

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 10557

APPLICATION OF HALLWOOD PETROLEUM, INC. FOR AN UNORTHODOX WELL LOCATION, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

AND

COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER R-8054

W. THOMAS KELLAHIN, attorney in fact and authorized representative of HALLWOOD PETROLEUM, INC., states that the notice provisions of Division Rule 1207 (Order R-8054) have been complied with, that Applicant has caused to be conducted a good faith diligent effort to find the correct addresses of all interested parties entitled to receive notice, that on AUGUST 25, 1992, I caused to be mailed by certified mail return-receipt requested notice of this hearing and a copy of the application for the above referenced case along with the cover letter, at least twenty days prior to the hearing set for SEPTEMBER 17, 1992 to the parties shown in the application as evidenced by the attached copies of return receipt cards, and that pursuant to Division Rule 1207, notice has been given at the correct addresses provided by such rule

W. Thomas Kellahin

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this IST day of SEPTEMBER, 1992.

My Commission Expires:

cert915.629

JAY (. LAURSCHERE EXAMINER CATANACH

OLEONGERIAMON DIVISION

HAllwood EXAMINER CATANACH

CASE NO. 10557

CENDED AND RELIABILITY OF THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	
• Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services.	I also wish to receive the
Complete items 3, and 4a & b.	following services (for an extra
· Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so the	nat we can fee):
return this card to you.	
 Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. 	if space 1. L Addressee's Address
Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the ar	ticle number
The Return Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the personal statement of the pers	
to and the date of delivery.	Consult postmaster for fee.
3. Article Addressed to:	4a. Article Number
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	P 355 568 361
	4b. Service Type
Meridian Oil Inc.	Registered Insured
	Certified COD
P.O. Box 4289	☐ Express Mail ☐ Return Receipt for
Farmington, NM 87499	Merchandise
===9 ====, : 3, 133	7. Date of Delivery
The second secon	8 61 00
E Ci	012692
5. Signature (Addressee)	8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested
et e e	and fee is paid)
6. Signatura (Agent)	
1 1	
400 (COW)	
PS Form 3811, November 1990 +U.S. GPO: 1991-28	7.0% DOMESTIC RETURN RECFIPT
WTY-L	Pallwrod NSL USA #5
The state of the s	
<u>[7] 新安徽縣 漢明學科 以及為中國共產黨</u>	AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER
SENDER:	Average Constitution of Section 1
Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services.	I also wish to receive the
Complete items 3, and 4a & b.	following services (for an extra
Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so t	that we can fee):
return this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back	
does not permit.	k if space 1. Addressee's Address
. Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a	irticle number
 The Return Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the per 	ricide number. rson delivered 2. Restricted Delivery
to and the date of delivery.	Consult postmaster for fee.
3. Article Addressed to:	4a. Article Number
111 70201	P355 568 360.
	4b. Service Type
Robert Click	☐ Registered ☐ Insured ♣
	Certified 🛘 COD
Suite 230 Pecan Creek	Express Mail Return Receipt for
3340 Meadow Road	Merchandise
Dallas TX 75231	7. Date of Delivery
	1 27
5 Signature (Addresses)	20 Add
5 Signature (Addressee)	8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested
O Zoleila Chiefs	8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid)
5 Signature (Addressee) 6. Signature (Agent)	8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid)
O Zoleila Chiefs	8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid)
6. Signature (Agent)	and fee is paid)
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811 , November 1990 ± U.S. GPO: 1991–2	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT
6. Signature (Agent)	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811 , November 1990 ± U.S. GPO: 1991–2	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 ±U.S. GPO: 1991-2	and fee is paid) 87-066 , DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 ± U.S. GPO: 1991–2 WTK Hall SENDER:	and fee is paid) 87-086 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 ± U.S. GPO: 1991–2 WTK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services.	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 ± U.S. GPO: 1991–2 WTK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b.	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 ± U.S. GPO: 1991-2: WTK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you.	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee):
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 ± U.S. GPO: 1991–2 WTK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee):
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 ± U.S. GPO: 1991–2 WTK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so t return this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit.	and fee is paid) 87-966 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 & U.S. GPO: 1991—2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so to return this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the set of the complete in the set of the set of the set of the complete in the set of the complete in the set of	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991—2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a thing Return Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the per to and the date of delivery.	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number son delivered 2. Restricted Delivery
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 & U.S. GPO: 1991-2 W/K Hadd SENDER: Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. Complete items 3, and 4a & b. Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the backdoes not permit. W/tst "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a The Return Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the permit.	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL DSA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number son delivered Consult postmaster for fee.
