

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
STATE LAND OFFICE BLDG.
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

18 December 1985

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

The application of Eastland Oil
Company for a unit agreement,
Eddy County, New Mexico;

and

The application of Eastland Oil
Company for a waterflood project,
Eddy County, New Mexico.

CASE
8786 +
8787

BEFORE: Michael E. Stogner, Examiner

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Division:

Jeff Taylor
Attorney at Law
Legal Counsel to the Division
Energy and Minerals Dept.
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

For the Applicant:

W. Thomas Kellahin
Attorney at Law
KELLAHIN & KELLAHIN
P. O. Box 2265
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

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I N D E X

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GEORGE NEAL

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E X H I B I T S

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13 Eastland Exhibit One, Map 6

14 Eastland Exhibit Two, 8

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23 Schematics

24 Eastland Exhibit Eighteen, Document 22

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MR. STOGNER: We'll call next

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Case 8786.

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MR. TAYLOR: The application of
The Eastland Company for a unit agreement, Eddy County, New
Mexico.

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MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner
please, for purposes of taking testimony today we would re-
quest that you consolidate Case 8786 with Case 8787.

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MR. STOGNER: Are there any ob-

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jections?

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There being none, we'll call

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next Case 8787.

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MR. TAYLOR: The application of
The Eastland Oil Company for a waterflood project, Eddy
County, New Mexico.

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MR. STOGNER: Call for appear-

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ances in this matter.

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MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner
please, I'm Tom Kellahin of Santa Fe, New Mexico, appearing
on behalf of the applicant and I have one witness to be
sworn.

21

22

23

MR. STOGNER: Are there any

24

other appearances in either one of these cases?

25

Will the witness please stand

1 and be sworn at this time?

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3

(Witness sworn.)

4

5

GEORGE NEAL,

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being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his

7

oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

8

9

DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

11

Q Mr. Neal, for the record would you please

12

state your name and occupation?

13

A George Neal. I'm Vice President of East-

14

land Oil Company.

15

Q Mr. Neal, have you previously testified

16

before the Oil Conservation Division?

17

A I have.

18

Q And have you so testified in your capaci-

19

ty as an engineer?

20

A I have.

21

Q Pursuant to your employment by your com-

22

pany, Mr. Neal, have you made a study of the facts surround-

23

ing Eastland's application for approval of a waterflood pro-

24

ject and a unit agreement in Eddy County, New Mexico?

25

A Yes, I have.

1 MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner
2 please, we tender Mr. Neal as an expert engineer.

3 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Neal is so
4 qualified.

5 Q Mr. Neal, let me direct you to what is
6 marked as Exhibit Number One, and to orient the Examiner as
7 to what your company seeks to accomplish with this applica-
8 tion, would you first of all identify for us how you've in-
9 dicated the outer boundary of the proposed unit on Exhibit
10 Number One?

11 A The limits of the boundaries of the so-
12 called Power Grayburg Unit have been determined by salt
13 water determination on the electric logs as being 50 percent
14 average salt water saturation. It's been drawn through the
15 contour map and the proration units within this 50 percent
16 average salt water saturation limits have been designated in
17 a unit.

18 Q The outer boundary of the unit is indi-
19 cated by the dashed black line?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q And what type of acreage is involved in
22 this unit, Mr. Neal?

23 A It is all Federal acreage.

24 Q In terms of the formation to be the sub-
25 ject of the unit and the waterflood, is this the Grayburg

1 section of the Powers Grayburg-San Andres Pool?

2 A That is correct. It's only the Grayburg
3 sands.

4 Q Is there any San Andres production within
5 the unit?

6 A There is none.

7 Q All right. So that the examiner will
8 know what your basic application involves, Mr. Neal, would
9 you identify for him on Exhibit One how you have indicated
10 the proposed injection well?

11 A The injection wells are surrounded by a
12 triangle and they have been colored, I believe, on all the
13 exhibits in yellow.

14 Q How many injection wells do you propose?

15 A There are four injection wells within the
16 unit limits.

17 Q And how many producing wells will produce
18 for the unit?

19 A There will be five producing wells.

20 Q And how are those indicated?

21 A The circles around the producing wells.

22 Q I notice in the northwest corner of Sec-
23 tion 6, in the southeast of the northwest there is a 40-acre
24 tract just outside the unit and there is a well symbol on
25 that tract. It says the Kenwood Federal No. 4?

