

1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO
2 ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
3 OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
4 STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
5 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

6 24 May 1989

7 VOLUME I OF II VOLUMES

8 EXAMINER HEARING

9 IN THE MATTER OF:

10 Application of Midland Phoenix Corp- CASE
11 oration for an unorthodox gas well 9667
12 location and compulsory pooling, Lea
13 County, New Mexico,
14 and
15 Application of Enron Oil & Gas Company 9669
16 for compulsory pooling, unorthodox gas
17 well location, and non-standard gas pro-
18 ration unit, Lea County, New Mexico.

19 BEFORE: Michael E. Stogner, Examiner

20 TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

21 A P P E A R A N C E S

22 For the Division:

23 For Midland Phoenix:
24 Corporation:

Ernest L. Padilla
Attorney at Law
PADILLA & SNYDER
P. O. Box 2523
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

25 For Enron Oil & Gas
Company:

William F. Carr
Attorney at Law
CAMPBELL & BLACK, P. A.
P. O. Box 2208
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

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For Robert E. Landreth,
Donna P. Landreth and
Leon Jeffcoat, Trustee:

W. Thomas Kellahin
Attorney at Law
KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN & AUBREY
P. O. Box 2265
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

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1 MR. STOGNER: This hearing
2 will come to order.

3 I'm Michael E. Stogner. alter-
4 nate examiner today and I'll be considering the two cases
5 at this time.

6 I'll call Case Nos. 9667 and
7 9669, which were consolidated at the Examiner Hearing
8 scheduled -- I mean held on May 10th, 1989.

9 Case No. 9667, being the
10 application of Midland Phoenix Corporation for an unortho-
11 dox gas well location and compulsory pooling, Lea County,
12 New Mexico.

13 And Case 9669, being the ap-
14 plication of Enron Oil & Gas Company for compulsory
15 pooling, unorthodox gas well location, and a nonstandard
16 gas proration unit, Lea County, New Mexico.

17 For the record, gentlemen,
18 would you please -- call for appearances, in other words.

19 I believe, Mr. Carr, Mr.
20 Kellahin and Mr. Padilla, you were of record at the hearing
21 on the 10th?

22 MR. CARR: That's correct.

23 MR. KELLAHIN: That's correct.

24 MR. PADILLA: That's correct.

25 MR. STOGNER: Are there any

1 other appearances here today that wasn't here on May 10th
2 hearing?

3 There being none, let the
4 record show -- or Mr. Kellahin, Mr. Carr, Mr. Padilla, did
5 we swear in witnesses at that time?

6 MR. CARR: We did not, no.

7 MR. STOGNER: Okay, I'm going
8 to ask all the witnesses, except for you, sir, to stand at
9 this time and raise your right hands.

10

11 (Witnesses sworn.)

12

13 MR. STOGNER; Are there any
14 statements before we get started, gentlemen?

15 MR. PADILLA: I don't have
16 one, Mr. Examiner. I think the docket speaks for itself
17 and I think the evidence is going to be sufficiently clear
18 as to what the issues are in this case and where we'll be
19 going in terms of proving our case.

20

21 MR. STOGNER: And you, Mr.
22 Carr?

22

23 MR. CARR: I have no opening
24 statement.

24

25 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Kellahin?

25

 MR. KELLAHIN: No opening

1 statement.

2 MR. STOGNER: Thank you. Mr.
3 Carr, Mr. Padilla, how would we like to proceed?

4 MR. PADILLA: I'll go first.

5 MR. STOGNER: Okay. Mr.
6 Padilla?

7

8 BENTON CRAIG DUKE,
9 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his
10 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

11

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. PADILLA:

14 Q Mr. Duke, for the record would you
15 please state your full name?

16 A It's Benton Craig Duke.

17 Q What do you do for a living, Mr. Duke?

18 A I'm in the oil and gas business, explor-
19 ation and production.

20 Q For what company?

21 A Midland Phoenix Corporation.

22 Q And you're a landman?

23 A Yes, sir, that's correct.

24 Q Are you an officer of the corporation as
25 well?

1 A No, sir.

2 Q Okay. Are you, Mr. Duke, familiar with
3 what has transpired in this case up to today?

4 A Yes, sir, I am.

5 Q Insofar as the compulsory pooling por-
6 tion is concerned and the land matters?

7 A Yes, sir, I am.

8 Q And you're a landman.

9 A Yes, sir, that is correct.

10 Q Have you previously testified before the
11 Oil Conservation Division and had your credentials accepted
12 as a matter of record?

13 A Yes, sir, I have.

14 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, we
15 tender Mr. Duke as a petroleum landman.

16 MR. STOGNER: Are there any
17 objections?

18 MR. CARR: No objections.

19 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Duke is so
20 qualified.

21 Q Mr. Duke, can you briefly tell us about
22 the application that has been made in this case, Case No.
23 9667, that was made by Midland Phoenix Corporation?

24 A Yes, sir. We made application for com-
25 pulsory pooling for an east half proration unit to drill a

1 Morrow well at a standard location in the east half.

2 Q Are you also asking for compulsory
3 pooling in the east for all the nonconsenting interest
4 owners --

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q -- in this east half?

7 A That is correct, for all nonconsenting
8 parties and/or mineral owners.

9 Q Okay. Let me hand you what we have
10 marked as Exhibit Number 1 and have you briefly go through
11 that and tell us what that is and what it contains.

12 A This is an application for an unorthodox
13 location and compulsory pooling before the Oil Conservation
14 Division of the State of New Mexico. It basically sets out
15 what our -- what we're -- what we are trying to do, with
16 the exception of the unorthodox location has since been
17 dropped and so we're strictly going with compulsory pooling
18 for an east half proration unit.

19 Q Okay, would you go through the rest of
20 that exhibit and tell us what that contains?

21 A It stated that certain working interest
22 owners in the east half who have not consented to drill the
23 well we're proposing to compulsory pool their interest.

24 It also states that the nonconsenting
25 working interest owners did not have to pay their share of

1 the estimated well cost and we could ask for an additional
2 200 percent penalty there for our risk involved in the
3 drilling of the well.

4 It further says that we are also asking
5 to be authorized to withhold from production a reasonable
6 supervision charge attributable to each -- proportionately
7 reduced to each nonconsenting party's working interest, or
8 unleased minerals during the drilling and production stages
9 of the well.

10 And also we're asking, we're drilling
11 any unnecessary wells, we're trying to protect the correl-
12 ative rights of our royalty owners and to afford the owners
13 of each interest in the proposed proration unit the oppor-
14 tunity to receive or to get his oil and/or gas from that .

15 Q Has that application been sent to all
16 the nonconsenting working interest owners?

17 A Yes, sir, it has.

18 Q And attached to that exhibit do you have
19 evidence of a receipt from those nonconsenting working in-
20 terest owners?

21 A Yes, sir, I believe -- yes, sir, we do,
22 certified return receipt requested.

23 Q Mr. Duke, let me hand you now what we
24 have marked as Exhibit Number Two and have you tell the
25 examiner what that is.

1 A This is a land plat covering the east
2 half of Section 34, Township 24 South, Range 34 East, and
3 basically it breaks down from the records in Lea County the
4 best that we could conceive or contrive the working inter-
5 est to be in this east half proration unit.

6 Q And what percentage does Midland Phoenix
7 have in the east half of that proration unit?

8 A A rough -- Midland Phoenix has roughly
9 41 percent as is listed on this plat, and we are in con-
10 trol of roughly 51.5 percent.

11 Q Does that plat show the location of the
12 proposed well?

13 A Yes, sir, it does.

14 Q And is that at a standard location?

15 A Yes, sir, 1980 from the south, 1980 from
16 the east line of Section 34.

17 Q Okay. Do you have anything further con-
18 cerning that exhibit?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q Okay. Let's go on now to what we have
21 marked as Exhibit Number Three and have you identify that
22 for us, please.

23 A This is the well proposal by Midland
24 Phoenix Corporation, dated March 22nd, 1989, wherein we
25 proposed a well at that time at an unorthodox location for

1 the drilling of a 15,800 foot Morrow test. The estimated
2 dry hole costs were listed on there, as well as the esti-
3 mated completed well costs, and these were taken directly
4 off of an AFE that was prepared by our engineers.

5 We also, in lieu of the parties that
6 were presented this invitation to participate, we also
7 offered to accept a farmout from them with certain provi-
8 sions there. We asked for a response at their earliest
9 convenience as that we would like to spud this well as soon
10 as possible and upon hearing back from any of these parties
11 we would forward a formal AFE and an operating agreement by
12 which this well would be drilled under.

13 Q Mr. Duke, from whom did you hear with
14 regard to that proposal?

15 A We heard from Enserch Exploration, In-
16 corporated, from Mr. Dave Leverton. He stated that Enserch
17 did not wish to do anything at this time. They did not
18 want a well drilled and that they would oppose us at a
19 hearing here in Santa Fe, and those are the only people
20 that we heard from at that -- at that particular point in
21 time.

22 Q Well, looking at Exhibit Number Two, can
23 you go down that list and tell us what -- what communica-
24 tions you have had with the nonconsenting working interest
25 owners as shown in that Exhibit Number Two?

1 A As to J. Howard Moore, Limited, we have
2 -- they are with us and we, you know, they are going with
3 whatever we decide to do.

4 Enserch Exploration, as I stated, they
5 just decided to do nothing. We did not hear back from
6 Enron Oil & Gas until we received a notification of compul-
7 sary pooling and an unorthodox location from them on or
8 about, I believe it was around April the 19th or the 20th,
9 somewhere in that area.

10 We did contact Samedan. We did have
11 some communication with them. Several weeks after our pro-
12 posal went out they came down and we visited with them at
13 length. They decided they were going to go with Enron.

14 Mr. Landrith also came over and we
15 visited with him. He did not know what he would like to do
16 at that particular point in time; didn't know which way he
17 wanted to go, and we assume that Mr. Jeffco (sic) that
18 interest, the way I understand it, strictly hearsay, that
19 that is a trust set up for Mr. Landrith's kids and that Mr.
20 Landrith, whatever he does, that the trust -- that Mr.
21 Jeffco, being a trustee, would also do.

22 And that's all we heard.

23 Q You haven't heard back from the trustee?

24 A No, sir, we just talked with Mr. Land-
25 rith.

1 in after our hearing, or the first hearing up here on the
2 10th, we sent out a letter to Enron Oil & Gas Company
3 whereby we proposed the same well, just changing our loca-
4 tion to a standard so they would be on notice that it was,
5 even though at the hearing we had dropped the unorthodox
6 location.

7 Q Have you had any communications or
8 meetings with Enron since May 10th?

9 A Yes, sir, we have, extensive communica-
10 tions with them.

11 Q Can you tell us about those communica-
12 tions to the best of your knowledge?

13 A To the best of our -- to the best of my
14 knowledge we have tried, have been visiting with Enron and
15 have tried to make a deal with them, realizing that we were
16 not going anywhere and that nobody was going to win in this
17 situation, and wanted to work out some sort of an amiable,
18 you know, type situation, whereby, you know, if they were
19 adamant about drilling the well at their location, that we
20 would, you know, consider selling out to them, you know, or
21 some -- something like that, or join us in an east half
22 proration if they wanted to do that, or, you know, just --
23 just got communications going for the first time to try to
24 get something worked out.

25 Q Did you work something out?

1 A No, sir, we have not.

2 Q Did you come close?

3 A We felt we were close at one point but
4 with the Midland Division office and Houston management
5 evidently did not see it the same way that the Midland
6 Division office did and so we had to go ahead and come up
7 here and we're still communicating.

8 Q Okay. What else do you have in that
9 exhibit?

10 A Samedan, we never heard back from them
11 from the standpoint -- we sent a letter also on May the
12 11th to Enserch, Samedan and Leon Jeffcoat, Trustee. The
13 same letter was sent to Enron, basically changed the loca-
14 tion.

15 Then we sent one also on May 11th to Mr.
16 Bob (unclear) of Enserch. We never heard anything back
17 from them. We just assumed by their original letter they
18 were just going to wait and assumed that they would
19 probably go with Enron.

20 Samedan, the same thing. They had told
21 us that they were just going to wait and see what happened
22 at the hearing and would probably go with Enron.

23 Mr. Landrith, he sent us back a letter,
24 and I believe, let's see if it's in here -- yes, May the
25 16th in response to our letter of May 11th, where it says

1 he was currently involved in discussions with Enron re-
2 garding the problems which appeared to arise under an
3 existing operating agreement covering Section 34 with re-
4 spect to drilling proposals that had been made, and he
5 says, until this matter is resolved, which he hoped would
6 be in the next few days, he was not in a position to make a
7 decision on Midland Phoenix's proposal, and it says, "How-
8 ever, I will make every effort to respond as soon as pos-
9 sible prior to the time this comes to hearing before the
10 New Mexico Oil Conservation Division." As of today at the
11 beginning of this hearing we have not heard from Mr. Land-
12 rith.

13 Q Have you called Mr. Landrith?

14 A We tried to contact Mr. Landrith in the
15 beginning. We called him for six weeks straight and never
16 had any response; left messages with his secretary every
17 morning and he never responded.

18 Finally, when he did come over he stated
19 that it was not in his -- to his benefit to discuss any-
20 thing with us and anything said, he would use against us,
21 if he could, and we said, well, you know, we just wanted to
22 try and work something out with him and that's the last
23 communication other than this simple letter that he sent.

24 The next letter is an offer where it --

25 Q What date is that letter?

1 A This is May 17th, after we'd been dis-
2 cussing with Enron there in Midland. It states that
3 Midland Phoenix was the owners of certain leasehold con-
4 stituting about 51 percent of the east half, and it goes on
5 and states about our proposal, and it says in order to
6 settle this dispute between ourselves and Midland Phoenix,
7 Enron and Midland Phoenix, we would be willing to accept
8 this, and we gave cash consideration; Midland Phoenix would
9 be carried to casing point at which time we would propor-
10 tionately reduce to our interest in the east half. They
11 could -- Enron could therein go ahead and go for their
12 unorthodox location and we would not oppose that. It just
13 goes on and tells when the hearing -- it says, by this
14 offer to sell, it is the intention of Midland Phoenix Cor-
15 poration to settle this dispute in a manner that is benefi-
16 cial to all -- all parties, and that's what we tried to do.

17 Then on May 17th we received a letter
18 from Midland Phoenix, whereby -- from Enron, I'm sorry, to
19 Midland Phoenix, excuse me -- from Enron Oil & Gas to Mid-
20 land Phoenix Corporation. They say, this is dated the same
21 day as our letter. Ours was May 17th and this letter is
22 dated May 17th. It says they have reviewed our proposal of
23 May 17th, I guess during that day it didn't take them too
24 long to review it, and they basically said -- turned us
25 down on what we would accept. They declined our offer, and

1 an illegal location in the east half for a Morrow test in
2 the opinion of Enron not geologically feasible. It says,
3 as you're aware, any Morrow test is a great deal of risk
4 and because of this risk Enron's economics would not
5 justify a carried interest to casing point or pay in excess
6 of \$1000 an acre for any leasehold interest we had. They
7 further state that they are very interested in discussing
8 with us either a buy out of our interest or a farmout of
9 our interest under the lands that we own in the east half
10 and it says, of course, any agreement, you know, basically,
11 that we would not -- Midland Phoenix would not oppose them
12 at this hearing of this date.

13 And that's basically it, other than just
14 kind of a chronology -- chronological communication log
15 wherein a fellow at our office had been talking and us back
16 and forth at dates and with who he had visited with or what
17 employees had talked with, you know, certain -- I can go
18 through those if you wish, or --

19 Q Who -- who was involved in those conver-
20 sations?

21 A It was Bob Landrith, Howard Hodges, Jim
22 Broten, who will testify later, Robert McCommon with Enron,
23 Robert Cannon with Midland Phoenix, myself, Tim Dicey, just
24 primarily all the parties.

25 Q Tim Dicey's with --

1 A Midland Phoenix.

2 Q -- Midland Phoenix.

3 A He'll be testifying here today.

4 Q Okay. Is that all you have with regard
5 to Exhibit Number Three?

6 A Yes, sir, it is.

7 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner,
8 let me take Exhibit Number Four out of place.

9 Q And would you identify Exhibit Number
10 Four, please?

11 A Yes, sir. Exhibit Number Four is a
12 letter for April 14th, 1989, from Enserch Exploration,
13 whereby they state, they make reference to Tim Dicey's
14 letter dated March 22nd wherein we propose the 15,800 foot
15 Morrow test in the east half of Section 34, and it says,
16 please be advised Enserch does not intend to join said well
17 and does not intend to grant farmout of Enserch interest
18 in the captioned land. Further, they intend to contest our
19 unorthodox location, and please let us know if we should
20 have any questions regarding that matter. Signed, John
21 McGee, Senior Landman for Enserch Exploration in Dallas.

22 Q Let me hand you now what we have marked
23 as Exhibit Three-A, Mr. Duke, and have you identify that.

24 A Yes, sir, this is a formal broken down
25 AFE of Midland Phoenix Corporation for the drilling of a

1 15,800 foot Morrow Ranch (sic) at a location 1980 from the
2 south line and 1980 from the east line of Section 34,
3 Township 24 South, Range 34 East, in the Pitchfork Ranch
4 Field, and basically breaks out all costs involved in
5 drilling and completing this well.

6 Q Who put together the AFE, Mr. --

7 A The AFE was put together by a gentleman
8 by the name of Phil Stenson, who was previously employed by
9 Enron Oil & Gas and had previously drilled all the wells,
10 being a total of approximately 32 wells, in the Pitchfork
11 Ranch Field, and along with many other wells in southeast
12 New Mexico.

