

BEFORE THE
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

April 15, 1952

In the Matter of:

Harvey E. Yates' application for
approval of unorthodox location
2615' from the S and W lines of
16-19S-30E, NMPM, Eddy County,
New Mexico in the Benson Pool.

Case No. 355

(Notice of Publication read by Mr. Graham.)

MR. BUSH: Mr. Donald S. Bush, Artesia, representing
Harvey E. Yates. This is a simple application for an unorthodox
location as read from the Docket. That puts this unorthodox
location within 25 feet of the north and east 40-acre division
lines of the northeast quarter southwest quarter of Section 16,
Township 19, South Range 30 East in the Benson Pool. In support
of this application I have Mr. Yates, the petitioner, here as a
witness, and if Mr. Yates can be sworn we will put on his testi-
mony.

H A R R Y E. Y A T E S,

having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

By MR. BUSH:

Q Will you state your name to the Commission, please.

A Harry E. Yates.

Q Where do you live?

A Artesia.

Q What is your business?

A Oil producer.

Q Are you also a geologist?

A Yes, sir.

MR. BUSH: Does the Commission wish me to qualify Mr. Yates or are you sufficiently familiar with his qualifications to qualify him as an expert?

MR. SPURRIER: His qualifications are accepted.

Q Are you the owner and operator of the Benson Pool in Section 16, Township 19 South, Range 30 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico?

A Yes, sir.

Q How many producing wells do you have on the Benson lease?

A Three producing now, five in all.

Q Did you prepare this plat of the wells on the Benson lease and the proposed unorthodox location?

A Yes, sir.

Q The unorthodox location requested is not on the Benson, is that correct?

A Is not.

Q Is not on the Benson lease?

A What do you mean?

Q It is on a different lease from the lease on which these producing wells are located?

A That is right. It is a state lease, though.

Q The unorthodox location is requested on state lease B-9646, No. 2 assignment, is that correct?

A Yes, sir.

Q Do you own all of the offset locations. Are you the record owner of all the offset locations to this proposed unorthodox location?

A Yes, sir.

Q And have you in the past drilled a well that turned out to be a dry hole in the northeast ten acres of this 40-acre unit?

A Yes, sir.

Q Are the royalties under the two leases involved here payable to the state of New Mexico, payable to the same institution?

A Yes, sir.

Q Did you check the land office records on that?

A Yes.

Q At what depth do you produce those wells there, Mr. Yates?

A Average depth is 1850 feet.

Q And out of what formation do you produce them?

A Upper Seven Rivers.

Q Upper Seven Rivers?

A Yes, sir.

Q What factors are involved that have led you to make this application for the unorthodox location?

A The unorthodox location is moved toward the high of the field and I expect will raise approximately 20 feet in doing so.

Q What was the difference between the dry hole you drilled southwest of the proposed unorthodox location and this well located northeast of the proposed unorthodox location?

A Approximately 50 feet.

Q You anticipate by moving to the unorthodox location that you will get about 20 feet higher on structure?

A Yes, sir.

Q Are there any other factors that are involved in making this application?

A In the dry hole I had a fair show of oil and just a fair show, and I believe I am moving toward the porosity up dip and I believe that I can make a well there.

Q Do you encounter water throughout all this production here?

A Yes, sir.

Q Do you feel that by getting higher on formation you will reduce the quantity of water encountered there?

A Yes, sir.

Q Does this unorthodox location conform to the apparent drainage pattern of this Benson Pool, Mr. Yates?

A It has a tendency to round out the present location, if that can be done.

Q Do you feel that if permission is granted to drill this well it will result more nearly in your maximum ultimate recovery of the oil under there?

A That is my opinion.

MR. BUSH: I offer in evidence what is marked as Exhibit No. 1, being the plat referred to in this testimony.

MR. SPURRIER: Without objection it will be received.

Q You ask the Commission for an order allowing you to drill this unorthodox location as set out in the petition?

A Yes, sir.

MR. BUSH: I believe that is all the testimony we have.

MR. SPURRIER: Any question of the witness? Any further comment in this case? If not, the witness may be excused and the case will be taken under advisement.

We will skip 356 until later. I stand corrected, the next case on the Docket is Case 356.

(Witness excused.)

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
 :
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached transcript of hearing in Case No. 355 before the Oil Conservation Commission, State of New Mexico, at Santa Fe, on April 15, 1952, is a true and correct record of the same to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

DATED at Albuquerque, New Mexico, this 21st day of April, 1952.


REPORTER

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