1	STATE OF NEW MEXICO						
2	ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT						
3	OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION						
4							
5	IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING)						
6	CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERRVATION) 5 DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF) CONSIDERING:) CASE NO. 10936						
7 8	APPLICATION OF STRATA PRODUCTION COMPANY						
9	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS						
10	EXAMINER HEARING						
11							
12	BEFORE: Jim Morrow, Hearing Examiner						
13	March 17, 1994 MAY 19 1994						
14	Santa Fe, New Mexico						
15							
16	This matter came on for hearing before the Oil						
17	Conservation Division on March 17, 1994, at Morgan Hall,						
18	State Land Office Building, 310 Old Santa Fe Trail,						
19	Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Diana S. Abeyta, RPR, Certified						
20	Court Reporter No. 168, for the State of New Mexico.						
21							
22	ORIGINAL APP.						
23	ORIGINAL APR 4 1994						
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1				A	P	PEARANCES
2						
3	FOR	THE	DIVISION:			ROBERT G. STOVALL, ESQ. General Counsel
4						Oil Conservation Commission State Land Office Building
5						310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
6	FOR	THE	APPLICANT:			•
7	- 010					Post Office Box 1216 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103
8						BY: SEALY H. CAVIN, JR., ESQ.
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- 1 EXAMINER MORROW: Call the hearing back to order
- 2 and call case 10936.
- 3 MR. STOVALL: Application of Strata Production
- 4 Company for an unorthodox oil well location, Eddy County,
- 5 New Mexico.
- 6 EXAMINER MORROW: Call for appearances.
- 7 MR. CAVIN: Mr. Examiner, Sealy Cavin with the
- 8 law firm of Stratton & Cavin. I represent the applicant
- 9 Strata Production Company in this matter, and we have two
- 10 witnesses to call.
- 11 EXAMINER MORROW: Witnesses stand, please.
- MR. STOVALL: They have already been sworn, Mr.
- 13 Examiner, so I think we can proceed. Sworn and qualified.
- 14 MR. CAVIN: Mr. Examiner, before we begin, I
- 15 would like to point out that we have a procedural problem, I
- 16 believe, in that we advertised as a test of the Nash Draw
- 17 Brushy Canyon. What we are proposing and will present
- 18 evidence of today, while we do intend to look at the Nash
- 19 Draw Brushy Canyon while drilling to the deeper objective,
- 20 we're proposing to drill this well to the base of the second
- 21 Bone Springs Sands.
- 22 And we would like to go ahead, because we have
- 23 everyone here, present the testimony. As you'll see as we
- 24 present the testimony, there is no mailing by notice because
- 25 all the offset operators are within the unit. So it would

- 1 just be a matter of republishing, as we see it.
- 2 EXAMINER MORROW: What do you say, Attorney?
- 3 MR. STOVALL: He's probably right. Just take a
- 4 look at it real quick. I think that's correct. We can just
- 5 readvertise and continue the case to -- I guess we'll have
- 6 to continue it for two hearings.
- 7 MR. CAVIN: Yes, sir. Okay, with that --
- 8 MR. STOVALL: Mr. Cavin, would you get us a
- 9 notice as quickly as possible so that we can get it into the
- 10 papers?
- 11 MR. CAVIN: I will.
- 12 EXAMINER MORROW: Go ahead.
- MR. CAVIN: All right, with that, we'll call our
- 14 first witness, Ms. Kim Allison.
- 15 KIM ALLISON
- 16 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn
- 17 upon her oath, was examined and testified as follows:
- 18 EXAMINATION
- 19 BY MR. CAVIN:
- Q. Ms. Allison, for the record, would you please
- 21 state your name, current employer, and occupation.
- 22 A. My name is Kim Allison. My employer is Strata
- 23 Production Company, where I am a land manager.
- Q. Ms. Allison, have your qualifications as a
- 25 petroleum landman been made a matter of record with the

