

CASE 7317: FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS  
ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGNATION OF A TIGHT  
FORMATION, SAN JUAN AND RIO ARriba  
COUNTIES. NEW MEXICO

ers

Case No.

73 17

Application

Transcripts

Small Exhibits

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APPLICATION OF  
FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION  
FOR DESIGNATION OF THE ROSA AREA OF THE BASIN DAKOTA FIELD  
AS A TIGHT GAS FORMATION

RIO ARRIBA AND SAN JUAN COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO

Case No. 7313

July 29, 1981

Prepared by:  
KEVIN H. McCORD  
Petroleum Engineer

APPLICATION OF FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION  
FOR DESIGNATION OF THE ROSA AREA OF THE  
BASIN DAKOTA FIELD AS A TIGHT FORMATION,  
RIO ARRIBA AND SAN JUAN COUNTIES,  
NEW MEXICO

The Four Corners Gas Producers Association is applying for a portion of the Basin Dakota gas field to be designated as a tight formation under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978. The proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area is located in the northeastern portion of the San Juan Basin. The area is approximately 25 miles northeast of the town of Bloomfield in northwestern New Mexico and covers portions of Rio Arriba and San Juan counties.

Exhibit No. 1 displays the Rosa Tight Gas Area on a map of the Dakota reservoir in the San Juan Basin. The Rosa Area includes approximately 270,260 acres, described as follows:

1. T30N-R2W Sections 1 through 36: All
2. T30N-R3W Sections 1 through 36: All
3. T30N-R4W Sections 1 through 36: All
4. T30N-R5W Sections 1 through 36: All
5. T30N-R6W Sections 1 through 36: All
6. T30N-R7W Sections 1 through 36: All
7. T31N-R2W Sections 1 through 36: All
8. T31N-R3W Sections 1 through 36: All
9. T31N-R4W Sections 1 through 36: All
10. T31N-R5W Sections 1 through 36: All
11. T31N-R6W Sections 1 through 36: All
12. T31N-R7W Sections 1 through 36: All

The Dakota formation in the Rosa Area meets the criteria established in Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 to be designated a tight gas formation in that (1) the estimated average in situ gas permeability throughout the pay section is expected to be 0.1 millidarcy or less, (2) the stabilized production rates, without stimulation, at atmospheric pressure of these gas wells are not expected to exceed

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 18 CASE NO. 7313 Submitted by HEDORS Hearing Date 7-29-81
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the maximum allowable production rate of 336 MCFPD for an average depth of 7950 feet to the top of the Dakota formation in this area, and (3) no well drilled into the Dakota formation in this area is expected to produce more than five barrels of crude oil per day prior to stimulation.

Exhibit No. 2 is a Dakota formation completion and production map of the proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area. The production figures presented for each producing well are initial potential, date of initial potential, average daily production for 1980, and January 1, 1981 cumulative production of gas and oil. Exhibit No. 2 also presents completion and production data from wells surrounding the proposed tight gas area. The Rosa Tight Gas Area contains 53 producing Dakota formation gas wells, while 14 wells in this area are abandoned in the Dakota at this time. A list of these wells and their production figures is presented as Exhibit No. 3. Examination of these figures indicate that these Dakota wells have not produced great quantities of natural gas, suggesting that low permeability reservoir rock could be present in the area.

Exhibit No. 4 is a type log of a Dakota well found in the Rosa Tight Gas Area. This log is from the Northwest Pipeline Corporation Rosa Unit No. 68 well, found in section 17, T31N, R5W. This well is in the north central section of the Rosa Tight Gas Area. The type log shows the entire Greenhorn and Dakota formations and part of the Mancos and Morrison formations. The type log shown is in a part of the Rosa Tight Gas Area which has exhibited better producing characteristics than the remainder of the area. Wells in remaining sections of the Rosa Area would be expected to have the same or poorer log characteristics than this type log.

The State of New Mexico has defined the Dakota producing interval in the Basin Dakota Field to begin at the base of the Greenhorn limestone and extend to a point 400 feet below the base of the Greenhorn. The formations covered in this 400 feet are the Graneros Shale, Dakota Sandstone, and Morrison formations. The Dakota formation is productive in this area, while the Morrison formation is generally water bearing. Sands in the Graneros Shale are not adequately developed in this area to be productive.

The Dakota formation has an average depth of 7950 feet in the Rosa Area, and has approximately 250 feet of gross thickness. The Dakota sandstone formation is Late Cretaceous in age with deposition occurring under both

marine and nonmarine conditions. The Dakota sandstone is the basal sequence of the southwesterly transgressing Cretaceous Sea.

The Upper Dakota sand consists of barrier beach deposits about 40 to 60 feet thick, composed of fine grained, quartz-rich sandstones characterized by an increase in grain size upward and low angle crossbedding. The next highest unit is transitional between fluvial and marine sedimentation containing dark carbonaceous shales, thin mudstones, siltstones, and sandstones. This unit represented a lagoonal type environment. The basal Dakota was deposited by a system of meandering streams creating deposits of carbonaceous shales, thin coal seams, siltstones, and thin channel sandstones. The basal unit of Cretaceous strata in the Four Corners Area is the Burro Canyon formation. This formation was deposited in a braided stream system and is sometimes considered part of the Dakota formation. An unconformity exists between the Burro Canyon formation and the Morrison formation represented by a sharp erosional contact between the two formations.

Overall, the Dakota sand has a porosity range from 1/2 to 11-1/2% in the Rosa Area, with the average pay porosity being 4%. Silt and clay sized matrix material is present throughout the Dakota sand sequence and represents a significant portion of the bulk rock composition. This matrix material reduces the effective permeability of the formation, making it difficult to produce.

Exhibit No. 5 and 6 are log cross sections through the Rosa Area showing the continuity of the Dakota formation using the base of the Greenhorn formation for a datum line.

#### Permeability

The Dakota formation in the San Juan Basin is dependent on stimulation techniques to be commercially productive due to the low permeability of the reservoir rock. The Dakota in situ permeability in the Rosa Tight Gas Area is found to be less than the 0.1 millidarcy permeability cutoff used for tight gas determination. The in situ permeability for this area was calculated using data from six Dakota core analysis and was averaged to be 0.012 millidarcy.

Exhibit Nos. 7 through 12 present core analysis data used to determine the average laboratory permeability to air for Dakota formation pay zones in this area. The exhibits contain the actual core analysis reports plus summary

tables showing the analysis of cores taken from only the productive portion of the Dakota formation for each well. The cored intervals chosen for permeability averaging were determined by log examination of the interval cored for each well. Only cored intervals of sand with more than 10 ohms resistivity appearing on the Induction Resistivity log of the well were used for permeability averaging. This 10 ohms resistivity cutoff represents the average resistivity shown by the shale sections on the logs. Values less than this cutoff were not considered to be pay zones. The average laboratory permeability to air determined for the Rosa Area in this manner was 0.124 millidarcy. The actual in situ permeability of the formation is less than this laboratory determined value mainly due to the confining pressures found in the Basin Dakota reservoir.

Exhibit No. 13 presents a technical paper intitled "Effect of Overburden Pressure and Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone Cores" written by Rex D. Thomas and Don C. Ward of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. This paper presents relationships between laboratory determined permeability in cores and actual in situ permeability found in reservoirs. Exhibit No. 14 explains how in situ permeability is calculated from the core analysis using the technical paper presented.

Exhibit 15 is a summary of all laboratory core analysis results, for the Rosa Tight Gas Area. An average in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy was calculated from the average laboratory permeability value of 0.124 md for the Rosa Area. This in situ permeability value is well below the 0.1 millidarcy tight gas cutoff. These permeability measurements substantiate that the Dakota formation is very tight in this area and must be stimulated to obtain commercial gas production.

#### Stabilized Unstimulated Gas Production Rate

Obtaining stabilized unstimulated gas production rates for Dakota wells is not a standard procedure used by companies when completing their wells in the San Juan Basin. Past experience has shown that these low permeability Dakota wells must be stimulated to obtain commercial production. However, some wells drilled in the Rosa Tight Gas Area were drilled with gas as a circulation medium through the Dakota formation. This drilling procedure enables unstimulated natural gas from the Dakota formation to rise to the

surface while drilling the well..

Unstimulated natural production tests can be taken while drilling with natural gas when the gas used for circulation is shut off and the pipe rams closed on the blowout preventer stack. This enables the injected gas to blow down through a bleedoff line to the reserve pit. After injection gas has had sufficient time to return to the surface, any further gas production through this line should be unstimulated gas production from the well. A gas measuring device, such as a pitot tube, placed in the center of the natural gas production stream is used to measure the natural gas flow rate from the well. A pitot tube measures the impact pressure of the gas flow rate which is used to determine the velocity of the gas. This gas velocity, combined with the known area of the blowoff line is used to calculate the flowrate of gas through the line. Natural unstimulated gas production tests performed in this manner were found for 14 wells in the Rosa Area.

The results of these unstimulated gas production tests are presented in Exhibit 16. These gas flowrates range from rates too small to measure to 2174 MCF of natural gas per day. The average unstimulated gas production rate is 423 MCFGPD. This value is larger than the 336 MCFGPD limit for tight gas at an average depth of 7950 feet. On an individual well basis, 6 wells meet the unstimulated natural production requirement, with 3 wells just at the limit, and 5 wells being over the 336 MCFGPD limit.

Testing natural gas wells in this manner is not very accurate, but it can give the tester some idea if a well will be gas productive or not. The exact nature of these tests have many factors which leave their results questionable:

- (1) The Mesa Verde formation is also productive in the Rosa Tight gas area. While the Dakota formation is open to flow to the surface during the natural flow test, the Mesa Verde can also be producing at the same time. There is no way to separate the production from each zone using a natural production test conducted in this manner.
- (2) The length of these unstimulated production tests are not long enough to establish a stabilized production rate. This length of test can by no means be considered to be a stabilized production test of the well's productivity.
- (3) The natural gas injected into the well for circulating purposes can also cause erroneous results if this gas is still returning to the surface while the test is being taken.

It is reasonable to assume that the three test uncertainties presented above could all contribute to make unstimulated production tests performed in this manner report erroneously high production rates. This assumption is

supported by well production data presented in Exhibit 16.

The well listed as number 8, the Northwest Pipeline Corporation San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 well shows an unstimulated natural gas production rate of 2174 MCFGPD. After fracturing, the initial production for this well was 1610 MCFGPD. The initial potential for a well is calculated from a 3 hour flow test following a 7 day pressure buildup, which is a more controlled and accurate test than the pitot tube test. This, combined with the fact that an after frac production test should definitely not be lower than the unstimulated production test, indicates the unstimulated production test is probably in error.

Exhibit 16 also presents a 13 well average unstimulated production rate which excludes the erroneous rate found for the San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 well. This 13 well average rate is 288 MCFGPD, which is below the 336 MCFGPD rate limit for tight gas determination in the Rosa Area. Due to the uncertain nature of the unstimulated production rate testing process, this 288 MCFGPD production rate, while below tight gas guidelines, is still thought to be higher than the actual average unstimulated gas production rate for the area.

In order to test the validity of this natural production figure, Darcy's Law was used to calculate an unstimulated gas flow rate using the average in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy calculated for the Dakota formation in this area from core analysis study. Exhibit No. 17 presents this calculation and shows that an initial unstimulated gas flow rate of 39.5 MCFGPD is associated with the average in situ permeability of 0.012 millidarcy for the Rosa Area.

The calculated unstimulated gas production rate and the average actual unstimulated gas production rate (excluding the erroneous production rate mentioned previously) are both less than the 336 MCFGPD limit for a tight gas reservoir in the Rosa Area. As a result of these calculations, the unstimulated natural gas production rate from the Dakota formation in the Rosa Area is not expected to exceed 336 MCF of gas per day.

#### Stabilized Unstimulated Oil Production Rate

The Natural gas produced from the Rosa Tight Gas area is virtually dry gas, having very little, if any, oil or condensate production associated with it. Exhibits No. 2 and 3 show that only one well, the Northwest Pipeline

Corporation Rosa Unit No. 56; has reported any oil production associated with its' gas production. This well has only produced 26 barrels of oil since 1976. These dry gas production figures indicate that no well drilled in the Rosa Tight Gas Area is expected to produce, without stimulation, more than five barrels of crude oil per day.

#### Fresh Water Protection

Existing State and Federal regulations will assure that development of the Dakota formation will not adversely affect or impair any fresh water aquifers that are being used or are expected to be used in the foreseeable future for domestic or agricultural water supplies. Regulations require that casing programs be designed to seal off potential water bearing formations from oil and gas producing formations. These fresh water zones exist from the surface to the base of the Ojo Alamo formation. The Ojo Alamo depth averages 2385 feet in the proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area.

Most wells drilled in the Rosa Area are drilled with natural mud to an average depth of 3700 feet. After intermediate casing is set, the remainder of the well is drilled with natural gas. Neither the natural mud or gas will contaminate any fresh water zone.

Normal casing designs in the Rosa Area consist of 9 5/8" or 10 3/4" O. D. surface casing being set from the surface to an average depth of 3700 feet. The cementing of the intermediate casing includes enough cement to cover formations to a depth above the Ojo Alamo formation. The cement covers the Pictured Cliffs, Fruitland, and Kirtland formations which are possible oil and gas bearing formations throughout the area. The production casing is cemented from total depth to a depth above the Mesa Verde formation, or to a point approximately 3000 feet above total depth. This cement covers the Dakota, Gallup, and Mesa Verde which are possible oil and gas bearing formations. A temperature survey is run after cementing the production casing to assure that all necessary zones are covered with cement. Therefore, all oil, gas and water bearing formations in this area are isolated from each other by cement and casing. The major water aquifer in the area, the Ojo Alamo formation, as well as the Pictured Cliffs, Fruitland, and Kirtland formations

is covered by cement and two strings of casing to protect them from contamination with other formations.

Stimulation of the Dakota formation involves large fracture treatments, usually consisting of a one or two percent potassium chloride water base that will not harm a fresh water aquifer. Fresh water protection is adequate even with these large stimulation treatments due to zone isolation caused by cementation. The large distance of over 5500 feet between the Dakota formation and the Ojo Alamo fresh water aquifer is additional insurance that no existing fresh water zone will be contaminated by stimulation of Dakota wells in this area.

Therefore, New Mexico and Federal regulations will protect any fresh water supply that may be affected by drilling, completing and producing the Dakota formation in the Rosa Tight Gas Area.

#### CONCLUSION

Evidence presented in this report substantiate the following for the Four Corners Gas Producers' proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area:

- (1) The estimated average in situ gas permeability, throughout the Dakota pay section, is expected to be 0.1 millidarcy or less;
- (2) For an average Dakota well depth of 7950 feet, the stabilized production rate at atmospheric pressure of wells completed for production in the Dakota formation is not expected to exceed the maximum allowable rate of 336 MCF of natural gas per day without stimulation;
- (3) No well drilled into the Dakota formation in the Rosa Area is expected to produce, without stimulation, more than five barrels of crude oil per day.

The proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area meets all the specifications required as stated above, and should be designated a tight formation in the Basin Dakota pool under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.



BRUCE KING  
GOVERNOR  
LARRY KEHOE  
SECRETARY

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

POST OFFICE BOX 2088  
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501  
(505) 827-2434

January 12, 1982

Mr. William F. Carr  
Campbell, Byrd & Black  
Attorneys at Law  
Post Office Box 2208  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: CASE NO. 7317  
ORDER NO. R-6883

Applicant:

Four Corners Gas Producers  
Association

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of the above-referenced  
Division order recently entered in the subject case.

Yours very truly,

  
JOE D. RAMEY  
Director

JDR/fd

Copy of order also sent to:

Hobbs OCD x  
Artesia OCD x  
Aztec OCD x

Other Tom Kellahin, Gary Paulsen, Larry Paine



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

CASE NO. 7317  
Order No. R-6883-A

APPLICATION OF FOUR CORNERS GAS  
PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGNATION OF A TIGHT FORMATION, SAN JUAN AND RIO ARriba COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO.

NUNC PRO TUNC ORDER

BY THE DIVISION:

It appearing to the Division that Order No. R-6883 dated January 11, 1982, does not correctly state the intended order of the Division,

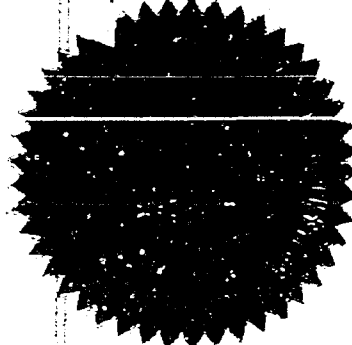
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That Finding No. (6) on pages 2 and 3 of Order No. R-6883 is hereby corrected to read in its entirety as follows:

"(6) That the area for which a tight formation designation is sought is one of very limited development being comprised of approximately 846 proration units of which 66 are developed by one well and two by one well plus an infill well."

(2) That the corrections set forth in this order be entered nunc pro tunc as of January 11, 1982.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on this 14th day of April, 1982.



SEAL  
fd/

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

*Joe D. Ramey*  
JOE D. RAMEY  
Director



BRUCE KING  
GOVERNOR  
LARRY KEHOE  
SECRETARY

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

April 19, 1982

POST OFFICE BOX 2088  
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501  
(505) 827-2434

Mr. Howard Kilchrist  
Federal Energy Regulatory Comm.  
Department of Energy  
825 North Capitol Street, N.E.  
Washington, D. C. 20426

Re: Tight Formation Applications

Dear Mr. Kilchrist:

At the request of one of your staff members, I am enclosing a copy of the transcript of the Oil Conservation Division hearing in our Case No. 7395 on the application of Curtis J. Little for designation of a tight formation in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. The recommendation made in this case was forwarded to you as Division Order No. R-6875 dealing with the Pictured Cliffs formation.

I am also enclosing a copy of our Order No. R-6883-A which is a Nunc Pro Tunc order amending Order No. R-6883 which was previously forwarded to you for your consideration. Mr. Leonard Gruskiewicz of your staff pointed out an error in our Order No. R-6883 and this "A" order corrects that error.

Thank you for your assistance with these matters.

Sincerely,

W. PERRY PEARCE  
General Counsel

WPP/dr

enc.



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

BRUCE KING  
GOVERNOR  
LARRY KEHOE  
SECRETARY

April 15, 1982

POST OFFICE BOX 2088  
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501  
(505) 827-2434

Mr. Howard Kilchrist  
NGPA Compliance  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Department of Energy  
825 North Capitol Street, N.E.  
Washington, D. C. 20426

Re: Tight Formation  
Designations

Dear Mr. Kilchrist:

At the request of members of your staff, I am enclosing copies of the transcript of hearing in Cases 7209, 7317 and 7361 before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division. I will forward the transcript of Case 7395 shortly.

Please note that the transcript of Case 7361 incorporates the record from the Case 7116 examiner hearing. As you recall, the exhibits forwarded with the Division's recommendation in Case 7361 were the exhibits admitted in the examiner hearing of Case 7116. Therefore the transcript of Case 7361 is composed of two transcripts dated December 30, 1980 and September 29, 1981.

If we can be of further assistance, please advise.

Sincerely,

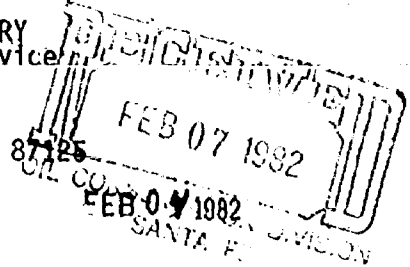
W. PERRY PEARCE  
General Counsel

WPP/dr  
enc.



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Minerals Management Service  
South Central Region  
P. O. Box 26124  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125



Mr. W. Perry Pearce  
Oil Conservation Division  
State of New Mexico  
P. O. Box 2088  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Mr. Pearce:

This jurisdictional agency concurs in the recommendation of the State of New Mexico, Case No. 7317, Order No. R-6883, dated January 11, 1982, that the Dakota formation underlying the described lands in subject order in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico, be designated as a Section 107 tight formation.

It is requested that this concurrence be included with the recommendation submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Sincerely yours,

*James W. Shelton*  
For Gene F. Daniel  
Deputy Minerals Manager  
Oil and Gas

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

26 August 1981

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Four Corners Gas  
Producers Association for designation  
of a tight formation, San Juan and Rio  
Arriba Counties, New Mexico.

CASE  
7317

BEFORE: Richard L. Stamets

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Oil Conservation  
Division:

W. Perry Pearce, Esq.  
Legal Counsel to the Division  
State Land Office Bldg.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

For the Applicant:

William F. Carr, Esq.  
CAMPBELL, BYRD, & BLACK P. A.  
Jefferson Place  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

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I N D E X

KEVIN H. McCORD

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1  
2  
3 MR. STAMETS: We'll call next Case 7317.

4 MR. PEARCE: Application of Four Corners  
5 Gas Producers Association for designation of a tight formation,  
6 San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico.

7 MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner,  
8 my name is William F. Carr, with the law firm Campbell, Byrd,  
9 & Black, Santa Fe, appearing on behalf of the applicant.

10 This is a continuation of Case 7317 and  
11 I would request that the record show that Kevin McCord, who  
12 testified in the previous case, is qualified and that he is  
13 under oath in this matter.

14 MR. STAMETS: The record will so show.

15  
16 KEVIN H. McCORD  
17 being called as a witness and being previously sworn upon his  
18 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

19  
20 DIRECT EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. CARR:

22 Q Mr. McCord, have you prepared additional  
23 exhibits for introduction in this case at the request of the  
24 Commission?

25 A Yes, I have.

1  
2 Q Will you please refer to what has been  
3 marked for identification as Four Corners Exhibit A, identify  
4 this, and explain what it shows?

5 A In our previous hearing there was some  
6 question as to the quality of the Dakota formation in the  
7 eastern four townships, that being 30 North, 2 West; 31, 2;  
8 30, 3; and 31, 3.

9 I have prepared some information to try  
10 and show that the Dakota formation exists and has the same  
11 or poorer qualities as the rest of the Rosa Unit.

12 Exhibit A is an electric log, the E. L.  
13 Poteet Monero Dome No. 1. This well is located Township 31  
14 North, Range 1 West, Section 24, so it's off your map. It's  
15 approximately six miles to the east of the area, and what  
16 I'd like to point out on Exhibit A is on page four, tops of  
17 formations, the Greenhorn, Graneros, and Dakota, are shown,  
18 the Dakota being at 2300 feet.

19 My purpose of this exhibit is to indicate  
20 the Dakota is present. This is to the east of the area and  
21 there is Dakota to the west of the area. I'm assuming there  
22 is Dakota formation in between.

23 The Dakota being at 2300 feet, which is  
24 considerably different from the average of 7950 for the Rosa  
25 tight gas area. This is due to a steep upward trend of the



1  
2 formation there; we're coming out of the San Juan Basin in  
3 that area.

4 Q Mr. McCord, will you now refer to what  
5 has been marked for identification as your Exhibit B and re-  
6 view this for Mr. Stamets?

7 A Exhibit B presents core data from Rodney  
8 DeVilliers well, the No. 31 - 1 West Jicarilla. This well  
9 is located approximately four miles south of our four town-  
10 ships in question; location 29 North, 3 West, Section 21.

11 This presents the actual core analysis  
12 results on page two, and on page one is a summary of core  
13 analysis for this well.

14 This indicates that our laboratory perm-  
15 eability is 0.018 millidarcies and applying a 10 percent  
16 factor to this, which we considered for the rest of the Rosa  
17 Unit, results in a 0.002 millidarcy in situ permeability  
18 for this well.

19 I've also noted that a DST was run on  
20 this well when they were completing -- excuse me, when they  
21 were drilling it, and they estimated 15 to 20 Mcf of gas per  
22 day at the surface. I used this 0.002 millidarcy in my  
23 Darcy's Law calculation, as presented previously, and that  
24 resulted in a 9 Mcf per day flow rate.

25 This indicates the closeness of these

1  
2 two ways of estimating natural flow.

3 Q Mr. McCord, have you also reviewed DS --  
4 or cased hole DST's on wells located elsewhere but in this  
5 general area?

6 A Yes, I have. I've looked at a cased  
7 hole DST run by PanAm Corporation. This is the Jicarilla No.  
8 1 Pagosa, which is located three miles north of our four sub-  
9 ject townships, Township 32 North, Range 3 West, Section 23.

10 I reviewed this cased hole DST data,  
11 attempted a Horner plot on it, and I was not able to come up  
12 with any reliable permeability information from this well.  
13 The flow mentioned during this DST, I believe they recovered  
14 90 feet of drilling mud, which calculates to virtually no  
15 flow of reservoir fluids at all; therefor, it was a dry hole,  
16 and it indicated this area was not productive.

17 Q Does Southland Royalty Company also have  
18 plans in the area?

19 A Yes, sir. At this time Southland Oil  
20 Company -- or excuse me, Southland Royalty is drilling the  
21 Sims Federal No. 1 Well, and this is in 30 North, 4 West,  
22 Section 13, and this is the northwest of the southeast. It  
23 is -- it was one of the wells I referred to last time as some  
24 of the new developments in the area.

25 Their current status, they are currently

1  
2 running a cased hole DST as of two days ago. Therefor, we  
3 don't have this information at this time. We will try to  
4 evaluate this information and supply it to the Conservation  
5 Division when we get this data available.

6 MR. CARR: Mr. Stamets, we would request  
7 that the record be held open to permit us to submit the  
8 written results of the Southland Royalty Company test as soon  
9 as it can be obtained. We had hoped to have it today, but  
10 they're doing it this week, and we'll get it to you as soon  
11 as it's possible.

12 MR. STAMETS: Okay, that would be fine.

13 A. Okay. Mr. Stamets, I'd like to point  
14 out that there were, other than the one dry hole mentioned  
15 previously in 30 North, 3 West, Section 34, a Sunray DX Oil  
16 Company Jicarilla Tribal No. 1, there were no other Dakota  
17 formation tests in these four townships; therefor, I have  
18 surrounded the area with the data I've just presented to you.  
19 This is virtually all we can come up with to try and tie this  
20 area into the rest of the Rosa Unit.

21 It's obviously a poor area. There's  
22 been no wells drilled in the area. The incentive prices will  
23 certainly help us to develop this area.

24 MR. STAMETS: So what you've given us  
25 today is basically three wells that form a triangle from 31,1,

1  
2 to 32, 3, to 29, 3, that seem to indicate that the Dakota  
3 formation is extant in those four townships, and that it is  
4 not any better than the formation evidence that you presented  
5 at the last hearing.

6 A. That is correct.

7 MR. STAMETS: Okay.

8 Q Mr. McCord, will you now refer to Exhibit  
9 C and review this for Mr. Stamets?

10 A Exhibit C is an update of the new loca-  
11 tions in the area, updating my map of figure -- of Exhibit  
12 Number Two, presented previously.

13 I've noted there that we have 19 wells  
14 with some sort of current activity as of August 6th of 1981.  
15 This is -- these 19 wells are listed on pages two and three  
16 of Exhibit C, and the appropriate information following them  
17 about what has been going on during this time period.

18 Page one, I've summarized wells not  
19 plotted on this map. As you'll notice there, we have 16 wells  
20 that have been drilled, 3 that have just been staked. Of  
21 these 16 as of August 6th, only 4 have been completed as --  
22 as to IP data. We have three producers in the area and one  
23 dry hole. And this is just a written list of these new wells.

24 MR. STAMETS: All the IP's on here are  
25 after frac?

1  
2 A. Yes, sir, they are.

3 MR. STAMETS: Did any of these wells  
4 make any attempts to determine pre-frac flow?

5 A. To my knowledge, no, they did not. It's  
6 possible, digging through some of Northwest Pipeline's records,  
7 we might be able to come up with some sort of pre-frac flow  
8 rate. My feeling is that that information would be no differ-  
9 ent from the information we've already got doing the same --  
10 same procedures.

11 Q. Mr. McCord, of the three producers shown  
12 on Exhibit C, do all three of these appear to be -- look like  
13 they will be economic successes?

14 A. Well, we have the one dry hole, which  
15 obviously is not. We have one well, the well listed as No. 4,  
16 Northwest Pipeline 30-5 No. 50, with an IP of 735 Mcf of gas  
17 per day. My economics, which I'll show later, will indicate  
18 that that will not be an economic well under 103.

19 Wells -- Well No. 2, Schalk 54 No. 1-E,  
20 2170 Mcf per day, and Well 18, Rosa No. 77 for an IP of 2544  
21 Mcf of gas per day, also I'll show later these indicate to be  
22 indicative of an average well for the area, which is what I  
23 used in my economics.

24 Q. Mr. McCord, will you now refer to Exhibit  
25 D and explain to Mr. Stamets what this shows?

1  
2 A. All right, Exhibit D was some information  
3 supplied to me by Mitchell Energy Corp. This information is  
4 supplemental to Exhibit Number Sixteen, presented previously.

5 Okay, Exhibit Number Sixteen indicates  
6 a number of pre-frac natural flow tests taken in the Rosa  
7 Tight Gas Area, mainly by Northwest Pipeline Corp. These  
8 wells are generally in 30-5 and 31-6. This information sup-  
9 plied by Mitchell Energy Corp., as you can see from the start,  
10 pre-frac, pre-stimulation rate tests are in 31-4, 31-5, in  
11 that area, so we're talking about the northern part of the  
12 area.

13 So we have additional information here.  
14 This 8-well pre-stimulation average that they referred to of  
15 119 Mcf per day, refers to their eight tests that they've  
16 taken in the northern part of the Rosa Area.

17 Also here, K. McCord 14 well pre-stimu-  
18 lation average of 423, are my results as presented in Exhibit  
19 Number Sixteen. They've averaged the entire 22 wells for  
20 312 Mcf per day average for a Rosa Well, and I also indicated  
21 in Exhibit Sixteen, and they have here, I excluded Well No. 8  
22 in the average, in that its production, its natural production  
23 rate of 2174 Mcf of gas per day was higher than its after  
24 frac flow rate of 1610 Mcf of gas per day. I felt that this  
25 test was in error; therefor, I deleted it from my average.

1  
2 They also did the same and came up with  
3 a 224 Mcf of gas per day average for the Rosa area.

4 Q What is the production limitation pre-  
5 scribed by the Oil Conservation Division rules for a depth of  
6 7950?

7 A This is 336 Mcf of gas per day, so we're  
8 below it.

9 MR. STAMETS: In either event.

10 A In either event.

11 Just additional information to try and  
12 tie in more of the acreage, to indicate that my initial -- my  
13 additional information was holding throughout the area.

14 Q Will you now refer to Four Corners Ex-  
15 hibit E and review this for Mr. Stamets?

16 A Exhibit E is the economic criteria re-  
17 quested by the Commission. I worked with Frank Chavez on  
18 these numbers and we came up with a production rate, listed  
19 there under No. 1, for an average Rosa Well throughout the  
20 entire area, Year 1 to be 330 Mcf of gas per day; Year 2,  
21 205; Year 3, 145; Year 4, 115; and Year 5-on with an 8-1/2  
22 decline in our yearly production.

23 This forecast was constructed by using  
24 an IP of 2100 Mcf of gas per day for Rosa -- for all the  
25 average Rosa wells, or for the entire Rosa wells in the area.

1

2

They averaged 2100 Mcf of gas per day.

3

4

The first month average on-line production, being in the range of 15 to 20 percent, as I pointed out previously, being 420

5

Mcf of gas per day. Applying a decline rate of 40 percent

6

for Year 1, 35 percent for Year 2, 25 percent for Year 3,

7

15 percent for Year 4, and 8-1/2 percent for year 5 on, re-

8

sults in a production rate shown under 1.

9

10

Also, this is a dry gas area, so no condensate production figures were used.

11

12

This type of production rate is indicative of the area and it also results in an average ultimate

13

natural gas production of 0.691 Bcf for 33 wells tested in

14

the area. This was the best average production we could come up with for the area.

15

16

Once again, using this average, you assume we have no dry holes at all in the area, so this will be a high side case on economics.

17

18

The average well life for a Rosa -- for a Rosa well would be 30 years. Natural gas prices used in our economics, we started with an NGPA 103 based price of July, 1981, and this was 2.476 dollars per Mcf of gas, and we used a 10 percent per year escalation rate.

19

20

We used a BTU factor of 1.15 and for the 107 price we used double the NGPA 103 price.

21

22

23

24

25



1  
2 In figuring taxes we used the State and  
3 Local tax rate of 9 percent and Federal Income tax rate of  
4 50 percent.

5 We considered to be -- we considered to  
6 have a Federal Oil and Gas Lease, using a 12-1/2 royalty to  
7 our government. Operating costs of \$3000 per year, which will  
8 escalate at 10,000 per year.

9 MR. CARR: 10 percent.

10 MR. STAMETS: How about 10 percent?

11 A. Excuse me, 10 percent per year -- you  
12 can read better than I can. Overhead expenses of 20 percent  
13 investment and 20 percent of yearly operating costs, and a  
14 sales delay of six months.

15 Page two of my economics reviews that  
16 we have reserves of .691 Bcf over a 30-year well life.

17 At Mr. Chavez' request we ran the econ-  
18 omics, determined payout, determined return on investment  
19 and present worth for the projects at 103 and 107 prices,  
20 in first Case 1 and Case 2, using no discount rate there for  
21 our money.

22 I presented two different well costs,  
23 one of \$470,000 and one of \$820,000. The reason I did this,  
24 Northwest Pipeline claims that a well can be drilled and pro-  
25 duced in the -- drilled and fraced and ready for completion

1  
2 for \$470,000.

3 Case 2, I believe, is a little more  
4 realistic. Amoco, the last three wells they have drilled, have  
5 been in excess of \$800,000, and the four wells that Mitchell  
6 is currently drilling, the Rosa 81 through 84, they indicate  
7 those costs are going to be well over \$800,000 a well.

8 So there's a difference in operating  
9 practices there.

10 Anyway, for Case 1, \$470,000 well cost,  
11 using 103 prices, payout of 3.17 years, return on investment  
12 of 7.01, with a present worth of 1.869 million dollars.

13 When we look at 107 prices, our payout  
14 decreases to 1.68 years, return on investment of 16.32, and  
15 a present worth of 4.438 million.

16 Case 2, using an \$820,000 well cost,  
17 103 prices, our payout is 5.97 years, return on investment of  
18 3.51, with a present worth of 1.662 million.

19 Using 107, our payout decreases to 2.77  
20 years, return on investment of 8.74, present worth of 4.141  
21 million.

22 Now, in Case 3, I attempted to use some  
23 type of discount factor to have somewhat more reasonable  
24 numbers. It's certainly going to cost us something to invest  
25 our money in this project. 15 percent discount, we might be

1  
2 looking at a high side due to today's economics. A number  
3 of 20, and Mitchell suggested 22 percent in what they use,  
4 might be a better indication of -- of the -- of what this  
5 project will actually result in.

6                   Anyway, using a 15 percent discounted  
7 money, our present worth, discounted 15 percent for our \$470,000  
8 case, considerably drops to a \$253,000 present worth, versus  
9 our initial 1.869 million.

10                   When we look at 107's instead of 4.3  
11 million dollar present worth, that drops to 808,000 dollars.

12                   Therefor, when you use this discounted  
13 money, due to the 30-year life of the project, your economics  
14 change considerably.

15                   This DROI number 15 is discounted return  
16 on investment and this is nothing more than our summation of  
17 our cash flows discounted 15 percent and divided by the well  
18 cost to give an indication of -- of what type of return on  
19 investment we'd be looking at discounted.

20                   For \$470,000 this number is less than  
21 1, 0.54; for 107 it's 1.72.

22                   The significance of this number, when  
23 this number is zero, that means you've -- you've gotten 15  
24 percent back on your money.

25                   Also presented for an \$820,000 well case,

1  
2 which is what I believe is more indicative of the cost of the  
3 wells in the area, present worth 15 for 103 price is only  
4 \$39,000. Our DROI 15 is 0.05. It -- we've just broken even  
5 there.

6 And with a 107 price, our present worth  
7 would jump to \$593,000 with DROI 15, 0.72.

8 I would say that a DROI of 15 in the  
9 neighborhood of 1, would be something of an economical pro-  
10 ject. Anything less than that, you might be better off putting  
11 your money elsewhere.

12 Also, with Mr. Chavez' request, I con-  
13 tacted Amoco and they supplied us with some economics for  
14 their Gallegos Canyon infill wells, and I used these as a  
15 comparison to these Rosa wells to indicate what infill wells  
16 would look like using a 103 price for an established 103  
17 economic area.

18 There were somewhat different parameters  
19 used. Our average well cost for these wells is approximately  
20 \$420,000, and this was taken from ten infill well locations  
21 scattered throughout the Gallegos Canyon area.

22 BPU factor used was 1.1. This is wet  
23 gas that they produce. We did not use a condensation -- or  
24 condensate production in our economics. Reserves for these  
25 wells, approximately 1.176 Bcf with a well life of 40 years.

103 prices, a payout of 2.73 years, return on investment of 16.04, and undiscounted present worth of \$3,820,000.

When you use our 15 percent discounted numbers, present worth 15, \$440,000, and discounted return on investment 15 of 1.05.

Comparing that with our \$820,000 there is certainly quite a difference in the economics there.

Q Mr. McCord, it would appear, then, that the Gallegos Canyon infill wells are more economical to drill and produce than the Rosa area?

A. That is correct.

Q And all of these calculations are based on the assumption that you -- all the wells you drill are in fact producers?

A. Once again, yes, that's -- this is probably a high side because there are numerous dry holes in this area, and this assumes every well you drill will be a producer, producing .691 Bcf.

Q In your opinion, without the incentive price will the Rosa Area be developed?

A. No, sir, I don't believe it will. I believe that only wells that will be drilled under current 103 prices are the wells needed to -- to hold acreage in the

1  
2 area. I don't think it will be adequately developed without  
3 107 prices.

4 Q. Generally, what conclusions now can you  
5 reach about the entire area which is governed by this applica-  
6 tion?

7 A. I'll just state again the conclusions  
8 I've drawn in my initial presentation.

9 The estimated average in situ gas perme-  
10 ability throughout our Dakota pay section in the Rosa Tight  
11 Gas Area is expected to be .1 millidarcy or less.

12 For an average Dakota well depth of 7900  
13 feet, a stabilized production rate at atmospheric pressure  
14 of wells completed for production in the Dakota formation,  
15 is not expected to exceed the maximum allowable rate of 336  
16 Mcf of natural gas per day without stimulation.

17 No well drilled in the Dakota formation  
18 in the Rosa Area is expected to produce without stimulation  
19 more than 5 barrels of crude oil per day; therefor, I believe  
20 that the Rosa Tight Gas Area meets all the specifications  
21 required as stated and should be designated a tight formation  
22 in the Basin Dakota Pool under Section 107 under the Natural  
23 Gas Policy Act of 1978.

24 Q. Mr. McCord, were Exhibits A through E  
25 compiled under your direction?

1  
2 A Yes, all but Exhibit D, which was, as I  
3 stated, presented to me by Mitchell Energy Corp.

4 Q And your -- does your review of these  
5 exhibits indicate that they are correct and accurately portray  
6 the data you are attempting to show?

7 A Yes, they do.

8 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Stamets, we  
9 would offer Exhibits A through E.

10 MR. STAMETS: These exhibits will be  
11 admitted.

12 MR. CARR: I have nothing further of Mr.  
13 McCord on direct.  
14

15 CROSS EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. STAMETS:

17 Q Mr. McCord, Exhibit E, the last page of  
18 your economic exhibit.

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q In Case No. 1 you're looking at what  
21 you consider to be the lowest possible well cost in the area?

22 A That is correct.

23 Q And does your 107 situation mean that  
24 you could do -- that this is comparable to putting your money  
25 in a money market certificate with 16.32 percent interest?

1  
2 A. No. Your return on investment number is  
3 not a percentage. That's -- that number is generated by  
4 taking your total cash flow generated divided by your well  
5 cost.

6 So your return on your investment, you're  
7 getting 16 times the money you spent, is what that number  
8 means.

9 That is not a percentage.

10 MR. CARR: Over thirty years.

11 A. Yes, and that's over thirty years, also.

12 The percentages involved are your dis-  
13 counted return on investment that I have presented, and what  
14 this number indicates, since I have discounted it at 15 per-  
15 cent, that means any number over zero will give you a -- any  
16 number greater than zero will give you more than a 15 percent  
17 return on your money, and assuming you can get 15 percent in  
18 the bank or anything to that, it's certainly a lot -- a lot  
19 better proposition to put your money in the bank and get it  
20 back that way.

21 Q. Can you convert, for example, in a 103  
22 situation, the 0.54, can you convert that into a percentage  
23 rate of return?

24 A. Not from the figures I have here. These  
25 were the numbers supplied to me by Amoco. I don't have their



1  
2 printout. This was information that they considered confi-  
3 dential and did not want to present unless we -- we absolutely  
4 had to.

5 We can confer from that DROI 15 number  
6 that your return would be less -- excuse me, somewhat more  
7 than 15 percent, but the actual number, we don't have.

8 MR. STAMETS: Other questions of this  
9 witness?

10 MR. CHAVEZ: Yes, sir.

11  
12 QUESTIONS BY MR. CHAVEZ:

13 Q Mr. McCord, in a discounted rate of re-  
14 turn what does the absolute number zero indicate? Does that  
15 indicate a break even point?

16 A Yes, it does.

17 Q At 15 percent.

18 A That's right. That would mean that  
19 your money is worth -- all that is doing is taking your future  
20 monies and bringing it to the present.

21 Q Okay. The average depth for the Dakota  
22 in these townships, how did you arrive at that again?

23 A I -- every well involved in the area, I  
24 took the top of the Dakota formation and we averaged that  
25 number.

1  
2 A. Okay. But in the far eastern townships  
3 the slope of the Dakota is quite a bit steeper and the Dakota  
4 formation is at about 2300 feet.

5 A. Now, that, once again, that well is out-  
6 side of the formation -- outside of the area. Now, the actual --  
7 you're right, it is going up at a steep angle there. Where  
8 it exactly turns, we need to have a well out there to -- to  
9 show us where the Dakota is. I don't know that.

10 Q. Can you make some kind of projection as  
11 to the rate of dip which the -- or rate of rise towards the  
12 east throughout --

13 A. Not other than it's very steep. It --  
14 it comes up real fast, and that's just -- I have not worked  
15 that much with the geology in that area.

16 Q. Would work such as that give you an aver-  
17 age Dakota depth which might be shallower than what you'd  
18 use for where wells were completed and thus require a smaller  
19 volume of unstimulated flow rate?

20 A. That is possible, although not -- it would  
21 be -- it's my feeling we've got most of our area over here  
22 established and all our wells are established, are somewhat  
23 deeper than that. We have a small portion of our area over  
24 here to the far east that might be possibly shallower than  
25 that. If we take an average, it could bring that number down,

1  
2 but once again, if you weighted your average, your number  
3 would certainly be very close to what we've got. This would  
4 not be a great percentage of these wells.

5 Q Do you know what depth the Southland  
6 Royalty Simms Federal Well encountered the top of the Dakota?

7 A No, sir, but we'll know that when we  
8 get our information. That's -- that well, they just moved  
9 the drilling rig off of it. They, in fact, they were trying  
10 to speed up their completion to get this DST data to present  
11 for this hearing, so we will have that information then.

12 MR. CHAVEZ: I have no further questions.

13  
14 RE CROSS EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. STAMETS:

16 Q Mr. McCord, in Case No. 1 on Exhibit E,  
17 is that an economic venture at the 103 price?

18 A Under the 103 price that would be a  
19 very marginally economic venture. Once again, looking at your  
20 discounted return on your investment 15, that being 0.54,  
21 it's in the range between zero and one, which makes it ques-  
22 tionable. Due to the fact, knowing how these economics were  
23 arrived at, being an average well where you drill no dry holes,  
24 you'll get .7 Bcf, it would marginally economic as it is there.

25 If you consider everything involved, the

1  
2 real chance that you could drill a dry hole, those numbers  
3 are not really realistic; they're the high side. So therefor,  
4 I would say that if it was economic, it was just on the margin  
5 of it.

6 The more -- the more common cost of  
7 \$820,000, or more indicative cost, that's -- that's not  
8 economic, no.

9 Q And the return on investment means that  
10 you get back \$7.00 for every dollar you spent over a period  
11 of years?

12 A Yes, sir, that's correct, over thirty  
13 years. There's a time -- that time factor means an awful  
14 lot when you consider discounted money.

15 Q And if you put your money in a 15 percent  
16 money market certificate, or some such thing as that, you  
17 would -- would you be making more money than drilling this  
18 well?

19 A Under 103, \$470,000 case, you would make  
20 more money drilling the well.

21 If it was \$820,000, you'd break even.  
22 So you'd be a lot better off putting your money in the bank.

23 Once again, assuming you have a commer-  
24 cial well, not a dry hole. That -- that factor is always  
25 going to be involved, because we're talking average well, and

1  
2 there are dry holes in the area.

3 The only way to counter that effect is  
4 use a success factor or to greatly increase the cost of your  
5 wells. It's something to take into account, the cost of dry  
6 holes, which would even decrease our economics even more.

7 Q How does Northwest Pipeline drill such  
8 economical wells?

9 A I've had that asked to me quite a few  
10 times. They have somewhat different completion practices  
11 than, say, Amoco would, but other than that, they're doing it  
12 real cheap.

13 Q Does Amoco management know about the  
14 engineering of Northwest Pipeline?

15 A Well, since we have a lot of Amoco  
16 management here, I would prefer not to talk about it.

17 I'm sure they -- they probably know that  
18 but once again, you've got a difference in philosophy of  
19 companies on how to complete these wells. Some people feel  
20 that large fracture treatments, large volume treatments, are  
21 the way to go. Other companies, such as Northwest, feel you  
22 don't need to go to all that trouble.

