

## 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: )

APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA GAS )  
 DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION )  
 ----- )

CASE NO. 10669

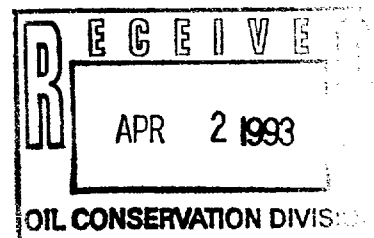
REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGSEXAMINER HEARING

BEFORE: David R. Catanach, Hearing Examiner

March 4, 1993

Santa Fe, New Mexico

This matter came on for hearing before the  
 Oil Conservation Division on March 4, 1993, at 8:50  
 a.m. at the Oil Conservation Division Conference Room,  
 State Land Office Building, 310 Old Santa Fe Trail,  
 Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Freda Donica, RPR,  
 Certified Court Reporter No. 45, for the State of New  
 Mexico.

**ORIGINAL**

CUMBRE COURT REPORTING  
 (505) 984-2244

## I N D E X

March 4, 1991  
Examiner Hearing  
CASE NO. 10669

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## APPEARANCES

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FERNANDO FLORES

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## REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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A P P E A R A N C E S

FOR THE DIVISION:

ROBERT G. STOVALL, ESQ.  
General Counsel  
Oil Conservation Commission  
State Land Office Building  
310 Old Santa Fe Trail  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

FOR THE APPLICANT:

CAMPBELL, CARR,  
BERGE & SHERIDAN  
110 N. Guadalupe Street  
Santa Fe, New Mexico  
BY: WILLIAM F. CARR, ESQUIRE

1 EXAMINER CATANACH: We'll call Case 10669.

2 MR. STOVALL: Application of Columbia Gas  
3 Development Corporation for pool creation, special  
4 pool rules and a discovery allowable, Lea County, New  
5 Mexico.

6 EXAMINER CATANACH: Are there appearances  
7 in this case?

8 MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner, my  
9 name is William F. Carr with the Santa Fe law firm of  
10 Campbell, Carr, Berge & Sheridan. We represent  
11 Columbia Gas Development Corporation, and I have two  
12 witnesses.

13 EXAMINER CATANACH: Any other appearances?  
14 Will the two witnesses please stand and be sworn in?

15 (Witnesses sworn.)

16 MR. CARR: Mr. Examiner, we initially  
17 requested a discovery allowable for this well. That  
18 will be unnecessary, and we therefore request that  
19 that portion of this case be dismissed.

20 EXAMINER CATANACH: Okay.

21 MR. CARR: And at this time we call Jerry  
22 Metz.

23 EXAMINER CATANACH: All right.

24 JERRY P. METZ

25 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn

1 upon his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

2 EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. CARR:

4 Q. Will you state your name for the record,  
5 please?

6 A. Yes, my name is Jerry P. Metz.

7 Q. Where do you reside?

8 A. In Houston, Texas.

9 Q. By whom are you employed?

10 A. I'm employed by Columbia Gas Development  
11 Corporation.

12 Q. And in what capacity?

13 A. As a geologist.

14 Q. Have you previously testified before the  
15 New Mexico Oil Conservation Division?

16 A. No, I have not.

17 Q. Could you briefly review your educational  
18 background and then summarize your work experience for  
19 Mr. Catanach?

20 A. I have a bachelor's and master's degrees  
21 from Kansas State University. I have 31 years of  
22 experience in oil and gas exploration, various  
23 companies. The last 20 years have been primarily in  
24 the Permian Basin, which, of course, involves  
25 southeast New Mexico.

1 Q. How long have you been employed by Columbia  
2 Gas Development Corporation?

3 A. Three years.

4 Q. And does the geographic area of your  
5 responsibility for Columbia include the portion of  
6 southeastern New Mexico involved in this case?