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991—2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a thing Return Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the per to and the date of delivery.	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL DSA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number son delivered 2. Restricted Delivery Consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991—2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a The Return Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the per to and the date of delivery.	and fee is paid) B7-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL SA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number roon delivered Consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number P.35.5. S. 68 36.7
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991—2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the backdoes not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a that the date of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to:	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL SA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number 73555555555555555555555555555555555555
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a the father of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to:	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address ricce number son delivered 2. Restricted Delivery Consult postmaster for fee. 48. Article Number P 35 5 5 68 367
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a the faturn Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the per to and the date of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address ricce number son delivered 2. Restricted Delivery Consult postmaster for fee. 48. Article Number P 35 5 5 68 367
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a the faturn Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the per to and the date of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers	and fee is paid) B7-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL SA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number son delivered Consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number P.35 S 5 68 367 4b. Service Type Registered Insured Cortified COD
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 & U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so to return this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the action of the date of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers P.O. Box 4289	and fee is paid) B7-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL SA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number son delivered Consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number 7355 S 68 367 4b. Service Type Insured Certified COD Express Mail Return Receipt for
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 & U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so to return this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the action of the date of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers P.O. Box 4289	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL DSA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number son delivered Consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number P.35 S S 68 36.2 4b. Service Type Insured Certified COD Return Receipt for Merchandise
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a the faturn Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the per to and the date of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers	and fee is paid) B7-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL SA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number son delivered Consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number 735 S 568 367 4b. Service Type Insured Consult postmaster Registered Insured Consult postmaster Registered
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the backdoes not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a the late of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, NM 87499	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number soon delivered Consult postmaster for fee. 48. Article Number P35555568 367 4b. Service Type Registered Insured Certified COD Return Receipt for Merchandise 7. Date of Delivery
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 & U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so to return this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the action of the date of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers P.O. Box 4289	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL DSA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number Consult postmaster for fee. 4b. Service Type Insured Registered Insured Certified COD Express Mail Return Receipt for Merchandise 7. Date of Delivery 8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested)
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so treturn this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the backdoes not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a the late of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, NM 87499	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL USA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number soon delivered Consult postmaster for fee. 48. Article Number P35555568 367 4b. Service Type Registered Insured Certified COD Return Receipt for Merchandise 7. Date of Delivery
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so to return this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back does not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the another than the date of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, NM 87499 5. Signature (Addressee)	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL DSA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number Consult postmaster for fee. 4b. Service Type Insured Registered Insured Certified COD Express Mail Return Receipt for Merchandise 7. Date of Delivery 8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested)
6. Signature (Agent) PS Form 3811, November 1990 *U.S. GPO: 1991-2 WK Hall SENDER: • Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services. • Complete items 3, and 4a & b. • Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so tretum this card to you. • Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the backdoes not permit. • Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the a The Return Receipt Fee will provide you the signature of the perto and the date of delivery. 3. Article Addressed to: Southland Royalty Co. Kent Beers P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, NM 87499	and fee is paid) 87-066 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT WOOD NSL DSA #5 I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee): 1. Addressee's Address rticle number consult postmaster for fee. 4a. Article Number Consult postmaster for fee. 4b. Service Type Insured Registered Insured Certified COD Express Mail Return Receipt for Merchandise 7. Date of Delivery 8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested)