13 Q Did Steve Wright participate in the --
14 in putting that AFE together?

15 A Yes, sir, he did. Steve Wright was --
16 in conjunction with Phil -- was also a previous employee of
17 Enron. He was very familiar with the Pitchfork Ranch area
18 from the drilling and production standpoint and knows as
19 much about it as anybody.

20 Q Mr. Duke, to your knowledge and informa-
21 tion is this a reasonable -- is the amount -- are the
22 amounts for drilling and completing that well as shown on
23 Exhibit Three-A, reasonable, in your opinion?

24 A Yes, sir, in my opinion they are. I
25 think probably Mr. Wright would be better qualified to get

1 into the more technical aspect of the AFE and why certain
2 things are set up and why we have certain contingent costs
3 for certain zones to be -- you know, I think he would be a
4 more -- could answer that, but, yes, in my opinion it is.

5 Q Have you seen the AFE proposed by Enron?

6 A Yes, sir. I have.

7 Q Can you tell us how it -- generally how
8 it differs from your AFE?

9 A Generally it differs from the standpoint
10 of if they have any problem they don't have any contingency
11 set out in the AFE if there are any problems. There again,
12 I would not be an expert on this, but just generally they
13 would not be able to get down to the Morrow C, which is the
14 main pay at Pitchfork Ranch, if they had over pressured
15 zones in the Atoka and in the Morrow A, and if they had to
16 set liners there, which, if they do have those, then we'd
17 feel that their costs would be pretty comparable to ours,
18 but according to Mr. Stenson, none of these wells drilled
19 out here have come close, within, you know, \$300,000. Each
20 well is a different deal, but there again, Mr. Wright would
21 be more qualified to answer the specifics of that.

22 Q Mr. Duke, do you have a recommendation
23 to the Division as to what the overhead charges should be
24 for a producing and a drilling well, the overhead charges?

25 A Yes, sir. Yes, sir. What we've done

1 is taken the average over the last five years and what
2 we've come up with approximately is around \$5500 for
3 drilling overhead and approximately \$550 for producing.

4 Q And would Midland Phoenix desire to be
5 named the operator in an order issued by the Division?

6 A Yes, sir, we would.

7 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, I
8 think that's all I have for this witness.

9 We tender Exhibits One, Two,
10 Three, Three-A and Four.

11 MR. STOGNER: Are there any
12 objections?

13 MR. CARR: No objection.

14 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits One,
15 Two, Three, Three-A and Four will be admitted into evidence
16 at this time.

17 Mr. Carr, your witness.

18

19 CROSS EXAMINATION

20 BY MR. CARR:

21 Q Mr. Duke, you're a landman with Midland
22 Phoenix?

23 A Yes, sir, that's correct.

24 Q How long have you been in that position?

25 A Since the beginning of the company.

- 1 Q And when was the company formed?
- 2 A In November.
- 3 Q Of 1988?
- 4 A Yes, sir, that is correct.
- 5 Q Have you done previous -- you have done
6 previous work as a landman in this area, have you not?
- 7 A Yes, sir, I have.
- 8 Q Prior to going with Midland Phoenix you
9 were a landman, in fact, with Enron, isn't that correct?
- 10 A Enron and HNG Oil Company before that.
- 11 Q And HNG became Enron.
- 12 A Correct.
- 13 Q And while working with HNG and Enron you
14 also did some work in the Pitchfork area, is that correct
15 or is that not correct?
- 16 A That is very correct.
- 17 Q Can you tell me when the leasehold in-
18 terest in the northeast quarter of Section 34, the area
19 shaded in yellow on your Exhibit Two, when was that ac-
20 quired by Midland Phoenix?
- 21 A It was acquired, we started acquiring
22 leases in there in February of 1988 -- 1989, excuse me.
- 23 Q And the lease you acquired, is it from
24 J. Hiram Moore, Limited? Is that --
- 25 A It's split up. The J. Hiram Moore,

1 Limited, it's a -- that particular part of it, there's
2 three brothers that own a half interest in that 200-acre
3 tract, being the J. Hiram Morre sons, and we've acquired a
4 leasehold from two of the sons and a farmout or agreement
5 to lease to us from J. Hiram Moore, Limited, on the trust
6 of the son who has passed away, or deceased.

7 Q When Midland Phoenix decides to acquire
8 property interest, how does that come about? Who makes
9 that decision?

10 A Usually it's a geological decision based
11 upon data or a prospect that has been drawn up by our geo-
12 logist or geophysicist and they tell us to go out and check
13 to see if the land is available or whatever, and we go out
14 and contact the landowners and start trying to purchase oil
15 and gas leases.

16 Q In terms of the actual decision to ac-
17 quire the interest in Section 34, were you involved in the
18 actual decision to attempt to lease that acreage?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q And when that decision was made, how
21 does it come about? Was there a meeting or --

22 A Yes, sir, we --

23 Q -- how you made the decision that we're
24 going to go out and attempt lease interests?

25 A We get with the geologists who are with

1 Midland Phoenix and/or geophysicist and determine that this
2 would be a viable prospect and we go out and start leasing
3 it.

4 Q And was such a meeting held in this
5 case?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q What sort of land considerations go into
8 -- come into play at the time you're actually deciding to
9 acquire a lease?

10 Are there land considerations?

11 Q I'm not sure I understand what you're
12 talking about.

13 A Does a landman, when you sit down and
14 talk about it, do you have any kind of an input or do you
15 just receive direction from geologist and engineers that
16 there's a prospect?

17 A We just sit down and talk about it
18 across the table and come up with the best plan based upon
19 everybody's input.

20 Q At this particular -- in deciding to
21 acquire this particular interest, who were the geologists
22 who were actually involved?

23 A Stu Martin, Tim Dicey, Howard Hodges and
24 Jim Broten.

25 Q Is Mr. Martin a geologist?

1 A Yes, he is.

2 Q Were there engineers also participating
3 in that meeting?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q So it's really just a geological call to
6 begin with.

7 A Yes, sir, or geophysical.

8 Q At that meeting do you talk about the
9 risk involved in developing the property or is it -- is
10 that something that comes later?

11 A Well, I mean, you know, when you're
12 drilling a 15,800 foot well, obviously, there's always
13 going to be risk involved.

14 Q And was that considered in deciding to
15 go forward with the northeast of 34?

16 A Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

17 Q I guess it was decided that was a risk
18 worth taking.

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q In terms of going forward with a deci-
21 sion to lease a piece of property, do you discuss well
22 locations at that time or is that something that comes
23 later?

24 A You do discuss it at that time, or you
25 can. A lot of times well locations, you know, are deter-

1 mined later by different mapping techniques or whatever
2 that I'm not an expert on, you know, but --

3 Q When you decided, or had your meeting to
4 discuss acquiring a lease in 34, did the discussion, did
5 you address the fact that there was a well in that -- on
6 that acreage that was nonproductive?

7 A Yes, sir, we did discuss that.

8 Q And --

9 A That was a viable part of our prospect.

10 Q And that's something you considered at
11 that time?

12 A Yes, sir, I think you'll see that in
13 later testimony.

14 Q No decision was made at that time, I as-
15 sume, just the (unclear) --

16 A No, sir, not at that particular time.

17 Q If we look at your Exhibit Two, the ac-
18 reage shaded in yellow is the acreage in which Midland
19 Phoenix has an interest, is that correct?

20 A That is correct.

21 Q And isn't that also the interest in
22 which J. Hiram Moore, Limited, has an interest?

23 A That is correct?

24 A And do you represent any interest owner
25 in this pooling hearing today in any tract other than the

1 acreage that is included within that yellow outline?

2 A No, sir, we do not.

3 Q So you represent no interest in the
4 south half of the southeast of 34?

5 A South half of the southeast of 34, no,
6 sir, we do not.

7 Q And nothing in the northwest of the
8 southeast of 34.

9 A No, sir, we do not.

10 Q Were you involved in the decision to
11 move the well location from the previously proposed unor-
12 thodox location to the standard location?

13 A Yes, sir, I was. The reason that was,
14 the Page 3 Com No. 2, as you'll note on this particular
15 plat, had encountered an Atoka zone that had some -- some
16 pretty -- a pretty significant show in it.

17 Our primary prospect in there is Morrow
18 and of course we had to go through the Atoka to get there
19 and so we were trying to reduce our risk, as all operators
20 do, prudent operators. We backed off of the unorthodox
21 location at that particular time because it's not the best
22 location for a Morrow test, and simply because we did not
23 want to -- we did not feel that this particular climate in
24 the oil and gas industry could withstand a penalty imposed
25 by the -- by the OCD here today.

1 Q And you're talking about a penalty for
2 an unorthodox location.

3 A Yes, sir, I am. Which would, the way we
4 understood, the way the calculation is, would be approxi-
5 mately, we'd be penalized by 2/3rds of our deliverability.

6 Q Now, Mr. Duke, will Midland Phoenix call
7 a technical witness that would be probably better for me to
8 discuss the location with, or do you --

9 A Yes, sir, I would -- I would think so.

10 Q Now, if I look at your Exhibit Number
11 Three, this is a packet of correspondence. Is it fair to
12 say that you've tried but you've been unable to reach an
13 agreement for the development of this acreage?

14 A Yes, sir, it is that, and until the
15 10th, we've just finally reached communication for the de-
16 velopment of this acreage.

17 Q You had had a letter and then a counter-
18 proposal back in May from Enron but no real negotiation, is
19 that fair to say?

20 A No, we -- it is not fair to say. The
21 first we got from Enron was a compulsory pooling from your
22 office, Mr. Carr.

23 Q And then what -- did you have any cor-
24 respondence at all with -- from Enron prior to the May 10
25 hearing?

1 A Yes. The -- five days before, I be-
2 lieve. We had a letter from them on May 2nd.

3 Q Have you been able to reach any kind of
4 voluntary agreement for a south half unit in the Morrow?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q And would it be fair to say that you
7 tried but no voluntary agreement for a nonstandard in the
8 southeast in the Atoka?

9 A Restate that, please.

10 Q Is it fair to say you have no voluntary
11 agreement for a southeast unit in the -- in the southeast
12 quarter unit in the Atoka --

13 A That is correct.

14 Q If we look at your Exhibit Three-A, this
15 is an AFE and it appears to me this is not signed. Is this
16 prepared by your Engineering Department?

17 A Yes, sir, it is.

18 Q Are these the figures that Midland
19 Phoenix will base a non -- if you prevail, if an order is
20 entered and other operators are asked to pay their share to
21 avoid a penalty, are these the numbers that Midland Phoenix
22 intends to apply?

23 A To apply, as you're well aware, Mr.
24 Carr, this is strictly an estimated cost is all it is.

25 Q And this may change?

1 A No. I'm just saying that these, all
2 these costs, we may not incur all these costs. It's
3 strictly an estimated cost for drilling a 15,900 foot
4 Morrow well.

5 Q But there's no signature on this exhi-
6 bit. My question is, is this Midland Phoenix' AFE that
7 they intend to use as they look forward to the pooling?

8 A Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

9 Q And if you should prevail and we're non-
10 consent, we'd have to pay our share of these costs as
11 stated on this AFE?

12 A As they were spent, that is correct.

13 Q Yes. But we'd have to pay those shares,
14 pay that if the order required it in advance, but these are
15 the numbers. I'm trying to be sure we know these numbers.

16 A Yes, sir, these are numbers.

17 Q And have you --

18 A The estimated numbers, that is correct.

19 MR. CARR: Okay. I have no
20 further questions.

21 MR. STOGNER: Thank you, Mr.
22 Carr.

23 Mr. Kellahin.

24 MR. KELLAHIN: Thank you, Mr.
25 Examiner.

CROSS EXAMINATION

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BY MR. KELLAHIN:

Q Mr. Duke, let's look at Exhibit Number Three-A. What is the date that this was approved by Midland Phoenix?

A I'm not for sure. It was drawn up about, oh, I would say around the 15th of March. That's when the AFE was run.

Q Has Midland Phoenix drawn up any other AFEs for this particular well?

A No, sir.

Q Either at the orthodox or the current standard proposed location?

A No, sir, we have not.

Q This is it.

A This is it.

Q When we look at Exhibit Number Three --

A Yes, sir.

Q -- and refer to the completed well costs in the first paragraph of the first letter in Three, it's the 1.76 million.

A Yes, sir.

Q Did that number come from Exhibit Number Three-A?

A That's an estimated, as it states in the

1 letter, that is estimated. We have done some reworking of
2 our pipe. As you'll also note in the letter here, that
3 upon hearing from you we will forward a formal AFE of which
4 this would have been forwarded.

5 Q Is there a preliminary or a draft AFE
6 that you've utilized to get the 1.76 number that's in this
7 letter?

8 A Yes, sir, our engineers went through and
9 we went back and reworked some pipe cost and some other
10 contingent factors that we felt we needed to address at
11 that particular point in time.

12 Q Have you submitted the Exhibit Three-A
13 to any of the various working interest owners that would
14 participate in the well?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q In what way did you submit this to the
17 various working interest owners?

18 A As is stated, upon hearing from the
19 different working interest owners as to their decision. we
20 would forward a formal AFE. Enron requested one; we sent
21 it to them. Samedan requested one; we gave it to them.
22 Enserch never requested anything; we did not send one to
23 them. Mr. Landrith never requested anything and we did not
24 send one to him.

25 Q Okay. Can you give me the dates at

1 which you sent the AFE to the various parties?

2 A No. Hold on, let me look here and see.
3 Excuse me, an AFE was sent to Mr. Landrith. I was incor-
4 rect. It was sent to all the parties on May the 11th.
5 That is correct. I was confused there.

6 Q On May 11th of 1989?

7 A A formal AFE as you are talking about,
8 being Exhibit Three-A here, was sent to all parties.

9 Q Prior to that you had not sent an AFE to
10 any of the parties?

11 A No, sir, as was stated in the letter, it
12 was estimated costs only, which is the normal procedure in
13 the oil and gas industry when proposing a well.

14 Q When we look at your Exhibit Number Two,
15 am I correct in understanding that Midland Phoenix acquired
16 its interest in the area shown in yellow in February of
17 1989?

18 A Yes, sir, that is correct.

19 Q And it results from acquiring two out of
20 the three Morrow interests?

21 A No, sir, it -- it's more detailed than
22 that. It's several mineral owners in there. Most of the
23 mineral owners in that 200-acre tract are, as is said, it's
24 slang in the oil business, pros and are in the business
25 themselves (sic).

1 The Moores own the largest interest in
2 there, being half, and we've acquired oil and gas leases
3 from other parties also in there.

4 Q Oh, I misunderstood you. I thought this
5 --

6 A No, it's not just -- not just --

7 Q -- the Moore clan.

8 A No, sir, it is not.

9 Q With regards to the J. Hiram Moore,
10 Limited, and that 10 plus percent interest, is that now
11 committed to Midland Phoenix?

12 A Yes, sir, it is.

13 Q In what particular way?

14 A Either that they will, at such time as
15 this hearing is determining a well is to be spud, they will
16 either join or farm out to Midland Phoenix or -- that's
17 correct, join or farm out to Midland Phoenix.

18 Q Are there specific terms by which they
19 have agreed to farm out their interest in --

20 A Yes, sir, there are.

21 Q And is that included in the information
22 shown on Exhibit Three?

23 A No, sir, it is not.

24 Q What are the terms of the farmout agree-
25 ment between Moore and Midland Phoenix on their interest?

1 A The terms are -- is that they will join
2 with their 10 percent or they will farm out, delivering a
3 75 percent net revenue interest to Midland Phoenix with the
4 option at payout after all costs are recouped to convert
5 1/16th of that quarter royalty to a 25 percent back in
6 after payout, working interest after payout.

7 Q And were those --

8 A I believe that's -- that 1/16th may not
9 convert, I'm not for sure of that. I'll have to go back to
10 my notes.

11 Q Did anyone prior to that date propose to
12 your company the formation of the spacing unit for drilling
13 the well?

14 A No, sir, they did not.

15 Q To the best of your knowledge is your
16 company the first to propose a well --

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q -- in the east half?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q When we look at Section 34 on Exhibit
21 Number Two, what is the spacing unit that's assigned to the
22 Pitchfork 34 Com Well in the west half?

23 A It is the west half 320 acres.

24 Q As to what formations, do you know?

25 A As to the Atoka formation where it's

1 currently producing.

2 Q As to the Atoka?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q What is the status --

5 A It was communitized -- it was commun-
6 itized to the Morrow and never completed in the Morrow;
7 communitized all the Pennsylvanian and I would have to look
8 at the communitization agreement to see exactly, but I'm
9 sure all the Pennsylvanian was communitized, as well as the
10 Strawn and the Wolfcamp. It is currently producing out of
11 the Atoka.

12 Q In your opinion is the northwest quarter
13 available for formation of a standard spacing unit for
14 either the Morrow or the Atoka at this point?

15 A Not for the Atoka. The way the New
16 Mexico -- rules of the State of New Mexico read, that you
17 cannot have two wells producing from the same formation in
18 the same proration unit.

19 Q Would the Morrow formation in the north-
20 west quarter be available for dedication to the northeast
21 quarter to form a 320?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q So it's the Atoka that's being produced
24 in the Pitchfork well at this point.

25 A That's correct.

1 Q I don't see any of the letters contained
2 in the package of exhibits that are signed by you or sent
3 to you directly, Mr. Duke. What is your involvement with
4 the correspondence? Did you draft any of these letters?

5 A Yes, I did. Tim Dicey is our president
6 and he handles all the signatory, you know, whatever situ-
7 ation, for the Midland Phoenix Corporation.

8 Q Have you submitted to J. Hiram Moore a
9 proposed operating agreement?

10 A No, we have not submitted any operating
11 agreement as of yet.

12 Q Your March 22nd letter, Mr. Dicey,
13 proposes a Morrow test. At what point did you propose that
14 the Atoka be included as a potential zone?