7 A. Yes, it does.

8 Q. Are you familiar with the application filed  
9 on behalf of Columbia in this matter?

10 A. Yes, I am.

11 Q. And have you made a geological study of the  
12 area involved?

13 A. Yes.

14 MR. CARR: We tender Mr. Metz as an expert  
15 witness and petroleum geologist.

16 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Metz is so  
17 qualified.

18 Q. (By Mr. Carr) Would you briefly state what  
19 Columbia seeks with this application?

20 A. Yes. We seek the formation of a new pool  
21 designation, special spacing rules, 160-acre spacing  
22 rules, and 330-foot setbacks from the outer limits of  
23 spacing units.

24 Q. And in what formation are you proposing to  
25 create this new pool?

1           A.     The Wolfcamp.

2           Q.     Can you identify for Mr. Catanach the  
3 geographic area that is being proposed for the initial  
4 pool boundary?

5           A.     Yes, if we might refer to Exhibit 1.

6           Q.     That is in the exhibit book?

7           A.     Yes. This is a structure map, top of the  
8 Wolfcamp porosity and the -- in Section 34, 14 South,  
9 38 East, Columbia drilled their Number 1 McMillan  
10 Well. That well is located 400 feet from the north  
11 line, 1980 feet from the west line of Section 34. And  
12 we're asking 160-acre spacing, which would consist of  
13 the northwest quarter section of Section 34, 14 South,  
14 38 East.

15          Q.     When was this well actually drilled and  
16 completed?

17          A.     It was spudded in late 1991, completed in  
18 June of 1992.

19          Q.     Was the well originally drilled to the  
20 standard location?

21          A.     Yes.

22          Q.     Now, Exhibit Number 1 is a structure map on  
23 the top of the Wolfcamp?

24          A.     That is right.

25          Q.     What data did you use for the preparation

1 of this exhibit?

2 A. We used subsurface control, as indicated,  
3 the McMillan well in Section 34. We have subsequently  
4 drilled a dry hole to the north in Section 27, called  
5 the Cave Estate. Another subsurface point in the  
6 northeast of 34, Greathouse, Pierce & Davis Well,  
7 which was drilled, I believe, in the 1950s. A well  
8 drilled by Warren Petroleum Corporation, again, in the  
9 1950s in the southwest of Section 21, 14 South, 38  
10 East. And then three wells in the southern half of  
11 Section 33, all drilled by Reading & Bates Corporation  
12 on the Dickinson Cattle Company lease. And then we  
13 also supplemented subsurface control with seismic  
14 data, and the pertinent seismic data is located on the  
15 map by the designation of dash lines across the map.

16 Q. Mr. Flores, what we're talking about here,  
17 really, is just the small geologic feature in the  
18 northwest of 34 and the southwest of 27; is that  
19 correct?

20 A. That is correct.

21 Q. What is the character of the land in this  
22 area of state, federal, or fee?

23 A. It is all fee land.

24 Q. Could you briefly describe for Mr. Catanach  
25 Columbia's future development plans for this geologic

1 feature?

2 A. Well, I might -- of course, we drilled the  
3 McMillan. We had drilled the Cave Estate  
4 approximately one-half mile to the north, which was a  
5 dry hole due to structural position. We -- based on  
6 correlation between those two wells, we would expect  
7 that the pool limits are at or about the minus  
8 5600-foot contour shown on the structure map. On that  
9 basis, we would then appear to have no more than a  
10 two-well field. And we certainly are contemplating an  
11 additional well or additional development in the  
12 southwest of 27, which will be largely dependent on  
13 economics.

14 Q. Are there other Wolfcamp fields in the  
15 immediate area?

16 A. Yes. The one well field in the south half  
17 of Section 33, the Reading & Bates-Dickinson Cattle  
18 Company Well Number 1 is completed in the Wolfcamp,  
19 and that is called the Pollack Field.

