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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. 11,012
APPLICATION OF NEARBURG)
EXPLORATION COMPANY)

ORIGINAL

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

EXAMINER HEARING

BEFORE: MICHAEL E. STOGNER, Hearing Examiner

June 23, 1994

Santa Fe, New Mexico

JUN 27 1994

This matter came on for hearing before the Oil Conservation Division on Thursday, June 23, 1994, at Morgan Hall, State Land Office Building, 310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Steven T. Brenner, Certified Court Reporter No. 7 for the State of New Mexico.

* * *

I N D E X

June 23, 1994
 Examiner Hearing
 CASE NO. 11,012

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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By: W. THOMAS KELLAHIN

* * *

1 WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had at
2 11:16 a.m.:

3
4
5 EXAMINER STOGNER: Okay, call next case, Number
6 11,012.

7 MR. CARROLL: Application of Nearburg Exploration
8 Company for compulsory pooling and unorthodox gas well
9 location, Eddy County, New Mexico.

10 EXAMINER STOGNER: Call for appearances.

11 MR. KELLAHIN: May it please the Examiner, I'm
12 Tom Kellahin of the Santa Fe law firm of Kellahin and
13 Kellahin, appearing on behalf of the Applicant.

14 May the record reflect, Mr. Examiner, that my two
15 witnesses are already sworn and that they continue under
16 oath.

17 In addition, I'd like the record to reflect that
18 they have been qualified as expert witnesses and continue
19 to testify in that capacity.

20 EXAMINER STOGNER: Since there's no other
21 appearances, let the record show that Mr. Shelton and Mr.
22 Elger, who presented testimony in Case 11,010, are still
23 under oath, and their qualifications have been accepted.

24 Mr. Kellahin, you may continue.

25 MR. KELLAHIN: Call Mr. Shelton.

1 ROBERT G. SHELTON, JR.,

2 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn upon
3 his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

6 Q. Mr. Shelton, let me direct your attention to your
7 efforts with regards to the consolidation of interest
8 owners for the Fairchild well.

9 You're proposing a spacing unit in the north half
10 of this Section 18?

11 A. Yes, sir, that is correct.

12 Q. Would you take Exhibit 1 and help us locate where
13 that is?

14 A. This is an exhibit land map, Midland Map Company,
15 Township 19 South, 26 East. You see the town of Lakewood
16 located approximately four miles northwest of there.

17 Section 18, Township 19-26, our proposed
18 location, is 660 feet from the north and west lines with a
19 north-half of Section 18 spacing unit.

20 Q. Okay, let's look at Exhibit 2. You're utilizing
21 a similar format as that presented for this type of an
22 exhibit in the prior case?

23 A. Yes, sir, that's correct, the only distinction
24 here being is we show not only Section 18 but we also show
25 three surrounding and contiguous sections to the north,

1 northwest, and west, Section 7 in 19-26, Sections 12 and 13
2 in 19-25, the division line of the township being that
3 between Section 12 and Section 7.

4 Q. And that's because this proposed well is at an
5 unorthodox well location?

6 A. That is correct.

7 Q. The spacing unit in the north half, to the best
8 of your knowledge, is that a standard 320-acre spacing
9 unit?

10 A. Yes, sir, we believe so, for a gas well at this
11 depth or depth below the Wolfcamp formation, all spacing
12 would be on 320-acres.

13 Q. And that is your proposal in this case, is to
14 pool or consolidate by voluntary agreement all mineral
15 interest owners from the top of the Wolfcamp to the base of
16 the Morrow?

17 A. That is correct.

18 Q. Show us how the north half of Section 18 is
19 subdivided into tracts.

20 A. We have subdivided it by tract of ownership,
21 being two tracts in the northeast quarter, divided east-
22 west, and four tracts divided in the northwest quarter by
23 quarter-quarter section.

24 Q. To each of those tracts you've assigned a letter?

25 A. Yes, I have, letters A through F.

1 Q. All right. And at the top of the display, then,
2 you have further identified as to each tract who are the
3 working interest owners or, in the absence of a working
4 interest owner, the mineral owner?

5 A. That is correct. At the time this exhibit was
6 prepared, you will see up at the top what Nearburg
7 Exploration Company's interest is in each of these tracts
8 as a leasehold position.

9 And then in each of the other tracts at the time
10 this was prepared, you will see the proportion of ownership
11 by either the unleased mineral interest owner or the
12 leasehold owner.

