

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 4, 1993
8:15 A.M. - MORGAN HALL, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Dockets Nos. 34-93 and 35-93 are tentatively set for November 18, 1993 and December 2, 1993. Applications for hearing must be filed at least 23 days in advance of hearing date.

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

CASE 10856: Application of Hanson Operating Company, Inc., for a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project and for special operating rules therefore, Roosevelt County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to initiate a short-radius high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project in the NW/4 SE/4 of Section 17, Township 8 South, Range 37 East, being a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit in the Undesignated North Allison-San Andres Pool. Applicant proposes to utilize its existing Tuxedo Federal Well No. 1 located 1990 feet from the South line and 2004 feet from the East line (Unit J) of said Section 17 by kicking-off from vertical at an approximate depth of 4825 feet, build angle to approximately 90 degrees with a short radius curve and continue with a horizontal drainhole in said pool. Applicant further seeks special rules and provisions within the project area including the designation of a prescribed area limiting the horizontal displacement of any drainhole in said project area to within 330 feet of the outer boundary of said 40-acre unit. Said project area is located approximately 9.75 miles south by east of Milnesand, New Mexico.

CASE 10857: Application of Phillips Petroleum Company for an unorthodox gas well location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval of an unorthodox gas well location for its Lone Ranger Well No. 21 to be drilled 2260 feet from the South line and 450 feet from the East line and (Unit I) of Section 27, Township 12 South, Range 34 East, West Ranger Lake-Devonian Gas Pool. The E/2 of said Section 27 is to be dedicated to said well forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing unit. Said unit is located approximately 10 miles west of Tatum, New Mexico.

CASE 10858: Application of Mitchell Energy Corporation for a waiver of the salt protection string requirements of Order No. R-111-P for certain wells, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to delete the salt protection string requirements of Order No. R-111-P from ten wells to be located in Section 4, Township 20 South, Range 33 East, and to be drilled to test for production in the West Teas Yates-Seven Rivers Pool. The subject wells are located south of Highway 180 some 10 miles northeast of the intersection of Highways 176 and 180 and are approximately 8 miles northeast of Laguna Gatuna, New Mexico.

CASE 10521: (Reopened)

In the matter of Case No. 10521 being reopened pursuant to the provisions of Order No. R-8170-L which order promulgated special rules and regulations for the South Blanco-Pictured Cliffs Pool establishing a minimum gas allowable for said pool. Operators in the subject pool should be prepared to appear and present evidence and testimony should it become apparent that continuation of a minimum gas allowable will not serve to prevent waste and protect correlative rights. This cause will be continued to a January 1994 docket.

CASE 10036: (Reopened)

In the matter of Case No. 10036 being reopened pursuant to the provisions of Order No. R-8170-G which order promulgated special rules and regulations for the Eumont Gas Pool, establishing a minimum gas allowable for said pool. Operators in the subject pool should be prepared to appear and present evidence and testimony relevant to the continuation of a minimum gas allowable in the Eumont Gas Pool. This cause will be continued to a January 1994 docket.

CASE 10859: Application of Hallwood Petroleum, Inc. for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Pictured Cliffs formation underlying the E/2 of Section 33, Township 30 North, Range 12 West. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location in the E/2 of said Section 33 to test any and all formations to the base of the Pictured Cliffs formation including the Fruitland formation, Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool and the Pictured Cliffs formation, Fulcher Kutz-Pictured Cliffs Gas Pool. 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 area is located approximately 2 miles southeast of Flora Vista, New Mexico.

CASE 10850: (Continued from October 21, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Hallwood Petroleum, Inc. for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Pictured Cliffs formation underlying the W/2 of Section 14, Township 29 North, Range 13 West. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location in the W/2 of said Section 14 to test any and all formations to the base of the Pictured Cliffs formation including the Fruitland formation, Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool and the Pictured Cliffs formation, West Kutz-Pictured Cliffs Pool. 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 miles south of Berry Park.