23 I guess time will tell with thirty years  
24 of Dakota well production which is best.

25 But other than that, it's -- it's just

1  
2 a difference in philosophy of the companies.

3 Now that's just the stimulation costs, is  
4 a big factor there. That certainly doesn't account for all  
5 the difference in those costs. Those are just the costs re-  
6 ported to me.

7 Q It sounds to me as though what you're  
8 saying is, that if -- if Northwest Pipeline were the operator  
9 of this entire area, and they got the 103 price, they'd be  
10 ab'e to drill it up and make money.

11 A If they got the 103 price?

12 Q Right.

13 A If they drilled no dry holes. If they  
14 did, if they drilled dry holes, it's marginally economic right  
15 now, as presented in Case 3.

16 Like I said before, I feel that a DROI  
17 number less than one is somewhat questionable economics in  
18 whether you should be drilling that, because there are -- there  
19 are success factors involved.

20 Q So the Exhibit E estimates that every  
21 well will be a producer and does not try to take into account  
22 a certain number of dry holes in respect to the average re-  
23 covery for the entire area.

24 A Correct. Once again, the way to do that  
25 or to incorporate that type of number, would -- would be to

1  
2 considerably increase your well costs or incorporate some  
3 type of success factor there. But once again, using this --  
4 this type of approach, comparing the actual economics we  
5 found right here versus our Gallegos Canyon well, it shows  
6 a considerable difference in the two projects.

7 Q Looking at the original Exhibit Two, it  
8 appears, though, there aren't too many dry holes through the  
9 central north/south portion of the area, at least in compari-  
10 son to the numbers, percentages both east and west of there,  
11 is that correct?

12 A Yes, that is. My feeling there is that  
13 these are all areas held by units and to develop these units  
14 and to show to the USGS that they're adequately trying to  
15 develop these units, wells are going to have to be drilled.

16 Under the current pricing scheme, we  
17 certainly have less chance of finding a dry hole in this area  
18 versus drilling our exploratory wells and developing the en-  
19 tire acreage. I believe that's why there's been a consider-  
20 able number of wells drilled in this area versus the rest of  
21 it. I think that to develop your outer areas we're going --  
22 we're going to need some type of price incentive to have this  
23 done.

24 Also, another fact, these wells in the --  
25 in the middle part of the area developed essentially on 320-

1  
2 acre spacing. Other than two instances there have not been  
3 any infills drilled.

4 So companies don't feel it's that econo-  
5 mical of a venture to be drilling more wells in the area.

6 Q Do you feel that the ratio of dry holes  
7 will increase as you move west and east out of this central  
8 area?

9 A Yes, greatly.

10 Q I don't recall from the original hearing  
11 if there was any geologic evidence that was indicating that  
12 there is a fairway or something through here that was being  
13 drilled up, or these wells are simply being drilled because  
14 of GEological Survey demands on drilling, or is this where  
15 the older wells were and these wells are being drilled as  
16 stepouts.

17 A I would say more in the stepout area.  
18 I don't remember presenting any fairway type areas that we --  
19 that you just referred to. Most of these are older wells.  
20 They're stepping out, trying to, really, just -- just satisfy  
21 your unit agreement, and some type of drilling to have an  
22 adequate development of the area.

23 Q In Case No. 1, with the 103 pricing,  
24 what percentage of dry holes would it require to be drilled  
25 before that process became uneconomical?



1

2

A. It wouldn't take but one, probably.

3

4

Q. One in four, one in five, one is three, one in two?

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A. I imagine, at a guess, you could probably say one in eight, as far as that goes. You're talking here, once again, looking at your discounted return on investment numbers, it's marginal now assuming no dry holes. Just say using a dry hole will increase your initial well cost from \$470,000 up, well, you see that doubling that money right there brings it down to just a break even point there.

So that would take, what, one dry hole in -- let's see, one dry hole in two, wouldn't it?

Q. Uh-huh. That would mean that if you had got every other hole a dry hole, it would be a break even proposition. So what would that, say, if you had one dry hole in four, it would be a money making proposition?

A. Considering that \$470,000 that sounds reasonable, yes. Once again, though, that's one instance where they claim they can drill it for that -- that type of money, and we have -- and that was just a number presented to me and the last seven wells, or the last three wells Amoco has drilled and the last four wells Mitchell has drilled in the area cost \$800,000, so therefor, considering that \$470,000 well cost for those, it's not reasonable at all.

MR. STAMETS: Are there any other questions of this witness? Mr. Kendrick, back in the hall, we'll give you a turn.

QUESTIONS BY MR. KENDRICK:

Q Mr. McCord, the cost of development figures that you've given in the range of \$400,000 to \$800,000, relates only to drilling and completing the well, has no secondary recovery or, excuse me, secondary or remedial action numbers involved.

A That's correct. Another -- the only numbers involved are therefor operating costs or just what we've used here.

We've used \$3000 per year escalating at 10 percent as straight operating costs.

We've also include overhead expenses of 20 percent of investment and 20 percent of yearly operating costs, so those are also involved as expenses for the well, but no -- no remedial work.

Q If remedial action were required on one of the classes of wells, would you expect it to be needed on the cheaper original cost or the more expensive original cost?

A That's a good question. This could be a personal feeling, but I personally think that -- that you

1  
2 need to put more of a fracture stimulation on these wells,  
3 which would increase your cost.

4 Using that as the only basis of the dif-  
5 ference in the costs, I know there's something else involved  
6 there, too, but my feeling is that in the life of the well,  
7 this would certainly be a better completion practice to use.

8 But if the \$470,000 well cost had a some-  
9 what smaller size fracture stimulation, it's possible that  
10 this well might need the remedial work more than the \$800,000  
11 well, bringing up the cost.

12 MR. STAMETS: Mr. Chavez?

13  
14 QUESTIONS BY MR. CHAVEZ:

15 Q Mr. McCord, has Southland Royalty apprised  
16 you of their AFE cost for the Chacosa Canyon No. 1 or for the  
17 Simms Federal 1 that they are presently testing, of what  
18 their costs have been to date?

19 A I haven't asked for that information but  
20 that should be easy enough to get, especially since they're  
21 going to supply us with this other information. I'm sure  
22 they'd more than happy to supply us with an AFE.

23 MR. STAMETS: Good, you can supply that  
24 along with the other information.

25 Any other questions?

1  
2 MR. PLUMLEY: Yes, sir.

3 MR. STAMETS: Identify yourself for the  
4 record, please.

5 MR. PLUMLEY: I'm Byron Plumley, with  
6 Atlantic Richfield, out of Denver.

7 I'd like -- there was a telegram sent  
8 yesterday, I think, to the Commission, and I would like to  
9 reiterate that.

10 ARCO has reviewed and agrees with this  
11 application, and that ARCO would urge the Commission to ap-  
12 prove of this application.

13 MR. STAMETS: All right, we appreciate  
14 that.

15 If there are no further questions, Mr.  
16 McCord may be excused.

17 Are there any other statements?

18 With the provision for the other inform-  
19 ation that we've discussed here, the case will be taken under  
20 advisement.

21  
22 (Hearing concluded.)  
23  
24  
25

## 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 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 C.S.R.

SALLY W. BOYD, C.S.R.

Rt. 1 Box 193-B  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
Phone (505) 455-7409

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. 7312 heard by me on 8-26 1981.  
Richard P. Plummer, Examiner  
Oil Conservation Division

# LIST OF EXHIBITS

<u>EXHIBIT NUMBER</u>	<u>EXHIBIT NAME</u>	<u>PURPOSE OF EXHIBIT</u>
1	Dakota Reservoir Map	Show location of Rosa Tight Gas Area with respect to Basin Dakota production.
2	Dakota Formation Well Completion and Production Map	Show production figures of completed and dry Dakota wells in and around the tight formation area.
3	Rosa Tight Gas Area Wells	List production figures of completed and dry Dakota wells in the tight formation area.
4	Type Log	Show log characteristics and depth of Dakota formation.
5	Cross Section A-A'	Show Dakota formation development in a west-east direction.
6	Cross Section B-B'	Show Dakota formation development in a north-south direction.
7	Core Analysis Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27	Show average laboratory core permeability.
8	Core Analysis El Paso Natural Gas Company San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X	Show average laboratory core permeability.
9	Core Analysis El Paso Natural Gas Company San Juan 30-6 Unit No. 31	Show average laboratory core permeability.
10	Core Analysis Amoco Production Company Rosa Unit No. 1	Show average laboratory core permeability.
11	Core Analysis Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16	Show average laboratory core permeability.
12	Core Analysis Blackwood & Nichols, LTD. Northeast Blanco Unit No. 1	Show average laboratory core permeability.
13	Technical Paper	Present relationship between laboratory and in situ permeability.
14	Determination of In Situ Permeability	Show method of determining in situ permeability from laboratory core analysis.
15	Summary of Permeability Data	Shows summary of permeability data, average laboratory permeability and in situ permeability.
16	Natural Production Tests	Lists natural production tests taken and average results.
17	Darcy's Law Calculation	Show unstimulated gas production rate using average in situ permeability.

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 3

EXHIBIT NO. 3

CASE NO. 7313

Submitted by NOGARD

Company NOGARD

Effective Date 7-28-81

ROSA TIGHT GAS AREA WELLS

Sustained by <b>NOGARD</b>		Heating Date <b>7-28-81</b>		LOCATION		DAKOTA DEPTH		IP DATE		IP GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD		1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD		CUMULATIVE 01-01-81 BCF/BO	
COMPANY															
Sunray DX Oil Co.	#1 Jicarilla Tribal	NW/NW 34 30-3	8213	09/54	D&A	---	---								
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	Carson #2	NW/SW 7 30-4	8083	09/79	869/0	302/0	.055/0								
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	39 San Juan 30-4 Unit	SE/NW 18 30-4	8425	02/31	2506/0	New Well	---								
Coastline Petroleum	1 Schalk-76	SW/NW 25 30-4	8675	02/75	D&A	---	---								
Southland Royalty Co.	#1 Carson	NW/SW 1 30-5	8030	10/69	2129/0	129/0	.518/0								
Schalk Development Co.	Schalk #54	SE/NE 2 30-5	8018	01/73	2501/0	111/0	.297/0								
Schalk Development Co.	Schalk #55	NE/NE 3 30-5	7940	03/73	3298/0	34/0	.126/0								
Southland Royalty Co.	Cat Draw #1	SW/SW 4 30-5	7780	09/68	2074/0	SI	.186/0								
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	39 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/NE 7 30-5	7686	07/75	1703/0	67/0	.123/0								
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	37 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NE/SW 8 30-5	7688	01/74	3944/0	87/0	.503/0								
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	70 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NE/NE 9 30-5	7752	12/80	1584/0	New Well	---								
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	49 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 9 30-5	7683	12/80	855/0	New Well	---								
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	73 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/NE 10 30-5	7919	03/81	2635/0	New Well	---								
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	72 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 10 30-5	7790	04/81	2456/0	New Well	---								
Schalk Development Co.	Schalk #57	NE/NW 12 30-5	8009	07/73	5107/0	148/0	.452/0								
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	52 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SE/SW 15 30-5	7920	03/81	2679/0	New Well	---								
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	53 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NE/SW 16 30-5	7685	12/80	1209/0	New Well	---								
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	47 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/SW 17 30-5	7794	08/75	1610/0	129/0	.235/0								

COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	DAKOTA DEPTH	IP DATE	IP GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD	1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD	CUMULATIVE 01-01-81 BCF/BO
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	38 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/NE 18 30-5	7667	06/80	2035/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	6 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 19 30-5	7607	03/56	P&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	48 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/NE 20 30-5	7790	01/80	3691/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	27 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 20 30-5	7646	12/59	1309/0	24/0	.248/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	51 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/NE 21 30-5	7759	12/80	4792/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	71 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 22 30-5	7807	12/80	2145/0	New Well	---
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	28-23-X San Juan 30-5 Unit	NE/NE 23 30-5	8075	09/59	D&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	38 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/NW 2 30-6	7832	04/81	2828/0	New Well	---
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	31 San Juan 30-6 Unit	SE/SW 33 30-6	7550	07/59	964/0	29/0	.255/0
Blackwood & Nichols	12 NE Blanco Unit	SV/NE 18 30-7	7590	06/60	P&A Dakota (MV Compl.)	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #42	SW/NF 19 31-4	not given	11/61	D&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #43	NW/SE 19 31-4	8158	05/62	2352/0	98/0	.064/0
Irving Pasternak	Rosa Unit #49	SW/SW 27 31-4	8430	11/63	P&A Dakota (MV Compl.)	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #63	SW/NE 30 31-4	8088	11/77	225/0	63/0	.004/0
Coastline Petroleum	1 Schalk-58	NE/SW 2 31-5	7856	08/73	D&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #53	NW/NE 8 31-5	7900	03/70	1043/0	126/0	.668/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #80	NE/SW 8 31-5	7845	03/81	2155/0	New Well	---



COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	DAKOTA DEPTH	12 DATE	1P		CUMULATIVE	
					GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD	1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD	01-01-81 BCF/BO	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #70	NW/NW 10 31-5	8162	01/66	1500/0	261/0	.248/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #48	SW/SE 11 31-5	8151	12/62	3207/0	326/0	.218/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #40	SW/NW 11 31-5	8358	07/61	3560/0	271/0	.216/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #61	SE/SW 13 31-5	8124	11/77	337/0	55/0	.074/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #65	NE/NE 17 31-5	7870	08/78	3095/0	163/0	.104/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #68	NW/SW 17 31-5	not given	08/80	5757/0	609/0	.093/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #62	NE/NW 25 31-5	8088	11/77	342/0	82/0	.106/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #64	NE/NE 29 31-5	7950	10/78	1843/0	175/0	.132/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #52	NW/NW 33 31-5	7980	02/70	2401/0	248/0	1.095/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #55	NE/SE 34 31-5	8056	10/74	264/0	167/0	.386/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #56	SW/NW 35 31-5	8200	11/75	675/0	96/0	.232/26	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #54	NE/SW 36 31-5	8284	09/74	304/0	SI	.029/0	
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit 35-X	NE/SW 5 31-6	7822	10/59	D&A Dak. MV Comp.	---	---	
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit #36	SE/NE 11 31-6	7955	12/59	P&A MV Comp.	---	---	
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit #1	SW/SE 11 31-6	7865	09/52	560/0 (P&A)	---	---	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #66	NW/SW 13 31-6	7957	08/78	4427/0	245/0	.928/0	
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit #69	NW/NW 16 31-6	7918	09/80	P&A	---	---	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	79 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/SW 22 31-6	7757	03/81	1858/0	New Well	---	

COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	DAKOTA DEPTH	IP DATE	IP GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD	1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD	CUMULATIVE 01-01-81 BCF/BO
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #51	NE/NW 23 31-6	7823	01/70	1385/0	170/0	.736/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	36 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/NE 27 31-6	7806	03/81	2557/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	24 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/SW 27 31-6	7939	..2/73	1341/0	SI	.269/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	16 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SE/SW 33 31-6	7895	07/59	1783/0	SI	.074/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	33 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SW/NE 34 31-6	8712	06/80	4119/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	35 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/NE 35 31-6	7908	07/80	2643/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	31 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SE/SE 35 31-6	7796	06/80	3770/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	37 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SW/SE 36 31-6	7952	04/71	2370/0	New Well	---
Blackwood & Nichols	58 NE Bianco Unit	NE/NE 13 31-7	7975	11/59	2461/0	217/0	1.387/0
Blackwood & Nichols	57 NE Bianco Unit	NE/NE 21 31-7	7780	09/59	1235/0	37/0	.44/0
Blackwood & Nichols	55 NE Bianco Unit	NW/NE 22 31-7	7856	10/58	275/0	27/0	.182/0
Blackwood & Nichols	1 NE Bianco Unit	SE/NE 27 31-7	7792	10/52	536/0	217/0	2.398/0
Amoco Production Co.	McKay #1	NW/NE 28 31-7	7765	03/71	D&A	---	---
Blackwood & Nichols	56 NE Bianco Unit	NE/NE 34 31-7	7660	11/58	2839/0	30/0	.417/0

## EXHIBIT NO. 7

Company: Northwest Pipeline Corp.  
 (Originally El Paso Natural Gas Co.)  
 Well: San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SW/SW, Sec. 20, T30N, R5W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

## DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

DEPTH (ft)	SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)	HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)
7650-7651	1	0.01
7651-7652	1	0.01
7652-7653	1	0.01
7653-7654	1	0.02
7654-7655	1	0.01
7655-7656	1	0.02
7658-7659	1	0.02
7661-7662	1	0.03
7662-7663	1	0.02
7667-7668	1	0.02
7669-7670	1	0.01
7670-7671	1	0.02
7688-7689	1	0.01
7689-7690	1	0.01
7690-7691	1	0.60
7691-7692	1	0.01
7692-7693	1	0.01
7694-7695	1	0.02
7696-7697	1	0.25
7697-7698	1	0.01
7707-7708	1	0.01
7708-7709	1	0.02
7709-7710	1	0.03
7719-7720	1	0.01
7720-7721	1	1.51
7721-7722	1	0.07
7722-7723	1	0.25
7723-7724	1	0.10
7724-7725	1	0.01
7727-7728	1	0.02
7728-7729	1	0.04
7729-7730	1	0.02
7730-7731	1	0.01
7731-7732	1	0.04
7732-7733	1	0.02
7733-7734	1	0.66
7769-7770	1	0.04
7770-7771	1	0.03
7771-7772	1	0.03
7773-7774	1	0.01
7774-7775	1	0.01
7775-7776	1	0.02
7776-7777	1	1.44
7777-7778	1	0.11
7778-7779	1	0.10
7779-7780	1	0.21
7780-7781	1	0.13

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS  
 OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 7

CASE NO. 7313

Submitted by McCord

Hearing Date 7-29-81

San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27, cont.

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7781-7782	1	0.10
7782-7783	1	0.01
7783-7784	1	0.03
7784-7785	1	0.03
7785-7786	1	0.09
7786-7787	1	0.02
7787-7788	1	1.01
7788-7789	1	0.05
7789-7790	1	0.06
7790-7791	1	0.05
7791-7792	1	0.31
7792-7793	1	0.03
7793-7794	1	0.02
7794-7795	1	0.01
7795-7796	1	0.05
7796-7797	1	0.18
7797-7798	1	0.61
7798-7799	<u>1</u>	<u>0.34</u>
TOTAL	65	9.07

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{9.07}{65} = \underline{0.140 \text{ md.}}$$

## CHEMICAL &amp; GEOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

Farmington

## CORE ANALYSIS REPORT

Company... El Paso Natural Gas Company  
 Well No... San Juan 30-5 #27-20  
 Field... Wildcat  
 County... Rio Arriba  
 State... New Mexico

Date September 23, 1959 Lab. No. ....  
 Location Sec. 20-30N-5W  
 Formation Dakota  
 Depths 7649' - 7799'  
 Drilling Fluid Water Base Mud

C - Crack  
 F - Fracture  
 H - Horizontal  
 O - Open

\* Permeability probably caused by existing shale interlaminae  
 NF - No Fracture  
 Insufficient Sample

LEGEND

S - Slight  
 St - Stain  
 V - Vertical  
 Vm - Voids

SAMPLE NO.	LEGEND	DEPTH, FEET	EFFECTIVE POROSITY PERCENT	PERMEABILITY MILLIDARCIES		SATURATIONS		CONNATE WATER	SOLUBILITY	
				HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL	% PORE SPACE RESIDUAL OIL	% PORE SPACE TOTAL WATER		MUD ACID	1% ACID
		Core No. 1	7649 - 7710							
1	VF	7650-51	7.7	0.01		Trace	27.8			
2	NF	7651-52	8.5	0.01		Trace	16.7			
3	VF	7652-53	6.7	0.01		Trace	12.2			
4	VF	7653-54	7.7	0.02		Trace	12.4			
5	VF	7654-55	5.2	0.01		0	21.2			
6	VF	7655-56	8.6	0.02		0	15.8			
7	VF	7658-59	8.8	0.02		Trace	12.4			
8	VHF	7661-62	10.2	0.03		0	15.2			
9	VF	7662-63	9.6	0.02		0	19.2			
10	VHF	7667-68	10.0	0.02		Trace	20.5			
11	VHF	7669-70	6.5	0.01		Trace	15.4			
12	VHF	7670-71	7.9	0.02		1.4	20.6			
13	HF	7688-89	4.9	0.01		Trace	26.1			
14	HF	7689-90	5.0	0.01		Trace	24.2			
15	HF	7690-91	5.9	0.60*		Trace	35.9			
16	HF	7691-92	3.7	0.01		Trace	94.9			
17	VHF	7692-93	7.8	0.01		Trace	54.7			
18	NF	7694-95	9.3	0.02		Trace	14.2			
19	HF	7696-97	11.4	0.25*		0	27.7			
20	NF	7697-98	6.3	0.01		0	18.6			
21	VHF	7701-02	2.6	0.01		0	62.3			
22	VHF	7707-08	2.0	0.01		0	44.5			
23	VHF	7708-09	6.1	0.02		0	16.0			
24	VHF	7709-10	5.9	0.03		Trace	33.9			

\* Permeability probably  
caused by existing  
shale interlamination

LEGEND:

NP—No Fracture

S—Slight  
St—Stain  
V—Vertical  
Vu—Vugs

SAMPLE NO.	LEGEND	DEPTH, FEET	EFFECTIVE POROSITY FORESPACE	PERMEABILITY MILLIDARIES		SATURATION, %		CONNAIS WATER	SOLUBILITY	
				HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL	PORE SPACE RE. OIL	PORE SPACE RE. WATER		MUD ACID	IS % ACID
		Core No. 2 7710 - 7719			Recovered 9'					
		No samples analyzed								
		Core No. 3 7719 - 7727			Recovered 6½'					
25	VHF	7719-20	3.8	0.01	0	30.3				
26	HF	7720-21	2.8	1.51*	0	60.7				
27	HF	7721-22	3.2	0.07	0	33.8				
28	HF	7722-23	2.4	0.25*	0	60.8				
29	HF	7723-24	4.5	0.10*	0	51.6				
30	VHF	7724-25	2.6	0.01	0	38.5				
		Core No. 4 7727 - 7738			Recovered 10'					
31	VHF	7727-28	3.0	0.02	0	16.0				
32	VHF	7728-29	3.4	0.04	0	11.8				
33	VHF	7729-30	5.4	0.02	0	11.3				
34	VHF	7730-31	1.8	0.01	0	12.2				
35	HF	7731-32	3.9	0.04	0	13.9				
36	VF	7732-33	2.5	0.02	0	12.0				
37	HF	7733-34	3.9	0.66*	0	11.0				
		Core No. 5 7738 - 7792			Recovered 61'					
38	NF	7768-69 <sup>1/2</sup>	10.1	0.04	0	39.2				
39	NF	7769-70	10.8	0.04	0	45.4	41.5			
40	NF	7770-71	10.5	0.03	0	47.1				
41	NF	7771-72	7.7	0.03	0	38.4				
		7772-73	No sample taken							
42	NF	7773-74	5.9	0.01	Trace	49.2				
43	NF	7774-75	5.9	0.01	Trace	48.1				
44	VF	7775-76	2.5	0.02	Trace	55.2				
45	VF	7776-77	5.7	1.44*	Trace	49.6				
46	NF	7777-78	6.9	0.11	Trace	53.3	44.1			
47	NF	7778-79	7.4	0.10	0	37.3				
48	NF	7779-80	7.6	0.21	0	37.9	42.0			
49	NF	7780-81	6.2	0.13	0	40.3				
50	NF	7781-82	4.6	0.10	Trace	34.1				
51	VF	7782-83	3.8	0.01	Trace	86.8				
52	HF	7783-84	4.1	0.03	Trace	73.7				
53	NF	7784-85	4.2	0.03	Trace	68.3				
54	NF	7785-86	4.6	0.09	0	41.3				
55	NF	7786-87	5.4	0.02	0	53.0	44.7			
56	NF	7787-88	7.0	1.01*	0	42.0				
57	NF	7788-89	6.6	0.05	0	45.9	49.5			
58	NF	7789-90	6.9	0.06	0	49.6				
59	NF	7790-91	6.9	0.05	0	31.2				
60	NF	7791-92	6.4	0.31	0	26.1				
61	NF	7792-93	3.2	0.03	0	26.3				

C--Crack  
F--Fracture  
H--Horizontal  
O--Open

LEGEND  
NF--No Fracture  
IS--Ineffective Sample

S--Slight  
St--Stain  
V--Vertical  
Vv--Vugs

SAMPLE NO.	LEGEND	DEPTH, FEET	EFFECTIVE POROSITY % PORESPACE	PERMEABILITY MILLIDARCIES		SATURATIONS		CONNATE WATER	SOLUBILITY	
				HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL	% PORE SPACE RESIDUAL OIL	% PORE SPACE TOTAL WATER		MUD ACID	IN % ACID
		Core No. 5 continued								
62	VF	7793-94	5.8	0.02		0	39.1			
63	VF	7794-95	4.0	0.01		0	52.3			
64	NF	7795-96	8.3	0.05		0	49.9			
65	NF	7796-97	9.5	0.18		Trace	51.7			
66	NF	7797-98	9.4	0.61		Trace	52.1			
67	NF	7798-99	9.4	0.34		Trace	53.2	46.2		

## EXHIBIT NO. 8

Company: El Paso Natural Gas Company  
 Well: San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 NE/NE, Sec. 23, T30N, R5W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

## DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

DEPTH (ft)	SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)	HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)
8075-8076	1	0.02
8076-8077	1	0.01
8077-8078	1	0.01
8078-8079	1	0.01
8079-8080	1	0.01
8080-8081	1	0.01
8081-8082	1	0.01
8082-8083	1	0.01
8083-8084	1	0.01
8084-8085	1	0.01
8085-8086	1	0.01
8090-8091	1	0.01
8091-8092	1	0.01
8092-8093	1	0.01
8093-8094	1	0.01
8094-8095	1	0.01
8095-8096	1	0.01
8096-8096.8	.8	0.01
8116-8117	1	0.03
8117-8118	1	0.01
8118-8119	1	0.01
8119-8120	1	0.01
8120-8121	1	0.02
8121-8122	1	0.01
8122-8123	1	0.01
8123-8124	1	0.01
8124-8125	1	0.01
8125-8126	1	0.01
8126-8127	1	0.01
8127-8128	1	0.01
8128-8129	1	0.01
8129-8130	1	0.02
8130-8130.9	.9	0.01
8133-8134	1	0.01
8134-8135	1	0.01
8138-8139	1	0.01
8139-8140	1	0.01
8140-8141	1	0.01
8141-8142	1	0.01
8142-8143	1	0.01
8143-8144	1	0.01
8144-8145	1	0.01
8145-8146	1	0.01
8146-8147	1	0.01
8147-8148	1	0.65
8148-8149	1	0.01
8155-8156	1	0.01
8156-8157	1	0.01
8157-8158	1	0.01
8158-8159	1	0.01
8159-8160	1	0.01
8160-8161	1	0.05
8161-8162	1	0.02
8162-8163	1	7.2

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS  
 OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
 APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 8  
 CASE NO. 7313  
 Submitted by H. C. C. S.  
 Hearing Date 7-29-81



San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X, cont.

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
8163-8164	1	0.01
8164-8165	1	0.02
8165-8166	1	0.01
8166-8167	1	0.01
8167-8168	1	0.01
8190-8191	1	2.10
8191-8192	1	0.24
8192-8193	1	0.01
8193-8194	1	0.07
8200-8201	1	0.01
8201-8202	1	0.01
8202-8203	1	0.01
8203-8204	1	0.01
8204-8205	1	0.01
8205-8206	1	0.01
8206-8207	1	0.01
8207-8208	1	0.01
8208-8209	1	0.01
8209-8210	1	0.01
8210-8211	1	0.01
8222-8223	1	0.19
8223-8224	1	0.01
8224-8225	1	0.01
8225-8226	1	0.01
8226-8227	1	0.01
8229-8230	1	0.01
8230-8231	1	0.02
8238-8239	1	0.01
8239-8240	1	0.01
8240-8241	1	0.01
8241-8242	1	0.01
8242-8243	1	0.28
8246-8247	1	0.01
8247-8248	1	0.01
TOTAL	87.7	11.66

$$\text{Avg. } \frac{11.66}{87.7} = \underline{0.133 \text{ md}}$$

# CORE LAB



Petroleum Reservoir Engineering

COMPANY EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY DATE ON 8/30/59 FILE NO. RP-3-1065  
 WELL SAN JUAN 30-5 No. 28-23 - X DATE OFF 9/8/59 ENGRS. ENGLISH  
 FIELD BLANCO MESA VERDE WAKOTA WILDCAT FORMATION DAKOTA ELEV. 6753' DF  
 COUNTY RIO ARriba STATE N. MEXICO DRLG. FLD. OIL EMULSION CORES. DIAMOND  
 LOCATION SEC23 T30N R5W REMARKS SAMPLED BY CLIENT

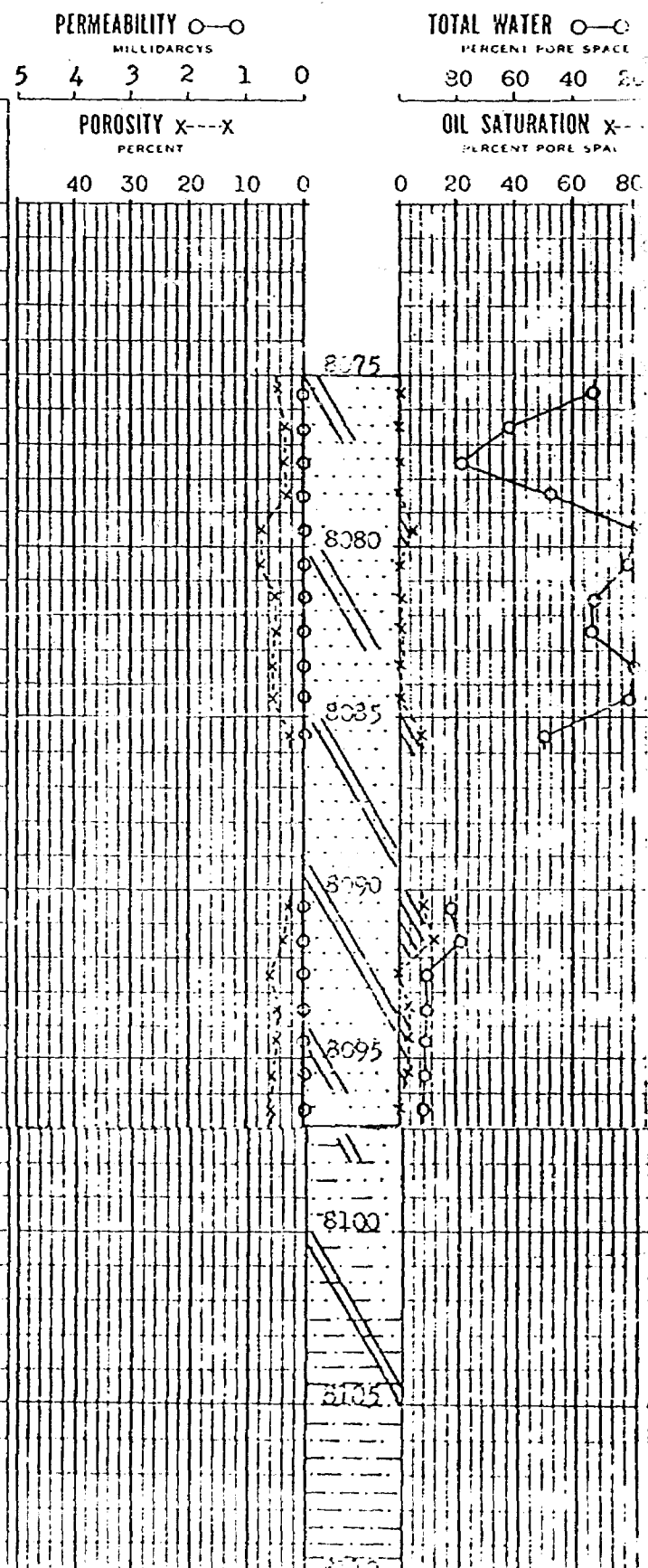
SAND LIMESTONE CONGLOMERATE CHERT   
 SHALE DOLOMITE VERTICAL FRACTURE

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## TABULAR DATA and INTERPRETATION

SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH FEET	PERM. MD.	POROSITY %	RESIDUAL SATURATION % PORE SPACE		BOYLE'S LAW POROSITY	PROD.
				OIL	TOTAL WATER		
1	8075-76	0.02	4.6	0.0	32.6		
2	76-77	0.01	3.4	0.0	61.8		
3	77-78	0.01	2.8	0.0	78.6		
4	78-79	0.01	2.5	0.0	48.0		
5	79-80	0.01	7.6	6.6	19.8		
6	80-81	0.01	7.0	0.0	21.4		
7	81-82	0.01	4.5	0.0	33.4		
8	82-83	0.01	4.3	0.0	34.9		
9	83-84	0.01	5.5	0.0	20.0		
10	84-85	0.01	5.2	0.0	21.2		
11	85-86	0.01	2.4	8.3	50.0		
12	8090-91	0.01	2.2	9.1	81.8		
13	91-92	0.01	3.7	13.5	78.4		
14	92-93	0.01	5.7	0.0	87.7		
15	93-94	0.01	4.2	4.8	90.5		
16	94-95	0.01	4.3	4.7	88.4		
17	95-96	0.01	4.8	4.2	87.5		
18	96-96.8	0.01	5.7	0.0	91.3		

## COMPLETION COREGRAPH

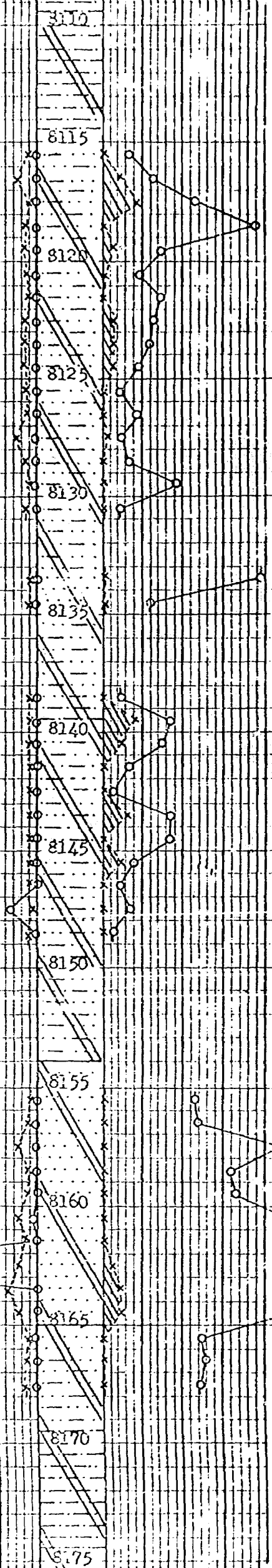


19	8115.5-16	0.01	2.2	0.0	86.4	1.9
20	16-17	0.03	5.0	10.0	74.0	2.9
21	17-18	<0.01	1.1	18.2	54.6	2.9
22	18-19	<0.01	2.5	0.0	24.0	3.6
23	19-20	<0.01	3.4	5.9	70.6	4.8
24	20-21	0.02	2.5	0.0	80.1	3.6
25	21-22	<0.01	2.1	0.0	71.4	3.1
26	22-23	<0.01	3.2	6.2	74.9	3.4
27	23-24	<0.01	3.4	5.9	76.5	4.3
28	24-25	<0.01	3.8	5.3	81.6	4.1
29	25-26	<0.01	3.0	0.0	90.0	3.3
30	26-27	<0.01	3.4	0.0	82.4	3.5
31	27-28	<0.01	5.8	3.4	89.7	2.4
32	28-29	<0.01	2.9	0.0	86.2	2.6
33	29-30	0.02	1.9	0.0	63.1	1.1
34	30-30.9	<0.01	3.2	0.0	90.7	4.3

35	8133-34	<0.01	1.9	0.0	21.0	2.8
36	34-35	<0.01	2.1	0.0	76.3	4.0

37	8138-39	<0.01	1.8	0.0	89.0	1.7
38	39-40	<0.01	1.2	16.7	66.6	1.0
39	40-41	<0.01	1.7	11.8	70.6	1.9
40	41-42	<0.01	1.4	0.0	85.6	2.0
41	42-43	0.01	1.8	0.0	94.4	2.2
42	43-44	<0.01	1.5	13.3	66.8	2.2
43	44-45	<0.01	0.9	0.0	66.7	1.9
44	45-46	<0.01	1.9	10.5	84.3	2.2
45	46-47	<0.01	1.3	0.0	92.4	3.3
46	47-48	0.65	1.4	0.0	85.7	5.1
47	48-49	<0.01	2.2	0.0	95.0	1.8

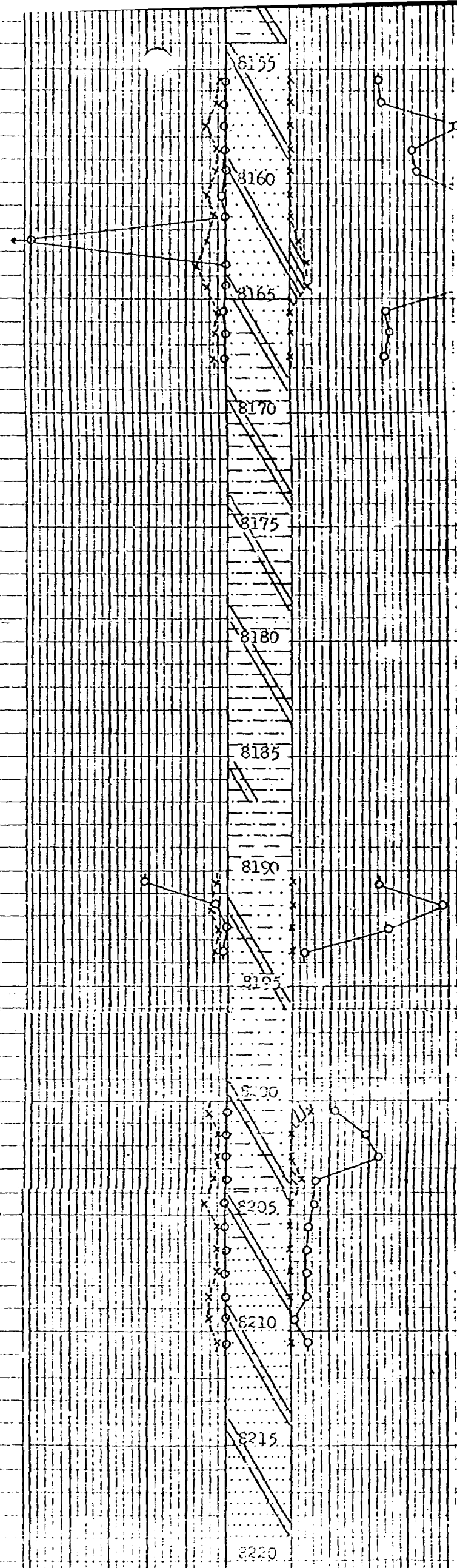
3	8155-56	<0.01	1.1	0.0	54.5	
9	56-57	<0.01	2.3	0.0	52.2	
0	57-58	0.01	5.4	0.0	14.8	
1	58-59	<0.01	2.2	0.0	36.3	
2	59-60	<0.01	1.8	0.0	32.3	
3	60-61	0.05	5.7	0.0	10.5	
4	61-62	0.02	3.6	0.0	11.1	
5	62-63	7.2	4.8	4.2	8.3	
6	63-64	0.01	7.2	9.7	8.5	
7	64-65	0.02	5.1	9.8	7.8	
8	65-66	<0.01	1.2	0.0	50.0	
9	66-67	<0.01	2.9	0.0	48.2	
0	67-68	<0.01	2.4	0.0	50.0	



48	8155-56	<0.01	1.1	0.0	24.5
49	56-57	<0.01	2.3	0.0	52.2
50	57-58	0.01	5.4	0.0	14.8
51	58-59	<0.01	2.2	0.0	36.3
52	59-60	<0.01	1.8	0.0	32.3
53	60-61	0.05	5.7	0.0	10.5
54	61-62	0.02	3.6	0.0	11.1
55	62-63	7.2	4.8	4.2	8.3
56	63-64	0.01	7.2	9.7	8.5
57	64-65	0.02	5.1	9.8	7.8
58	65-66	<0.01	1.2	0.0	50.0
59	66-67	<0.01	2.9	0.0	48.2
60	67-68	<0.01	2.4	0.0	50.0

1	8190-91	2.1	2.7	0.0	55.6
2	91-92	0.24	2.8	0.0	21.4
3	92-93	0.01	2.0	0.0	50.0
4	93-94	0.07	2.6	0.0	92.3

	8200-01	<0.01	4.3	11.6	76.8
	01-02	<0.01	1.3	0.0	61.5
	02-03	0.01	1.7	0.0	35.3
	03-04	<0.01	2.9	6.9	86.3
	04-05	<0.01	5.5	0.0	85.5
	05-06	<0.01	1.9	0.0	89.4
	06-07	<0.01	1.6	0.0	93.8
	07-08	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0
	08-09	<0.01	4.2	0.0	95.0
	09-10	<0.01	4.1	0.0	97.6
	10-11	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0



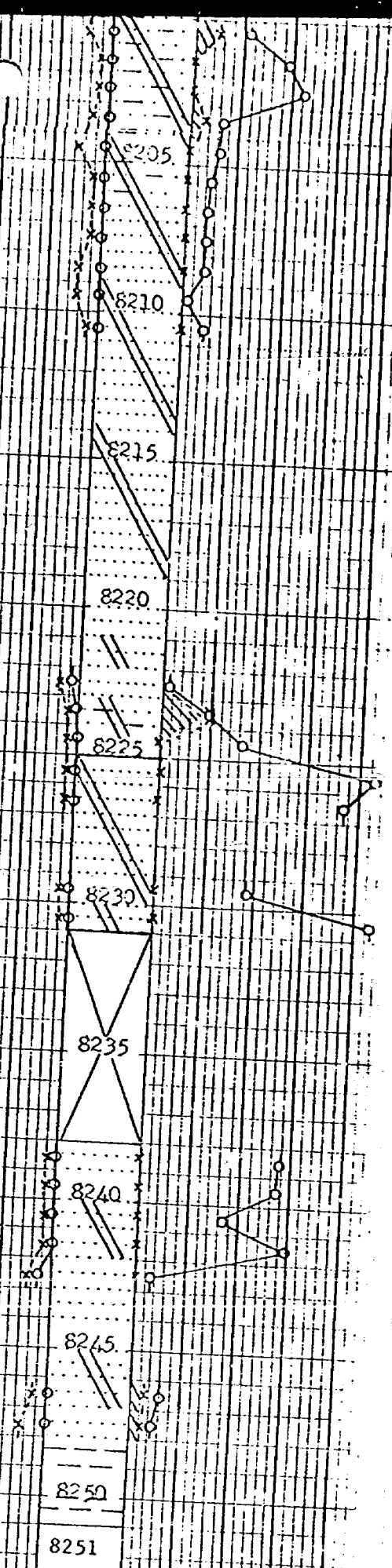
6	01-02	<0.01	1.3	0.0	61.5
7	02-03	0.01	1.7	0.0	5.3
8	03-04	<0.01	2.9	6.9	86.3
9	04-05	<0.01	5.5	0.0	85.5
10	05-06	<0.01	1.9	0.0	89.4
11	06-07	<0.01	1.6	0.0	93.8
12	07-08	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0
13	08-09	<0.01	4.2	0.0	95.0
14	09-10	<0.01	4.1	0.0	97.6
15	10-11	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0

16	8222-23	0.19	3.9	0.0	97.5
17	23-24	<0.01	1.0	20.0	80.0
18	24-25	<0.01	0.6	0.0	66.6
19	25-26	0.01	1.3	0.0	15.4
20	26-27	<0.01	0.8	0.0	25.0

1	8229-30	<0.01	1.2	0.0	83.4
2	30-31	0.02	1.4	0.0	14.3

1	8238-39	0.01	0.2	0.0	44.5
2	39-40	<0.01	1.3	0.0	46.1
3	40-41	<0.01	0.9	0.0	66.6
4	41-42	0.01	1.0	0.0	40.0
5	42-43	0.28	4.5	0.0	93.4

1	8246-47	<0.01	3.3	6.1	88.0
2	8247-48	<0.01	4.6	4.4	91.3



## EXHIBIT NO. 9

Company: El Paso Natural Gas Company  
 Well: San Juan 30-6 Unit No. 31  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SE/SW, Sec. 33, T30N, R6W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7635-7636	1	0.01
7636-7637	1	0.01
7637-7638	1	0.05
7638-7639	1	0.07
7639-7640	1	0.01
7640-7641	1	0.10
7641-7642	1	< 0.01
7642-7643	1	< 0.01
7643-7644	1	0.01
7644-7645	1	< 0.01
7645-7646	1	0.01
7646-7647	1	< 0.01
7647-7648	1	< 0.01
7716-7717	1	0.13
7717-7718	1	0.04
7718-7719	1	0.01
7719-7720	1	0.90
7720-7721	1	< 0.01
7721-7722	1	< 0.01
7722-7723	1	< 0.01
7723-7724	1	< 0.01
7724-7725	1	< 0.01
7725-7726	1	< 0.01
7746-7747	1	0.04
7751-7752	1	0.01
7752-7753	1	0.06
7753-7754	1	1.90
7754-7755	1	0.27
7755-7756	1	0.01
7756-7757	1	0.03
7757-7758	1	0.17
7758-7759	1	0.05
7759-7760	1	0.90
7760-7761	1	1.00
TOTAL	34	5.90

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{5.90}{34} = 0.174 \text{ md}$$

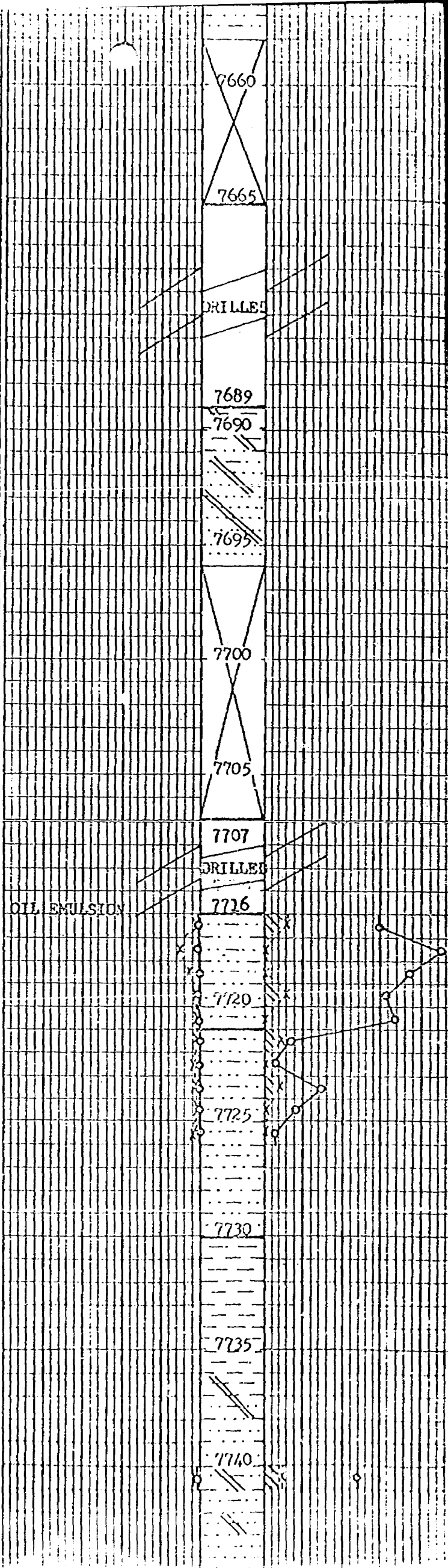
BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. <u>4</u>
CASE NO. <u>7313</u>
Submitted by <u>McCord</u>
Hearing Date <u>7-29-81</u>





15	7716-17	0.13	1.5	13.3	40.0
16	17-18	0.04	5.3	0.0	11.3
17	18-19	0.01	2.3	0.0	26.5
18	19-20	0.9	1.6	12.5	37.5
19	20-21	<0.01	0.6	0.0	33.3
20	21-22	<0.01	2.0	10.0	85.0
21	22-23	<0.01	1.7	0.0	94.0
22	23-24	<0.01	2.1	9.1	71.5
23	24-25	<0.01	1.2	0.0	83.4
24	25-26	<0.01	2.2	0.0	95.5

5 7740-42 10 0.04 1.9 10.5 52.7





25	7740-41	0.04	1.9	10.5	52.7
26	7746-47	0.04	1.6	31.3	50.0
27	7751-52	0.01	2.4	8.3	66.7
28	52-53	0.06	7.9	0.0	30.4
29	53-54	1.9	10.2	5.0	16.8
30	54-55	0.27	7.8	6.4	15.4
31	55-56	0.01	1.6	0.0	50.0
32	56-57	0.03	4.2	4.8	23.9
33	57-58	0.17	4.8	0.0	4.2
34	58-59	0.05	0.7	0.0	28.4
35	59-60	0.9	0.6	0.0	33.3
36	60-61	1.0	1.2	0.0	16.7

7735

7740

7745

7750

7755

7760

7765

7770

7775

7780

7785

7790

7795

7800

7805

7810

## EXHIBIT NO. 10

Company: Amoco Production Company  
 Well: #1 Rosa Unit  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SW/SE, Sec. 11, T31N, R6W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7878-7879	1	0.05
7912-7914	2	0.05
7914-7916	2	0.34
7916-7923	7	0.05
7923-7928	5	0.18
7928-7930	2	0.59
7930-7931	1	0.05
7932-7936	<u>4</u>	0.05
TOTAL	24	

Weighted Total = 3.51 md

$$\text{Avg. K} = \frac{3.51}{24} = \underline{0.146 \text{ md}}$$

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. <u>10</u>
CASE NO. <u>7313</u>
Submitted by <u>McCORD</u>
Hearing Date <u>7-29-81</u>



## EXHIBIT NO. 11

Company: Northwest Pipeline Corp.  
 (Originally El Paso Natural Gas Co.)  
 Well: San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SE/SW, Sec. 33, T31N, R6W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7904.5-7905	.5	0.02
7905-7906	1	0.02
7906-7907	1	< 0.01
7907-7908	1	< 0.01
7908-7909	1	0.06
7909-7910	1	0.01
7910-7911	1	0.01
7911-7912	1	< 0.01
7912-7913	1	< 0.01
7913-7914	1	< 0.01
7914-7915	1	< 0.01
7915-7916	1	< 0.01
7916-7917	1	< 0.01
7917-7918	1	< 0.01
7939-7940	1	< 0.01
7940-7941	1	< 0.01
7941-7942	1	0.01
7942-7943	1	0.02
7957-7958	1	< 0.01
7958-7959	1	< 0.01
7959-7960	1	0.01
7960-7961	1	0.01
7961-7962	1	0.02
7962-7963	1	0.01
7963-7964	1	0.01
7964-7965	1	0.01
7965-7966	1	0.01
7966-7967	1	0.01
7967-7968	1	0.05
7978-7979	1	0.01
7979-7980	1	< 0.01
7980-7981	1	< 0.01
7981-7982	1	0.02
7982-7983	1	0.04
7983-7984	1	0.07
7989-7990	1	< 0.01
7990-7991	1	< 0.01
7991-7992	1	0.02
8005-8006	1	0.07
8006-8007	1	0.01
8007-8008	1	0.01
8008-8009	1	< 0.01
8009-8010	1	< 0.01
8014-8015	1	0.28
8015-8016	1	0.23
8016-8017	1	0.54
8017-8018	1	0.06

APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 11

CASE NO. 7313

Submitted by McCord

Hearing Date 7-29-81

San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16, cont.

