1 2	STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION State Land Office Building Santa Fe, New Mexico		
3	19 June 1985		
4	EXAMINER HEARING		
5			
6	IN THE MATTER OF:		
7	Application of Hondo Drilling Com- CASE		
8	pany for hardship gas well class- 8610		
9	ification, Eddy County, New Mexico.		
10			
11	BEFORE: Michael E. Stogner, Examiner		
12			
13	TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING		
14	APPEARANCES		
15	AFFEARANCES		
16	For the Oil Conservation Jeff Taylor		
17	Division: Attorney at Law Legal Counsel to the Division		
18	State Land Office Bldg.		
19	Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501		
20	For El Paso Natural: John Nance Attorney at Law		
21	El Paso Natural Gas Co.		
22	P. O. Box 1492 El Paso, Texas 79978		
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MR. STOGNER: We will call next

3 | Cases 8609, 8610, and 8611.

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MR. TAYLOR: The applicatin of

5 Hondo Drilling Company for hardship gas well classification,

Eddy County, New Mexico.

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MR. STOGNER: We will call for

appearances at this time. Mr. Nance.

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MR. NANCE: Mr. Examiner, rep-

resenting El Paso National Gas Company, my name is John

Nance.

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For purposes of hearing at

13 these hearings I'm associated with the firm of Montgomery

14 and Andrews of Santa Fe.

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MR. STOGNER: Do you have a

16 statement at this time, Mr. Nance?

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MR. NANCE: Yes, sir, Mr. Exa-

18 miner.

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El Paso understands that the

20 hearing in these cases has been postponed again until July

21 2nd.

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We would like to reiterate the

position stated by Perry Pearce on behalf of El Paso at the

24 | May 22nd call of these hearings.

El Paso is concerned that pro

duction in the State of New Mexico be ratable. We recognize
that to the extent that a well is granted hardship status,
that it has an impact on other wells that are subject to the
proration rules in the state.

We feel that any well that is granted an emergency hardship classification, as has been done in this case, and where such classification is continued during the delays that are involved in the several continuances of the hearing, that those wells are infringing on and abusing the procedure that allows an emergency classification to be granted.

the July 2nd hearing consideration should be given by the Examiner to dismissing the applications at that point. We recognize that there has been a proposal made that a second continuance in cases like this be grounds for dismissal of the application. We would support the position like that.

In this particular circumstance there perhaps has not been notice of that suggested procedure to the applicant and it may not be appropriate in this particular circumstance to dismiss the applications outright, but very strong consideration should be given to that and particular attention should be paid to the -- to the case that is presented by the applicant in order to justify the hardship well classification here.

MR. STOGNER: Is that every-1 thing, Mr. Nance? I think that will MR. NANCE: 3 suffice real fast for today but we do intend to be here on 4 July 2nd. 5 MR. STOGNER: Thank you, Mr. 6 Nance. Your comments will be so noted in the record. 7 MR. NANCE: Thank you, Mr. 8 Stogner. 9 MR. STOGNER: At the request of 10 the applicant and upon instructions from the Division Direc-11 tor, Cases Number 8609, 8610, and 8611 will be continued to 12 the Examiner's Hearing scheduled for July 2nd, 1985. 13 14 (Hearing concluded.) 15 16 17 I do here the foregoing is 18 and sin the control of all supposed selection. 19 heard by a son ________ 19 ____. 20 ____, Exami**ner** Oil Conservation Division 21 22 23 24 25

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I, SALLY W. BOYD, C.S.R., DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Transcript of Hearing before the Oil Conservation Division was reported by me; that the said transcript is a full, true, and correct record of the hearing, prepared by me to the best of my ability.

Solly les. Boyd CSTZ

I do hereby contify that the foregoing is a complete where the proceedings in the European earlier of Loss of 1985.

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Oll Conservation Division

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 1 STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 2 5 June 1935 3 EXAMINER HEARING 5 IN THE MATTER OF: 7 Application of Hondo Drilling Company CASE 8 for hardship gas well classification, 8610 Eddy County, New Mexico. 9 10 11 12 BEFORE: Gilbert P. Quintana, Examiner 13 14 TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING 15 16 APPEARANCES 17 18 19 20 For the Oil Conservation Jeff Taylor Division: Attorney at Law Legal Counsel to the Division 21 State Land Office Bldg. 22 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 23 24 For the Applicant: 25

MR. QUINTANA: We'll call next

Case 8609.

MS. LUNDERMAN: Application of

Hondo Drilling Company for hardship gas well classification,

Eddy County, New Mexico.

Mr. Hearing Examiner, there has

been a motion for continuance until June 19th.

MR. QUINTANA: For the sake of

expediency, let's just say that Cases 8609, 8610, and 8611,

all applications of Hondo Drilling Company for hardship gas

well location, they will all be continued until June 19th,

1985.