13 Q. Okay. Attached to the display are a series of
14 names and addresses. The tracts attached to the display
15 are identified not by letter but by Roman numeral?

16 A. That is correct.

17 Q. What does that represent?

18 A. The south half of Section 7 shows on Tract Roman
19 numeral III attached, unleased mineral interest owners or
20 other leasehold owners who received notification of our
21 unorthodox location.

22 Likewise in the south half of Section 12 and the
23 north half of Section 13, Tracts I -- Tract Roman numeral I
24 and -- It looks like it should be Tract Roman numeral II in
25 the south half of Section 13 -- the north half of Section

1 13. The north half of 13 is shown as Tract II, instead of
2 just Tract Roman numeral III as shown on the exhibit.

3 Q. We will be correct if we look at the written
4 description, as opposed to the tract number, when we look
5 at the attachments?

6 A. That's correct, the written description, that's
7 correct.

8 Q. The written description, then, will show us the
9 right half-section?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. All right. The purpose, then, was to have a list
12 of interest owners to identify with regards to encroachment
13 of the well towards their spacing unit?

14 A. That is correct.

15 Q. To the best of your knowledge, is that list --
16 are those lists correct?

17 A. I think the way these were attached, there's a
18 page missing, Tom.

19 Q. All right.

20 A. So we need to -- on Section 12.

21 Q. All right, we'll make that correction.

22 A. We'll make those corrections, yes, sir.

23 Q. All right. But they're -- You have available to
24 you a complete list of all those interest owners that would
25 be affected by the nonstandard location, and notification

1 has been sent to all those people?

2 A. That is correct.

3 Q. As a result of that notification, have you
4 received any objections?

5 A. No, sir, we have not. We've discussed with one
6 leasehold owner to the west and consulted with them, but
7 we've had no objection to it and no one here present to
8 object.

9 Q. All right. Let's deal now within the spacing
10 unit --

11 A. Okay.

12 Q. -- with those parties that you've attempted to
13 reach an agreement, and let's look at the summary that
14 shows the north half of 18.

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. Identify for us those entities or individuals for
17 which, as of today, you have no agreement.

18 A. As of today we have no agreement, you'll see,
19 under Tract E for Lucy A. Robinson, Ernest Koen and Mrs.
20 Barker.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. We have reached agreements with Marvin Yates --
23 Martin Yates, III, or his estate, and Lillie Yates.

24 We have also reached an agreement with the Moore
25 individuals and the estate of Stephen Scott Moore.

1 So this leaves a very small interest outstanding
2 that has not been voluntarily agreed to.

3 Q. In the summary, then, it's Lucy A. Robinson with
4 .125; Ernest Koen, .125; and Buena Barker, .140625?

5 A. That's correct, percents, that's correct.

6 Q. Yes, sir.

7 A. Less than one percent.

8 Q. Let's deal with your efforts in a summary
9 fashion, then, to locate and, if you were successful in
10 locating, whether you were able to have any discussions
11 with any of those three.

12 A. Lucy A. Robinson, we have determined only within
13 the last couple of days, is now deceased. We did send to
14 her by general delivery in the last known address, which is
15 Carlsbad, a copy of our well proposal and an AFE and
16 operating agreement. It was undeliverable and returned.

17 Likewise, Ernest Koen the same way; he's
18 unlocatable. We did send by general delivery to his last
19 known address a copy of the proposal letter, AFE and
20 operating agreement. It was also returned, not
21 deliverable.

22 We did send to Mrs. Barker a copy of our
23 proposal, the operating agreement and the AFE. We have had
24 no conversations directly with her. A broker that works
25 for us, Randy Watts, has recently been in contact. We

1 believe she will execute an oil and gas lease to us
2 subsequently. We have no agreement with her right now.

3 Q. Having found that Lucy Robinson is deceased, have
4 you gone to the additional effort to try to identify her
5 potential heirs?

6 A. Yes, sir, we have. We've determined that those
7 heirs are -- excuse me, let me refer to -- one daughter by
8 the name of Murray Batterson and a son by the name of F.W.
9 Robinson. Both of those people we have been unable to
10 locate.

11 Q. In your opinion, have you made a good-faith and
12 diligent effort to identify, locate and attempt to reach
13 agreement with all those parties for which you do not have
14 an agreement as of today?