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
8022-8023	1	< 0.01
8023-8024	1	< 0.01
8024-8025	1	< 0.01
8025-8026	1	< 0.01
8029-8030	1	0.04
8030-8031	1	0.22
8031-8032	1	0.28
8032-8033	1	0.43
8033-8034	1	0.08
8034-8035	1	0.04
8035-8036	1	0.05
8036-8037	1	0.07
8037-8038	1	< 0.01
8038-8039	1	0.14
8039-8040	1	0.35
8040-8041	1	< 0.01
TOTAL	62.5	3.60

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{3.60}{62.5} = \underline{0.058 \text{ md}}$$




COMPANY EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY DATE ON 7/18/59 FILE NO. RP-3-1037  
WELL SAN JUAN 31-6 NO. 16-33 DATE OFF 7/22/59 ENGRS. ENGLISH  
FIELD WILDCAT (BLANCO MESA VERDE DAKOTA) FORMATION DAKOTA ELEV. 6199' DF  
COUNTY RIO ARriba STATE NEW MEX. DRLG. FLD. OIL EMULSION MUD CORES DIAMOND  
LOCATION SEC. 33-T31N-R6W REMARKS SAMPLED BY REPRESENTATIVE OF CLIENT.


**SAND** 

**SHALE** 

LIMESTONE

DOLOMITE

CONGLOMERATE 

VERTICAL 

FRACTURE

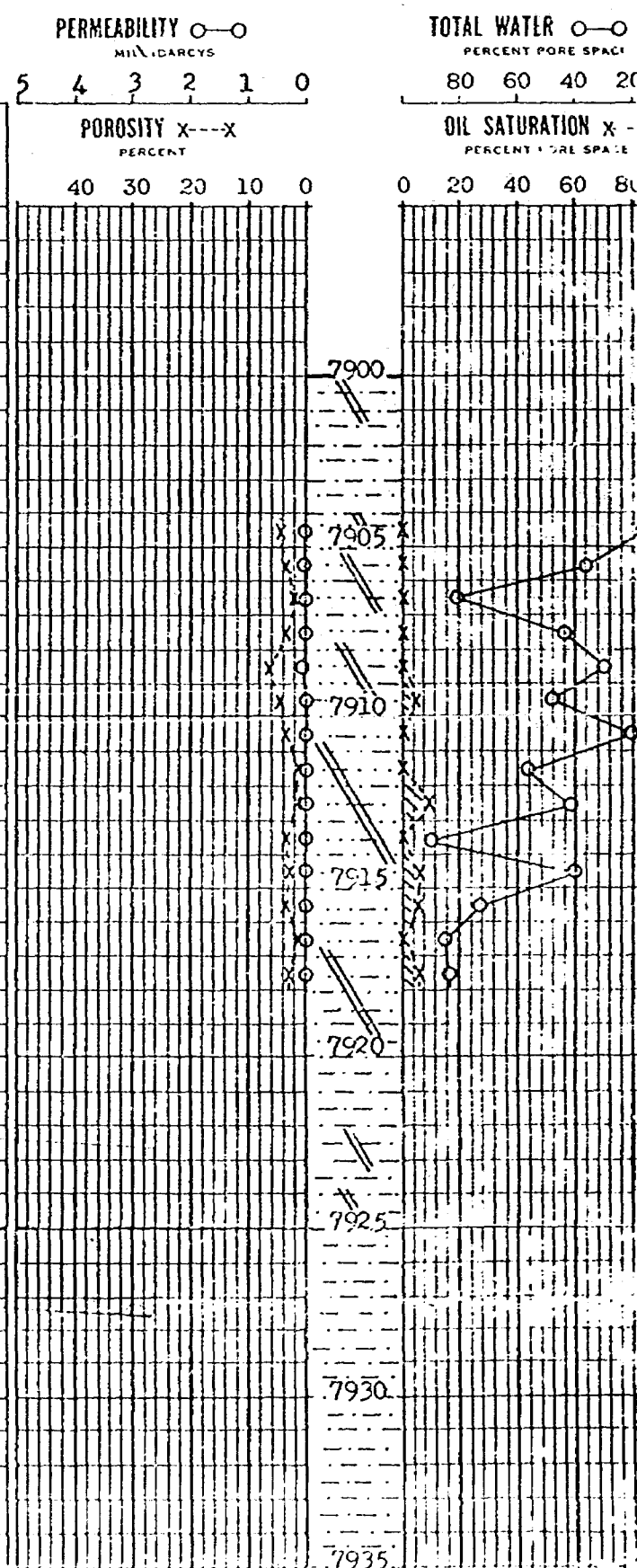
CHERT 

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## TABULAR DATA and INTERPRETATION

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## COMPLETION COREGRAPH

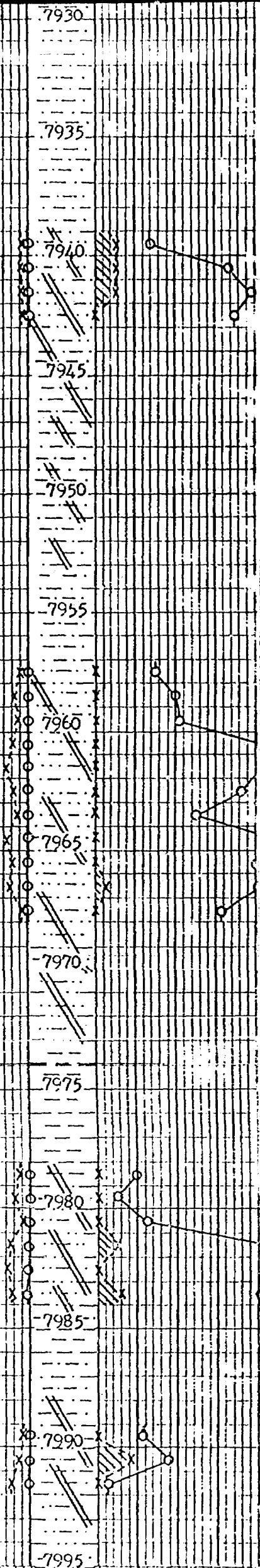


15	7939-40	<0.01	1.8	11.2	72.1
16	40-41	<0.01	1.8	11.2	33.3
17	41-42	0.01	1.8	11.2	22.2
18	42-43	0.02	1.3	0.0	30.8

19	7957-58	<0.01	2.0	0.0	70.0
20	58-59	<0.01	3.3	0.0	60.6
21	59-60	0.01	2.4	0.0	58.3
22	60-61	0.01	3.8	0.0	15.8
23	61-62	0.02	5.6	0.0	17.9
24	62-63	0.01	3.7	0.0	27.0
25	63-64	0.01	2.8	0.0	50.0
26	64-65	0.01	5.4	0.0	11.1
27	65-66	0.01	3.9	0.0	20.5
28	66-67	0.01	4.1	4.9	19.5
29	67-68	0.05	1.6	0.0	37.4

30	7978-79	0.01	2.6	0.0	80.7
31	79-80	<0.01	3.7	0.0	89.2
32	80-81	<0.01	1.6	0.0	75.0
33	81-82	0.02	4.6	10.9	8.7
34	82-83	0.04	5.3	0.0	7.5
35	83-84	0.07	4.2	11.9	19.0

36	7989-90	<0.01	1.8	0.0	77.7
37	90-91	<0.01	2.9	17.2	65.5
38	91-92	0.02	4.4	0.0	97.6



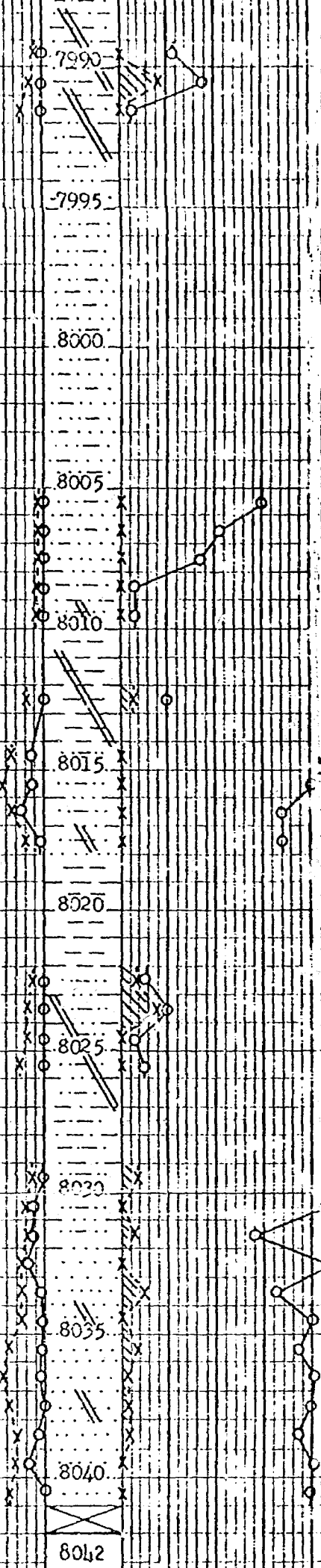
36	7989-90	<0.01	1.8	0.0	1.7
37	90-91	<0.01	2.9	17.2	65.5
38	91-92	0.02	4.4	0.0	97.6

39	8005-06	0.07	1.0	0.0	40.0
40	06-07	0.01	1.2	0.0	58.2
41	07-08	0.01	0.9	0.0	66.6
42	08-09	<0.01	1.8	0.0	94.4
43	09-10	<0.01	1.8	0.0	94.4

44	8012-13	<0.01	3.6	5.5	80.6
45	8014-15	0.28	6.9	0.0	14.5
46	15-16	0.23	9.1	0.0	19.8
47	16-17	0.54	6.7	0.0	32.8
48	17-18	0.06	4.0	0.0	32.5

49	8022-23	<0.01	2.9	6.9	89.8
50	23-24	<0.01	3.2	15.6	81.3
51	24-25	<0.01	3.6	0.0	94.5
52	25-26	<0.01	5.2	0.0	90.4

53	8029-30	0.04	2.7	7.4	14.8
54	30-31	0.22	4.1	0.0	14.6
55	31-32	0.23	3.8	5.3	44.7
56	32-33	0.43	5.0	0.0	12.0
57	33-34	0.08	4.8	10.4	35.4
58	34-35	0.04	5.0	0.0	20.0
59	35-36	0.05	7.7	6.5	26.0
60	36-37	0.07	8.3	2.4	19.3
61	37-38	<0.01	7.6	2.6	21.1
62	38-39	0.14	6.1	3.3	26.3
63	39-40	0.35	6.2	0.0	19.3
64	8040-41	<0.01	7.4	0.0	21.6





## EXHIBIT NO. 12

Company: Blackwood & Nichols, Ltd.  
 Well: Northeast Blanco Unit No. 1  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SE/NE, Sec. 27, T31N, R7W  
 San Juan County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7831-7832	1	0.01
7832-7833	1	0.01
7833-7834	1	0.01
7834-7835	1	0.01
7835-7836	1	0.01
7836-7837	1	0.01
7837-7838	1	0.01
7838-7839	1	0.01
7839-7840	1	0.01
7840-7841	1	0.01
7841-7842	1	0.01
7842-7843	1	0.01
7843-7844	1	1.50
TOTAL	13	1.62

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{1.62}{13} = \underline{0.125 \text{ md}}$$

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. <u>12</u>
CASE NO. <u>7313</u>
Submitted by <u>McLORD</u>
Hearing Date <u>7-29-81</u>

CORE DESCRIPTIONS

- CORE #1 6990-7039. Recovered 21' blk. shale, bottom 6' sli sandy.
- CORE #2 7039-7042. Core jammed in bbl. Recovered 2' blk shale.
- CORE #3 7042-7045. Core jammed in bbl. Recovered 3' blk shale.
- CORE #4 7800-7830. Recovered 25 1/2'.
1. shale, gry-blk, platy, sli sandy, micaceous, tr coal
  2. sand, gry, vfg, calc, sli silty, scattered mica., dnse
  3. shale, blk, micaceous, w/scattered sand lenses, 15% sand
  4. sand, gry, vfg, calc, very silty, shale stringers, abdt mica, dnse, tite.
  5. same
  6. same, 20% blk shale
  7. shale and sand in alternating layers, predominately shale
  8. shale, blk, sli sandy, calc, micaceous
  9. same, w/pearly pelecypod frags
  10. same
  11. same
  12. same
  13. same
  14. same, concentric fractures parallel to bedding
  15. limestone, buff-brn, dnse, silic, crypto-alm, horizontal fractures
  16. shale, blk, sli sandy, micaceous
  17. same, concentric fractures parallel to bedding
  18. same, no fractures
  19. shale and sand in alternating layers, predom. shale
  20. shale and sand in alternating layers, predom. sand
  21. sand, gry-blk, fg, hard, dnse, scattered intergranular poro
  22. same, sli silty, w/horizontal fractures
  23. same, shaley (40%), micaceous
  24. shale, blk, micaceous (75%); sand (25%)
  25. sand, gry, fg, hard, micaceous, w/abdt pyrite
  26. same (60%); shale (40%)
- CORE #5 7830-7831. No recovery.
- CORE #6 7831-7844. Full recovery.
1. sand, gry-blk, fg, hard horiz. true, tr fair intergranular poro
  2. same, w/thin shale partings, tr fair poro
  3. same, no frac, tr fair poro
  4. same, sli silty, tr fair poro
  5. same
  6. same, fair poro
  7. same, tr fair poro
  8. same
  9. same

10. same
11. same, w/thin shale partings
12. same, tr fair poro
13. same, shale (20%), tr poro

CORE #7 7841-7844. Full recovery.

1. sand, gry-tn, fg, hard, tr intergranular poro
2. same, w/scat shale partings and horiz frac
3. same
4. same

---0---

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN SAMPLE & CORE DESCRIPTION

a - angular	ls - limestone
abdt - abundant	ag - medium grained
bent - bentonite (itic)	poro - porosity
blk - black	pyr - pyrite
brn - brown	qtzitic - quartzitic
calc - calcareous	R - rounded
dnse - dense	sa - subangular
fg - fine grained	scat - scattered
foss - fossiliferous	sdv - sandy
frac - fractured	sh - shale
frag - fragment(s)	silic - siliceous
fx - finely crystalline	sli - slight
glau - glauconite(ic)	sk - subrounded
grn - green	ss - sandstone
gry - gray	tr - trace
horiz - horizontal	V - very
IGR - intergranular	vert - vertical
incl - inclusions	wh - white
lg - large grained	xln - crystalline

COKE ANALYSIS DATA

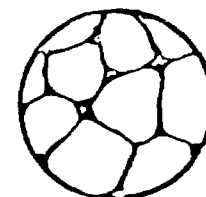
COKE #6 - 7831-7844

COKE NO.	DEPTH	PERMEABILITY DARREYS	NET POROSITY %	TOTAL POROSITY %
1	7832	0.01	4.20	4.65
2	7833	0.01	2.75	3.70
3	7834	0.01	4.10	4.42
4	7835	0.01	1.17	2.08
5	7836	0.01	1.97	2.81
6	7837	0.01	2.28	3.50
7	7838	0.01	3.08	7.80
8	7839	0.01	8.50	9.50
9	7840	0.01	7.20	7.90
10	7841	0.01	2.76	3.96
11	7842	0.01	2.65	2.55
12	7843	0.01	1.53	3.80
13	7844	1.50*	2.35	3.60

\* This plug was taken across a natural, well bonded horizontal fracture.

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 13  
CASE NO. 7313  
Submitted by HOOVER  
Hearing Date 7-29-81

EXHIBIT NO. 13



# Effect of Overburden Pressure and Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone Cores

Rex D. Thomas, SPE-AIME, U. S. Bureau of Mines  
Don C. Ward, SPE-AIME, U. S. Bureau of Mines

## Introduction

Research on the potential of nuclear explosions to stimulate gas production from low-permeability (tight) sandstone reservoirs is being conducted by the U. S. Bureau of Mines in cooperation with the Atomic Energy Commission. This report describes the part of that research that was conducted to establish correlation between permeability measured on dry cores at low external pressure (routine analysis) and permeability at reservoir conditions.

Cores used in this research were obtained from two Plowshare gas-stimulation projects. Project Gasbuggy cores from the Pictured Cliffs formation, Choza Mesa field, Rio Arriba County, N. M., can be described as very fine grained, slightly calcareous, well indurated sandstone. Project Wagon Wheel cores from the Fort Union formation, Pinedale field, Sublette County, Wyo., can be described as very fine grained, slightly calcareous, very well indurated sandstone.

Underground reservoirs are under considerable compressive stress as a result of the weight of overlying rocks (offset somewhat by internal-fluid pressure). The resultant net confining pressure or effective overburden pressure is referred to in this report simply as overburden pressure. The resulting effects on the physical properties of the reservoir rock have been studied.<sup>1-3</sup> Overburden pressure causes only a small decrease in porosity, which can usually be ignored.<sup>3</sup> This was confirmed for Project Gasbuggy and Project Wagon Wheel cores. A commercial laboratory found that the porosity of these cores is reduced by about 5

percent of the original porosity. The effect of overburden pressure on permeability, however, is appreciable and varies considerably for different reservoir rocks,<sup>1,2</sup> causing greater reductions in permeability for low-permeability rocks.<sup>2,3</sup> The effect of overburden pressure on relative permeability has been found to be small<sup>4</sup> or nonexistent.<sup>5</sup>

This report presents material that confirms and extends previous research findings on the effect that overburden pressure has upon the permeability of dry cores. Also presented are the results of research on the relative gas permeability of low-permeability cores under overburden pressure.

## Apparatus and Procedure

Cylindrical cores 2.0 to 7.5 cm long and 2.5 cm in diameter were cut parallel to the bedding plane. After the cores were dried overnight in a vacuum oven (4.5 psia, 70°C), the gas (N<sub>2</sub>) permeability of each core was measured in a Hassler cell. An external pressure of 100 psi over the inlet pressure was used to maintain a good seal between the rubber sleeve and the core.<sup>6</sup> Permeability was measured at inlet pressures of 45, 60, and 100 psia, with atmospheric pressure at the outlet. A bubble tube and timer were used to measure gas flow rate. Initial permeability ( $k_i$ ) then was calculated by the Klinkenberg technique to correct for the effect of gas slippage. All other permeabilities reported here were calculated by this method.

In the same manner, permeability was measured at

*Research conducted to determine the potential of nuclear explosions to stimulate gas production verifies that the gas permeability of tight sandstone cores is markedly decreased with increasing overburden pressure. Water saturation also reduces the gas permeability by a large amount. The relative permeability, however, does not change significantly with overburden pressure.*

increasing external pressures of about 500, 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 5,000, and 6,000 psi. External pressures actually were somewhat higher to compensate for internal pressure. The core and stainless steel end pieces were placed in a rubber sleeve (piece of bicycle innertube) 0.1 cm thick. Rubber cement was used to seal the stainless steel end pieces to the rubber sleeve. Shrinkable plastic tubing proved unsatisfactory because high pressure was required to seal the core. The jacketed core was mounted in a high-pressure cell with distilled water as the external fluid.

Cores used in relative permeability studies were first subjected to high external pressure and then allowed to recover their initial permeability. Bulk volume, dry weight, and porosity were measured by conventional gas-expansion techniques. Cores then were subjected to a vacuum (0.3 psia) for 2 hours, immersed in water, and allowed to stand under a vacuum overnight. The cores were weighed and again subjected to vacuum overnight and weighed again to assure complete saturation. Most of the cores were completely saturated after one night. Porosity values calculated on the basis of water saturation are in good agreement with those measured by conventional gas-expansion techniques.

Water in the core was allowed to evaporate at atmospheric conditions to a saturation of about 70 percent and the core was placed in the holder for 2 hours under external pressure (100 psi above inlet) only so the water saturation was uniform. Gas permeability then was measured at three inlet pressures between 30 and 100 psia with atmospheric pressure at the outlet. This procedure was repeated for decreasing water saturations at the same external pressure. After the permeability was measured the core was weighed to determine if any water was lost. In all cases the amount lost was negligible. After the core was dried in a vacuum oven, the gas permeability at this external pressure was measured. The procedure was repeated for external pressures of 3,000 and 6,000 psi.

## Results and Discussion

### Effect of Overburden Pressure on Permeability

Core number, length, porosity, and initial permeability of the cores used in this research are shown in Table 1. The core number refers to the depth in feet at which the core was obtained. Typical plots of the effect of simulated overburden pressure on Gasbuggy cores are shown in Fig. 1. The permeability is decreased by about 75 percent at an overburden pressure of 3,000 psi and by 90 percent at 6,000 psi. The hydrostatic loading used in these experiments does not reproduce subsurface conditions exactly; in an actual reservoir the horizontal component of stress is usually less than the vertical component. Since the actual loading is not known, this method probably is as realistic as any other. Cores that contain microfractures are affected to a greater extent, as shown in Fig. 2. In these cores the permeability is decreased by about 95 percent at a simulated overburden pressure of 3,000 psi, with most of the reduction occurring below 2,000 psi.

The data shown in Table 1 and Figs. 1 and 2 were obtained by subjecting the core to successive incre-

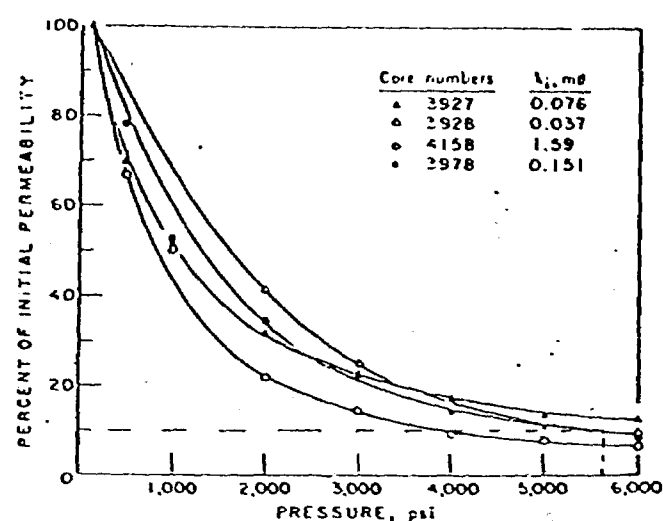


Fig. 1—Effect of overburden pressure on gas permeability of Gasbuggy cores.

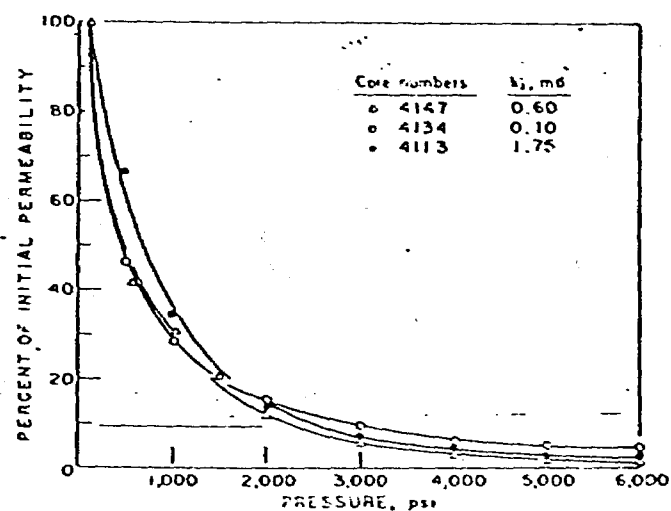


Fig. 2—Effect of overburden pressure on gas permeability of fractured Gasbuggy cores.

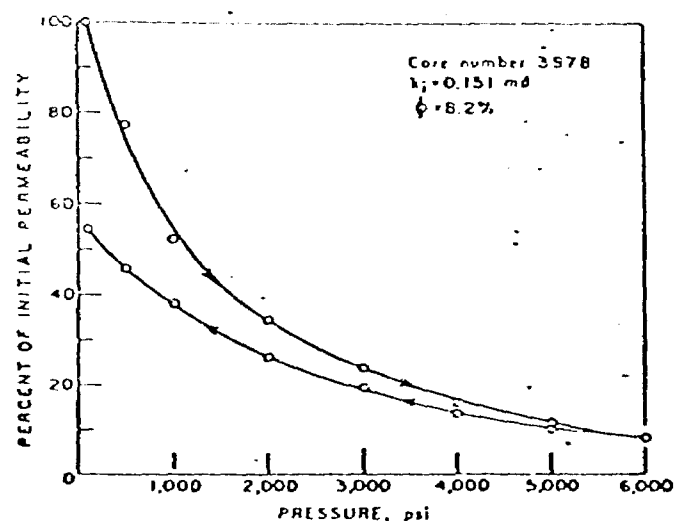


Fig. 3—Hysteresis effect at decreasing confining pressures.

TABLE 1—EFFECT OF OVERBURDEN PRESSURE ON GAS PERMEABILITY

Effective Overburden Pressure (psi):				500	1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000
Core Number*	Length (cm)	Porosity (percent)	k <sub>i</sub> †	Permeability (md)						
Gasbuggy										
3927	2.1	8.1	0.076	0.053	0.040	0.024	0.0175	0.0132	0.0105	0.0095
3928	7.5	8.3	0.037	0.031	0.024	0.015	0.0093	0.0059	0.0046	0.0035
3978	2.1	8.2	0.151	0.118	0.078	0.052	0.036	0.024	0.0175	0.0132
4113**	2.1	10.1	1.75	1.16	0.602	0.252	0.113	0.068	0.042	0.029
4134**	2.1	11.6	0.10	0.046	0.029	0.0153	0.0095	0.0065	0.0055	0.0047
4146**	7.5	11.6	2.40	1.73	1.32	0.31	0.14	0.069	0.052	0.022
4147**	7.5	11.3	0.60	0.247	0.181	0.071	0.034	0.0186	0.0118	0.0082
4158	2.1	13.6	1.59	1.06	0.80	0.35	0.225	0.152	0.116	0.100
Wagon Wheel										
8084	3.8	7.7	0.028	0.022	0.020	0.010	0.0070	0.0047	0.0035	0.0030
8122	3.8	11.4	0.071	0.055	0.048	0.034	0.027	0.024	0.021	0.019
8575**	3.8	8.7	0.039	0.029	0.024	0.0114	0.0073	0.0048	0.0032	0.0025
10156	3.8	8.5	0.088	0.067	0.051	0.032	0.025	0.022	0.018	0.016
10990**	3.8	9.9	0.048	0.020	0.0175	0.0080	0.0050	0.0040	0.0025	0.0019

\*Number denotes depth in feet.

\*\*Slightly fractured.

†Initial permeability.

mental increases in external pressure. The core was assumed to be in equilibrium at each pressure when permeability measurements remained constant for 15 minutes, which required between 1 and 2 hours. A period of 30 minutes to an hour was required to attain equilibrium when the inlet pressure was changed. Consequently, each external pressure was maintained for a minimum of 2 hours.

The effect of decreasing external pressure was determined on a few cores, and typical results are shown in Fig. 3. Other researchers<sup>2,3</sup> have observed and shown that this hysteresis is mainly dependent on the stress history of the core. Cores generally recover their original permeability after 3 to 6 weeks at atmospheric conditions. This time could be shortened by storing the core in an oven at 70°C.

The effect of overburden pressure on the permeability of cores from Project Wagon Wheel is similar to that on cores from Project Gasbuggy, and typical results are shown in Fig. 6. The permeability is decreased to about 30 percent of initial permeability at an overburden pressure of 3,000 psi and to 20 percent at 6,000.

A study of the data in Table 1 indicates that the original porosity of the core and the reduction in permeability caused by overburden pressure are not related. Pore structure (fractures to uniform pores) is probably the governing factor.

#### Water Saturation Effects

The data in Table 2 show that the permeability decreased with increasing water saturation. The values at 20-, 40-, and 60-percent water saturation were obtained from individual relative-permeability curves for Gasbuggy and Wagon Wheel cores. Relative-permeability curves for three cores from Project Gasbuggy are shown in Fig. 5 with the data points for Core 3978. Data points were omitted for the other cores to avoid confusion. This figure shows that al-

though gas permeability is reduced, the relative gas permeability of Gasbuggy cores is not significantly affected by increased overburden pressure. This conclusion is in agreement with the results of others.<sup>4,5</sup>

Extremely low values of permeability that resulted from water saturation and overburden pressure required that either long flow times or high inlet pressures (high differential across the core) be used. Since a high inlet pressure increases the end effects by changing the distribution of water in the core, long flow times were required. Although end-effect problems were encountered with the short cores (Cores 3978 and 4158), the permeability of these cores was

TABLE 2—EFFECT OF OVERBURDEN PRESSURE AND WATER SATURATION ON GAS PERMEABILITY

Water Saturation (percent):		0	20	40	60
Core Number	Pressure (psi)	Permeability (md)			
Gasbuggy					
3927	100	0.115	0.099	0.041	0.0023
3927	3,000	0.026	0.023	0.009	0.0005
3927	6,000	0.012	0.010	0.003	0.0002
3978	100	0.112	0.080	0.034	0.011
3978	3,000	0.036	0.026	0.011	0.004
3978	6,000	0.013	0.009	0.004	0.0013
4158	100	0.447	0.335	0.156	0.045
4158	3,000	0.075	0.056	0.026	0.0074
4158	6,000	0.027	0.020	0.010	0.0026
Wagon Wheel					
8084	100	0.038	0.030	0.014	0.0042
8084	3,000	0.012	0.0096	0.0043	0.0013
8084	6,000	0.0070	0.0056	0.0025	0.0008
8122	100	0.074	0.054	0.017	0.006
8122	3,000	0.027	0.020	0.008	0.002
8122	6,000	0.020	0.015	0.006	0.002
10156	100	0.100	0.074	0.029	0.003
10156	3,000	0.028	0.020	0.008	0.0008
10156	6,000	0.017	0.013	0.005	0.0005

high enough to yield reasonable results. Permeability measurements for Core 4161 (7.5 cm long, 0.053 md) required more than 2 hours per reading. These extremely long flow times can cause errors.

End effects, long flow times, and changes in permeability due to water saturation tend to decrease the accuracy of permeability measurements, especially at the higher water saturations.

The initial permeability of many of the dry cores used in this research was not reproducible following saturation and drying. The changes probably were caused by solution of material in the pores and by particle movement. These caused both increases and decreases in permeability. The variation, although sometimes large, usually was less than 5 percent; however, we feel that the relative permeability curves are essentially correct. To eliminate the effects of solution and particle movement, the permeability of the dry core following saturation, rather than the permeability initially measured, was used in calculating relative permeability.

A composite of the relative permeability curves for Gasbuggy cores is shown in Fig. 5. These curves are representative of permeabilities encountered in this formation. At a water saturation of 50 percent, the relative permeability of the cores ranges from 15 to 20 percent and is not affected by overburden pressure.

Similar results were obtained on cores from Project Wagon Wheel, as shown in Table 2 and Fig. 6 with data points for Core 8122. These cores were cut to a length of 3.8 cm to alleviate some of the long flow time and end-effect difficulties encountered with Gasbuggy cores. These curves are representative of the permeabilities encountered in the formation. At a water saturation of 50 percent, the relative permeability of these cores ranges from 12 to 21 percent. The data in these figures show, as do the data from Gasbuggy cores, that relative gas permeability is not significantly affected by increased overburden pressure.

#### Correlation with Nuclear Stimulation Projects

Many of the basin areas of the Rocky Mountain region consist of thick, low-permeability sandstones containing large quantities of natural gas. This type of reservoir has been the object of the AEC's Plowshare Program experiments, Projects Gasbuggy and Rulison, and proposed Projects Wagon Wheel, WASP, and Rio Blanco. Because most wells in these reservoirs have not been commercial, only limited reservoir-analysis and production-test data are available. Reservoir analysis is most difficult because low permeability requires long-term testing. Also, it is difficult to determine permeability and net pay from these tests. Knowledge of the gas permeability is necessary in predicting gas recovery, and because it is not economical to define the characteristics of different strata by well test, it is desirable to be able to relate laboratory-measured permeability to the true in-situ permeability.

Conventional analysis by a commercial laboratory (confirmed in our laboratory) of about 200 Gasbuggy cores gave an average initial gas permeability of 0.16 md on dry cores and an average water saturation of 48 percent. The effective overburden pressure of this

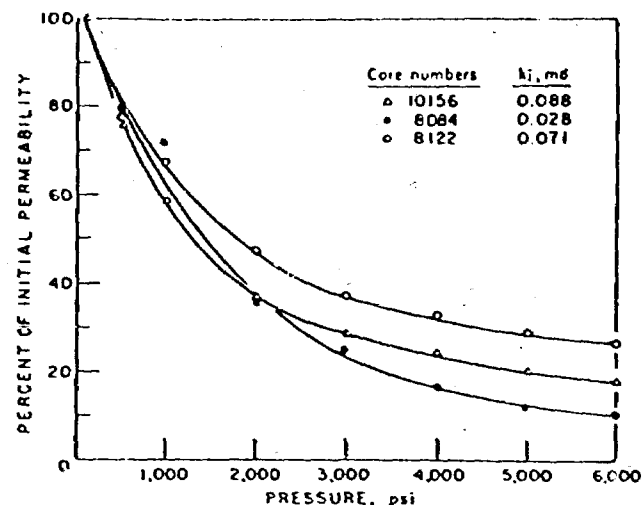


Fig. 4—Effect of overburden pressure on gas permeability of Wagon Wheel cores.

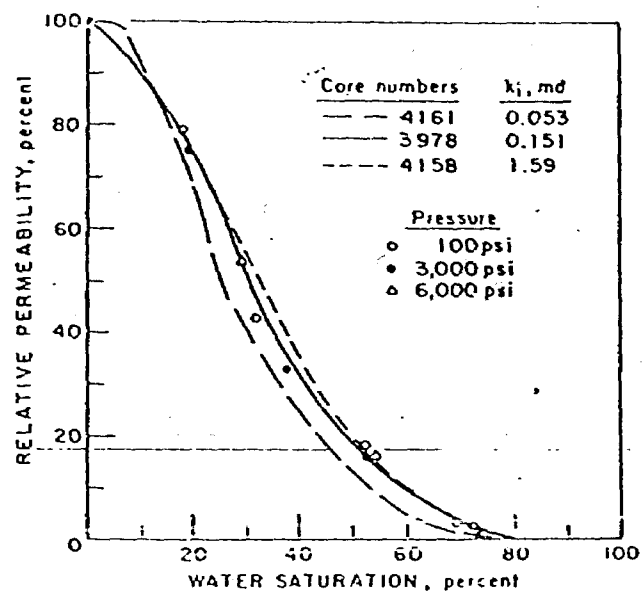


Fig. 5—Relative gas permeability of Gasbuggy cores.

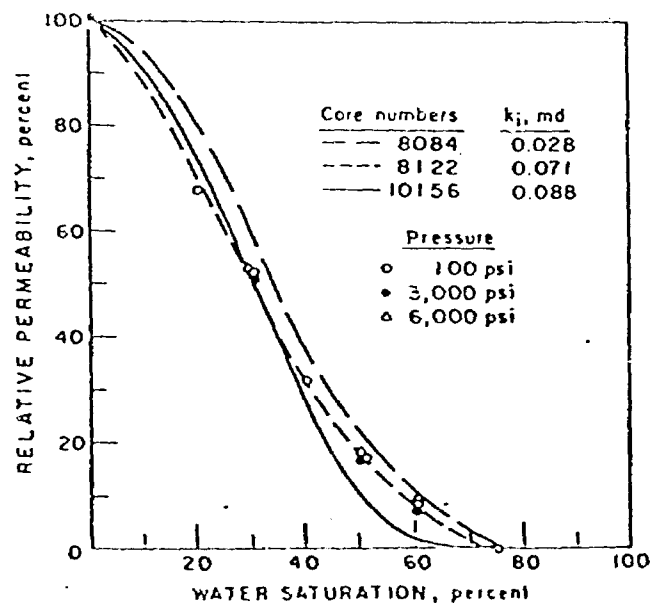


Fig. 6—Relative gas permeability of Wagon Wheel cores.



reservoir is about 3,000 psi. From Fig. 1, the reduction factor resulting from the overburden pressure is 0.25, and the reduction factor for a water saturation of 48 percent (Fig. 5) is 0.20; thus the total reduction is 5 percent of the initial permeability, or 0.008 md. This value compares favorably with permeability determinations of about 0.01 md from both preshot and postshot flow testing at Gasbuggy. The gas reservoir at Project Rulison is similar to that at Gasbuggy, having an average initial dry permeability of 0.11 md and an average water saturation of 45 percent. Simulated in-situ permeability has not yet been measured in the laboratory on Rulison cores; however, using an effective overburden pressure of 5,000 psi and curves of Gasbuggy core data (Figs. 1 and 5), the reduction factor because of overburden pressure would be 0.12 and that for water saturation 0.24. This results in a combined reduction to 3 percent of the initial permeability, or 0.003 md. Postshot production testing at Rulison is not complete, and the only preshot determination of permeability was made from tests of a 32-ft isolated zone that gave an average value of 0.008 md. No cores are available from this zone. Rulison reservoir rock is said to be less compressible than that of Gasbuggy; therefore Gasbuggy pressure-effect data would be expected to indicate a greater reduction for Rulison than actually exists.

The average initial permeability of dry Wagon Wheel cores is 0.068 md, with an average water saturation of 50 percent. An estimated effective overburden pressure of 3,000 psi gives a reduction factor of 0.28 (Fig. 4). Water saturation further reduces permeability by a factor of 0.18 (Fig. 6). Therefore, the total reduction in permeability is to approximately 5 percent of the initial permeability, or 0.0034 md.

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This value can be used to predict postshot gas recovery from the proposed Wagon Wheel experiment.

Cores are not yet available from Projects Rio Blanco and WASP.

### Conclusions

The gas permeability of tight sandstone cores is markedly decreased with increasing overburden pressure. Most of the decrease takes place at pressures to 3,000 psi. At 3,000 psi, the permeability of unfractured samples ranges from 14 to 37 percent of the initial permeability. In fractured samples, permeability may be reduced to as low as 6 percent of initial permeability.

Water saturation also reduces the gas permeability greatly; however, the relative permeability does not change significantly with overburden pressure.

Permeability calculated from laboratory results are in good agreement with in-situ permeabilities determined from production test data. Although not confirmed, predictions for other projects appear to be reasonable.

### References

1. Fatt, I. and Davis, T. H.: "The Reduction in Permeability with Overburden Pressure," *Trans., AIME* (1952) 195, 329.
2. McLatchie, L. S., Hemstock, R. A. and Young, J. W.: "Effective Compressibility of Reservoir Rocks and Its Effects on Permeability," *Trans., AIME* (1958) 213, 386-388.
3. Vairogs, Juris, Hearn, C. L., Dareing, D. W. and Rhoades, V. W.: "Effect of Rock Stress on Gas Production from Low-Permeability Reservoirs," *J. Pet. Tech.* (Sept., 1971) 1161-1167.
4. Wilson, J. W.: "Determination of Relative Permeability Under Simulated Reservoir Conditions," *AIChE Jour.* (1956) 2, 94.
5. Fatt, I.: "The Effect of Overburden Pressure on Relative Permeability," *Trans., AIME* (1953) 198, 325-326.
6. *API Recommended Practice for Core-Analysis Procedure*, API RP 40, Dallas (1960) 35.

