

Examiner Hearing – February 3, 2000

Docket No. 04-00

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CASE 12313: (Reopened)

Application of David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. for Compulsory Pooling, Directional Drilling of a Horizontal Well and a Non-Standard Spacing Unit, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Strawn formation, Northeast Lovington-Pennsylvanian Pool, underlying the following described acreage in Section 10, Township 16 South, Range 37 East in the following manner: (a) the NW/4 SW/4 for any formations and/or pools developed on 40-acre spacing and (b) the SW/4 to form a 160-acre Project Area, as defined by Division Rule 111.A(7), by combining two standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration units in order to accommodate a horizontally drilled wellbore. The applicant proposes to vertically drill its H & L Variance "10" Well No. 1 at a surface location 2130 feet from the South line and 330 feet from the West line (Unit L) of Section 10 to an approximate depth of 11,600 feet, kick-off, and then drill horizontally in an easterly direction a lateral distance of 1400 feet through the Strawn formation. The applicable drilling window or producing area [See Division Rule 111.A(7)] for the proposed wellbore is to be standard for any 40-acre unit and 80-acre units per the outer setback requirements for 80-acre units in the subject pool. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing this wellbore and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling and completing the well. The location of the proposed well is approximately six miles east of Lovington, New Mexico.

CASE 12320: Continued from January 6, 2000, Examiner Hearing.

Application of Chevron U.S.A. Production Co. for Approval to convert the EMSU Wells No. 210, 212, 222, 252 and 258 to Injection in the Eunice Monument South Unit, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval to convert its EMSU Wells No. 210, 212, 222, 252 and 258 to injection in the Eunice Monument South Unit (EMSU). These wells are designed to improve recovery efficiency of the waterflood patterns and enhance production of the EMSU secondary recovery project. The wells are located in the following locations: No. 210 - Section 4, Unit K, Township 21 South, Range 36 East; No. 252 - Section 5, Unit I, Township 21 South, Range 36 East; No. 222 - Section 6, Unit O, Township 21 South, Range 36 East; No. 252 - Section 6, Unit W, Township 21 South, Range 36 East; No. 258 - Section 4, Unit U, Township 21 South, Range 36 East. Water will be injected into the unitized interval of the Eunice Monument Grayburg-San Andres Pool which has an upper limit of 100 feet below mean sea level or the top of the Grayburg formation, whichever is higher, to a lower limit of the base of the San Andres formation. Injection will occur at an expected maximum pressure rate of 1500 barrels of water per day and an expected maximum pressure of 750 pounds per square inch. This area is approximately one mile west-southwest of Oil Center, New Mexico.

CASE 12336: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for approval of a Unit Agreement, Lea New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval of the Shinnery State Unit for an area comprising 2360 acres of State lands in Section 32, Township 9 South, Range 34 East, and Sections 4, 5, 8 and 9, Township 10 South, Range 34 East, which is located approximately 5 miles southwest of Crossroads, New Mexico.

CASE 12337: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for an Unorthodox Well Location, Chaves County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authorization to drills its Harvest "ABR" State Well No. 2 to the Abo formation, Pecos Slope-Abo Gas Pool, at an unorthodox well location 660 feet from the North line and 2139 feet from the West line of Section 36, Township 9 South, Range 24 East. The NW/4 of Section 36 is to be dedicated to the well. The unit is located approximately 6 miles north-northwest of Roswell, New Mexico. *In The Absence of Objection, This Application Will Be Taken Under Advisement.*

CASE 12338: Application of Yates Drilling Company for Compulsory Pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Morrow formation, Undesignated Empire-Pennsylvanian Pool, underlying the following described acreage in Section 15, Township 17 South, Range 28 East in the following manner: (a) the W/2 for any formations and/or pools developed on 320-acre spacing, (b) the NW/4 for any formations and/or pools developed on 160-acre spacing, (c) the N/2 NW/4 for any formations and/or pools developed on 80-acre spacing, and (d) the NW/4 NW/4 for any formations and/or pools developed on 40-acre spacing. These units are to be dedicated to its Spurck "15" State Com Well No. 1 to be drilled at a standard location 660 feet from the North and West lines (Unit D) of Section 15. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling the well. The area is located approximately 11 miles west of Loco Hills, New Mexico.

CASE 12319 Continued from January 20, 2000, Examiner Hearing.