20 Q. Is this a separate geologic feature and  
21 pool from what we're talking about here today?

22 A. Yes, it is, as evidenced -- their  
23 structural top at the Wolfcamp, a minus 5608, and our  
24 McMillan well, we are minus 5564, roughly some 40 --  
25 50 feet high to the Dickinson Cattle Company well.

1 Seismic indicates a strong low or reentrant separating  
2 the two features, and we do appear to have a different  
3 reservoir drive mechanism.

4 Q. Are there any Wolfcamp wells within a mile  
5 of the proposed pool?

6 A. The -- no, not within a mile. The  
7 Dickinson Cattle Company would be the closest one,  
8 over a mile away.

9 Q. Let's move Columbia Exhibit Number 2.  
10 Would you identify and review that for the Examiner?

11 A. Yes. Exhibit Number 2 is a land map  
12 showing Columbia's leasehold position in the area.  
13 And that position is indicated in yellow, the solid  
14 yellow being 100 percent working interest, and the  
15 hatched area being less than 100 percent.

16 Q. Now let's move to Exhibit Number 3. Would  
17 you identify that and review it for Mr. Catanach?

18 A. Exhibit Number 3 is a portion of the  
19 porosity log, the compensated neutron density log, on  
20 the McMillan well. I've indicated tops and bottoms of  
21 units on this log, the top of the Wolfcamp at a depth  
22 of 9336, the top of the Wolfcamp porosity at 9344.  
23 The arrows and the depth tract indicate the points of  
24 perforations within the Wolfcamp section. Further  
25 down the log we have a regional marker that we call

1 the double X, that is at a depth of 9584 feet. And  
2 then we have additional perforations just below that  
3 in still a Wolfcamp reservoir. We refer to it as the  
4 double X zone.

5 Q. You actually have two Wolfcamp zones?

6 A. Yes, we do.

7 Q. How were they tested? Have they been  
8 independently tested?

9 A. Yes. Both zones -- during completion  
10 process, each zone was tested independently. They  
11 were given acid treatments. Each zone by itself were  
12 -- tested almost equally. Both zones were then  
13 comingled on final completion. The well potential for  
14 227 barrels of oil, 40 barrels of water, probably  
15 including some load water. Very minor amount of gas.

16 Q. What is this well's current producing rate?

17 A. It is currently producing on pump 70  
18 barrels of oil, 4 barrels of water, and an estimated  
19 4 MCF gas.

20 Q. Do you know what gas-oil ratio this  
21 translates to?

22 A. The original one was about 171.

23 Q. Could you discuss the general  
24 characteristics of this Wolfcamp pool?

25 A. Well, the zones are -- both zones are

1 carbonates. They're a mix of dolomites and  
2 limestone. We believe the trap to be a structural  
3 closure at the top of the shoal area, offshore shoal.  
4 The drive mechanism on this is pressure depletion.

5 Q. How does this reservoir drive mechanism  
6 compare to what you understand to be the reservoir  
7 drive mechanism in the Pollack Field for the  
8 southwest?

9 A. The Pollack Field appears to have a strong  
10 water association with it. The Reading &  
11 Bates-Dickinson Cattle Company Well -- the number 1  
12 well that was completed in the early 1980s, it has  
13 produced approximately 209,000 barrels of oil and over  
14 three million barrels of water. Our well is virtually  
15 water-free.

16 Q. What conclusions have you been able to  
17 reach from your geologic study of this pool?

18 A. Conclusion is that we have a small area of  
19 indicated closure. It's probably no more than a  
20 two-well field. And the further development is, to a  
21 large extent, dependent on economics. And it is a  
22 separate source of supply from the Pollack Field to  
23 the southwest.

24 Q. If special pool rules are adopted for this  
25 pool on a temporary basis, for what period of time

1 would you recommend that they remain in place until  
2 Columbia is required to come back and establish that  
3 reservoir performance justifies permanent rules?

4 A. We would recommend 18 months.

5 Q. Will Columbia also be calling an  
6 engineering witness?

7 A. Yes, they will.

8 Q. Were Exhibits 1 through 3 either prepared  
9 by you or compiled under your direction?

10 A. Yes, they were.

11 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Catanach, we  
12 move the admission of Columbia Exhibits 1 through 3.

