

Dockets Nos. 35-92 and 36-92 are tentatively set for October 29, 1992 and November 5, 1992. Applications for hearing must be filed at least 23 days in advance of hearing date.

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - THURSDAY - OCTOBER 15, 1992

**8:15 A.M. - OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION CONFERENCE ROOM, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING,
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

The following cases will be heard before David R. Catanach, Examiner or Michael E. Stogner, Alternate Examiner:

CASE 10567: **Application of SG Interests I, Ltd. for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal (Gas) Pool underlying Lots 3 and 4, the E/2 SW/4 and the SE/4 (S/2 equivalent) of Section 30, Township 29 North, Range 10 West, forming a 319.80-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the SW/4 of said Section 30. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said 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 said well. Said unit is located approximately 3 miles east-southeast of Bloomfield, New Mexico.

CASE 10568: **Application of Mewbourne Oil Company for an unorthodox infill gas well location and simultaneous dedication, Eddy County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval of an unorthodox gas well location 1980 feet from the South line and 990 feet from the East line (Unit I) of Section 1, Township 18 South, Range 27 East, North Illinois Camp-Morrow Gas Pool. Further, the applicant seeks an exception to Division General Rule 104.C(2) to allow the existing 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit comprising the S/2 of said Section 1 to be simultaneously dedicated in the North Illinois Camp-Morrow Gas Pool to the proposed well and to the existing Chalk Bluff Federal Well No. 1 located at a standard gas well location 790 feet from the South line and 2250 feet from the West line (Unit N) of said Section 1. Said unit is located approximately 5.25 miles southeast of Riverside, New Mexico.

CASE 10557: (Readvertised)

Application of Hallwood Petroleum Inc. for an unorthodox coal gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for an unorthodox coal gas well location 947 feet from the South line and 800 feet from the East line (Unit P) of Section 24, Township 32 North, Range 13 West, the E/2 of said Section 24 is to be dedicated to said well forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool. Said unit is located approximately 3.5 miles northeast of La Plata, New Mexico.

CASE 10569: **Application of Hallwood Petroleum Inc. for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal (Gas) Pool, underlying the E/2 of Section 35, Township 32 South, Range 13 West, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location in the NE/4 of said Section 35. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said 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 said well. Said unit is located approximately 1.5 miles northeast of La Plata, New Mexico.

CASE 10555: (Readvertised. This case will be continued to November 5, 1992.)

Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for amendment of Division Order No. R-8170, as amended, to establish a minimum gas allowable in the Justis (Glorieta) Gas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks to amend the "General Rules For the Prorated Gas Pools of New Mexico/Special Rules and Regulations for the Justis (Glorieta) Gas Pool" as promulgated by Division Order No. R-8170, as amended, to provide for a minimum natural gas allowable for the Justis (Glorieta) Gas Pool for a three-year period of time equal to 600 MCF of gas per day for an Acreage Factor of 1.00 or 1,200 MCF of gas per day for a standard Justis 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit. The current pool boundaries include portions of Townships 24 and 25 South, Range 37 East, which is located approximately 4 miles east of Jal, New Mexico.

CASE 10570: **Application of Marathon Oil Company to qualify a portion of the South Eunice Seven Rivers Queen Unit Waterflood Project for the recovered oil tax rate pursuant to the "New Mexico Enhanced Oil Recovery Act", Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pursuant to the Rules and Procedures for Qualifications of Enhanced Oil Recovery Projects and Certification for the Recovered Oil Tax Rate, as promulgated by Division Order No. R-9708, qualifying a portion of its South Eunice Seven Rivers Queen Unit Waterflood Project (authorized by Division Order No. R-4217), in Sections 35 and 36, Township 22 South, Range 36 East, South Eunice Seven Rivers Queen Unit, South Eunice Seven Rivers-Queen Pool, for the recovered oil tax rate under the "Enhanced Oil Recovery Act" (Laws 1992, Chapter 38, Sections 1 through 5). Said project area is located approximately 7.5 miles southwest by south of Eunice, New Mexico.

CASE 10571: **Application of Chevron U.S.A. Inc. for a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project, special operating rules, unorthodox oil well location, non-standard oil proration unit, and simultaneous dedication, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks to initiate a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project in the South Brunson Drinkard-Abo Pool underlying the W/2 SE/4 of Section 30, Township 22 South, Range 38 East, thereby creating a non-standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration unit for said pool. The applicant proposes to recompleat its Drinkard (NCT-B) Well No. 5, located at a standard surface location 880 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the East line (Unit O) of said Section 30, plug back from the Wantz-Granite Wash Pool, kick-off at approximately 6772 feet and drill in a north-northeasterly direction until an angle of approximately 90 degrees is achieved and continue drilling horizontally for approximately 400 feet. The applicant is proposing to establish a window for said project whereby the horizontal displacement of said well's producing interval will be confined to a rectangular area 880 feet from the South line, 1780 feet from the East line, 1280 feet from the South line, and 1980 feet from the East line of said Section 30. Further the applicant seeks the adoption of special operating provisions within the project area including a special project oil allowable. Also to be included is the simultaneous dedication of the proposed well with the existing Drinkard (NCT-B) Well No. 3 located at a standard oil well location 660 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the East line (Unit O) which currently has dedicated the SW/4 SE/4 of said Section 30. The subject area is located approximately 6.5 miles southeast by south of Eunice, New Mexico.

