

Midland Division
Exploration Production

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Conoco Inc. 10 Desta Drive, Suite 100W Midland, TX 79705-4500 (915) 686-5400

January 31, 1996

Mr. Michael Stogner State of New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 2040 S. Pacheco Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 Case 11502

Re:

Application for Administrative NSL Approval for Conoco's Proposed San Juan 28-7 Unit No. 159M, located at 1605' FSL & 330' FEL, Sec. 22, T-28N, R-7W, Rio Arriba County, for Topographical Relief.

Dear Mr. Stogner:

EXHIBIT A is the C-102 survey plat for the proposed San Juan 28-7 Unit Well No. 159M to be located at 1605' FSL and 330' FEL, Section 22, T-28N, R-7W. This southeast quarter of section 22 is undeveloped in both the Mesaverde and Dakota formations and Well No 159M will be the infill well for both formations in the E/2 spacing unit. Following the drilling of this well and the acquisition of sufficient production test data for allocation purposes this well will be downhole commingled in these two formations as already approved by OCD Order No. R-10476.

Section 22 is located on the edge of the Delgadita Mesa in Rio Arriba County and also contains numerous archeological sites, which has made it difficult to find a drilling location in its southeast quarter. EXHIBIT B is a letter Conoco received from the BLM concerning its efforts to find a standard drilling location. As the letter states, Conoco first attempted to use a standard location that had previously been staked by Amoco prior to Conoco assuming operatorship of this federal unit. However, as the letter states, the BLM inspectors disallowed that location and were unable to find a standard location anywhere in the southeast quarter that would avoid undesirable environmental and cultural impacts.

EXHIBIT C is a topographic map of the area showing (a) Section 22 outlined by the dashed line, (b) numerous archeological sites, (c) a "Special Management Area Boundary, and (d) the proposed well pad highlighted in pink. After several months and extensive survey, archeological, and environmental inspections this appears to be the only area that can be cleared for drilling.

This spacing unit is interior to the San Juan 28-7 Federal Unit and is totally surrounded by unit acreage operated by Conoco that is all wholly contained within the Mesaverde and Dakota Participating Areas. Therefore, there are no offset operators to be notified of this application. The BLM, the royalty owner, has already approved this location for drilling in its on-site inspection for our federal APD.

Conoco desires to begin drilling this well as soon as weather permits late in March and requests approval of an administrative NSL order for this location. If I can be of further assistance to you in evaluating this application please contact me at (915) 686-6548.

Very truly yours,

Jerry W. Hoover

Sr. Conservation Coordinator

District I PO Box 1980, Hubbs, NM \$8241-1980 District II PO Drawer DD, Arteila, NM \$8211-0719 District III 1000 Rlu Bruzos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410 District IV

PO Box 2088, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2088

UL or lot no.

Section

State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Romarcos Department

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION PO Box 2088 Santa Fe, NM 87504-2088

Form C-102 Revised February 21, 1994 Instructions on back Submit to Appropriate District Office State Lease - 4 Copies Fee Lease - 3 Copies

AMENDED REPORT

County

API Number			1 Pool Code		Pool Nume					
		723	19/715	99	Blanco N	Mesaverde,	/Basin	Dakot	a	
	' Property Name San Jüan 28-7 Unit								• Well Number 159M	
	Operator Name								Elevation	
1	Conoco Inc.								66561	
				10 Surface	Location			·		
tion	Township	Range	Lot Ida	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West	liae	County	
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13 Dedicated Acres 13 Joint or Infill 14 Consolidation Code 15 Order No.

North/South line

Feet from the

East/West line

Feet from the

320

Range

Lot Ida

Township

NO ALLOWABLE WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THIS COMPLETION UNTIL ALL INTERESTS HAVE BEEN CONSOLIDATED OR A NON-STANDARD UNIT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DIVISION

		OR A NON-STANDARD C		W YELKOAFD B	I THE DIVISION
	16	5286.60			17 OPERATOR CERTIFICATION
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					A Title
				-	1/30/96
		230		,	O Date
		L .L			18SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION
N.		1 4		1	I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat
-					was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by m or under my supervision, and that the same is true and
		1 1			correct to the best of my belief.
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į		<i>5283.96'</i>			EXHIBIT A



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Farmington District Office 1235 La Plata Highway Farmington, New Mexico 87401

IN REPLY REFER TO:

SEP - 8 100

Conoco Incorporated Attn: Mr. Ellis Grey 10 Desta Drive, Suite 100W Midland, TX 79705

Dear Mr. Grey:

This is in reference to your Notice of Staking for the farmout of the San Juan 28-7 Unit well #159M, 1585' FSL, & 1965 FEL, Sec.22, T-28-N, R-7-W, Lease No. SF-079289-A. Amoco Production Co. had previously submitted Notice of Staking for the same well in the NWSE1/4 and was requested to move the center stake approximately 100 foot to the east because of cultural sites in the area. Amoco Notice of Staking was rescinded 28 April, 1994.

After working to find a suitable location within the windows established by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission, we suggest you submit for a non-standard location. A suitable location was not found because of topographical constraints and environmental surface damage with the construction of the well pad and 1000 foot of access road, with additional disturbance of the pipeline. The well pad was located on a sandstone outcrop, on a mesa top near the canyon rim with cultural sites all along the rim. The sandstone outcrop would require major disturbance to construct and would never heal. A location approximately 2000' FSL, & 2100' FEL would be most suitable. This area does not affect any cultural sites, is on a sage brush, sandy, flat area. The access road and pipeline would be approximately 500 foot with less surface damage.

In the past we have discussed that non-standard locations would probably be proposed more frequently as the more desirable locations are developed. It is our desire to find the best possible locations for new wells and access roads being proposed with minimal environmental and cultural impacts. Therefore we will be glad to support your non-standard proposal for the San Juan 28-7 Unit #159M to the NMOCC.

If there is any further way in which we can be of assistance, please contact me or Neel McBride of the Fluids Surface Management Staff at (505) 599-8900.

Sincerely

Ilyse K. Gold

Chief, Branch of Lands, Cultural, Recreation, and Environmental Compliance