1 A That is presently a producing -- did pro-
2 duce from the deeper formation and it is now a salt water
3 disposal well used to dispose of salt water produced in the
4 Power Grayburg-San Andres Pool.

5 Q Let me direct your attention now to Exhi-
6 bit Number Two, Mr. Neal, and have you describe for us gen-
7 erally what has been the primary production history for the
8 Grayburg wells in the proposed unit.

9 A The cumulative production through January
10 the 1st, 1985, has been 452,000 barrels and these last
11 stages of primary production is estimated an additional
12 37,000 barrels to be produced by primary production.

13 Presently the wells are making on the
14 average about three barrels per day per well.

15 Q Do you have an opinion as an engineer,
16 Mr. Neal, as to whether this proposed unit is a viable can-
17 didate for a waterflood project?

18 A We have examined the unit and surrounding
19 areas and it appears that this Grayburg Sand will flood.

20 Q In making your calculations, Mr. Neal, do
21 you have an estimate of the additional recovery of oil that
22 you project for the waterflood project?

23 A Yes. We figure an additional 358,000
24 barrels would be recovered by the waterflood, which will re-
25 present approximately 8 percent of the oil in place.

1 Q What is the source of the water to be
2 utilized for the waterflood project?

3 A We plan to contact, or we have contacted
4 the City of Carlsbad and they have a waterline approximately
5 four miles from this area and they will sell water to the
6 unit.

7 Q Is this fresh water?

8 A It is fresh water.

9 Q Let's to Exhibit Number Threed, Mr. Neal,
10 and talk about the geology of the unit.

11 What is Exhibit Number Three?

12 A Exhibit Number Three is a structure map.
13 It's drawn on top of the -- it's called the Loco Hills Sand
14 in the Grayburg formation, and it also defines the
15 structure, structural position of the Power Grayburg Pool
16 within the area surrounding the pool approximately two miles
17 each direct.

18 Q What significance do you draw from the
19 structure map in terms of your unit?

20 A That the Power Grayburg Pool is a
21 separate reservoir and it is this long, east/west axis, very
22 narrow, north and south, approximately one location wide.

23 Q Do you have an opinion, Mr. Neal, as to
24 whether the proposed unit boundary for the unit is one that
25 has a reasonable geologic justification?

1 A Yes. As has been defined, the area
2 within the unit has been defined by dry holes in all
3 directions.

4 Q All right, sir, would you take a moment
5 and define for the examiner the dry holes that dictate the
6 orientation of the unit?

7 A To the north in Section 31 we have
8 drilled a so-called Allied Federal "A" No. 1. It was dry on
9 drilling and was not completed.

10 In Section 32 to the north and slightly
11 to the east is the Allied State No. 1 that was a small pro-
12 ducer and was plugged after making approximately 5000 bar-
13 rels of oil.

14 On the east we have drilled the ARCO
15 Federal No. 3, which was dry at the time it was drilled but
16 has since, it's debatable whether or not the salt water sat-
17 urations in that well might be approaching those at 50 per-
18 cent. We had hoped to use that well for an injection well.

19 Q And in fact that is one of the wells
20 shown as a proposed injection well?

21 A That is correct.

22 Q All right, sir, what other wells define
23 the --

24 A The Allied Federal No. 2 is a dry hole to
25 the north -- to the southeast and the Kenwood Federal No. 4

1 is also dry to the south.

2 And the extreme west is the Bennett Hondo
3 State in the Section 2, which is a dry hole.

4 Q Would you use this exhibit, Mr. Neal, and
5 explain to the examiner approximately where in Eddy County
6 this unit is?

7 A It's -- the unit's southeast of Loco
8 Hills approximately 75 -- 7 miles, about 45 miles from
9 Carlsbad.

10 Q Are there any other Grayburg floods in
11 the immediate vicinity?

12 A The Jackson Grayburg two miles north is
13 -- has been flooded for several years; it's quite a large
14 flood in the Grayburg.

15 Q Are there any other Grayburg or San An-
16 dres waterfloods in the immediate area?

17 A No, there's not strictly in the Grayburg.
18 There are some floods in the Shugart to the south, approxi-
19 mately two miles south.