15 A You have to go through the Atoka to get
16 to the Morrow, Mr. Kellahin.

17 Q I understand that's what happens.

18 A That's right.

19 Q My question is have you proposed an
20 Atoka completion to any of the working interest owners?

21 A As you can see by our letter dated March
22 22nd, 1989, we proposed a 15,800 foot total depth Morrow
23 test of which we will pass through the Atoka on the way
24 down.

25 Q You would have to infer, then, from the

1 correspondence that your plan was to include the Atoka in
2 the test?

3 A As a normally prudent operator, yes,
4 sir, that would be implied, as with any well proposal.

5 MR. KELLAHIN: I have no
6 further questions. Thank you, Mr. Stogner.

7 MR. STOGNER: Thank you, Mr.
8 Kellahin. Mr. Padilla, any redirect?

9 MR. PADILLA: No. redirect.

10

11

CROSS EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. STOGNER:

13 Q Mr. Duke, when I look at Exhibit Number
14 Two, now this is the breakdown of the percentage of the
15 working interest owners, is that correct?

16 A Yes, sir, that is correct.

17 Q With Mr. Landrith owning unleased miner-
18 als and that unleased minerals, let me make sure to get
19 this right, where is that unleased minerals at?

20 A His unleased minerals is in the 200-acre
21 tract, Mr. Examiner, in Section 34, as outlined by -- where
22 Midland Phoenix has its leases he owns an undivided 35
23 acres net.

24 Q Just within the yellow --

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q -- boundaries.

2 A Yes, sir, and we broke it out because,
3 like I said, he has different, varied interest in this east
4 half of Section 34.

5 Q And how many other parties make up the
6 other 65 percent of the mineral interest?

7 A Golly, it's broken down, it gets pretty
8 small. Like I said, the Moore clan, as they were stated,
9 they own a half interest in that 200 acres. Mr. Landrith
10 owns 35 unleased minerals. We have a lease from a lady in
11 Seminole, Texas, who owns 30 minerals. You've got Mr.
12 Pearce and Mr. Embry each owning roughly 3-to-6 mineral
13 acres; Mr. Jacobsen, who we have leased owns --

14 Q Approximately how many?

15 A Gosh, I would say fifteen.

16 Q Fifteen?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Now these are the mineral interests in
19 just the yellow outline, is that correct?

20 A That is correct.

21 Q Okay, now how about the mineral interest
22 in the southeast southeast of Section 34?

23 A That is owned and subject to an operat-
24 ing agreement by Enron and I guess contractual interest
25 owned by Mr. Landrith and Mr. -- and Enserch and Samedan

1 and Mr. Jeffcoat, and it's owned by one lady.

2 Q And who is that?

3 A I don't have her name handy, sir.

4 Q How about the west half of the southeast
5 quarter?

6 A That is a Federal tract that is HBP'ed
7 by the Pitchfork 34 Fed Com No. 1 in the west half of said
8 section. The original lessee or assignee was Samedan and
9 Enserch. They owned it jointly; subsequently farmed out to
10 Mr. Landrith. Mr. Landrith then in turn turned the deal to
11 HNG Oil Company for the drilling of that well.

12 Q And that well is presently producing
13 from the Atoka formation?

14 A Yes, sir, that is correct.

15 Q If I understand your testimony, there
16 has not been an interest -- I'm sorry, an operating agree-
17 ment signed with anybody at this point?

18 A That is correct. Until we get all
19 parties either consenting or nonconsenting, we will just
20 wait to -- it would be a standard as was stated in our
21 letter, a 1982 AAPL approved 610, 1982 operating agreement
22 form.

23 Q Now where did you pull the figures for
24 the overhead charges?

25 A We just took an average of all the over-

1 head charges around southeast New Mexico from all different
2 independents and major oil companies and came up with those
3 as competitive in the current industry market today.

4 Q Now did you actually go out and pull
5 these figures from the companies or are these figures in
6 which you have personal interest in or have interest in
7 through the company of Midland Phoenix?

8 A No, sir, we did not have interest
9 through the company of Midland Phoenix. These are just
10 through the figures that we area aware by virtue of our
11 past experience in southeast New Mexico; not only myself
12 but geologists and geophysicists and engineers and current-
13 ly what is current market rate, drilling and completing and
14 producing for a well of this particular depth and stature.

15 MR. STOGNER: Okay, I have no
16 other questions of this witness at this time.

17 Are there any other questions
18 of Mr. Duke?

19 He may be excused.

20 Mr. Padilla?

21 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner,
22 we'll call Steve Wright at this time.

23

24 STEVEN EARL WRIGHT,

25 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his

1 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

2

3

DIRECT EXAMINATION

4

BY MR. PADILLA:

5

Q Mr. Wright, for the record would you
6 please state your full name?

7

A Steven Earl Wright.

8

Q Where do you live, Mr. Wright?

9

A I live in Midland County, Texas.

10

Q What do you do for a living?

11

A I'm an independent petroleum engineering
12 consultant.

13

Q And what is your -- are you consulting
14 in this case to Midland Phoenix?

15

A That's correct.

16

Q Have you testified before the Oil Con-
17 servation Commission as a petroleum engineer before?

18

A No, sir.

19

Q Can you tell us when and where you
20 received your degree in petroleum engineering?

21

A I graduated from the University of
22 Missouri at Rolla in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science de-
23 gree in petroleum engineering and you want me to go on with
24 the rest of the experience or do you want to ask me the
25 question?

1 Q Tell -- tell me about your experience.

2 A All right. After having served in the
3 army for two years I went to work for Schlumberger Well
4 Services as a logging engineer and between the years 1973
5 and 1989 I have worked for several different companies, in-
6 dependents and majors. I've acquired experience in reser-
7 voir engineering, drilling engineering and production en-
8 gineering, all aspects of engineering in the Permian Basin
9 area, which encompasses southeastern New Mexico and other
10 areas of the country, as well.

11 Q Are you generally -- are you familiar
12 with well costs for the -- like the well that is proposed
13 by Midland Phoenix?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, we
16 tender Mr. Wright as an expert petroleum engineer.

17 MR. STOGNER: Are there any
18 objections?

19 MR. CARR: No objection.

20 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Wright is so
21 qualified.

22 Q Mr. Wright, let me hand you what we have
23 introduced as Exhibit Three-A and have you go into detail
24 as to the costs enumerated in that exhibit.

25 Let's start off with the dry hole costs

1 and the completion costs, if that will help you.

2 A Well, all this AFE does is delineate an
3 estimated drilling and completion and total well costs for
4 intangible items and tangible items and I emphasize the
5 fact that it's just an estimate. It's -- it's a best esti-
6 mate, a best guess; depending on well conditions encounter-
7 ed it can vary significantly, these numbers, up or down.

8 Q Have you examined the AFE that is --
9 that Enron is using for their proposed well?

10 A Yes, sir, I have.

11 Q And how does that AFE differ with this
12 AFE?

13 A The total well costs difference is some
14 \$299,000.

15 Q Whose is higher?

16 A Midland Phoenix Corporation's AFE is
17 higher.

18 The components of that \$299,000 differ-
19 ence, there are minor differences on any number of the in-
20 dividual items. The major differences are Enron's AFE does
21 not include any contingencies and Midland Phoenix' AFE in-
22 cludes some \$162,000 worth of contingencies, and the rest
23 of the difference is -- is in the item of the second string
24 of intermediate casing wherein Enron proposes to run 7-inch
25 casing and Midland Phoenix proposes to run 7-5/8ths inch

1 casing into the Wolfcamp.

2 Q Why would you use different -- why are
3 you proposing to use different casing for the intermediate
4 string?

5 A The reason we propose 7-5/8ths is to
6 gain a slight difference in hole size that you can drill
7 out from underneath that string of casing. The reason we
8 feel that's necessary is the 5-1/2 inch liner that would be
9 run underneath that will in all likelihood at some point in
10 time during the producing life of that well be used as a
11 producing liner. It's being run in the well as a drilling
12 liner but at some point in time it's probably going to be a
13 producing liner and if you can -- it's more of a problem to
14 cement that 5-1/2 inch liner in a 6-1/8th inch hole that
15 you can drill through 7 inch than it is -- it's much easier
16 to get a better cement job behind that liner if you would
17 run 7-5/8ths where you can drill a 6-1/2 inch hole.

18 Q I'm not really certain why -- still why
19 it is that you need to have that -- why are you going to
20 convert that to a producing liner, let me ask that?

21 A The 5-1/2 is set up to be run through
22 the Atoka zones and/or the upper Morrow sequence of sands,
23 but at least through the Atoka, and that's one of the ob-
24 jective zones in the well. If indeed they encounter an
25 Atoka zone, be it a sand or a bank or whatever.

1 Q You'll be able to deduce it, is that
2 what you're saying?

3 A You will then, this is hypothetically,
4 if you deplete the -- make a Morrow completion and ten
5 years from now that's depleted, and then you want to pro-
6 duce the Atoka, well, it will be behind this 5-1/2 inch
7 liner and at that time that liner won't -- it will be a
8 producing liner, it won't be just a drilling liner any
9 more.

10 It will -- the point I'm trying to make
11 is that if that 5-1/2 is utilized strictly as a drilling
12 liner, it's not as critical an application because you can
13 just squeeze the top of it; everything is isolated; al-
14 though they not be isolated between themselves, the differ-
15 ent zones behind that 5-1/2 inch liner. It's not a prob-
16 lem if it's just a drilling liner but if you want to try to
17 produce one of those different zones behind that 5-1/2 inch
18 liner, then you need to have isolation between them. It's
19 just a prudent thing.

20 Q Does it allow potentially the recovery
21 of additional hydrocarbons?

22 A Yes, not that -- not that it wouldn't in
23 the other case, but in the case of running 7-inch, drilling
24 a 6-1/8th hole, then running 5-1/2 and trying to cement
25 that, there is a high degree of probability that there will

1 be -- it will be necessary to do some remedial cement work
2 behind that liner at the time that you'd want to produce
3 those zones, squeeze, or something, and the incremental
4 dollars will be spent in all likelihood by Enron, except it
5 will be on another AFE. It will be on a workover AFE
6 sometime later in the life of the well.

7 Q In your opinion which is the better
8 method to use, yours or Enron's?

9 A It's -- in my opinion it's much better
10 to obtain, or to use all your efforts to obtain a good
11 primary cement job. It's much more cost effective and much
12 more desirable.

13 Q Even though it costs more initially?

14 A It may cost more initially but over the
15 economic life of the well it's better.

16 Q Mr. Wright, do you have anything further
17 concerning the Exhibit Three-A?

18 A I would like to make a point that if you
19 want to compare Midland Phoenix' AFE to -- to Enron's AFE,
20 they're not -- they're not the same. It's not apples and
21 apples. If you would just make them apples and apples,
22 either add contingencies to Enron's or -- and I don't know
23 why Enron didn't include them because they always have in
24 the past, but if you either take the contingencies out of
25 Midland Phoenix, and if you do that, then the difference in

1 them is less than 10 percent. So they're very close and
2 both of them very reasonable with those comments about the
3 contingencies.

4 MR. PADILLA: I have no fur-
5 ther questions, Mr. Examiner.

6 MR. STOGNER: Thank you, Mr.
7 Padilla.

8 Mr. Carr, your witness.
9

10 CROSS EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. CARR:

12 Q Mr. Wright, how many wells have you ac-
13 tually been involved with, similar wells, in this area?

14 A Most, if not all of the Pitchfork Ranch
15 wells.

16 Q That's about how many?

17 A 25.

18 Q Were most of those wells completed as
19 you're recommending here with the -- in the AFE?

20 A No.

21 Q Many of them?

22 A I don't know if any of them are.

23 Q I assume someone else will testify about
24 the risk involved in drilling a well at this location as
25 opposed to another location on the unit, is that correct?

1 Mr. Kellahin, your witness.

2 MR. KELLAHIN: Thank you, Mr.
3 Examiner.

4
5 CROSS EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

7 Q Mr. Wright, I've lost track of your
8 background, sir. Are you a former Enron employee?

9 A Yes, sir, I am. I was employed by En-
10 ron for almost six years as the Division Production En-
11 gineer.

12 Q As a Division Production Engineer were
13 you involved in the drilling of the various Enron Pitchfork
14 wells?

15 A To one degree or another, yes.

16 Q Were you involved in the drilling of the
17 Pitchfork well in the west half of 34?

18 A The west half of 34?

19 Q Yes, sir.

20 A Wait a minute, that's the Pitchfork 34.
21 I'd have to look at the date of the -- that the well was
22 drilled.

23 I went to work for them in July of 1983
24 and it was right in there is when that well was drilled.

25 Q I'm just curious about the well in the

1 other half of the section, which is the Pitchfork 34
2 Federal Com. Do you have any recollection of being spec-
3 ifically involved in that well?

4 A Oh, yes. I'm hedging because I don't
5 remember specifically my involvement in the drilling of
6 that well, but from a completion and producing, just pru-
7 dent involvement from the engineering standpoint of wells
8 that fell under my supervision, I am familiar with that
9 well.

10 Q The vintage of that well is approximate-
11 ly 1983 completion?

12 A It was '82 or '83.

13 Q Were you involved in any more recent
14 Atoka or Morrow wells in this vicinity while you were in-
15 volved as an employee with Enron?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Can you identify on Exhibit Number Two
18 any of the other wells that you were involved in?

19 A I was involved in at least Nos. 3 and 4
20 in Section 33; the Moore 34 in the east half of 34.

21 Q What's the vintage of the Moore 34 in
22 the east half of 34, do you remember?

23 A It's the summer or fall of '83, as I
24 recall.

25 Q Do we have any more recent wells?

1 A Yes, the Warren 3 No. 1; the Page 3-1
2 and 2 --

3 Q All right.

4 A -- are more recent.

5 Q Not so quick for me, now.

6 A Okay.

7 Q Mr. Wright, in Section 3, those two
8 wells that you've just described, what's the vintage of
9 those wells?

10 A The vintage of 3-2 is a 1987 or '88
11 well.

12 Q All right, let's talk about that one.

13 A Okay.

14 Q Do you recall in a general way what were
15 the actual costs of drilling and completing that well?

16 A No, I do not.

17 Q How about the --

18 A That's an Atoka well.

19 Q I understand.

20 A Okay.

21 Q The Warren 3 Well in the south half of
22 3, do you remember the actual cost of drilling and complet-
23 ing that well?

24 A No, sir, I'm not -- I'm probably not
25 going to remember the -- the actual well costs on any of

1 those wells.

2 Q Okay, are you the individual that pre-
3 pared Exhibit Three-A?

4 A I did not prepare it. It was prepared
5 by Phil Stenson and we had discussions concerning that AFE.

6 Q Where is Mr. Stenson? Is he still em-
7 ployed?

8 A He's in Midland.

9 Q Is he still employed with Midland
10 Phoenix?

11 A He's not employed by Midland Phoenix.
12 He's a --

13 Q A consultant?

14 A -- consultant.

15 Q He's a drilling engineer that prepares
16 AFEs?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q And he's the fellow that actually did
19 this work?

20 A He's the fellow that actually filled in
21 those numbers.

22 Q You've reviewed this AFE and based upon
23 your experience you think it's reasonable?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q How come the AFE has a check mark beside

1 development as opposed to wildcat?

2 A I do not know.

3 Q You don't know?

4 A No.

5 Q Is this a development location?

6 A That -- that's a geological question.

7 Q When we look at the entry, about the
8 third one down here, on the intangibles, this 1003, the
9 footage rate, that's one; the next one, the 004 is a day
10 rate?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q This AFE is day rate proposal?

13 A This is a day work estimate, yes, sir.

14 Q Who's -- who's to be the drilling con-
15 tractor, do you know?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q What bids did Midland Phoenix receive
18 from any contractors for drilling the well?

19 A I can't testify to that. I have no
20 knowledge.

21 Q How does the day work quotes compare to
22 the footage cost estimate for drilling the well?

23 A I don't know that you could get a foot-
24 age bid.

25 Q Did you attempt to get one or do you

1 know if Mr. Stevenson attempted to get one?

2 A No, just based on my experience.

3 Q When we look at the contingencies, they
4 appear on two points in the AFE. One is at 1023. There
5 are contingencies there for intangibles, drilling and
6 completion.

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q Can you give me a general idea of what
9 type of intangibles we're speaking of for the drilling por-
10 tion of those costs?

11 A The contingencies are just 10 percent.

12 Q Take the total intangibles and add 10
13 percent.

14 A \$71,650, again it's -- maybe it's just
15 rounded off, but \$71,650. If you will subtract that from
16 that 788,150, you will get roughly \$716,500 and 10 percent
17 of that, then, is 71,650 and that's how it's --

18 Q All right, sir, and is that true of the
19 completion portion of the contingencies for the intangible?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q It's simply a 10 percent?

22 A Just 10 percent, and the same for the
23 tangible items.

24 Q All right. When we look at -- all
25 right, the tangible, now, these refer to also a 10 percent?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q What type of stimulation program is
3 planned for the well, Mr. Wright?

4 A It will require an acid job, I would
5 think.

6 Q That's typical of how the wells in this
7 area are stimulated for either Morrow or Atoka production?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q And that's where the \$20,000 entry is
10 intended to do?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Have you attempted to try to compile a
13 separate AFE the Atoka versus the Morrow?

14 A No, I have not.

15 Q Can you estimate for us based upon your
16 experience what are the incremental additional total costs
17 for taking a well to the Morrow?

18 A I can and will estimate that for you.
19 Let me interject.

20 Q You may qualify your answer in any way.

21 A This -- this well at this location could
22 conceivably be one of the most difficult wells ever drilled
23 out there if all of the prospective zones which you'll see
24 the maps, et cetera, later on, if those -- if the prospec-
25 tive -- all of the prospective zones are encountered at

1 this location , this well is going to be very, very diffi-
2 cult to drill and get drilled to 15,800 feet.