- 1 division?
- 2 A. Yes, sir.
- 3 O. Was that in case No. 10935?
- 4 A. Yes, it was.
- 5 O. Ms. Allison are you familiar with the land
- 6 matters involved in this case?
- 7 A. Yes, sir.
- MR. CAVIN: Mr. Examiner, are Ms. Allison's
- 9 qualifications an as a petroleum landman acceptable?
- 10 EXAMINER MORROW: Yes.
- O. (BY MR. CAVIN) Ms. Allison, would you briefly
- 12 state what applicant seeks by this application?
- 13 A. Yes. Strata seeks approval of an unorthodox oil
- 14 well location to be drilled to test the second Bone Spring
- 15 formation located in the northeast quarter northwest quarter
- of Section 18 of 23 South, 30 East, Eddy County, New Mexico.
- 17 Q. Have you prepared or directed the preparation of
- any exhibits in connection with this application?
- 19 A. Yes, sir, I have.
- 20 Q. I would refer you to what's marked Strata
- 21 Exhibit 1 and ask you identify that for the examiner.
- 22 A. I've got a plat, which indicates -- it's outlined
- 23 in green -- the Nash Unit Boundaries.
- Q. You previously described the legal descriptions
- in case No. 10935, so I won't impose on you for that. But I

- 1 would ask you to again tell us what kind of unit the Nash
- 2 Unit is.
- 3 A. The Nash Unit is a federal exploratory unit.
- Q. Okay. And again, could you tell us how
- 5 production and cost are allocated within the Nash Unit?
- A. Production and cost are allocated -- it's an
- 7 undivided ownership for the working interest. The working
- 8 interest owners share alike throughout the unit.
- 9 Q. So in the event we drill a well and it's not
- 10 within a participating area, how do you determine who shares
- 11 in production as --
- 12 A. It's figured on a tract basis if it's outside of
- 13 the participating area.
- Q. But that doesn't affect the working interest
- 15 owners --
- 16 A. No, it doesn't.
- 17 Q. -- because their sharing is --
- 18 A. Their sharing alike is uniform throughout the
- 19 unit area.
- 20 O. So it only affects royalty and override owners?
- 21 A. Right. Exactly.
- Q. Ms. Allison, based on your understanding of the
- 23 Nash Unit in this application, is it your opinion that the
- 24 granting of this application will not adversely affect
- 25 correlative rights?

- 1 A. No, sir.
- Q. Ms. Allison, was Exhibit 1 prepared by you or
- 3 under your supervision or direction?
- A. Yes, sir, it was prepared by me.
- 5 Q. Can you testify as to the accuracy of such
- 6 exhibit?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 MR. CAVIN: Mr. Examiner, I move for the
- 9 admission of Exhibit 1.
- 10 EXAMINER MORROW: Exhibit 1 is admitted.
- 11 MR. CAVIN:: That concludes my direct examination
- 12 of Ms. Allison.
- 13 EXAMINER MORROW: Do you have any questions, Bob?
- MR. STOVALL: No.
- 15 EXAMINER MORROW: Thank you, ma'am.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 17 MR. CAVIN: Mr. Examiner, our next witness is Mr.
- 18 Steve Mitchell.
- 19 STEPHEN MITCHELL
- 20 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn
- 21 upon his oath, was examined and testified as follows:
- 22 EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. CAVIN:
- Q. Mr. Mitchell, would you please your state name,
- occupation, and employer for the examiner.

- 1 A. Yeah, my name is Stephen Mitchell. I'm a
- 2 petroleum geologist, and I work for Scott Exploration, Inc.,
- 3 in Roswell, New Mexico.
- 4 Q. Mr. Mitchell, have your qualifications as a
- 5 petroleum geologist been made a matter of record with this
- 6 division?
- 7 A. Yes, they have.
- 8 Q. Was this in case No. 10935?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Mr. Mitchell, are you familiar with the Nash
- 11 Draw-Brushy Canyon Pool?
- 12 A. Yes, I am.
- 13 Q. In particular, are you familiar with the
- 14 application filed in this matter?
- 15 A. Yes, I am.
- MR. CAVIN: Mr. Examiner, we tender Mr. Mitchell
- 17 as an expert witness in petroleum geology.
- 18 EXAMINER MORROW: We accept his qualifications.
- 19 Q. (BY MR. CAVIN) Mr. Mitchell, have you prepared
- 20 or directed the preparation of any exhibits in connection
- 21 with this application?
- 22 A. Yes, I have prepared three exhibits.
- Q. Mr. Mitchell -- and, Mr. Examiner, we have the
- 24 same situation as in Case 10935, wherein there are markings
- on the Exhibits 1 through 3, but as far as Strata exhibit