20 Q All right, sir, let's turn to Exhibit
21 Number Four, which is your east/west cross section. Would
22 you identify the exhibit and explain to the examiner what
23 wells are depicted on the cross section?

24 A Yes. The cross section designated as A-
25 A' goes from the east to west through the east/west center

1 of the Power Grayburg Unit.

2 The sands that are producing or present
3 in these wells is depicted in yellow on the cross section.

4 Q Would you take any of the logs that you
5 want and identify for the examiner what has occurred in each
6 of those zones and what you propose to do in terms of
7 flooding those zones?

8 A The well -- the sands that are producing,
9 that we have produced in the Power Grayburg are designated
10 as the C, D, and E Sands, the lower three sand sections.

11 The Loco Hills Sand and two other sands
12 designated as A and B are not continuous and in cases that
13 we have tested those sands, they've either had gas or high
14 water saturations, so the three lower sands are the ones
15 that seem ideally suited for our flooding because they're
16 continuous over the entire reservoir.

17 Q All right, sir, let's turn now to Exhibit
18 Number Five, which is the north/south cross section.

19 All right, sir, would you identify Exhi-
20 bit Number Five?

21 A Exhibit Five shows two cross sections, D-
22 D' and C-C', that are north/south on the east end of the
23 structure and on the -- approximately through the center,
24 the thickest part of the structure.

25 They show the same sands and also indi-

1 cate the fast drop-off of the structure, especially on the
2 south, indicating that it is a separate structure.

3 Q Would you tell the Examiner what opinions
4 and reasons you have for selecting the four injection wells
5 as injection wells, and why you have determined that it is
6 not feasible to construct a typical 5-spot injection pattern
7 for the unit?

8 A The wells we've selected are, of course,
9 have been named, and they are the four wells that join or
10 offset producers in every case. They are across the center
11 of the structure, thickest part of the structure, and it is
12 impossible to have a 5-spot in this type of -- this because
13 it's only one proration unit wide across the north/south.

14 We have found that even at drilling lease
15 line wells is not economical because of the amount of addi-
16 tional oil recovered would not be sufficient to pay for an
17 additional well drilled.

18 Q Would you give the examiner a brief sum-
19 mary of your economics in terms of how you've shown that
20 even lease line wells would not be profitable?

21 A Yes. The cost of a well in this area is
22 approximately \$220,000 completed and based on the recovery
23 that we've estimated from the flood of 750 barrels per acre,
24 a lease line well, we feel, would contribute maybe an addi-
25 tional 20 acres at the maximum to a 5-spot; times 750 would

1 be an additional 15,000 barrels of oil.

2 We estimate a profit from this waterflood
3 of, after discount, of \$10.70 a barrel, so we feel that ad-
4 ditional oil recovered by a lease line well would be
5 \$161,000 as opposed to the cost of the well of \$220,000.

6 Q Let me turn your attention now, Mr. Neal,
7 to Exhibit Number Six and let's talk about the requirements
8 of the Division in terms of the C-108 form.

9 Have you made a review, Mr. Neal, of the
10 requirements of the Division as outlined on Form C-108 and
11 have you prepared the exhibits attached to that form?

12 A Yes, I have.

13 Q Is Exhibit Number Six the form that you
14 have executed on behalf of your company?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q All right, sir, let's turn to Number
17 Seven, then.

18 Would you identify Exhibit Number Seven
19 and show us what you have done with this exhibit?

20 A Exhibit Seven is the map that represents
21 the area under question, with the Power Grayburg Pool out-
22 lined in the center, approximately three miles in each dir-
23 ection of this pool.

24 We have drawn a circle around each injec-
25 tion well, of course they overlap, of one-half mile radius

1 to represent the area of review of the -- each injection
2 well.

3 There's also a circle around the entire
4 unit, 2-mile radius, which is to represent the area we're
5 looking at here.

6 Q Within the 2-mile area, Mr. Neal, have
7 you made an investigation to determine whether there are any
8 fresh water wells?

9 A Yes, we have.

10 Q And have you found any?

11 A No, there's no fresh water.

12 Q Within the half mile radius area of re-
13 view, have you made a tabulation of all the plugged and
14 abandoned wells and the producing wells that penetrate the
15 Grayburg interval?