3 Q Why?

4 A Because you have over-pressured and de-
5 pleted or partially depleted zones overlying and under-
6 lying one another, necessitating more and more liners and
7 pretty soon you're down so small that you can't drill any
8 more.

9 Q You don't propose to dually complete or
10 commingle production.

11 A No.

12 Q You'll produce, I assume, starting with
13 the lowest formation back up the hole. I guess that's the
14 conventional way of testing and producing of a deep gas
15 well?

16 A That is the conventional, you might say
17 that. It would depend, to me it would depend on the logs
18 and what is actually encountered in the well.

19 Q I understand. This well is to be
20 drilled through the Morrow at a total depth and then based
21 upon log analysis you may or may not perforate the Morrow,
22 take a drill stem test and see what that's like.

23 A That's correct.

24 Q If it's commercial you'd produce the
25 Morrow and then back on up the hole? All right, sir, as-

1 sume that --

2 A Now, I think that -- that -- to get back
3 to your original question. the incremental cost is probably
4 half a million dollars and I hope you'll take that --

5 Q Let me see if I understand.

6 A Okay.

7 Q If we've got a total well to TD,
8 completed well, 1.7 plus million --

9 A Yes.

10 Q -- I would take half a million off of
11 that and that would get me through the Atoka?

12 A It could.

13 Q All right. Are you familiar with how
14 COPAS attempts to allocate and charge costs of wells to
15 various zones?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q If my client should elect to participate
18 with you and only as to the Atoka formation as a primary
19 objective and wants to go nonconsent as to the deeper Mor-
20 row formation, is it fair to say that based upon your esti-
21 mate that's a difference of about half a million dollars in
22 total well costs?

23 A I don't know that that net difference
24 would be agreeable to either party. That would be -- in my
25 opinion that would be a point to negotiate.

1 Q Has that ever been discussed up to this
2 point as best you know?

3 A Not with me, it hasn't.

4 MR. KELLAHIN: Thank you, Mr.
5 Examiner.

6 MR. STOGNER: Thank you, Mr.
7 Kellahin.

8 Mr. Padilla, any redirect?

9 MR. PADILLA: No questions,
10 Mr. Examiner.

11

12 CROSS EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. STOGNER:

14 Q Mr. Wright.

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q It seems like you've had one advantage
17 over me when you were comparing these two AFE's and I have
18 not seen the other one as of yet.

19 When I do see the other one, what are
20 some of the major differences? Now you did mention the in-
21 termediate pipe or the second intermediate string, the
22 7-5/8ths.

23 A Right.

24 Q The 7-5/8ths versus the 7-inch only.

25 A And how about the day work cost? That's

1 another large item.

2 A Well, the -- the day work rate on En-
3 ron's AFE is estimated at \$200 a day less than it is on the
4 Midland Phoenix AFE, but the number of days on the Enron
5 AFE is greater than the number of days on the Midland
6 Phoenix AFE and the total day work cost is some \$47,000
7 greater on the Enron AFE than it is on the Midland Phoenix
8 AFE.

9 Q What are cementing costs? Is there much
10 of a difference between this and --

11 A Cementing and (unclear) for drilling and
12 completion on the Enron AFE is estimated to be 66,000 and
13 the Midland Phoenix AFE is estimated to be 55,000.

14 Q As I understand it, Mr. Wright, you did
15 not prepare this AFE or had any interjections into it?

16 A Well, Mr. Stenson and I discussed the
17 various aspects of drilling this well and I don't want to
18 try to act like I'm not answering your question. I didn't
19 write down any of the numbers and I didn't determine any of
20 the numbers. Mr. Stenson and I discussed how to go about
21 trying to get this well drilled; what's -- what hole sizes
22 we need; what casing parameters we need, et cetera.

23 Q But in your work with Midland Phoenix
24 you have, obviously, looked over these figures --

25 A Yes.

1 Q -- have you not?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Do you agree with these figures as far
4 as, when I say "agree with them", the actual cost of this
5 particular item, whether you're agreeing with particular
6 chemical or whatever the item might be?

7 A The costs are reasonable, yes, sir.

8 Q Okay. In your work with Enron did you
9 prepared AFE's?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q And before that you prepared AFE's with
12 the companies which you worked for?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 MR. STOGNER: I have no other
15 questions of this witness.

16 Are there any other questions
17 of Mr. Wright?

18 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner,
19 may I follow up on your questions?

20 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Kellahin.

21

22 RE CROSS EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

24 Q I'm a little confused now, Mr. Wright.
25 There's no question that you concur in the drilling and

1 completion program for the well.

2 A That's correct.

3 Q All the things that are utilized in the
4 well are things that you've examined and decided about hole
5 size and all the rest of that.

6 A Right.

7 Q Did Mr. Stenson price out the items that
8 went into the AFE or did you do that?

9 A No, Mr. Stenson did that.

10 MR. KELLAHIN: No further
11 questions.

12 MR. STOGNER: Thank you, Mr.
13 Kellahin.

14 Any other questions of this
15 witness?

16 He may be excused for now.

17 Mr. Padilla.

18 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner,
19 we'll call Tim Dicey at this time.

20

21 TIM R. DICEY,

22 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his
23 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

24

25

DIRECT EXAMINATION

1 BY MR. PADILLA:

2 Q Mr. Dicey, would you please state your
3 full name?

4 A Timothy Rich Dicey.

5 Q Where do you live, Mr. Dicey?

6 A In Midland, Texas.

7 Q What is your connection with Midland
8 Phoenix Corporation?

9 A I'm President of said corporation.

10 Q Have you testified before the Oil Con-
11 servation Division as an expert before?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q Tell us, sir, where you were educated.

14 A I got my undergraduate degree at San
15 Andrews University, San Andrews in Scotland.

16 I then got a Masters degree at New
17 Mexico State University at Las Cruces.

18 Between when I graduated with my under-
19 graduate degree and when I came to New Mexico I worked in
20 England, Africa and the Middle East, acquiring seismic data
21 and interpreting seismic data for all sorts of various
22 majors, particularly Shell.

23 After I left Las Cruces I came to Mid-
24 land, worked with Gulf Oil Corporation, starting as an
25 exploration geophysicist.

1 And then I've worked with HNG, subse-
2 quently to become Enron Oil & Gas, starting as a geophys-
3 icist and ending up as acting exploration manager.

4 I've worked with Midland Phoenix Corpor-
5 ation as President since November, when the corporation was
6 first put together.

7 Q What are your degrees in, Mr. Dicey?

8 A They're both titled in physics. My
9 graduate degree, although titled in physics, was essential-
10 ly geophysics, half being geophysics and half being geo-
11 logy. At the time the Geophysics Department was very --
12 rather limited and came under the auspices of the Physics
13 Department and so although the title of the degree is
14 physics, it's essentially geology geophysics.

15 Q As exploration manager, what are the --
16 did you -- that was for Enron you were exploration manager?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q What were your duties as exploration
19 manager?

20 A To essentially come up with drillable
21 oil and gas prospects.

22 Q Mr. --

23 A In the Midland Division and Midcontinent
24 Division.

25 Q Mr. Dicey, have you supervised the pre-

1 paration of certain geologic exhibits for introduction here
2 that you will testify from today?

3 A Absolutely.

4 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, we
5 tender Mr. Dicey as an exploration specialist in petroleum
6 geology.

7 MR. STOGNER: Are there any
8 objections?

9 MR. CARR: No objection.

10 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Dicey is so
11 qualified.

12 Q Mr. Dicey, let's start out with Exhibits
13 Five and Six. Do you want to hang them up?

14 A It probably would be best if I could
15 hang them up.

16 MR. STOGNER: We'll take about
17 a five minute recess.

18
19 (Thereupon a recess was taken.)

20
21 Q Mr. Dicey, let me refer you now to Exhi-
22 bits Five and Six and have you tell us what those are.

23 A Well, the Pitchfork Ranch Field area has
24 numerous, or several, prolific pay zones and --

25 Q What -- what are these exhibits, Mr.

1 Dickey?

2 A All right, I was going to do a lead into
3 that.

4 The objective of these two cross sec-
5 tions, two cross sections held stratigraphically on a par-
6 ticular geological marker, to show the producing pay zones
7 and some of the potential zones that are not yet producing
8 or potentialized in the area.

9 To start with we have a primary produc-
10 ing interval in the Pitchfork Ranch area which has been
11 called the Morrow C Sand.

12 Q Is that identified on that cross sec-
13 tion?

14 A Yes, it's identified as C Sand Series.

15 Q And that's at the bottom of the cross
16 section.

17 A That is the bottom of the cross section.
18 There is one deeper zone, the B Sand, but these wells
19 didn't go deep enough to encounter it, although that is the
20 case and there's really no record of what happens to the B
21 Sand, we're intending to test it, anyway. It's only 200
22 foot deeper and it's worth testing. To the north it pro-
23 duces prolifically up at the Antelope Ridge/Bell Lake area,
24 and to the southwest, where Enron drilled their Brininstool
25 21, it's currently producing very well. So we feel it's

1 worth going 200 feet, but I can't show it on this cross
2 section because these wells didn't go to it.

3 Q Now you're showing -- you're talking
4 from Exhibit Number Five, is that correct.

5 Q I'm essentially talking from both when I
6 am talking generally. I'll come back and describe each one
7 perhaps in more detail. This cross section is an east/west
8 cross section. You can see where the proration unit we're
9 asking for in here with our proposed location. These are
10 the wells that the cross section encounters on here going
11 from west to east.

12 In this instance --

13 Q Referring to Exhibit Number Six?

14 A Right.

15 Q Okay.

16 A It's a north/south cross section start-
17 ing from this well to the north and going through these
18 wells moving south, again essentially going through our
19 proposed location.

20 So essentially I'm trying to relate all
21 the pay zones, potential pay zones, and general strati-
22 graphy in the Pennsylvanian section in the area with what
23 we're proposing to do.

24 As I said, the first pay zone, the most
25 prolific pay zone in the area is the Morrow C Sand and you

1 can see you've got good development in the C Sand in this
2 area.

3 The next pay zone is going to be -- or
4 potential pay -- is the B Sand, or what's been called the B
5 Sand, but there are no producers in this area and we'll
6 essentially just note that the thing is there.

7 The Sinatra Series, as marked in here on
8 both cross sections. we feel that we have a potential for
9 encountering a Sinatra sand. Of course I'll describe this
10 again when we come back to the maps, each in turn. There's
11 a series of maps showing each of the potential pay zones
12 that we're looking at in here. The Sinatra Series is an-
13 other potential prolific pay zone which has been encounter-
14 ed to the south here and we feel it extends to the north
15 through the east half of the Section 34.

16 The Warren Sand is very similar to the
17 Sinatra series, same sort of deal. We feel it's going es-
18 sentially north/south. We feel again east half is best for
19 potentially developing that.

20 The A Sand series has had some very
21 significant shows across the field and we feel as though
22 it's a very highly potential objective and it's one of our
23 primary objectives, the A sand and the B sand being the two
24 primary Morrow objectives in our location.

25 Further up the hole we come through

1 another series of what we've termed the Atoka series. The
2 Atoka Sand is a thin sand we see marked in yellow here. We
3 see again it's extensive across the area, although thin.
4 It's very prolific. I'm not sure what Enron's EUR is for
5 that sand but it's like on the order to 30 feet here for
6 that thin sand throughout the field. We feel like it's
7 another objective. It's a secondary objective. We feel
8 that the sand has essentially been depleted by the exten-
9 sive drilling program that Enron has done to develop that
10 sand, and so it's a secondary objective.

11 One of the wells that went to develop
12 that sand is the Page 3 Com No. 2, which is drilled just to
13 the south of Section 34 and Section 3. That encountered a
14 new zone, an Atoka bank zone, which you see on this well
15 right here. It has for all intents and purposes virgin
16 Atoka pressure and separates from the Atoka sand which was
17 by that time so very much depleted.

18 MR. STOGNER: And what well
19 are you referring to?

20 A This is the Enron Page 3 Com No. 2.

21 MR. STOGNER: Okay.

22 A And so we feel it's a potential although
23 it's as yet unproven pay zone in the area. We have only
24 one well that's essentially found it, although, as you can
25 see, throughout this whole series in here there are a

1 series of porosity zones in these same sections and moving
2 to the north up to Antelope Ridge, which is highly produc-
3 tive in the Atoka Bank, you have these things coming and
4 going and I think that's exactly what's happening here.
5 You've got a series of zones in here coming and going and
6 this happens to be one which we lucked into.

7 Q Mr. Dicey --

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q -- generally what you have shown on
10 these two exhibits colored in yellow is the Morrow and the
11 blue is the Atoka, is that correct?

12 A Not wholly correct. What I'm showing in
13 yellow are sand zones and what I'm showing in blue are
14 carbonate zones. In particular, the two blues, they're
15 both limestones. I'm not implying dolomite or anything in
16 this. I'm just trying to bring out that we're in a bank
17 series in here as opposed to deep marine type limestone
18 deposition as in the light blue. I'm just showing this
19 light blue in terms of correlation purposes across the
20 cross section.

21 Q Do you have anything further with regard
22 to these two cross sections, Mr. Dicey?

23 A Not that I can think of at the moment.

24 Q Okay, why don't you take your seat again
25 and we'll go through these other geologic presentation.

1 A All right.

2 Q Let's go on now to what we have marked
3 as Exhibit Number Seven and have you identify that, please.

4 A Let me talk about Exhibits Number Seven
5 and Eight together.

6 Q That's all right.

7 A Is it all right for them to be together?
8 Exhibit Number Seven is --

9 Q What are they, first of all?

10 A They're both maps made in the Morrow
11 series.

12 Exhibit Seven is a gross map, meaning a
13 general sand thickness map, in the Morrow C Sand, which I
14 pointed out. There is a prolific pay zone in the Pitchfork
15 Ranch Field. Superimposed on that and what that is colored
16 in in bright oranges and reds a net map which is taken from
17 the gross map with a porosity cutoff of in this instance 6
18 percent. The idea implying the more potentially productive
19 or productive areas within that gross sand. The contour
20 interval in this instance is 5 foot on both maps. You can
21 see in here the area to the west of Section 34 is the
22 primary area of production in the Pitchfork Ranch.

23 Q Now you're referring to Exhibit Seven
24 when you're talking.

25 A I'm referring to Exhibit Seven here. To

1 the east in Section 34 you can see that the east half has
2 essentially almost a separated unit in terms of net poro-
3 sity from the main part of the field.

4 Exhibit Eight is a structure map giving
5 an idea of structure on that sand. It's not a structure
6 map on the sand per se itself because it's difficult to
7 pick where the top is. You have a series of lines of sands
8 coming in here and going out and where we've picked it is
9 what we've called the top of the Middle Morrow shale, which
10 is this unit right in here.

11 MR. STOGNER: And what depth
12 is that?

13 A Oh, goodness, about 15 -- it depends
14 where you are but about 15,000, 15,100, something like
15 that.

16 MR. STOGNER: And you're re-
17 ferring to Exhibit Number Five at this point.

18 A This is -- yeah, what I'm talking --
19 that's right.

20 On Exhibit Number Seven you'll see that
21 the wells as colored in, fully in red are the Morrow pro-
22 ducers out of this pay zone.

23 The ones in halves -- half colored red,
24 are ones that either had attempted completions and produced
25 something, or had shows in them.

1 Q Now tell us about the well in the north-
2 east quarter of Section 34. Is that -- are you going to
3 tell us about that later or can you tell us about that now?

4 A That well? I can tell you something
5 about it. Mr. Broten, who will testify after me, will go
6 into more detail about the shows encountered when drilling
7 from information, his mud log information, et cetera, but
8 in general speaking the well originally was intended, I
9 think it was like the fifth well drilled in the field. It
10 was originally intended as an Atoka well, for the Atoka
11 Sand, that is, and when the -- when it didn't come in with
12 a high pressure gas that all the other sands or the other
13 -- the only other well that's producing is the Pitchfork
14 34, but when it didn't come to see us when drilling it, and
15 didn't have a very marked sand section, it was decided that
16 it was dry in the Atoka Sand, it didn't have the Atoka
17 Sand, and it was drilled on to the Morrow with a skinny
18 hole, with 4-3/4 inch bit.

19 And, proceeding to its TD below the C
20 Sand it encountered good section in various of the Morrow
21 sands, including the C, which I'll elucidate in a minute.

22 Q In terms of -- in terms of the Morrow,
23 can you tell us -- this Exhibit Number Seven shows deep
24 orange in the middle of the east half, essentially all of
25 the east half.

1 A That's correct.

2 Q How do you arrive at that conclusion?

3 A Well, if you look at the numbers next to
4 each of the wells, to each of the deep wells, that is, and
5 you see the top number is the gross figure and the bottom
6 number is the net figure. The net figure is what's gone
7 into making this map, of course, and you can see in there
8 by well control that in the Moore 34 you have 41 feet net.
9 In the Pitchfork 34 you have 32 feet net, and you come back
10 up into the Madera 33 No. 2 and it's got 41 foot. So you
11 have a distinct low in there.

12 You go to the north and you go to the
13 (unclear) Ridge 37, it has 35 feet, and again back up to 42
14 at the BTA HBP Madera.

15 Going to the south you have in the Page
16 3 No. 1, it has a questionable 19 feet and it's question-
17 able because the only log we could get in the -- I say
18 "we" -- I mean Enron could get in that well was a cased
19 hole neutron log and so we had to make some qualified
20 guess as to what the net pay was in that well, but essen-
21 tially it was -- it was pretty tight.