1	NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
2	STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
3	STATE OF NEW MEXICO
4	CASE NO. 10557
5	
6	IN THE MATTER OF:
7	
8	The Application of Hallwood Petroleum,
9	Inc., for an Unorthodox Coal Gas Well Location, San Juan County,
10	New Mexico.
11	
12	
1 3	
14	
1 5	BEFORE:
16	DAVID R. CATANACH
17	Hearing Examiner
18	State Land Office Building
19	September 17, 1992
20	
2 1	REPORTED BY:
2 2	CARLA DIANE RODRIGUEZ Certified Shorthand Reporter
23	for the State of New Mexico
2 4	
2.5	

ORIGINAL

1	APPEARANCES
2	
3	FOR THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION:
4	DODEDM C CMOUNTE FOO
5	ROBERT G. STOVALL, ESQ. General Counsel
6	State Land Office Building Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
7	
8	FOR THE APPLICANT:
9	KELLAHIN & KELLAHIN Post Office Box 2265
10	Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2265
11	BY: W. THOMAS KELLAHIN, ESQ.
12	ALSO APPEARING:
13	MR. ROBERT CLICK
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
2 2	
23	
24	
2 5	

1	I N D E X	Page Number
2	Appearances	2
3	WITNESSES FOR THE APPLICANT:	
4	1. ROBERT O'DONNELL	
5	Examination by Mr. Kellahin Examination by Mr. Catanach	
6	Examination by Mr. Stovall	18
7	2. KATHLEEN VOLK Examination by Mr. Kellahin	19
8	Examination by Mr. Catanach	
9	Certificate of Reporter	2 4
10	EXHIBITS	Reference
1 1	Exhibit No. 1 Exhibit No. 2	6
12	Exhibit No. 3	7 1 1
13	Exhibit No. 4 Exhibit No. 5	1 2 2 0
14	Exhibit No. 5A	2 2
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

EXAMINER CATANACH: At this time we'll 1 call Case 10557. 2 3 MR. STOVALL: The application of Hallwood Petroleum, Inc., for an unorthodox coal 4 5 gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. EXAMINER CATANACH: Are there 6 7 appearances in this case? MR. KELLAHIN: Yes, Mr. Examiner. 8 I'm Tom Kellahin of the Santa Fe law firm of Kellahin 9 10 & Kellahin, appearing on behalf of Hallwood 11 Petroleum, Inc., and I have two witnesses. 12 EXAMINER CATANACH: Any other 13 appearances? 14 Will the witnesses please stand to be 15 sworn in. 16 [The witnesses were duly sworn.] MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, I would 17 also like to introduce to you, although he's not 18 a witness, Mr. Robert Click who is in the room. 19 20 He's one of the participants and a working interest owner in the section, and is 21 22 participating with Hallwood in the development of the coal gas well. 23 24 The application, Mr. Examiner, has been 25 amended. Just about the time we got this filed,

we had a surface problem with an archaeological issue on the surface, and the location has been moved. That request has already been placed on the Examiner's docket for the October 15th docket.

We would like to go ahead and have Mr. O'Connell and Ms. Volk testify today with regards to the amended location, recognizing that it will again appear on the October 15th docket, and if there's no opposition, then, we would like to be excused from bringing them back. But there is a change from this docket, and Mr. O'Connell will identify and explain the change for you.

EXAMINER CATANACH: Okay..

KEVIN E. O'CONNELL

Having been first duly sworn upon his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION

BY MR. KELLAHIN:

- Q. For the record, sir, would you please state your name and occupation?
- A. My name is Kevin E. O'Connell. I'm a drilling and production supervisor for Hallwood Petroleum, Inc.
 - Q. Have you testified on prior occasions

before the Oil Conservation Commission?