16 A Yes, we have.

17 Q All right, sir. Let's turn now to Exhi-
18 bit Eight, which is marked Eight-A, B, C, and D, and have
19 you identify what Exhibit Eight-A is, sir.

20 A Eight-A is the schematic of the ARCO Fed-
21 eral No. 3 with the information completed on the schematic
22 as well as on the answers to the questions asked on the
23 form.

24 Q Have you prepared a similar schematic for
25 each of the four injection wells?

1 A That is correct, four wells.

2 Q Are each of the four proposed injection
3 wells formerly producing wells in the Grayburg?

4 A With the exception of the ARCO Federal
5 No. 3. It was completed as a dry hole and we propose to re-
6 enter that well and set casing using it as an injection
7 well.

8 Q Upon recompletion of each of the four
9 wells for injection purposes, Mr. Neal, in your opinion as
10 an engineer will each of those wellbores be recompleted so
11 that water injected into the Grayburg would not migrate up
12 above and out of the Grayburg formation?

13 A Yes, they are protected by casing and ce-
14 ment.

15 Packers will be used on top of the per-
16 forated interval, tension packers, and coated tubing with
17 inhibited packer fluid.

18 Q Do you propose to put some gauge on the
19 surface to monitor the annular space between the tubing and
20 the casing?

21 A That's correct. We would check that.

22 Q Do you have an opinion as to whether each
23 of these proposed injection wells conforms to the require-
24 ments of the Oil Conservation Division for injection wells?

25 A It's my opinion that they do, yes.

1 Q Let's turn now to Exhibit Number Nine,
2 Mr. Neal. Would you identify Number Nine for us?

3 A Exhibit Nine is a detail of all the wells
4 that are completed in the area of review with their present
5 status, size casing set, sacks of cement, top of cement,
6 either calculated or measured, and completion interval of
7 the wells.

8 Q Have you also listed on the tabulation
9 those wells that are plugged and abandoned?

10 A Yes, they're all --

11 Q In addition to listing the plugged and
12 abandoned wells, Mr. Neal, have you also prepared schematics
13 of the wellbores for each of those plugged and abandoned
14 wells?

15 A Yes. Each well that has been plugged in
16 the area of review, a schematic has been prepared and is
17 presented as part of that exhibit.

18 Q For each of the producing wells within
19 the area of review, Mr. Neal, do you find any of them that
20 are defective insofar as they lack cement between the casing
21 and the formation as it penetrates through the Grayburg sec-
22 tion?

23 A No, there was none apparent and they're
24 all protected through the Grayburg section.

25 Q Let's look now, sir, at the schematics of

1 the plugged and abandoned wells. I believe we've marked
2 those as Exhibits Ten through Seventeen?

3 A Exhibits Ten through Seventeen, correct,
4 yes, sir.

5 Q Excluding for a moment Exhibit Number
6 Seventeen, Mr. Neal, with regards to Exhibits Ten through
7 Sixteen, do you have an opinion as to whether each of those
8 wells has been properly plugged and abandoned?

9 A On examination of the records available,
10 as depicted here on these schematics, yes, all those wells
11 have been properly plugged.

12 Q Let's turn to Exhibit Number Seventeen
13 now. Would you identify for Mr. Stogner where this well-
14 bore, the Stagner No. 9 Well, where is that well located?

15 A Stagner No. 1 Well, it's located in Sec-
16 tion 31, approximately 1980 feet from the south and 1980
17 feet from the east line. It would be approximately one-half
18 mile from the nearest injection well, our Allied Federal No.
19 2.

20 Q In relation to that plugged and abandoned
21 well, can you describe for Mr. Stogner any other wells in
22 the immediate area that penetrated the Grayburg section?
23 I'm looking at, in particular, in Section 32.

24 A Yes, most recently the Harvey Yates Power
25 Deep was completed in April of '85. It is producing from

1 the Bone Springs. It penetrated the Grayburg section.

2 It's 6 -- 660, I believe, from the west
3 line, 1980, approximately, from the south line in Section
4 32.

5 Q All right, let's look at the schematic
6 for this plugged and abandoned well, Mr. Neal, and have you
7 describe for us the history of this well and approximately
8 when and how it was plugged?