22 Q When you say "we" and you qualify that
23 with Enron, is that when you were working with Enron?

24 A That's when I was working with Enron,
25 that's correct.

1 Q How many of those wells did you work on
2 when you were working with Enron?

3 A I probably had input in the vast major-
4 ity of them. I worked extensively in both geology and geo-
5 physics, geophysical aspects of the development of the
6 field. The field was discovered about the year I -- year
7 before I started with HNG.

8 Q And when was that?

9 A In '82. It was discovered in the Madera
10 32 Fed Com No. 1.

11 Q And the Madera 32 is where?

12 A Right there.

13 Q Where is that? What section?

14 A Section 32. It's that north half prora-
15 tion unit.

16 Q Mr. Dicey, how are the proration units
17 laid down or how are they configured in that Pitchfork
18 Field?

19 A There is a mixture of laydown and stand-
20 up proration units on a 320 spacing, of course. Older
21 wells have been drilled at legal locations to date. There
22 have been no plans up to now to drill any unorthodox loca-
23 tions.

24 Q Are there any nonstandard locations in
25 that Pitchfork Field at this time?

1 A Not that I know of.

2 Q Atoka?

3 A The Atoka wells? No, essentially they
4 are standard, also, although there are some twins to some
5 of the Morrow wells.

6 Q Now, once -- once a pattern has been
7 established, say, for a west half proration unit such as
8 the west half of Section 34, has that pattern changed for
9 Atoka and Morrow formations?

10 A No, there have been no overlapping
11 Morrow and Atoka proration units to date. There have al-
12 ways been the same proration unit. It's been a standup in
13 the Morrow; then it's been a standup in the Atoka.

14 Q Okay.

15 A Let's go on -- what -- what does Exhibit
16 Number Eight contain?

17 A Exhibit Number Eight is, as I said, it's
18 a structure map, essentially showing structure on the C
19 Sand. This, of course, is a stratigraphic field; structure
20 has relatively little to do with it because we really know
21 of no water line, as it were, or gas/water interface,
22 although some wells have produced water. Normally the
23 Pitchfork 34 --

24 Q Now you're referring to the Pitchfork
25 34, that's a well in the southwest quarter of Section 34,

1 is that correct?

2 A That's correct.

3 Q Okay.

4 A And that well was drilled again through
5 the Morrow C Sand and is completed in the Atoka Sand sec-
6 tion.

7 When it hit the Atoka Sand section it
8 was mudded up to 40, 40-1/2 pound mud, if my memory is
9 correct, and drilled all the way to TD with that heavy mud.

10 However, we had good shows in both the A
11 Sand and the Morrow C Sand. Coming back to complete in the
12 Morrow C Sand, it's on the cross section up there, I be-
13 lieve it flowed something like 1- point -- well, let me
14 look at it, rather than rely on my memory. Here it is,
15 okay, it flowed .16 to .24 million a day and 25 barrels of
16 water per hour.

17 The second set of perfs -- those perfs
18 were then shut off and we went upstairs to the next set,
19 again still in the C Sand, had an acid job and flowed 300
20 -- 300,000 a day and 7 barrels of water per hour and
21 flowed, indeed, up to 20 barrels of water per hour, and
22 again from my memory, back when I worked at Enron, it
23 flowed something like 1000 barrels of water over load from
24 that -- from that sand, showing we were actually getting
25 water production from the formation.

1 Q In terms of the proposed proration unit,
2 what can you tell us, what's your summary insofar as the
3 Morrow?

4 A The summary insofar as the C is concern-
5 ed is that I feel that at least down the west half we have
6 a problem in terms of net porosity in the C Sand and I
7 think we'll regain a thicker net sand in the -- throughout
8 the east half.

9 The Pitchfork 34 is showing water pro-
10 duction for one reason or another and so we want to keep
11 away from that.

12 The Moore 34 had a very good show in the
13 Morrow and Mr. Broten will testify later as to what shows
14 we had in it and how -- what happened to it when it was --
15 attempted a completion. It showed no water production
16 whatsoever and we feel confident that a well 1320 feet
17 south of it is going to be a good producer of the C Sand,
18 and essentially produce the reserves out of the east half
19 of the 34, not leaving anything remaining in the north
20 half, northeast quarter thereof.

21 Q And a well at that location in your
22 opinion is going to drain the entire proration unit.

23 A I think so. I think generally speak-
24 ing work that Enron did showed that drainage was on 320
25 acres, plus or minus. It might have been more in some

1 cases and less in others, but essentially speaking 320 was
2 a good number for it, and I feel that the location we have
3 here will do a real good job of draining everything in the
4 east half of 34.

5 Q Do you feel the entire east half of
6 Section 34 is reasonably productive in the Morrow C Zone?

7 A I, yes, I do.

8 Q And would a proration unit -- well, let
9 me ask, is the east half proration unit the optimum type of
10 proration unit to drain that east half?

11 A Yes, I think so.

12 Q Let's go on now to Exhibit Number Nine,
13 is that --

14 A Yeah, good number. This is the Sinatra
15 Sand. Let me come back here.

16 Q And what is -- what is that map, Mr.
17 Dicey?

18 A Oh, I do beg your pardon. This map is a
19 net sand map kind of similar to what we saw before. In this
20 instance has a porosity cutoff of 6 percent, indicating
21 sands which have potential production.

22 We show here a series of channels moving
23 north/south around the edge of the field. To the south
24 you can see the wells colored red are wells that have pro-
25 duction from the Sinatra series per se. I don't think I

1 have any show wells in this instance, so I won't mention
2 that.

3 We feel the trend is north/south. It's
4 essentially -- we have a chance of production from an-
5 other one of these sand bars to the north here. It's not
6 our main objective, It's something I think, you know, if
7 we had to find it, you know, it's not our main objective.

8 These are the sands we're looking at in
9 here, this series, you --

10 MR. STOGNER: You're referring
11 to Exhibit Number Five at this point, are you not?

12 A Correct, and I'll refer to Exhibit
13 Number Six, also. You can see in here the sands. This
14 well is the most prolific. This is the HNG Page 3 Com No.
15 1 and I can't remember the exact production but it's pro-
16 duced something like 8 or 9 BCF and it's going like stink.
17 It is an excellent well.

18 Q So essentially you just hope that in
19 terms of encountering the Sinatra Sand that you will --
20 you will encounter the Sinatra Sand.

21 A If we hit a Sinatra Sand with some
22 goodies in it, we'll be delighted but we don't, certainly
23 don't count on it. We think the risk is relatively high,
24 being fairly far to the north. We had a snick of it, a
25 little bit of it, in the HNG Moore 34, indicating that

1 there may well be another sand build-up to the east of
2 that, but that's all I can say about it.

3 Q Now you're going to be testing all these
4 sands on the way down, is that --

5 A We, well, we won't DST the sands; we've
6 found that DST'ing the Morrow sands have -- is a good way
7 of damaging them; just pure experience in the past. Gen-
8 erally speaking, where we have sands, where it has a good
9 show, you know, going back and production testing it is the
10 way to evaluate them. And, of course, if we had gone and
11 we set pipe in the C Sand, for instance, and I'm sure that
12 we will make a C Sand producer there, it's a question of
13 when that depletes we'll go back upstairs and test each
14 sand on the way and evaluate its merits, you know, at such
15 time.

16 Q Okay. Do you have anything further on
17 Exhibit Number Nine?

18 A Nothing that strikes me offhand.

19 Q Okay. Let's go to Number Ten, Mr.
20 Dicey, and --

21 A Okay, Exhibit Ten --

22 Q -- what is that?

23 A It's a net sand isopach again of the
24 Morrow Warren Sand. It's a net map, in this instance made
25 with a porosity cutoff of 8 percent. It's very similar in

1 nature to what -- to the Sinatra section. It goes north-
2 south. Again on Exhibits Five and Six you can pick out the
3 units in there. Get out on Exhibit Five -- no, I take it
4 back. On Exhibit Six there is an excellent sand. This was
5 first encountered in the HNG Warren 3 No. 1, and it's
6 sitting behind pipe currently. It is an untested zone in
7 terms of production, at least at this side of the Pitch-
8 fork Ranch. It's something I'm sure Enron will come back
9 up hole; they're currently producing out of -- they've per-
10 forated in the C Sand and they'll probably come back up-
11 stairs and evaluate on the way out of the hole.

12 Again we feel that because of the den-
13 sity of wells drilled in the area with little success in
14 re-finding that sand, although we feel there's a chance of
15 finding it up here, we don't, you know, it's not our major
16 objective. It's not a secondary objective. We'll evaluate
17 it at such time as we come across it.

18 Q Anything further on Number Ten, Mr.
19 Dicey?

20 A No, sir.

21 Q Let's go on to Exhibit Number Eleven and
22 have you tell us what that is.

23 A Okay. Exhibit Number Eleven is a map
24 showing the lower A Sand Section. We have a gross map
25 which is essentially just a thickness map on the lower A

1 Sands and on top of that, colored in the greens and grays
2 and yellows is a net thickness map with porosity greater
3 than 8 percent, again, hopefully, showing areas of great
4 potential production.

5 Again you see on here, well, in this
6 instance the only wells we have here are show wells in the
7 A sands and they are colored, half colored (unclear and
8 red.

9 On the map, on both cross sections up
10 there in Exhibits Five and Six, you can see where the A
11 Sand is split into two units on Exhibit Five, in Pitchfork
12 34 No. 1 we had two distinct units, and essentially one
13 distinct unit in the HNG Moore 34 No. 1, a unit which looks
14 very, very similar to the Warren sands behind pipe in the
15 HNG Warren 3 No. 1.

16 And I'm referring to Exhibit Six in that
17 instance. We feel these sands are channelized or bar type
18 sands around the edge of the field. We feel they're going
19 essentially, oh, northwest to southeast across Section 34.
20 Both wells drilled in Section 34, the Pitchfork 34 and the
21 Moore 34, as I've shown up there, encountered good A sand.
22 They encountered good shows in the sand and again I refer
23 to Mr. Broten's testimony in terms of the type of shows and
24 what happened to them when we tried to complete. I mean
25 when Enron tried to complete in them.

1 We feel we have an excellent chance. In
2 fact our -- the standard location here is going to best
3 evaluate or has the best shot at a very thick A Sand Sec-
4 tion. This is one of our primary objectives.

5 Q And this is still in the Morrow, is that
6 --

7 A This is still in the Morrow. This is
8 Morrow A.

9 Q Okay.

10 A When we -- when we first -- when Enron
11 first drilled these wells, or I'll say HNG first drilled
12 these wells, the sand were just labeled, A, B, C and D, in
13 terms of which ones were gotten or were reached first.
14 Unfortunately we had one or two extra surprises, like the
15 Sinatra and like the Warren. It's so hard to have the
16 history in itself in terms of how it was named because the
17 geologist was sitting on the well at the time, Mr. Broten,
18 in fact, came to see him in the middle of the night and so
19 it's called Stranger in the Night and that's why we call it
20 Sinatra.

21 The Warren, of course, is just a -- is a
22 fee name and there are various other sands in there which
23 we've had to re-inject.

24 Q Let's go on now to Exhibit Number
25 Twelve, if that's all you have on Number --

1 A By all means.

2 Q Okay.

3 A Number Twelve and Number Thirteen refer
4 to the Atoka section.

5 Q And what are they?

6 A Oh, pardon. I'm just wanting to keep
7 getting up, see. Exhibit Twelve is a net sand isopach for
8 the Atoka Sand with a porosity greater than 8 percent
9 again, showing where best production is. It shows you're
10 increasing in thickness from gray zone through the red
11 zones or pink zones. We have in there wells produced from
12 or that are producers in the Atoka Sand colored solid red,
13 and a half red for a sand -- for ones which had shows in.

14 We feel that the Atoka Sand -- let me
15 come back to the two cross sections again to describe where
16 this is. We're looking here at this thin sand which is
17 pretty well extensive across the area on Exhibit Five now
18 and again on Exhibit Six you can see through here.

19 I think you can see on Exhibit Twelve we
20 have a very thick section, or relatively thick section com-
21 pared to the other wells in the field at the location
22 crossing at least three-quarters of the east half of Sec-
23 tion 34. We had a 3-foot sand in the Moore 34 giving the
24 indication that we had a build-up to the southeast there.
25 The nearest two producers, of course the Pitchfork 34 in

1 the west half, and the Page 3 Com No. 2 in the north half
2 of 3.

3 I think it should be noted right here
4 that the Pitchfork 34 Com No. 1 is in a standup 320 on the
5 west half but indeed by the maps that we have here, it
6 would appear that it's draining only a southeast --
7 southwest quarter; that the northwest quarter, indeed,
8 essentially unproductive.

9 We have reason to believe that current-
10 ly Enron is producing this well at essentially an unratable
11 flow and indeed because --

12 Q Which well are you talking about?

13 A We're talking about the Pitchfork 34 Com
14 No. 1, the west half of 34. Let me back up one instance
15 there. The second well to be completed in the -- in the
16 Atoka Sand was the Diamond 5 Fed Com No 3, and was noted
17 when --

18 Q And where is that well?

19 A That's in the north half of Section 5,
20 25, 34, and that well showed significant pressure drawdown
21 from the production of the Pitchfork 34, so we knew that
22 over that two -- nearly two miles we had significant com-
23 munication and drainage, and in fact it was considered when
24 I was at Enron that the Pitchfork 34 would indeed have
25 drained the whole reservoir if it had been given the

1 chance.

2 However, embarked upon a drilling pro-
3 gram to drill it up on a 320 spacing, twinning the Morrow
4 wells wherever necessary -- wherever we had a good sand,
5 and in fact the last well to have done that was the Page 3
6 Com No. 2 in the north half of Section 3.

7 Going back to my early remark as I un-
8 derstand it, the Pitchfork 34 is being produced in unrat-
9 able flow and we feel that quite a lot of the reserves that
10 were in the east half are being produced out of this well
11 in the west half, and of course, we're not too impressed
12 with that, being lessees in the east half.

13 MR. CARR: Mr. Chairman, could
14 I get a copy of Exhibit Twelve? I don't have that in my
15 material.

16 A Oh, you should have. I put one in
17 there.

18 MR. CARR: All right, thank
19 you. Since those aren't color coded, it's hard sometimes
20 to --

21 A Yeah, I apologize. Being our drafting
22 department if relatively limited and with a pencil it's a
23 bit more difficult, or time, I should say, time consuming.

24 Q Mr. Dicey, let me ask you, on that
25 exhibit this -- as the sands are laying and shown in that

1 Exhibit Number Twelve, does that show that all 320-acre
2 proration units completed in the Atoka are all productive
3 in the Atoka? In other words, all full 320 acres have --
4 are productive?

5 A No, not generally. I think you can see
6 by the way these thicks and thins go that you have areas
7 which are thicker maybe -- well, for instance, let's look
8 at the west half of Section 33. We have that twin well
9 there, the Madera 33 Fed Com No. 3, and as you can see by
10 the map here, you have an area which is spewing in from the
11 northwest right through the center of the section which had
12 little or no sand, and so essentially that well is going to
13 be draining the southwest quarter and indeed into Section
14 32 and west of there.

15 Q So if you went strictly on productive
16 acreage, most of those proration units probably couldn't
17 qualify for a full 320-acre spacing, is that --

18 A Yes, I would say that's probably true in
19 a general sense but then you come back to the fact that we
20 saw a significant depletion when drilling the Diamond 5 Fed
21 Com No. 3 from the Pitchfork 34. So you're draining a very
22 large area with one well, or potentially draining a large
23 area. It's because of the geology, the way it's been laid
24 down, that you have these sand units coming and going out
25 of each section and so it's, you know, it's difficult to

1 put an arbitrary matrix of production units, which is what
2 our proration units are, on top of that.

3 Q In terms of a nonstandard proration unit
4 of 160 acres, as proposed by Enron, how -- how does this
5 exhibit affect that proposal?

6 A Frankly, as I said, 320 is probably is
7 too small a proration unit for it. Again I refer back to
8 the drawdown between those two wells two miles separated.
9 You could essentially have drained the whole field by use
10 -- by that Pitchfork 34 No. 1, and so essentially the pro-
11 ration unit perhaps should have been 7 square miles.

12 But in this instance it's been drilled
13 up on 320's. That's been the standard as far as drilling
14 up in the Morrow. It's been the standard as drilling up
15 in the Atoka, both here and everywhere else in southeast
16 New Mexico. I don't believe there's any other gas -- Atoka
17 gas production which is on anything else but -- or anything
18 less than a 320, and I don't see any reason why it should
19 be changed here.

20 I didn't mention Exhibit Number
21 Thirteen. I apologize.

22 This is a structure map based on what
23 we've called the base of the Atoka (unclear) marker on
24 Exhibits Five and Six. It's where I've hung these two cross
25 sections to give you an idea of the structural -- how the

1 structure lies in terms of how these wells sit and every-
2 thing. It's again in terms of evaluating the Atoka on a
3 structural basis.

4 That's all I can think of.

5 Q What does Exhibit Number Thirteen show?

6 A It just shows the general structural
7 picture across the Pitchfork Ranch as far as the Atoka
8 section is concerned.

9 Q Does that show that the Atoka may be
10 present in all of the east half of Section 34?

11 A It gives a structural picture of the
12 Atoka section. What's going to be present in Section 34 is
13 going -- is dependent on particular stratigraphy within the
14 Atoka unit. All it's giving is a structural picture of
15 that.

16 Q Okay.

17 A Generally used if you had a problem with
18 water legs and such like in a particular well and we've
19 only seen one that I ever recollect and that was -- I'll
20 make a bold guess, I believe it was in the Sun well, Sun
21 Pitchfork Federal in Section 11, 25, 33. I believe that
22 tested water out of the Atoka Sand. Of course you can see
23 that it way down dip from anything we're looking at in Sec-
24 tion 34.