13 EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 1 through 3  
14 will be admitted as evidence.

15 MR. CARR: That concludes my direct  
16 examination of Mr. Metz.

17 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Metz, the two  
18 intervals that you're producing in your well, are they  
19 segregated by some sort of barrier?

20 THE WITNESS: Well, we think there's a --  
21 the double X marker is actually a shale zone. We  
22 think that's probably a seal on the lower zone.  
23 During the -- or during the drilling of the well,  
24 after we logged the well, we took a number of rotary  
25 sidewall cores through the bore hole. The lowest

1 perforation in the upper zone had about 95 -- 9468 was  
2 the deepest zone that we had any oil saturation in the  
3 cores. Further cores down in the 9500-foot range had  
4 no show of oil. We also cored the zone below the  
5 double X. It had oil shoals, and we would conclude  
6 from that that they are segregated and sealed from one  
7 another.

8 EXAMINER CATANACH: Do you have a -- I  
9 better ask the engineer that question. Do the  
10 porosity and the permeability compare? How do they  
11 compare on those two different zones?

12 THE WITNESS: The lower zone has thinner  
13 zones of porosity. But from a quality standpoint,  
14 cross-plotting the porosity, we see some points of up  
15 to 13 percent porosity. The entire zone would  
16 probably average out in the range of six percent. In  
17 the upper zone, or the upper set of perforations,  
18 lesser -- we have nothing to compare to the 13 percent  
19 range. We see an average overall there of around six,  
20 with a maximum of around nine percent, and based on  
21 the sidewall cores, lesser permeabilities.

22 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Metz, have you  
23 looked at the logs on the producing well in Section 33  
24 and compared the porosity or permeability to that  
25 well?

1           THE WITNESS: Yes. The Reading & Bates  
2 well, the upper Wolfcamp, is almost exclusively  
3 dolomite in that wellbore, as opposed to a mix of  
4 dolomite and limestone in our wellbore. Porosities in  
5 the upper zone -- and it is completed only in the zone  
6 that would compare to our 9344 to 9468 area -- those  
7 porosities generally go up into the ten percent, and  
8 based on some sonic logs in the wellbore, we tend to  
9 come to the conclusion that there are some fractures  
10 associated with that reservoir as well. It is,  
11 overall, a better reservoir.

12           EXAMINER CATANACH: The pool in Section 33,  
13 do you know what that is spaced on?

14           THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. It is spaced on 40  
15 acres.

16           EXAMINER CATANACH: In terms of the  
17 geologic characteristics, do you think that you have  
18 -- well, what do you think the differences are between  
19 your new well and that well that's spaced on 40  
20 acres? Is there a significant geologic difference in  
21 terms of maybe porosity or permeability?

22           THE WITNESS: Yes sir. We have less  
23 porosity -- probably more total thickness, but less  
24 quality. If you went to a porosity-foot basis, we  
25 would certainly have a lesser reservoir. We are

1 structurally high to that area. I think the drilling  
2 information from the Pollack, if you'll notice, they  
3 drilled a number two well to the west, dry hole, which  
4 appears to have an oil-water contact right through the  
5 wellbore. And then they drilled a third well to the  
6 east, which was structurally low and lacked porosity.  
7 The configuration of their pool indicates that it is  
8 probably a one, maybe a two -- maximum a two-well  
9 field also.

10 EXAMINER CATANACH: In terms of affecting  
11 different drainage areas, would you expect that your  
12 well has better permeability than that well in Section  
13 33?

14 THE WITNESS: I would tend to think not  
15 because of the amount of fluid taken from there. That  
16 200,000 barrels of oil and over three million barrels  
17 of water has to be coming from a pretty strong  
18 reservoir.