- 1 numbers, they will be 2 through 4. Just so there's no
- 2 confusion.
- 3 Mr. Mitchell, at this time, I would refer you to
- 4 what's marked as Strata Exhibit No. 2 and ask that you
- 5 identify and describe it for the examiner.
- A. Okay. Exhibit 2 is a topographic map that was
- 7 developed by the U.S.G.S., and this is just a copy of it.
- 8 On this map I show the Potash Life of Mine Reserves, which
- 9 is shown -- it's highlighted in blue. It shows "High
- 10 Pressure Gas Pipeline, " which is highlighted in green. And
- 11 then I show the proration unit that we're interested in
- 12 drilling in, and that's highlighted in pink.
- We have got several problems with getting a
- 14 location in this proration unit that we want to drill in.
- 15 The first and biggest problem is the potash LMR, or Life of
- 16 Mine Reserves. We're required by the potash companies to
- 17 drill a quarter of a mile outside the potash LMR. There's a
- 18 quarter mile buffer zone, so basically, that pushes us all
- 19 the way out of that proration unit. However, I.M.C. Potash
- 20 Company has allowed us to drill about 100 feet inside that
- 21 buffer zone. And so, really, we're restricted to the north
- 22 by that LMR.
- 23 Another restriction that we have is the high
- 24 pressure gas pipeline. As you can see, the pipeline extends
- 25 directly through that proration unit. We're required by the

- 1 BLM and by the pipeline owner to locate our well 200 feet
- 2 from the pipeline. And so although we tried several
- 3 locations out there, this was one of the only locations we
- 4 could fit in there with respect to the pipeline.
- 5 And then the third obstacle we have is surface
- 6 topography. As you can see on the topography map, as you
- 7 move to the east half of the proration unit, the topography
- 8 becomes extremely steep, and the BLM would not allow us to
- 9 put a location on that steep terrain.
- The No. 2 location you can see is just to the
- 11 east of us, and that's an unusually small location, and the
- 12 BLM, at this point, will not allow us to dig into the side
- of a hill and put a location in there. So, really, this was
- 14 really the only location that we were able to get -- this is
- 15 the only location that we were able to get approved by the
- 16 BLM.
- 17 Q. Mr. Mitchell, you say you've gotten approval from
- 18 the potash operators. Which operator?
- 19 A. It's I.M.C. Potash.
- 20 O. And that approval extends to the base of the
- 21 Delaware?
- 22 A. That approval extends to the base of the Delaware
- 23 and we're awaiting approval on the Bone Spring.
- Q. So any request you would make of the division
- 25 would be conditioned on your obtaining that approval from

- 1 the potash operator for this new lower depth?
- 2 A. Yes, that's correct. If we don't get approval
- 3 from the potash company, then we would only drill to the
- 4 Delaware, the base of the Delaware.
- 5 EXAMINER MORROW: Will you have that by the 16th?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. (BY MR. CAVIN) Now, so if you don't get --
- 8 you'll either have it or you won't have it, and we'll be
- 9 able to let the division know whether we have approval to go
- 10 to the base of the Delaware or the base of the second Bone
- 11 Spring Sand?
- 12 A. Yes, we should acquire a letter agreement from
- 13 I.M.C. Potash. I'm sure we'll get a verbal and then
- 14 followed by a letter agreement.
- 15 Q. So are there any other locations or what other
- 16 locations could you drill in that Northeast, Northwest
- 17 quarter, Mr. Mitchell? As I understood, there are really
- 18 very few.
- 19 A. I feel this is really the only location we would
- 20 be able to get approved. We cannot move north. We can't
- 21 move east, and we have to stay away from the high pressure
- 22 pipeline.
- Q. Okay. Mr. Mitchell, I would next refer you to
- 24 what is marked as Strata Exhibit 3 and ask that you identify
- 25 and describe that for the division. Before you do that, I