25 Q Okay. Is that all you have on Exhibits

1 Twelve and Thirteen?

2 A That's all I can think of straight off.

3 Q Okay. Let's go to Number --

4 A That's all of it.

5 Q Does that conclude your --

6 A That concludes everything I brought --

7 Q -- your geologic presentation?

8 A That is correct.

9 Q Mr. Dicey, do you have a recommendation
10 as to what kind of penalty should be assessed against non-
11 consenting working interest owners in a compulsory pooling
12 order?

13 A Generally speaking, in southeast New
14 Mexico it's a 200 percent penalty on top of the cost for
15 drilling the -- and completing the well and I would recom-
16 mend the same here.

17 Q Why? Why is that?

18 A Why change from conformity? It's the
19 same as -- it's served to be reasonable anywhere else. I
20 see no reason for changing that.

21 Q Is this a substantial risk in drilling
22 -- is there a substantial risk in drilling a well to the
23 Pitchfork Morrow?

24 A There is a risk in drilling any well and
25 even though we have multiple pay zones and multiple poten-

1 tial, there is substantial risk in, of course, being able
2 to realize those potential reserves out of any of those
3 formations and that's essentially what that -- what that
4 penalty is saying is that if we're going to take a risk and
5 carry somebody down to that formation until the thing is
6 producing, then we should have something extra on top of
7 the -- on top of putting the money into the ground to get-
8 ting there.

9 Q Would approval of your application be in
10 the best interest of conservation of oil and gas in your
11 opinion?

12 A Yes, I believe so, particularly if you
13 go back in all of the maps that I've shown, you can see
14 that generally, and particularly Exhibit Seven, I think it
15 was, yeah, Exhibit Seven, which is really our primary ob-
16 jective, being the lowest prolific potential pay zone, we
17 see that there is potential significant reserves in the
18 northeast quarter, which we feel we will realize with our
19 standard location, which an unorthodox location will pro-
20 bably not touch.

21 Q Okay. How about in terms of protecting
22 correlative rights? Would your application have the effect
23 of protecting correlative rights?

24 A Absolutely.

25 Q Tell us how it would.

1 A We have leased, of course, the northeast
2 quarter and the northeast of the southeast and the people
3 who have mineral interest, own the minerals under the
4 northeast quarter will be protected by us drilling and
5 completing a well at a standard location for a standup
6 proration unit in the east half, whereas any other unit,
7 for instance a south half or a southeast quarter 160 would
8 not because they would not be included in that proration
9 unit for that production.

10 Q Mr. Dicey, do you have anything further
11 to add to your testimony?

12 A Not that I can think of offhand.

13 MR. PADILLA: We'll pass the
14 witness at this time, and we'll offer Exhibits Five
15 through, I believe, Exhibit Thirteen.

16 MR. STOGNER: Are there any
17 objections?

18 MR. CARR: Objection. I may
19 have an objection. I'd like to ask a couple of questions
20 concerning the exhibits.

21 MR. STOGNER: Which particular
22 exhibit or just --

23 MR. CARR: Well, actually, Mr.
24 Stogner, Exhibits Seven, Nine, Ten, Eleven, Twelve and
25 Thirteen.

1 A Exhibit Nine, what was wrong with Eight?

2 MR. CARR: Well, it had your
3 name on it.

4 If I could, Mr. Stogner?

5 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Carr.

6

7

VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. CARR:

9 Q Mr. Dicey, who prepared these exhibits?

10 I'm talking now about Seven, --

11 A Oh, oh, the exhibits?

12 Q -- Nine, Ten, yes.

13 A Okay, these maps were all drawn by our
14 geologist, Mr. Howard Hodges, who is not present, he is in
15 Midland currently, Mr. Jim Broten, and myself.

16 Q All right. Now they bear the name of
17 Mr. Hodges, is that correct?

18 A That is correct.

19 Q Is Mr. Hodges the person who actually
20 drafted and prepared this exhibit?

21 A I drafted it, he drew it, and I had
22 input into it.

23 Q And can you testify as to the accuracy
24 of this --

25 A Oh, absolutely.

1 Q -- individual exhibit? Is Mr. Hodges a
2 geologist?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Have you worked with him in the past?

5 A Yes, sir, for six years, since I started
6 with HNG on January 1st, 1983.

7 Q Does he have experience in this area?

8 A Yes, sir. I believe he has something in
9 the order of 30 years experience in -- in petroleum geo-
10 logy.

11 Q Do these reflect his interpretations as
12 well as yours?

13 A That's correct, sir.

14 Q In working with -- do you supervise him
15 now?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q And do you trust his judgment in putting
18 this together or have you independently checked each of
19 these points?

20 A I haven't independently checked each of
21 these points. I trust him to evaluate what he's looking
22 at. My input is in terms of how it is mapped, the kind of
23 model we're using, and just general discussion with any
24 problems he might have, but I fully trust him in terms of
25 his geological capability.

1 Q And is it your believe that this is an
2 accurate interpretation of the reservoir based on his
3 study?

4 A Absolutely.

5 Q And you know him to do accurate work?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q He wouldn't construct this for the
8 purpose of the hearing differently than he otherwise would.

9 A Actually, to be totally honest with you,
10 these maps were not -- well, these particular maps were
11 constructed for hearing, obviously, from the drafting point
12 of view, but they were taken from -- the actual contouring
13 and interpretation were taken from larger maps we've pre-
14 pared for other -- other objectives.

15 Q In constructing these maps do you know
16 whether -- well control data was used, was it not?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Was seismic information also relied on?

19 A No, sir.

20 MR. CARR: I have no objec-
21 tions.

22 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits --
23 let's see --

24 A Seven through Thirteen. Oh, Five
25 through Thirteen.

1 MR. STOGNER: Five through
2 Thirteen will be admitted into evidence at this time.

3 Mr. Carr, your witness.
4

5 CROSS EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. CARR:

7 Q All right, you're the president of
8 Midland Phoenix, is that correct?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q And you have studied the area, both
11 while with Enron and since that time.

12 A That is correct.

13 Q And in coming up with drillable pros-
14 pects it was your job with Enron to evaluate reservoirs,
15 isn't that correct?

16 A Not from an engineering point of view,
17 which I'll point out here, of course. I was looking at it
18 initially, primarily in terms of geophysics. The field
19 itself was discovered using seismic data, and that's, of
20 course, the primary background from which I was coming.

21 I personally like to do my own geology,
22 to see what I'm looking at seismic-wise (sic) and so I
23 started doing more and more geology in this area to ident-
24 ify with this geophysics.

25 Q Did I misunderstand you? I thought you

1 said your duties with Enron included coming up with drill-
2 able prospects?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q And that was just from a geological or
5 geophysical point of view.

6 A From potentially both.

7 Q Okay. And in that role you prepared
8 structure maps and isopach maps and did basically what
9 you've done here, isn't that correct?

10 A Good gracious, all sorts of different
11 things.

12 Q Same things you've done here?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And you worked with Mr. Hodges at that
15 time?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Did Mr. Broten also work with you at
18 that time?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Did you supervise them? What was your
21 relationship?

22 A Mr. Broten and Mr. Hodges were geolo-
23 gists. Mr. Hodges was the Division Geologist for HNG. Mr.
24 Broten was Senior Petroleum Geologist. I at the time was
25 either District or Division Geophysicist, and we worked

1 together as a team to produce the different wells, you
2 know, that were drilled for development of this field or
3 for stepping out, or whatever.

4 Q I believe you stated you came to work
5 for Enron shortly after the field was discovered.

6 A That's correct, January 1st, '83.

7 Q Were you involved in the drilling of the
8 Pitchfork 34 No. 1 Well?

9 A 34 No. 1? No, sir, I was not. That was
10 done before I really got into the geology of it. I was
11 evaluating the seismic data in the area at the time, and
12 although it's a well I used in that interpretation, I had
13 very little input into the actual drilling of that. I
14 think it was like the fourth well drilled, something like
15 that.

16 Q Did you ever have any disagreement with
17 the efforts made by Enron to complete that well as a pro-
18 ducer?

19 A I certainly didn't at the time, no.
20 You see, bear in mind that I think Mr. Wright testified,
21 this is a relatively difficult area. It's becoming more
22 difficult as time goes on because of depletion effects, et
23 cetera, because of varying pressure zones as you drill
24 down.

25 What we've done through here has been,

1 we've had a considerable learning curve in terms of how we
2 drill it, how you complete it, and what needs to go into a
3 successful, most efficient drilling and completion of a
4 particular well, and, you know, what we did at the begin-
5 ning, we may not do right now, and you know, that's re-
6 flected in the way we put our AFE together and what we're
7 looking at in terms of casing design; how we're looking to
8 try and protect each of the potential pay zones on the way
9 down instead of just hitting them all with heavy mud if we
10 have a problem, and maybe losing drilling fluid into the
11 formation, damaging them, and maybe then not being able to
12 produce them later. You know, this is a learning process.

13 Q All right. Now, I believe you testi-
14 fied when you were discussing the cross sections that you
15 intend, if you're successful in drilling this well, to take
16 it on down to the --

17 A D Sand.

18 Q -- D Sand. And I believe you also
19 stated that that had not been penetrated in -- in other
20 wells in the area?

21 A Not quite -- well, in this immediate
22 area, I don't believe so.

23 Q Wasn't it in fact penetrated in the
24 Pitchfork 34 No. 1?

25 A If it was, I am not aware of that.

1 Wolfcamp upstairs behind pipe in that well will.

2 To expand on that question, I wouldn't
3 drill this well purely for a D Sand. If it was going to be
4 like 500 or 1000 feet below our primary objective, I
5 wouldn't think of doing it, but being 200 feet, I feel it's
6 just worth the extra 2 or 3 days of drilling to go down and
7 have a look at it.

8 Q Okay, I'd like to ask you some questions
9 about your exhibits and you'll have to help me a little bit
10 with these --

11 A Fine.

12 Q -- because I'm not complaining about
13 them not being color coded, but I have to ask you a couple
14 of questions about it.

15 A You're welcome to look at these ones.

16 Q Yes, I've looked at your exhibits. If
17 we look at Number Seven --

18 A All right.

19 Q -- around the orange areas you have a
20 gray band.

21 A That's correct.

22 Q Is that gray band the area where you are
23 (unclear) portions of the reservoir? Could you tell me
24 what is shaded in gray?

25 A I'll move over here so I can show you.

1 Again I apologize for not having multiple colored versions
2 but --

3 Q Is this a thinner section, I guess
4 that's --

5 A All right, what you're seeing, the gray
6 is -- has a minimum net thickness of I believe 20 feet and
7 it increases up to a maximum of like 70 plus feet in the
8 pink area, so essentially orange, you know, when you get
9 into the orange it's getting better and when you get into
10 red it's better still.

11 Q And as I look at your maps, you had this
12 gray border on most of them. Is that generally what that
13 indicated, a --

14 A Yes, sir, it's what I really wouldn't --
15 if it was less than that I'm really, you know, it's not
16 that good.

17 Q So it would be less than 20 feet gener-
18 ally, with what you've shaded there.

19 A Well, no, not -- I'm sorry, not less
20 than 20 feet would be gray. It depends on the contour in-
21 terval on the map. What I'm trying to show with that gray
22 is that's -- that's the first thickness that I think should
23 be potentially productive. Anything thinner than that,
24 i.e. out to the white areas, is not so good. Now it
25 doesn't mean to say it couldn't be good, it's just prob-

1 ability wise it will not be.

2 Q If the reservoir was all shaded gray
3 that probably wouldn't indicate a very good section in the
4 reservoir, would it?

5 A Hypothetically, yes.

6 Q All right. Yes it would be or it would
7 not?

8 A Yes, I'm agreeing with you.

9 Q Now the Pitchfork 34 No. 1 Well was
10 drilled relatively early in the life of this reservoir,
11 isn't that correct?

12 A That is correct.

13 Q And you've had that -- when was that?
14 Do you know?

15 A Oh, you ask me. It must have been '83.

16 Q And you've had that information as
17 you've gone forward and made subsequent interpretations.

18 A That's true.

19 Q Would you look at Exhibit -- your
20 Exhibit Number Nine.

21 A Yes.

22 Q Now your Exhibit Number Nine, if I un-
23 derstand it, is the net isopach on the Morrow Sinatra Sand,
24 isn't that correct?

25 Q Yes, sir.

1 Q That's a 6 percent porosity cutoff.

2 A That's correct.

3 Q It's a 5-foot contour interval.

4 A That's correct and in this instance
5 you're looking outside the gray zone here, to further your
6 point earlier, you're looking at less than 2 foot -- sorry,
7 less than 5 foot of sand.

8 Q All right, and then you have the gray
9 area --

10 A Two grays, between 5 and 10, 10 to 15.
11 Then you go into the orange. In this instance I'm wanting
12 to show more of a depositional (unclear) seeing channels
13 coming from the north, the stuff being deposited by chan-
14 nels coming from the north and you see these things mean-
15 dering around -- meandering around these things here. This
16 one out to the west, there's probably a cutoff that went
17 down under this one. This fellow is another subsequent
18 channel superimposed on that, and, of course, because
19 you're mapping the sand as one unit, you're seeing the two
20 superimposed on each other. So it kind of looks like a
21 mishmash but you're regarding it as two separate channel
22 systems.

23 Q What you've got here is an interpreta-
24 tion of the Morrow Sinatra Sands based on well control
25 data, is that correct?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Now, you didn't use seismic in making
3 this interpretation.

4 A I made a brief hesitation there. It was
5 not used in this interpretation. I can -- going back again
6 to when I was working with HNG, Enron, for one reason or
7 another we had to the opportunity of drilling in the south
8 half of Section 3. It was a very short time fuse in terms
9 of ability to get on that lease, in terms of the lease
10 running out. I evaluated two seismic lines in that area,
11 two Getty lines, trade lines, which we subsequently pur-
12 chased. I looked at them. I saw something I liked on
13 them, came back, recommended we drill it. We spudded the
14 well, I picked up the lines later, interpreted them, et
15 cetera.

16 And subsequent to that, of course, I was
17 responsible for recording a whole bunch of seismic data in
18 here; the primary, a line that goes north/south through
19 here.

20 Q Through where?

21 A Excuse me?

22 Q Through where?

23 A Through the west half of Section 34,
24 through the two wells, the two Page 3 Com No. 1 and No. 2,
25 south through the -- what is now the Meridian Penn Number

1 whatever the devil, No. 1; another one that goes east/west
2 in Section 3; another one that goes northwest/southeast,
3 something like that. What I'm coming to is the fact that
4 I've interpreted all that data, integrate it to what we
5 knew with the well log data, and what we found was that
6 over in this area in here we had a very bright response on
7 the seismic confirming what we saw in the -- by drilling
8 the Warren 3 No. 1 and indeed, subsequently the Page 3 No.
9 1.

10 Q When were those drilled?

11 A '85 or '86.

12 Q And have you received any -- or reviewed
13 any additional seismic information since that time on this
14 particular area?

15 A Oh, yeah, up until the time I left. I
16 was -- it was a continuing process.

17 Q Are there new lines?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q And what's the most recent seismic line
20 that you have through this area?

21 A Probably 8513 -- no, 8513 was that
22 northeast/southwest line. '85 or '86, I can say that. I'm
23 not sure I didn't shoot one in '86.

24 Q All right, but there's been no new seis-
25 mic in terms of seismic lines being run since that time.

1 A Not to the best of my knowledge.

2 Q And when were -- have there been any
3 wells drilled in this area in the last, say, two years,
4 since the first of 1988?

5 A Well, chronologically the Warren 3 was
6 the first one in Section 3; then the Page 3 No. 1.

7 Q And when were they drilled?

8 A Like I said, '85 or '86, I can't
9 remember exactly. I'd have to go back and look.

10 Then the Chapparal 10 No. 1 in Section
11 10, 25, 34.

12 Most recently this -- I guess this is
13 the most recent well, this Meridian Pitchfork 10 No. 1,
14 which is completed in the Sinatra Sand.

15 Q In Section 10?

16 A That's correct.

17 Q And when was that drilled?

18 A This year, or it was completed this
19 year, and it's flowing under a million a day and gobs of
20 water.

21 Q Okay, any well, any information from
22 that well would -- would any information from that well,
23 being the Meridian Well in the north half of 10, affect
24 your interpretation in the east half of 34?

25 A No, sir, it in fact confirms our picture

1 of how these channels set.

2 Q All right. Now I'd like to hand you
3 what has been marked as Enron -- and I guess this is Enron
4 Exhibit Number Twenty.

5 A All right.

6 Q This is Enron Exhibit Number Twenty.

7 A Uh-huh.

8 MR. CARR: I have some other
9 copies, Mr. Stogner.

10 Q Mr. Dicey, this is entitled Morrow
11 Sinatra Series Sand, is that correct?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Now that 's the same map that we have
14 as your Exhibit Nine, the Morrow Sinatra Sand, isn't that
15 correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And this was prepared by -- it's got
18 some initials, JRB and TRD. Is TRD you?

19 A That's correct. JRB is Jim Broten. TRD
20 is Tim Dicey and --

21 Q And then it was revised in February of
22 '88 by Mr. Hodges, is that correct?

23 A That's correct.

24 Q A 6 percent porosity cutoff was used in
25 this exhibit, isn't that correct?

1 A That's correct.

2 Q And 5 foot contour intervals.

3 A Yes.

4 Q Now, if we look at your Exhibit Number
5 Nine, you have indicated that there is substantial reser-
6 voir under the northeast quarter of Section 34, isn't that
7 correct?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q Now based on this interpretation that
10 was made by -- finally by Mr. Hodges, that's the same Mr.
11 Hodges that prepared Exhibit Nine, isn't that correct?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q There was virtually no reservoir in the
14 Sinatra Sand present under the northeast quarter of Section
15 34, isn't that right?