19 EXAMINER CATANACH: I believe that's all I  
20 have, Mr. Carr.

21 MR. CARR: At this time we'd call Mr.  
22 Flores.

23 FERNANDO FLORES  
24 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn  
25 upon his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

## EXAMINATION

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BY MR. CARR:

Q. State your name for the record, please.

A. My name is Fernando Flores.

Q. Where do you reside?

A. I live in Houston, Texas.

Q. Mr. Flores, by whom are you employed and in what capacity?

A. I work for Columbia Gas Development Corporation as a reservoir engineer.

Q. Have you previously testified before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division?

A. No, I have not.

Q. Would you briefly summarize for Mr. Catanach your educational background and then review your work experience?

A. I graduated from the University of Houston with a degree in engineering in 1974. After graduation, I worked for Shell Oil for three years as a petroleum engineer. I worked four years for Superior Oil as a petroleum engineer, and I have been with Columbia Gas 11 years as a reservoir engineer.

Q. Does the geographic area of your responsibility for Columbia include the portion of southeastern New Mexico involved in this case?

1 A. Yes, it does.

2 Q. Are you familiar with the application filed  
3 in this case?

4 A. Yes, I am.

5 Q. Have you made an engineering study of the  
6 McMillan 34 Number 1 Well?

7 A. I have.

8 Q. The general formation and the area?

9 A. Yes, I have.

10 MR. CARR: We tender Mr. Flores as an  
11 expert witness in petroleum engineering.

12 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Flores is so  
13 qualified.

14 Q. (By Mr. Carr) Mr. Flores, let's go first to  
15 what has been marked as Columbia's Exhibit Number 4.  
16 And could you just briefly identify this for Mr.  
17 Catanach and explain what it's designed to show?

18 A. Exhibit Number 4 is the gas composition of  
19 the Wolfcamp gas. The only thing I want to point out  
20 here is that there is no H<sub>2</sub>S. It's listed here at the  
21 bottom as zero. The only thing I want to point out  
22 here is that there was no special handling of the gas  
23 by field personnel when working in the area of the  
24 well.

25 Q. Let's move to Exhibit Number 5. Could you

1 identify this for the Examiner?

2 A. Exhibit Number 5 is an engineering exhibit  
3 that shows the reservoir properties of the Wolfcamp  
4 Formation that's being produced by the McMillan Number  
5 34-1. I'll go down the line here and list some of the  
6 critical parameters that I want you to kind of see  
7 here.

8 The initial reservoir pressure, based on  
9 the drill stem test, is 3808 PSI. It's got a very low  
10 bubble point pressure, up to 716 PSI. The average  
11 water saturation, based on log calculations, is 33  
12 percent. The average porosity, based on log  
13 calculations, is six percent. The effective  
14 permeability, based on a drill stem test and, as it  
15 was done on the Horner plot analysis, is 7.9  
16 millidarcies. The current gas-oil ratio is 57 cubic  
17 feet per barrel of oil. The current 24-hour rate of  
18 oil, gas, and water is 70 barrels of oil per day, 4  
19 MCF per day and 1 barrel of water. Through the end of  
20 February of 1993, the well had produced 32,000 barrels  
21 of oil. Currently the gas is flared, the oil is sold  
22 to Koch, and the water is trucked. The estimated  
23 effective drainage area, based on engineering studies,  
24 is 160 acres. The estimated recoverable reserves are  
25 124,000 barrels of oil.

1 Q. Let's go to Exhibit Number 6. I would ask  
2 you to review your volumetric calculations for the  
3 Examiner.

4 A. Exhibit Number 6 is the volumetric reserves  
5 and recovery estimates. The first equation that I  
6 have here is the equation used to calculate the  
7 barrels per acre. The porosity used in this equation  
8 is a porosity of six percent, previously described,  
9 water saturation of 33 percent, and an average net pay  
10 over 160 acres of 22 feet. The oil formation volume  
11 factor is 1.15, which was based on correlations.  
12 Based on this equation, there are 5,966 barrels per  
13 acre. Over 160 acres that equates to 954,598 barrels  
14 of oil in place.