- 1 would just ask, is this the same structure map that you
- 2 provided in Case No. 10935?
- A. Yes, this is the same structure map. And I'm not
- 4 sure exactly how much bearing it will have on this decision,
- 5 other than we did not want to move any further to the east,
- 6 because we would be increasing our risk of finding an
- oil-water contact. But, we're really restricted anyway by
- 8 topography.
- 9 Q. So the conclusion reached from this map is you
- 10 want to move this as far west as you can?
- 11 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 12 O. But still drill this proration unit?
- 13 A. We want to drill this proration unit. I guess
- 14 what I'm saying is we don't want to move an entire proration
- unit to the east, because we would be increasing our risk
- 16 significantly.
- 17 EXAMINER MORROW: Is No. 20 spotted on this map?
- 18 I hadn't found it.
- THE WITNESS: Which map, sir? Okay, yes,
- 20 number -- should be on there. I've got it spotted on mine.
- 21 It should be in Section 18 there, just west of the No. 2 of
- 22 qas well.
- EXAMINER MORROW: Oh, yeah, I got it.
- Q. (BY MR. CAVIN) Mr. Mitchell, I would next refer
- 25 you to what is marked as Strata Exhibit No. 4 and ask that

- 1 you identify and describe that for the examiner.
- 2 A. Exhibit No. 4 is essentially a basic economic
- 3 analysis regarding drilling to the first and second Bone
- 4 Spring Sandstone Pay.
- 5 The reason I included this is I feel if we're not
- 6 able to drill down to the Bone Spring formation, I think
- 7 we'll have some undue waste of resources. The economics
- 8 provided indicate that we could not -- it wouldn't be
- 9 economically viable to drill just to the Bone Spring; we
- 10 need both the Delaware reserves and the Bone Spring
- 11 reserves.
- 12 So the economic parameters below here -- well,
- 13 let me go back. The Bone Spring Sandstone reservoirs have
- 14 very steep declines. They typically require very extensive
- 15 frac treatments and only produce an average of 50- to 60,000
- 16 barrels of crude, and approximately a 2000 to 1 GOR, so
- 17 about 120 million cubic feet of gas. Within a year -- they
- 18 may initially produce about 150 barrels of oil per day, but
- 19 within a year, they typically decline to about 30 barrels
- 20 per day.
- 21 So what I show here on my Economic Parameters was
- 22 60,000 barrels of oil; ultimate recovery, 120 million cubic
- 23 feet of gas. Based on my AFE, to drill just to the -- to
- 24 just complete the Bone Spring and exclude the Delaware, a
- 25 cost of \$628,000, and the average net revenue interest we

- 1 have in there is 75 percent. Typical lifting costs of \$2.50
- 2 a barrel. Present value of oil is \$14, and value of gas at
- 3 the 2.0 per mcf, minus tax of 8 percent.
- 4 And below are the Economic Projections, which
- 5 shows that based on the 60,000 barrels and all these other
- 6 economic parameters, an ultimate recovery -- or ultimate
- 7 payback of \$683,100, and that's nondiscounted, so that might
- 8 take 10 years. So really, the actual value would be less
- 9 than that. Just based on nondiscounted dollars, the return
- on investment would only be a 1.08 to 1, and it wouldn't be
- 11 economically feasible to drill only to the Bone Spring.
- So, really, while we're drilling these Delaware
- 13 wells, if we're going to recover these Bone Spring reserves
- 14 we need to drill them at the same time. We need to drill
- that extra 2,000 feet to recover those Bone Spring reserves.
- 16 The additional cost of drilling to the Bone
- 17 Spring on the Delaware wells is approximately, about
- 18 approximately 90,000 additional dollars. Total cost of
- 19 \$716,000. So that makes it \$90,000 extra to recover an
- 20 additional 60,000 barrels of oil.
- 21 O. Why wouldn't someone if they were -- your point
- 22 that you don't think people would drill just to develop the
- 23 Bone Springs, would people drill deeper to develop deep
- 24 rights and then have a chance of developing Bone Spring?
- 25 A. Well, first of all, the Pennsylvanian and deeper