9 A The well was plugged and abandoned in Oc-
10 tober of 1940 and the information that we found first was
11 very sketchy on the plugging data on this well that was
12 filed with the Oil Conservation Division; however, after we
13 did go to Santa Fe and found that the -- we had some infor-
14 mation from the USGS, Department of Interior, that showed a
15 plugging record that was filed by English and Harmon on this
16 well.

17 It was drilled to a total depth of 4252.
18 Incidentally, on this -- there's an error on this Exhibit
19 Nine, the date the well was drilled on the Stagner No. 1.
20 That was actually a date that the well was reworked, 12-19-
21 56.

22 It was drilled in 2-29-39 and plugged, 2-
23 28 -- 10-28-40.

24 The second entry on that well on page
25 three is a re-entry that has those same dates.

1 This had surface pipe set at 670 feet.
2 The surface pipe was cemented with 50 sacks. The well's at
3 total depth of 4252 feet; apparently was dry after setting
4 5-1/2 inch casing at 4108 and they shot the 5-1/2 -- they
5 set a -- set a cement plug in the bottom of the 5-1/2 with
6 30 sacks and they show the 5-1/2 casing at 2460 and pulled
7 it and the plugging record states that they plugged the hole
8 inside of the 5-1/2 casing with rock, lead, wool, and steel
9 cuttings from 2460 to 4108, and they set a cement plug from
10 1578 to 1650, 25 sacks, and filled the hole with mud and set
11 a surface plug, set a plug from 172 feet to 200 feet with 10
12 sacks, and a surface plug with 2 sacks.

13 And in 19⁵⁶65 Ernest Hanson attempted to
14 re-enter this well and he drilled to 295 feet, he encoun-
15 tered junk and spent approximately ten days trying to re-
16 enter the well, couldn't, he filled the hole with mud and
17 put a 40-foot plug on top of the surface with 15 sacks.

18 Q In your opinion, Mr. Neal, can Eastland
19 re-enter this well to replug it in any way?

20 A Not from the information that we have
21 from Ernest Lee Hanson that this well -- they worked on it
22 with a cable tool rig for approximately ten days trying to
23 re-enter the surface pipe.

24 Q Is there any fresh water in the immediate
25 area surrounding this plugged and abandoned well?

1 A There is no fresh water. The surface
2 water that's used for stock is hauled.

3 Q When the well in 32, I believe it was --
4 was that the Yates well that was drilled?

5 A Correct.

6 Q When the Yates well was drilled in '85,
7 did they encounter any wate flows in any of the shallower
8 zones from the surface down to the Grayburg?

9 A Not to my knowledge.

10 Q Okay. Are there any water flows on the
11 surface around that plugged and abandoned well?

12 A Not that I know of.

13 Q Are there other injection wells in the
14 immediate area?

15 A Yes. The closest injection well would be
16 in the Grayburg Jackson to the north. It would be approxi-
17 mately one-half mile, three-quarters of a mile.

18 Q Do you have an opinion, Mr. Neal, as to
19 whether this wellbore in its current state poses any type of
20 risk by which water disposed of by your operations in the
21 Grayburg can migrate up through this wellbore into any shal-
22 lower zones?

23 A I don't see any risk at all. It's -- the
24 distance, such a distance away from the well that I don't
25 think there would be any problem.

1 Q All right, Mr. Neal, let's turn to
2 Exhibit Number Eighteen and talk about the specific details
3 of your proposed waterflood project.

4 Would you describe for the examiner your
5 proposed average daily rates for injection of water into
6 your injection wells and what you propose as a pressure lim-
7 itation for that injection?

8 A We would initially propose an injection
9 rate of 500 barrels per day per injection well, or 2000, for
10 a total of 2000 barrels a day during the initial fill-up.

11 We would anticipate a total volume of
12 2,700,000 barrels of make-up water and, of course, and equal
13 volume of produced water will be re-injected, and the aver-
14 age injection rates of 375 barrels per day has been planned.

15 We would anticipate an average injection
16 pressure of 600 to 800 but in some cases it's been noted
17 that the injection pressures as high -- have gone as high as
18 1000 psi.

19 The Eastland Kenwood Federal 4, which is
20 an injection well and had perforations in the Grayburg
21 Sands, injects water at a maximum of 875 pounds at 360 bar-
22 rels per day. We have a limitation on that well of 1000
23 psi.