15 Q. Let's now go to the recovery factor portion  
16 of this exhibit.

17 A. The estimated oil recovery, which I have  
18 labeled here as EUR, is equal to the cumulative  
19 production to date, plus the remaining reserves. The  
20 remaining reserves are calculated off of a decline  
21 curve which I will show in a later exhibit. And the  
22 equation is listed here. The parameters used in  
23 equation are the remaining oil, with an initial rate  
24 of 70 barrels of oil per day. The economic limit is  
25 ten barrels of oil per day. A decline rate based on

1 the production curve is 21 percent. Based on this  
2 equation, there are 92,000 barrels of oil remaining.  
3 Adding the cumulative production of 32,000 barrels, we  
4 have calculated an estimated ultimate oil recovery of  
5 124,000 barrels of oil.

6 The next parameter which I have calculated  
7 here is a recovery factor. And that is the estimated  
8 ultimate oil recovery divided by the original oil in  
9 place. Based on those two numbers that I have earlier  
10 calculated here, I come up with a recovery factor of  
11 13 percent over 160 acres.

12 Q. Is this a normal recovery factor for a  
13 reservoir of this nature?

14 A. Based on the mechanism of pressure  
15 depletion, a gas-oil ratio which is currently 57 cubic  
16 feet per barrel of oil, I'm calling this -- it's  
17 almost what I call a dead oil -- a 13 percent recovery  
18 factor appears to be correct.

19 Q. Let's go now to your economics as presented  
20 on Exhibit 7. Could you review these for the  
21 Examiner?

22 A. Exhibit Number 7 are the Wolfcamp Formation  
23 economics. Under letter A, I've labeled, are the  
24 parameters that fall under investment. The drill and  
25 complete is \$988,000.00, facilities of \$90,000.00, and

1 the pumping unit and installation is \$110,000.00,  
2 which comes to \$1,188,000.00 investment.

3 The current operating cost is \$4,000.00 a  
4 month. The reserves and rate, the reserves used in  
5 these economics are an initial rate of 215 barrels of  
6 oil per day. The reserves used are 124,000 barrels of  
7 oil.

8 The economics, based on an initial oil  
9 price of \$20.75, will give you a payout in 4.6 years,  
10 a cash flow, after tax and expenses, of \$340,000.00.  
11 The rate of return after taxes is 11.9 percent.

12 Q. Mr. Flores, could there, from an economic  
13 point of view, be any justification for an effort to  
14 develop this reservoir on 40-acre spacing?

15 A. No. Based on 40-acre spacing, it would not  
16 be economic to go in and complete it.

17 Q. In your opinion, would development of this  
18 reservoir on 40-acre spacing be an efficient or  
19 effective way to develop the reservoir?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Would it be consistent with what you know  
22 of the way this reservoir performs?

23 A. No, it would not be consistent based on 40  
24 acres.

25 Q. If the spacing should be left on state-wide

1 40 acres, could this trigger lease development  
2 obligations?

3 A. Yes, it would.

4 Q. Could you identify what has been marked as  
5 Columbia Exhibit Number 8?

6 A. Exhibit Number 8 is the production curve of  
7 the well. The bottom scale, horizontally, is the time  
8 scale. The vertical scale is the barrels of oil per  
9 day. The well initially started producing at about  
10 200 barrels per day. And the solid line is the  
11 historical production up through February of 1993,  
12 which shows the well to be producing at 70 barrels of  
13 oil per day.

14 I have done a projection on the historical  
15 and the way other wells have produced, the reservoir  
16 parameters and the pressures, and it's the dash line  
17 seen there. And that's the forecast. And that gives  
18 us a 21 percent decline rate. This is the  
19 -- what I call the drainage area of the reservoir. It  
20 fits the volumetric parameters based on log  
21 calculations.

