on the record  
13 now and it will be considered when the case is disposed of,  
14 but you intend to -- you wanted it continued so you can --

15 MR. BRUCE: So I could --

16 MR. BROOKS: -- amend your Application?

17 MR. BRUCE: So I can amend the Application, yes,  
18 sir.

19 MR. BROOKS: And in the meantime I assume if you  
20 conclude that Mr. Owen is right and that you need to  
21 readvertise, you will also readvertise?

22 MR. BRUCE: Renotice.

23 MR. BROOKS: Yeah.

24 MR. OWEN: I believe the case will need to be  
25 readvertised in any event, it's just considering the scope

1 of the notice to be provided of the amended Application  
2 that needs --

3 MR. BROOKS: Well --

4 MR. OWEN: -- to be expanded to include the other  
5 interest owners within the 160.

6 MR. BROOKS: -- yeah, I guess the case doesn't  
7 need to be readvertised if the Application is amended to  
8 provide -- to ask for something that's not asked for in the  
9 present Application. So...

10 But then you'll also address the notice issue?

11 MR. BRUCE: That's no problem.

12 MR. BROOKS: Okay.

13 EXAMINER JONES: So what's the status of the well  
14 right now?

15 THE WITNESS: It is shut in.

16 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, are we agreeable to  
17 continuing the case and readvertise until maybe September  
18 4th?

19 MR. BRUCE: Yes, sir.

20 EXAMINER JONES: I think we can do it in two  
21 weeks.

22 MR. BRUCE: That wouldn't satisfy the notice  
23 requirements --

24 EXAMINER JONES: Oh, it wouldn't satisfy --

25 MR. BRUCE: -- if there additional requirements.

1 EXAMINER JONES: Right.

2 MR. BRUCE: So...

3 I tell you what, Mr. Examiner, if we could  
4 continue it for two weeks, and if I -- depending on what we  
5 find out, but it may have to be continued again.

6 MR. BROOKS: Well, is your Application -- What  
7 are you going to ask for in your amended Application?

8 MR. BRUCE: Well, essentially we would like to  
9 produce the well at its capability to produce, to prevent  
10 any --

11 THE WITNESS: Prevent waste and to minimize --

12 MR. BROOKS: Yeah.

13 MR. BRUCE: -- minimize problems with the well.

14 THE WITNESS: -- problems, producing problems.

15 MR. BRUCE: And Mr. Stogner has raised some other  
16 issues, so...

17 MR. BROOKS: If you're going to amend to ask for  
18 different relief from what's asked for, then it would have  
19 to be readvertised, and of course we can't do a --  
20 regardless of whether we have additional parties to notice,  
21 we can't do a readvertisement, so...

22 MR. BRUCE: Yeah, September 4th would be  
23 appropriate.

24 MR. BROOKS: So it seems we should continue it to  
25 September 4th.

1 EXAMINER JONES: With that, Case -- Is everybody  
2 else --

3 MR. OWEN: I just have one question.

4 FURTHER EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. OWEN:

6 Q. Are you going to continue to leave the well shut  
7 in during the pendency of the case?

8 A. We may do that, or we may elect it is in our  
9 economic interest to move up to the next oil zone. In that  
10 case, there is all probability that these reserves will  
11 never be captured by any well.

12 Q. I guess the follow up to that is, you're not  
13 going to produce the gas --

14 A. We will not produce the gas, no.

15 Q. -- until you have permission to do so? Okay.

16 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, with that, Case 13,115  
17 will be continued to September 4th.

18 MR. OWEN: Mr. Examiner, I do have a question.  
19 We talked about a letter from Mr. Stogner, and I don't  
20 believe that was ever introduced as an exhibit. I don't  
21 know if you want to, Mr. Bruce.

22 MR. BRUCE: If it could just be incorporated in  
23 the record, since it is a Division record, I won't give it  
24 an exhibit number.

25 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, we'll make it part of the

1 case file and include it in the record, that Mr. Stogner  
2 has submitted a letter dated August 6th that's pertinent to  
3 this case.

4 Okay, let's go off the record and let's break  
5 until like 1:30. Is that okay with everybody?

6 (Thereupon, these proceedings were concluded at  
7 11:55 a.m.)

8 \* \* \*

9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15 I do hereby certify that the foregoing is  
16 a complete record of the proceedings in  
the Examiner hearing of Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
17 heard by me on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

18 \_\_\_\_\_, Examiner  
Oil Conservation Division

## CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF NEW MEXICO )  
 ) ss.  
 COUNTY OF SANTA FE )

I, Steven T. Brenner, Certified Court Reporter and Notary Public, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing transcript of proceedings before the Oil Conservation Division was reported by me; that I transcribed my notes; and that the foregoing is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative or employee of any of the parties or attorneys involved in this matter and that I have no personal interest in the final disposition of this matter.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL August 10th, 2003.



STEVEN T. BRENNER  
 CCR No. 7

My commission expires: October 16th, 2006