A. Yes, sir.

- Q. In what capacity?
- A. As a petroleum engineer, registered.
- Q. With regards to this application by your company, you have made an engineering, as well as a geologic review of the location of a coal gas well in the Basin Fruitland Coal Gas
 - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Having made that review and study, have you come to engineering conclusions about the optimum place in which to locate this well in the spacing unit for Section 24 of 32 North, 13 West?
 - A. Yes, sir.
- MR. KELLAHIN: We tender Mr. O'Connell as an expert petroleum engineer.
- EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. O'Connell is so qualified.
- Q. Let me have you orient us as to where we are in the coal pool. If you'll turn to Exhibit 1 and identify that for us?
- A. Exhibit No. 1 is just an outline of the San Juan Basin and the Fruitland Coal area. I've identified with a circle Hallwood's quote-unquote

La Plata Area, where we currently have seven Fruitland Coal wells. It's in the extreme northwest edge of the basin.

to where we are in the basin in the Fruitland
Coal play. I've identified with a circle
Hallwood's area. We just called it quote-unquote
the La Plata Area. We're three and a half miles
northeast of La Plata, New Mexico, along the
Plata River and just south of the Colorado, New
Mexico state line. But we are on the extreme
northwest edge of the Fruitland Coal play,
outside of the majority of the activity. Our
wells are currently about five miles from any
existing producing coal wells.

- Q. Let's turn to Exhibit No. 2. Identify and describe this display.
- A. Exhibit No. 2 is a portion of our larger structure map. It covers the nine-section area surrounding Section 24 where we're requesting the location exception in the southeast quarter of Section 24.

It's a structure map on the base of the Fruitland Coal, which is the top of the Pictured Cliffs. Two things of note on here. The lines

shown on there are a four-well cross-section that we'll discuss that go from south to north, from A to A^{\prime} .

It goes through—the first well is Hallwood's Montoya, 25-2, a Fruitland Coal well. The next well is Hallwood's Montoya 25-1, a Fruitland Coal well. It comes up through the southeast quarter of Section 24 and picks up a Dakota Mesaverde well, and then it continues on up into the northeast quarter of Section 24 to a well that was P & A'd. Never produced.

- Q. When we look at Section 24, are there currently any coal gas wells in that section?
 - A. No, sir.

- Q. What is the orientation of the 320 gas spacing unit that you're proposing for the well?
- A. It would be a stand-up 320, comprising the east half of Section 24, and that is consistent with the deeper existing 320 for the Mesaverde Dakota.

The other thing I wanted to mention on there, this is a rather unusual structure map as we're going to discuss more in detail, but you can see the coal rises tremendously across

Section 24, and actually in the far northwest

corner of this map in Section 14, the coal outcrops and is surface mined by BHP about two to three miles roughly from where we're producing.

- Q. The location is going to necessitate an exception from Rule 7 of the pool rules because you are in the wrong quarter section?
- A. That's correct. The legal location would be in the northeast quarter of Section 24 as prescribed by the current Basin Fruitland Coal field rules.
- Q. Or, in the alternative, in the southwest quarter?
 - A. Yes, sir.

- Q. The original location of the well on the docket was 818 feet from the south line, 1,099 from the east line, and that now has been moved to a surface location 947 feet from the south line and 800 feet from the east line?
 - A. Yes, that's correct.
- Q. So you're still standard as to the 790 footage setback of the spacing unit, but you're in the wrong quarter section?
- A. That's correct. We just had to move about 175 feet to the northeast due to archaeological reasons.

- Q. Does this amended surface location now satisfy all the surface constraints or limitations for approval of this location?
 - A. Yes, sir.

- Q. Why the southeast quarter and not one of the other quarter sections?
- A. We feel, as we'll discuss more in detail, that literally because the coal is, as we referred to it, it's an elbow, is rising so fast in outcrop, that literally as you go from the southeast quarter of Section 24 to the northwest quarter, you go from productive coal to nonproductive coal and actually go through the trap mechanism in the Fruitland Coal here.
- Q. What kind of rates are you achieving on the other wells in this area that you operate?
- A. The closest well due south in Section 25, that Montoya 25-1 that I referred to in the northeast quarter, it was a recompletion to the Fruitland Coal. It's currently producing at about 600 to 700 Mcf a day, with about 250 barrels of water. And then the 25-1 well is making about 800 Mcf a day and 250 barrels of water.
- Q. Are you seeing any appreciable change

in those rates over time?