JPT

EXHIBIT NO. 14

DETERMINATION OF IN SITU FORMATION PERMEABILITY  
FROM LABORATORY CORE ANALYSIS DATA IN THE  
ROSA TIGHT GAS AREA

The relationship needed to determine in situ permeability from core analysis data is published in a technical paper by Rex D. Thomas and Don C. Ward entitled "Effect of Overburden Pressure and Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone Cores", which is presented as Exhibit No. 13. The authors' studies involved taking routine laboratory air permeability measurements at the normal 100 psi or less external pressures. To simulate the effect of in situ conditions, these permeability measurements were then made at external pressures ranging from 500 to 6000 psi. The results of these tests were then plotted on a graph of Percent of Initial Permeability (ratio of permeability at 100 psi to a permeability at a higher pressure) vs. Pressure.

Figure 1, on Page 121, of Exhibit No. 13, is one such graph which presents results of tests run on cores taken from the Pictured Cliffs Formation. These cores were taken from Project Gasbuggy, located in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Cores from the Pictured Cliffs Formation and the Dakota Formation can be expected to provide similar results due to the low permeability characteristics of both sands.

The characteristics of core 3978, presented in Figure 1, can be used to represent the core data from the Rosa Tight Gas Area. The average laboratory air permeability from the Rosa Area was 0.124 millidarcy compared to an initial laboratory core permeability for core 3978 of 0.151 millidarcy. The confining pressure due to overburden at a depth of 7950 feet in the Rosa Area is approximately 5600 psi.

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Entering the graph in Figure 1 at 5600 psi results in an 90% permeability reduction between laboratory determined permeability values and in situ permeability in the Rosa Area. Applying this 90% reduction to the average laboratory permeability of 0.124 millidarcy results in an average in situ permeability of 0.012 millidarcy for the Rosa Tight Gas Area.

The water present in the reservoir also causes the in situ permeability to be less than laboratory permeability as discussed in Exhibit No. 13. However, this correction will not be used in this case.

## SUMMARY OF PERMEABILITY DATA

EXHIBIT NO. 15

WELL	SAMPLE FOOTAGE TOTAL (ft.)	LABORATORY PERMEABILITY TOTAL (md)
1. Northwest Pipeline Corp San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27	65.0	9.07
2. El Paso Natural Gas Co. San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X	87.7	11.66
3. El Paso Natural Gas Co. San Juan 30-6 Unit No. 31	34.0	5.90
4. Amoco Production Co. Rosa Unit No. 1	24.0	3.51
5. Northwest Pipeline Corp San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16	62.5	3.60
6. Blackwood and Nichols Ltd. Northeast Blanco Unit No. 1	<u>13.0</u>	<u>1.62</u>
TOTAL:	286.2	35.36

$$\text{Average laboratory permeability} = \frac{35.36}{286.2} = \underline{\underline{0.124 \text{ md}}}$$

$$\text{Average in-situ permeability (10\% of laboratory)} = \underline{\underline{0.012 \text{ md}}}$$

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Hearing Date <u>7-29-81</u>

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EXHIBIT NO. 16

CASE NO. 7313  
Submitted by MR. [Signature]  
Hearing Date 7-29-81

ROSA TIGHT GAS AREA

Natural Production Tests  
(Pilot Tube)

OPERATOR	WELL	LOCATION	NATURAL PRODUCTION TEST DEPTH	DAKOTA DEPTH	PRODUCTION RATE NATURAL (MCFPD)	PRODUCTION RATE AFTER FRAC (MCFPD)
1. El Paso Natural Gas Co.	San Juan 30-4 Unit No. 39	SENW 18 30-4	8615	8425	527	2506
2. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 39	SWNE 7 30-5	7822	7686	161	1703
3. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 37	NESW 8 30-5	7870	7688	666	3944
4. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 49	SWSW 9 30-5	7780	7683	TSTM	855
5. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 73	NWNE 10 30-5	8035	7919	338	2635
6. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 72	SWSW 10 30-5	7905	7790	338	2456
7. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 53	NESW 16 30-5	7820	7685	264	1209
8. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47	NWSW 17 30-5	7930	7794	2174	1610*
9. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 38	SWNE 18 30-5	7891	7667	128	2035
10. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 48	NWNE 20 30-5	7870	7790	370	3691
11. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 38	NENW 2 30-6	7970	7832	241	2828
12. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 36	NENE 27 31-6	7890	7806	TSTM	2557
13. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 35	NENE 35 31-6	8080	7908	338	2643
14. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 31	SESE 35 31-6	7928	7796	370	3770

14 WELL AVERAGE  
13 WELL AVERAGE (Excluding Well No. 8)

423  
288

2460  
2525

Natural Production Rate Limit for Tight Gas @ 7950 ft. is 336 MCFPD.

\*Note after frac production rate is less than natural production rate.

EXHIBIT NO. 17

FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS  
Rosa Tight Gas Area  
Basin Dakota Field

Calculation of Initial Pre-Stimulation Flow Rates Using Darcy's Law

Darcy's Law: 
$$Q_g = .703 k h \frac{(P_e^2 - P_{wf}^2)}{U_g T z \ln(.61 re/rw)}$$

where:

- $Q_g$  = gas flow rate - standard cubic feet per day
- $k$  = permeability of formation - used average in situ value of 0.012 md from core data
- $h$  = net pay - average of 42 ft. for wells completed in the Rosa Tight Gas Area.
- $P_e$  = bottom hole pressure at drainage radius  $r_e$  - average of 3330 psi. from 7 day buildup tests run in the Rosa Tight Gas Area
- $P_{wf}$  = flowing bottom hole pressure - assumed to be equal to atmospheric pressure at wellbore conditions, to determine maximum flowrate (14.6 psi)
- $U_g$  = average gas viscosity - calculated to be 0.020 cp
- $T$  = bottom hole temperature - calculated to be 667°R
- $z$  = average gas compressibility factor - calculated to be 0.88
- $r_e$  = drainage radius for 160 acre spacing - 1320 ft.
- $r_w$  = wellbore radius - .17 ft.
- $g_g$  = gas gravity - .7 - used for calculation of  $U_g$  and  $z$
- $P_c$  = pseudo critical pressure - 668 psi. - used for calculation of  $U_g$  and  $z$
- $T_c$  = pseudo critical temperature - 392° R - used for calculation of  $U_g$  and  $z$

$$Q_g = .703 (0.012) (42) \frac{(3330^2 - 14.6^2)}{(0.020) (667) (0.88) \ln (.61 1320/.17)}$$

$$Q_g = 39,546 \text{ SCFGPD} = \underline{39.5 \text{ MCFGPD}}$$

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Submitted by M. L. LORR
Hearing Date 7-29-81



BRUCE KING  
GOVERNOR  
LARRY KEHOE  
SECRETARY

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

POST OFFICE BOX 2088  
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501  
(505) 827-2434

Mr. William F. Carr  
Campbell, Byrd & Black  
Attorneys at Law  
Post Office Box 2208  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: CASE NO. 7317  
ORDER NO. R-6883-A

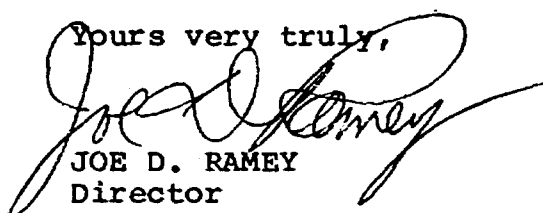
Applicant:

Four Corners Gas Producers  
Association

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of the above-referenced  
Division order recently entered in the subject case.

Yours very truly,

  
JOE D. RAMEY  
Director

JDR/fd

Copy of order also sent to:

Hobbs OCD X  
Artesia OCD X  
Aztec OCD X

Other Tom Kellahin, Gary Paulson, Larry Paine

APPLICATION OF  
FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION  
FOR DESIGNATION OF THE ROSA AREA OF THE BASIN DAKOTA FIELD  
AS A TIGHT GAS FORMATION

RIO ARriba AND SAN JUAN COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO

Case No. 7313

July 29, 1981

Prepared by:  
KEVIN H. McCORD  
Petroleum Engineer



APPLICATION OF FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION  
FOR DESIGNATION OF THE ROSA AREA OF THE  
BASIN DAKOTA FIELD AS A TIGHT FORMATION,  
RIO ARriba AND SAN JUAN COUNTIES,  
NEW MEXICO

The Four Corners Gas Producers Association is applying for a portion of the Basin Dakota gas field to be designated as a tight formation under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978. The proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area is located in the northeastern portion of the San Juan Basin. The area is approximately 25 miles northeast of the town of Bloomfield in northwestern New Mexico and covers portions of Rio Arriba and San Juan counties.

Exhibit No. 1 displays the Rosa Tight Gas Area on a map of the Dakota reservoir in the San Juan Basin. The Rosa Area includes approximately 270,260 acres, described as follows:

1. T30N-R2W Sections 1 through 36: All
2. T30N-R3W Sections 1 through 36: All
3. T30N-R4W Sections 1 through 36: All
4. T30N-R5W Sections 1 through 36: All
5. T30N-R6W Sections 1 through 36: All
6. T30N-R7W Sections 1 through 36: All
7. T31N-R2W Sections 1 through 36: All
8. T31N-R3W Sections 1 through 36: All
9. T31N-R4W Sections 1 through 36: All
10. T31N-R5W Sections 1 through 36: All
11. T31N-R6W Sections 1 through 36: All
12. T31N-R7W Sections 1 through 36: All

The Dakota formation in the Rosa Area meets the criteria established in Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 to be designated a tight gas formation in that (1) the estimated average in situ gas permeability throughout the pay section is expected to be 0.1 millidarcy or less, (2) the stabilized production rates, without stimulation, at atmospheric pressure of these gas wells are not expected to exceed

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the maximum allowable production rate of 336 MCFPD for an average depth of 7950 feet to the top of the Dakota formation in this area, and (3) no well drilled into the Dakota formation in this area is expected to produce more than five barrels of crude oil per day prior to stimulation.

Exhibit No. 2 is a Dakota formation completion and production map of the proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area. The production figures presented for each producing well are initial potential, date of initial potential, average daily production for 1980, and January 1, 1981 cumulative production of gas and oil. Exhibit No. 2 also presents completion and production data from wells surrounding the proposed tight gas area. The Rosa Tight Gas Area contains 53 producing Dakota formation gas wells, while 14 wells in this area are abandoned in the Dakota at this time. A list of these wells and their production figures is presented as Exhibit No. 3. Examination of these figures indicate that these Dakota wells have not produced great quantities of natural gas, suggesting that low permeability reservoir rock could be present in the area.

Exhibit No. 4 is a type log of a Dakota well found in the Rosa Tight Gas Area. This log is from the Northwest Pipeline Corporation Rosa Unit No. 68 well, found in section 17, T31N, R5W. This well is in the north central section of the Rosa Tight Gas Area. The type log shows the entire Greenhorn and Dakota formations and part of the Mancos and Morrison formations. The type log shown is in a part of the Rosa Tight Gas Area which has exhibited better producing characteristics than the remainder of the area. Wells in remaining sections of the Rosa Area would be expected to have the same or poorer log characteristics than this type log.

The State of New Mexico has defined the Dakota producing interval in the Basin Dakota Field to begin at the base of the Greenhorn limestone and extend to a point 400 feet below the base of the Greenhorn. The formations covered in this 400 feet are the Graneros Shale, Dakota Sandstone, and Morrison formations. The Dakota formation is productive in this area, while the Morrison formation is generally water bearing. Sands in the Graneros Shale are not adequately developed in this area to be productive.

The Dakota formation has an average depth of 7950 feet in the Rosa Area, and has approximately 250 feet of gross thickness. The Dakota sandstone formation is Late Cretaceous in age with deposition occurring under both

marine and nonmarine conditions. The Dakota sandstone is the basal sequence of the southwesterly transgressing Cretaceous Sea.

The Upper Dakota sand consists of barrier beach deposits about 40 to 60 feet thick, composed of fine grained, quartz-rich sandstones characterized by an increase in grain size upward and low angle crossbedding. The next highest unit is transitional between fluvial and marine sedimentation containing dark carbonaceous shales, thin mudstones, siltstones, and sandstones. This unit represented a lagoonal type environment. The basal Dakota was deposited by a system of meandering streams creating deposits of carbonaceous shales, thin coal seams, siltstones, and thin channel sandstones. The basal unit of Cretaceous strata in the Four Corners Area is the Burro Canyon formation. This formation was deposited in a braided stream system and is sometimes considered part of the Dakota formation. An unconformity exists between the Burro Canyon formation and the Morrison formation represented by a sharp erosional contact between the two formations.

Overall, the Dakota sand has a porosity range from 1/2 to 11-1/2% in the Rosa Area, with the average pay porosity being 4%. Silt and clay sized matrix material is present throughout the Dakota sand sequence and represents a significant portion of the bulk rock composition. This matrix material reduces the effective permeability of the formation, making it difficult to produce.

Exhibit No. 5 and 6 are log cross sections through the Rosa Area showing the continuity of the Dakota formation using the base of the Greenhorn formation for a datum line.

#### Permeability

The Dakota formation in the San Juan Basin is dependent on stimulation techniques to be commercially productive due to the low permeability of the reservoir rock. The Dakota in situ permeability in the Rosa Tight Gas Area is found to be less than the 0.1 millidarcy permeability cutoff used for tight gas determination. The in situ permeability for this area was calculated using data from six Dakota core analysis and was averaged to be 0.012 millidarcy.

Exhibit Nos. 7 through 12 present core analysis data used to determine the average laboratory permeability to air for Dakota formation pay zones in this area. The exhibits contain the actual core analysis reports plus summary

tables showing the analysis of cores taken from only the productive portion of the Dakota formation for each well. The cored intervals chosen for permeability averaging were determined by log examination of the interval cored for each well. Only cored intervals of sand with more than 10 ohms resistivity appearing on the Induction Resistivity log of the well were used for permeability averaging. This 10 ohms resistivity cutoff represents the average resistivity shown by the shale sections on the logs. Values less than this cutoff were not considered to be pay zones. The average laboratory permeability to air determined for the Rosa Area in this manner was 0.124 millidarcy. The actual in situ permeability of the formation is less than this laboratory determined value mainly due to the confining pressures found in the Basin Dakota reservoir.

Exhibit No. 13 presents a technical paper intitled "Effect of Overburden Pressure and Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone Cores" written by Rex D. Thomas and Don C. Ward of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. This paper presents relationships between laboratory determined permeability in cores and actual in situ permeability found in reservoirs. Exhibit No. 14 explains how in situ permeability is calculated from the core analysis using the technical paper presented.

Exhibit 15 is a summary of all laboratory core analysis results, for the Rosa Tight Gas Area. An average in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy was calculated from the average laboratory permeability value of 0.124 md for the Rosa Area. This in situ permeability value is well below the 0.1 millidarcy tight gas cutoff. These permeability measurements substantiate that the Dakota formation is very tight in this area and must be stimulated to obtain commercial gas production.

#### Stabilized Unstimulated Gas Production Rate

Obtaining stabilized unstimulated gas production rates for Dakota wells is not a standard procedure used by companies when completing their wells in the San Juan Basin. Past experience has shown that these low permeability Dakota wells must be stimulated to obtain commercial production. However, some wells drilled in the Rosa Tight Gas Area were drilled with gas as a circulation medium through the Dakota formation. This drilling procedure enables unstimulated natural gas from the Dakota formation to rise to the

surface while drilling the well..

Unstimulated natural production tests can be taken while drilling with natural gas when the gas used for circulation is shut off and the pipe rams closed on the blowout preventer stack. This enables the injected gas to blow down through a bleedoff line to the reserve pit. After injection gas has had sufficient time to return to the surface, any further gas production through this line should be unstimulated gas production from the well. A gas measuring device, such as a pitot tube, placed in the center of the natural gas production stream is used to measure the natural gas flow rate from the well. A pitot tube measures the impact pressure of the gas flow rate which is used to determine the velocity of the gas. This gas velocity, combined with the known area of the blowoff line is used to calculate the flowrate of gas through the line. Natural unstimulated gas production tests performed in this manner were found for 14 wells in the Rosa Area.

The results of these unstimulated gas production tests are presented in Exhibit 16. These gas flowrates range from rates too small to measure to 2174 MCF of natural gas per day. The average unstimulated gas production rate is 423 MCFGPD. This value is larger than the 336 MCFGPD limit for tight gas at an average depth of 7950 feet. On an individual well basis, 6 wells meet the unstimulated natural production requirement, with 3 wells just at the limit, and 5 wells being over the 336 MCFGPD limit.

Testing natural gas wells in this manner is not very accurate, but it can give the tester some idea if a well will be gas productive or not. The exact nature of these tests have many factors which leave their results questionable:

- (1) The Mesa Verde formation is also productive in the Rosa Tight gas area. While the Dakota formation is open to flow to the surface during the natural flow test, the Mesa Verde can also be producing at the same time. There is no way to separate the production from each zone using a natural production test conducted in this manner.
- (2) The length of these unstimulated production tests are not long enough to establish a stabilized production rate. This length of test can by no means be considered to be a stabilized production test of the well's productivity.
- (3) The natural gas injected into the well for circulating purposes can also cause erroneous results if this gas is still returning to the surface while the test is being taken.

It is reasonable to assume that the three test uncertainties presented above could all contribute to make unstimulated production tests performed in this manner report erroneously high production rates. This assumption is

supported by well production data presented in Exhibit 16.

The well listed as number 8, the Northwest Pipeline Corporation San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 well shows an unstimulated natural gas production rate of 2174 MCFGPD. After fracturing, the initial production for this well was 1610 MCFGPD. The initial potential for a well is calculated from a 3 hour flow test following a 7 day pressure buildup, which is a more controlled and accurate test than the pitot tube test. This, combined with the fact that an after frac production test should definitely not be lower than the unstimulated production test, indicates the unstimulated production test is probably in error.

Exhibit 16 also presents a 13 well average unstimulated production rate which excludes the erroneous rate found for the San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 well. This 13 well average rate is 288 MCFGPD, which is below the 336 MCFGPD rate limit for tight gas determination in the Rosa Area. Due to the uncertain nature of the unstimulated production rate testing process, this 288 MCFGPD production rate, while below tight gas guidelines, is still thought to be higher than the actual average unstimulated gas production rate for the area.

In order to test the validity of this natural production figure, Darcy's Law was used to calculate an unstimulated gas flow rate using the average in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy calculated for the Dakota formation in this area from core analysis study. Exhibit No. 17 presents this calculation and shows that an initial unstimulated gas flow rate of 39.5 MCFGPD is associated with the average in situ permeability of 0.012 millidarcy for the Rosa Area.

The calculated unstimulated gas production rate and the average actual unstimulated gas production rate (excluding the erroneous production rate mentioned previously) are both less than the 336 MCFGPD limit for a tight gas reservoir in the Rosa Area. As a result of these calculations, the unstimulated natural gas production rate from the Dakota formation in the Rosa Area is not expected to exceed 336 MCF of gas per day.

#### Stabilized Unstimulated Oil Production Rate

The Natural gas produced from the Rosa Tight Gas area is virtually dry gas, having very little, if any, oil or condensate production associated with it. Exhibits No. 2 and 3 show that only one well, the Northwest Pipeline

Corporation Rosa Unit No. 56; has reported any oil production associated with its' gas production. This well has only produced 26 barrels of oil since 1976. These dry gas production figures indicate that no well drilled in the Rosa Tight Gas Area is expected to produce, without stimulation, more than five barrels of crude oil per day.

#### Fresh Water Protection

Existing State and Federal regulations will assure that development of the Dakota formation will not adversely affect or impair any fresh water aquifers that are being used or are expected to be used in the foreseeable future for domestic or agricultural water supplies. Regulations require that casing programs be designed to seal off potential water bearing formations from oil and gas producing formations. These fresh water zones exist from the surface to the base of the Ojo Alamo formation. The Ojo Alamo depth averages 2385 feet in the proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area.

Most wells drilled in the Rosa Area are drilled with natural mud to an average depth of 3700 feet. After intermediate casing is set, the remainder of the well is drilled with natural gas. Neither the natural mud or gas will contaminate any fresh water zone.

Normal casing designs in the Rosa Area consist of 5 5/8" or 10 3/4" O. D. surface casing being set from the surface to an average depth of 3700 feet. The cementing of the intermediate casing includes enough cement to cover formations to a depth above the Ojo Alamo formation. The cement covers the Pictured Cliffs, Fruitland, and Kirtland formations which are possible oil and gas bearing formations throughout the area. The production casing is cemented from total depth to a depth above the Mesa Verde formation, or to a point approximately 3000 feet above total depth. This cement covers the Dakota, Gallup, and Mesa Verde which are possible oil and gas bearing formations. A temperature survey is run after cementing the production casing to assure that all necessary zones are covered with cement. Therefore, all oil, gas and water bearing formations in this area are isolated from each other by cement and casing. The major water aquifer in the area, the Ojo Alamo formation, as well as the Pictured Cliffs, Fruitland, and Kirtland formations

is covered by cement and two strings of casing to protect them from contamination with other formations.

Stimulation of the Dakota formation involves large fracture treatments, usually consisting of a one or two percent potassium chloride water base that will not harm a fresh water aquifer. Fresh water protection is adequate even with these large stimulation treatments due to zone isolation caused by cementation. The large distance of over 5500 feet between the Dakota formation and the Ojo Alamo fresh water aquifer is additional insurance that no existing fresh water zone will be contaminated by stimulation of Dakota wells in this area.

Therefore, New Mexico and Federal regulations will protect any fresh water supply that may be affected by drilling, completing and producing the Dakota formation in the Rosa Tight Gas Area.

#### CONCLUSION

Evidence presented in this report substantiate the following for the Four Corners Gas Producers' proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area:

- (1) The estimated average in situ gas permeability, throughout the Dakota pay section, is expected to be 0.1 millidarcy or less;
- (2) For an average Dakota well depth of 7950 feet, the stabilized production rate at atmospheric pressure of wells completed for production in the Dakota formation is not expected to exceed the maximum allowable rate of 336 MCF of natural gas per day without stimulation;
- (3) No well drilled into the Dakota formation in the Rosa Area is expected to produce, without stimulation, more than five barrels of crude oil per day.

The proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area meets all the specifications required as stated above, and should be designated a tight formation in the Basin Dakota pool under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1976.



LIST OF EXHIBITS

<u>EXHIBIT NUMBER</u>	<u>EXHIBIT NAME</u>	<u>PURPOSE OF EXHIBIT</u>
1	Dakota Reservoir Map	Show location of Rosa Tight Gas Area with respect to Basin Dakota production.
2	Dakota Formation Well Completion and Production Map	Show production figures of completed and dry Dakota wells in and around the tight formation area.
3	Rosa Tight Gas Area Wells	List production figures of completed and dry Dakota wells in the tight formation area.
4	Type Log	Show log characteristics and depth of Dakota formation.
5	Cross Section A-A'	Show Dakota formation development in a west-east direction.
6	Cross Section B-B'	Show Dakota formation development in a north-south direction.
7	Core Analysis Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27	Show average laboratory core permeability.
8	Core Analysis El Paso Natural Gas Company San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X	Show average laboratory core permeability.
9	Core Analysis El Paso Natural Gas Company San Juan 30-6 Unit No. 31	Show average laboratory core permeability.
10	Core Analysis Amoco Production Company Rosa Unit No. 1	Show average laboratory core permeability.
11	Core Analysis Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16	Show average laboratory core permeability.
12	Core Analysis Blackwood & Nichols, LTD. Northeast Blanco Unit No. 1	Show average laboratory core permeability.
13	Technical Paper	Present relationship between laboratory and in situ permeability.
14	Determination of In Situ Permeability	Show method of determining in situ permeability from laboratory core analysis.
15	Summary of Permeability Data	Shows summary of permeability data, average laboratory permeability and in situ permeability.
16	Natural Production Tests	Lists natural production tests taken and average results.
17	Darcy's Law Calculation	Show unstimulated gas production rate using average in situ permeability.

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 3

CASE NO. 7313

Submitted by McCord

Hearing Date 7-29-81

WELL NAME

ROSA TIGHT GAS AREA WELLS

EXHIBIT NO. 3

COMPANY	LOCATION	DAKOTA DEPTH	IP DATE	IP GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD	1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD	CUMULATIVE 01-01-81 BCF/BO
Sunray DX Oil Co.	NW/NW 34 30-3	8213	09/64	D&A	---	---
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	NW/SW 7 30-4	8083	09/79	869/0	302/0	.055/0
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	SE/NW 18 30-4	8425	02/81	2506/0	New Well	---
Coastline Petroleum	SW/NW 25 30-4	8675	02/75	D&A	---	---
Southland Royalty Co.	NW/SW 1 30-5	8030	10/69	2129/0	129/0	.518/0
Schalk Development Co.	SE/NE 2 30-5	8018	01/73	2501/0	111/0	.297/0
Schalk Development Co.	NE/NE 3 30-5	7940	03/73	3298/0	34/0	.126/0
Southland Royalty Co.	SW/SW 4 30-5	7780	09/68	2074/0	SI	.186/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	SW/NE 7 30-5	7686	07/75	1703/0	67/0	.123/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	NE/SW 8 30-5	7688	01/74	3944/0	87/0	.503/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	NE/NE 9 30-5	7752	12/80	1584/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	SW/SW 9 30-5	7683	12/80	855/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	NW/NE 10 30-5	7919	03/81	2635/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	SW/SW 10 30-5	7790	04/81	2456/0	New Well	---
Schalk Development Co.	NE/NW 12 30-5	8009	07/73	5107/0	148/0	.452/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	SE/SW 15 30-5	7920	03/81	2679/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	NE/SW 16 30-5	7685	12/80	1209/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	NW/SW 17 30-5	7794	08/75	1610/0	129/0	.235/0

COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	DAKOTA DEPTH	IP DATE	IP GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD	1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD	CUMULATIVE 01-01-81 BCF/BO
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	38 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/NE 18 30-5	7667	06/80	2035/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	6 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 19 30-5	7607	03/56	P&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	48 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/NE 20 30-5	7790	01/80	3691/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	27 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 20 30-5	7646	12/59	1309/0	24/0	.248/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	51 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/NE 21 30-5	7759	12/80	4792/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	71 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 22 30-5	7807	12/80	2145/0	New Well	---
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	28-23-X San Juan 30-5 Unit	NE/NE 23 30-5	8075	09/59	D&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	38 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/NW 2 30-6	7832	04/81	2828/0	New Well	---
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	31 San Juan 30-6 Unit	SE/SW 33 30-6	7550	07/59	964/0	29/0	.255/0
Blackwood & Nichols	12 NE Blanco Unit	SW/NE 18 30-7	7590	06/60	P&A Dakota (MV Compl.)	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #42	SW/NE 19 31-4	not given	11/61	D&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #43	NW/SE 19 31-4	8158	05/62	2352/0	98/0	.064/0
Irving Pasternak	Rosa Unit #49	SW/SW 27 31-4	8430	11/63	P&A Dakota (MV Compl.)	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #63	SW/NE 30 31-4	8088	11/77	225/0	63/0	.004/0
Coastline Petroleum	1 Schalk-58	NE/SW 2 31-5	7856	08/73	D&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #53	NW/NE 8 31-5	7900	03/70	1043/0	126/0	.668/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #80	NE/SW 8 31-5	7845	03/81	2155/0	New Well	---

COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	DAKOTA DEPTH	IP DATE	IP GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD	1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD	CUMULATIVE 01-01-81 BCF/BO
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #70	NW/NW 10 31-5	8162	01/66	1500/0	261/0	.248/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #48	SW/SE 11 31-5	8151	12/62	3207/0	326/0	.218/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #40	SW/NW 11 31-5	8358	07/61	3560/0	271/0	.216/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #61	SE/SW 13 31-5	8124	11/77	337/0	55/0	.074/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #65	NE/NE 17 31-5	7870	08/78	3095/0	163/0	.104/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #68	NW/SW 17 31-5	not given	08/80	5757/0	609/0	.093/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #62	NE/NW 25 31-5	8088	11/77	342/0	82/0	.106/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #64	NE/NE 29 31-5	7950	10/78	1843/0	175/0	.132/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #52	NW/NW 33 31-5	7980	02/70	2401/0	248/0	1.095/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #55	NE/SE 34 31-5	8056	10/74	264/0	167/0	.386/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #56	SW/NW 35 31-5	8200	11/75	675/0	96/0	.232/26
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #54	NE/SW 36 31-5	8284	09/74	304/0	SI	.029/0
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit 35-X	NE/SW 5 31-6	7822	10/59	D&A Dak. MV Comp.	---	---
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit #36	SE/NE 11 31-6	7955	12/59	P&A MV Comp.	---	---
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit #1	SW/SE 11 31-6	7865	09/52	560/0 (P&A)	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #66	NW/SW 13 31-6	7957	08/78	4427/0	245/0	.928/0
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit #69	NW/NW 16 31-6	7918	09/80	P&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	79 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/SW 22 31-6	7757	03/81	1858/0	New Well	---

COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	DAKOTA DEPTH	IP DATE	IP GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD	1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD	CUMULATIVE 01-01-81 BCF/BO
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #51	NE/NW 23 31-6	7823	01/70	1385/0	1.70/0	.736/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	36 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/NE 27 31-6	7806	03/81	2557/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	24 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/SW 27 31-6	7939	12/73	1341/0	SI	.269/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	16 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SE/SW 33 31-6	7895	07/59	1783/0	SI	.074/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	33 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SW/NE 34 31-6	8712	06/80	4119/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	35 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/NE 35 31-6	7908	07/80	2643/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	31 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SE/SE 35 31-6	7796	06/80	3770/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	37 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SW/SE 36 31-6	7952	04/81	2370/0	New Well	---
Blackwood & Nichols	58 NE Blanco Unit	NE/NE 13 31-7	7975	11/59	2461/0	217/0	1.387/0
Blackwood & Nichols	57 NE Blanco Unit	NE/NE 21 31-7	7780	09/59	1235/0	.37/0	.444/0
Blackwood & Nichols	55 NE Blanco Unit	NW/NE 22 31-7	7856	10/58	275/0	27/0	.182/0
Blackwood & Nichols	1 NE Blanco Unit	SE/NE 27 31-7	7792	10/52	536/0	217/0	2.398/0
Amoco Production Co.	McKay #1	NW/NE 28 31-7	7765	03/71	D&A	---	---
Blackwood & Nichols	56 NE Blanco Unit	NE/NE 34 31-7	7660	11/58	2839/0	30/0	.417/0

## EXHIBIT NO. 7

Company: Northwest Pipeline Corp.  
 (Originally El Paso Natural Gas Co.)  
 Well: San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SW/SW, Sec. 20, T30N, R5W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

## DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

DEPTH (ft)	SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)	HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)
7650-7651	1	0.01
7651-7652	1	0.01
7652-7653	1	0.01
7653-7654	1	0.02
7654-7655	1	0.01
7655-7656	1	0.02
7658-7659	1	0.02
7661-7662	1	0.03
7662-7663	1	0.02
7667-7668	1	0.02
7669-7670	1	0.01
7670-7671	1	0.02
7688-7689	1	0.01
7689-7690	1	0.01
7690-7691	1	0.60
7691-7692	1	0.01
7692-7693	1	0.01
7694-7695	1	0.02
7696-7697	1	0.25
7697-7698	1	0.01
7707-7708	1	0.01
7708-7709	1	0.02
7709-7710	1	0.03
7719-7720	1	0.01
7720-7721	1	1.51
7721-7722	1	0.07
7722-7723	1	0.25
7723-7724	1	0.10
7724-7725	1	0.01
7727-7728	1	0.02
7728-7729	1	0.04
7729-7730	1	0.02
7730-7731	1	0.01
7731-7732	1	0.04
7732-7733	1	0.02
7733-7734	1	0.66
7769-7770	1	0.04
7770-7771	1	0.03
7771-7772	1	0.03
7773-7774	1	0.01
7774-7775	1	0.01
7775-7776	1	0.02
7776-7777	1	1.44
7777-7778	1	0.11
7778-7779	1	0.10
7779-7780	1	0.21
7780-7781	1	0.13

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 7

CASE NO. 7313

Submitted by MCLOD

Hearing Date 7-29-81

San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27, cont.

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7781-7782	1	0.10
7782-7783	1	0.01
7783-7784	1	0.03
7784-7785	1	0.03
7785-7786	1	0.09
7786-7787	1	0.02
7787-7788	1	1.01
7788-7789	1	0.05
7789-7790	1	0.06
7790-7791	1	0.05
7791-7792	1	0.31
7792-7793	1	0.03
7793-7794	1	0.02
7794-7795	1	0.01
7795-7796	1	0.05
7796-7797	1	0.18
7797-7798	1	0.61
7798-7799	<u>1</u>	<u>0.34</u>
TOTAL	65	9.07

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{9.07}{65} = \underline{0.140 \text{ md.}}$$

## CHEMICAL &amp; GEOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

Farmington

## CORE ANALYSIS REPORT

Company... El Paso Natural Gas Company  
Well No... San Juan 30-5 #27-20  
Field... Wildcat  
County... Rio Arriba  
State... New Mexico

Date September 23, 1959 Lab. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Location Sec. 20-30N-5W  
Formation Dakota  
Depths 7649' - 7799'  
Drilling Fluid Water Base Mud

C - Crack  
F - Fracture  
H - Horizontal  
O - Open

\* Permeability probably caused by existing shale interlamination  
NF - No Fracture  
Insufficient Sample

S - Slight  
St - Stain  
V - Vertical  
Vu - Vugs

SAMPLE NO.	LEGEND	DEPTH, FEET	EFFECTIVE POROSITY PERCENT	PERMEABILITY MILLIDARCIES		SATURATIONS		CONNATE WATER	SOLUBILITY	
				HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL	% PORE SPACE RESIDUAL OIL	% PORE SPACE TOTAL WATER		MUD ACID	15 % ACID
		Core No. 1	7649 - 7710							
1	VF	7650-51	7.7	0.01		Trace	27.3			
2	NF	7651-52	8.5	0.01		Trace	16.7			
3	VF	7652-53	6.7	0.01		Trace	12.2			
4	VF	7653-54	7.7	0.02		Trace	12.4			
5	VF	7654-55	5.2	0.01		0	21.2			
6	VF	7655-56	8.6	0.02		0	15.8			
7	VF	7658-59	8.8	0.02		Trace	12.4			
8	VHF	7661-62	10.2	0.03		0	15.2			
9	VF	7662-63	9.6	0.02		0	19.2			
10	VHF	7667-68	10.0	0.02		Trace	20.5			
11	VHF	7669-70	6.5	0.01		Trace	15.4			
12	VHF	7670-71	7.9	0.02		1.4	20.6			
13	HF	7688-89	4.9	0.01		Trace	26.1			
14	HF	7689-90	5.0	0.01		Trace	24.2			
15	HF	7690-91	5.9	0.60*		Trace	35.9			
16	HF	7691-92	3.7	0.01		Trace	24.9			
17	VHF	7692-93	7.8	0.01		Trace	54.7			
18	NF	7694-95	9.3	0.02		Trace	14.2			
19	HF	7696-97	11.4	0.25*		0	27.7			
20	NF	7697-98	6.3	0.01		0	18.6			
21	VHF	7701-02	2.6	0.01		0	62.3			
22	VHF	7707-08	2.0	0.01		0	14.5			
23	VHF	7708-09	6.1	0.02		0	16.0			
24	VHF	7709-10	5.9	0.03		Trace	33.9			



\* Permeability probably caused by existing shale interlamination

LEGEND

C—Crack  
F—Fracture  
H—Horizontal  
U—Open

NF—No Fracture

S—Slight  
St—Stain  
V—Vertical  
Vg—Vugs

SAMPLE NO.	LEGEND	DEPTH, FEET	EFFECTIVE POROSITY PORESPACE	PERMEABILITY MILLIDARCIES		SATURATION %		CONDENSATE WATER	SOLUBILITY	
				HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL	PORE SPACE	PORE SPACE		MUD ACID	15% ACID
		Core No. 2 7710 - 7719				Recovered 9'				
		No samples analyzed								
		Core No. 3 7719 - 7727				Recovered 6 1/2'				
25	VHF	7719-20	3.8	0.01		0	30.3			
26	HF	7720-21	2.8	1.51*		0	60.7			
27	HF	7721-22	3.4	0.07		0	33.8			
28	HF	7722-23	2.4	0.25*		0	60.8			
29	HF	7723-24	4.5	0.10*		0	51.6			
30	VHF	7724-25	2.6	0.01		0	38.5			
		Core No. 4 7727 - 7738				Recovered 10'				
31	VHF	7727-28	3.0	0.02		0	16.0			
32	VHF	7728-29	3.4	0.04		0	11.8			
33	VHF	7729-30	5.4	0.02		0	11.3			
34	VHF	7730-31	1.8	0.01		0	12.2			
35	HF	7731-32	3.9	0.04		0	13.9			
36	VF	7732-33	2.5	0.02		0	12.0			
37	HF	7733-34	3.9	0.66*		0	11.0			
		Core No. 5 7738 - 7799				Recovered 61'				
38	NF	7768-69	10.1	0.04		0	39.2			
39	NF	7769-70	10.8	0.04		0	45.4		41.5	
40	NF	7770-71	10.5	0.03		0	47.1			
41	NF	7771-72	7.7	0.03		0	38.4			
		7772-73	No sample taken							
42	NF	7773-74	5.9	0.01		Trace	49.2			
43	NF	7774-75	5.9	0.01		Trace	48.1			
44	VF	7775-76	2.5	0.02		Trace	55.2			
45	VF	7776-77	5.7	1.44*		Trace	49.6			
46	NF	7777-78	6.9	0.11		Trace	53.3		44.1	
47	NF	7778-79	7.4	0.10		0	39.3			
48	NF	7779-80	7.6	0.21		0	37.9		42.0	
49	NF	7780-81	6.2	0.13		0	40.3			
50	NF	7781-82	4.6	0.10		Trace	34.1			
51	VF	7782-83	3.8	0.01		Trace	86.6			
52	HF	7783-84	4.1	0.03		Trace	73.7			
53	NF	7784-85	4.2	0.03		Trace	68.3			
54	NF	7785-86	4.6	0.09		0	41.3			
55	NF	7786-87	5.4	0.02		0	53.0		44.7	
56	NF	7787-88	7.0	1.01*		0	42.0			
57	NF	7788-89	6.6	0.05		0	45.9		49.5	
58	NF	7789-90	6.9	0.06		0	49.0			
59	NF	7790-91	6.2	0.05		0	31.2			
60	NF	7791-92	6.4	0.31		0	26.1			
61	NF	7792-93	3.2	0.03		0	26.3			

C--Crack  
F--Fracture  
H--Horizontal  
O--Open

LEGEND  
NF--No Fracture  
IS--Inefficient Sample

S--Slight  
St--Stain  
V--Vertical  
V--Vugs

SAMPLE NO.	LEGEND	DEPTH, FEET	EFFECTIVE POROSITY, %	PERMEABILITY, MILLIDARCIEN		SATURATIONS, %		CONNATE WATER	SOLUBILITY	
				HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL	% PORE SPACE RESIDUAL OIL	% PORE SPACE TOTAL WATER		MUD ACID	IN % ACID
		Core No. 5 continued								
62	VF	7793-94	5.8	0.02		0	39.1			
63	VF	7794-95	4.0	0.01		0	52.3			
64	NF	7795-96	8.3	0.05		0	49.9			
65	NF	7796-97	9.5	0.18		Trace	51.7			
66	NF	7797-98	9.4	0.61		Trace	52.1			
67	NF	7798-99	9.4	0.34		Trace	53.2	46.2		

## EXHIBIT NO. 8

Company: El Paso Natural Gas Company  
 Well: San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 NE/NE, Sec. 23, T30N, R5W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
8075-8076	1	0.02
8076-8077	1	0.01
8077-8078	1	0.01
8078-8079	1	0.01
8079-8080	1	0.01
8080-8081	1	0.01
8081-8082	1	0.01
8082-8083	1	0.01
8083-8084	1	0.01
8084-8085	1	0.01
8085-8086	1	0.01
8090-8091	1	0.01
8091-8092	1	0.01
8092-8093	1	0.01
8093-8094	1	0.01
8094-8095	1	0.01
8095-8096	1	0.01
8096-8096.8	.8	0.01
8116-8117	1	0.03
8117-8118	1	0.01
8118-8119	1	0.01
8119-8120	1	0.01
8120-8121	1	0.02
8121-8122	1	0.01
8122-8123	1	0.01
8123-8124	1	0.01
8124-8125	1	0.01
8125-8126	1	0.01
8126-8127	1	0.01
8127-8128	1	0.01
8128-8129	1	0.01
8129-8130	1	0.02
8130-8130.9	.9	0.01
8133-8134	1	0.01
8134-8135	1	0.01
8138-8139	1	0.01
8139-8140	1	0.01
8140-8141	1	0.01
8141-8142	1	0.01
8142-8143	1	0.01
8143-8144	1	0.01
8144-8145	1	0.01
8145-8146	1	0.01
8146-8147	1	0.01
8147-8148	1	0.65
8148-8149	1	0.01
8155-8156	1	0.01
8156-8157	1	0.01
8157-8158	1	0.01
8158-8159	1	0.01
8159-8160	1	0.01
8160-8161	1	0.05
8161-8162	1	0.02
8162-8163	1	7.2

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS  
 OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 8

CASE NO. 7313

Submitted by McLeod

Hearing Date 7-29-81

San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X, cont.

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
8163-8164	1	0.01
8164-8165	1	0.02
8165-8166	1	0.01
8166-8167	1	0.01
8167-8168	1	0.01
8190-8191	1	2.10
8191-8192	1	0.24
8192-8193	1	0.01
8193-8194	1	0.07
8200-8201	1	0.01
8201-8202	1	0.01
8202-8203	1	0.01
8203-8204	1	0.01
8204-8205	1	0.01
8205-8206	1	0.01
8206-8207	1	0.01
8207-8208	1	0.01
8208-8209	1	0.01
8209-8210	1	0.01
8210-8211	1	0.01
8222-8223	1	0.19
8223-8224	1	0.01
8224-8225	1	0.01
8225-8226	1	0.01
8226-8227	1	0.01
8229-8230	1	0.01
8230-8231	1	0.02
8238-8239	1	0.01
8239-8240	1	0.01
8240-8241	1	0.01
8241-8242	1	0.01
8242-8243	1	0.28
8246-8247	1	0.01
8247-8248	1	0.01
TOTAL	87.7	11.66

$$\text{Avg. } \frac{11.66}{87.7} = 0.133 \text{ md}$$

# CORE LAB



Petroleum Reservoir Engineering

COMPANY EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY DATE ON 8/30/59 FILE NO. RP-3-1065  
 WELL SAN JUAN 30-5 No. 28-23 - X DATE OFF 9/8/59 ENGRS. ENGLISH  
 FIELD BLANCO MESA VERDE LAKOTA WILDCAT FORMATION DAKOTA ELEV. 6753' DF  
 COUNTY RIO ARRIBA STATE N. MEXICO DRG. FLD. OIL EMULSION CORES. DIAMOND  
 LOCATION SEC23 T30N R5W REMARKS SAMPLED BY CLIENT

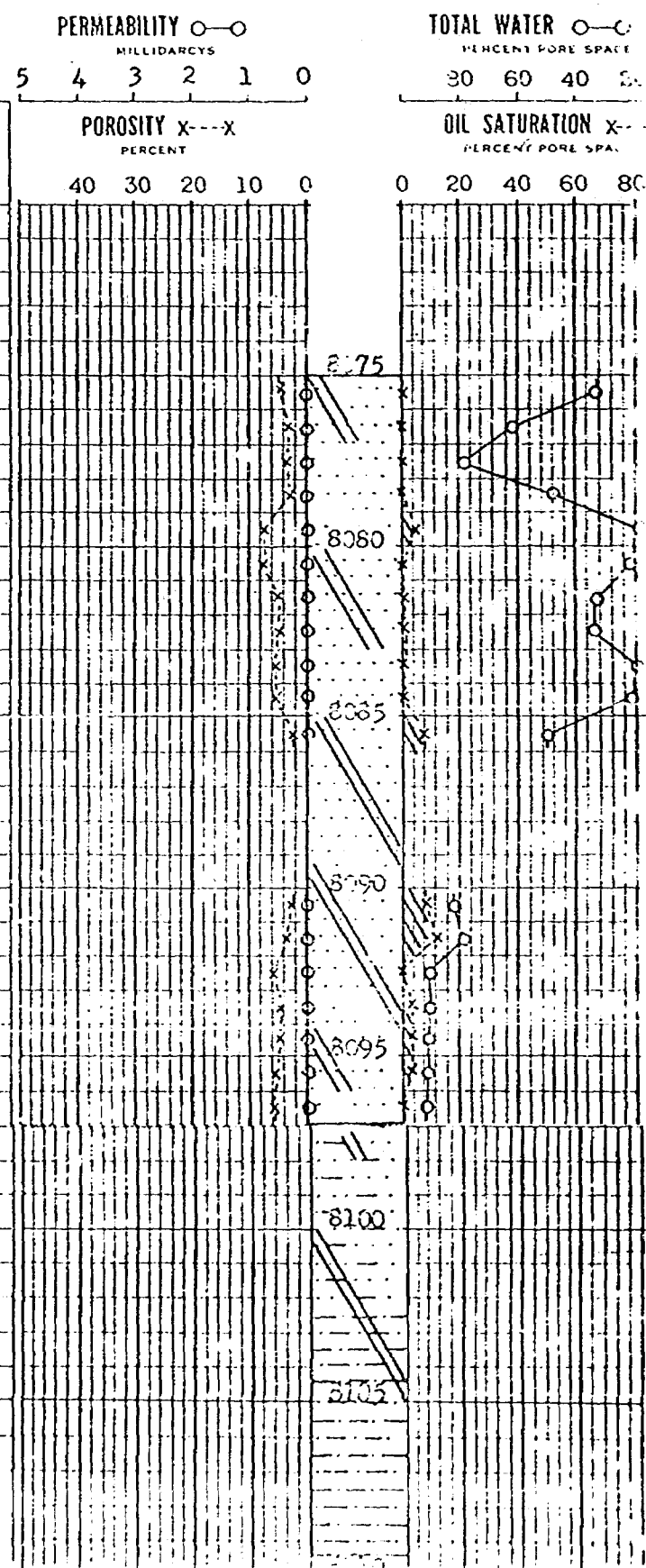
SAND LIMESTONE CONGLOMERATE CHERT   
 SHALE DOLOMITE VERTICAL FRACTURE

These analyses, opinions or interpretations are based on observations and material supplied by the client to whom and for whose exclusive and confidential use, this report is made. The interpretations or opinions expressed represent the best judgment of Core Laboratories, Inc. and its officers and employees, assume no responsibility and make no warranty or representation as to the productivity, proper operation, or profitability of any oil, gas or other mineral well or land in connection with which such report is used or relied upon.