22 Q. Based on your engineering study, is  
23 160-acre spacing the appropriate spacing pattern for  
24 this pool?

25 A. Yes, it is.

1 Q. And Columbia is requesting 330-foot  
2 setbacks for the outer boundary of any spacing unit?

3 A. Yes, we are.

4 Q. And why is that?

5 A. This will give us the flexibility to  
6 develop this reservoir in the most efficient manner  
7 and give us the opportunity to drill at the most  
8 optimum structure position.

9 Q. Now, currently there's one well in Section  
10 34.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. That's set back how far from the north  
13 line?

14 A. It's about 400 feet.

15 Q. And if you have the flexibility you're  
16 requesting, you could offset that production at a  
17 common distance from the section line that runs  
18 through this field?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. I talked with Mr. Metz about a time period  
21 for temporary rules. Do you concur that 18 months  
22 would be an appropriate period of time?

23 A. Yes, sir, 18 months would allow us to look  
24 at the current well, look at the way it declines and  
25 verify all the numbers that we have percentages here.

1 Q. Would that also give you time to go forward  
2 with any development plans you may have in Section 27?

3 A. Yes, it will.

4 Q. In your opinion, will granting this  
5 application be in the best interest of conservation,  
6 the prevention of waste, and the protection of  
7 correlative rights?

8 A. Yes, it will.

9 Q. Were Exhibits 4 through 8 either prepared  
10 by you or compiled under your direction?

11 A. They were.

12 MR. CARR: Mr. Catanach, at this time we  
13 would move the admission of Columbia's Exhibits 4  
14 through 8.

15 EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 4 through 8  
16 will be admitted as evidence.

17 MR. CARR: That concludes my examination of  
18 this witness.

19 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Flores, I believe  
20 earlier testimony was that the productive limits of  
21 the reservoir were at the minus 5600-foot contour  
22 line?

23 THE WITNESS: Correct.

24 EXAMINER CATANACH: Do you know the areal  
25 extent of that area within that contour line?

1 THE WITNESS: The area that that would  
2 encompass, I am not familiar, but it's 100 and plus  
3 acreage.

4 EXAMINER CATANACH: Does your company plan  
5 to drill a section well in Section 27?

6 THE WITNESS: Yeah, we're currently looking  
7 at that area very closely. We're looking at the  
8 methods to economically and effectively be able to  
9 drill a well there.

10 EXAMINER CATANACH: Would you estimate that  
11 that pool contains 160 acres or less?

12 THE WITNESS: The pool down to 5600 foot?

13 EXAMINER CATANACH: Right.

14 THE WITNESS: It's about 160 acres, in that  
15 range. There's one from that area that we've found  
16 that appears to be 157 acres. And that was done based  
17 on some assumptions we made. We used the lowest known  
18 oil, the highest known water, and we took halfway  
19 between those two parameters.

20 EXAMINER CATANACH: Your volumetric  
21 estimates are based on an area of 160 acres?

22 THE WITNESS: Correct.

23 EXAMINER CATANACH: Is it your opinion that  
24 that really is about what you're going to get out of  
25 the whole pool?

1 THE WITNESS: Currently, what we've seen  
2 here, based on the volumetrics and the decline curves,  
3 yes, we believe that that will be the drainage area of  
4 this well. We don't have a hundred percent  
5 reliability on all the numbers, but -- and that's why  
6 we're asking for an additional 18 months; but, yes.

7 EXAMINER CATANACH: Yet it's your opinion  
8 -- well, is it your opinion that an additional well  
9 may be needed to drain those reserves?

10 THE WITNESS: That's why we need 18  
11 months. We might need a second well to develop the  
12 field. We're closely looking at this well. We're  
13 closely looking at the decline curve to see if the  
14 production holds up or stays flat or so forth. But to  
15 our best estimates, the data we have presented here is  
16 what we believe, but we also know that we don't have a  
17 real strong handle on all the parameters. So we're  
18 asking for an additional 18 months.