- A. No. In fact, our Montoya 25-1 well up in the northeast again, has been essentially flat. We've seen no evidence to date of what you could pinpoint as Dewatering, as per normal coal wells. The water production has been very flat over time, between 250 and 400 barrels a day.
- Q. Let me have you continue with your justifications for being in the southeast quarter of the section, and have you now turn to Exhibit No. 3.
- A. Exhibit No. 3, because this is a rather complex area and looking at that structure map doesn't do complete justice to what we're trying to illustrate, Exhibit No. 3 is a three-dimensional interpretation, that was prepared under my supervision, of what's physically happening as you move through the section there.

This would be looking towards the northwest corner of the section, or basically you could take that outline of that coal there and that would be, essentially, the section.

We are proposing to drill in the southeast, which is basically the same structural

elevation as the existing producing coal wells, but then, to the northwest of that, the coal increases to about a 27-degree slope.

There's fracturing associated with the coal, but as you move up the limb of the coal you have compaction that has closed the fracture system and actually provided the trap that we know has to exist. Otherwise there would be no gas in the coal, it would have migrated out through the adjacent outcrop over geologic time.

So we feel that the coal just becomes so tight that if we drilled at the legal location in the northeast quarter, we would just have a well that would probably only produce 20 or 30 Mcf a day and be a--would be too risky of a location to drill and probably be too marginal of a well to ever economically produce.

- Q. Does your proposed location in the southeast quarter provide you the opportunity to test for coal gas production in your spacing unit that will put you at a point that is down structure of this point of flexure in the coal?
- A. Yes, and that's what we tried to illustrate with Exhibit 3 and also Exhibit 4.
- Q. Let's go to Exhibit 4 and you have a

copy of that on the hearing room wall, if you'll simply describe it and illustrate for us the point that you want to make?

A. Exhibit 4 is just a structural cross-section on the Basin Fruitland Coal.

Again, as you move from A to A', which is south to north, the furthest well on the left is our Montoya 25-2. It was just recently drilled in July and completed. It's now producing at, oh, approximately 800 Mcf a day and 250 barrels of water.

The next well is the Montoya 25-1. It was recompleted in 1989 and not produced until 1991 due to construction of an evaporation pond, gathering facilities, gas contract, et cetera.

The third well is an existing Mesaverde Dakota dual completion well that has a log across the coal. And then we've also illustrated our proposed location because we're essentially 150 to 250 feet away from the existing well.

As you move through the last well, the furthest well on the right, the USA 1M, that well was drilled as a Dakota test and dry hole, and you can see the graphic illustration of how high and abruptly you come up on the structure, about

800 feet, and the coal is illustrated there.

And basically that dry hole--that well would constitute a legal location, but, as we discussed, it would be about 800 feet higher and we believe structurally tight and nonproductive.

- Q. Summarize for us your conclusions about this location, Mr. O'Connell.
- A. We feel, Hallwood and its partners feel that the southeast quarter is really the only feasible and economical location for a coal well to be drilled in the entire Section 24. And that's it. A well, in our opinion, has to be drilled at the southeast or unorthodox location or one will probably not be drilled in this section.

MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes my examination of Mr. O'Connell. We move the introduction of his Exhibits 1 through 4.

EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 1 through 4 will be admitted as evidence.

EXAMINATION

BY EXAMINER CATANACH:

- Q. The well in the northwest quarter of Section 24, that was drilled to what formation?
- A. It was a dual Mesaverde Dakota well.

The northeast of 25?

- Q. Northeast of 24.
- A. That was drilled to the Mesaverde. It tested Mesaverde, and I think they may have tested the PC, but it was never produced. It was a dry hole.
- Q. You've examined the logs in that well and you feel it would be nonproductive in the coal?
- A. Yes, because we are up so high that the coal has got to be tighter and provide the trapping mechanism.
- Q. There are no fractures in the coal when it reaches that height?
- A. Well, there may be some fracturing, but somewhere between the proposed location and the outcrop there's got to be a sealing of those fractures to inhibit the gas from flowing out to the Fruitland Coal.