CASE 10851: (Continued from October 21, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Hallwood Petroleum, Inc. for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Pictured Cliffs formation underlying the S/2 of Section 28, Township 30 North, Range 12 West. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location in the S/2 of said Section 28 to test any and all formations to the base of the Pictured Cliffs formation including the Fruitland formation, Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool and the Pictured Cliffs formation, Fulcher Kutz-Pictured Cliffs Pool. 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 mile south of Farmington Lake.

CASE 10860: **Application of Armstrong Energy Corporation an unorthodox oil well location, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks authorization to drill to the Delaware formation, Northeast Lea-Delaware Pool, its Mobil Lea State Well No. 4 at an unorthodox oil well location 1155 feet from the South line and 1770 feet from the West line (Unit N) of Section 2, Township 20 South, Range 34 East. The SE/4 SW/4 of said Section 2 is to be dedicated to said well forming a standard 40-acre spacing and proration unit. Said unit is located approximately 1 mile south of mile marker 80 on U.S. Highway 180/62.

CASE 10772: (Continued from October 21, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Barber Oil Inc. for salt water disposal, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to utilize its Stovall-Wood Well No. 5 located 880 feet from the North line and 1580 feet from the West line (Unit C) of Section 20, Township 20 South, Range 30 East, to dispose of produced salt water into the Rustler Lime formation through the perforated interval from approximately 195 feet to 255 feet. Said well is located 2 miles northeast of the National Potash Company Mine.

CASE 10861: **Application of Collins & Ware, Inc. for a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project and special operating rules therefor, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks to initiate a horizontal drilling project in the Devonian formation, Denton-Devonian Pool, underlying the SW/4 NE/4 of Section 35, Township 14 South, Range 37 East. Applicant proposes to re-enter its S. & J. Operating T.D. Pope Well No. 5 which is at an orthodox surface location 1980 feet from the North and East lines (Unit G) of Section 35, kick-off from vertical in a northeasterly direction commencing to build angle at an appropriate rate to vertically and horizontally traverse the proposed producing area. Applicant further seeks the adoption of special operating provisions and rules within the project area including the designation of a target window such that the horizontal or producing portion of the wellbore shall be no closer than 100 feet to any boundary of the proration unit. Said project is located approximately 3 miles southeast of Prairieview.

CASE 10711: (Continued from October 7, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for approval of a waterflood project and qualification for the recovered oil tax rate, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval of its Creek AL Lease Waterflood Project by injection of water into the Shugart, Penrose and Middle Grayburg formations through 108 injection wells located in Township 18 South, Range 30 East as follows: Section 23: E/2 SE/4; Section 24: S/2, S/2 and NW/4 SW/4; Section 25: NW/4 and E/2 NE/4. The applicant requests that the Division establish procedures for the administrative approval of additional injection wells within the unit area without the necessity of further hearings and the adoption of any provisions necessary for such other matters as may be appropriate for said waterflood operations. Applicant further seeks to qualify this project for the recovered oil tax rate under the "Enhanced Oil Recovery Act" (Law 1992, Chapter 38, Sections 1 through 5). Said area of interest is located approximately 1 mile east of Walters Lake, New Mexico.

CASE 10862: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox gas well location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authorization to drill to the Morrow formation, Crooked Creek Morrow Gas Pool, its Redbone BP Federal Well No. 2 at an unorthodox gas well location 1980 feet from the North line and 510 feet from the East line (Unit H) of Section 10, Township 24 South, Range 24 East. The N/2 of said Section 10 is to be dedicated to said well forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit. Said unit is located approximately 4 miles west by southwest of Mosley Spring.

CASE 10863: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for a horizontal directional drilling pilot project and special operating rules therefor, Chaves County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to institute a horizontal directional drilling pilot project in the Tomahawk-San Andres Pool on its Loveless LQ State Lease in the SW/4 of Section 36, Township 7 South, Range 31 East. Applicant proposes to drill its Loveless LQ State Well No. 9 at a surface location 990 feet from the South line and 2310 feet from the West line (Unit N); kicking off from vertical, build angle to approximately 90 degrees with a medium radius curve and continue drilling a horizontal drainhole in said pool. Applicant further seeks special rules and provisions within the project area including the designation of a prescribed area limiting the horizontal displacement of any drainhole to within 100 feet of the boundary of the project area. Further, the applicant seeks the promulgation of special operating rules and procedures for said project area including the formation of an oversized and irregular shaped spacing and proration unit to accommodate such wellbore, and the assignment of a special oil allowable to this unit. Said project area is located approximately 12 miles south by east of Kenna, New Mexico.