24 Q If the Commission applies its .2 psi per
25 foot of depth guideline to this project, what, using that

1 guideline, would be the surface limitation pressure?

2 A Approximately 680 pounds.

3 Q What are you requesting as a surface
4 limitation pressure?

5 A 1000 pounds.

6 Q Let's turn to Exhibit Number Nineteen,
7 Mr. Neal, and have you describe for us what the current
8 authorized limitation pressure is for your disposal well,
9 the No. 4 Well?

10 A Yes. We have an authorization of 1000
11 psi surface pressure for that well, which was issued by the
12 Oil Conservation Division July the 17th, 1980, and the at-
13 tached page is a listing of all of the fracture treatments
14 made on the producing wells in the Power Grayburg with their
15 immediate shutdown pressures after the fracture treatment,
16 and these shutdown pressures average 1081 pounds, which
17 should be the fracture, fracture pressure of the reservoir.

18 We would stay under the limits of frac-
19 ture pressures.

20 Q Let's talk about the disposal well No. 4.
21 You've indicated to us that approximately 360 barrels a day,
22 you have surface pressures of 875?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. Would you describe for us what the
25 relationship is of the injection limitation on the disposal

1 well to the four injection wells and how you can draw a com-
2 parison between the fracture treatment pressures that were
3 used to justify the surface limitation pressure for the No.
4 4 disposal well, how that's reasonable to apply to the other
5 four wells?

6 A We're injecting into the same formation
7 on a disposal well as we plan to produce and inject in the
8 proposed secondary recovery unit. It's the Grayburg Sands
9 of the same -- they're deeper sands because this well was --
10 had higher water saturations and was water productive.

11 The fracture pressure should -- should
12 represent the initial shutdown pressures on these wells.
13 Treatment pressures should be representative of the fracture
14 pressures of the formation.

15 Q And if the injection wells use an average
16 daily injection rate of 375 barrels a day, that would be be-
17 low the 1000 pound limitation?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Let's turn now, sir, to Exhibit Number
20 Twenty and have you identify that for us.

21 A Exhibit Twenty is an application to the
22 Bureau of Land Management for a secondary recovery logical
23 acreage designation and we met with the BLM on two occasions
24 to consider this acreage designation on the Power Grayburg,
25 and the letter on top of the exhibit is from the District

1 Manager of the BLM authorizing the 427.44 acres included in
2 the Power Grayburg Unit as a logical -- logically subject to
3 operation under the Unitized Provisions of the Minerals
4 Leasing Act.

5 Q Let's turn to Exhibit Number Twenty-one,
6 which is your unit agreement, Mr. Neal.

7 Yes, sir. The unit agreement, is that a
8 unit agreement the Examiner has before him, is that a unit
9 agreement that's on a form that has been accepted and ap-
10 proved by the Bureau of Land Management?

11 A Yes, that was submitted to the BLM and
12 they did so approved in this letter, authorization.

13 Q What is the method of participation of
14 the owners in the unit?

15 A 90 percent cumulative production of Jan-
16 uary the 1st, 1985, 10 percent acreage.

17 Q Is that a unit agreement and a participa-
18 tion formula that's been agreed to by the working interest
19 owners in the unit?

20 A That's correct, the working interests
21 have agreed to that formula.

22 Q You have 100 percent?

23 A We have 100 percent, yes.

24 Q All right, sir.

25 A Eastland does not have 100 percent of the

1 working interest, no.

2 Q 100 percent of the working interest
3 owners have agreed to the unit?

4 A Yes, correct.

5 Q All right, sir. Let me ask you to turn
6 to Exhibit Number Twenty-two, which is your tabulation of
7 the surface owner and the offsetting operators. Is that
8 true, sir?

9 A Yes, that's right.

10 Q Have you caused the offset operators to
11 be sent notification of your application to the Division for
12 the waterflood project?

13 A We have.

14 Q Have you received notification of any ob-
15 jection from any of these other operators to your project?

16 A We have received none, no.

17 Q Were Exhibits One through Twenty-two,
18 with the exclusion of the BLM letter, Mr. Neal, were those
19 exhibits that were either prepared by you or compiled under
20 your direction and supervision?

21 A They were.

22 Q And have you reviewed those documents an
23 satisfied yourself that they are true and accurate to the
24 best of your knowledge, information and belief?