CASE 10559: (Continued from September 17, 1992, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Southwest Royalties, Inc. for salt water disposal, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to re-enter the previously plugged and abandoned Conoco Inc. Julie Com Well No. 1 located 1980 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the East line (Unit H) of Section 17, Township 19 South, Range 25 East, and utilize said well to dispose of produced salt water into the Abo formation through the perforated interval from approximately 4000 feet to 5000 feet. Said well is located approximately 6.5 miles northwest of Seven Rivers, New Mexico.

CASE 10471: (Continued from September 17, 1992, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Southwest Royalties, Inc. for compulsory pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Canyon formation underlying the NE/4 of Section 17, Township 19 South, Range 25 East, forming a standard 160-acre spacing and proration unit for any and all formations spaced on 160-acre spacing within said vertical extent, which presently includes but is not necessarily limited to the North Dagger Draw-Pennsylvanian Pool. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location thereon. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 6.5 miles northwest of Seven Rivers, New Mexico.

CASE 10560: (Continued from September 17, 1992, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Conoco Inc. for compulsory pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Canyon formation underlying the NE/4 of Section 17, Township 19 South, Range 25 East, forming a standard 160-acre spacing and proration unit for any and all formations spaced on 160-acre spacing within said vertical extent, which presently includes but is not necessarily limited to the North Dagger Draw-Pennsylvanian Pool. Said unit is to be dedicated to the existing Southwest Royalties, Inc. Dagger Draw Well No. 1 located at a standard location 660 feet from the North line and 1980 feet from the East line (Unit B) of said Section 17, said unit and well were the subject of Division Case No. 10471. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 6.5 miles northwest of Seven Rivers, New Mexico.

CASE 10572: **Application of Texaco Exploration & Production Inc. for waterflood expansion, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to expand its W. H. Rhodes "B" Federal Waterflood Project, authorized by Division Order No. R-2748, by converting its W. H. Rhodes "B" Federal (NCT-1) Well No. 6 located 1980 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the East line (Unit I) and its W. H. Rhodes "B" Federal (NCT-1) Well No. 13 located 990 feet from the South line and 1650 feet from the East line (Unit O), both in Section 27, Township 26 South, Range 37 East, from producing oil wells to water injection wells. Said project area is located approximately 7.5 miles south-southeast of Jal, New Mexico.

CASE 10573: **Application of Texaco Exploration & Production Inc. for waterflood expansion, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to expand its Rhodes Yates Unit Waterflood Project, authorized by Division Order No. R-3889, by converting its Rhodes Yates Unit Well No. 8 located 1875 feet from the North line and 765 feet from the West line (Unit E) and its Rhodes Yates Unit Well No. 13 located 660 feet from the South and West lines (Unit M), both in Section 27, Township 26 South, Range 37 East, Rhodes Yates Unit, Rhodes Yates-Seven Rivers Pool, from producing oil wells to water injection wells. Said project area is located approximately 7.5 miles south-southeast of Jal, New Mexico.

CASE 10555: **Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for termination of gas prorationing in the Justis (Glorieta) Gas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order terminating gas prorationing in the Justis (Glorieta) Gas Pool and to exclude said pool from the provisions of Division Order No. R-8170, as amended (General Rules For The Prorated Gas Pools of New Mexico). The current pool boundaries include portions of Townships 24 and 25 South, Range 37 East, which is located approximately 4 miles east of Jal, New Mexico.

CASE 10502: (Continued from September 3, 1992, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Delaware formation or to a depth of 8700 feet, whichever is deeper, underlying the NW/4 NW/4 (Unit D) of Section 23, Township 22 South, Range 32 East, forming a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit within said vertical extent. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location thereon. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said 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 said well. Said unit is located approximately 6.25 miles north-northwest of the junction of State Highway No. 128 and the Delaware Basin Road.

CASE 10503: (Continued from September 3, 1992, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Delaware formation or to a depth of 8700 feet, whichever is deeper, underlying the SW/4 NW/4 (Unit E) of Section 23, Township 22 South, Range 32 East, forming a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit within said vertical extent. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location thereon. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said 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 said well. Said unit is located approximately 6 miles north-northwest of the junction of State Highway No. 128 and the Delaware Basin Road.

CASE 10504: (Continued from September 3, 1992, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Delaware formation or to a depth of 8700 feet, whichever is deeper, underlying the NW/4 SW/4 (Unit L) of Section 24, Township 22 South, Range 32 East, forming a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit within said vertical extent. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location thereon. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said 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 said well. Said unit is located approximately 5.5 miles north by west of the junction of State Highway No. 128 and the Delaware Basin Road.

CASE 10556: **Application of Chi Energy, Inc. for special pool rules, Eddy County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order promulgating special rules for the Old Millman Ranch-Bone Spring Pool including a provision for a limiting gas-oil ratio of 20,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil. Said pool currently comprises portions of Sections 4, 5, and 8, Township 20 South, Range 28 East, being approximately 13.5 miles east of Seven Rivers, New Mexico.