## TABULAR DATA and INTERPRETATION

SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH FEET	PERM. MD.	POROSITY %	RESIDUAL SATURATION % PORE SPACE		BOYLE'S LAW POROSITY	PROD.
				OIL	TOTAL WATER		
1	8075-76	0.02	4.6	0.0	32.6		
2	76-77	<0.01	3.4	0.0	61.8		
3	77-78	<0.01	2.8	0.0	78.6		
4	78-79	<0.01	2.5	0.0	48.0		
5	79-80	<0.01	7.6	6.6	19.8		
6	80-81	<0.01	7.0	0.0	21.4		
7	81-82	<0.01	4.5	0.0	33.4		
8	82-83	<0.01	4.3	0.0	34.9		
9	83-84	<0.01	5.5	0.0	20.0		
10	84-85	<0.01	5.2	0.0	21.2		
11	85-86	<0.01	2.4	8.3	50.0		
12	8090-91	<0.01	2.2	9.1	81.8		
13	91-92	<0.01	3.7	13.5	78.4		
14	92-93	<0.01	5.7	0.0	87.7		
15	93-94	<0.01	4.2	4.8	90.5		
16	94-95	<0.01	4.3	4.7	88.4		
17	95-96	<0.01	4.8	4.2	87.5		
18	96-96.8	<0.01	5.7	0.0	91.3		

## COMPLETION COREGRAPH

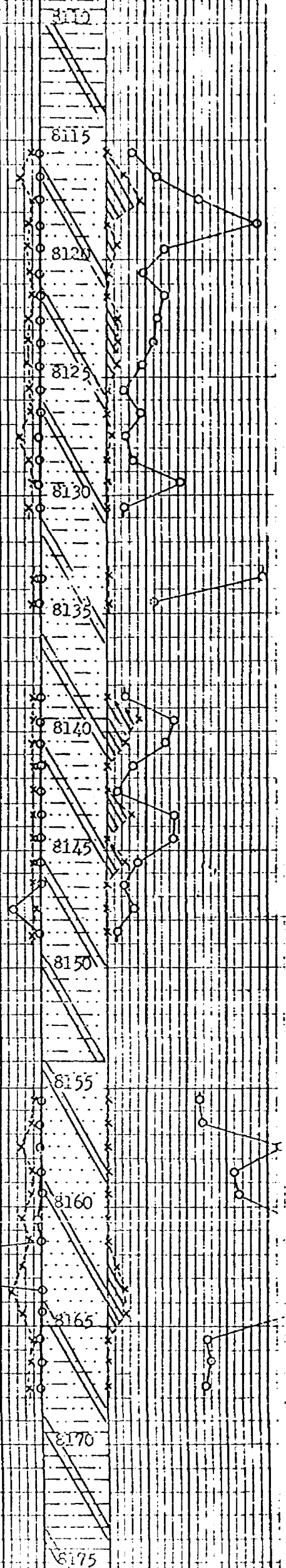


19	8115.5-16	0.01	2.2	0.0	86.4	1.9
20	16-17	0.03	5.0	10.0	74.0	2.9
21	17-18	<0.01	1.1	18.2	54.6	2.9
22	18-19	<0.01	2.5	0.0	24.0	3.6
23	19-20	<0.01	3.4	5.9	70.6	4.8
24	20-21	0.02	2.5	0.0	80.1	3.6
25	21-22	<0.01	2.1	0.0	71.4	3.1
26	22-23	<0.01	3.2	6.2	74.9	3.4
27	23-24	<0.01	3.4	5.9	76.5	4.2
28	24-25	<0.01	3.8	5.3	81.6	4.1
29	25-26	<0.01	3.0	0.0	90.0	3.3
30	26-27	<0.01	3.4	0.0	82.4	3.5
31	27-28	<0.01	5.8	3.4	89.7	2.4
32	28-29	<0.01	2.9	0.0	86.2	2.6
33	29-30	0.02	1.9	0.0	63.1	1.1
34	30-30.9	<0.01	3.2	0.0	90.7	4.3

35	8133-34	<0.01	1.9	0.0	21.0	2.8
36	34-35	<0.01	2.1	0.0	76.3	4.0

37	8138-39	<0.01	1.8	0.0	89.0	1.7
38	39-40	<0.01	1.2	16.7	66.6	1.0
39	40-41	<0.01	1.7	11.8	70.6	1.9
40	41-42	<0.01	1.4	0.0	85.6	2.0
41	42-43	0.01	1.8	0.0	94.4	2.2
42	43-44	<0.01	1.5	13.3	66.8	2.2
43	44-45	<0.01	0.9	0.0	66.7	1.9
44	45-46	<0.01	1.9	10.5	84.3	2.2
45	46-47	<0.01	1.3	0.0	92.4	3.3
46	47-48	0.65	1.4	0.0	85.7	5.1
47	48-49	<0.01	2.2	0.0	95.0	1.8

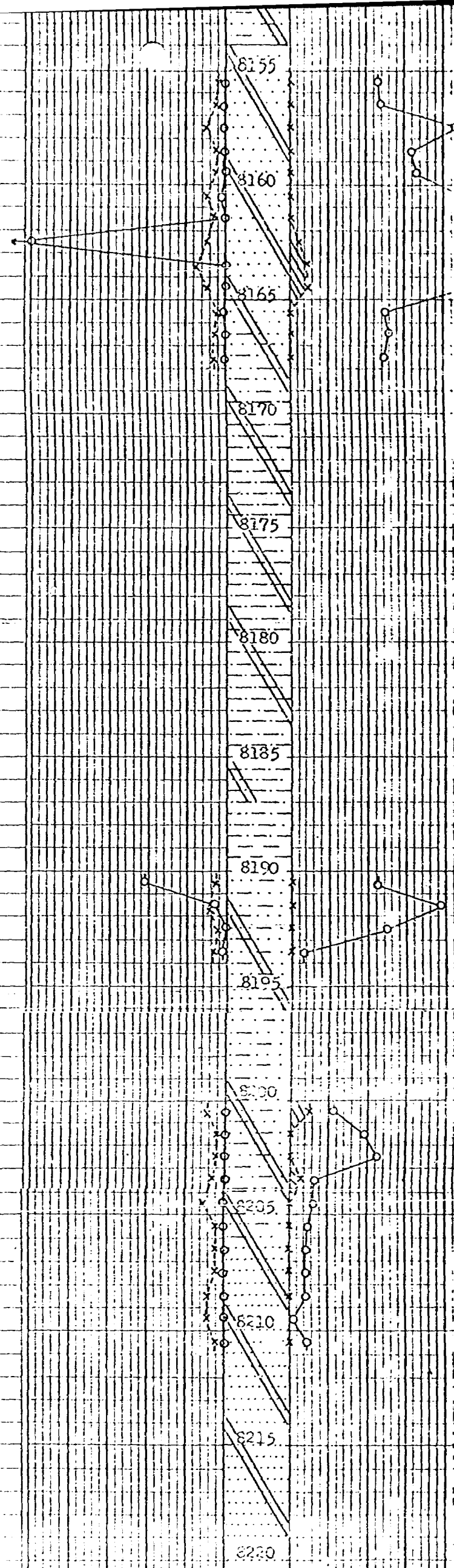
48	8155-56	<0.01	1.1	0.0	54.5	
49	56-57	<0.01	2.3	0.0	52.2	
50	57-58	0.01	5.4	0.0	14.8	
51	58-59	<0.01	2.2	0.0	36.3	
52	59-60	<0.01	1.8	0.0	33.3	
53	60-61	0.05	5.7	0.0	10.5	
54	61-62	0.02	3.6	0.0	11.1	
55	62-63	7.2	4.8	4.2	8.3	
56	63-64	0.01	7.2	9.7	8.5	
57	64-65	0.02	5.1	9.8	7.8	
58	65-66	<0.01	1.2	0.0	50.0	
59	66-67	<0.01	2.9	0.0	48.2	
60	67-68	<0.01	2.4	0.0	50.0	



43	8155-56	<0.01	1.1	0.0	54.5
49	56-57	<0.01	2.3	0.0	52.2
50	57-58	0.01	5.4	0.0	14.8
51	58-59	<0.01	2.2	0.0	36.3
52	59-60	<0.01	1.8	0.0	32.3
53	60-61	0.05	5.7	0.0	10.5
54	61-62	0.02	3.6	0.0	11.1
55	62-63	7.2	4.8	4.2	8.3
56	63-64	0.01	7.2	9.7	8.5
57	64-65	0.02	5.1	9.8	7.8
58	65-66	<0.01	1.2	0.0	50.0
59	66-67	<0.01	2.9	0.0	48.2
60	67-68	<0.01	2.4	0.0	50.0

1	8190-91	2.1	2.7	0.0	55.6
2	91-92	0.24	2.8	0.0	21.4
3	92-93	0.01	2.0	0.0	50.0
4	93-94	0.07	2.6	0.0	92.3

	8200-01	<0.01	4.3	11.6	76.8
	01-02	<0.01	1.3	0.0	61.5
	02-03	0.01	1.7	0.0	35.3
	03-04	<0.01	2.9	6.9	86.3
	04-05	<0.01	5.5	0.0	85.5
	05-06	<0.01	1.9	0.0	89.4
	06-07	<0.01	1.6	0.0	93.8
	07-08	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0
	08-09	<0.01	4.2	0.0	95.0
	09-10	<0.01	4.1	0.0	97.6
	10-11	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0





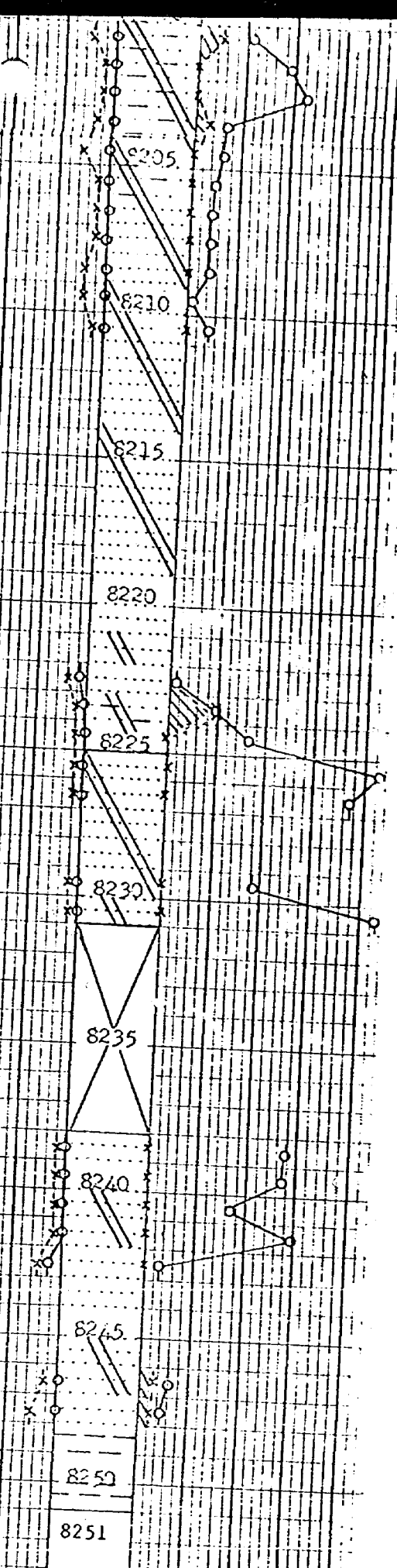
6	01-02	<0.01	1.3	0.0	61.5
7	02-03	0.01	1.7	0.0	5.3
8	03-04	<0.01	2.9	6.9	86.3
9	04-05	<0.01	5.5	0.0	85.5
10	05-06	<0.01	1.9	0.0	89.4
11	06-07	<0.01	1.6	0.0	93.8
12	07-08	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0
13	08-09	<0.01	4.2	0.0	95.0
14	09-10	<0.01	4.1	0.0	97.6
15	10-11	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0

16	8222-23	0.19	3.9	0.0	97.5
17	23-24	<0.01	1.0	20.0	80.0
18	24-25	<0.01	0.6	0.0	66.6
19	25-26	0.01	1.3	0.0	15.4
20	26-27	<0.01	0.8	0.0	25.0

1	8229-30	<0.01	1.2	0.0	83.4
2	30-31	0.02	1.4	0.0	14.3

	8238-39	0.01	0.9	0.0	44.5
	39-40	<0.01	1.3	0.0	46.1
	40-41	<0.01	0.9	0.0	66.6
	41-42	0.01	1.0	0.0	40.0
	42-43	0.28	4.5	0.0	93.4

	8246-47	<0.01	3.3	6.1	88.0
	8247-48	<0.01	4.6	4.4	91.3





## EXHIBIT NO. 9

Company: El Paso Natural Gas Company  
 Well: San Juan 30-6 Unit No. 31  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SE/SW, Sec. 33, T30N, R6W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7635-7636	1	0.01
7636-7637	1	0.01
7637-7638	1	0.05
7638-7639	1	0.07
7639-7640	1	0.01
7640-7641	1	0.10
7641-7642	1	< 0.01
7642-7643	1	< 0.01
7643-7644	1	0.01
7644-7645	1	< 0.01
7645-7646	1	0.01
7646-7647	1	< 0.01
7647-7648	1	< 0.01
7716-7717	1	0.13
7717-7718	1	0.04
7718-7719	1	0.01
7719-7720	1	0.90
7720-7721	1	< 0.01
7721-7722	1	< 0.01
7722-7723	1	< 0.01
7723-7724	1	< 0.01
7724-7725	1	< 0.01
7725-7726	1	< 0.01
7746-7747	1	0.04
7751-7752	1	0.01
7752-7753	1	0.06
7753-7754	1	1.90
7754-7755	1	0.27
7755-7756	1	0.01
7756-7757	1	0.03
7757-7758	1	0.17
7758-7759	1	0.05
7759-7760	1	0.90
7760-7761	1	1.00
TOTAL	34	5.90

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{5.90}{34} = 0.174 \text{ md}$$

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. <u>9</u>
CASE NO. <u>7313</u>
Submitted by <u>McLeod</u>
Hearing Date <u>7-29-81</u>

# CORE LABORATORIES, INC.

Petroleum Reservoir Engineering

COMPANY EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY DATE ON 5/31/59 FILE NO. RP-3-997  
WELL SAN JUAN 30-6 No. 31 DATE OFF 6/8/59 ENGRS. ENGLISH  
FIELD WILLCAT FORMATION DAKOTA ELEV. 6364' DF  
COUNTY RIO ARRIEA STATE N. MEXICO DR LG. FLD. AS NOTED CORES DIAMOND  
LOCATION SEC 33 - T30N - R6W REMARKS SAMPLED BY CLIENT

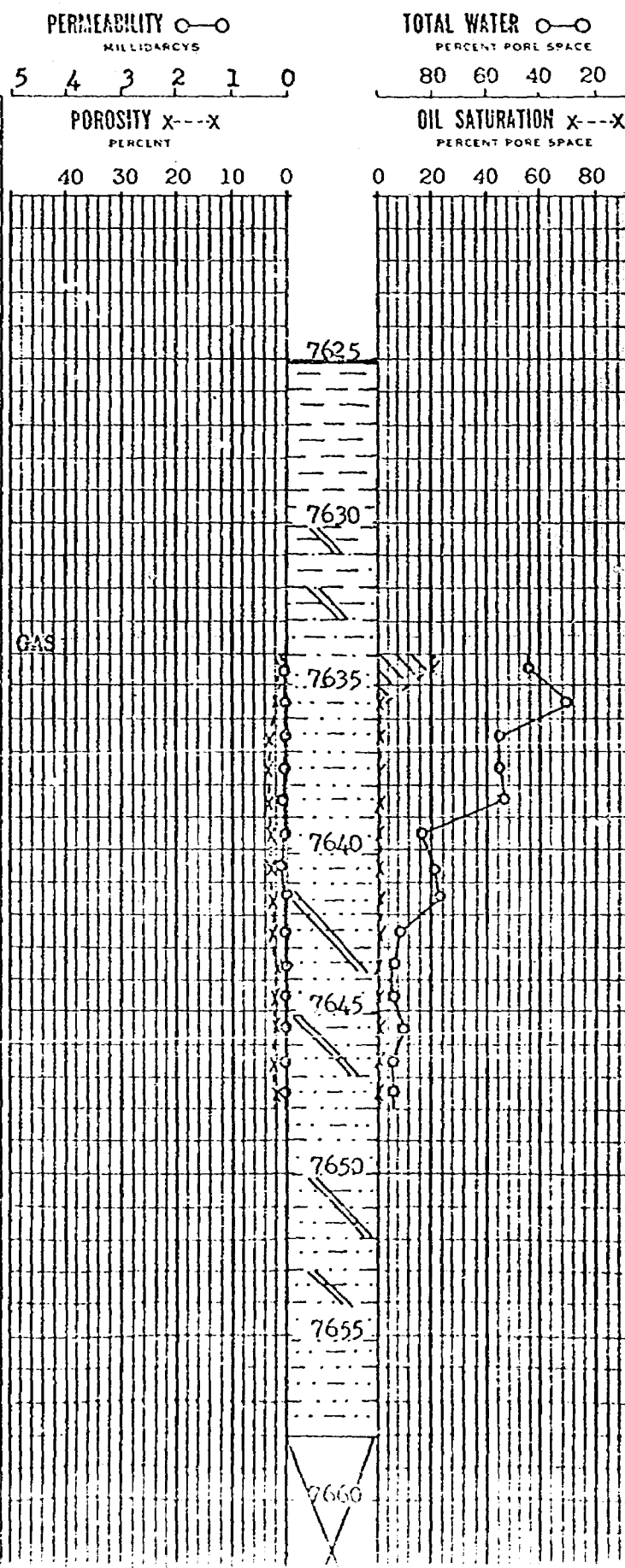
SAND  LIMESTONE  CONGLOMERATE  CHERT   
SHALE  DOLOMITE   FRACTURES 

These analyses, opinions or interpretations are based on observations and material supplied by the client to whom, and for whose exclusive and confidential use, this report is made. The interpretations are given and expressed without any warranty or representation as to the accuracy, completeness, or performance of any oil, gas or other material well or used in connection with which such report is used or relied upon.

## TABULAR DATA and INTERPRETATION

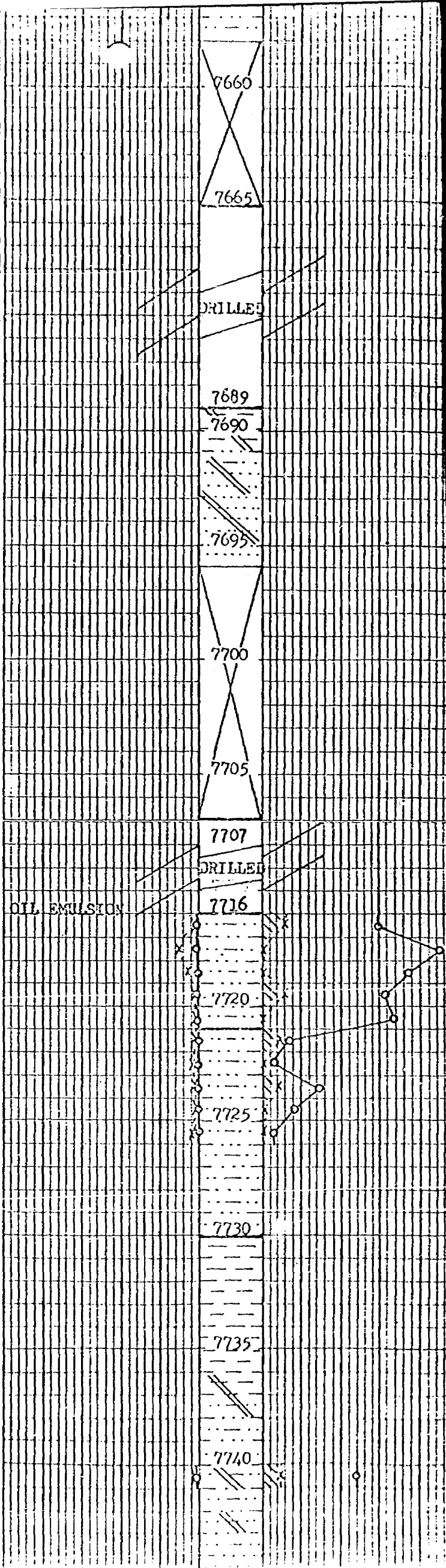
SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH FEET	PERM. MD	POROSITY %	RESIDUAL SATURATION % PORE SPACE		PROD
				OIL	TOTAL WATER	
1	7634-35	<0.01	0.9	22.3	44.5	
2	35-36	0.01	1.9	0.0	31.6	
3	36-37	0.01	2.5	0.0	56.1	
4	37-38	0.05	3.2	0.0	56.3	
5	38-39	0.07	3.3	0.0	54.6	
6	39-40	0.01	2.5	0.0	84.1	
7	40-41	0.10	2.9	0.0	79.3	
8	41-42	<0.01	2.6	0.0	77.0	
9	42-43	<0.01	2.1	0.0	90.6	
10	43-44	0.01	1.8	0.0	94.4	
11	44-45	<0.01	2.0	0.0	95.1	
12	45-46	0.01	1.9	0.0	89.5	
13	46-47	<0.01	2.2	0.0	95.4	
14	47-48	<0.01	1.8	0.0	94.6	

## COMPLETION COREGRAPH



15	7716-17	0.13	1.5	13.3	40.0
16	17-18	0.04	5.3	0.0	11.3
17	18-19	0.01	2.3	0.0	26.5
18	19-20	0.9	1.6	12.5	37.5
19	20-21	<0.01	0.6	0.0	33.3
20	21-22	<0.01	2.0	10.0	85.0
21	22-23	<0.01	1.7	0.0	94.0
22	23-24	<0.01	2.1	9.1	71.5
23	24-25	<0.01	1.2	0.0	83.4
24	25-26	<0.01	2.2	0.0	95.5

5 7740-41  $\sqrt{p}$  0.04 1.9 10.5 52.7



25	7740-41	0.04	1.9	10.5	52.7
26	7746-47	0.04	1.6	31.3	50.0
27	7751-52	0.01	2.4	8.3	66.7
28	52-53	0.06	7.9	0.0	30.4
29	53-54	1.9	10.2	5.0	16.8
30	54-55	0.27	7.8	6.4	15.4
31	55-56	0.01	1.6	0.0	50.0
32	56-57	0.03	4.2	4.8	23.9
33	57-58	0.17	4.8	0.0	4.2
34	58-59	0.05	0.7	0.0	28.4
35	59-60	0.9	0.6	0.0	33.3
36	60-61	1.0	1.2	0.0	16.7

7735

7740

7745

7750

7755

7760

7765

7770

7775

7780

7785

7790

7795

7800

7805

7810

EXHIBIT NO. 10

Company: Amoco Production Company  
 Well: #1 Rosa Unit  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SW/SE, Sec. 11, T31N, R6W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7878-7879	1	0.05
7912-7914	2	0.05
7914-7916	2	0.34
7916-7923	7	0.05
7923-7928	5	0.18
7928-7930	2	0.59
7930-7931	1	0.05
7932-7936	<u>4</u>	0.05
TOTAL	24	

Weighted Total = 3.51 md

$$\text{Avg. K} = \frac{3.51}{24} = \underline{0.146 \text{ md}}$$

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. <u>10</u>
CASE NO. <u>7313</u>
Submitted by <u>McGard</u>
Hearing Date <u>7-29-81</u>



## EXHIBIT NO. 11

Company: Northwest Pipeline Corp.  
 (Originally El Paso Natural Gas Co.)  
 Well: San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SE/SW, Sec. 33, T31N, R6W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7904.5-7905	.5	0.02
7905-7906	1	0.02
7906-7907	1	< 0.01
7907-7908	1	< 0.01
7908-7909	1	0.06
7909-7910	1	0.01
7910-7911	1	0.01
7911-7912	1	< 0.01
7912-7913	1	< 0.01
7913-7914	1	< 0.01
7914-7915	1	< 0.01
7915-7916	1	< 0.01
7916-7917	1	< 0.01
7917-7918	1	< 0.01
7939-7940	1	< 0.01
7940-7941	1	< 0.01
7941-7942	1	0.01
7942-7943	1	0.02
7957-7958	1	< 0.01
7958-7959	1	< 0.01
7959-7960	1	0.01
7960-7961	1	0.01
7961-7962	1	0.02
7962-7963	1	0.01
7963-7964	1	0.01
7964-7965	1	0.01
7965-7966	1	0.01
7966-7967	1	0.01
7967-7968	1	0.05
7978-7979	1	0.01
7979-7980	1	< 0.01
7980-7981	1	< 0.01
7981-7982	1	0.02
7982-7983	1	0.04
7983-7984	1	0.07
7989-7990	1	< 0.01
7990-7991	1	< 0.01
7991-7992	1	0.02
8005-8006	1	0.07
8006-8007	1	0.01
8007-8008	1	0.01
8008-8009	1	< 0.01
8009-8010	1	< 0.01
8014-8015	1	0.28
8015-8016	1	0.23
8016-8017	1	0.54
8017-8018	1	0.06

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS  
 OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
 APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 11  
 CASE NO. 7313  
 Submitted by McLeod  
 Hearing Date 7-29-81

San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16, cont.

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
8022-8023	1	< 0.01
8023-8024	1	< 0.01
8024-8025	1	< 0.01
8025-8026	1	< 0.01
8029-8030	1	0.04
8030-8031	1	0.22
8031-8032	1	0.28
8032-8033	1	0.43
8033-8034	1	0.08
8034-8035	1	0.04
8035-8036	1	0.05
8036-8037	1	0.07
8037-8038	1	< 0.01
8038-8039	1	0.14
8039-8040	1	0.35
8040-8041	<u>1</u>	< <u>0.01</u>
TOTAL	62.5	3.60

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{3.60}{62.5} = \underline{0.058 \text{ md}}$$





COMPANY EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY DATE ON 7/18/59 FILE NO. RP-3-1037  
WELL SAN JUAN 31-6 NO. 16-33 DATE OFF 7/22/59 ENGRS. ENGLISH  
FIELD WILDCAT (BLANCO MESA VERDE DAKOTA) FORMATION DAKOTA ELEV. 6499' DE  
COUNTY RIO ARriba STATE NEW MEX. DRUG. FLD. OIL EMULSION MUDCORES DIAMOND  
LOCATION SEC. 33-T31N-R6W REMARKS SAMPLED BY REPRESENTATIVE OF CLIENT.

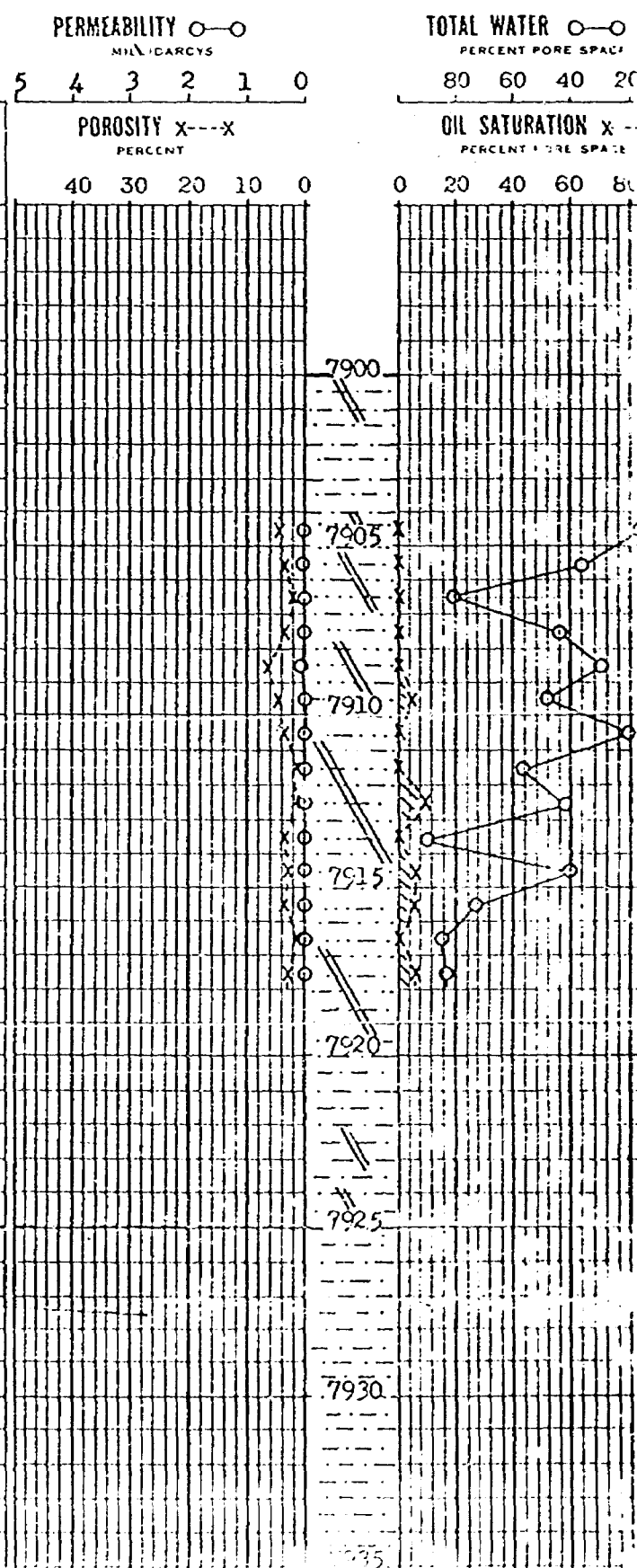
SAND  LIMESTONE  CONGLOMERATE  CHERT   
SHALE  DOLOMITE  VERTICAL FRACTURE  

These analyses, however, as interpretations are based on observations and material supplied by the clients to whom, and for whom, evaluations and self-assessments are made. This report is meant to be a guide to the client and not a statement of fact. The client is responsible for the accuracy of the information supplied and for the validity of the conclusions drawn. The client is also responsible for the accuracy of the information supplied and for the validity of the conclusions drawn. The client is also responsible for the accuracy of the information supplied and for the validity of the conclusions drawn.

## TABULAR DATA and INTERPRETATION

[illegible]

## COMPLETION COREGRAPH

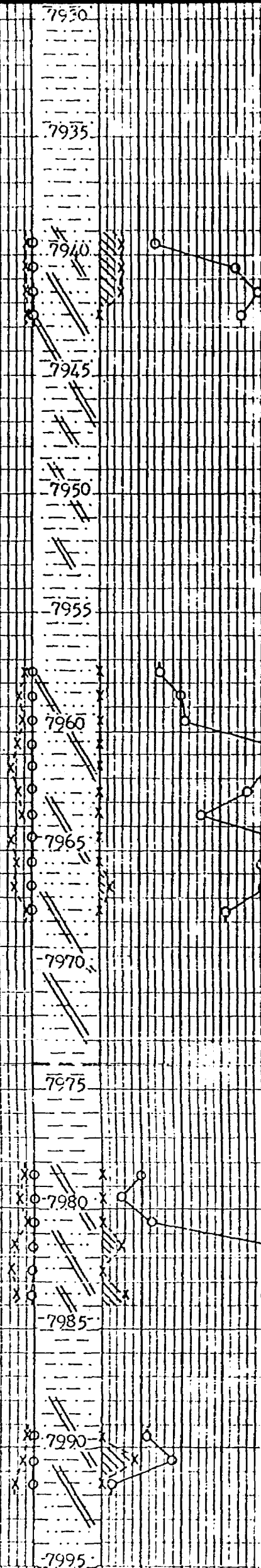


15	7939-40	<0.01	1.8	11.2	72.1
16	40-41	<0.01	1.8	11.2	33.3
17	41-42	0.01	1.8	11.2	22.2
18	42-43	0.02	1.3	0.0	30.8

19	7957-58	<0.01	2.0	0.0	70.0
20	58-59	<0.01	3.3	0.0	60.6
21	59-60	0.01	2.4	0.0	58.3
22	60-61	0.01	3.8	0.0	15.8
23	61-62	0.02	5.6	0.0	17.9
24	62-63	0.01	3.7	0.0	27.0
25	63-64	0.01	2.8	0.0	50.0
26	64-65	0.01	5.4	0.0	11.1
27	65-66	0.01	3.9	0.0	20.5
28	66-67	0.01	4.1	4.9	19.5
29	67-68	0.05	1.6	0.0	37.4

30	7978-79	0.01	2.6	0.0	80.7
31	79-80	<0.01	3.7	0.0	89.2
32	80-81	<0.01	1.6	0.0	75.0
33	81-82	0.02	4.6	10.9	8.7
34	82-83	0.04	5.3	0.0	7.5
35	83-84	0.07	4.2	11.9	19.0

36	7989-90	<0.01	1.8	0.0	77.7
37	90-91	<0.01	2.9	17.2	65.5
38	91-92	0.02	4.4	0.0	97.6



36	7989-90	<0.01	1.8	0.0	7.7
37	90-91	<0.01	2.9	17.2	65.5
38	91-92	0.02	4.4	0.0	97.6

39	8005-06	0.07	1.0	0.0	40.0
40	06-07	0.01	1.2	0.0	58.2
41	07-08	0.01	0.9	0.0	66.6
42	08-09	<0.01	1.8	0.0	94.4
43	09-10	<0.01	1.8	0.0	94.4

44	8012-13	<0.01	3.6	5.5	80.6
45	8014-15	0.28	6.9	0.0	14.5
46	15-16	0.23	9.1	0.0	19.8
47	16-17	0.54	6.7	0.0	32.8
48	17-18	0.06	4.0	0.0	32.5

49	8022-23	<0.01	2.9	6.9	89.8
50	23-24	<0.01	3.2	15.6	81.3
51	24-25	<0.01	3.6	0.0	94.5
52	25-26	<0.01	5.2	0.0	90.4

53	8029-30	0.04	2.7	7.4	14.8
54	30-31	0.22	4.1	0.0	14.6
55	31-32	0.28	3.8	5.3	44.7
56	32-33	0.43	5.0	0.0	12.0
57	33-34	0.08	4.8	10.4	35.4
58	34-35	0.04	5.0	0.0	20.0
59	35-36	0.05	7.7	6.5	26.0
60	36-37	0.07	8.3	2.4	19.3
61	37-38	<0.01	7.6	2.6	21.1
62	38-39	0.14	6.1	3.3	26.3
63	39-40	0.35	6.2	0.0	19.3
64	8040-41	<0.01	7.4	0.0	21.6

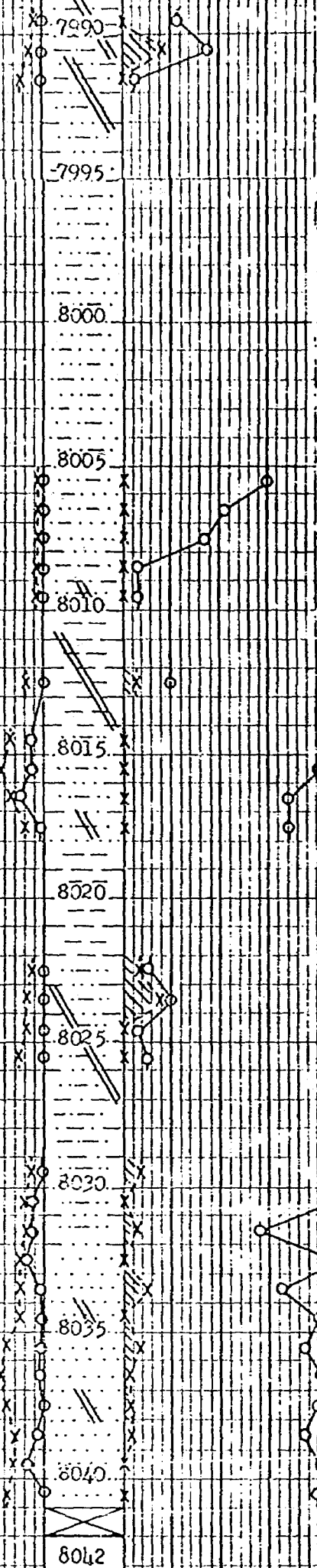


EXHIBIT NO. 12

Company: Blackwood & Nichols, Ltd.  
Well: Northeast Blanco Unit No. 1  
Basin Dakota Field  
SE/NE, Sec. 27, T31N, R7W  
San Juan County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7831-7832	1	0.01
7832-7833	1	0.01
7833-7834	1	0.01
7834-7835	1	0.01
7835-7836	1	0.01
7836-7837	1	0.01
7837-7838	1	0.01
7838-7839	1	0.01
7839-7840	1	0.01
7840-7841	1	0.01
7841-7842	1	0.01
7842-7843	1	0.01
7843-7844	1	1.50
TOTAL	13	1.62

$$\text{Avg. K} = \frac{1.62}{13} = 0.125 \text{ md}$$

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. <u>12</u>
CASE NO. <u>7313</u>
Submitted by <u>McL...</u>
Hearing Date <u>7-29-81</u>

## CORE DESCRIPTIONS

CORE #1 6990-7039. Recovered 21' blk. shale, bottom 6' sli sandy.

CORE #2 7039-7042. Core jammed in bbl. Recovered 2' blk shale.

CORE #3 7042-7045. Core jammed in bbl. Recovered 3' blk shale.

CORE #4 7800-7830. Recovered 25 1/2'.  
 1. shale, gry-blk, platy, sli sandy, micaceous, tr coal  
 2. sand, gry, vfg, calc, sli silty, scattered mica., dnse  
 3. shale, blk, micaceous, w/scattered sand lenses, 15% sand  
 4. sand, gry, vfg, calc, very silty, shale stringers, abdt mica, dnse, tile.  
 5. same  
 6. same, 20% blk shale  
 7. shale and sand in alternating layers, predominately shale  
 8. shale, blk, sli sandy, calc, micaceous  
 9. same, w/pearly pelecypod frags  
 10. same  
 11. same  
 12. same  
 13. same  
 14. same, concentric fractures parallel to bedding  
 15. limestone, buff-brn, dnse, silic, crypto-ahn, horizontal fractures  
 16. shale, blk, sli sandy, micaceous  
 17. same, concentric fractures parallel to bedding  
 18. same, no fractures  
 19. shale and sand in alternating layers, predom. shale  
 20. shale and sand in alternating layers, predom. sand  
 21. sand, gry-blk, fg, hard, dnse, scattered intergranular poro  
 22. same, sli silty, w/horizontal fractures  
 23. same, shaley (40%), micaceous  
 24. shale, blk, micaceous (75%); sand (25%)  
 25. sand, gry, fg, hard, micaceous, w/abdt pyrite  
 26. same (60%); shale (40%)

CORE #5 7830-7831. No recovery.

CORE #6 7831-7844. Full recovery.  
 1. sand, gry-blk, fg, hard horiz. frac, tr fair intergranular poro  
 2. same, w/thin shale partings, tr fair poro  
 3. same, no frac, tr fair poro  
 4. same, sli silty, tr fair poro  
 5. same  
 6. same, fair poro  
 7. same, tr fair poro  
 8. same  
 9. same

10. same
11. same, w/ thin shale partings
12. same, tr fair poro
13. same, shale (20%), tr poro

CORE 17 7844-7844. Full recovery.

1. sand, gry-wh, fg, hard, tr intergranular poro
2. same, w/ scat shale partings and horiz frac
3. same
4. same

---0---

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN SAMPLE & CORE DESCRIPTION

a - angular	ls - limestone
abdt - abundant	ag - medium grained
bent - bentonite (itic)	poro - porosity
blk - black	pyr - pyrite
brn - brown	qtzitic - quartzitic
calc - calcareous	h - rounded
dase - dense	SA - subangular
fg - fine grained	scat - scattered
foss - fossiliferous	sdv - sandy
frac - fractured	sh - shale
frag - fragment(s)	silic - siliceous
fx - finely crystalline	sli - slight
glau - glauconite(ic)	SK - subrounded
grn - green	ss - sandstone
gry - gray	tr - trace
horiz - horizontal	V - very
IGR - intergranular	vert - vertical
incl - inclusions	wh - white
lg - large grained	xln - crystalline

CORE ANALYSIS DATA

CORE #6 - 7831-7844

SAMPLE NO.	DEPTH	PERMEABILITY MILLIDARCY	NET POROSITY %	TOTAL POROSITY %
1	7832	0.01	4.20	4.65
2	7833	0.01	2.75	3.70
3	7834	0.01	4.10	4.42
4	7835	0.01	1.17	2.08
5	7836	0.01	1.97	2.81
6	7837	0.01	2.28	3.50
7	7838	0.01	3.08	7.80
8	7839	0.01	8.50	9.50
9	7840	0.01	7.20	7.90
10	7841	0.01	2.76	3.46
11	7842	0.01	2.65	2.35
12	7843	0.01	1.53	3.80
13	7844	1.50*	2.35	3.60

\* This plug was taken across a natural, well bonded horizontal fracture.

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

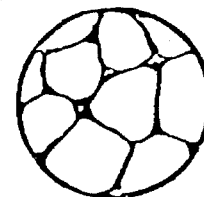
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. -13

CASE NO. 7313

Submitted by McLeod

Hearing Date 7-29-81

EXHIBIT NO. 13



# Effect of Overburden Pressure and Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone Cores

Rex D. Thomas, SPE-AIME, U. S. Bureau of Mines  
Don C. Ward, SPE-AIME, U. S. Bureau of Mines

## Introduction

Research on the potential of nuclear explosions to stimulate gas production from low-permeability (tight) sandstone reservoirs is being conducted by the U. S. Bureau of Mines in cooperation with the Atomic Energy Commission. This report describes the part of that research that was conducted to establish correlation between permeability measured on dry cores at low external pressure (routine analysis) and permeability at reservoir conditions.

Cores used in this research were obtained from two Plowshare gas-stimulation projects. Project Gasbuggy cores from the Pictured Cliffs formation, Choza Mesa field, Rio Arriba County, N. M., can be described as very fine grained, slightly calcareous, well indurated sandstone. Project Wagon Wheel cores from the Fort Union formation, Pinedale field, Sublette County, Wyo., can be described as very fine grained, slightly calcareous, very well indurated sandstone.

Underground reservoirs are under considerable compressive stress as a result of the weight of overlying rocks (offset somewhat by internal-fluid pressure). The resultant net confining pressure or effective overburden pressure is referred to in this report simply as overburden pressure. The resulting effects on the physical properties of the reservoir rock have been studied.<sup>1,2</sup> Overburden pressure causes only a small decrease in porosity, which can usually be ignored.<sup>3</sup> This was confirmed for Project Gasbuggy and Project Wagon Wheel cores. A commercial laboratory found that the porosity of these cores is reduced by about 5

percent of the original porosity. The effect of overburden pressure on permeability, however, is appreciable and varies considerably for different reservoir rocks,<sup>1,2</sup> causing greater reductions in permeability for low-permeability rocks.<sup>2,3</sup> The effect of overburden pressure on relative permeability has been found to be small<sup>4</sup> or nonexistent.<sup>5</sup>

This report presents material that confirms and extends previous research findings on the effect that overburden pressure has upon the permeability of dry cores. Also presented are the results of research on the relative gas permeability of low-permeability cores under overburden pressure.

## Apparatus and Procedure

Cylindrical cores 2.0 to 7.5 cm long and 2.5 cm in diameter were cut parallel to the bedding plane. After the cores were dried overnight in a vacuum oven (4.5 psia, 70°C), the gas (N<sub>2</sub>) permeability of each core was measured in a Hassler cell. An external pressure of 100 psi over the inlet pressure was used to maintain a good seal between the rubber sleeve and the core.<sup>6</sup> Permeability was measured at inlet pressures of 45, 60, and 100 psia, with atmospheric pressure at the outlet. A bubble tube and timer were used to measure gas flow rate. Initial permeability ( $k_i$ ) then was calculated by the Klinkenberg technique to correct for the effect of gas slippage. All other permeabilities reported here were calculated by this method.

In the same manner, permeability was measured at

*Research conducted to determine the potential of nuclear explosions to stimulate gas production verifies that the gas permeability of tight sandstone cores is markedly decreased with increasing overburden pressure. Water saturation also reduces the gas permeability by a large amount. The relative permeability, however, does not change significantly with overburden pressure.*



increasing external pressures of about 500, 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 5,000, and 6,000 psi. External pressures actually were somewhat higher to compensate for internal pressure. The core and stainless steel end pieces were placed in a rubber sleeve (piece of bicycle innertube) 0.1 cm thick. Rubber cement was used to seal the stainless steel end pieces to the rubber sleeve. Shrinkable plastic tubing proved unsatisfactory because high pressure was required to seal the core. The jacketed core was mounted in a high-pressure cell with distilled water as the external fluid.