CASE 10748: (Reopened)

In the matter of Case No. 10748 being reopened upon application of Yates Petroleum Corporation to amend the spacing requirements for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool established by Order No. R-9922, Eddy County, New Mexico. Division Order No. R-9922 granted the application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for creation of the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool and the adoption of temporary Special Rules and Regulations therefor including 320-acre spacing. At this time Yates Petroleum Corporation requests the Division to amend the Special Rules and Regulations for said pool to provide for 160-acre spacing and proration units. Said area is located approximately 2 miles east of Lone Butte.

CASE 10864: Application of Texaco Exploration and Production Inc. for nine lease line injection wells, Rhodes Yates Waterflood, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to drill the following nine lease line injection wells in its Rhodes Yates Cooperative Waterflood for injection into the Yates and Seven Rivers formations, Rhodes Yates-Seven Rivers Pool, in the following wells in Township 26 South, Range 37 East:

Rhodes NCT Coop Fed. Com-1 No. 1, to be located 1572 feet FSL, 2375 feet FEL of Section 27;
Rhodes NCT Coop Fed. Com-1 No. 2, to be located 2310 feet FNL and FEL of Section 27;
Rhodes NCT Coop Fed. Com-1 No. 3, to be located 1155 feet FNL, 2376 feet FEL of Section 27;
Rhodes Yates Coop Fed. Com-2 No. 1, to be located 2551 feet FNL, 44 feet FWL of Section 27;
Rhodes Yates Coop Fed. Com-3 No. 1, to be located 1360 feet FSL, 50 feet FWL of Section 27;
Rhodes Yates Coop Fed. Com-4 No. 1, to be located 1430 feet FSL, 10 feet FEL of Section 21;
Rhodes Yates Coop Fed. Com-5 No. 1, to be located 130 feet FNL, 10 feet FWL of Section 27;
Rhodes Yates Coop Fed. Com-4 No. 2, to be located 130 feet FNL, 1310 feet FWL of Section 27;
Rhodes Yates Coop Fed. Com-6 No. 1, to be located 130 feet FNL, 2588 feet FWL of Section 27.

This project is located approximately 6 miles south by southeast of Jal, New Mexico.

CASE 10848: (Continued from October 21, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Conoco Inc. and Marathon Oil Company for exceptions to Rule 5(b) of the special rules and regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool as promulgated by Division Order No. R-5353, as amended, or in the alternative, for the creation of a new pool with the adoption of special rules for said pool, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicants seek exceptions to Rule 5(b) of the Special Rules and Regulations for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool as promulgated by Order No. R-5353 as amended, thereby authorizing simultaneous dedication of acreage to both gas wells and oil wells within Sections 34, 35, and 36, Township 20 South, Range 24 East and Sections 34, 35, and 36, Township 20-1/2 South, Range 23 East. In the alternative, applicants seek the contraction of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool and the concomitant creation of a new pool comprising the above-described acreage with the adoption of special rules and regulations including those set forth in Order No. R-5353 but modified to allow simultaneous dedication of spacing units to multiple gas and oil wells and establishment of appropriate allowables therefor. Said area is located approximately 22 miles southeast of Hope, New Mexico.

DOCKET: COMMISSION HEARING - THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 10, 1993
 9:00 A.M. - MORGAN HALL, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
 The Land Commissioner's designee for this hearing will be Jami Bailey and Gary Carlson

CASES 10446,
10447, 10448,
10449:

The application for the rehearing of Cases 10446, 10447, 10448, and 10449 is hereby set for oral argument before the Oil Conservation Commission on November 10, 1993. The Commission shall hear argument based upon the record made in this case. Argument shall be limited to the issues raised in the applications for rehearing filed by New Mexico Potash. No additional evidence will be offered or accepted. Based upon that argument the Commission may determine if additional evidence is necessary.