- 1 horizons are drilled on 320-acre spacing, so even if
- 2 somebody did decide to try and drill another deep well in
- 3 there, they would only drill one well in that 320 acres.
- 4 Secondly, there's already been a deep
- 5 Pennsylvanian test in there. It was a marginal producer on
- 6 that west half of Section 18. So it's unlikely there will
- 7 be another deep well drilled in that west half of Section
- 8 18.
- 9 O. What's the footage differential between the base
- 10 of the Bone Spring and the base of the Second --
- 11 A. Approximately --
- 12 Q. I'm sorry. The base of the Delaware and the
- 13 Second Bone Spring.
- 14 A. And the base of the Second Bone Spring Sand is
- 15 approximately 2,000 feet.
- 16 O. You estimated the cost to drill and set casing to
- 17 that extra depth would be about \$100,000?
- 18 A. About \$100,000 additional cost.
- 19 Q. Why are you picking this location for the Bone
- 20 Spring test? Is this something you've been thinking about
- 21 all along in your development out there?
- 22 A. Yes. We looked at the Bone Spring. We've talked
- 23 about trying to drill some Bone Spring wells out there.
- 24 Based on mud log shows that were encountered in the Nash
- 25 No. 2 well, and based on the porosity logs, this would be

- 1 the best location to test the Bone Spring Sandstone. To
- 2 date, these zones have not been tested in the Nash Unit. We
- 3 have the highest porosity and the best mud log shows in the
- 4 Nash No. 2 well, so the Nash 20 would be the optimum
- 5 location to test the Bone Spring.
- 6 Q. Do you have much familiarity with the Bone Spring
- 7 in this part, in this region?
- 8 A. Yes. Well, I worked the Bone Spring for several
- 9 years. We probably drilled, oh, in the last eight years, we
- 10 probably completed 10 or 12 Bone Spring Sandstone wells. I
- 11 examined most of the Bone Spring Sand production in this
- 12 area and looked at many different scenarios on decline
- 13 curves, and of course, 60,000 barrels is a good average
- 14 production. Eventually, you'll get a high side of 100,000
- barrels to 130,000, but that's, you know, 1 out of 30 wells
- 16 do that.
- 17 Q. But in any case, it is your opinion that it's
- 18 unlikely the Bone Spring will be developed unless it's
- 19 developed in conjunction with the Delaware?
- 20 A. Yes, that's correct.
- Q. Mr. Mitchell, based on your understanding of this
- 22 area in the Delaware, in the Bone Spring, is it your opinion
- 23 that the granting of this application would be in the
- 24 interest of conservation, the prevention of waste, and the
- 25 protection of correlative rights?

- 1 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Mr. Mitchell, were Exhibits 2 through 4 prepared
- 3 by you or under your supervision or direction?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 MR. CAVIN: Mr. Examiner, I would move for the
- 6 admission of Exhibits 2 through 4.
- 7 EXAMINER MORROW: Exhibits 2 through 4 are
- 8 admitted.
- 9 MR. CAVIN: Mr. Examiner, I have no further
- 10 questions of Mr. Mitchell at this time.
- 11 EXAMINATION
- 12 BY EXAMINER MORROW:
- 13 Q. I believe that you indicate on your application
- 14 that this would be for geological reasons as well as surface
- 15 location, and the reasons are -- the request was because of
- 16 the pipeline and the steep hill and the LMR; was that the
- 17 reason for --
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. No geological reasons for the request?
- 20 A. The only geological reason would be that we did
- 21 not want to move further downdip structurally over to the
- 22 next proration unit. This was the only acceptable location
- 23 within that proration unit by the BLM. So the only other
- 24 alternative would be to move further to the east, which
- 25 would increase risk.