15 A. Yes, sir, we have.

16 Q. Let's identify for the record what is marked as
17 Exhibit 3.

18 A. Exhibit 3 are the letters and the attached
19 Federal Express receipts, showing again that the proposal
20 was made for the drilling of the Fairchild East 18 Number 1
21 Well.

22 It proposes the well at the location of 660 feet
23 from the north and west lines of Section 18, sets forth in
24 the letter that we've provided them with an operating
25 agreement if they choose to participate, sets forth the

1 cost of the proposed operations, and an opportunity to
2 either grant an oil and gas lease or sell their interest at
3 a negotiable price.

4 Q. Okay. Let me have you turn now and identify
5 Exhibit Number 4. What does that represent?

6 A. Exhibit Number 4 is an AFE that was prepared by
7 Nearburg Producing Company in regard to the drilling of
8 this well.

9 Q. And this is the same AFE that was circulated to
10 the parties shown on Exhibit Number 3?

11 A. Yes, sir, it's the AFE, identical form, with the
12 same costs that was supplied to all the potential
13 participants.

14 Q. Do you have an opinion as to whether the
15 estimated costs for this well are fair and reasonable?

16 A. Yes, sir, after research and looking over other
17 AFEs furnished to us by other companies in the area, we
18 find this to be a reasonable estimate of well costs.

19 Q. Do you have a recommendation to the Examiner for
20 the overhead rates to apply in this case?

21 A. Yes, we'd like the overhead rates in this case --
22 We have applied for overhead rates of \$6000 and \$600: \$6000
23 drilling well rate, \$600 producing well rate. We feel like
24 to be consistent in the area with other operations that we
25 are currently proposing, we feel like the drilling well

1 rate of \$5664 and a producing well of \$560 per month would
2 be fair and equitable.

3 Q. Let's look at the operating agreement, Exhibit 5.
4 Would you identify and describe that display?

5 A. This is an operating agreement covering the
6 proposed spacing unit, the north half of Section 18. The
7 operating agreement was prepared for circulation and
8 reviewed by those parties who might choose to participate
9 in the well. It's signed by us.

10 And as you will note, it lists a large number of
11 people that at this time are uncommitted. And again, we
12 only have three people now that are not committed by one
13 form of voluntary agreement.

14 Q. Is this 1982 agreement, as amended, the customary
15 operating agreement that Nearburg Producing Company uses in
16 this area for wells of this type?

17 A. Yes, sir, it is.

18 Q. What are your plans for commencing the well?

19 A. We anticipate commencement of this well -- We've
20 got several wells we intend to drill in this area.
21 Depending on how quickly we can get this well ready, both
22 titlewise and through an order through the Commission, we
23 anticipate commencing most of these wells back to back
24 utilizing one rig. And so we expect this one to be drilled
25 in an orderly fashion in conjunction with several other

1 wells.

2 Q. Is this case like the prior case we presented to
3 the Examiner whereby the Applicant is Nearburg Exploration
4 Corporation as an owner --

5 A. That is correct.

6 Q. -- but a proposal to designate Nearburg Producing
7 Company as the operator of the well?

8 A. Yes, sir, that is correct.

9 Q. Would the testimony you provided in the prior
10 case with regards to that arrangement and the
11 qualifications of Nearburg Producing Company apply in this
12 case as well?

13 A. Yes, sir, they do.

14 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes my examination of
15 Mr. Shelton.

16 We move the introduction of Exhibits 1 through 5.

17 In addition, Exhibit 6 is my certificate of
18 mailing and notification for hearing. We would ask that
19 that be admitted at this time, as well.

20 So Exhibits 1 through 6.

21 EXAMINER STOGNER: Exhibits 1 through 6 will be
22 admitted into evidence at this time.

23 Mr. Carroll, do you have any questions?

24 MR. CARROLL: No.

25 EXAMINER STOGNER: You said there were some pages

1 on Exhibit 2 that was missing?

2 MR. KELLAHIN: Yes, sir, and that's what I'm
3 searching for now. I'd like permission to substitute the
4 appropriate pages to that exhibit.

5 In fact, what you'll find is, in the filed
6 Application, Exhibit B to the Application represents the
7 correct list of parties, but that list has not been
8 subdivided as to each of those tracts.