Application of Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C. for Compulsory Pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Morrow formation in the following manner: the N/2 for all formations/pools developed on 320-acre spacing including the Logan Draw Morrow Gas Pool, the NE/4 for all formations/pools developed on 160-acre spacing, the S/2 NE/4 for all formations/pools developed on 80-acre spacing, and the SE/4 NE/4 for all formations/pools developed on 40-acre spacing, all in Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 27 East. Applicant proposes to dedicate these pooled units to a well to be drilled at a standard gas well location in the SE/4 NE/4 of Section 30. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling the well. The area is located approximately 4 miles southeast of Artesia, New Mexico.

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - THURSDAY - FEBRUARY 3, 2000

8:15 A.M. - 2040 South Pacheco
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Cases Nos. 5-00 and 6-00 are tentatively set for February 17 and March 2, 2000. Applications for hearing must be filed at least 23 days in advance of hearing date. The following cases will be heard by an Examiner:

CASE 12287: Continued from January 6, 2000, Examiner Hearing. This case will be dismissed.

Application of Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C. for Compulsory Pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Morrow formation underlying the following described acreage in Section 7, Township 22 South, Range 26 East, in the following manner: the W/2 to form a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any formations and/or pools developed on 320-acre spacing within that vertical extent, including the Undesignated Hackberry Hills-Canyon Gas Pool, Undesignated Happy Valley-Strawn Gas Pool, Undesignated Hackberry Hills-Atoka Gas Pool, and Happy Valley-Morrow Gas Pool; the SW/4 to form a standard 160-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any formations and/or pools developed on 160-acre spacing within that vertical extent; and the NE/4 SW/4 for form a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit for any formations and/or pools developed on 40-acre spacing within that vertical extent, including the Undesignated Filaree Dome-Delaware Pool and Undesignated Happy Valley-Bone Spring Pool. The units are to be dedicated to its White Tip "7" Fed. Well No. 2 to be located 1500 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the East line (Unit K) of Section 7. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the allocation of the cost thereof, as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of Nearburg Producing Company as the operator of the well, and a charge for risk involved in drilling and completing the well. These units are located approximately 6.5 miles west-southwest of Carlsbad, New Mexico.

CASE 12257: Continued from January 20, 2000, Examiner Hearing.

Application of E.G.L. Resources, Inc. for Compulsory Pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Yates formation underlying the NW/4 of Section 23, Township 20 South, Range 28 East to form a standard 160-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any formations and/or pools developed on 160-acre spacing within that vertical extent, including the Russell-Lower Yates Gas Pool. This unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard gas well location thereon. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the allocation of the cost thereof, as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well, and a charge for risk involved in drilling and completing the well. The unit is located approximately 11 miles north-northeast of Carlsbad, New Mexico.

CASE 12308: Continued from January 20, 2000, Examiner Hearing.

Application of Pogo Producing Company for compulsory pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Cisco Canyon formation underlying the following described acreage in Section 18, Township 20 South, Range 25 East, in the following manner: (a) Lots 3 and 4, the E/2 SW/4, and the SE/4 (S/2 equivalent) to form a standard 319.20-acre spacing and proration unit for any formations and/or pools developed on 320-acre spacing within this vertical extent, including the Undesignated South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool; and (b) the SE/4 to form a standard 160-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any formations and/or pools developed on 160-acre spacing within this vertical extent. Both units are to be dedicated to its plugged and abandoned W. W. Buchanan Osage Com. Well No. 1 (API No. 30-015-21451), located 1830 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the East line (Unit J) of Section 18. Also to be considered will be the cost of re-entry, completing, and equipping the well as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well, and a charge for risk involved in the re-entry of this wellbore. The units are located approximately 6 miles west-southwest of Seven Rivers, New Mexico.

CASE 12334: **Application of Manzano Oil Corporation for Compulsory Pooling, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Strawn formation underlying Lots 12 and 13 of irregular Section 1, Township 16 South, Range 36 East to form a standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration unit for any formations and/or pools developed on 80 acre spacing within that vertical extent, including the Northeast Lovington-Pennsylvanian Pool. The unit is to be dedicated to its Cayuma Well No. 1-A, located at an unorthodox oil well location 3580 feet from the South line and 990 feet from the West line (Unit M) of Section 1. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the actual operating costs thereof, as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling the well. The unit is located approximately 2 miles northeast of Lovington, New Mexico.

CASE 12335: **Application of Penwell Energy, Inc. for an Unorthodox Well Location, Sandoval County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks authorization to drill its Eagle Springs "8" Federal Well No. 1 as a wildcat well to the Entrada formation, at an unorthodox well location 263 feet from the North line and 2548 feet from the East line of Section 8, Township 19 North, Range 4 West. The NW/4 NE/4 of Section 8 is to be dedicated to the well. The unit is located approximately 7 miles north-northwest of Torreon, New Mexico.