25 A I have.

1 Q In your opinion, Mr. Neal, will approval
2 of these two applications for unit approval and for the
3 waterflood project be in the best interests of conservation,
4 the prevention of waste, and the protection of correlative
5 rights?

6 A It's our opinion, yes.

7 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes
8 our examination of Mr. Neal. We move the introduction of
9 Exhibits One through Twenty-two.

10 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits One
11 through Twenty-two will be admitted into evidence.

12

13

CROSS EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. STOGNER:

15 Q Mr. Neal, you stated that the source
16 water will be from the City of Carlsbad, which is fresh
17 water. Is treated water out of the sewage system or is that
18 fresh drinking water out of the city system?

19 A That's out of the city system from the
20 Caprock system, yes, sir. I believe they call that Double
21 Eagle system.

22 Q First, let's go back to Exhibit Four, and
23 what you have basically in here is several different sand
24 members within the Grayburg.

25 Do you plan to inject into the Loco Hills

1 Sand which you show as being one of the thicker sand members
2 in the Grayburg?

3 A No, sir. We have had three different
4 completions in the Loco Hills Sand and we've found it con-
5 tains either gas -- going on the structurally high wells it
6 contains gas and on the other wells we've found that the
7 water saturations are very high in the Loco Hills sand.

8 Q What -- I'm sorry.

9 A We do not plan to use the Loco Hills (not
10 clearly audible.)

11 Q This Loco Hills Sand, does it extend up
12 to the north?

13 A To the north?

14 Q Uh-huh.

15 A Yes. That's shown on the cross sections
16 C and D, the north/south cross section.

17 Q Okay, does that particular sand extend
18 further north than what is shown on the Exhibit Number Five?

19 A That is correct. This cross section,
20 structure map is drawn on the -- it is not drawn on the Loco
21 Hills Sand; no, it's on the base of the C Sand, so it does
22 extend into the north, yes.

23 Q Are there any wells producing from the
24 sand member to the north?

25 A I'm not sure. I think there are, yes.

1 Q In the records of the Stagner, and that's
2 Stagner with an "A", no relation, are there any records
3 showing that this particular sand member was encountered in
4 that well?

5 A I have the records in front of me. No,
6 they -- they just say it was dry; was not productive; but
7 they don't define sand members.

8 Q Okay. So there's no record of an old
9 well that was drilled back in 1939-40, encountered that
10 zone, and that there was any gas show?

11 A That's correct.

12 Q That Stagner No. 1, when it was drilled
13 in 1939 was it cable tool drilled or rotary drilled?

14 A It was cable tool drilled.

15 Q From surface to TD.

16 A That's right.

17 Q So if sand would have been -- I mean if
18 gas would have been encountered in that Loco Hills sand they
19 would have known about it, wouldn't they?

20 A Yes, uh-huh. Looking at the record, they
21 show their first oil as 6-1/2 barrels at 3800 feet on the
22 Stagner well.

23 That's below the (not clearly under-
24 stood.)

25 Q Where are you getting this information

1 from? I notice you have a document there.

2 A Yes, this was obtained from the BLM in
3 Santa Fe. We couldn't find it and just most recently have
4 found this information.

5 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Kellahin, I'd
6 like to have that information to supplement the Exhibit
7 Number Seventeen, if I might.

8 MR. KELLAHIN: We'll mark this
9 subsequent to the hearing as Exhibit Twenty-three, Mr.
10 Examiner, and submit a copy to you.

11 MR. STOGNER: You will mark
12 that as Exhibit Twenty-three?

13 MR. KELLAHIN: Yes, sir, and
14 then we will give you this set and make a copy for
15 ourselves.

16 MR. STOGNER: You're more than
17 welcome to use our machine and after the hearing just lay
18 that on my desk.

19 MR. KELLAHIN: All right, sir.

20 MR. STOGNER: Would you wish to
21 enter that into evidence?

22 MR. KELLAHIN: Yes, if you
23 please.

24 MR. STOGNER: Exhibit Number
25 Twenty-three will be admitted into evidence at this time.

1 Q Let's turn our attention now to the
2 south, the Kenwood Well No. 4, which is, as I understand it,
3 presently a salt water disposal well.

4 A Correct.

5 Q Disposing water as your Exhibit Number
6 Nineteen shows in the perforated interval from 3506 to 3598,
7 is that correct?