9 THE WITNESS: I have the correct list, Tom, if
10 you'd like for me to get them out and get them to you. I
11 have --

12 MR. KELLAHIN: Perhaps after he leaves the stand
13 we can do that, Mr. Examiner.

14 EXAMINER STOGNER: Okay. Just subsequently
15 complete Exhibit 2 after the hearing.

16 MR. KELLAHIN: Yes, sir.

17 THE WITNESS: We will do that.

18 EXAMINATION

19 BY EXAMINER STOGNER:

20 Q. The list is a little confusing, but that -- the
21 list that is provided as Tract I, that refers to Section
22 12, and then you refer to another one as Tract II, Roman
23 Numeral II, Section 13 in the north half.

24 A. Yes, sir.

25 Q. These are offset properties, and it has nothing

1 to do with today's compulsory pooling case?

2 A. It has nothing to do with the compulsory pooling.
3 It is all given in conjunction with the unorthodox
4 location.

5 Those are the people that were noticed.

6 EXAMINER STOGNER: Any other questions?

7 You may be excused.

8 Mr. Kellahin?

9 MR. KELLAHIN: Call Mr. Elger at this time.

10 JERRY ELGER,

11 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn upon
12 his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

15 Q. Mr. Elger, let me direct your attention to the
16 first of your presentations, which is shown on Exhibit
17 Number 7. Describe for us the information you've shown on
18 that display.

19 A. Exhibit Number 7 is a production map in the area
20 of the proposed location.

21 Q. How does this help you begin your analysis of
22 this area in order to take the best location for a well for
23 any of these zones?

24 A. Well, you want to -- Initially, you want to key
25 off of your stronger producers, your better producers, or

1 your better-looking sand sections. You can't tell that
2 from the production map.

3 But the well that we're keying off of for the
4 Morrow and for the Cisco/Canyon -- we have a dual objective
5 here -- is located in the northwest quarter of Section 7.
6 That well has produced close to three-quarters of a BCF of
7 gas from the Morrow.

8 Q. When we look at all the penetrations and efforts
9 in this vicinity, have any of these wells been a commercial
10 success?

11 A. No, they have not.

12 Q. The proposed spacing unit is the north half of
13 18?

14 A. Yes, it is.

15 Q. And your well location would be out of the corner
16 of the northwest quarter, northwest quarter?

17 A. Yes, it is.

18 Q. Your location is proposed to be 660 out of the
19 north and west boundaries of that spacing unit?

20 A. Yes, it is.

21 Q. Before we look at the details, describe for me in
22 a summary fashion what has caused you to find a location at
23 that point in the spacing unit to be the optimum location.

24 A. Well --

25 Q. What do you achieve?

1 A. -- it's the optimum location, really, for the
2 Cisco/Canyon, which we're considering to be the primary
3 objective for this test. And we'll get into the geology of
4 the Cisco/Canyon in Exhibits Number 8 and Number 9.

5 Q. If your target is primarily the Cisco and you
6 have found the best potential place for the Cisco well,
7 what are you doing with the Morrow?

8 A. The Morrow is -- Nearburg's position is that the
9 Morrow is a secondary objective for this test. The Morrow
10 and all formations between the base of the Cisco/Canyon and
11 the base of the Morrow formation are secondary objectives
12 that we feel -- Nearburg feels that the incremental cost to
13 drill from the base of the Cisco/Canyon to the Morrow would
14 warrant drilling the test to that depth.

15 Q. In the Morrow, when we look at the north-half
16 spacing unit, is there sufficient reservoir in the Morrow
17 to justify a stand-alone Morrow well at any location?

18 A. No, there is not, there is not.

19 Q. So you couldn't put a Morrow well at a standard
20 location or at an unorthodox location by itself?

21 A. No, and when we get to the exhibits on the Morrow
22 you'll see why.

23 Q. Okay. So the only way to have a chance at the
24 Morrow is to tag it on to a Cisco attempt?

25 A. That is correct.

1 Q. And that location, then, that you have chosen is
2 the combination by which you've attempted to pick your best
3 location for both of those two objectives?

4 A. That is correct.

5 Q. All right. Let's see how you got to that
6 conclusion. If you'll start with Exhibit 8.

7 A. I'll start with Exhibit 8 and 9.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. Those two exhibits represent the geological
10 information on the Cisco/Canyon formation.

11 Q. Let me get them folded here, just a second.

12 A. Exhibit Number 8 is a structure map on the top of
13 the Canyon dolomite reservoir across the prospect area.

14 Exhibit Number 9 is a corresponding structural
15 cross-section of the Canyon dolomite reservoir in the
16 immediate vicinity of the proposed location.