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CASE 12296: Continued from December 2, 1999 Examiner Hearing

Application of Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company to amend Rule 7 of the Special Rules and Regulations for the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool for purposes of changing well location requirements for coal gas wells, San Juan, Rio Arriba, McKinley and Sandoval Counties, New Mexico. Applicant seeks to amend Rule 7 of the Special Rules and Regulations for the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool to (a) change the well location boundary requirements from not closer than 790 feet to not closer than 660 feet to any outer boundary of a spacing unit and from not closer than 130 feet to not closer than 10 feet to any quarter-quarter section line or subdivision inner boundary; and (b) to add well location requirements for federal exploratory units.

CASE 12328: **Application of John L. Cox for an Unorthodox Oil Well Location, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks an exception to Division Rule 104.B (1), revised by Division Order No. R-11231, issued by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission in Case No. 12119 on August 12, 1999, to drill its State "14-A" Well No. 1 at an unorthodox Pennsylvanian oil well location 1330 feet from the North line and 2530 feet from the East line (Unit G) of Section 14, Township 12 South, Range 33 East. The SE/4 NE/4 of Section 14 is to be dedicated to this well in order to form a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit for the Undesignated Bagley-Pennsylvanian Pool. This unit is located approximately 16 miles west of Tatum, New Mexico.

CASE 12003: Reopened - Continued from December 16, 1999 Examiner Hearing

In the matter of Case 12003 being reopened pursuant to the provisions of Division Order No. R-11053-A, which order established temporary special rules and regulations for the Featherstone-Bone Spring Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, including a provision for 80-acre spacing units. Operators in the Featherstone-Bone Spring Pool may appear and show cause why the temporary special rules for the pool should not be rescinded.

CASE 12319 Continued from January 6, 2000 Examiner Hearing

Application of Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C. for Compulsory Pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Morrow formation in the following manner: the N/2 for all formations/pools developed on 320-acre spacing including the Logan Draw Morrow Gas Pool, the NE/4 for all formations/pools developed on 160-acre spacing, the S/2 NE/4 for all formations/pools developed on 80-acre spacing, and the SE/4 NE/4 for all formations/pools developed on 40-acre spacing, all in Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 27 East. Applicant proposes to dedicate these pooled units to a well to be drilled at a standard gas well location in the SE/4 NE/4 of Section 30. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling the well. The area is located approximately 4 miles southeast of Artesia, New Mexico.

CASE 12285: Continued from January 6, 2000, Examiner Hearing.

Application of Nearburg Exploration, Company, LLC. for Compulsory Pooling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Morrow formation underlying the N/2 for all formations developed on 320-acre spacing including but not limited to the Undesignated San Simon Wolfcamp Gas Pool, the NW/4 for all formations developed on 160-acre spacing, the N/2 NW/4 for all formations developed on 80-acre spacing, and the NW/4 NW/4 for all formations developed on 40-acre spacing, all in Section 17, Township 22 South, Range 35 East. Applicant proposes to dedicate these pooled units to a well to be drilled at a standard gas well in the NW/4 NW/4 of Section 17. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the allocation of the cost thereof, as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of Nearburg Producing Company as operator of the well, and a charge for risk involved in drilling and completing the well. The area is located approximately 10.5 miles southwest of Oil Center, New Mexico.

CASE 12329: **Application of EOG Resources, Inc. for a Unit agreement, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks approval of a unit agreement for its proposed Red Hills North Unit Area containing 4198.20 acres, more or less, of Federal and State lands comprising all or portions of Sections 6, 7, 8, 17 and 18, Township 25 South, Range 34 East, and all or portions of Sections 1, 12 and 13, Township 25 South, Range 33 East. Said unit area is located approximately 19 miles west by north of Jal, New Mexico.

CASE 12330: **Application of Ameristate Oil and Gas, Inc. for Compulsory Pooling, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the top of the Mississippian formation or 12,900 feet, whichever is lesser, in the E/2 for all formations developed on 320-acre spacing including but not limited to the Undesignated South Shoe-Bar-Mississippian Gas Pool, the NE/4 for all formations developed on 160-acre spacing, the N/2 NE/4 for all formations developed on 80-acre spacing, and the NE/4 NE/4 for all formations developed on 40-acre spacing including but not limited to the Undesignated West Lovington-Upper San Andres Pool, the Undesignated Vacuum Grayburg-San Andres Pool, and the Undesignated Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, all in Section 13, Township 17 South, Range 35 East. Applicant proposed to dedicate these pooled units to its State 13 Well No. 1 to be drilled at a standard gas well in the NE/4 NE/4 of Section 13. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing the well and the actual operating cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling the well. The area is located approximately 9 miles southwest of Lovington, New Mexico.