CASE 10557: **Application of Hallwood Petroleum Inc. for an unorthodox coal gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for an unorthodox coal gas well location 818 feet from the South line and 1099 feet from the East line (Unit P) of Section 24, Township 32 North, Range 13 West, the E/2 of said Section 24 is to be dedicated to said well forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool. Said unit is located approximately 3.5 miles northeast of La Plata, New Mexico.

CASE 10558: **Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for an unorthodox coal gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for an unorthodox coal gas well location 1175 feet from the North line and 1115 feet from the West line (Unit D) of Section 36, Township 30 North, Range 8 West. Said well is to be completed in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool as a replacement well to the EPNG Com "D" Well No. 300 currently located in the NE/4 of said Section 36. The existing 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit comprising the N/2 of said Section 36 shall be dedicated to said well. Said unit is located approximately 1-1/2 miles northwest by north of Navajo City, New Mexico.

CASE 10551: **Application of Basin Minerals, Ltd. for surface commingling, San Juan County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an exception to Division General Rule 303A for the surface commingling of production from three certain gas wells completed in the Blanco-Pictured Cliffs Pool and/or Blanco-Mesaverde Pool in the Atlantic "A" LS Lease located in the N/2 of Section 26, Township 31 North, Range 10 West, which is located approximately 5 miles south-southeast of Cedar Hill, New Mexico.

CASE 10552: **Application of ARCO Oil and Gas Company for pool creation and contraction and, if applicable, pool extensions and/or redesignations, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the creation of a new pool for the production of oil from the Blinebry, Tubb and Drinkard formations underlying all or portions of Sections 11 through 14, 23 through 26, 35 and 36, Township 25 South, Range 37 East, portions of Sections 19, 30, and 31, Township 25 South, Range 38 East, and a portion of Section 1, Township 26 South, Range 37 East. Further, the applicant seeks the concomitant contraction of the Justis-Blinebry Pool and the Justis Tubb-Drinkard Pool in the above-described area and, if applicable, the extension and/or redesignation of portions of the Justis-Blinebry and Justis Tubb-Drinkard Pools that may become severed due to the proposed Blinebry-Tubb-Drinkard pool creation. Said area is located approximately 4 miles east of Jal, New Mexico.

CASE 10553: **Application of ARCO Oil and Gas Company for statutory unitization, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order unitizing, for the purpose of establishing a secondary recovery project, all mineral interests in the proposed Justis-Blinebry-Tubb-Drinkard Pool, underlying 5360 acres, more or less, of State, Federal and Fee lands comprising portions of Townships 25 and 26 South, Ranges 37 and 38 East. Said unit is to be designated the South Justis Unit Area. Among the matters to be considered at the hearing will be the necessity of unit operations; the designation of a unit operator; the determination 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 not necessarily 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. Said unit area is located approximately 4 miles east of Jal, New Mexico.

CASE 10554: **Application of ARCO Oil and Gas Company for approval of a waterflood project, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a waterflood project by injection of water into the Blinebry, Tubb and Drinkard formations in its proposed South Justis Unit Area (Division Case No. 10553) underlying portions of Townships 25 and 26 South, Ranges 37 and 38 East. The applicant further seeks approval that said project qualify as an "Enhanced Oil Recovery Project" pursuant to the provisions of Division Order No. R-9708. Said project is located approximately 4 miles east of Jal, New Mexico.

CASE 8350: **(Reopened)**

In the matter of Case 8350 being reopened pursuant to the provisions of Division Order Nos. R-7745 and R-7745-A, which orders promulgated temporary special rules and regulations for the Gavilan Greenhorn-Graneros-Dakota Oil Pool in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, including a provision for 320-acre spacing and proration units and designated well locations. Operators in said pool may appear and show cause why the temporary special rules for said Gavilan Greenhorn-Graneros-Dakota Oil Pool should not be rescinded.

CASE 10458: **(Continued from July 9, 1992, Examiner Hearing and this case will be dismissed.)**

Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project, special operating rules therefor, a non-standard gas-oil proration unit, an unorthodox well location and a special project allowable, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks to initiate a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project in the Angel Peak-Gallup Associated Pool underlying all of Section 35, Township 27 North, Range 10 West, thereby creating a non-standard 640-acre gas or oil spacing and proration unit for said pool. The applicant proposes to drill its Huerfano Unit Well No. 306 from a tentative unorthodox surface location 1455 feet from the South line and 1550 feet from the West line (Unit K) of Section 35, Township 27 North, Range 10 West, kick-off from vertical in a southeasterly direction until an angle of approximately 90 degrees is achieved and continue drilling horizontally for approximately 3015 feet. Applicant, further seeks the adoption of special operating provisions and rules within the pilot project area including the designation of a target window for said horizontal wellbore described as a rectangle 790 feet from the South, East, and West lines and 3430 feet from the North line of said Section 35 and for a special project allowable. Said unit is centered a mile south of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Angel Peak Recreational Area Campground.