- 1 MR. STOVALL: Are you aware that this could have
- 2 been processed administratively if it's due to topographic?
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes, it's just that it wasn't
- 4 strictly topographic.
- 5 MR. STOVALL: Topography drove you from an
- 6 orthodox location and geology drove you west; is that what
- 7 you are saying?
- 8 THE WITNESS: Actually, topography probably
- 9 dictated -- I think the LMR really dictated that we may have
- 10 an unorthodox location, and topography also was a key
- 11 factor. It possibly could have been topography alone, but I
- 12 thought it would be good that we present all the problems
- 13 we're having out there.
- 14 Q. (BY EXAMINER MORROW) Well, you really didn't
- 15 present any geological information on the Bone Spring, I
- 16 don't believe, did you?
- 17 A. No, sir, I did not.
- 18 Q. And if we or I.M.C. don't approve the deeper
- 19 test, you do plan to still drill this as a Delaware Brushy
- 20 Canyon Well?
- A. Yes, sir, we do.
- 22 MR. STOVALL: I take it you consider the LMR a
- 23 geologic and not a topographic reason, is that what you're
- 24 saying?
- THE WITNESS: The LMR, I guess, is geologic

- 1 because it's based on potash.
- 2 MR. STOVALL: I can see where there's some
- 3 confusion about that. For your information, I think that it
- 4 would, for your purposes, be considered topographic because
- 5 the geology would have to do with the reservoir that you're
- 6 interested in. You have no control over the LMR and where
- 7 it's designated, so just for your future reference.
- 8 THE WITNESS: So try to take care of this
- 9 administratively next time?
- MR. STOVALL: Yeah. I mean, you're here anyway,
- 11 so I guess it wasn't a real burden to do the rest of it, but
- 12 I don't think you have to consider it a geological case
- 13 simply because you have a potash consideration under
- 14 R-111-P.
- O. (BY EXAMINER MORROW) Under R-111-P will you
- 16 comply with all the casing requirements for --
- 17 A. Yes, sir. In fact, in the APD it's already been
- 18 submitted to the BLM. That's been considered, and we'll set
- 19 three strings of casing, one will be through the potash, and
- 20 we will circulate cement on our production casing up into
- 21 the immediate casing to protect the potash.
- 22 EXAMINER MORROW: Thank you, sir.
- THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- MR. CAVIN:: Mr. Examiner, if I might just add a
- 25 few things. I have provided an affidavit as Exhibit 5. We

- 1 have not provided any notice by mailing, and I believe
- 2 that's appropriate and consistent with the rules.
- 3 I quess I would also just ask for some
- 4 instruction to make sure I understand. We are going to have
- 5 this republished and also we will get you information as to
- 6 whether I.M.C. approves a Bone Spring well at that location,
- 7 and with that, we can --
- 8 MR. STOVALL: Mr. Cavin, I think if you can get
- 9 an answer from I.M.C. today or tomorrow, or I guess, Tuesday
- 10 actually would be your deadline for getting a notice up to
- 11 us, if in fact, I.M.C. does not approve your Bone Spring
- 12 location, then you don't have an advertising problem.
- MR. CAVIN: Okay, good. We'll we work on that
- 14 and make sure --
- 15 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- 16 MR. CAVIN: And then we'll get that resolved, and
- 17 then we won't have to readvertise it.
- 18 MR. STOVALL: And if you so advise the division,
- 19 then we can proceed -- tell you what let's do, is let's put
- 20 it on the docket for two weeks from today.
- MR. CAVIN: Okay.
- 22 MR. STOVALL: And then if it needs readvertising,
- 23 we'll readvertise it for four weeks. That way it can be
- 24 taken under advisement in two weeks and you don't have to
- 25 wait the four that covers the procedural --