CASE 12313: Continued from December 16, 1999 Examiner Hearing

Application of David H. Arrington Oil 7 Gas, Inc. for compulsory pooling and directional drilling of a horizontal well, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Strawn formation, Northeast Lovington-Pennsylvanian Pool, underlying the following described acreage in Section 10, Township 16 South, Range 37 East in the following manner: (a) the NW/4 SW/4 for any formations and/or pools developed on 40-acre spacing and (b) the SW/4 in order to form a 160-acre Project Area, as defined by Division Rule 111.A(9), by combining two standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration units in order to accommodate a horizontally drilled wellbore. The applicant proposes to vertically drill its H & L Variance "10" Well No. 1 at a surface location 2130 feet from the South line and 330 feet from the West line (Unit L) of Section 10 to an approximate depth of 11,600 feet, kick-off, and then drill horizontally in an easterly direction a lateral distance of 1400 feet through the Strawn formation. The applicable drilling window or producing area [see Division Rule 111.A(7)] for the proposed wellbore is to be standard for any 40-acre unit and 80-acre units per the outer setback requirements for 80-acre units in the subject pool. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing this wellbore and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling and completing the well. The location of the proposed well is approximately six miles east of Lovington, New Mexico.

CASE 12272: Continued from December 16, 1999, Examiner Hearing.

Application of Falcon Creek Resources, Inc. for authority to inject water into six wells in the proposed Teas-Yates Seven Rivers Unit Waterflood Project Area, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval to inject water into the Yates and Seven Rivers formations, West Teas-Yates Seven Rivers Pool, through 6 wells in its proposed Teas-Yates Seven Rivers Unit Waterflood Seven Rivers Pool, located in the following area:

Township 20 South, Range 33 East:

Section 4: SE/4

Section 9: N/2

Section 16: NE/4

This area is located approximately 5 miles northeast of the intersection of New Mexico Highways 176 and 62/180.

CASE 12331: **Application of Falcon Creek Resources, Inc. for Statutory Unitization, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks an order unitizing, for the purpose of establishing an enhanced recovery project, all mineral interested in the Yates and Seven Rivers formations, West Teas (Yates-Seven Rivers) Pool, underlying 1,320 acres, more or less, of Federal, State and Fee lands in the following acreage:

TOWNSHIP 20 SOUTH, RANGE 33 EAST, NMPM

Section 4: SE/4

Section 9: S/2, NE4, S/2 NW/4, NE/4 NW/4

Section 16: N/2, N/2 SW/4, NW/4 SE4

Section 17: E/2 NE4, NE/4 SE/4

Said unit to be designated to the West Teas (Yates-Seven Rivers) Unit. Among the matters to be considered at the hearing will be the necessity of unit operations; the designation of a unit operator; the designation of horizontal and vertical limits of the unit area; the determination of the fair, reasonable; and equitable allocation of production and costs of production, including capital investment, to each of the various tracts in the unit area; the determination of credits and charges to be made among the various owners in the unit area for their investment in wells and equipment; and such other matters as may be necessary and appropriate for carrying on efficient unit operations; including but no limited to, unit voting procedures, selection, removal or substitution of unit operator, and time of commencement and termination of unit operations. Applicant also requests that any such order issued in this case include a provision for carrying any non-consenting working interest owner within the unit area upon such terms and conditions to be determined by the Division as just and reasonable. The unit area is located approximately 30 miles west by southwest of Hobbs, New Mexico.

CASE 12332: **Application of Falcon Creek Resources, Inc. for Approval of a Waterflood Project for its West Teas (Yates-Seven Rivers) Unit Area and Qualification of Project for the Recovered Oil Tax Rate pursuant to the Enhanced Oil Recovery Act, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks an order approval of its West Teas (Yates-Seven Rivers) Unit Waterflood Project for injection of water in the Yates and Seven Rivers formations, West Teas-Yates Seven Rivers Pool through six injection wells located in the following described area:

TOWNSHIP 20 SOUTH, RANGE 33 EAST, NMPM

Section 4: SE/4

Section 9: S/2, NE4, S/2 NW/4, NE/4 NW/4

Section 16: N/2, N/2 SW/4, NW/4 SE4

Section 17: E/2 NE4, NE/4 SE/4