CASE 10719: (De Novo - Continued from October 14, 1993, Commission Hearing).

Application of Anadarko Petroleum Corporation for directional drilling and an unorthodox bottomhole gas well location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to directionally drill its proposed Power Federal Com Well No. 2 from a surface location 1400 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the East line (Unit I) of Section 26, Township 17 South, Range 30 East, in such a manner as to bottom the well in the Cedar Lake-Morrow Gas Pool at an unorthodox subsurface gas well location within 75 feet of a point 660 feet from the South and East lines (Unit P) of said Section 26. The E/2 of said Section 26 is to be dedicated to said well forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool. Said unit is located approximately 3 miles east-southeast of Loco Hills, New Mexico. Upon application of Anadarko Petroleum Company, this case will be heard De Novo pursuant to the provisions of Rule 1220.

CASE 10771: (De Novo)

Application of OXY USA Inc. to authorize the expansion of a portion of its Skelly Penrose "B" Unit Waterflood Project and qualify said expansion for the recovered oil tax rate pursuant to the "New Mexico Enhanced Oil Recovery Act," Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pursuant to the rules and procedures for Qualification of Enhanced Oil Recovery Projects and Certification for the Recovery Oil Tax Rate, as promulgated by Division Order No. R-9708, qualifying a portion of its Skelly Penrose "B" Unit Waterflood Project in Sections 4, 5, and 8 of Township 23 South, Range 37 East, Queen (Penrose) formation of the Langlie Mattix Seven Rivers-Queen-Grayburg Pool, for the recovered oil tax rate under the "Enhanced Oil Recovery Act" (Law 1992, Chapter 38, Sections 1 through 5). Applicant further seeks authority to expand a portion of said project by means of a significant change in process including conversion to 40-acre five spot injection patterns. Said project area is located approximately 6 miles south of Eunice, New Mexico. Upon application of OXY USA Inc., this case will be heard De Novo pursuant to the provisions of Rule 1220.

CASE 10653: (Continued from October 14, 1993, Commission Hearing.)

Application of Armstrong Energy Corporation for special pool rules, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order promulgating special rules and regulations for the Northeast Lea-Delaware Pool including a provision for a special oil allowable of 300 barrels of oil per day. Said pool is located in portions of Townships 19 and 20 South, Range 34 East, located near the Warren Gas Company Compressor Station.

CASE 10773: (Continued from October 14, 1993, Commission Hearing.)

Application of Armstrong Energy Corporation for pool extension and abolishment, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, and in association with De Novo Case No. 10653, seeks to abolish the Quail Ridge-Delaware Pool comprising the SW/4 of Section 3, SE/4 of Section 4, NE/4 of Section 9, N/2 and SW/4 of Section 10, all in Township 20 South, Range 34 East and the concomitant extension of the horizontal limits of the Northeast Lea-Delaware Pool to include all of above-described acreage plus the SE/4 of said Section 3. This area is centered approximately 1.5 miles south of U.S. Highway 62/180 at Milemarker No. 79.

CASE 10345: (De Novo - Continued from September 22, 1993, Commission Hearing.)

Application of Louise Y. Locke to consider objections to well costs, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant requests the Commission review actual well costs charged against her interest by BHP Petroleum (Americas), Inc., for the drilling of the Gallegos Canyon Unit Well #390 to determine the reasonableness of such costs pursuant to the provisions of Commission Order No. R-9581-A. Said well is located at the southeast edge of Farmington, New Mexico.

CASE 10346: (De Novo - Continued from September 22, 1993, Commission Hearing.)

Application of Louise Y. Locke to consider objections to well costs, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant requests the Commission review actual well costs charged against her interest by BHP Petroleum (Americas), Inc., for the drilling of the Gallegos Canyon Unit Well #391 to determine the reasonableness of such costs pursuant to the provisions of Commission Order No. R-9581-A. Said well is located at the southeast edge of Farmington, New Mexico.