MR. STOVALL: You indicated it was following its own tracks right to the surface?

THE WITNESS: Right. There would be no gas in the Fruitland Coal.

Q. What you're essentially saying is there's no porosity or permeability in that

northeast quarter?

A. Yeah, or that it would be so tight it would be nonproductive and noneconomical.

Because some of our other wells, we have some wells in the section just south of here, and some of those only started out at 60 to 80 Mcf a day wells, and luckily they have increased a little bit and we've got marginal wells now.

That's the problem with this area.

They're not super economically attractive wells to go after, and we feel that it would be too risky to go that high structurally. We want to stay at the same basic structural elevation as the other wells in the field.

- Q. Have you actually been able to look at the log on that well and obtained some of the properties? permeability? porosity?
- A. We can't get permeability. The porosity tools don't work, per se, in the coal. You can just get a density log. It's got comparable looking coal, but we have no indication of how tight or productive it could be.
- Q. So you're, in essence, just estimating that that's in the area that it's starting to

tighten up?

2 1

2.5

A. Yes, because we're literally only--at that point we're only about a mile and a half from the mine. In fact, where we staked the well, you can stand there and see the mine just to the northwest.

MR. STOVALL: Is the mine there just below the outcrop? Is that where it is?

THE WITNESS: It's at the outcrop.

They're mining that whole outcrop there. BHP has a mine.

MR. STOVALL: Is that the new La Plata Mine?

THE WITNESS: Yes, just about four miles north of La Plata, right near the state line.

MR. STOVALL: Where they built a whole new highway and all that to get down to the power plant, right?

THE WITNESS: Yes. And they've got the rail line that runs in and out of there.

- Q. (BY EXAMINER CATANACH) Who operates the Mesaverde and Dakota in the east half of that section?
- A. In the southeast quarter section?

The well in the southeast quarter. 1 Q. That's Robert R. Click. 2 Α. Has your new location been approved, as 3 Q. far as--has it been cleared as far as 4 archaeological and surface? 5 Yes, sir. Α. 6 7 EXAMINER CATANACH: Okay. I believe 8 that's all I have at this point. MR. STOVALL: I do want to ask one more 9 10 question. EXAMINATION 11 12 BY MR. STOVALL: Actually where they're mining, can you 13 Q. 14 see the slope of it in the mine? 15 Α. I've never physically been to the mine, 16 and they've-- You can't really tell from a distance because there's just, you know--17 18 Q. You have lots of dirt around and all the other stuff? 19 Yes. But it has to be--20 21 I wondered if you could see the structure in the seam at all? 22 In fact, we have a larger map. 23 Α. No. That elbow or that limb is confirmed because 24 25 there's dry holes all around there, Mesaverde dry

holes and deeper wells, and it's well-known that 1 outcrop exists, and that slope has to be 27 to 30 2 degrees. 3 FURTHER EXAMINATION BY EXAMINER CATANACH: 5 Mr. O'Connell, one more question. 6 Ιs 7 it your opinion this will be the only well drilled in Section 24? 8 Yes. I believe, in our discussions 9 Α. with Meridian, who has the west half, they 10 11 basically said they have no interest in the coal. It's too risky where they're at, so, yes, 12 13 I think so. 14 EXAMINER CATANACH: Thank vou. 15 MR. KELLAHIN: Call at this time Ms. 16 Kathleen Volk. KATHLEEN VOLK 17 18 Having been first duly sworn upon her oath, was 19 examined and testified as follows: 20 EXAMINATION BY MR. KELLAHIN: 21 22 Would you please state your name and occupation? 23 24 Α. My name is Kathleen Volk. I'm the

western district land manager for Hallwood

Petroleum, Inc., in Denver.