17 These two exhibits demonstrate what forms the
18 basis for Nearburg applying to drill this well where we
19 have applied.

20 Q. All right. Let me start off with -- All the well
21 control in the area, have any of these been successful
22 Cisco completions?

23 A. No, they have not.

24 Q. So we're still looking for the first one?

25 A. We're looking for the first well.

1 Q. What causes you to infer the presence of
2 limestone or the absence of a dolomite when we look at the
3 first well in Section 12 that's at the A location on the
4 cross-section?

5 A. Okay, that well was drilled by Anadarko
6 Production Company. They ran a compensated neutron
7 formation density porosity log throughout the well.

8 And if you'll notice, the Cisco/Canyon -- the
9 carbonate section, that there's no crossplot of any
10 dolomite section at all. It all crossplots out to be
11 limestone, nonporous limestone.

12 Q. What kind of reservoir do you think you're going
13 to find in the Cisco here?

14 A. We're after dolomite reservoir.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. That's where dolomite -- alteration, diagenic
17 alteration to dolomite is what causes the porosity and
18 creates a reservoir within the Canyon carbonate interval.

19 Q. What's the significance for the Cisco of these
20 contoured structure lines around the proposed well
21 location?

22 A. The interpretation is that there's a structural
23 nose that extends from the northeast to the -- northwest to
24 the southeast across the prospect area.

25 That nose, that structural nose on the top of the

1 dolomite reservoir, is truncated and terminates against the
2 limestone facies in the Canyon, on the west side of the
3 prospect area. And that particular limestone non-reservoir
4 facies acts as a permeability barrier and has trapped
5 hydrocarbons on this structural nose.

6 Q. Is there potentially a water component to the
7 reservoir?

8 A. Yes, there is.

9 Q. And how have you attempted to define and locate
10 where that may be?

11 A. Well, Nearburg Producing Company operated quite a
12 number of wells that you see in this area. Of course, we
13 had access to the mud logs on those particular wells, as
14 well as some other operators released mud logs in the area.
15 And there's, in one instance, a drill stem test.

16 And what I've done is highlight or shade in blue
17 those wells where there's an absence of mud log shows or
18 drill stem tests in the Cisco/Canyon dolomite reservoir,
19 which was a water-bearing test with no hydrocarbon shows.

20 On that basis, you can see in Section 1 at subsea
21 minus 4391, a well in Section 12, subsea of minus 4405 --
22 we know that we're water-bearing in the dolomite reservoir
23 at that subsea datum.

24 Q. When we go to the cross-section, Exhibit 9, find
25 the proposed well location and show us what you're trying

1 to achieve with the well at this location that you cannot
2 obtain if you have to go to the standard location.

3 A. Okay. Again, the key well is the well that
4 Nearburg drilled in the northwest of Section 27, the Glass
5 7E.

6 That well was a Morrow penetration, and when the
7 Cisco dolomite reservoir was encountered, the mud logger
8 recorded a hydrocarbon show in the top portion of the
9 dolomite reservoir.

10 That well log is portrayed by the third well from
11 the left, from A, adjacent to the proposed location. And
12 I've highlighted opposite where the hydrocarbon show
13 occurred in the dolomite reservoir.

14 The base of the hydrocarbon show was at
15 approximately 4400 feet subsea. That, in conjunction with
16 the other mud loggers, where the dolomite was encountered,
17 the top of the dolomite was encountered below 4400,
18 strongly implies that there's an oil-water contact at
19 approximately minus 4400, and that's the green and blue
20 corresponding dashed line that you see running the
21 perimeter of this map.

22 Q. Okay. If you put the well at the unorthodox
23 location, what does that give you?

24 A. Well, it's not unorthodox for Cisco/Canyon. At
25 the applied location it puts us on the crest of the high

1 part of this structural nose, and would expose the most
2 dolomite section above that oil/water contact and therefore
3 be available for production.

4 Q. All right. And if we have to move farther to the
5 south or east --

6 A. -- we would be --

7 Q. -- so that we would be at a standard gas well
8 location --

9 A. -- we would be moving downdip on the Cisco/Canyon
10 formation, and thereby have less reservoir rock available
11 to bear hydrocarbons. Therefore, you could assume that you
12 would have less reserves available.