16 A That's true.

17 Q And, in fact, what you've got is an area
18 between the zero and 5 foot contours, about all that you
19 have clipping the southeast of the northeast corner of
20 Section 34, isn't that right?

21 A That's true.

22 Q If we were shading this Exhibit Number
23 21 using your curve we'd have to shade all of that acreage
24 that is under the Midland Phoenix interest in 34 as gray,
25 would we not?

1 A That's true.

2 Q All right. Now, I'd like to take you,
3 and incidentally, if I understood your prior testimony,
4 there have been no new wells that would affect your inter-
5 pretation since 2-19-88. Isn't that what you testified?

6 A That's what I just said but let me come
7 back on that a little bit.

8 Q Now, I'd like to go on, Mr. Dicey, and
9 if Mr. Padilla and you want to come back, I'd like you to
10 do that later.

11 A Okay.

12 Q Now I'd like to hand you -- ask you re
13 fer to what has been marked as your Exhibit Number
14 Twelve.

15 A Uh-huh.

16 MR. CARR: And, Mr. Stogner, I
17 only have one copy of an exhibit. (Unclear) I can provide
18 additional ones following the hearing.

19 Q But I'd like you to take a look at what
20 I have marked as Enron Exhibit Number Twenty-one, Mr. Dicey
21 --

22 A Yes.

23 Q -- and if we look at this exhibit, down
24 in the legend this is, I believe, a base Atoka Carbonate
25 Structure Map, isn't that right?

1 A What you've got here, and let me talk
2 about it --

3 Q All right.

4 A -- is one I put together with Mr. Hodges
5 and Mr. Broten yonks ago. This is kind of a mishmash. It
6 was originally put together in 1986, as indeed was the
7 previous (unclear) exhibit you showed me. Because of
8 needs, crisis needs, usually, these were updated in a
9 hurry.

10 We'd be looking at one particular small
11 area and update the map in that small area and not really
12 updating the whole map in that area.

13 As I said before, development of the
14 Pitchfork Ranch or the whole area has been a question of a
15 learning curve, wherever we can get new information. Quite
16 often we've changed -- not changes our model but modified
17 the model which we're looking at. And these two maps both
18 were revisions by Mr. Hodges and I can't remember the
19 specific instance in question but they were both for very
20 local areas and really don't reflect an update on the whole
21 map.

22 Q All right.

23 A Since these were drawn originally, our
24 idea on this one hasn't changed a whole bunch with the ex-
25 ception of what we're seeing in the east half here, and

1 when I've gone back and made these two cross sections here,
2 I found, much to my surprise, that what we used to corre-
3 late as what used to be called the top of the Atoka car-
4 bonate, wasn't in fact correct in the Moore 34, and how it
5 got by, I'm not sure. I made a whole bunch of cross sec-
6 tions here and I don't think I ever included that well.
7 And when I included the well I found that what we're
8 looking at in that well was not correct and we essentially
9 missed a cycle. Let me elaborate further with this Exhi-
10 bit Five.

11 You can see in here that you've got
12 several carbonate zones in here and these other ones coming
13 and going above it and what we're calling top of the car-
14 bonate, the top of the Atoka carbonate in here, was going
15 from one to the other of these zones, and what we thought
16 originally was where the sand should fit, was under here
17 and in fact, if we come back and recorrelate this including
18 this well properly, with them, we're going -- correlating
19 up as the thing's being deposited, we have found now that
20 the top of the Atoka carbonate corresponds in here.

21 Well, you know, an arbitrary name was
22 given. It's not top of the Atoka carbonate because the top
23 of the Atoka is here and this is the first carbonate, but
24 it's just a name we gave it. But that's the marker we were
25 using.

1 This is an extra unit in here. In fact
2 if you want to extend it further you could say it's part of
3 another bank system, like this business up here, because as
4 you look at the system it comes and goes, again with these
5 two lime units above it, you've got these things coming and
6 going and they're real easy to, you know, when you take
7 logs out of context it's real easy to mix and correlate
8 them and that's what we've done, and we hadn't recognized
9 the fact that we had a small snick of sand in this well and
10 indeed Mr. Broten will testify in a minute, we saw that on
11 the mud log somewhat delayed because of a bit trip, but it
12 was actually in that well. We have a snick of sand in it,
13 so this map here, although it has 1988 as the most recent
14 revision on it, it doesn't reflect a revision of the whole
15 map, it's only in a small area, and I think it was for this
16 business down here, with these newer wells down here, but I
17 really am not going to say one way or the other.

18 Q All right, this map does bear your name.

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q It was revised in January, '88.

21 A That's true.

22 Q It does -- it is of the net Atoka Sand
23 and that is what is also mapped in your Exhibit Number
24 Twelve.

25 A That's true.

1 Q And for the purposes of the hearing or
2 at least for developing the prospect, in April of this year
3 you revised the map.

4 A That's true.

5 Q And you revised it, and the revision
6 addresses your newly acquired acreage in the northeast
7 quarter of 34.

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q And it attributes producible reserves to
10 that tract, does it not?

11 A That's true.

12 Q And they were not attributed or apparent
13 in the prior interpretation.

14 A That's true. Let me --

15 MR. CARR: That's all I have.

16 A -- go back, you're bringing that date in
17 there, the 10th of April, that is the date I redrafted
18 that.

19 Q All right.

20 A It is not the date when the map actual-
21 ly was drawn.

22 Q But it was drawn after --

23 A It was drawn between November of '88 and
24 whenever, April --

25 Q And for the purpose of this prospect.

1 A No, sir. The -- when the original map
2 that that was taken from was for another objective, and in
3 fact, was a map covering a similar area to this one.

4 What I've done for all these maps is
5 taken -- what I've done for all these -- or what we've done
6 for all these different horizons, for the whole of the
7 Pitchfork Ranch Field, we have a map for them, and all I've
8 done is draftingwise restricted that area and taken that
9 area and put it on this map.

10 Heck, I don't see why I should show the
11 whole field.

12 Q Since you left Enron, the -- your inter-
13 pretation or the interpretation of this particular section
14 in the Atoka --

15 A Yes.

16 Q -- has changed, if you look at the map
17 that was prepared that bears your name (not clearly under-
18 stood) --

19 A Like I said, it's from a learning from
20 what happened.

21 Let me go further before you fold this
22 up.

23 To show you again how our learning has
24 changed, we can see two seismic lines -- oh, I was wrong,
25 it's 13, I'll be darned -- anyway, this old group shoot

1 No. 2 Well --

2 A That's correct.

3 Q -- when you say "this well" in the north
4 half of Section 3?

5 A Section 3.

6 Q That was drilled prior to the time this
7 map, obviously, was developed, isn't that correct?

8 A It was put on later because Page 3 No. 2
9 was drilled in '88 --

10 Q Well, obviously you had a log on this
11 well, did you not?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And the seismic lines were in existence.
14 were they not?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q And you were -- you had the information
17 available to you at this time this map was prepared, the
18 same information which you had when Exhibit Twelve was
19 prepared, isn't that right?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q All right, now --

22 A But that's what I'm saying, these
23 seismic anomalies were from a previous map; the well was
24 not.

25 Q Now you testified that you thought a

1 200 percent risk penalty would be appropriate.

2 A I believe so. I misinterpreted what you
3 said. Yes, I believe it would be correct.

4 Q If a south half unit were approved for
5 the Morrow and a nonstandard 160 unit in the Atoka
6 comprised of the southeast quarter, do you thin a 200 per-
7 cent penalty would also be appropriate?

8 A I feel that geological risks involve din
9 drilling any well are going to be very similar regardless
10 of whatever proration unit is allocated to that well, so I
11 would say at least in terms of geologic risk that goes into
12 that, yes.

13 MR. CARR: May it please the
14 Examiner, I would move the admission of Enron Exhibits
15 Twenty and Twenty-one.

16 MR. STOGNER: Any objection?

17 MR. PADILLA: No objection.

18 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Carr, will
19 any of your witnesses be going through these exhibits?

20 MR. CARR: I don't believe so,
21 Mr. Stogner. They're from Enron's files and Mr. Dicey has
22 indicated that he has worked with them and he has, I think,
23 qualified them.

24 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Carr, I'm
25 going to ask that one of your witnesses at least go over

1 them because the way it's going to appear on the transcript
2 it would be --

3 A Heck, I'll go over them, if you like. I
4 did them.

5 MR. CARR: Let me ask Mr.
6 Dicey.

7 Q Mr. Dicey, did you prepare what has been
8 marked Exhibits Twenty and Twenty-one?

9 A If I didn't prepare them I had consider-
10 able input into them.

11 Q Were they, while with Enron, your best
12 interpretation of the reservoir?

13 A For the time and at the time, yes.

14 MR. CARR: I would move the
15 admission of Exhibits Twenty and Twenty-one.

16 MR. STOGNER: I don't have any
17 problem about Midland's evidence, Mr. Carr. I do have a
18 problem that we have a bunch of colors here and I don't
19 know what they are.

20 I would like a description, at
21 least somebody who can go over them.

22 MR. CARR: Well, may I have
23 Exhibit Twenty-one, and I'll ask Mr. Dicey what the colors
24 indicate.

25 A All right.

1 Q All right, Mr. Dicey, Exhibit Twenty-
2 one.

3 A Exhibit Twenty-one, this is a structure
4 map on what was considered to be, in fact, actually this
5 well --

6 MR. STOGNER: What well are
7 you talking about?

8 A The HNG Moore 34 No. 1, the structure
9 point on that map will not be correct because of what we
10 have learned since we originally drew this map, but it's a
11 structure map overlain by a net sand map of the Atoka Sand
12 with a porosity greater than 8 percent.

13 The red areas show -- or increasing red
14 areas show increasing thickness of net sand in the Atoka.

15 Q What is the blue line?

16 A The blue line was an arbitrary line put
17 at -- to follow a structure contour because in the -- where
18 am I -- okay, in the Chapparal 10 No. 1 we felt that -- En-
19 ron felt at the time that they encountered formation water
20 and so we just took it, okay, at that structural level,
21 then everything lower than that was going to be wet, but it
22 really isn't meaning a whole bunch because you've got dif-
23 ferent loads in this thing and, let me see, some of these
24 more modern -- more recent wells in Section 9 and 10, -- it
25 doesn't matter, okay go ahead.

1 Q What does the yellow shading indicate?

2 A The yellow shading indicates Enron's or
3 HNG's acreage position before infill.

4 Q And what do the green lines show?

5 A The green lines are seismic anomalies
6 which I attribute to the Atoka section.

7 Q And the green dots?

8 A The green dots are the Atoka Sand pro-
9 ducers.

10 Q And the orange dots?

11 A Are Morrow producers. It should be
12 noted -- well, okay -- go ahead.

13 MR. CARR: Do you have any-
14 thing further on that one, Mr. Stogner, you'd like us to
15 establish for the record?

16 MR. STOGNER: I'll accept it.

17 MR. CARR: All right.

18 Q And I'd like to also, Mr. Dicey, if I
19 could ask you if you would look at what has been marked as
20 Enron Exhibit Number Twenty. Can you tell me what the
21 green lines are? Are those the seismic lines?

22 A That's I was referring to earlier when
23 I said that we drilled that Warren 3, I mean HNG drilled
24 that Warren 3 No. 1 on seismic and subsequently to that we
25 shot various lines. These were two trade lines, NM13743

1 and IAPA 2, or whatever it is, those were the two lines in
2 use for that.

3 We then shot -- well, we picked up --
4 they are group shoots, PGI 14 and who knows what else in
5 here and we've shot various other data more recently to
6 that.

7 Interpreted all that data with the
8 subsurface information and we'd come up with at the time,
9 what we felt definition of this bar. Then we felt it was a
10 north/south traveling bar in Section 3 and Section whatever
11 it is, 10, to the south of it.

12 We have no seismic data in the east half
13 of Section 34. In fact, we've only got one in Section 35
14 and we saw something in that section, too, and so we drew
15 -- we molded our channel map to fit that one seismic data,
16 but in fact, you know, what we had in the Morrow 34 is
17 essentially a 2-foot piece of sand we felt was just as much
18 opportunity for it being in the third -- in Section 34 as
19 in Section 35.

20 Q And Section 34 is outlined in orange?

21 A That's correct.

22 MR. CARR: Mr. Stogner, I
23 again move the admission of Exhibits Twenty and Twenty-one.

24 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits Twenty
25 and Twenty-one will be admitted into evidence.

1 MR. CARR: And I will pro-
2 vide additional copies.

3 MR. STOGNER: Thank you, Mr.
4 Carr.

5 Any additional cross?

6 MR. CARR: I have no further
7 questions, Mr. Stogner.

8 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Kellahin.

9 MR. KELLAHIN; Thank you, Mr.
10 Stogner.

11
12 CROSS EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

14 Q Mr. Dicey, on your Exhibit Number Six,
15 which is the B-B' cross section, stratigraphic cross sec-
16 tion, you have projected for us the proposed location on
17 that display between the Page 3 Com 2 Well and the Moore 34
18 No. 1 Well, as shown there.

19 A That's correct.

20 Q All right. Can you project for us ap-
21 proximately where we would find the proposed location if we
22 look on Exhibit Number Five, which is the A-A' cross sec-
23 tion?

24 A Yes, sir. As you can see on the map on
25 the bottom here of Exhibit Five, you can see the cross sec-

1 tion where it goes to each of these wells going in an
2 east/west fashion, so essentially to project that well
3 straight on to the cross section it's going to be around
4 where the Moore 34 sits.

5 Q When we look at the Moore 34 Well, will
6 you rank for me in terms of the sands that have the great-
7 est potential for production at your proposed location,
8 starting with the sand that you think has the greatest or
9 most optimum potential at your location?

10 A All right, yes, I'll have no hesitation
11 to. I feel to begin with, because of the prolific produc-
12 tion elsewhere in Pitchfork Ranch, because of the shows we
13 had, I mean Enron shows or HNG shows they had when drilling
14 through the Moore Well, again, as Mr. Broten will testify
15 in a minute, I feel the Morrow C Sand is number one in that
16 rating, and, of course, is our primary objective.

17 The second would be the Morrow A Sand,
18 or Lower Morrow A in this instance.

19 After that everything else essentially
20 is secondary objective, being Sinatra, Warren, Atoka Sand,
21 and I guess maybe somewhere between -- well, okay, let's
22 rephrase that.

23 Number One --

24 Q Wait a minute, you need to do it for the
25 record. Slow down, now.

1 A Yeah, I'm aware of that. Number One for
2 the Morrow C.

3 Number Two for the Morrow A.

4 Number Three for the Atoka Bank.

5 Number Four for the Sinatra.

6 Number Five for the Morrow Warren.

7 Number Six for the whatchamacallit,
8 Atoka Sand.

9 Q In looking through the various geologic
10 displays, Mr. Dicey, I think I have found isopachs for all
11 those potential formations that would produce at this lo-
12 cation with the exception of the Atoka Bank.

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q And in response to Mr. Carr's question
15 it was your explanation that one could not prepare -- be
16 prepared because the only log or the only well that showed
17 that potential was the well in the north half of 3, which
18 is the Page 3 Com No. 2.

19 A That is correct.

20 Q Did I hear you correctly?

21 A Yes, that's correct. Let me elaborate a
22 little further on that.

23 You can see from Exhibit Five, has both
24 the Pitchfork 34 No. 1 and the Moore 34 in it, showing the
25 Bank section, or equivalent Bank sections, that had the net

1 well to "this" well. You're looking at the wells in the
2 north half of 3 --

3 A Right, Page 3 No. 1 to the Page 3 No. 2,
4 they're a distance of like 1320 foot away. You've gone
5 from no section to a thick, porous section.

6 Q Let me have you sit down. So it would
7 have been possible to prepare an isopach using this net
8 Atoka Bank that we found in certain of the wells in 33
9 farther to the west, as well as the pitchfork 34 and as
10 well as the Page 3 Com No. 2, but we lack, apparently, suf-
11 ficient control as we move to the north and to the east to
12 give you a good handle on the extent of -- of that bank.

13 A That's partially correct.

14 Q Okay.

15 A You could make a gross map, i.e. off the
16 unit itself, but a net porosity map -- and you don't know
17 where that goes from there. Like you just said, it could
18 go anywhere to the northeast, we have no control over it.
19 In fact, as a bank unit, it's probably deposited around
20 structure and if you go back to -- where are we -- Exhibit
21 Thirteen, the Atoka structure map on the face of the Atoka
22 Carbonate, and look at the way the structural picture looks
23 in there, it could well go around that nose, as seen in
24 Section 34 and Section 35.

25 We just don't know. We haven't got the

1 control. The field hasn't been developed that far east to
2 say that. All we do know is we have one well in the north
3 half of Section 3, which by luck had a real nice porous
4 zone in one of the Bank zones.

5 Q To what -- let me ask you this, to what
6 extent does your decision on the specific well location in
7 the east half of 34 depend upon the expectation of obtain-
8 ing the Atoka Bank production?

9 A The original location, (unclear) loca-
10 tion, which was our original proposal, of course, as Mr.
11 Duke testified earlier, we have to go through this zone to
12 reach the Morrow. We know there are risks involved in
13 drilling any well and certainly to the Morrow is no excep-
14 tion, we feel that the closer we could get to the Page 3
15 No. 2 the more likely we are to hit that net zone. We have
16 no ability, though, to map it, because, like I say, it's
17 only one well that's got that real thick net zone in it, so
18 it's a question of playing closeology as far as that secon-
19 dary objective.

20 Q Okay, without working with a map, then,
21 I want you to try to explain to me in the southeast quar-
22 ter of 34 --

23 A Uh-huh.

24 Q -- when we look at each of the four 40-
25 acre tracts, which of those four 40-acre tracts has the

1 least risky, greatest potential for Atoka Bank production?