- Q. On prior occasions have you testified as a landman before the Division?
 - A. Yes, I have.
- Q. Pursuant to your employment, are you knowledgeable about the ownership of your spacing unit and the ownership of the working interest in the offsetting spacing units?
 - A. Yes, I am.

 $$\operatorname{MR.}$$ KELLAHIN: We tender Ms. Volk as an expert petroleum landman.

- Q. Let me ask you to turn to what has been marked as Exhibit 5, and identify that display for me.
- A. Exhibit No. 5 is a map showing Section 24 in the center. The east half is where Hallwood has proposed to place its unorthodox well location. In the southeast quarter it indicates that the offset owners to our proposed southeast quarter location are Meridian Oil, Southland Royalty and Robert R. Click and Hallwood Petroleum, Inc. I haven't put that on the map, but Hallwood is the operator to the

1 south. Section 25, that's Hallwood? 2 Q. Α. Yes. 3 West half of 24 is Meridian? Q. 5 Α. Yes. Q. Section 19 is Southland Royalty? 6 7 Α. Yes. Q. What about Section 30? 8 I believe Section 30 is also Southland 9 10 Royalty. I don't think that they were notified, though, under ours for Section 30. 11 12 Q. I did. 13 Okay. I guess they were. I wanted you to verify the ownership 14 Q. 15 and not the notification. 16 Α. Okay. 17 So those represent all the operators 18 that are offsetting the 160-acre tract that the well will be located in? 19 That's correct. 20 Α. 21 Have you had discussions with Meridian or Southland with regard to any possible 22 objection to the location? 23 24 Α. Yes, I have, and they have stated that

they do not have any objections, and I have a

2.5

1	letter to that effect.
2	MR. STOVALL: Mr. Examiner, as we all
3	know, Meridian and Southland are the same people;
4	isn't that correct?
5	THE WITNESS: That is correct.
6	Basically, the notifications were sent to the
7	same address.
8	MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, I move the
9	introduction of Exhibit 5, which is the plat,
10	Exhibit 5A is my certificate of mailing of
11	notification to Mr. Click, Meridian and to
12	Southland Royalty Company.
13	MR. STOVALL: I guess we can assume
14	that Mr. Click has no objection to this location,
15	is that fair to say?
16	MR. CLICK: That's fair to say, yes.
17	MR. KELLAHIN: We move the introduction
18	of Exhibits 5 and 5A.
19	EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 5 and 5A
20	will be admitted as evidence.
2 1	MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes my
22	examination of Mrs. Volk.
23	EXAMINATION
2 4	BY EXAMINER CATANACH:
2 5	Q. Mrs. Volk, just one question. The

1	relationship between Robert Click and Hallwood is
2	what?
3	A. We're partners in the drilling or what
4	we hope to be the drilling of the Fruitland Coal
5	well in the southeast quarter of Section 24.
6	EXAMINER CATANACH: Okay. Nothing
7	further. Is there anything further in this case?
8	MR. KELLAHIN: Nothing further.
9	EXAMINER CATANACH: There being nothing
10	further, Case 10557 will be taken under
11	advisement.
12	(And the proceedings concluded.)
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	I do baroby southful at the large terms of the control of the cont
19	10557
20	
2 1	Oil Conservation Division
2 2	511 55 115 11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
23	
24	
25	

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER 1 2 STATE OF NEW MEXICO 3) SS. COUNTY OF SANTA FE 5 6 I, Carla Diane Rodriguez, Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public, HEREBY 7 CERTIFY that the foregoing transcript of 8 proceedings before the Oil Conservation Division 9 10 was reported by me; that I caused my notes to be transcribed under my personal supervision; and 11 that the foregoing is a true and accurate record 12 of the proceedings. 13 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a 14

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative or employee of any of the parties or attorneys involved in this matter and that I have no personal interest in the final disposition of this matter.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL September 28, 1992.

2 1

20

15

16

17

18

19

22

23

24

25

CARLA DIANE RODRIGUEZ, RPR CSR No. 4