13 Q. You said the Cisco would be a standard location?

14 A. Yes, it would be.

15 Q. What causes you to reach that conclusion?

16 A. We feel like on the basis of the mud log show
17 that we're looking at a reservoir that is very similar to
18 -- producing reservoir that's very similar to what's
19 producing in the Dagger Draw field and the Dagger Draw
20 North field.

21 Primarily an oil production mechanism would be a
22 water drive with -- move high volumes of fluid, oil and
23 water, in conjunction with a submersible pump.

24 And the field rules for the Dagger Draw and
25 Dagger Draw North field, to my knowledge, are 660 setbacks

1 from the lease lines.

2 Q. Are you far enough away from those pools not to
3 be subject to those pools when you drill this initial well?

4 A. Yes, we are.

5 Q. So you're going to have to drill this initial
6 well, if it's oil, and then you're going to be 40-acre oil
7 spacing, you're going to get some data and then come back
8 in and establish spacing rules?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. All right. But it looks to be, if you're
11 successful, the same kind of creature we're seeing in
12 Dagger Draw?

13 A. Yes, it is.

14 Q. Having found your best opportunity for the Cisco
15 portion of the well at this location, show us how the
16 Morrow fits into it.

17 A. I would refer now to Exhibits 10 and 11, which
18 are an isopach map, again, of the early middle Morrow
19 system, and that has been overlain on a structure map
20 that's been developed on the top of the Middle Morrow.

21 Those units are identified on cross-section B-B',
22 each of the genetic [*sic*] units within the Morrow, top of
23 the Morrow clastics being the top of the middle Morrow and,
24 of course, the base of the middle Morrow being the top of
25 the lower Morrow.

1 Q. Give us a quick geologic summary of the
2 deposition for the Morrow in this area.

3 A. The Morrow is deposited in this portion of Eddy
4 County as, again, primarily a fluvial/deltaic system. You
5 have meandering streams. Within those meandering stream
6 systems you have point bars and channel bars develop with
7 various geometries, principally as you see shown on Exhibit
8 Number 10.

9 Q. In a regional sense, would this channel system be
10 oriented northwest-to-southeast?

11 A. Again, these channel systems have a tendency to
12 meander. They can change direction, go east-west for a
13 while, turn back to the south.

14 And in this particular area, it appears that the
15 channel system is more of an east-west orientation, and
16 it's turning back again towards the south across Section 17
17 and then off the map to the southeast.

18 Q. In addition to the risk of trying to find the
19 Morrow channel at all, you have a gas-water component on
20 this display, Exhibit 10?

21 A. Yes, I do.

22 Q. What does that tell you?

23 A. Well, it tells me that there's a high degree of
24 risk at the proposed location in terms of finding any
25 potential sand in the early middle Morrow to be

1 hydrocarbon-bearing.

2 Q. That's about your only chance in the spacing
3 unit?

4 A. It is. It certainly appears to be.

5 If I may, the two wells that are drilled in the
6 north half of Section 7, the Nearburg Glass Number 1-7E is
7 a gas producer from the early middle Morrow. As you can
8 see, it's the best-developed sand within that section.

9 It was offset to the west by the Nearburg Rose
10 Number 1-12A, which had no sand developed anywhere in the
11 Morrow.

12 And that, in turn, was an offset to -- on the
13 other side of the proposed location in the section
14 northeast of 7, the Dorchester Secrest Number 1. That well
15 has the same sand system developed in it as the Nearburg
16 Glass 7E. A drill stem test across that sand recovered
17 4000 feet of formation water.

18 Nearburg offset that well downdip to the
19 southeast and again encountered the sand in their Muchas
20 Hombres Well. That well drill stem tested the sand and
21 recovered 7500 feet of formation water.

22 So there appears to be structurally 85 feet of
23 structural difference between the two wells in the north
24 half of Section 7, the Dorchester Secrest Well being 85
25 feet low to the Nearburg Glass 7E.

1 Somewhere between those two wellbores, that sand
2 crosses a gas-water contact and becomes water-bearing.

3 When you overlay the isopach of the sand on top
4 of the structure, you'll see that -- and I've just
5 arbitrarily picked some -- selected some interval between
6 the two wells. I don't know exactly where the gas-water
7 contact is, but it's somewhere between them.

8 You can see that the proposed location in the
9 northeast -- northwest quarter, corner, of Section 18 is
10 the only location available in that entire section where
11 you might encounter this sand hydrocarbon bearing, or a
12 portion of it.