8 A That's correct.

9 Q Is that a producing sand or --

10 A Yes.

11 Q What particular sand is that noted in? I
12 do not show that particular zone on your cross section,
13 being Exhibit Number --

14 A No, I don't believe that well is on the
15 cross section, but it is -- this includes the Grayburg Sands
16 of, I believe it's C through E.

17 Q But I don't show E being down that deep
18 in this particular area, at least in the cross section of
19 Exhibit 4. I show E basically hovering around 3500 feet,
20 but it does extend --

21 A That well is off structure.

22 Q Okay, so it is in sand then, a sand
23 member.

24 A Yes, it's approximately 200 feet low to
25 the producing wells.

1 Q This E Sand, is it a homogeneous type?

2 A Seems to be; it's a very thin sand how-

3 ever, but it is --

4 Q And how does this E Sand compare to the C

5 and D Sands in make-up and --

6 A Its porosity?

7 Q Yes, sir.

8 A In most cases, of course they vary from

9 well to well, but in most cases porosity is close to the

10 same but it's much thinner; it's a much thinner sand.

11 C and D is the principal producing sands.

12 Q Do you think that sands C and D would

13 have the same frac pressure as the sand E?

14 A Yes, they're all fractured together in

15 all the wells that I know. No one sand was fractured indi-

16 vidually. I can't say that positively but I would get the

17 -- I would anticipate that they're the same, yes.

18 Q Let's go back up and talk about the Loco

19 Hills Sand again.

20 A Okay.

21 Q The perfs that are present in the Loco

22 Hills Sand in your -- within your unit area, what will hap-

23 pen to those perforations?

24 A We plan to set a packer. I believe it's

25 shown on our well sketch on two wells that have those sands

1 open, and set a tension packer between those perforations;
2 shut those off.

3 Q So you don't plan to produce those at
4 this time.

5 A No, I do not.

6 Q On your four injection wells, will East-
7 land run a mechanical integrity test pursuant to any
8 requirements that the Artesia District Office may have?

9 A Yes.

10 Q To assure that there will not be any
11 leakage?

12 A Right. We have in the past on those
13 well, on that one well that has required it.

14 Q Okay, let's go back to Exhibit One. Now
15 you show some wells with blue circles and some wells with
16 yellow triangles. How many of these wells overall are pre-
17 sently producing in your proposed waterflood zone?

18 A There are nine producing wells.

19 Q Okay. Of those nine producing wells,
20 what is the average rate of production on those wells to
21 date?

22 A 2.7 barrels per day.

23 Q So they are classified as stripper.

24 A Yes.

25 Q Are there any formations above the Gray

1 burg in this area that is capable of producing or has pro-
2 duced?

3 A No. We tested, in the ARCO Federal No. 3
4 we tested clear up through the Queen and found no -- no pro-
5 duction.

6 Q Are there any water wells or windmills
7 within this general area of the unit?

8 A Not within two miles, no.

9 Q What is the closest water well or wind-
10 mill?

11 A It's in Cedar Lake Draw. I guess it
12 would be about maybe three, three and a half miles.

13 Q In what direction?

14 A That would be north, toward Loco Hills,
15 within the Grayburg Jackson area.

16 Q And that Grayburg Jackson is presently
17 under waterflood, is that correct?

18 A Yes, correct.

19 MR. STOGNER: I have no further
20 questions of Mr. Neal.

21 Are there any other questions
22 of this witness?

23 MR. KELLAHIN: No, sir.

24 MR. STOGNER: Does anybody else
25 have any questions?

1 If not, Mr. Neal may be ex-
2 cused.

3 Is there anything further in
4 either one of these cases at this time, Mr. Kellahin?

5 MR. KELLAHIN: No, nothing
6 else.

7 MR. STOGNER: Does anybody else
8 have anything further in Cases Numbers 8786 or 8787?

9 If not, both these cases will
10 be taken under advisement.

11

12 (Hearing concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SALLY W. BOYD, C.S.R., DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Transcript of Hearing before the Oil Conservation Division (Commission) 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.

Sally W. Boyd CSR

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case Nos. 8786 and 8787 heard by me on 18 December 1985.

Michael S. Hayes, Examiner
Oil Conservation Division