19 EXAMINER CATANACH: So you don't plan on  
20 drilling the second well in the immediate future?

21 THE WITNESS: We hope that we'll have that  
22 decision in 18 months.

23 EXAMINER CATANACH: Do you, by any chance,  
24 know what the original reservoir pressure of the pool  
25 in Section 33 was?

1 THE WITNESS: As I recall, we didn't have  
2 any pressure data. Based on the depth and everything  
3 else we looked at, the production on it, we thought it  
4 was pretty close to ours.

5 EXAMINER CATANACH: To what you've  
6 encountered in your well.

7 THE WITNESS: Correct.

8 EXAMINER CATANACH: In your reservoir  
9 properties, Exhibit Number 5, you've got 31 feet for a  
10 net pay in the reservoir, and yet in your volumetric  
11 reserve you use 22 feet. Why the difference there?

12 THE WITNESS: Well, 31 feet is the log  
13 calculated in the current well and it goes down to  
14 zero. So the average from 31 feet down to zero is 21  
15 feet.

16 EXAMINER CATANACH: I believe Mr. Carr  
17 asked you about some drilling obligations. Can you go  
18 through them?

19 THE WITNESS: As far as the timing of  
20 additional wells?

21 EXAMINER CATANACH: Or the spacing as it  
22 relates to the spacing in the area.

23 THE WITNESS: Well, we currently are trying  
24 to space the well at 160 acres. Obviously, if we have  
25 to go to closer spacing, we would need -- we wouldn't

1 be able to hold 160 acres, so we'd need -- well, we  
2 need -- for 160 acres, we'd need four wells.

3 EXAMINER CATANACH: Are you the only  
4 working interest owner in this well?

5 THE WITNESS: We have another working  
6 interest owner that has about a one-half percent  
7 working interest.

8 EXAMINER CATANACH: Do you know what the  
9 decline rate is on the well in Section 33?

10 THE WITNESS: The well in Section 33 has --  
11 we looked at the decline on it. It has -- it makes a  
12 lot of water. I think we used, like, a -- it had  
13 different decline rates throughout its life.  
14 Currently, it's somewhere, like, on a 30 percent  
15 decline rate. It makes about 1,000 barrels of water  
16 per day and about 20 barrels of oil per day.

17 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Flores, do you have  
18 an estimate on how much each of the two separate  
19 intervals are contributing to the well's production?

20 THE WITNESS: Yes. We looked -- we  
21 perforated and we tested the zone, we acidized the  
22 zone, we swabbed the zone. Geologically we looked at  
23 it. We believe that -- the best that we can tell,  
24 they're both contributing about the same amount.

25 EXAMINER CATANACH: I guess that's all I

1 have.

2 MR. CARR: We have nothing further in this  
3 case, Mr. Catanach.

4 EXAMINER CATANACH: There being nothing  
5 further, Case 10669 will be taken under advisement.

6 (The foregoing hearing was adjourned at the  
7 approximate hour of 9:35 a.m.)

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13  
14 I do hereby certify that the foregoing is  
15 a complete record of the proceedings in  
16 the Examiner hearing of Case No. 10669,  
heard by me on March 1993.

17 David L. Catanach, Examiner  
18 Oil Conservation Division  
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25

1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO )


2 :

3 COUNTY OF SANTA FE )

4 I, FREDA DONICA, RPR, a Certified Court  
5 Reporter, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I stenographically  
6 reported these proceedings before the Oil Conservation  
7 Division; and that the foregoing is a true, complete  
8 and accurate transcript of the proceedings of said  
9 hearing as appears from my stenographic notes so taken  
10 and transcribed under my personal supervision.

11 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not related to nor  
12 employed by any of the parties hereto, and have no  
13 interest in the outcome hereof.

14 DATED at Santa Fe, New Mexico, this 26th  
15 day of March, 1993.

16   
17 Freda Donica  
18 Certified Court Reporter  
19 CCR No. 45  
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