- 1 MR. CAVIN: We'll go ahead and get it going.
- 2 Just for my edification, so you, the commission or division,
- 3 views the potash restrictions as a topographic problem for
- 4 purposes of --
- 5 MR. STOVALL: The geologic issue would be whether
- 6 you gain a geologic production advantage. For example, in
- 7 this case, you know, if you had had a choice of unorthodox
- 8 locations to go to, or if there was an orthodox location you
- 9 could have gotten to on the surface, but you chose not to go
- 10 to an orthodox location because it was disadvantageous in
- 11 the geologic strata you were going to and you chose to go
- 12 unorthodox in a different direction. But the geologic issue
- issue is not a question of the potash, because that has
- 14 really nothing to do with the oil and gas itself; it has to
- do with where you can locate -- for your purposes, potash is
- 16 still on the surface, I quess.
- 17 EXAMINER MORROW: See, it's a surface problem;
- 18 that's the way I describe it too.
- MR. CAVIN: All right. Okay, then so this case
- 20 will be continued, and we'll have it published, and in the
- 21 interim, we'll find out whether I.M.C. will approve and
- 22 we'll advise the commission.
- 23 MR. STOVALL: What I suggest you do, the course
- 24 you follow is we'll continue it for two weeks as of this
- 25 docket. You will, between now and Tuesday, find out whether

- 1 I.M.C. -- and if they don't, you know, if you don't get an
- answer, I guess you're better off going ahead and
- 3 advertising.
- 4 If you don't get an answer or if you get an
- 5 affirmative answer that they would consent to your drilling,
- if you will then provide us with a readvertisement text,
- 7 just changing to test both the Brushy Canyon and the Bone
- 8 Springs, then we will proceed to advertise it, and then
- 9 continue it on to the four weeks from today for the purpose
- 10 of letting that run.
- MR. CAVIN: Okay. So we don't need to do
- 12 anything further to continue it? You know, just do that?
- MR. STOVALL: Correct. Well, you need to advise
- 14 us by Tuesday whether or not we need to readvertise or just
- 15 bring it up on the next docket and take it under advisement.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Excuse me. So in the future, if
- 17 the location is dictated by LMR is that to be handled
- 18 administratively or is that to be handled with a hearing?
- MR. CAVIN: It's a surface problem --
- 20 THE WITNESS: It's a surface problem, so it's
- 21 administrative.
- MR. CAVIN: Administrative.
- MR. STOVALL: Correct. Yeah, LMR doesn't give
- 24 you -- you don't choose -- it is a geological consideration
- 25 for the potash companies. It's a surface problem for you

1	because they draw a line on a piece of paper and that tells
2	you where you've got to go.
3	MR. CAVIN: Of course, we're going within that
4	line so, conceivably, I guess you could say Well, I guess
5	we could have pushed it, you know, sort of
6	EXAMINER MORROW: Well, I think you said they
7	waived 300 feet or something like that.
8	MR. CAVIN: Okay.
9	MR. STOVALL: And in this case, of course, you're
10	encroaching on yourself, so you eliminate some correlative
11	rights concerns there.
12	EXAMINER MORROW: What else?
13	MR. CAVIN:: That's it. Thank you, sir.
14	EXAMINER MORROW: Thank you.
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2 3 4	STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
5	I, Diana S. Abeyta, Certified Shorthand Reporter
6	and Notary Public, HEREBY CERTIFY that I caused my notes to
7	be transcribed under my personal supervision, and that the
8	foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the
9	proceedings of said hearing.
10	I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative or
11	employee of any of the parties or attorneys involved in this
12	matter and that I have no personal interest in the final
13	disposition of this matter.
14	
15	
16	WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL, March 28, 1994.
18	
19	Dina Laberta
20	DIANA S. ABEYTA CCR No. 168
21	
22	I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the processings to
23	the Examiner hearing of Case No. 10936
24	
25	Oil Conservation Division

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