13 Q. Even with the combination of an opportunity in
14 the Cisco as well as the Morrow, what's your opinion of the
15 risk?

16 A. I think there's a very high degree of risk for
17 both the Cisco/Canyon and the Morrow.

18 Q. Separately or together, can you approximate for
19 us or estimate for the Examiner what in your opinion or
20 recommendation is the risk factor penalty to apply in this
21 case?

22 A. I would recommend cost plus 200 percent.

23 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes my examination of
24 Mr. Elger.

25 We move the introduction of his Exhibits 7

1 through 11.

2 EXAMINER STOGNER: Exhibits 7 through 11 will be
3 admitted into evidence at this time.

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY EXAMINER STOGNER:

6 Q. Just how far is this well from the Dagger Draw
7 area?

8 A. The Dagger Draw -- The eastern margin of Dagger
9 Draw field to date is in 19 South, 25 East, and I think
10 it's about five to six miles farther west, due west of this
11 development.

12 Q. So you're still quite far from any --

13 A. We're quite far from it.

14 Plus the oil-water contact that's defined for
15 this prospect on the basis of the Glass 7E is a completely
16 different oil/water contact than what's recognized over in
17 Dagger Draw. So it has to be a completely different trap.

18 Q. Is this still your primary zone of interest?

19 A. It is, the Cisco/Canyon is.

20 Q. I guess I'm confused as far as the present Morrow
21 producers. In looking at your map, Exhibit 10, are those
22 two wells to the north -- I'm sorry, we're in Section 18.
23 So there is no Morrow production in the south half of 7?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Nor the south half of 12?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Nor anywhere in 13?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Okay. Over in Section 18 -- those two wells are
5 plugged and abandoned, though, aren't they?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And your primary zone of interest being the Cisco
8 -- Now, you mentioned that, in your opinion, that if the
9 characteristics of the Cisco/Canyon place it either in the
10 Dagger Draw or new development whereby the Dagger Draw Pool
11 rules were instituted, would be a standard location?

12 A. Yes, this would be a standard location.

13 Q. For the Dagger Draw?

14 A. For -- Yeah, if Dagger Draw rules were -- if they
15 were applied to this.

16 Q. Applicable in this area. And you're assuming
17 that this would be an oil producer?

18 A. That's correct.

19 The nature of the show and the mud log on Section
20 7 was one where shortly after penetrating the top of the
21 reservoir, they made a bit trip, and there was an amount of
22 brown oil that appeared on the pits in relation to that,
23 bottoms up with the trip, suggesting that it was an oil
24 reservoir.

25 EXAMINER STOGNER: I have no other questions of

1 this witness at this time.

2 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes our presentation,
3 with a point of clarification, Mr. Examiner.

4 With no established production in the immediate
5 area, we want the opportunity to have the pooling order
6 cover all 320 gas pools from the top of the Wolfcamp to the
7 base of the Morrow. That would include the Cisco, if it
8 happens to be a gas pool.

9 If it's an oil pool, then we're going to be on
10 statewide 40-acre oil spacing, and it's a chicken-and-egg
11 problem. We'll have to drill the well and get some data
12 and then come back to you and decide what spacing is for
13 that well.

14 EXAMINER STOGNER: Okay.

15 MR. KELLAHIN: The location, if it's approved as
16 an unorthodox location for all gas zones on 320, would
17 accommodate us as well in the event the Cisco turns out to
18 be a gas well.

19 At this point it appears that we're pooling just
20 a very few interest owners, total interest of which is less
21 than one half of one percent.

22 EXAMINER STOGNER: In the interest of time, would
23 you provide me a rough draft --

24 MR. KELLAHIN: I'd be happy to.

25 EXAMINER STOGNER: -- order?

1 MR. KELLAHIN: In addition, I will submit to you
2 the revised Exhibit 2 that Mr. Shelton has now edited for
3 me and has the correct identity of those offsets disclosed
4 to you.

5 EXAMINER STOGNER: Okay, I'd appreciate that, Mr.
6 Kellahin.

7 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes our presentation.

8 EXAMINER STOGNER: If nothing else, Case 11,012,
9 take this under advisement.

10 (Thereupon, these proceedings were concluded at
11 12:00 noon.)

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16 I do hereby certify that the foregoing is
17 a complete record of the proceedings in
the Examiner hearing of Case No. 11012,
18 heard by me on 23 June 1994.
19 Michael E. Stogner, Examiner
Oil Conservation Division
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