2 A Oh, absolutely the southwest quarter of
3 the southeast. There's no question about that.

4 Q In terms --

5 A And that's just purely playing close-
6 ology, because you've only got the one well to go from.
7 But there's no reason for -- you know, we could go up and
8 (unclear) to the southwest of the northeast and find an-
9 other super development from one of the other banks with-
10 in that series that wasn't overly present in the Moore
11 Well, it was developed to the east, and that's what I --
12 the kind of a thing I'd expect.

13 Q In terms of trying to rank, then, the
14 various 40-acre tracts in the southeast quarter of 34 --

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q -- for the Atoka Bank, the southwest of
17 the southeast is number one?

18 A Number one.

19 Q Rank the other three 40's for me.

20 A Northwest would be 2, as would possibly
21 the southeast. Number three would be the northeast.

22 Like I said earlier, --

23 Q Well, we're going to get through this a
24 lot quicker, Mr. --

25 A Oh, I'm sorry.

1 Q -- Dicey, if you just respond directly t
2 my question.

3 A All right.

4 Q When we look at --

5 A Well, I don't want you to miss anything.

6 Q I'm sure I won't. When we look at Exhi-
7 bit Number Twelve, Mr. Dicey, now we have a net sand iso-
8 pach on the Atoka.

9 A Uh-huh.

10 Q Would you take that and rank for me in
11 order of priority using number one, the best of the 40-acre
12 tracts in the southeast quarter of 34 for that sand?

13 A Southwest, northeast is one and two and
14 then northwest and southeast is number three, just going by
15 this map, which I think is quite reasonable.

16 Q All right, sir. When we look at Exhibit
17 Number Nine, which is your Morrow Sinatra Sand --

18 A Uh-huh.

19 Q -- would you do the same in terms of
20 ranking the 40-acre tracts in the southeast quarter of 34
21 for that --

22 A Okay, northwest would be number one. By
23 this map the northeast would be number two; southwest,
24 number three; southeast number four.

25 Q If you'll take map number 10, Exhibit

1 Ten, which is your Morrow Warren Sand, would you rank those
2 four 40-acre tracts for me, please?

3 A Southeast, one; northeast, two; south-
4 west, three --

5 Q Excuse me, we've lost the examiner, I'm
6 sorry.

7 MR. STOGNER; No, we're on
8 Ten, right?

9 MR. KELLAHIN: Exhibit Number
10 Ten.

11 A Northwest, four. Well, no, I take that
12 back. I'm sorry, let me start that again.

13 Southeast, one; northeast, two; and
14 southwest and northwest, three.

15 Q Without regard to the potential of a
16 location penalty factor that the Division might adopt on
17 the unorthodox location, separating that from your consid-
18 eration and taking all the various potentials for a well in
19 the southeast quarter, your best location was the location
20 you first requested, which was the location in the south-
21 west of the southeast?

22 A The main -- the reason for choosing that
23 location was purely on closeology for the Bank.

24 Q For the Atoka Bank.

25 A For the Bank, and it's really just in

1 terms of, you know, we have to get investors to put money
2 into this, it was just minimizing our risk --

3 Q Well, I didn't ask you the reasons, now,
4 I just asked you what was the best location without con-
5 sidering the penalty factor issue?

6 A Oh, I'm sorry, without considering it.

7 Q Uh-huh.

8 A Well, I'm sorry, I must have -- I lost
9 that.

10 Q All right. Your original application
11 was for an unorthodox well location that would have put the
12 well in the southwest of the southeast.

13 A That's correct.

14 Q My understanding of your presentation up
15 to now is that the only factor that caused you to move that
16 location up to the northwest of the southeast is to avoid a
17 potential unorthodox location penalty if you stay at the
18 unorthodox location.

19 A Essentially; not wholly. When we came
20 up with it, when we proposed the original location, it was
21 a balancing between what we felt we would encounter in all
22 the Morrow zones, and of course the Atoka zones, and
23 balancing all that together, we felt that the optimum
24 location was that southwest southeast.

25 But like I say, there is a trade off in

1 there. We felt there was very good chance of seeing a net
2 bank in that -- in that location, and that was going to act
3 as a very good bail out zone from -- if we -- if we didn't
4 have, you know, if we really lucked out in the Morrow.

5 But in the same instance, the Morrow C,
6 I feel, is going to be better at our current location, our
7 orthodox location, than the southwest -- southeast loca-
8 tion.

9 Same with the Morrow A Sand, if you look
10 at that map. In fact you can just add a couple of these
11 maps for me to prioritize. But in terms of the Lower A
12 Sand map, the best location is obviously in the northwest
13 of the southeast, and if you look at -- that's Exhibit
14 Eleven, by the way.

15 If you go back to Exhibit Seven, which
16 is the C Sand map, and I had to rate that, I'd have to rate
17 the northwest of the southeast as by far the best and these
18 two are our primary objectives, the Morrow C and the Morrow
19 A.

20 The reason we had that unorthodox loca-
21 tion is purely because we felt by closeology and a known,
22 or essentially what we felt was a known with that Atoka
23 Bank, it will be a good bail out zone, but in the same in-
24 stance, you know, we're trading off something else for that
25 and we felt, you know, now after that we'd consider, recon-

1 sider it on the basis of the penalties and everything else,
2 hey, why don't we, you know, these are our two primary ob-
3 jectives, go for the best location.

4 MR. KELLAHIN: Thank you, Mr.
5 Examiner.

6 MR. STOGNER: Thank you , Mr.
7 Kellahin.

8 Are there any other questions
9 of this witness?

10 He may be excused.

11 Take about a five minute re-
12 cess.

13

14 (Thereupon a recess was taken.)

15

16 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Padilla.

17 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner,
18 we'll call Jim Broten at this time.

19

20 JAMES RUSSELL BROTEN,
21 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his
22 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

23

24

25

1 DIRECT EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. PADILLA:

3 Q Mr. Broten, for the record please state
4 your full name.

5 A My name is James Russell Broten.

6 Q And where do you reside, Mr. Broten?

7 A Midland, Texas.

8 Q What do you do for a living?

9 A I'm a geologist. Presently I'm princi-
10 pally associated with Midland Phoenix Corporation.11 Q Mr. Broten, have you previously testi-
12 fied before the Oil Conservation Division?

13 A Yes, sir, I have.

14 Q As what?

15 A As a petroleum geologist.

16 Q Have your credentials been accepted as a
17 matter of record in those --

18 A Yes, they have.

19 Q -- in that testimony?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Mr. Broten, are you familiar with the
22 geology in the proposed location as proposed by Midland
23 Phoenix Corporation?24 A Yes, sir, I am. I was, while with HNG,
25 later to become Enron, I was a development geologist and

1 the project I was involved with was the development of this
2 Pitchfork Field.

3 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, we
4 tender Mr. Broten as a petroleum geologist.

5 MR. STOGNER: Any objection?
6 Mr. Broten is so qualified.

7 Q Mr. Broten, let's look at what we have
8 marked as Exhibit Number Fourteen and have you tell the
9 Examiner what that is.

10 A Mr. Examiner, Exhibit Number Fourteen is
11 a copy of a portion of the mud log reported on the well
12 drilled in the east half of Section 34, the Moore 34 Com
13 No. 1, and we have included a portion of the Pennsylvanian
14 pay interval that we anticipate to be prospective within
15 the east half of that said location, said section.

16 Q Mr. Broten, for what purpose do you seek
17 to introduce this exhibit at this hearing today?

18 A This information off the mud log has en-
19 couraged Midland Phoenix to pursue this acreage and to
20 drill a well in the east half because we feel that this
21 well showed through the mud log shows that the northeast
22 quarter is productive and we feel that the owners within
23 that northeast quarter need to be protected by the drilling
24 of a well in the east half proration unit.

25 Q Mr. Broten, would you explain, you have

1 highlighted certain information on that exhibit, have you
2 not?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q And it's highlighted in yellow?

5 A Yes, sir. What I've highlighted was
6 three zones of potential, primary potential, that was
7 earlier rated through Mr. Dicey's testimony and if I may,
8 I'd like to just go down and state the facts as the mud log
9 records them and enter them into the record, beginning with
10 the Atoka section and working downward to the Morrow C,
11 ending with the Morrow C Sand.

12 Q Okay, go ahead and make -- do your ex-
13 planation, Mr. Broten.

14 A First I'll start with the Atoka Sand
15 interval.

16 Q And where is that in the mud log?

17 A Okay, that is at 14092 to 097, which
18 correlates to 14078 to 083 from the CNL density.

19 Q And is that the first yellow highlighted
20 information from the top on that log?

21 A Yes. What I've highlighted here was a
22 note of sand and we see from the sample that a sand was
23 noted all by -- being a trace, but a sand was noted as a
24 very fine-grained, clear, quartzitic and glauconitic sand.
25 The noting of it being quartzitic denotes the fact that it

1 was an unconsolidated sand which would fit our picture of
2 what we expect in the -- in the Atoka Sand interval to be.

3 Going further, as a half employed and
4 professional geologist working under the capacity as a mud
5 logger for two years, I feel qualified, and I maybe am one
6 of the most qualified people in this room to interpret this
7 particular mud log.

8 When you see a sample denoted like this
9 upon the mud log, often there's -- the mudlogger has a
10 sample that he has collected, and this was a trip sample,
11 so he has difficulty in pinpointing it and oftentimes what
12 he will do is he will denote it as a trace and also prior
13 to the collecting of the samples, you have problems with
14 the collecting, if you've been on the wellsite, the screens
15 on the shakers oftentimes a very fine, unconsolidated sand
16 will not be collected by the mudlogger and therefore you
17 have a problem with the collection of the sample. So the
18 samples actually become, instead of computative, become
19 qualitative, and that's just with all mud logs, that's a
20 standard procedure. That's just a normal fact of life on a
21 well, especially when they do not circulate samples up
22 during a trip.

23 Now, I'd like to go into all the zones
24 of interest and then from there just basically go through
25 the exhibit, stating the facts from the mud log itself, but

1 basically highlighting the zones of interest, that Midland
2 Phoenix is interested in and should be entered into the
3 record.

4 And continuing with this Atoka Sand in-
5 terval, the only negative factor we see here, if we look to
6 the sample log itself, is the lack of a show, which does
7 not disqualify the northeast quarter, by no means, from a
8 productive reservoir being present.

9 Many wells in New Mexico have offset
10 "dry" holes; in fact, operators have re-entered old
11 HNG-Enron Wells and made existing wells out of what's been
12 considered dry holes, so I don't believe that is a point at
13 issue here.

14 We're just (unclear) the fact that we do
15 have a sample and we believe that we have an enhanced place
16 to drill and our maps reflect that in prior exhibits.

17 Proceeding on down to the next interval
18 of interest would bring us to the mud log zone at 14614 to
19 642, which correlates to 14598 to 627 on the CNL density.

20 We see there that this -- this is the
21 interval we call the Morrow A Sand and we have off the CNL
22 density porosities of up to 20 percent on the density and
23 average 12 plus porosity of 14 percent with resistivities
24 in the neighborhood of approximately 35 ohms.

25 This -- these factors right here show

1 reservoir potential.

2 The mud log goes further than that and
3 denotes a drilling break from 40 minutes per foot to 2
4 minutes per foot, indicating porosity as well as the elec-
5 tric log.

6 The well, in fact, was shut in during
7 drilling for 30 minutes; it recorded a 15 barrel gain along
8 with a 20 to 30 foot flare, estimating 2-million cubic feet
9 of gas per day on the pitot tube for a projected volume.

10 They're drilling with brine and they
11 increased the brine weight 10.7 to continue drilling. The
12 samples themselves reflect a climbing upward sequence of
13 very coarse to a very fine grained angular to sub-rounded
14 sand, unconsolidated to partly consolidated, with residue
15 staining on the sand grains. Also of note, condensate was
16 observed on the mud stick. This denotes a very, very
17 strong show, and as you're well aware, in New Mexico you
18 get a show like this one from the Morrow is very encour-
19 aging and you believe you have a reservoir; in fact, fre-
20 quently you do.

21 At this point in time when drilling was
22 resumed, the samples were passed through a separator to
23 knock out any gas in the brine so that we carried from this
24 point on a steady 6-to-10 foot flare. Later this interval
25 was production tested at 14606 to 625. It was perforated

1 with 20 holes, acidized with 4000 gallons, and in deed it
2 flowed 1.75-million cubic feet of gas per day, decreasing
3 to 100 to 200 MCF of gas per day.

4 At that point in time it was declared
5 uneconomical and no further testing, and a bridge plug was
6 set for an additional uphole attempt.

7 We feel that that zone was not adequate-
8 ly evaluated, and that's another reason why we feel we have
9 a location to drill in the east half.

10 Another zone of interest would at 14740
11 to 744 on the mud log. It correlates to 14728 to 732 on
12 the electric logs, excuse me, the CNL density.

13 Here we see porosities up to 10 percent
14 with cross plot porosities in the neighborhood of 6 per-
15 cent. Again we see resistivities in the range of 35 ohms.
16 We call this equivalent to the Warren Sand. Here we see
17 while drilling behind the separator, we increased the flare
18 from 6-to-8 foot to 10-to-20 foot and the density logs re-
19 flected a good, good-looking zone, so we feel like we have
20 potential here in the Warren Sand. In fact, the samples
21 reflect a very fine-grained consolidated sand, also sub-
22 angular to rounded, partially glauconitic.

23 Q What does that mean. partially glauco-
24 nitic?

25 A That's an indication of the environment

1 of deposition. Glauconite is -- is member of the mica
2 family. It's authigenic mineral often associated with
3 marine sediments, and it's seen in the samples as unusual-
4 ly bright green.

5 This zone was not production tested, we
6 further know.

7 Q Mr. Broten, what you're leading up to is
8 that all of the prospective zones that Midland Phoenix is
9 going to look at in drilling the proposed well, have not
10 been condemned by the well in --

11 A We feel the Moore 34 is a -- is not con-
12 demning the location. In fact it's confirming the fact
13 that there is potential for production within the immediate
14 area.

15 Q Well, can you tell us why that well was
16 -- in your opinion why it was abandoned?

17 A Well, this was at a point in time when
18 we were still, as referred to earlier, in the baby stage of
19 the learning curve in the ranch -- Pitchfork Ranch Field
20 development, excuse me, and we were basically flying blind
21 at the time and we oftentimes were too hasty in some of our
22 evaluations, and I believe this gives us -- this is an ex-
23 ample of that.

24 Q Did the mud have anything to do with the
25 way you were drilling the well or anything with the Morrow

1 formation?

2 A (Inaudible) when the well was TD'd.
3 Carrying on in that same vein, we note that at that point,
4 I'll refer to it on the mud log as 15220 to 272, correlat-
5 ing to a CNL density at 15196 to 248. We see that within
6 that sand interval --

7 Q You're talking about what sand interval?

8 A I'm sorry, the Morrow Sand series.

9 Q The Morrow, okay.

10 A C Sand. We see that we took a strong,
11 strong gas show while drilling. The well was shut in.
12 They experienced 1400 to 1600 pounds, which increased later
13 to 2200 pounds on the back side. Meanwhile they were cir-
14 culating gas through the choke at a 2.2 to 2.4-million
15 cubic feet per gas rate, per day, I'm sorry. At this point
16 they were displacing. We note that as they get back to
17 drilling, even with this heavy mud they are still carrying
18 a flare that's still going through the separator and they
19 began to add lost circulation material due to the fact that
20 they began to experience circulation problems.

21 Our contention here is we don't know
22 where that lost circulation material was in fact going , so
23 we feel that there is a potential that all the exposed
24 zones have a possibility of being damaged from this lost
25 circulation material, which would later affect the produc-

1 tion test and/or as well as the C Sand itself, possibly.

2 Q Is the Morrow formation a sensitive
3 formation in this area?

4 A Absolutely. In fact, while with HNG we
5 ran FCM work, which is (unclear) it's electron microscope
6 work on samples. I can't say the word, but the slang is
7 FCM work, and at that point we had information as to how
8 sensitive this Morrow is in this immediate area, and that's
9 -- that was post -- that was post information to the
10 drilling of this well. We didn't have that information
11 prior to this well being drilled.

12 Q How would you complete a well now into
13 the Morrow formation in terms of what kind of mud program
14 would you use, knowing what you know now?

15 A Well, always to be under balanced when-
16 ever possible, and that's in fact what we try to reflect in
17 our AFE, is to be under balanced as much as possible when-
18 ever we encounter these Morrow sands and to case off the
19 higher pressure zones to protect the integrity of the lower
20 pressured sands.

21 Q Does the size of the hole down at --
22 have anything to do with that?

23 A I feel they were -- they were operating
24 in a handicapped situation as a 4-3/4 hole is a production
25 engineer's nightmare as far as getting a -- they'd rather

1 have a larger hole to work with. They'd rather have a
2 larger hole but it is not impossible to complete a well if
3 procedures are taken to protect those individual sands.

4 So I'd say to you it's not -- it can be
5 a factor if not handled properly but it's -- if handled
6 properly, the 4-3/4 hole would not be a problem.

7 Q Okay. I don't think you answered my
8 question in terms of mud itself, --

9 A Oh, I'm sorry.

10 Q -- how would you handle the mud in the
11 Morrow at this time?

12 A If -- if we encountered a similar show
13 within the C Sand, we would basically try to get that --
14 first off we'd have the upper zones already cased off most
15 likely. It depends, we've got several different scenarios
16 that potentially may happen out here, and it depends on
17 what scenario we are faced with when we reach the C Sand.

18 Q But you do want to --

19 A We would -- we would protect the inte-
20 grity of the sand by whatever possible means we could.

21 Q But would you --

22 A Absolutely.

23 Q -- would you use mud to control the well
24 like --

25 A We would -- I tell you what, we wouldn't