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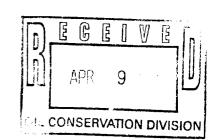
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April 29, 1996

### VIA FACSIMILE AND HAND-DELIVERED

Michael E. Stogner
Hearing Examiner
Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Department of Energy,
Minerals and Natural Resources
2040 South Pacheco
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Rand Carroll, Esq.
Division Attorney
Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Department of Energy,
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2040 South Pacheco
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505



Re: New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Case No. 11525:

Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for amendments to allowables and cancellation of overproduction in the North Dagger Draw-Upper Penn Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico

and

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Case No. 11526:

Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for amendments to allowables and cancellation of overproduction in the South Dagger Draw-Upper Penn Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico

#### Gentlemen:

Yates Petroleum Corporation has received copies of the Request for Continuance filed by Conoco Inc. in each of the above-referenced cases.

Michael E. Stogner, Hearing Examiner Rand Carroll, Esq., Division Attorney Oil Conservation Division New Mexico Department of Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources April 29, 1996 Page 2

We met with Mr. Tim Gum, District Supervisor of Oil Conservation Division District II concerning allowables and the overproduced status of certain wells in each of the pools which are the subject of the above-referenced cases. During this meeting with Mr. Gum, representatives of Yates advised Mr. Gum that they would bring this matter to hearing before the Division at the earliest possible time. The applications currently set for hearing on May 2, 1996 are the result of those representations to Mr. Gum. Yates will be prepared to present its cases to the Division at that time.

Yates Petroleum Corporation is unable to evaluate the impact of the above-referenced applications on other operators in the pool. Accordingly, Yates takes no position on the Motion for Continuance. We believe this motion should be weighed by the Division in the light of the arguments raised therein. Should the Division determine that a continuance is necessary, Yates will be prepared to present testimony in support of these applications at the time and place directed by the Examiner.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM F. CARR

ATTORNEY FOR YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION

WFC:mlh

cc: W. Thomas Kellahin, Esq. (Hand-Delivered)

## KELLAHIN AND KELLAHIN

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April 26, 1995

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JASON KELLAHIN (RETIRED 1991)

Re:

RECOGNIZED SPECIALIST IN THE AREA OF NATURAL RESOURCES-OF AND GAS LAW

\*NEW MEXICO BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

W THOMAS KELLAHIN\*

# VIA FACSIMILE AND HAND DELIVERED

Mr. Michael E. Stogner Hearing Examiner Oil Conservation Division 2040 South Pacheco Santa Fe. New Mexico 87505

Rand Carroll, Esq.
Division Attorney
Oil Conservation Division
2040 South Pacheco
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

NMOCD Case 11526

Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for Amendments to Alllowables and Cancellation of Overproduction in the South Dagger Draw-Upper Penn Pool Eddy County, New Mexico

#### Gentlemen:

On behalf of Conoco Inc., an adversely affected interested party, please find enclosed: (a) our Entry of Appearance and (b) Request for Continuance for the referenced case which is now set for an Examiner's hearing on May 2, 1996.

We are requesting that this case be continued until the hearing scheduled for June 13, 1996.

Very truly yours

W. Thomas Kellahin

cc: Via facsimile to:

William F. Carr, Esq. Attorneys for applicant

cc: Conoco Inc.

Attn: Jerry Hoover

cc: OCD-Artesia

Attn: Tim Gum

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR
AMENDMENTS TO THE ALLOWABLE AND FOR
CANCELLATION OF OVERPRODUCTION IN
THE SOUTH DAGGER DRAW-UPPER PENN
ASSOCIATED POOL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

**CASE 11526** 

# ENTRY OF APPEARANCE AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE

Comes now CONOCO INC., ("Conoco") by its attorneys, Kellahin and Kellahin, and enters its appearance in this case as an interested party in opposition to the applicant.

Conoco moves that this case be continued from the Examiner's docket now schedule for May 2, 1996 to the Examiner Docket scheduled for June 13, 1996 and as ground therefore states:

(1) On Tuesday, April 15, 1996, Conoco received Yates' application in this case and became aware for the first time that Yates was requesting to significantly increase the oil allowable and corresponding gas allowable increase and to cancel any overproduction in this pool.

NMOCD Case 11525 Conoco Inc.'s Motion for Continuance Page 2

- (2) On Tuesday, April 23, 1996, representatives of Conoco Inc., Nearburg Producing Company and Marathon Oil Company attended a meeting at Yates' offices in Artesia to have Yates explain the Yates' application.
- (3) Conoco is an operator and working interest owner in the South Dagger Draw-Upper Penn Associated Pool.
- (4) Yates is seeking to increase the oil allowable in this pool from the current 1400 BOPD to 8,000 BOPD per 320-acre spacing and proration unit and to have all overproduction canceled.
- (5) Yates' application for these pool-wide rule changes, if approved, would increase the gas allowable from 9.8 million MCFPD to a new maximum gas allowable of 56 million MCFPD (8,000 BOPD x 7,000 to 1 GOR) which will have a dramatic impact on the correlative rights in this pool.

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(6) It is essential for Conoco's experts to have a reasonable period

of time in which to adequately prepare for an evidentiary hearing

on this matter.

(7) Having this matter presented at an evidentiary hearing set for

May 2, 1996 is premature and will result in Yates' presenting its

technical case on that date with Conoco severely handicapped in

presenting its technical case because there simply was not sufficient

time to adequately prepare thus resulting in a request that Conoco's

witnesses testify at a subsequent hearing.

(8) A continuance will also afford an opportunity for the operators

to discuss a potential agreed upon recommendation to the Division

for a solution of this problem.

(9) Conoco also requests the Division to issue a Notice to Operators

in the Pool requiring immediate compliance with the current pool

rules such that no operator continues to produce in excess of the

NMOCD Case 11525 Conoco Inc.'s Motion for Continuance Page 4

current oil and/or gas allowable or otherwise accumulate additional overproduction pending final adjudication of this matter.

(10) Counsel for Yates is not available for the Examiner hearing set for May 30, 1996 and counsel for Conoco is not available for the Examiner hearing set for May 16, 1996. Both counsel are available for the Examiner hearing set for June 13, 1996.

Counsel for the Applicant, Yates Petroleum Corporation ("Yates"), has been contacted concerning this request and has advised that Yates is opposed to a continuance.

W. Thomas Kellahin Kellahin & Kellahin P. O. Box 2265

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-4285

#### **CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE:**

I certify that a copy of this pleading was transmitted by facsimile to counsel for applicant this 26 day of April, 1996.

W. Thomas Kellahin