Cores used in relative permeability studies were first subjected to high external pressure and then allowed to recover their initial permeability. Bulk volume, dry weight, and porosity were measured by conventional gas-expansion techniques. Cores then were subjected to a vacuum (0.3 psia) for 2 hours, immersed in water, and allowed to stand under a vacuum overnight. The cores were weighed and again subjected to vacuum overnight and weighed again to assure complete saturation. Most of the cores were completely saturated after one night. Porosity values calculated on the basis of water saturation are in good agreement with those measured by conventional gas-expansion techniques.

Water in the core was allowed to evaporate at atmospheric conditions to a saturation of about 70 percent and the core was placed in the holder for 2 hours under external pressure (100 psi above inlet) only so the water saturation was uniform. Gas permeability then was measured at three inlet pressures between 30 and 100 psia with atmospheric pressure at the outlet. This procedure was repeated for decreasing water saturations at the same external pressure. After the permeability was measured the core was weighed to determine if any water was lost. In all cases the amount lost was negligible. After the core was dried in a vacuum oven, the gas permeability at this external pressure was measured. The procedure was repeated for external pressures of 3,000 and 6,000 psi.

## Results and Discussion

### Effect of Overburden Pressure on Permeability

Core number, length, porosity, and initial permeability of the cores used in this research are shown in Table 1. The core number refers to the depth in feet at which the core was obtained. Typical plots of the effect of simulated overburden pressure on Gasbuggy cores are shown in Fig. 1. The permeability is decreased by about 75 percent at an overburden pressure of 3,000 psi and by 90 percent at 6,000 psi. The hydrostatic loading used in these experiments does not reproduce subsurface conditions exactly; in an actual reservoir the horizontal component of stress is usually less than the vertical component. Since the actual loading is not known, this method probably is as realistic as any other. Cores that contain microfractures are affected to a greater extent, as shown in Fig. 2. In these cores the permeability is decreased by about 95 percent at a simulated overburden pressure of 3,000 psi, with most of the reduction occurring below 2,000 psi.

The data shown in Table 1 and Figs. 1 and 2 were obtained by subjecting the core to successive incre-

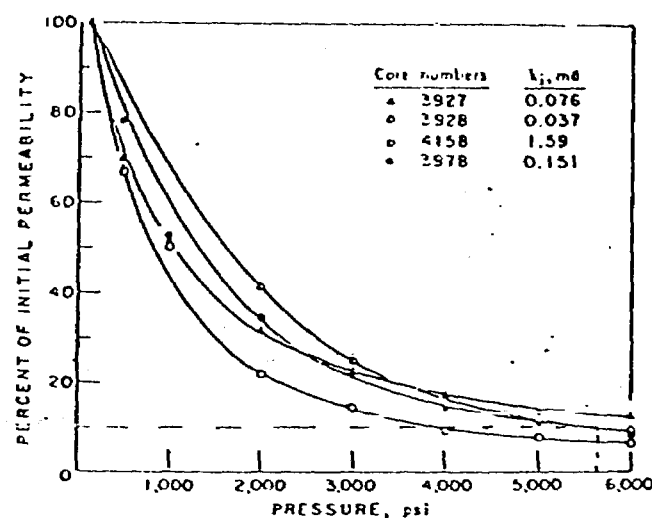


Fig. 1—Effect of overburden pressure on gas permeability of Gasbuggy cores.

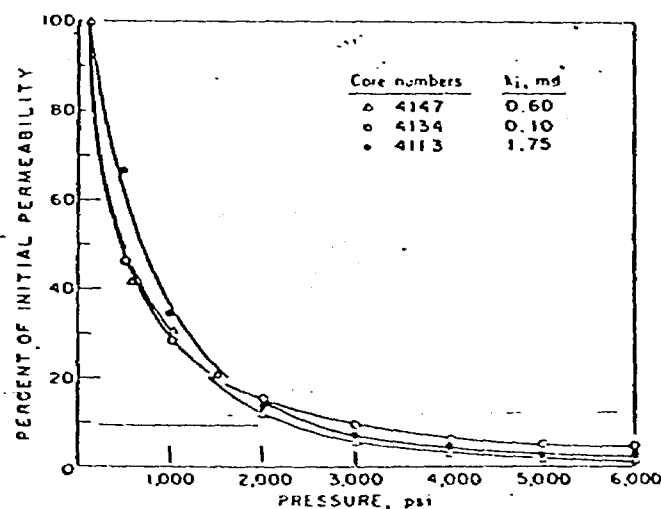


Fig. 2—Effect of overburden pressure on gas permeability of fractured Gasbuggy cores.

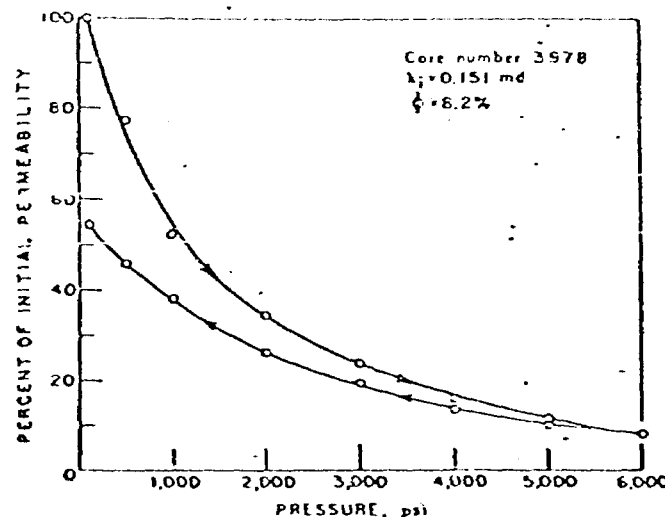


Fig. 3—Hysteresis effect at decreasing confining pressures.

TABLE 1—EFFECT OF OVERBURDEN PRESSURE ON GAS PERMEABILITY

Effective Overburden Pressure (psi):				500	1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000
Core Number*	Length (cm)	Porosity (percent)	k <sub>i</sub> †	Permeability (md)						
Gasbuggy										
3927	2.1	8.1	0.076	0.053	0.040	0.024	0.0175	0.0132	0.0105	0.0095
3928	7.5	8.3	0.037	0.031	0.024	0.015	0.0093	0.0059	0.0046	0.0035
3978	2.1	8.2	0.151	0.118	0.078	0.052	0.036	0.024	0.0175	0.0132
4113**	2.1	10.1	1.75	1.16	0.602	0.252	0.113	0.068	0.042	0.029
4134**	2.1	11.6	0.10	0.046	0.029	0.0153	0.0095	0.0065	0.0055	0.0047
4146**	7.5	11.6	2.40	1.73	1.32	0.31	0.14	0.069	0.052	0.022
4147**	7.5	11.3	0.60	0.247	0.181	0.071	0.034	0.0186	0.0118	0.0082
4158	2.1	13.6	1.59	1.06	0.80	0.35	0.225	0.152	0.116	0.100
Wagon Wheel										
8084	3.8	7.7	0.028	0.022	0.020	0.010	0.0070	0.0047	0.0035	0.0030
8122	3.8	11.4	0.071	0.055	0.048	0.034	0.027	0.024	0.021	0.019
8975**	3.8	8.7	0.039	0.029	0.024	0.0114	0.0073	0.0048	0.0032	0.0025
10156	3.8	8.5	0.038	0.067	0.051	0.032	0.025	0.022	0.018	0.016
10990**	3.8	9.0	0.048	0.020	0.0175	0.0080	0.0050	0.0040	0.0025	0.0019

\*Number denotes depth in feet.

\*\*Slightly fractured.

†Initial permeability.

mental increases in external pressure. The core was assumed to be in equilibrium at each pressure when permeability measurements remained constant for 15 minutes, which required between 1 and 2 hours. A period of 30 minutes to an hour was required to attain equilibrium when the inlet pressure was changed. Consequently, each external pressure was maintained for a minimum of 2 hours.

The effect of decreasing external pressure was determined on a few cores, and typical results are shown in Fig. 3. Other researchers<sup>2,3</sup> have observed and shown that this hysteresis is mainly dependent on the stress history of the core. Cores generally recover their original permeability after 3 to 6 weeks at atmospheric conditions. This time could be shortened by storing the core in an oven at 70°C.

The effect of overburden pressure on the permeability of cores from Project Wagon Wheel is similar to that on cores from Project Gasbuggy, and typical results are shown in Fig. 6. The permeability is decreased to about 30 percent of initial permeability at an overburden pressure of 3,000 psi and to 20 percent at 6,000.

A study of the data in Table 1 indicates that the original porosity of the core and the reduction in permeability caused by overburden pressure are not related. Pore structure (fractures to uniform pores) is probably the governing factor.

#### Water Saturation Effects

The data in Table 2 show that the permeability decreased with increasing water saturation. The values at 20-, 40-, and 60-percent water saturation were obtained from individual relative-permeability curves for Gasbuggy and Wagon Wheel cores. Relative-permeability curves for three cores from Project Gasbuggy are shown in Fig. 5 with the data points for Core 3978. Data points were omitted for the other cores to avoid confusion. This figure shows that al-

though gas permeability is reduced, the relative gas permeability of Gasbuggy cores is not significantly affected by increased overburden pressure. This conclusion is in agreement with the results of others.<sup>4,5</sup>

Extremely low values of permeability that resulted from water saturation and overburden pressure required that either long flow times or high inlet pressures (high differential across the core) be used. Since a high inlet pressure increases the end effects by changing the distribution of water in the core, long flow times were required. Although end-effect problems were encountered with the short cores (Cores 3978 and 4158), the permeability of these cores was

TABLE 2—EFFECT OF OVERBURDEN PRESSURE AND WATER SATURATION ON GAS PERMEABILITY

Water Saturation (percent):		0	20	40	60
Core Number	Pressure (psi)	Permeability (md)			
<u>Gasbuggy</u>					
3927	100	0.115	0.099	0.041	0.0023
3927	3,000	0.026	0.023	0.009	0.0005
3927	6,000	0.012	0.010	0.003	0.0002
3978	100	0.112	0.080	0.034	0.011
3978	3,000	0.036	0.026	0.011	0.004
3978	6,000	0.013	0.009	0.004	0.0013
4158	100	0.447	0.335	0.156	0.045
4158	3,000	0.075	0.056	0.026	0.0074
4158	6,000	0.027	0.020	0.010	0.0026
<u>Wagon Wheel</u>					
8084	100	0.038	0.030	0.014	0.0042
8084	3,000	0.012	0.0096	0.0043	0.0013
8084	6,000	0.0070	0.0056	0.0025	0.0008
8122	100	0.074	0.054	0.017	0.006
8122	3,000	0.027	0.020	0.008	0.002
8122	6,000	0.020	0.015	0.006	0.002
10156	100	0.100	0.074	0.029	0.003
10156	3,000	0.028	0.020	0.008	0.0008
10156	6,000	0.017	0.013	0.005	0.0005

high enough to yield reasonable results. Permeability measurements for Core 4161 (7.5 cm long, 0.053 md) required more than 2 hours per reading. These extremely long flow times can cause errors.

End effects, long flow times, and changes in permeability due to water saturation tend to decrease the accuracy of permeability measurements, especially at the higher water saturations.

The initial permeability of many of the dry cores used in this research was not reproducible following saturation and drying. The changes probably were caused by solution of material in the pores and by particle movement. These caused both increases and decreases in permeability. The variation, although sometimes large, usually was less than 5 percent; however, we feel that the relative permeability curves are essentially correct. To eliminate the effects of solution and particle movement, the permeability of the dry core following saturation, rather than the permeability initially measured, was used in calculating relative permeability.

A composite of the relative permeability curves for Gasbuggy cores is shown in Fig. 5. These curves are representative of permeabilities encountered in this formation. At a water saturation of 50 percent, the relative permeability of the cores ranges from 15 to 20 percent and is not affected by overburden pressure.

Similar results were obtained on cores from Project Wagon Wheel, as shown in Table 2 and Fig. 6 with data points for Core 8122. These cores were cut to a length of 3.8 cm to alleviate some of the long flow time and end-effect difficulties encountered with Gasbuggy cores. These curves are representative of the permeabilities encountered in the formation. At a water saturation of 50 percent, the relative permeability of these cores ranges from 12 to 21 percent. The data in these figures show, as do the data from Gasbuggy cores, that relative gas permeability is not significantly affected by increased overburden pressure.

#### Correlation with Nuclear Stimulation Projects

Many of the basin areas of the Rocky Mountain region consist of thick, low-permeability sandstones containing large quantities of natural gas. This type of reservoir has been the object of the AEC's Plowshare Program experiments, Projects Gasbuggy and Rulison, and proposed Projects Wagon Wheel, WASP, and Rio Blanco. Because most wells in these reservoirs have not been commercial, only limited reservoir-analysis and production-test data are available. Reservoir analysis is most difficult because low permeability requires long-term testing. Also, it is difficult to determine permeability and net pay from these tests. Knowledge of the gas permeability is necessary in predicting gas recovery, and because it is not economical to define the characteristics of different strata by well test, it is desirable to be able to relate laboratory-measured permeability to the true in-situ permeability.

Conventional analysis by a commercial laboratory (confirmed in our laboratory) of about 200 Gasbuggy cores gave an average initial gas permeability of 0.16 md on dry cores and an average water saturation of 48 percent. The effective overburden pressure of this

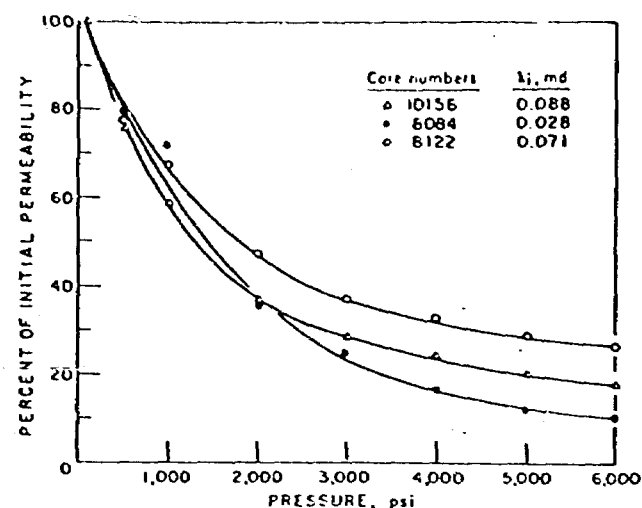


Fig. 4—Effect of overburden pressure on gas permeability of Wagon Wheel cores.

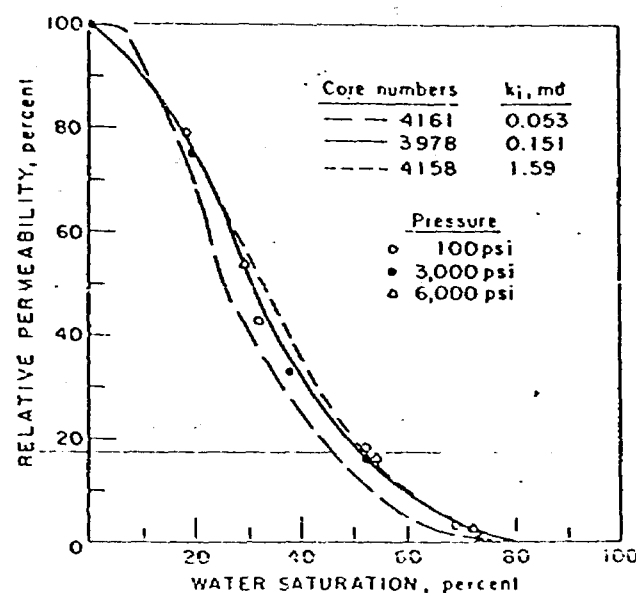


Fig. 5—Relative gas permeability of Gasbuggy cores.

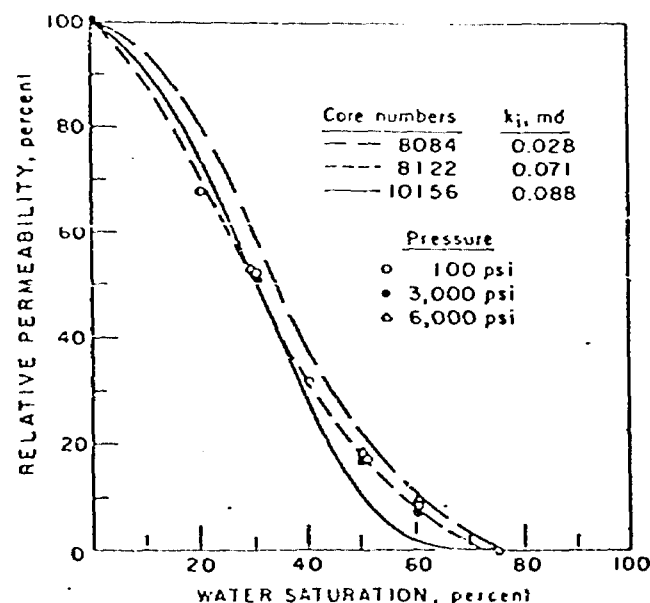


Fig. 6—Relative gas permeability of Wagon Wheel cores.

reservoir is about 3,000 psi. From Fig. 1, the reduction factor resulting from the overburden pressure is 0.25, and the reduction factor for a water saturation of 48 percent (Fig. 5) is 0.20; thus the total reduction is 5 percent of the initial permeability, or 0.008 md. This value compares favorably with permeability determinations of about 0.01 md from both preshot and postshot flow testing at Gasbuggy. The gas reservoir at Project Rulison is similar to that at Gasbuggy, having an average initial dry permeability of 0.11 md and an average water saturation of 45 percent. Simulated in-situ permeability has not yet been measured in the laboratory on Rulison cores; however, using an effective overburden pressure of 5,000 psi and curves of Gasbuggy core data (Figs. 1 and 5), the reduction factor because of overburden pressure would be 0.12 and that for water saturation 0.24. This results in a combined reduction to 3 percent of the initial permeability, or 0.003 md. Postshot production testing at Rulison is not complete, and the only preshot determination of permeability was made from tests of a 32-ft isolated zone that gave an average value of 0.008 md. No cores are available from this zone. Rulison reservoir rock is said to be less compressible than that of Gasbuggy; therefore Gasbuggy pressure-effect data would be expected to indicate a greater reduction for Rulison than actually exists.

The average initial permeability of dry Wagon Wheel cores is 0.068 md, with an average water saturation of 50 percent. An estimated effective overburden pressure of 3,000 psi gives a reduction factor of 0.28 (Fig. 4). Water saturation further reduces permeability by a factor of 0.18 (Fig. 6). Therefore, the total reduction in permeability is to approximately 5 percent of the initial permeability, or 0.0034 md.

Original manuscript received in Society of Petroleum Engineers office June 16, 1971. Revised manuscript received Dec. 20, 1971. Paper (SPE 3634) was presented at SPE 46th Annual Fall Meeting, held in New Orleans, Oct. 3-6, 1971.

This value can be used to predict postshot gas recovery from the proposed Wagon Wheel experiment.

Cores are not yet available from Projects Rio Blanco and WASP.

### Conclusions

The gas permeability of tight sandstone cores is markedly decreased with increasing overburden pressure. Most of the decrease takes place at pressures to 3,000 psi. At 3,000 psi, the permeability of unfractured samples ranges from 14 to 37 percent of the initial permeability. In fractured samples, permeability may be reduced to as low as 6 percent of initial permeability.

Water saturation also reduces the gas permeability greatly; however, the relative permeability does not change significantly with overburden pressure.

Permeability calculated from laboratory results are in good agreement with in-situ permeabilities determined from production test data. Although not confirmed, predictions for other projects appear to be reasonable.

### References

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6. *API Recommended Practice for Core-Analysis Procedure*, API RP 40, Dallas (1960) 35. JPT

EXHIBIT NO. 14

DETERMINATION OF IN SITU FORMATION PERMEABILITY  
FROM LABORATORY CORE ANALYSIS DATA IN THE  
ROSA TIGHT GAS AREA

The relationship needed to determine in situ permeability from core analysis data is published in a technical paper by Rex D. Thomas and Don C. Ward entitled "Effect of Overburden Pressure and Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone Cores", which is presented as Exhibit No. 13. The authors' studies involved taking routine laboratory air permeability measurements at the normal 100 psi or less external pressures. To simulate the effect of in situ conditions, these permeability measurements were then made at external pressures ranging from 500 to 6000 psi. The results of these tests were then plotted on a graph of Percent of Initial Permeability (ratio of permeability at 100 psi to a permeability at a higher pressure) vs. Pressure.

Figure 1, on Page 121, of Exhibit No. 13, is one such graph which presents results of tests run on cores taken from the Pictured Cliffs Formation. These cores were taken from Project Gasbuggy, located in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Cores from the Pictured Cliffs Formation and the Dakota Formation can be expected to provide similar results due to the low permeability characteristics of both sands.

The characteristics of core 3978, presented in Figure 1, can be used to represent the core data from the Rosa Tight Gas Area. The average laboratory air permeability from the Rosa Area was 0.124 millidarcy compared to an initial laboratory core permeability for core 3978 of 0.151 millidarcy. The confining pressure due to overburden at a depth of 7950 feet in the Rosa Area is approximately 5600 psi.

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Hearing Date 7-29-81	

Entering the graph in Figure 1 at 5600 psi results in an 90% permeability reduction between laboratory determined permeability values and in situ permeability in the Rosa Area. Applying this 90% reduction to the average laboratory permeability of 0.124 millidarcy results in an average in situ permeability of 0.012 millidarcy for the Rosa Tight Gas Area.

The water present in the reservoir also causes the in situ permeability to be less than laboratory permeability as discussed in Exhibit No. 13. However, this correction will not be used in this case.

## SUMMARY OF PERMEABILITY DATA

EXHIBIT NO. 15

WELL	SAMPLE FOOTAGE TOTAL (ft.)	LABORATORY PERMEABILITY TOTAL (md)
1. Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27	65.0	9.07
2. El Paso Natural Gas Co. San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X	87.7	11.66
3. El Paso Natural Gas Co. San Juan 30-6 Unit No. 31	34.0	5.90
4. Amoco Production Co. Rosa Unit No. 1	24.0	3.51
5. Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16	62.5	3.60
6. Blackwood and Nichols Ltd. Northeast Blanco Unit No. 1	<u>13.0</u>	<u>1.62</u>
TOTAL:	286.2	35.36

$$\text{Average laboratory permeability} = \frac{35.36}{286.2} = \underline{0.124 \text{ md}}$$

$$\text{Average in-situ permeability (10\% of laboratory)} = \underline{0.012 \text{ md}}$$

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. <u>15</u>
CASE NO. <u>7313</u>
Submitted by <u>McLORD</u>
Hearing Date <u>7-29-81</u>

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 16

CASE NO. 7313

Submitted by McQuay

Hearing Date 7-29-81

EXHIBIT NO. 16

ROSA TIGHT GAS AREA

Natural Production Tests  
(Pilot Tube)

OPERATOR	WELL	LOCATION	NATURAL PRODUCTION TEST DEPTH	DAKOTA DEPTH	PRODUCTION RATE NATURAL (MCFPD)	PRODUCTION RATE AFTER FRAC (MCFPD)
1. El Paso Natural Gas Co.	San Juan 30-4 Unit No. 39	SENE 18 30-4	8615	8425	527	2506
2. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 39	SWNE 7 30-5	7822	7686	161	1703
3. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 37	NESW 8 30-5	7870	7688	666	3944
4. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 49	SWSW 9 30-5	7780	7683	TSTM	855
5. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 73	NWNE 10 30-5	8035	7919	338	2635
6. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 72	SWSW 10 30-5	7905	7790	338	2456
7. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 53	NESW 16 30-5	7820	7685	264	1209
8. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47	NWSW 17 30-5	7930	7794	2174	1610*
9. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 38	SWNE 18 30-5	7891	7667	128	2035
10. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 48	NWNE 20 30-5	7870	7750	370	3691
11. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 38	NENW 2 30-6	7970	7852	241	2828
12. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 36	NENE 27 31-6	7890	7806	TSTM	2557
13. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 35	NENE 35 31-6	8080	7908	338	2643
14. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 31	SESE 35 31-6	7928	7796	370	3770

14 WELL AVERAGE 423 2460  
13 WELL AVERAGE (Excluding Well No. 8) 288 2525

Natural Production Rate Limit for Tight Gas @ 7950 ft. is 336 MCFPD.

\*Note after frac production rate is less than natural production rate.



EXHIBIT NO. 17

FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS  
Rosa Tight Gas Area  
Basin Dakota Field

Calculation of Initial Pre-Stimulation Flow Rates Using Darcy's Law

Darcy's Law: 
$$Q_g = .703 k h \frac{(P_e^2 - P_{wf}^2)}{U_g T Z \ln (.61 r_e/r_w)}$$

where:

- Qg = gas flow rate - standard cubic feet per day
- k = permeability of formation - used average in situ value of 0.012 md from core data
- h = net pay - average of 42 ft. for wells completed in the Rosa Tight Gas Area.
- Pe = bottom hole pressure at drainage radius re - average of 3330 psi. from 7 day buildup tests run in the Rosa Tight Gas Area
- Pwf = flowing bottom hole pressure - assumed to be equal to atmospheric pressure at wellbore conditions, to determine maximum flowrate (14.6 psi)
- Ug = average gas viscosity - calculated to be 0.020cp
- T = bottom hole temperature - calculated to be 667°R
- Z = average gas compressibility factor - calculated to be 0.88
- re = drainage radius for 160 acre spacing - 1320 ft.
- rw = wellbore radius - .17 ft.
- gg = gas gravity - .7 - used for calculation of Ug and Z
- Pc = pseudo critical pressure - 668 psi. - used for calculation of Ug and Z
- Tc = pseudo critical temperature - 392° R - used for calculation of Ug and Z

$$Q_g = .703 (0.012) (42) \frac{(3330^2 - 14.6^2)}{(0.020) (667) (0.88) \ln (.61 1320/.17)}$$

$$Q_g = 39,546 \text{ SCFGPD} = \underline{39.5 \text{ MCFGPD}}$$

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION	
APPLICANTS EXHIBIT NO. 17	
CASE NO.	7313
Submitted by	McCORD
Hearing Date	7-29-81

APPLICATION OF  
FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION  
FOR DESIGNATION OF THE ROSA AREA OF THE BASIN DAKOTA FIELD  
AS A TIGHT GAS FORMATION

RIO ARRIBA AND SAN JUAN COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

July 29, 1981

Prepared by:

KEVIN H. McCORD  
Petroleum Engineer

APPLICATION OF FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION  
FOR DESIGNATION OF THE ROSA AREA OF THE  
BASIN DAKOTA FIELD AS A TIGHT FORMATION,  
RIO ARriba AND SAN JUAN COUNTIES,  
NEW MEXICO

The Four Corners Gas Producers Association is applying for a portion of the Basin Dakota gas field to be designated as a tight formation under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978. The proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area is located in the northeastern portion of the San Juan Basin. The area is approximately 25 miles northeast of the town of Bloomfield in northwestern New Mexico and covers portions of Rio Arriba and San Juan counties.

Exhibit No. 1 displays the Rosa Tight Gas Area on a map of the Dakota reservoir in the San Juan Basin. The Rosa Area includes approximately 270,260 acres, described as follows:

1. T30N-R2W Sections 1 through 36: All
2. T30N-R3W Sections 1 through 36: All
3. T30N-R4W Sections 1 through 36: All
4. T30N-R5W Sections 1 through 36: All
5. T30N-R6W Sections 1 through 36: All
6. T30N-R7W Sections 1 through 36: All
7. T31N-R2W Sections 1 through 36: All
8. T31N-R3W Sections 1 through 36: All
9. T31N-R4W Sections 1 through 36: All
10. T31N-R5W Sections 1 through 36: All
11. T31N-R6W Sections 1 through 36: All
12. T31N-R7W Sections 1 through 36: All

The Dakota formation in the Rosa Area meets the criteria established in Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 to be designated a tight gas formation in that (1) the estimated average in situ gas permeability throughout the pay section is expected to be 0.1 millidarcy or less, (2) the stabilized production rates, without stimulation, at atmospheric pressure of these gas wells are not expected to exceed

the maximum allowable production rate of 336 MCFPD for an average depth of 7950 feet to the top of the Dakota formation in this area, and (3) no well drilled into the Dakota formation in this area is expected to produce more than five barrels of crude oil per day prior to stimulation.

Exhibit No. 2 is a Dakota formation completion and production map of the proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area. The production figures presented for each producing well are initial potential, date of initial potential, average daily production for 1980, and January 1, 1981 cumulative production of gas and oil. Exhibit No. 2 also presents completion and production data from wells surrounding the proposed tight gas area. The Rosa Tight Gas Area contains 53 producing Dakota formation gas wells, while 14 wells in this area are abandoned in the Dakota at this time. A list of these wells and their production figures is presented as Exhibit No. 3. Examination of these figures indicate that these Dakota wells have not produced great quantities of natural gas, suggesting that low permeability reservoir rock could be present in the area.

Exhibit No. 4 is a type log of a Dakota well found in the Rosa Tight Gas Area. This log is from the Northwest Pipeline Corporation Rosa Unit No. 68 well, found in section 17, T31N, R5W. This well is in the north central section of the Rosa Tight Gas Area. The type log shows the entire Greenhorn and Dakota formations and part of the Mancos and Morrison formations. The type log shown is in a part of the Rosa Tight Gas Area which has exhibited better producing characteristics than the remainder of the area. Wells in remaining sections of the Rosa Area would be expected to have the same or poorer log characteristics than this type log.

The State of New Mexico has defined the Dakota producing interval in the Basin Dakota Field to begin at the base of the Greenhorn limestone and extend to a point 400 feet below the base of the Greenhorn. The formations covered in this 400 feet are the Graneros Shale, Dakota Sandstone, and Morrison formations. The Dakota formation is productive in this area, while the Morrison formation is generally water bearing. Sands in the Graneros Shale are not adequately developed in this area to be productive.

The Dakota formation has an average depth of 7950 feet in the Rosa Area, and has approximately 250 feet of gross thickness. The Dakota sandstone formation is Late Cretaceous in age with deposition occurring under both

marine and nonmarine conditions. The Dakota sandstone is the basal sequence of the southwesterly transgressing Cretaceous Sea.

The Upper Dakota sand consists of barrier beach deposits about 40 to 60 feet thick, composed of fine grained, quartz-rich sandstones characterized by an increase in grain size upward and low angle crossbedding. The next highest unit is transitional between fluvial and marine sedimentation containing dark carbonaceous shales, thin mudstones, siltstones, and sandstones. This unit represented a lagoonal type environment. The basal Dakota was deposited by a system of meandering streams creating deposits of carbonaceous shales, thin coal seams, siltstones, and thin channel sandstones. The basal unit of Cretaceous strata in the Four Corners Area is the Burro Canyon formation. This formation was deposited in a braided stream system and is sometimes considered part of the Dakota formation. An unconformity exists between the Burro Canyon formation and the Morrison formation represented by a sharp erosional contact between the two formations.

Overall, the Dakota sand has a porosity range from 1/2 to 11-1/2% in the Rosa Area, with the average pay porosity being 4%. Silt and clay sized matrix material is present throughout the Dakota sand sequence and represents a significant portion of the bulk rock composition. This matrix material reduces the effective permeability of the formation, making it difficult to produce.

Exhibit No. 5 and 6 are log cross sections through the Rosa Area showing the continuity of the Dakota formation using the base of the Greenhorn formation for a datum line.

#### Permeability

The Dakota formation in the San Juan Basin is dependent on stimulation techniques to be commercially productive due to the low permeability of the reservoir rock. The Dakota in situ permeability in the Rosa Tight Gas Area is found to be less than the 0.1 millidarcy permeability cutoff used for tight gas determination. The in situ permeability for this area was calculated using data from six Dakota core analysis and was averaged to be 0.012 millidarcy.

Exhibit Nos. 7 through 12 present core analysis data used to determine the average laboratory permeability to air for Dakota formation pay zones in this area. The exhibits contain the actual core analysis reports plus summary

tables showing the analysis of cores taken from only the productive portion of the Dakota formation for each well. The cored intervals chosen for permeability averaging were determined by log examination of the interval cored for each well. Only cored intervals of sand with more than 10 ohms resistivity appearing on the Induction Resistivity log of the well were used for permeability averaging. This 10 ohms resistivity cutoff represents the average resistivity shown by the shale sections on the logs. Values less than this cutoff were not considered to be pay zones. The average laboratory permeability to air determined for the Rosa Area in this manner was 0.124 millidarcy. The actual in situ permeability of the formation is less than this laboratory determined value mainly due to the confining pressures found in the Basin Dakota reservoir.

Exhibit No. 13 presents a technical paper intitled "Effect of Overburden Pressure and Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone Cores" written by Rex D. Thomas and Don C. Ward of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. This paper presents relationships between laboratory determined permeability in cores and actual in situ permeability found in reservoirs. Exhibit No. 14 explains how in situ permeability is calculated from the core analysis using the technical paper presented.

Exhibit 15 is a summary of all laboratory core analysis results, for the Rosa Tight Gas Area. An average in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy was calculated from the average laboratory permeability value of 0.124 md for the Rosa Area. This in situ permeability value is well below the 0.1 millidarcy tight gas cutoff. These permeability measurements substantiate that the Dakota formation is very tight in this area and must be stimulated to obtain commercial gas production.

#### Stabilized Unstimulated Gas Production Rate

Obtaining stabilized unstimulated gas production rates for Dakota wells is not a standard procedure used by companies when completing their wells in the San Juan Basin. Past experience has shown that these low permeability Dakota wells must be stimulated to obtain commercial production. However, some wells drilled in the Rosa Tight Gas Area were drilled with gas as a circulation medium through the Dakota formation. This drilling procedure enables unstimulated natural gas from the Dakota formation to rise to the

surface while drilling the well..

Unstimulated natural production tests can be taken while drilling with natural gas when the gas used for circulation is shut off and the pipe rams closed on the blowout preventer stack. This enables the injected gas to blow down through a bleedoff line to the reserve pit. After injection gas has had sufficient time to return to the surface, any further gas production through this line should be unstimulated gas production from the well. A gas measuring device, such as a pitot tube, placed in the center of the natural gas production stream is used to measure the natural gas flow rate from the well. A pitot tube measures the impact pressure of the gas flow rate which is used to determine the velocity of the gas. This gas velocity, combined with the known area of the blowoff line is used to calculate the flowrate of gas through the line. Natural unstimulated gas production tests performed in this manner were found for 14 wells in the Rosa Area.

The results of these unstimulated gas production tests are presented in Exhibit 16. These gas flowrates range from rates too small to measure to 2174 MCF of natural gas per day. The average unstimulated gas production rate is 423 MCFGPD. This value is larger than the 336 MCFGPD limit for tight gas at an average depth of 7950 feet. On an individual well basis, 6 wells meet the unstimulated natural production requirement, with 3 wells just at the limit, and 5 wells being over the 336 MCFGPD limit.

Testing natural gas wells in this manner is not very accurate, but it can give the tester some idea if a well will be gas productive or not. The exact nature of these tests have many factors which leave their results questionable:

- (1) The Mesa Verde formation is also productive in the Rosa Tight gas area. While the Dakota formation is open to flow to the surface during the natural flow test, the Mesa Verde can also be producing at the same time. There is no way to separate the production from each zone using a natural production test conducted in this manner.
- (2) The length of these unstimulated production tests are not long enough to establish a stabilized production rate. This length of test can by no means be considered to be a stabilized production test of the well's productivity.
- (3) The natural gas injected into the well for circulating purposes can also cause erroneous results if this gas is still returning to the surface while the test is being taken.

It is reasonable to assume that the three test uncertainties presented above could all contribute to make unstimulated production tests performed in this manner report erroneously high production rates. This assumption is

supported by well production data presented in Exhibit 16.

The well listed as number 8, the Northwest Pipeline Corporation San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 well shows an unstimulated natural gas production rate of 2174 MCFGPD. After fracturing, the initial production for this well was 1610 MCFGPD. The initial potential for a well is calculated from a 3 hour flow test following a 7 day pressure buildup, which is a more controlled and accurate test than the pitot tube test. This, combined with the fact that an after frac production test should definitely not be lower than the unstimulated production test, indicates the unstimulated production test is probably in error.

Exhibit 16 also presents a 13 well average unstimulated production rate which excludes the erroneous rate found for the San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 well. This 13 well average rate is 288 MCFGPD, which is below the 336 MCFGPD rate limit for tight gas determination in the Rosa Area. Due to the uncertain nature of the unstimulated production rate testing process, this 288 MCFGPD production rate, while below tight gas guidelines, is still thought to be higher than the actual average unstimulated gas production rate for the area.

In order to test the validity of this natural production figure, Darcy's Law was used to calculate an unstimulated gas flow rate using the average in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy calculated for the Dakota formation in this area from core analysis study. Exhibit No. 17 presents this calculation and shows that an initial unstimulated gas flow rate of 39.5 MCFGPD is associated with the average in situ permeability of 0.012 millidarcy for the Rosa Area.

The calculated unstimulated gas production rate and the average actual unstimulated gas production rate (excluding the erroneous production rate mentioned previously) are both less than the 336 MCFGPD limit for a tight gas reservoir in the Rosa Area. As a result of these calculations, the unstimulated natural gas production rate from the Dakota formation in the Rosa Area is not expected to exceed 336 MCF of gas per day.

#### Stabilized Unstimulated Oil Production Rate

The Natural gas produced from the Rosa Tight Gas area is virtually dry gas, having very little, if any, oil or condensate production associated with it. Exhibits No. 2 and 3 show that only one well, the Northwest Pipeline



Corporation Rosa Unit No. 56; has reported any oil production associated with its' gas production. This well has only produced 26 barrels of oil since 1976. These dry gas production figures indicate that no well drilled in the Rosa Tight Gas Area is expected to produce, without stimulation, more than five barrels of crude oil per day.

#### Fresh Water Protection

Existing State and Federal regulations will assure that development of the Dakota formation will not adversely affect or impair any fresh water aquifers that are being used or are expected to be used in the foreseeable future for domestic or agricultural water supplies. Regulations require that casing programs be designed to seal off potential water bearing formations from oil and gas producing formations. These fresh water zones exist from the surface to the base of the Ojo Alamo formation. The Ojo Alamo depth averages 2385 feet in the proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area.

Most wells drilled in the Rosa Area are drilled with natural mud to an average depth of 3700 feet. After intermediate casing is set, the remainder of the well is drilled with natural gas. Neither the natural mud or gas will contaminate any fresh water zone.

Normal casing designs in the Rosa Area consist of 9 5/8" or 10 3/4" O. D. surface casing being set from the surface to an average depth of 3700 feet. The cementing of the intermediate casing includes enough cement to cover formations to a depth above the Ojo Alamo formation. The cement covers the Pictured Cliffs, Fruitland, and Kirtland formations which are possible oil and gas bearing formations throughout the area. The production casing is cemented from total depth to a depth above the Mesa Verde formation, or to a point approximately 3000 feet above total depth. This cement covers the Dakota, Gallup, and Mesa Verde which are possible oil and gas bearing formations. A temperature survey is run after cementing the production casing to assure that all necessary zones are covered with cement. Therefore, all oil, gas and water bearing formations in this area are isolated from each other by cement and casing. The major water aquifer in the area, the Ojo Alamo formation, as well as the Pictured Cliffs, Fruitland, and Kirtland formations

is covered by cement and two strings of casing to protect them from contamination with other formations.

Stimulation of the Dakota formation involves large fracture treatments, usually consisting of a one or two percent potassium chloride water base that will not harm a fresh water aquifer. Fresh water protection is adequate even with these large stimulation treatments due to zone isolation caused by cementation. The large distance of over 5500 feet between the Dakota formation and the Ojo Alamo fresh water aquifer is additional insurance that no existing fresh water zone will be contaminated by stimulation of Dakota wells in this area.

Therefore, New Mexico and Federal regulations will protect any fresh water supply that may be affected by drilling, completing and producing the Dakota formation in the Rosa Tight Gas Area.

#### CONCLUSION

Evidence presented in this report substantiate the following for the Four Corners Gas Producers' proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area:

- (1) The estimated average in situ gas permeability, throughout the Dakota pay section, is expected to be 0.1 millidarcy or less;
- (2) For an average Dakota well depth of 7950 feet, the stabilized production rate at atmospheric pressure of wells completed for production in the Dakota formation is not expected to exceed the maximum allowable rate of 336 MCF of natural gas per day without stimulation;
- (3) No well drilled into the Dakota formation in the Rosa Area is expected to produce, without stimulation, more than five barrels of crude oil per day.

The proposed Rosa Tight Gas Area meets all the specifications required as stated above, and should be designated a tight formation in the Basin Dakota pool under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
STATE LAND OFFICE BLDG.  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO  
29 July 1981

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Four Corners Gas  
Producers Association for designa-  
tion of a tight formation, San Juan  
County, New Mexico, and Rio Arriba  
County, New Mexico.

CASE  
7317

BEFORE: Richard L. Stamets

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Oil Conservation  
Division:

Ernest L. Padilla, Esq.  
Legal Counsel to the Division  
State Land Office Bldg.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

For the Applicant:

William F. Carr, Esq.  
CAMPBELL, BYRD, & BLACK P.A.  
Jefferson Place  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

and

Gary Paulson, Esq.  
Amoco Production Company  
17th and Broadway  
Denver, Colorado 80202

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A P P E A R A N C E S

For Phillips Petroleum Co.:      W. Thomas Kellahin, Esq.  
   KELLAHIN & KELLAHIN  
   500 Don Gaspar  
   Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
  
   and  
  
   Larry Pain, Esq.  
   Phillips Petroleum Company  
   1258 Adams Bldg.  
   Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74004

I N D E X

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## E X H I B I T S

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Applicant Exhibit One, Map

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Applicant Exhibit Two, Map

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Applicant Exhibit Three, List

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Applicant Exhibit Four, Log

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Applicant Exhibit Five, Cross Section

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Applicant Exhibit Six, Cross Section

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Applicant Exhibit Seven, Core Analysis

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Applicant Exhibit Eight, Core Analysis

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Applicant Exhibit Nine, Core Analysis

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Applicant Exhibit Ten, Core Analysis

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Applicant Exhibit Twelve, Core Analysis

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Applicant Exhibit Fourteen, Document

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Applicant Exhibit Fifteen, Summary

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Applicant Exhibit Sixteen, Test Results

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Applicant Exhibit Seventeen, Calculations

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Applicant Exhibit Eighteen, Text

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MR. STAMETS: The hearing will please  
come to order.

We'll call at this time Case 7317.

MR. PADILLA: Application of Four Corners  
Gas Producers Association for designation of a tight forma-  
tion, San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico.

MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner,  
my name is William F. Carr, with the law firm Campbell, Byrd,  
and Black, Santa Fe, New Mexico, appearing on behalf of Four  
Corners, and I have one witness.

We would also like to enter our appearance  
at this time for Gary Paulson, an attorney for Amoco out of  
Denver.

MR. STAMETS: Any other appearances in  
this case?

MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner please,  
I'm Tom Kellahin, Santa Fe, New Mexico, appearing in associa-  
tion with Mr. Larry Pain, an attorney for Phillips Petroleum  
Company.

MR. STAMETS: Any other appearances?

MR. PAULSON: Yes, sir, Gary Paulson  
Amoco Production Company, appearing in association with Mr.  
Carr.

We do have a supporting statement to make

1  
2 on behalf of the application.

3 MR. STAMETS: Does anyone else have an  
4 appearance? Any other witnesses in this case?

5 I'd like to have the witness stand and  
6 be sworn at this time, please.

7  
8 (Witness sworn.)  
9

10 KEVIN H. McCORD  
11 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his oath,  
12 testified as follows, to-wit:

13  
14 DIRECT EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. CARR:

16 Q Will you state your name and place of  
17 residence?

18 A My name is Kevin H. McCord and I live  
19 in Farmington, New Mexico.

20 Q By whom are you employed and in what  
21 capacity?

22 A I am self-employed. I'm a self-employed  
23 petroleum engineer acting as a consultant for the Four Corners  
24 Gas Producers Association.

25 Q Have you previously testified before

1  
2 this Commission or one of its examiners and had your creden-  
3 tials as a petroleum engineer accepted and made a matter of  
4 record?

5 A Yes, I have.

6 Q Are you familiar with the application of  
7 Four Corners Producers Association in this case?

8 A Yes, I am.

9 Q Are you familiar with the subject area?

10 A Yes.

11 MR. CARR: Are the witness' qualifica-  
12 tions acceptable?

13 MR. STAMETS: They are.

14 Q Mr. McCord, will you briefly state what  
15 Four Corners Gas Producers Association seeks with this ap-  
16 plication?

17 A The Four Corners Gas Producers Associa-  
18 tion is applying for a portion of the Basin Dakota gas field  
19 to be designated as a tight formation under Section 107 of the  
20 Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

21 The proposed Rosa tight gas area is  
22 located in the northeastern portion of the San Juan Basin.  
23 The area is approximately 25 miles northeast of the town of  
24 Bloomfield in northwestern New Mexico, and covers portions of  
25 Rio Arriba and San Juan Counties.



1  
2 Q Have you prepared certain exhibits for  
3 introduction in this case?