(Hearing concluded.)

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I, SALLY W. BOYD, C.S.R., DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Transcript of Hearing before the Oil Conservation Division was reported by me; that the said transcript is a full, true, and correct record of the hearing, prepared by me to the best of my ability.

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                                MR.
                                   STOGNER:
                                               Call next Case
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   Number 8609.
3
                                      TAYLOR:
                                MR.
                                               Application of
   Hondo Drilling Company for hardship gas well classification,
   Eddy County, New Mexico.
                                MR. PEARCE:
                                              Once again,
                                                            Mr.
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   Examiner, I am W. Perry Pearce of the law firm Montgomery
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   and Andrews of Santa Fe, representing El Paso Natural Gas
   Company.
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                                We request that we be allowed
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   to make a statement at this time in Cases 9609, 9610, and
12
   9611, rather than having the El Paso personnel make another
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   trip for these cases.
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                                MR. STOGNER: At this time I'm
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   going to call Case 8610 and 8611, which are both applica-
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   tions of Hondo Drilling Company for hardship gas well clas-
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   sification, Eddy County, New Mexico.
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                                Tne
                                      applicant has requested
19
   that these cases be continued to the Examiner Hearing sched-
20
   uled for June 19th, 1985.
                                At this time we will consoli-
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   date these cases for the purposes that a statement may be
24
   made by El Paso Natural.
                                Please continue, Mr. Pearce.
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MR. PEARCE: Thank you, Mr. 1 Examiner, I appreciate it. 2 As you stated, Examiner, Mr. 3 these cases are on the applications of Hondo Oil & Gas pany for hardship gas well determinations. 5 In each of these cases El Paso Matural Gas is the purchaser of gas from the wells and has 7 for some period of time been attempting to arrive at a co-8 operative effort with the operator of these wells to assure 9 ratable taking of gas from them. 10 El Paso Natural Gas has in fact 11 incurred substantial added expense on each of the wells in-12 volved in these three cases by installing additional valves 13 that El Paso would control at the wells in question so that 14 they can be regulated to produce only a ratable amount of 15 16 gas. These efforts began in approxi-17 18 mately May of 1984. 19 Now, approximately a year later 20 the applicant has applied for hardship gas well classification after El Paso has incurred substantial additional ex-21

El Paso has now journeyed to Santa Fe to participate in this hearing which should finally resolve the questions of whether or not these wells are pro-

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pense.

perly entitled to hardship gas well classification. On arriving at Santa Fe, El Paso discovered that the applicant in these cases has requested continuance until June 19th of 19°5.

These wells currently are producing under emergency hardship gas well classification granted by the District Supervisor and our review of the correspondence from the District Supervisor to the applicant in these cases indicates to us a very wide range of producing abilities of these wells.

Running through them, one well has been granted emergency hardship classification for 285 MCF per day; another for 722; one for 11 MCF; one for 7.35 MCF; one well has been granted emergency hardship gas well classification for 1000 MCF a day; one for 40; and one for 322.

Mr. Examiner, we request that the Division carefully review each of these applications to insure that in order to prevent underground vaste it's necessary for that amount of gas to be produced from any of these wells if, in fact, any steady production is necessary.

In addition, El Paso is concerned that these cases not be continuously continued until the full ninety-day period is up. Our recollection is that when these rules were instituted the ninety-day period was

1 inserted to insure that the Division would have sufficient
2 time to act on these applications. I not understand that
3 grant of ninety days to be a guaranteed ninety days produc-

tion under that emergency status.

We would request that these cases not be granted another continuance after June 19th; that is the applicant is not prepared to go forward at that time, we would request that the cases be dismissed and that the emergency hardship status be terminated.

Once again, Mr. Examiner, El Paso understands that there are wells which deserve and need hardship classification in order to prevent underground waste. We think the historically pursued goal of ratable taking, which has been pursued by the State of New Mexico and El Paso Natural Gas, is an important element in the natural gas production system of the State of New Mexico.

Therefore, we ask you to carefully review each application brought before you to insure that all possible steps have been taken; to interfere in the least possible way with the ratable take system; and that no hardship gas well classification be granted unless the granting of the application is necessary to prevent underground waste.

Thank you, sir.

MR. STOGNER: Thank you, Mr.

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Pearce, your statement will be made part of the record on ech of these cases. Is there anything further any case -- in Cases 8609, 8610, or 8611 to be considered at this time? If not, all three of these cases will be continued to the Examiner's hearing scheduled for June 5th, 1985, at which time they will be continued again to the Examiner Hearig scheduled for June 19th, 1985. (Hearing concluded.)

CERTIFICATE

I, SALLY W. BOYD, C.S.R., DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Transcript of Hearing before the Oil Conservation Division was reported by me; that the said transcript is a full, true, and correct record of the hearing, prepared by me to the best of my ability.

Jany W. Boyd CSR

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