4 A I have.

5 Q Have each of these exhibits previously  
6 been submitted to the Oil Conservation Division and the  
7 United States Geological Survey with a statement of the meaning  
8 and purpose of each, as is required by Oil Conservation Divi-  
9 sion rules?

10 A Yes, they have.

11 Q Will you please refer to what has been  
12 marked for identification as Applicant's Exhibit Number One  
13 and explain to Mr. Stamets what this is and what it shows?

14 A Exhibit Number One displays the Rosa  
15 tight gas area on a map of the Dakota reservoir in the San  
16 Juan Basin. The Rosa area includes approximately 270,260  
17 acres in Townships 30 and 31 North, Ranges 2 through 7 West.

18 Q Will you now refer to Exhibit Two and  
19 review this for the Examiner?

20 A Exhibit Number Two is a Dakota formation  
21 completion and production map of the proposed Rosa tight gas  
22 area. The production figures presented for each producing  
23 well are initial potential, date of initial potential, average  
24 daily production for 1980, and January 1, 1981 cumulative  
25 production of gas and oil.

1  
2 Exhibit Number Two also presents comple-  
3 tion and production data from wells surrounding the proposed  
4 tight gas area. The Rosa tight gas area contains 53 producing  
5 Dakota formation gas wells, while 14 wells in this area are  
6 abandoned in the Dakota at this time.

7 A list of these wells and their production  
8 figures is presented as Exhibit Number Three. Examination of  
9 these figures indicate that these Dakota wells have not pro-  
10 duced great quantities of natural gas, suggesting that low  
11 permeability reservoir rock could be present in the area.

12 Q Now, Mr. McCord, will you please refer  
13 to Applicant's Exhibit Number Four and review this for the  
14 Examiner?

15 A Exhibit Number Four is a type log of a  
16 Dakota well found in the Rosa tight gas area. This log is  
17 from the Northwest Pipeline Corporation Rosa Unit No. 68 Well  
18 found in Section 17, Township 31 North, Range 5 West. This  
19 well is in the north central section of the Rosa tight gas  
20 area.

21 The type log shows the entire Greenhorn  
22 and Dakota formations and part of the Mancos and Morrison  
23 formations.

24 The type log shown is in a part of  
25 the Rosa tight gas area which has exhibited better producing

1  
2 characteristics than the remainder of the area. Wells in the  
3 remaining sections of the Rosa area would be expected to have  
4 the same or poorer log characteristics than this type log.

5 Q How is the Dakota formation defined by  
6 the Oil Conservation Division?

7 A The State of New Mexico has defined the  
8 Dakota producing interval in the Basin Dakota Field to begin  
9 at the base of the Greenhorn limestone and extend to a point  
10 400 feet below the base of the Greenhorn. The formations  
11 covered in this 400 feet are the Graneros Shale, Dakota Sand-  
12 stone, and Morrison formations.

13 The Dakota formation is productive in  
14 this area while the Morrison formation is generally water-  
15 bearing. Sands in the Graneros Shale are not adequately  
16 developed in this area to be productive.

17 Q Mr. McCord, what is the average depth  
18 of the Dakota formation in the area which is governed by this  
19 application?

20 A 7950 feet.

21 Q And what is the gross thickness of the  
22 formation?

23 A Approximately 250 feet.

24 Q Could you generally describe the geolo-  
25 gical characteristics of the Dakota?

1  
2 A. It's generally, let's see here, the Dakota  
3 consists generally of barrier beach deposits about 40 to 60  
4 feet thick. This is the Upper Dakota. Composed of fine  
5 grained, quartz rich sandstones characterized by an increase  
6 in grain size upward and low angle crossbedding.

7 The next highest unit is transitional  
8 between fluvial and marine sedimentation containing dark  
9 carbonaceous shales, thin mudstones, siltstones, and sandstones.  
10 This unit represented a lagoonal type environment.

11 The basal Dakota was deposited by a  
12 system of meandering streams creating deposits of carbonaceous  
13 shales, thin coal seams, siltstones, and thin channel sand-  
14 stones.

15 Q Will you now refer to what has been  
16 marked Applicant's Five and Six and explain what these are  
17 and what they show?

18 A. Exhibit Numbers Five and Six are log  
19 cross sections through the Rosa area showing the continuity  
20 of the Dakota formation using the base of the Greenhorn form-  
21 ation for a datum line.

22 Q. Now, Mr. McCord, when I look at your  
23 Exhibit Number Two, is there any control in the Dakota on the  
24 east side of the subject area?

25 A. No, sir, there's not. There's been

1  
2 very sparse drilling in that area. Only one well was drilled  
3 and that would be in Section -- or Township 30 North, Range  
4 3 West, Section 34. A Dakota well was drilled by Sunray DX  
5 Oil Company, Jicarilla Tribal No. 1, in September of '64.  
6 It was drilled and abandoned.

7 Other than that there is no control to  
8 the east part of the area.

9 Q In your opinion is the Dakota continuous  
10 across the basin?

11 A Yes, it is.

12 Q What is the porosity range within the  
13 area governed by the application?

14 A Overall the Dakota sand has a porosity  
15 range of from 1/2 percent to 11-1/2 percent in the Rosa area,  
16 with the average pay porosity being in the neighborhood of  
17 4 to 6 percent.

18 Q Is the in situ permeability cutoff in  
19 the Rosa tight gas area less than .01 millidarcy?

20 A Yes, it is. The formation is dependent  
21 upon stimulation techniques to be commercially productive.

22 Q And have you calculated permeability for  
23 the area?

24 A Yes, I have.

25 Q Would you please refer to Applicant's

Exhibits Seven through Twelve and review these for Mr. Stamets?

A. Okay. Exhibits Numbers Seven through Twelve present core analysis data used to determine the average laboratory permeability to air for Dakota formation pay zones in this area. The exhibits contain the actual core analysis reports, plus summary tables, showing the analysis of cores taken from only the productive portion of the Dakota formation for each well. The cored intervals chosen for permeability averaging were determined by log examination of the interval cored for each well. Only cored intervals of sand with more than 10 ohms resistivity appearing on the induction resistivity log of the well were used for permeability averaging. This 10 ohms resistivity cutoff represents the average resistivity shown by the shale sections on the logs. Values less than this cutoff were not considered to be pay zones.

The average laboratory permeability to air determined for the Rosa area in this manner was 0.124 millidarcy. The actual in situ permeability of the formation is less than this laboratory determined value, mainly due to the confining pressures found in the Basin Dakota reservoir.

Q Will you now refer to and identify what you have marked Applicant's Exhibit Thirteen?

A. Exhibit Number Thirteen presents a

1  
2 technical paper entitled Effect of Overburden Pressure and  
3 Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone  
4 Cores, which was written by Rex D. Thomas and Don C. Ward of  
5 the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

6 This paper presents relationships between  
7 laboratory determined permeability in cores and actual in  
8 situ permeability found in reservoirs.

9 Exhibit Number Fourteen explains how in  
10 situ permeability is calculated from the core analysis, using  
11 the technical paper presented.

12 Q Will you now refer to your Exhibit Number  
13 Fifteen and explain this exhibit?

14 A Exhibit Fifteen is a summary of all  
15 laboratory core analysis results for the Rosa tight gas area.  
16 An average in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy  
17 was calculated from the average laboratory permeability value  
18 of 0.124 millidarcy for the Rosa area. This in situ perme-  
19 ability value is well below the 0.1 millidarcy tight gas  
20 cutoff. These permeability measurements substantiate that  
21 the Dakota formation is very tight in this area and must be  
22 stimulated to obtain commercial gas production.

23 Q Mr. McCord, can gas be produced in com-  
24 mercial quantities from the formation in the subject area  
25 without stimulation?

1

2

A. No, it cannot.

3

Q. Now I believe you stated that the average

4

depth of the Dakota in this area was 7950 feet. What is the

5

maximum stabilized production rate against atmospheric pres-

6

sure allowed for wells in the subject area in this depth by

7

the Oil Conservation Division rules?

8

A. 336 Mcf of gas per day.

9

Q. Have you obtained stabilized unstimulated

10

gas production rates for Dakota wells in the area?

11

A. Yes, I have. Obtaining stabilized un-

12

stimulated gas production rates for Dakota Wells is not a

13

standard procedure used by companies when completing their

14

wells in the San Juan Basin. Past experience has shown that

15

these lower permeability Dakota wells must be stimulated to

16

obtain commercial production; however, some wells drilled in

17

the Rosa tight gas area were drilled with gas as a circulation

18

medium through the Dakota formation. This drilling procedure

19

enables unstimulated natural gas from the Dakota formation to

20

rise to the surface while drilling the well. Unstimulated

21

natural production tests can be taken while drilling with

22

natural gas when the gas used for circulation is shut off

23

and the pipe rams closed on the blowout preventer stack. This

24

enables the injected gas to go down through a bleedoff line

25

to the reserve pit.



1  
2 After injection gas has sufficient time  
3 to return to the surface any further gas production through  
4 this line should be unstimulated gas production from the well.  
5 A gas measuring device, such as a pitot tube placed in the  
6 center of the natural gas production stream, is used to measure  
7 the natural gas flow rate from the well. A pitot tube  
8 measures the impact pressure of the gas flow rate, which is  
9 used to determine the velocity of the gas. This gas velocity  
10 combined with the known area of the blowoff line is used to  
11 calculate the flow rate of the gas through the line.

12 Natural unstimulated gas production tests  
13 performed in this manner were found for 14 wells in the Rosa  
14 area. The results of these unstimulated gas production  
15 tests are presented in Exhibit Sixteen. These gas flow rates  
16 range from rates too small to measure to 2174 Mcf of natural  
17 gas per day. The average unstimulated gas production rate  
18 is 423 Mcf per day. This value is larger than the 336 Mcf  
19 per day limit for tight gas at an average depth of 7950 feet.  
20 On an individual well basis six wells meet the unstimulated  
21 natural production requirement with three wells just at the  
22 limit and five wells being over the 336 Mcf per day limit.

23 Testing natural gas wells in this manner  
24 is not very accurate but it can give the tester some idea if  
25 a well will be gas productive or not. The exact nature of

1  
2 these tests have many factors which leave their results  
3 questionable.

4                   The Mesaverde formation is also productive  
5 in the tight gas -- in the Rosa tight gas area. While the  
6 Dakota formation is open to flow to the surface during the  
7 natural flow test, the overlying Mesaverde can also be pro-  
8 ducing at the same time. There is no way to separate the  
9 production from each zone using a natural production test  
10 conducted in this manner.

11                   Also, the length of these unstimulated  
12 production tests are not long enough to establish a stabilized  
13 production rate. This length of test can by no means be  
14 considered to be a stabilized production test of the well's  
15 productivity.

16                   Also, the natural gas injected into the  
17 well for circulating purposes can also cause erroneous results  
18 if this gas is still returning to the surface while the test  
19 is being taken.

20                   It is reasonable to assume that the  
21 three test uncertainties presented could all contribute to  
22 make unstimulated production tests performed in this manner  
23 report erroneously high production rates. This assumption  
24 is supported by well production data presented in Exhibit  
25 Sixteen. The well listed as number eight, the Northwest

Pipeline Corporation San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 Well, shows an unstimulated natural gas production rate of 2174 Mcf per day. After fracturing, the initial production for this well is 1610 Mcf per day. The initial potential for a well is calculated from a 3-hour flow test following a 7-day pressure build-up, which is a more controlled and accurate test than the pitot tube test.

This, combined with the fact that an after-frac production test should definitely not be lower than the unstimulated production test, indicates the unstimulated production test is probably in error.

Exhibit Sixteen also presents a 13 well average unstimulated production rate, which includes the erroneous rate found -- excuse me, which excludes the erroneous rate found for the San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 Well. This 13 well average rate is 288 Mcf per day, which is below the 336 Mcf per day rate limit for tight gas determination in the Rosa area.

Due to the uncertain nature of the unstimulated production rate testing process, this 288 Mcf per day production rate, while being below the tight gas guideline, is still thought to be higher than the actual average unstimulated gas production rate for the area.

Q Have you calculated the unstimulated gas

1  
2 flow rate using the in situ permeability value of .012  
3 millidarcies?

4 A Yes, I have. In order to test the validity  
5 of this natural production figure, Darcy's Law was used to  
6 calculate an unstimulated gas flow rate using the average  
7 in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy calculated for  
8 the Dakota formation in this area from core analysis study.

9 Exhibit Number Seventeen presents this  
10 calculation and shows that an initial unstimulated gas flow  
11 rate of 39.5 Mcf per day is associated with the average in  
12 situ permeability of 0.012 millidarcy for the Rosa area.

13 The calculated unstimulated gas production  
14 rate and the average actual unstimulated gas production rate,  
15 excluding the erroneous production rate mentioned previously,  
16 are both less than the 336 Mcf per day limit for a tight gas  
17 reservoir in the Rosa area. As a result of these calculations  
18 the unstimulated natural gas production rate from the Dakota  
19 formation in the Rosa area is not expected to exceed 336 Mcf  
20 of gas per day.

21 Q Do you have any unstimulated oil pro-  
22 duction figures for this area?

23 A Yes. The natural gas produced from the  
24 Rosa tight gas area is virtually dry gas, having very little,  
25 if any, oil or condensate production associated with it.

Exhibits Number Two and Three show that only one well, the natural -- excuse me, the Northwest Pipeline Corporation Rosa Unit No. 56, has reported any oil production associated with its gas production.

MR. STAMETS: What's the location of that well?

A. Okay, Section 35, 31, 5.

MR. STAMETS: Okay.

A. This well has only produced 26 barrels of oil since 1976. These dry gas production figures indicate that no well drilled in the Rosa tight gas area is expected to produce without stimulation more than 5 barrels of crude oil per day.

Q. Mr. McCord, will the production of hydrocarbons from the subject area impair fresh water supplies in this area?

A. No, they will not.

Existing State and Federal regulations will assure that development of a Dakota formation will not adversely affect or impair any fresh water aquifers that are being used or expected to be used in the foreseeable future for domestic or agricultural water supplies. Regulations require that casing programs be designed to seal off potential water-bearing formations from oil and gas producing formations.

1  
2 These zones, these fresh water zones  
3 exist from the surface to the base of the Ojo Alamo formation.  
4 The Ojo Alamo depth averages 2385 feet in the proposed Rosa  
5 tight gas area.

6 Most wells drilled in the Rosa area are  
7 drilled with natural mud to an average depth of 3700 feet.  
8 After intermediate casing is set the remainder of the well  
9 is drilled with natural gas. Neither the natural mud or the  
10 gas will contaminate any fresh water zones.

11 Normal casing designs in the Rosa area  
12 consist of 9-5/8ths or 10-3/4 inch OD surface casing, being  
13 set from the surface to an average depth of 3700 feet.  
14 Cementing of the intermediate casing includes enough cement  
15 to cover formations to a depth above the Ojo Alamo formation.  
16 The cement covers the Pictured Cliffs, Fruitland, and Kirt-  
17 land formations, which are possible oil and gas bearing  
18 formations throughout the area.

19 The production casing is cemented from  
20 total depth to a depth above the Mesaverde formation, or to  
21 a point approximately 3000 feet above total depth. This  
22 cement covers the Dakota, Gallup, and Mesaverde, which are  
23 possible oil and gas bearing formations. A temperature survey  
24 is run after cementing the production casing to assure that  
25 all necessary zones were covered with cement. Therefor, all

1  
2 oil, gas, and water bearing formations in this area are iso-  
3 lated from each other by cement and casing.

4                   The major water aquifer in this area,  
5 the Ojo Alamo formation, as well as the Pictured Cliffs,  
6 Fruitland, and Kirtland formations, is covered by cement and  
7 two strings of casing to protect them from the contamination  
8 with other formations.

9                   Stimulation of the Dakota formation  
10 involves large fracture treatments, usually consisting of one  
11 or two percent potassium chloride water base that will not  
12 harm a fresh water aquifer.

13                   Fresh water protection is adequate even  
14 with these large stimulation treatments due to zone isolation  
15 caused by cementation. The large distance of over 5500 feet  
16 between the Dakota formation and the Ojo Alamo fresh water  
17 aquifer is additional insurance that no wells exist that --  
18 that no existing fresh water zones will be contaminated by  
19 the stimulation of Dakota wells in the area.

20                   Therefor, New Mexico and Federal regu-  
21 lations will protect any fresh water supply that may be  
22 affected by drilling, completing, and producing the Dakota  
23 formation in the Rosa tight gas area.

24                   Q           Mr. McCord, is the price authorized by  
25 Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act necessary to provide

1  
2 a reasonable incentive for production of natural gas from the  
3 subject formation due to the extraordinary risk for costs  
4 associated with such production?

5 A Yes, it is.

6 Q In your opinion is the data available to  
7 you and presented at this hearing supporting the conclusion  
8 that the entire area governed by this application qualifies  
9 for a tight formation designation under Section 107 of the  
10 Natural Gas Policy Act?

11 A Yes, it does.

12 Q At this time would you briefly summarize  
13 the conclusions you have reached in making a study of the  
14 subject area?

15 A The estimated average in situ gas perme-  
16 ability throughout the Dakota pay section is expected to be  
17 0.1 millidarcy or less for an average Dakota well depth of  
18 7950 feet. The stabilized production rate at atmospheric  
19 pressure of these wells completed for production in the Dakota  
20 formation is not expected to exceed a maximum allowable rate  
21 of 336 Mcf of natural gas per day without stimulation. No  
22 well drilled into the Dakota formation in the Rosa area is  
23 expected to produce without stimulation more than 5 barrels  
24 of crude oil per day.

25 The proposed Rosa tight gas area meets



1  
2 all the specifications required as stated above and should  
3 be designated a tight formation in the Basin Dakota Pool under  
4 Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

5 Q Mr. McCord, has this area been approved  
6 for infill drilling?

7 A Yes, it has in May of 1979.

8 Q And that was by Commission Order R-1670-V?

9 A Yes, I believe so.

10 Q Have any infill wells been drilled in  
11 the subject area?

12 A There have been a few infill wells  
13 drilled in this area after I have gathered all the data for  
14 this report. I'll point those out. They are both John Schalk  
15 wells. One would be in the southeast --

16 MR. STAMETS: Start out with the township  
17 and range.

18 A Sure.

19 MR. STAMETS: It makes it a little easier  
20 to find.

21 A Okay, 30, 30 North, 5 West, Section 2,  
22 southeast quarter.

23 The other well being in 30 North, 5 West,  
24 Section 12, I believe the northeast quarter.

25 These are recent wells that have been

1 drilled. My information on this map is May of 1981, so these  
2 are recent wells and it's my understanding have not been com-  
3 pleted at this time.

4 Q How would you characterize the develop-  
5 ment of the subject area on the original 320-acre spacing?

6 A Very, very sparse development under 320  
7 acres. I believe I calculated under the existing acreage 53  
8 producers. This is only 6 percent of our 320-acre spacing,  
9 and to my knowledge these two Schalk wells mentioned are the  
10 only two infill wells that have been attempted in the area.  
11 I believe that might have had something to do with that man's  
12 holdings in the area more than all the economic criteria  
13 involved.

14 Q Mr. McCord, in your opinion will further  
15 development of the subject area depend upon approval of this  
16 application and the resulting incentive price?

17 A I think, yes, to be adequately developed  
18 this area will need the 107 price to make it economically  
19 feasible.

20 Q Will you please refer to and identify  
21 what has been marked as Applicant's Exhibit Eighteen?

22 A Exhibit Eighteen is a written text ex-  
23 plaining each of the exhibits I have just presented.

24 Q And this text was submitted with the  
25

1

2

exhibits to the Commission and USGS?

3

A. Yes, that's correct.

4

Q. Were Exhibits One through Eighteen pre-

5

pared by you or have you reviewed each of these exhibits and

6

can you testify as to their accuracy?

7

A. Yes, I can. There were prepared by me.

8

Q. In your opinion will granting this ap-

9

plication result in the production of gas that otherwise would

10

not be produced?

11

A. Yes.

12

Q. Will granting this application be in the

13

best interest of conservation, the prevention of waste, and

14

the protection of correlative rights?

15

A. Yes, it will.

16

MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Stamets, we

17

would offer into evidence Applicant's Exhibits One through

18

Eighteen.

19

MR. STAMETS: These exhibits will be

20

admitted.

21

MR. CARR: Mr. Stamets, I've been asked

22

to direct certain questions to Mr. McCord on behalf of the

23

USGS and I'll be happy to do that now or at a later time,

24

whenever you desire.

25

MR. STAMETS: Well, why don't you just

1  
2 go ahead and do that now, Mr. Carr, and then we'll get that  
3 part out of the way.

4 Q Mr. McCord, what is the basis for the  
5 boundaries of the proposed tight gas sand area designation,  
6 and is this based on geologic and/or engineering parameters?

7 A The area studied, and I'd like to point  
8 out is just an area of study, I'm not trying to say that areas  
9 outside are not tight gas areas, it was assigned to me by the  
10 Four Corners Gas Producers Association.

11 It is my feeling that it is not based on  
12 either geologic or engineering parameters, mainly on the  
13 rights of the Association.

14 Q Could you provide a structure Isopach  
15 insert map for the Dakota for the Rosa tight gas area?

16 A It would be possible to supply a structure  
17 Isopach map, although I do not believe that this would show  
18 any more information than what cumulative production is shown  
19 on Figure Two. I believe this indicates that the well, the  
20 Rosa area is definitely not a very prolific area, and because  
21 of that I do not believe this information would be helpful,  
22 but if requested, we could supply this.

23 Q Now, Mr. McCord, the type log for the  
24 Rosa Unit No. 68 Well, which is used as your Exhibit Number  
25 Four, indicates that four separate zones were perforated for

1  
2 production. In reviewing the wells presented and the two  
3 cross sections, being Exhibits Number Five and Six, in some  
4 wells more than four zones were perforated.

5 The question is, is this application  
6 asking for all zones in the Dakota to be designated as a  
7 tight formation or only certain zones? And for the purposes  
8 of this question, zone refers to an individual sandstone  
9 separated by shale from other sandstones.

10 The question is, are you asking for all  
11 of the zones in the Dakota to be designated tight formations?

12 A. Yes. The Four Corners Gas Producers  
13 requested that the entire Dakota section as defined 400 feet  
14 below the base of the Greenhorn be designated as a tight  
15 formation.

16 Q Is this application asking for a tight  
17 sand designation for infill locations within the Rosa tight  
18 gas area, and there are certain examples given here. First,  
19 in Township 30 North, Range 5 West, Section 9, there are ap-  
20 parently two infill locations. Is it the request of the ap-  
21 plicant that these be included in the tight sand designation?

22 A. Yes, it is.

23 Q There are also two locations in Section  
24 10 and two in 20 of Township 30 North, Range 5 West.

25 A. Yes, those also.

1

2

Q In Township --

3

MR. STAMETS: What was the last section?

4

5

MR. CARR: Section 20. All of this first group, they are all in Township 30 North, Range 5 West.

6

7

MR. STAMETS: And there are two in there or just one?

8

MR. CARR: Two, according to the question.

9

10

MR. STAMETS: Infill locations in Sections 9 and 20 --

11

MR. CARR: And 10.

12

13

MR. STAMETS: And 10. Let me get 10 marked on my exhibit, please.

14

15

MR. CARR: All right. Now in Township 31 North, Range 5 West, one location in Section 8.

16

17

18

19

A. Okay. I believe there should be two locations in Section 8. I do not have an infill well in that location, or in that section. I believe that should be two locations, and yes, we are asking for that also.

20

21

Q And, again, two locations in Section 11 and in Section 17?

22

23

24

25

A. Yes.  
Q And now in Township 31 North, Range 6 West, two locations in Section 27 and two locations in Section 35.

1  
2 A Yes, we ask that these be part of the  
3 application as well.

4 MR. STAMETS: What was the second section,  
5 please?

6 MR. CARR: 35.

7 Q So you are asking that all infill loca-  
8 tions within the Rosa area be included within the tight sand  
9 designation?

10 A That is correct.

11 Q Mr. McCord, I direct your attention now  
12 to Exhibit Number Three, and it indicated that 12 Dakota wells  
13 were drilled in 1980, and 9 Dakota wells were drilled in 1981,  
14 all at current 103 prices.

15 Is it no longer economical to drill  
16 wells such as those drilled in 1980 and '81 under 103 prices?

17 A Yes, it would still be economical to  
18 drill some of these newer wells that were drilled in 1980 and  
19 1981 under 103 prices if there were -- existed any good pro-  
20 ducing characteristics such as exhibits by those wells. As  
21 to the current time there are not any of this type of location  
22 available. Therefor, to continue to drill wells in this area  
23 the 107 price would be necessary to -- to substantially com-  
24 plete the area.

25 Q Is it your answer that if there were

comparable locations in the Rosa area that the wells could be drilled at 103 prices?

A. Yes, it's my feeling they could.

Q At this time, based on your study, you do not believe there are comparable locations?

A I don't believe that, no.

Q Is the 107 price necessary to have an economical well that would be similar in production potential to those drilled in 1980 and 1981?

A Yes, it would be necessary because as we stated before there are no more wells of the calibre drilled of the ones in 1980 and '81 with -- with that calibre for 103 prices; therefor, the 107 is needed.

Also, there is no more drilling, the drilling plan for 1981 has been discontinued in this area because of the marginal economics.

Q Mr. McCord, could you provide economic data as to the rate of return on -- showing comparison of several of the 21 wells that were drilled in 1980 and 1981, using the 103 price and contrasting that with the 107 price?

A Yes, it is possible to provide this economic data, although in the instance of this area, there is mainly developed on 320 acres, acre spacing, and it's my understanding that economics are not required of 320-acre



spacing in the Dakota.

Q Of the 21 wells that were drilled in 1980 and '81, do you know if the economics on these wells made them attractive prospects?

A Yes, in some of the wells they were attractive prospects under 103 prices, but it is my understanding that some of these wells drilled in '80 and '81 were demand wells. Also, some had marginal 103 economics. This is exemplified by the fact that the drilling in 1981 has been discontinued for the area because of the low profitability of these wells.

MR. CARR: I have no further questions of Mr. McCord.

MR. STAMETS: Are there other questions of the witness? Mr. Chavez?

QUESTIONS BY MR. CHAVEZ:

Q How many unspud Dakota locations or non-completed Dakota wells are there in this area at this time?

A Okay, Mr. Chavez, I have them marked on my map. Once again, the map is dated as of 5 of 81, so there have been some wells drilled since then.

In Township 31 North, Range 6 West, Section 8, Rosa No. 88, and that's in the south -- excuse me,

1  
2 the northwest quarter.

3 Q Has it been completed or just spud?

4 A To my knowledge it's either -- I don't  
5 have the information as to -- at this time what stage of prog-  
6 ress it's in. It has been staked and is a possible location  
7 for a future well. That's really the only thing I'm sure of.  
8 That's what I have marked on the map.

9 Also, in 31 North, 6 West, Section 14,  
10 in the northeast quarter, the Amoco Rosa 67. It's my under-  
11 standing that this well is dry in the Dakota and Amoco is  
12 possibly going to recomplete in the Mesaverde or PC in this  
13 well.

14 All right, in 31 North, 5 West, Section  
15 20, the northeast one quarter, the Rosa No. 85.

16 In that same township and range, Section  
17 33, southwest quarter, the Rosa No. 77.

18 In 31 North, 4 West, Section 7, the  
19 northeast quarter, Mitchell, the Rosa No. 81.

20 In Section 9 of that same township,  
21 southwest quarter, the Rosa 82 by Mitchell.

22 Section 12, in the northwest quarter,  
23 the Amoco Rosa No. 87.

24 Section 15, northeast quarter, Mitchell  
25 Rosa No. 83.

1

2

Section 23, the northeast, Rosa No. 84.

3

That's all for that township.

4

Q

These are staked but not completed wells?

5

A

The Mitchell wells I do know about. They have all been drilled. Only one well has been perforated and fraced and it is testing water at this time; no commercial gas production.

9

10

The other three wells have not been completed at this time.

11

12

13

14

All right, Township 30 North, 4 West, Section 13, Southland, the Simms Federal No. 1. That's the southeast quarter. This is drilled due to lease expiration date.

15

16

17

Okay, in 30 North, 5 West, I have the two Schalk infill locations, the 54-1E in Section 2, and the 57-1E in Section 12.

18

19

In Section 5, San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 79, in the northeast quarter.

20

21

Section 5, the southwest quarter, the 30-5 Unit No. 50.

22

23

Section 23, the southwest quarter, the 30-5 Unit No. 83.

24

25

Section 25, the 30-5 Unit No. 82 in the northwest quarter.

1

2

Q. Section what, I'm sorry?

3

A. 25. No. 82.

4

Q. What was that, I'm sorry?

5

A. That's the 30-5 Unit No. 82, the northwest

6

quarter of 25, 30-5, okay?

7

Q. Okay.

8

A. Section 27, the southwest quarter, 30-5

9

Unit No. 81, and Section 36, the northeast quarter, the 30-5

10

Unit No. 77.

11

That is all the wells I have that are

12

staked in this area as of this time.

13

Q. Is the drilling of these wells pending

14

the outcome of this hearing? Or is it just pending rig

15

availability?

16

A. I cannot tell you the actual answer to

17

that. I don't know what the future plans on these wells, if

18

any of them have been completed. I know some of them have

19

been drilled but I would not be able to separate each one

20

out. I've just picked them up through PI as possible locations

21

in this area. I do not know the status of them all.

22

MR. CHAVEZ: That's all the questions

23

I have.

24

MR. STAMETS: Are there other questions

25

of the witness? Mr. Padilla?

## CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. PADILLA:

Q Mr. McCord, you testified about comparable locations. What do you mean by a comparable location? Does that mean -- I think it would mean that that's a good location. Are you saying that in this area you've run out of good locations now?

A Yes. In my talks with Phillips Petroleum Company, who is mostly in this 30-5 Unit, they have drilled most of these newer wells and from talking with these people, their feeling is that -- that all of their good drilling locations have been used up.

Q What have they based their justification for --

A To tell you the truth, I couldn't answer that for you. That's just information they supplied to me.

Q And that's the same thing for the same calibre, same calibre, quote, same calibre of location, is that the same thing?

A Yes. Yes.

Q Can you tell me what marginal economics are for drilling Dakota wells in this area?

A Well, of course, Mr. Padilla, that's going to differ for any large company you're talking about,

1  
2 and if I said what marginal economics were, one company would  
3 call it good, one company would probably call it bad.

4 But I would say anything greater than a  
5 3-year payout would be considered pretty marginal to be drilled.  
6 You just need a greater rate of return, greater return on your  
7 money than tying it up for that great period of time.

8 That's pretty rough, but once again,  
9 each company is going to have a different opinion of that  
10 same question.

11 Q Well, how much does it cost to drill one  
12 of these wells?

13 A On information supplied by Amoco, appro-  
14 ximately \$800,000 to drill and complete these wells, and ap-  
15 proximately 20 percent of that goes to the stimulation costs.  
16 So it's a considerable amount.

17 Q How much revenue would, say, a Section  
18 103 price, can you get from a -- one of these wells located,  
19 say, in 30 North, 5 West? The newer wells.

20 A Okay. I'd come up with an average  
21 ultimate production of .65 Bcf throughout the entire area.  
22 It's going to be, I would -- I would estimate that is a pretty  
23 good average for a 30-5 Unit. The actual dollars involved  
24 that that comes out to, I haven't calculated.

25 Q Wouldn't you have to apply the dollar

1  
2 amount in order to determine whether or not you should get  
3 the incentive price?

4 A To determine payout, yes. It's just a  
5 matter, I haven't -- I haven't plugged in that number to give  
6 an ultimate amount of money the wells will produce. That is  
7 how I determined a payout of approximately six years under  
8 103 prices, taking an average decline and actual decline for  
9 the area, which is a rapid initial decline in the first year,  
10 leveling off through about year five at about a 10 percent  
11 decline rate. Using those numbers and a .65 Bcf, your payout  
12 to recover your \$800,000 cost is approximately six years.

13 Q Well, what's a 3-year payout? Is that  
14 on 107 prices?

15 A No, a 3-year payout I mentioned to you,  
16 was my feeling, and this was only my feeling, of whether a  
17 well would be worth drilling or not.

18 A 6-year payout to me would be very  
19 marginal economics. You'd be tying up your money a lot  
20 longer than need be there. You just -- you need better econ-  
21 omics than that to be drilling these wells.

22 Q This Exhibit Number Two doesn't show any  
23 wells at all in almost the entire east half of that area,  
24 except the well in the Section 34, 3 North, 3 West. That  
25 means that there have been no wells drilled with the exception

1  
2 of that one well that I mentioned on there.

3 A. No wells to the Dakota, that is -- that  
4 is correct. This would be an area that the 107 prices would  
5 virtually be a must for the exploration of. Obviously, no  
6 one has thought under 103 prices this area is worth prospecting.  
7 The 107 would -- would encourage drilling of wells in this  
8 area.

9 Q Is this -- is this area unitized cur-  
10 rently under -- do you know?

11 A. I don't believe it's under a unit agree-  
12 ment, not the farther east. Most of the -- most of the newer  
13 wells are under existing units.

14 Q Is this east half area drilled in shallower  
15 formations?

16 A. It might possibly be but I don't have  
17 that information. I've just concentrated on Dakota wells.  
18 To my knowledge, if so, there would be very, very few wells.

19 Q You don't know whether there are any  
20 Pictured Cliffs wells, Pictured Cliff wells at all in this  
21 area?

22 A. Not offhand I don't. I would have to  
23 check, check my PI cards to see if any were drilled.

24 MR. PADILLA: I believe that's all I  
25 have, Mr. Examiner.



## CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. STAMETS:

Q Mr. McCord, in reviewing the exhibits, apparently you have based your contention that you would expect to find permeability throughout this area less than one-tenth of a millidarcy on a number of cores that were available in the area.

A Yes, sir, that's correct.

Q Okay. I looked at Exhibit Number Two and identified eleven wells with potentials, I presume after stimulation, that exceeded 3-million cubic feet a day. I also noted that none of these wells happened to be a well that was cored. It seems as though the cored wells are always the poorer wells.

Is there any way of going backwards from what we have on these wells and determining the permeability?

A Yes. The main thing being, first of all, I'd like to state that I'm sure you're aware that the initial potential is a very misleading figure on wells.

I have looked at approximately 20 wells throughout the area and have found that the first month's production from those wells is in the range of 15 to 20

1  
2 percent of their IP, which indicates that their IP number is  
3 very misleading as what the wells will do against line pressure  
4 when put on line, actual production.

5 Also, I've found that the average first  
6 year production is approximately 16 percent.

7 So I'd like to state that the IP is a  
8 misleading number. Also, I see some of the wells you're talking  
9 about with over 3-million IP wells -- IP data, some of these  
10 are also wells that had initial natural production tests taken  
11 on them in a manner I described earlier, with the pitot tube  
12 test. With that test I found that averaging all these wells  
13 involved, found that all these wells still stayed under the  
14 336 Mcf per day criteria, which associates approximately to  
15 a .1 millidarcy at reservoir conditions. Therefor, if they  
16 are below the 336, using Darcy's Law they would also be below  
17 the .1 millidarcy for the area.

18 That is about the only way I can come up  
19 with -- with an answer to your question are the natural pro-  
20 duction tests that were taken; in each case they were below  
21 the .1 millidarcy in situ.

22 Q I believe you indicated, though, that  
23 the pitot tube tests were not noted for their accuracy.

24 A. That's -- that's correct, they are not.  
25 But in most instances I believe that they would be reporting

1  
2 rates too high, is my feeling. I think the actual production,  
3 the stabilized production rate, would be much lower than they  
4 report.

5 Q There is, as Mr. Padilla pointed out,  
6 a dearth of evidence relative to Townships 30 and 31 North,  
7 Ranges 2 and 3 West, the only evidence being that no wells  
8 have been drilled.

9 On what could we base a finding that the  
10 permeability in the area is .1 of a millidarcy or less and  
11 productive capacity would be less than 366?

12 A That would just have to be used from --  
13 from the data we found already in the adjoining townships.  
14 It is a way away but there has also been no -- no active  
15 drilling in this area, which indicates that the area needs to  
16 be further developed, which the 107 price would -- would  
17 definitely encourage that.

18 In answer to your question, there is  
19 really no way to -- to tie that area in with the rest of --  
20 with the rest of the -- the middle part of the area where the  
21 data is. The only point, without drilling wells in that  
22 area, it's just going to be tough.

23 MR. STAMETS: We're going to take about  
24 a fifteen minute recess while we have a little conference up  
25 here among the staff, at which time we will resume the hearing.

(Thereupon a recess was  
taken.)

MR. STAMETS: Mr. McCord, after examining  
the information which has been submitted here today, it would  
appear to the Division staff that it will be necessary to  
continue this case for the presentation of economics data,  
which would demonstrate the wells in the area are not economic  
under the current 103 price.

And I would ask that this additional  
information be coordinated with Mr. Frank Chavez, who is our  
District Supervisor in Aztec, and also providing information  
to Mr. Padilla as to what is being done and the process that  
you intend to use to provide this data.

MR. CARR: We'll be glad to do that and  
after we meet with Mr. Chavez we will -- and agree on exactly  
what data is going to be required -- we'll notify all those  
who appeared in this case of what additional information has  
been requested.

MR. STAMETS: I'd also suggest that if  
there is any evidence which could be brought in that would  
help relative to 30 and 31 North, 2 and 3 West, that should  
be offered.

Is there anything -- any other questions

1  
2 of this witness? The witness may be excused.

3 I understood that there might someone  
4 here who would have trouble getting back and would like to  
5 make a statement.

6 MR. PAULSON: Yes, Mr. Examiner. Gary  
7 Paulson on behalf of Amoco Production Company.

8 We have come today in support of this  
9 application as a working interest owner in the area. It is  
10 our feeling that the added incentive price is required and  
11 necessary for future Basin Dakota development, and we would  
12 ask that the application be favorably considered by the  
13 Commission.

14 We do have evidence to present to the  
15 effect that a number of the wells that have been drilled in  
16 this area, in the Rosa Unit, were drilled upon demand by the  
17 USGS, and we had with respect to one year, 1980, evidence to  
18 present to the effect that the development plans submitted  
19 by the working interest owners for the Rosa Unit was to the  
20 effect that no wells were drilled and the USGS rejected that,  
21 and required -- or eventually a plan was submitted whereby  
22 three wells were drilled.

23 So at least some of the development  
24 activity in the area has been as a result of the USGS demand  
25 rather than a economic decision which was made by the working

1

2

interest owners in the area.

3

4

5

And that will support the intent and we certainly have that evidence available in the event the Commission would like to consider it.

6

Thank you very much.

7

MR. STAMETS: Any other statements?

8

MR. PAID: Mr. Chairman, my name is

9

Larry Pain. I'm an attorney with Phillips Petroleum Company.

10

11

Phillips Petroleum Company does support the application and urges that it be granted.

12

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We are responsible for drilling of several of the wells that are listed in Exhibit Three that were drilled in 1980 and 1981, and you have requested additional economic information. We believe that any such information would show that some of the wells that were drilled were drilled with acceptable economics on the basis that they were within a small area that is somewhat more favorable than the remainder of the area covered by the application.

We feel that there are very few, if any, additional prospects of that character in the area covered by the application.

We are prepared to submit further evidence in that regard, if you would like for us to do so.

Phillips owns approximately 27,008 acres

1  
2 of oil and gas leases in the area covered by the application.  
3 Granting of the application would provide us with numerous  
4 additional drillable prospects over what we face now. What  
5 we face now is largely uneconomic prospects in the area.

6 We believe that the Commission should  
7 take a favorable attitude toward the granting of applications  
8 for tight formations where the criteria are reasonably satis-  
9 fied. Common sense tells us that the price limits established  
10 under the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 are considerably  
11 lower than the BTU equivalent of oil prices and that the  
12 pricing assumptions that were used by Congress; to-wit, oil  
13 equivalency as of the time of enactment of the NGPA was an  
14 assumption that worldwide prices would not rise any faster  
15 than the rate of inflation, has been completely shattered  
16 by events which have occurred since the enactment of the  
17 NGPA. With world oil selling at well in excess of \$30.00  
18 per barrel, and an assumption of a 5.8 BTU equivalency  
19 factor, any gas that can be developed at any cost less than  
20 approximately \$6.00 per Mcf can and should be developed in  
21 order to enhance our domestic supply situation and reduce  
22 our dependency on imports.

23 The Section 107 pricing authority under  
24 the NGPA is an appropriate method for stimulating additional  
25 domestic gas sources, which should be viewed favorably by

1  
2 this Commission and also by the FERC as it reviews your re-  
3 commendations.

4 Thank you very much.

5 MR. STAMETS: Are there any other state-  
6 ments at this time?

7 Go off the record a second.

8  
9 (Thereupon discussion was  
10 had off the record.)

11  
12 Is there anything further in this case  
13 today?

14 This case, then, will be continued to  
15 the August 26th Examiner Hearing.

16  
17 (Hearing concluded.)  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



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 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 No. 7317 heard by me on 7-29 1981.  
Richard R. Stumpe, Examiner  
 Oil Conservation Division

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 Phone (505) 455-7409

# LIST OF EXHIBITS

<u>EXHIBIT NUMBER</u>	<u>EXHIBIT NAME</u>	<u>PURPOSE OF EXHIBIT</u>
1	Dakota Reservoir Map	Show location of Rosa Tight Gas Area with respect to Basin Dakota production.
2	Dakota Formation Well Completion and Production Map	Show production figures of completed and dry Dakota wells in and around the tight formation area.
3	Rosa Tight Gas Area Wells	List production figures of completed and dry Dakota wells in the tight formation area.
4	Type Log	Show log characteristics and depth of Dakota formation.
5	Cross Section A-A'	Show Dakota formation development in a west-east direction.
6	Cross Section B-B'	Show Dakota formation development in a north-south direction.
7	Core Analysis Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27	Show average laboratory core permeability.
8	Core Analysis El Paso Natural Gas Company San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X	Show average laboratory core permeability.
9	Core Analysis El Paso Natural Gas Company San Juan 30-6 Unit No. 31	Show average laboratory core permeability.
10	Core Analysis Amoco Production Company Rosa Unit No. 1	Show average laboratory core permeability.
11	Core Analysis Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16	Show average laboratory core permeability.
12	Core Analysis Blackwood & Nichols, LTD. Northeast Blanco Unit No. 1	Show average laboratory core permeability.
13	Technical Paper	Present relationship between laboratory and in situ permeability.
14	Determination of In Situ Permeability	Show method of determining in situ permeability from laboratory core analysis.
15	Summary of Permeability Data	Shows summary of permeability data, average laboratory permeability and in situ permeability.
16	Natural Production Tests	Lists natural production tests taken and average results.
17	Darcy's Law Calculation	Show unstimulated gas production rate using average in situ permeability.

EXHIBIT NO. 3

## ROSA TIGHT GAS AREA WELLS

COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	DAKOTA DEPTH	IP DATE	IP GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD	1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD	CUMULATIVE 01-01-81 BCF/BO
Sunray DX Oil Co.	#1 Jicarilla Tribal	NW/NW 34 30-3	8213	09/64	D&A	---	---
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	Carson #2	NW/SW 7 30-4	8083	09/79	869/0	302/0	.055/0
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	39 San Juan 30-4 Unit	SE/NW 18 30-4	8425	02/81	2506/0	New Well	---
Coastline Petroleum	1 Schalk-76	SW/NW 25 30-4	8675	02/75	D&A	---	---
Southland Royalty Co.	#1 Carson	NW/SW 1 30-5	8030	10/69	2129/0	129/0	.518/0
Schalk Development Co.	Schalk #54	SE/NE 2 30-5	8018	01/73	2501/0	111/0	.297/0
Schalk Development Co.	Schalk #55	NE/NE 3 30-5	7940	03/73	3298/0	34/0	.126/0
Southland Royalty Co.	Cat Draw #1	SW/SW 4 30-5	7780	09/68	2074/0	SI	.186/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	39 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/NE 7 30-5	7686	07/75	1703/0	67/0	.123/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	37 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NE/SW 8 30-5	7688	01/74	3944/0	37/0	.503/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	70 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NE/NE 9 30-5	7752	12/80	1584/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	49 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 9 30-5	7683	12/80	855/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	73 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/NE 10 30-5	7919	03/81	2635/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	72 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 10 30-5	7790	04/81	2456/0	New Well	---
Schalk Development Co.	Schalk #57	NE/NW 12 30-5	8009	07/73	5107/0	148/0	.452/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	52 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SE/SW 15 30-5	7920	03/81	2679/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	53 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NE/SW 16 30-5	7685	12/80	1209/0	New Well	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	47 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/SW 17 30-5	7794	08/75	1610/0	129/0	.235/0

COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	IP		IP DATE	1980 PROD.		CUMULATIVE
			DAKOTA DEPTH	GAS/OIL		MCFPD/BOPD	MCFPD/BOPD	01-01-81 BCF/30
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	38 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/NE 18 30-5	7667	2035/0	06/80	New Well	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	6 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 19 30-5	7607	P&A	03/56	---	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	48 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/NE 20 30-5	7790	3691/0	01/80	New Well	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	27 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 20 30-5	7646	1309/0	12/59	24/0	---	.248/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	51 San Juan 30-5 Unit	NW/NE 21 30-5	7759	4792/0	12/80	New Well	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	71 San Juan 30-5 Unit	SW/SW 22 30-5	7807	2145/0	12/80	New Well	---	---
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	28-23-X San Juan 30-5 Unit	NE/NE 23 30-5	8075	D&A	09/59	---	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	38 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/NW 2 30-6	7832	2828/0	04/81	New Well	---	---
El Paso Natural Gas Co.	31 San Juan 30-6 Unit	SE/SW 33 30-6	7550	964/0	07/59	29/0	---	.255/0
Blackwood & Nichols	12 NE Bianco Unit	SW/NE 18 30-7	7590	P&A Dakota (MT Compl.)	06/60	---	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #42	SW/NE 19 31-4	not given	D&A	11/61	---	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #43	NW/SE 19 31-4	8158	2352/0	05/62	98/0	---	.064/0
Irving Pasternak	Rosa Unit #49	SW/SW 27 31-4	8430	P&A Dakota (MT Compl.)	11/63	---	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #63	SW/NE 30 31-4	8088	225/0	11/77	63/0	---	.004/0
Coastline Petroleum	1 Schalk-56	NE/SW 2 31-5	7856	D&A	08/73	---	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #53	NW/NE 8 31-5	7900	1043/0	03/70	126/0	---	.668/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #80	NE/SW 8 31-5	7845	2155/0	03/81	New Well	---	---

COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	DAKOTA DEPTH	IP DATE	IP GAS/OIL MCFPD/BOPD	1980 PROD. MCFPD/BOPD	CUMULATIVE 01-01-81 BCF/BO
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Roca Unit #70	NW/NW 10 31-5	8162	01/66	1500/0	261/0	.248/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #48	SW/SE 11 31-5	8151	12/62	3207/0	326/0	.218/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #40	SW/NW 11 31-5	8358	07/61	3560/C	271/0	.216/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #61	SE/SW 13 31-5	8124	11/77	337/0	55/0	.074/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #65	NE/NE 17 31-5	7870	08/78	3095/0	163/0	.104/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #68	NW/SW 17 31-5	not given	08/80	5757/0	609/0	.093/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #62	NE/NW 25 31-5	8088	11/77	342/0	82/0	.106/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #64	NE/NE 29 31-5	7950	10/78	1843/0	175/0	.132/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #52	NW/NW 33 31-5	7980	02/70	2401/0	248/0	1.095/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #55	NE/SE 34 31-5	8056	10/74	264/0	167/0	.386/0
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #56	SW/NW 35 31-5	8200	11/75	675/0	96/0	.232/26
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #54	NE/SW 36 31-5	8284	09/74	304/0	SI	.029/0
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit 35-X	NE/SW 5 31-6	7822	10/59	D&A Dak. MV Comp.	---	---
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit #36	SE/NE 11 31-6	7955	12/59	P&A MV Comp.	---	---
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit #1	SW/SE 11 31-6	7865	09/52	560/0 (P&A)	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #66	NW/SW 13 31-6	7957	08/78	4427/0	245/0	.928/0
Amoco Production Co.	Rosa Unit #69	NW/NW 16 31-6	7918	09/80	P&A	---	---
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	79 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/SW 22 31-6	7757	03/81	1858/0	New Well	---

COMPANY	WELL NAME	LOCATION	DAKOTA	IP DATE	IP		1980 PROD.	CUMULATIVE
			DEPTH		GAS/OIL	MCFPD/BOPD		01-01-81 MCFPD/BOPD BCF/BO
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	Rosa Unit #51	NE/NW 23 31-6	7823	01/70	1385/0	170/0	.736/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	36 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/NE 27 31-6	7806	03/81	2557/0	New Well	---	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	24 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/SW 27 31-6	7939	12/73	1341/0	SI	.269/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	16 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SE/SW 33 31-6	7895	07/59	1783/0	SI	.074/0	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	33 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SW/NE 34 31-6	8712	06/80	4119/0	New Well	---	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	35 San Juan 31-6 Unit	NE/NE 35 31-6	7908	07/80	2643/0	New Well	---	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	31 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SE/SE 35 31-6	7796	06/80	3770/0	New Well	---	
Northwest Pipeline Corp.	37 San Juan 31-6 Unit	SW/SE 36 31-6	7952	04/81	2370/0	New Well	---	
Blackwood & Nichols	58 NE Blanco Unit	NE/NE 13 31-7	7975	11/59	2461/0	217/0	1.387/0	
Blackwood & Nichols	57 NE Blanco Unit	NE/NE 21 31-7	7780	09/59	1235/0	37/0	.444/0	
Blackwood & Nichols	55 NE Blanco Unit	NW/NE 22 31-7	7856	10/58	275/0	27/0	.182/0	
Blackwood & Nichols	1 NE Blanco Unit	SE/NE 27 31-7	7792	10/52	536/0	217/0	2.398/0	
Amoco Production Co.	McKay #1	NW/NE 28 31-7	7765	03/71	D&A	---	---	
Blackwood & Nichols	56 NE Blanco Unit	NE/NE 34 31-7	7660	11/58	2839/0	30/0	.417/0	

## EXHIBIT NO. 7

Company: Northwest Pipeline Corp.  
(Originally El Paso Natural Gas Co.)

Well: San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27

Basin Dakota Field

SW/SW, Sec. 20, T30N, R5W

Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7650-7651	1	0.01
7651-7652	1	0.01
7652-7653	1	0.01
7653-7654	1	0.02
7654-7655	1	0.01
7655-7656	1	0.02
7658-7659	1	0.02
7661-7662	1	0.03
7662-7663	1	0.02
7667-7668	1	0.02
7669-7670	1	0.01
7670-7671	1	0.02
7688-7689	1	0.01
7689-7690	1	0.01
7690-7691	1	0.60
7691-7692	1	0.01
7692-7693	1	0.01
7694-7695	1	0.02
7696-7697	1	0.25
7697-7698	1	0.01
7707-7708	1	0.01
7708-7709	1	0.02
7709-7710	1	0.03
7719-7720	1	0.01
7720-7721	1	1.51
7721-7722	1	0.07
7722-7723	1	0.25
7723-7724	1	0.10
7724-7725	1	0.01
7727-7728	1	0.02
7728-7729	1	0.04
7729-7730	1	0.02
7730-7731	1	0.01
7731-7732	1	0.04
7732-7733	1	0.02
7733-7734	1	0.66
7769-7770	1	0.04
7770-7771	1	0.03
7771-7772	1	0.03
7773-7774	1	0.01
7774-7775	1	0.01
7775-7776	1	0.02
7776-7777	1	1.44
7777-7778	1	0.11
7778-7779	1	0.10
7779-7780	1	0.21
7780-7781	1	0.13

San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27, cont.

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7781-7782	1	0.10
7782-7783	1	0.01
7783-7784	1	0.03
7784-7785	1	0.03
7785-7786	1	0.09
7786-7787	1	0.02
7787-7788	1	1.01
7788-7789	1	0.05
7789-7790	1	0.06
7790-7791	1	0.05
7791-7792	1	0.31
7792-7793	1	0.03
7793-7794	1	0.02
7794-7795	1	0.01
7795-7796	1	0.05
7796-7797	1	0.18
7797-7798	1	0.61
7798-7799	<u>1</u>	<u>0.34</u>
TOTAL	65	9.07

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{9.07}{65} = \underline{0.140 \text{ md.}}$$



## CHEMICAL &amp; GEOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

Farmington

## CORE ANALYSIS REPORT

Company El Paso Natural Gas Company  
 Well No. San Juan 30-5 #27-20  
 Field Wildcat  
 County Rio Arriba  
 State New Mexico

Date September 23, 1959 Lab. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location Sec. 20-30N-5W  
 Formation Dakota  
 Depths 7649' - 7799'  
 Drilling Fluid Water Base Mud

C - Crack  
 F - Fracture  
 H - Horizontal  
 O - Open

\* Permeability probably caused by existing shale interlamination  
 NF - No Fracture  
 Insufficient Sample

S - Slight  
 St - Stain  
 V - Vertical  
 Vu - Vugs

SAMPLE NO.	LEGEND	DEPTH, FEET	EFFECTIVE POROSITY PERCENT	PERMEABILITY MILLIDARCIES		SATURATIONS		CONNATE WATER	SOLUBILITY	
				HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL	% PORE SPACE RESIDUAL OIL	% PORE SPACE TOTAL WATER		MUD ACID	1% ACID
		Core No. 1	7649 - 7710							
1	VF	7650-51	7.7	0.01		Trace	27.3			
2	NF	7651-52	8.5	0.01		Trace	16.7			
3	VF	7652-53	6.7	0.01		Trace	12.2			
4	VF	7653-54	7.7	0.02		Trace	12.4			
5	VF	7654-55	5.2	0.01		0	21.2			
6	VF	7655-56	8.6	0.02		0	15.8			
7	VF	7658-59	8.8	0.02		Trace	12.4			
8	VHF	7661-62	10.2	0.03		0	15.2			
9	VF	7662-63	9.6	0.02		0	19.2			
10	VHF	7667-68	10.0	0.02		Trace	20.5			
11	VHF	7669-70	6.5	0.01		Trace	15.4			
12	VHF	7670-71	7.9	0.02		1.4	20.6			
13	HF	7688-89	4.9	0.01		Trace	26.1			
14	HF	7689-90	5.0	0.01		Trace	24.2			
15	HF	7690-91	5.9	0.60*		Trace	35.9			
16	HF	7691-92	3.7	0.01		Trace	24.9			
17	VHF	7692-93	7.8	0.01		Trace	54.7			
18	NF	7694-95	9.3	0.02		Trace	14.2			
19	HF	7696-97	11.4	0.25*		0	27.7			
20	NF	7697-98	6.3	0.01		0	18.6			
21	VHF	7701-02	2.6	0.01		0	62.3			
22	VHF	7707-08	2.0	0.01		0	14.5			
23	VHF	7708-09	6.1	0.02		0	16.0			
24	VHF	7709-10	5.9	0.03		Trace	33.9			

\* Permeability probably caused by existing shale interlamination

LEGEND

C--Crack  
F--Fracture  
H--Horizontal  
O--Open

NF--No Fracture

S--Slip  
St--Stain  
V--Vertical  
Vg--Vugs

SAMPLE NO.	LEGEND	DEPTH, FEET	EFFECTIVE POROSITY PORESPACE	PERMEABILITY MILLIDARCY		CORRECTION		CONNATE WATER	SOLUBILITY	
				HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL	PORE SPACE	PORE SPACE		15% ACID	15% ACID
		Core No. 2 7710 - 7719			Recovered 9'					
		No samples analyzed								
		Core No. 3 7719 - 7727			Recovered 6½'					
25	VHF	7719-20	3.8	0.01	0	30.3				
26	HF	7720-21	2.8	1.51*	0	60.7				
27	HF	7721-22	3.4	0.07	0	33.8				
28	HF	7722-23	2.4	0.25*	0	60.8				
29	HF	7723-24	4.5	0.10*	0	51.6				
30	VHF	7724-25	2.6	0.01	0	38.5				
		Core No. 4 7727 - 7738			Recovered 10'					
31	VHF	7727-28	3.0	0.02	0	16.0				
32	VHF	7728-29	3.4	0.04	0	11.8				
33	VHF	7729-30	5.4	0.02	0	11.3				
34	VHF	7730-31	1.8	0.01	0	12.2				
35	HF	7731-32	3.9	0.04	0	13.9				
36	VF	7732-33	2.5	0.02	0	12.0				
37	HF	7733-34	3.9	0.66*	0	11.0				
		Core No. 5 7738 - 7799			Recovered 61'					
38	NF	7768-69	10.1	0.04	0	39.2				
39	NF	7769-70	10.3	0.04	0	45.4	41.5			
40	NF	7770-71	10.5	0.03	0	47.1				
41	NF	7771-72	7.7	0.03	0	38.4				
		7772-73	No sample taken							
42	NF	7773-74	5.9	0.01	Trace	49.2				
43	NF	7774-75	5.9	0.01	Trace	48.1				
44	VF	7775-76	2.5	0.02	Trace	55.2				
45	VF	7776-77	5.7	1.44*	Trace	49.6				
46	NF	7777-78	6.9	0.11	Trace	53.3	44.1			
47	NF	7778-79	7.4	0.10	0	39.3				
48	NF	7779-80	7.6	0.21	0	37.9	42.0			
49	NF	7780-81	6.2	0.13	0	40.3				
50	NF	7781-82	4.6	0.10	Trace	34.1				
51	VF	7782-83	3.8	0.01	Trace	86.8				
52	HF	7783-84	4.1	0.03	Trace	73.7				
53	NF	7784-85	4.2	0.03	Trace	68.3				
54	NF	7785-86	4.6	0.09	0	41.3				
55	NF	7786-87	5.4	0.02	0	53.0	44.7			
56	NF	7787-88	7.0	1.01*	0	42.0				
57	NF	7788-89	6.6	0.05	0	45.9	49.5			
58	NF	7789-90	6.9	0.06	0	49.0				
59	NF	7790-91	6.9	0.05	0	31.2				
60	NF	7791-92	6.4	0.31	0	26.1				
61	NF	7792-93	3.2	0.03	0	26.3				

C—Crack  
F—Fracture  
H—Horizontal  
O—Open

LEGEND  
NF—No Pressure  
IS—In situ Sample

S—Slip  
St—Stain  
V—Vertical  
VU—Vugs

SAMPLE NO.	LEGEND	DEPTH, FEET	EFFECTIVE POROSITY, %	PERMEABILITY, MILLIDARIES		SATURATIONS		CONNATE WATER	SOLUBILITY	
				HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL	% PORE SPACE RESIDUAL OIL	% PORE SPACE TOTAL WATER		MUD ACID	IN % ACID
		Core No. 5 continued								
62	VF	7793-94	5.8	0.02		0	39.1			
63	VF	7794-95	4.0	0.01		0	52.3			
64	NF	7795-96	8.3	0.05		0	49.9			
65	NF	7796-97	0.5	0.18		Trace	51.7			
66	NF	7797-98	9.4	0.01		Trace	52.1			
67	NF	7798-99	9.4	0.34		Trace	53.2	46.2		

## EXHIBIT NO. 8

Company: El Paso Natural Gas Company  
 Well: San Juan' 30-5 Unit No. 28-X  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 NE/NE, Sec. 23, T30N, R5W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
8075-8076	1	0.02
8076-8077	1	0.01
8077-8078	1	0.01
8078-8079	1	0.01
8079-8080	1	0.01
8080-8081	1	0.01
8081-8082	1	0.01
8082-8083	1	0.01
8083-8084	1	0.01
8084-8085	1	0.01
8085-8086	1	0.01
8090-8091	1	0.01
8091-8092	1	0.01
8092-8093	1	0.01
8093-8094	1	0.01
8094-8095	1	0.01
8095-8096	1	0.01
8096-8096.8	.8	0.01
8116-8117	1	0.03
8117-8118	1	0.01
8118-8119	1	0.01
8119-8120	1	0.01
8120-8121	1	0.02
8121-8122	1	0.01
8122-8123	1	0.01
8123-8124	1	0.01
8124-8125	1	0.01
8125-8126	1	0.01
8126-8127	1	0.01
8127-8128	1	0.01
8128-8129	1	0.01
8129-8130	1	0.02
8130-8130.9	.9	0.01
8133-8134	1	0.01
8134-8135	1	0.01
8138-8139	1	0.01
8139-8140	1	0.01
8140-8141	1	0.01
8141-8142	1	0.01
8142-8143	1	0.01
8143-8144	1	0.01
8144-8145	1	0.01
8145-8146	1	0.01
8146-8147	1	0.01
8147-8148	1	0.65
8148-8149	1	0.01
8155-8156	1	0.01
8156-8157	1	0.01
8157-8158	1	0.01
8158-8159	1	0.01
8159-8160	1	0.01
8160-8161	1	0.05
8161-8162	1	0.02
8162-8163	1	7.2

San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X, cont.

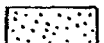
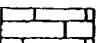
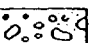
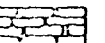
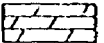

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
8163-8164	1	0.01
8164-8165	1	0.02
8165-8166	1	0.01
8166-8167	1	0.01
8167-8168	1	0.01
8190-8191	1	2.10
8191-8192	1	0.24
8192-8193	1	0.01
8193-8194	1	0.07
8200-8201	1	0.01
8201-8202	1	0.01
8202-8203	1	0.01
8203-8204	1	0.01
8204-8205	1	0.01
8205-8206	1	0.01
8206-8207	1	0.01
8207-8208	1	0.01
8208-8209	1	0.01
8209-8210	1	0.01
8210-8211	1	0.01
8222-8223	1	0.19
8223-8224	1	0.01
8224-8225	1	0.01
8225-8226	1	0.01
8226-8227	1	0.01
8229-8230	1	0.01
8230-8231	1	0.02
8238-8239	1	0.01
8239-8240	1	0.01
8240-8241	1	0.01
8241-8242	1	0.01
8242-8243	1	0.28
8246-8247	1	0.01
8247-8248	1	0.01
TOTAL	87.7	11.66

$$\text{Avg. } \frac{11.66}{87.7} = 0.133 \text{ md}$$

# CORE LAB

Petroleum Reservoir Engineering

COMPANY EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY DATE ON 8/30/59 FILE NO. RP-3-1065  
WELL SAN JUAN 30-5 No. 28-23 - X DATE OFF 9/8/59 ENGRS. ENGLISH  
FIELD BLANCO MESA VERDE LAKOTA WILDCAT FORMATION DAKOTA ELEV. 6753' DF  
COUNTY RIO ARriba STATE N. MEXICO DRLG. FLD. OIL EMULSION CORES. DIAMOND  
LOCATION SEC23 T30N R5W REMARKS SAMPLED BY CLIENT

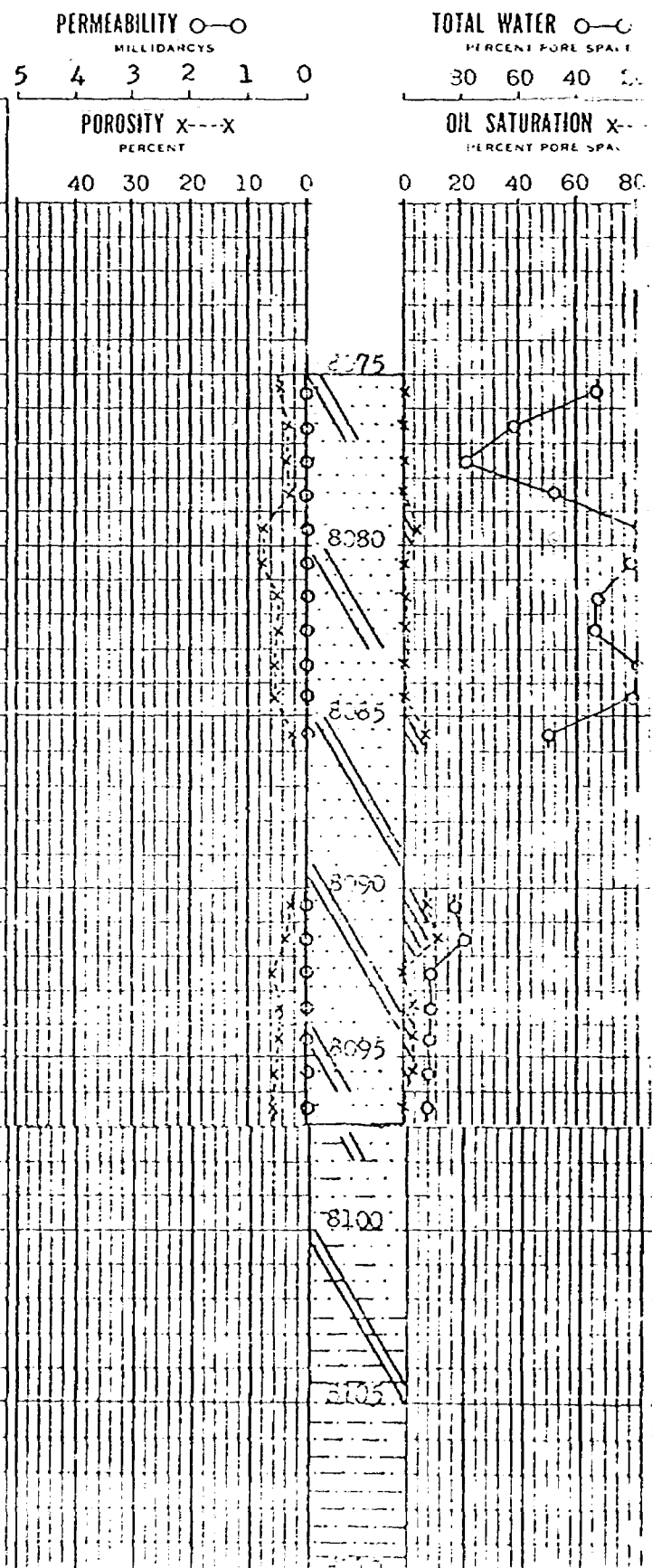
SAND  LIMESTONE  CONGLOMERATE  CHERT   
SHALE  DOLOMITE  VERTICAL FRACTURE 

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## TABULAR DATA and INTERPRETATION

SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH FEET	PERM. MD.	POROSITY %	RESIDUAL SATURATION % PORE SPACE		BOYLE'S LAW POROSITY	PROD.
				OIL	TOTAL WATER		
1	8075-76	0.02	4.6	0.0	32.6		
2	76-77	<0.01	3.4	0.0	61.8		
3	77-78	<0.01	2.8	0.0	78.6		
4	78-79	<0.01	2.5	0.0	48.0		
5	79-80	<0.01	7.6	6.6	19.8		
6	80-81	<0.01	7.0	0.0	21.4		
7	81-82	<0.01	4.5	0.0	33.4		
8	82-83	<0.01	4.3	0.0	34.9		
9	83-84	<0.01	5.5	0.0	20.0		
10	84-85	<0.01	5.2	0.0	21.2		
11	85-86	<0.01	2.4	8.3	50.0		
12	8090-91	<0.01	2.2	9.1	81.8		
13	91-92	<0.01	3.7	13.5	78.4		
14	92-93	<0.01	5.7	0.0	87.7		
15	93-94	<0.01	4.2	4.8	90.5		
16	94-95	<0.01	4.3	4.7	88.4		
17	95-96	<0.01	4.8	4.2	87.5		
18	96-96.8	<0.01	5.7	0.0	91.3		

## COMPLETION COREGRAPH

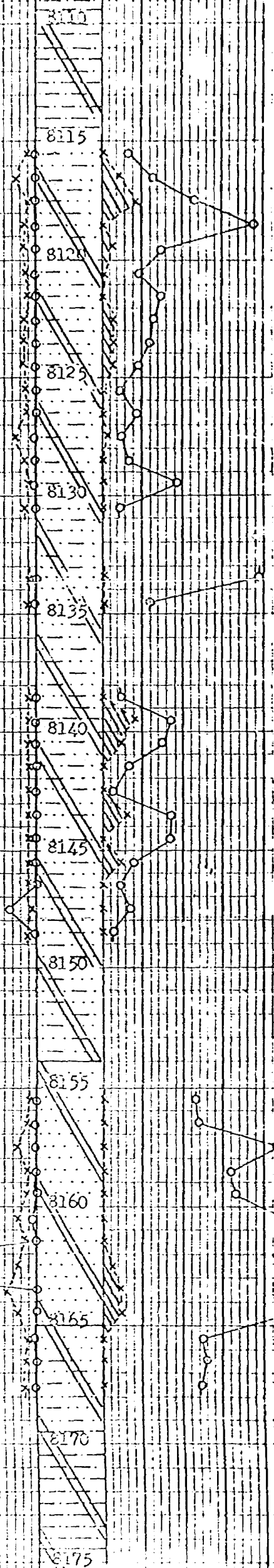


19	8115.5-16	0.01	2.2	0.0	86.4	1.9
20	16-17	0.03	5.0	10.0	74.0	2.9
21	17-18	<0.01	1.1	18.2	54.6	2.9
22	18-19	<0.01	2.5	0.0	24.0	3.6
23	19-20	<0.01	3.4	5.9	70.6	4.8
24	20-21	0.02	2.5	0.0	80.1	3.6
25	21-22	<0.01	2.1	0.0	71.4	3.1
26	22-23	<0.01	3.2	6.2	74.9	3.4
27	23-24	<0.01	3.4	5.9	76.5	4.3
28	24-25	<0.01	3.8	5.3	81.6	4.1
29	25-26	<0.01	3.0	0.0	90.0	3.3
30	26-27	<0.01	3.4	0.0	82.4	3.5
31	27-28	<0.01	5.8	3.4	89.7	2.4
32	28-29	<0.01	2.9	0.0	86.2	2.6
33	29-30	0.02	1.9	0.0	63.1	1.1
34	30-30.9	<0.01	3.2	0.0	90.7	4.3

35	8133-34	<0.01	1.9	0.0	21.0	2.8
36	34-35	<0.01	2.1	0.0	76.3	4.0

37	8138-39	<0.01	1.8	0.0	89.0	1.7
38	39-40	<0.01	1.2	16.7	66.6	1.0
39	40-41	<0.01	1.7	11.8	70.6	1.9
40	41-42	<0.01	1.4	0.0	85.6	2.0
41	42-43	0.01	1.8	0.0	94.4	2.2
42	43-44	<0.01	1.5	13.3	66.8	2.2
43	44-45	<0.01	0.9	0.0	66.7	1.9
44	45-46	<0.01	1.9	10.5	84.3	2.2
45	46-47	<0.01	1.3	0.0	92.4	3.3
46	47-48	0.65	1.4	0.0	85.7	5.1
47	48-49	<0.01	2.2	0.0	95.0	1.8

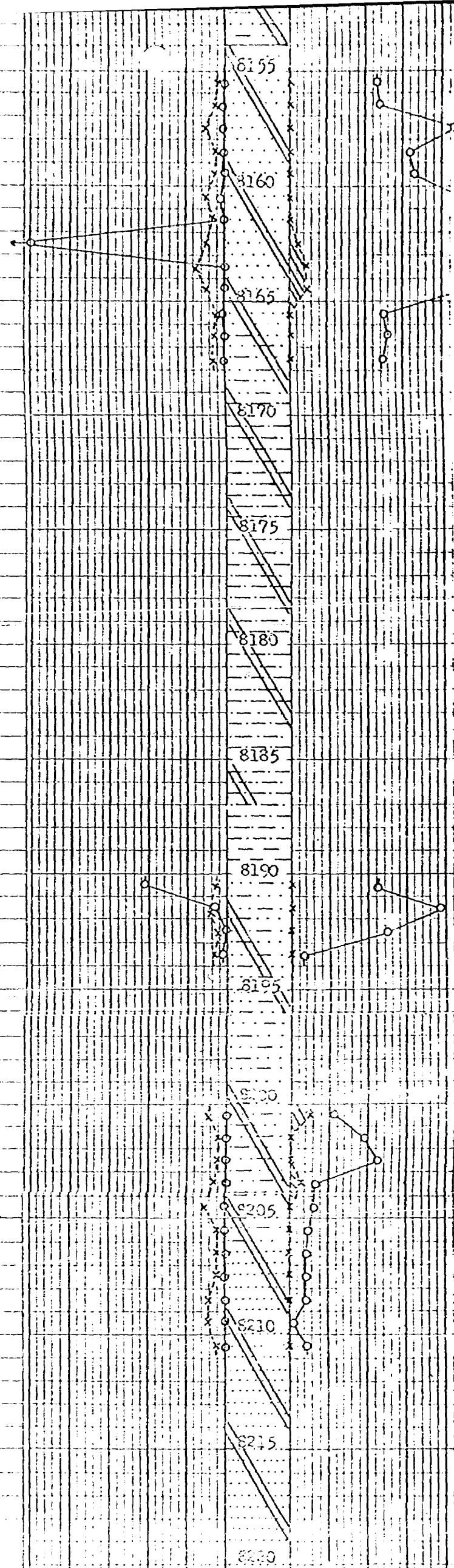
3	8155-56	<0.01	1.1	0.0	54.5	
9	56-57	<0.01	2.3	0.0	52.2	
0	57-58	0.01	5.4	0.0	14.8	
1	58-59	<0.01	2.2	0.0	36.3	
2	59-60	<0.01	1.8	0.0	32.3	
3	60-61	0.05	5.7	0.0	10.5	
4	61-62	0.02	3.6	0.0	11.1	
5	62-63	7.2	4.8	4.2	8.3	
6	63-64	0.01	7.2	9.7	8.5	
7	64-65	0.02	5.1	9.8	7.8	
8	65-66	<0.01	1.2	0.0	50.0	
9	66-67	<0.01	2.9	0.0	48.2	
0	67-68	<0.01	2.4	0.0	50.0	



48	8155-56	<0.01	1.1	0.0	54.5
49	56-57	<0.01	2.3	0.0	52.2
50	57-58	0.01	5.4	0.0	14.8
51	58-59	<0.01	2.2	0.0	36.3
52	59-60	<0.01	1.8	0.0	33.3
53	60-61	0.05	5.7	0.0	10.5
54	61-62	0.02	3.6	0.0	11.1
55	62-63	7.2	4.8	4.2	8.3
56	63-64	0.01	7.2	9.7	8.5
57	64-65	0.02	5.1	9.8	7.8
58	65-66	<0.01	1.2	0.0	50.0
59	66-67	<0.01	2.9	0.0	48.2
60	67-68	<0.01	2.4	0.0	50.0

1	8190-91	2.1	2.7	0.0	55.6
2	91-92	0.24	2.8	0.0	21.4
3	92-93	0.01	2.0	0.0	50.0
4	93-94	0.07	2.6	0.0	92.3

8200-01	<0.01	4.3	11.6	76.8
01-02	<0.01	1.3	0.0	61.5
02-03	0.01	1.7	0.0	35.3
03-04	<0.01	2.9	6.9	86.3
04-05	<0.01	5.5	0.0	85.5
05-06	<0.01	1.9	0.0	89.4
06-07	<0.01	1.6	0.0	93.8
07-08	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0
08-09	<0.01	4.2	0.0	95.0
09-10	<0.01	4.1	0.0	97.6
10-11	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0





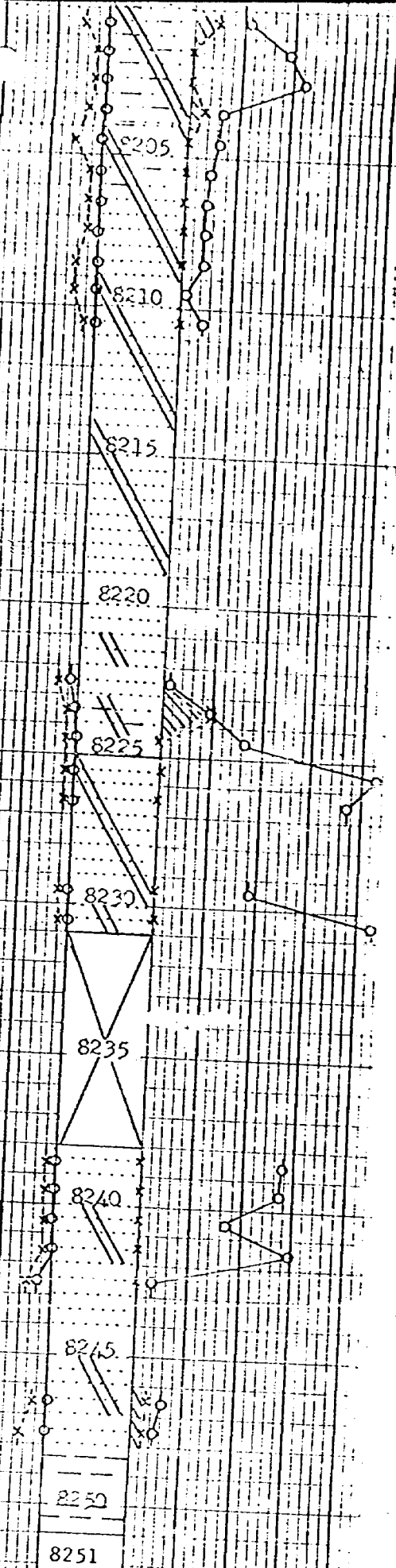
6	01-02	<0.01	1.3	0.0	61.5
7	02-03	0.01	1.7	0.0	5.3
8	03-04	<0.01	2.9	6.9	86.3
9	04-05	<0.01	5.5	0.0	85.5
10	05-06	<0.01	1.9	0.0	89.4
1	06-07	<0.01	1.6	0.0	93.8
2	07-08	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0
3	08-09	<0.01	4.2	0.0	95.0
4	09-10	<0.01	4.1	0.0	97.6
5	10-11	<0.01	1.4	0.0	93.0

6	8222-23	0.19	3.9	0.0	97.5
7	23-24	<0.01	1.0	20.0	80.0
8	24-25	<0.01	0.6	0.0	66.6
9	25-26	0.01	1.3	0.0	15.4
10	26-27	<0.01	0.8	0.0	25.0

1	8229-30	<0.01	1.2	0.0	83.4
2	30-31	0.02	1.4	0.0	14.3

3	8238-39	0.01	0.9	0.0	44.5
4	39-40	<0.01	1.3	0.0	46.1
5	40-41	<0.01	0.9	0.0	66.6
6	41-42	0.01	1.0	0.0	40.0
7	42-43	0.28	4.5	0.0	93.4

8	8246-47	<0.01	3.3	6.1	28.0
9	8247-48	<0.01	4.6	4.4	91.3



## EXHIBIT NO. 9

Company: El Paso Natural Gas Company  
 Well: San Juan 30-6 Unit No. 31  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SE/SW, Sec. 33, T30N, R6W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7635-7636	1	0.01
7636-7637	1	0.01
7637-7638	1	0.05
7638-7639	1	0.07
7639-7640	1	0.01
7640-7641	1	0.10
7641-7642	1	< 0.01
7642-7643	1	< 0.01
7643-7644	1	0.01
7644-7645	1	< 0.01
7645-7646	1	0.01
7646-7647	1	< 0.01
7647-7648	1	< 0.01
7716-7717	1	0.13
7717-7718	1	0.04
7718-7719	1	0.01
7719-7720	1	0.90
7720-7721	1	< 0.01
7721-7722	1	< 0.01
7722-7723	1	< 0.01
7723-7724	1	< 0.01
7724-7725	1	< 0.01
7725-7726	1	< 0.01
7746-7747	1	0.04
7751-7752	1	0.01
7752-7753	1	0.06
7753-7754	1	1.90
7754-7755	1	0.27
7755-7756	1	0.01
7756-7757	1	0.03
7757-7758	1	0.17
7758-7759	1	0.05
7759-7760	1	0.90
7760-7761	1	1.00
TOTAL	34	5.90

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{5.90}{34} = 0.174 \text{ md}$$

COMPANY EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY DATE ON 5/31/59 FILE NO. RP-3-997  
WELL SAN JUAN 30-6 No. 31 DATE OFF 6/8/59 ENGRS. ENGLISH  
FIELD WILDCAT FORMATION DAKOTA ELEV. 6364' DF  
COUNTY RIO ARriba STATE N. MEXICO DR LG. FLD. AS NOTED CORES. DIAMOND  
LOCATION SEC 33 - T30N - R6W REMARKS SAMPLED BY CLIENT

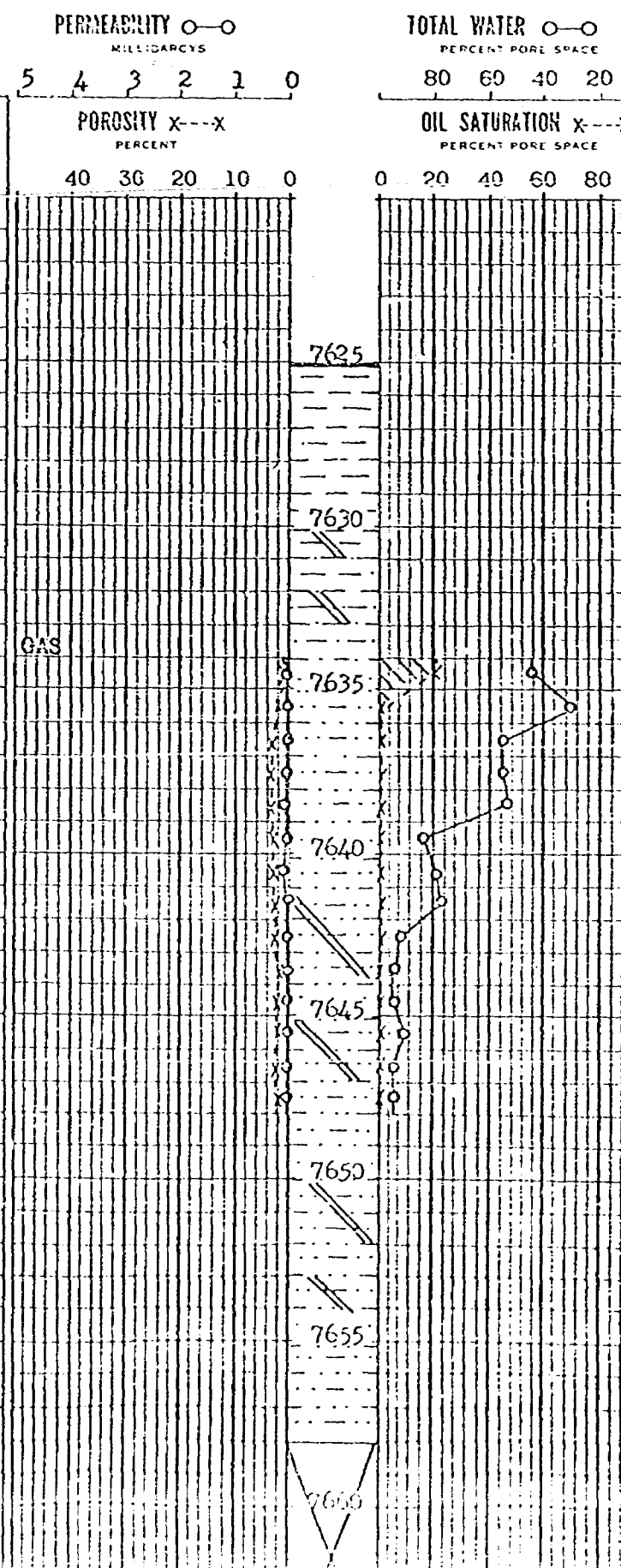
SAND  LIMESTONE  CONGLOMERATE  CHERT   
SHALE  DOLOMITE   FRACTURES 

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### TABULAR DATA and INTERPRETATION

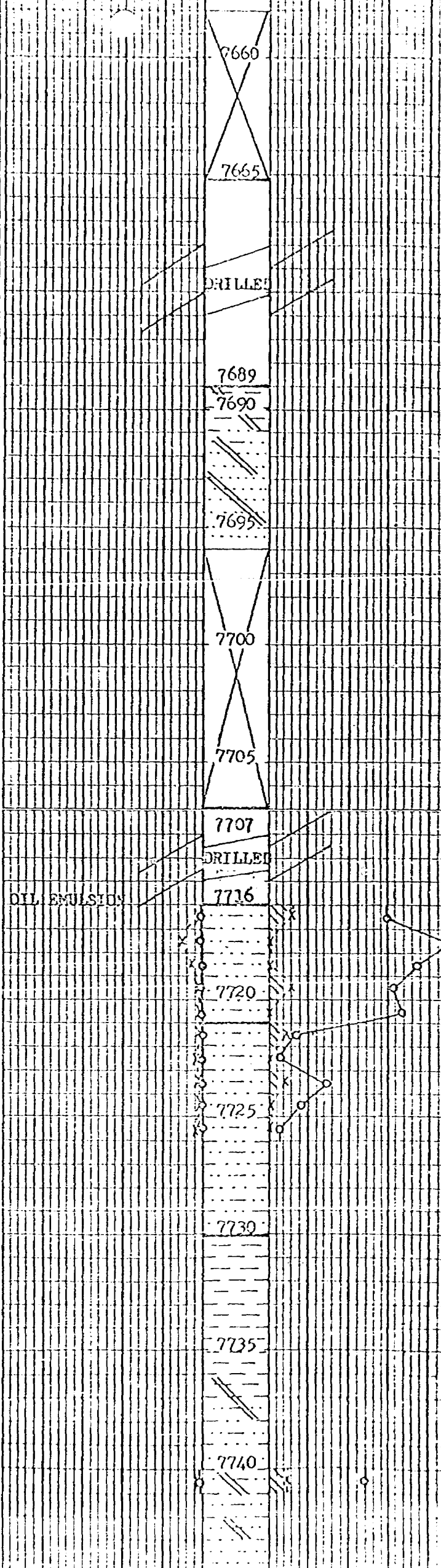
SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH FEET	PERM. MD	POROSITY %	RESIDUAL SATURATION % PORE SPACE		PROD
				OIL	TOTAL WATER	
1	7634-35	<0.01	0.9	22.3	44.5	
2	35-36	0.01	1.9	0.0	31.6	
3	36-37	0.01	2.5	0.0	56.1	
4	37-38	0.05	3.2	0.0	56.3	
5	38-39	0.07	3.3	0.0	54.6	
6	39-40	0.01	2.5	0.0	84.1	
7	40-41	0.10	2.9	0.0	79.3	
8	41-42	<0.01	2.6	0.0	77.0	
9	42-43	<0.01	2.1	0.0	90.6	
10	43-44	0.01	1.8	0.0	94.4	
11	44-45	<0.01	2.0	0.0	95.1	
12	45-46	0.01	1.9	0.0	82.5	
13	46-47	<0.01	2.2	0.0	95.4	
14	47-48	<0.01	1.8	0.0	94.6	

### COMPLETION COREGRAPH



15	7716-17	0.13	1.5	13.3	40.0
16	17-18	0.04	5.3	0.0	11.3
17	18-19	0.01	2.3	0.0	26.5
18	19-20	0.9	1.6	12.5	37.5
19	20-21	<0.01	0.6	0.0	33.3
20	21-22	<0.01	2.0	10.0	85.0
21	22-23	<0.01	1.7	0.0	94.0
22	23-24	<0.01	2.1	9.1	71.5
23	24-25	<0.01	1.2	0.0	83.4
24	25-26	<0.01	2.2	0.0	95.5

5 7740-41 0.04 1.9 10.5 52.7



25	7740-41	0.04	1.9	10.5	52.7
26	7746-47	0.04	1.6	31.3	50.0
27	7751-52	0.01	2.4	8.3	66.7
28	52-53	0.06	7.9	0.0	30.4
29	53-54	1.9	10.2	5.0	16.8
30	54-55	0.27	7.8	6.4	15.4
31	55-56	0.01	1.6	0.0	50.0
32	56-57	0.03	4.2	4.8	23.9
33	57-58	0.17	4.8	0.0	4.2
34	58-59	0.05	0.7	0.0	28.4
35	59-60	0.9	0.6	0.0	33.3
36	60-61	1.0	1.2	0.0	16.7

7735

7740

7745

7750

7755

7760

7765

7770

7775

7780

7785

7790

7795

7800

EXHIBIT NO. 10

Company: Amoco Production Company  
 Well: #1 Rosa Unit  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SW/SE, Sec. 11, T31N, R6W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7878-7879	1	0.05
7912-7914	2	0.05
7914-7916	2	0.34
7916-7923	7	0.05
7923-7928	5	0.18
7928-7930	2	0.59
7930-7931	1	0.05
7932-7936	<u>4</u>	0.05
TOTAL	24	

Weighted Total = 3.51 md

$$\text{Avg. K} = \frac{3.51}{24} = \underline{0.146 \text{ md}}$$



## EXHIBIT NO. 11

Company: Northwest Pipeline Corp.  
 (Originally El Paso Natural Gas Co.)  
 Well: San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SE/SW, Sec. 33, T31N, R6W  
 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7904.5-7905	.5	0.02
7905-7906	1	0.02
7906-7907	1	< 0.01
7907-7908	1	< 0.01
7908-7909	1	0.06
7909-7910	1	0.01
7910-7911	1	0.01
7911-7912	1	< 0.01
7912-7913	1	< 0.01
7913-7914	1	< 0.01
7914-7915	1	< 0.01
7915-7916	1	< 0.01
7916-7917	1	< 0.01
7917-7918	1	< 0.01
7939-7940	1	< 0.01
7940-7941	1	< 0.01
7941-7942	1	0.01
7942-7943	1	0.02
7957-7958	1	< 0.01
7958-7959	1	< 0.01
7959-7960	1	0.01
7960-7961	1	0.01
7961-7962	1	0.02
7962-7963	1	0.01
7963-7964	1	0.01
7964-7965	1	0.01
7965-7966	1	0.01
7966-7967	1	0.01
7967-7968	1	0.05
7978-7979	1	0.01
7979-7980	1	< 0.01
7980-7981	1	< 0.01
7981-7982	1	0.02
7982-7983	1	0.04
7983-7984	1	0.07
7989-7990	1	< 0.01
7990-7991	1	< 0.01
7991-7992	1	0.02
8005-8006	1	0.07
8006-8007	1	0.01
8007-8008	1	0.01
8008-8009	1	< 0.01
8009-8010	1	< 0.01
8014-8015	1	0.28
8015-8016	1	0.23
8016-8017	1	0.54
8017-8018	1	0.06



San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16, cont.

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
8022-8023	1	< 0.01
8023-8024	1	< 0.01
8024-8025	1	< 0.01
8025-8026	1	< 0.01
8029-8030	1	0.04
8030-8031	1	0.22
8031-8032	1	0.28
8032-8033	1	0.43
8033-8034	1	0.08
8034-8035	1	0.04
8035-8036	1	0.05
8036-8037	1	0.07
8037-8038	1	< 0.01
8038-8039	1	0.14
8039-8040	1	0.35
8040-8041	<u>1</u>	< <u>0.01</u>
TOTAL	62.5	3.60

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{3.60}{62.5} = \underline{0.058 \text{ md}}$$

# CORE LABORATORIES, INC.



Petroleum Reservoir Engineering

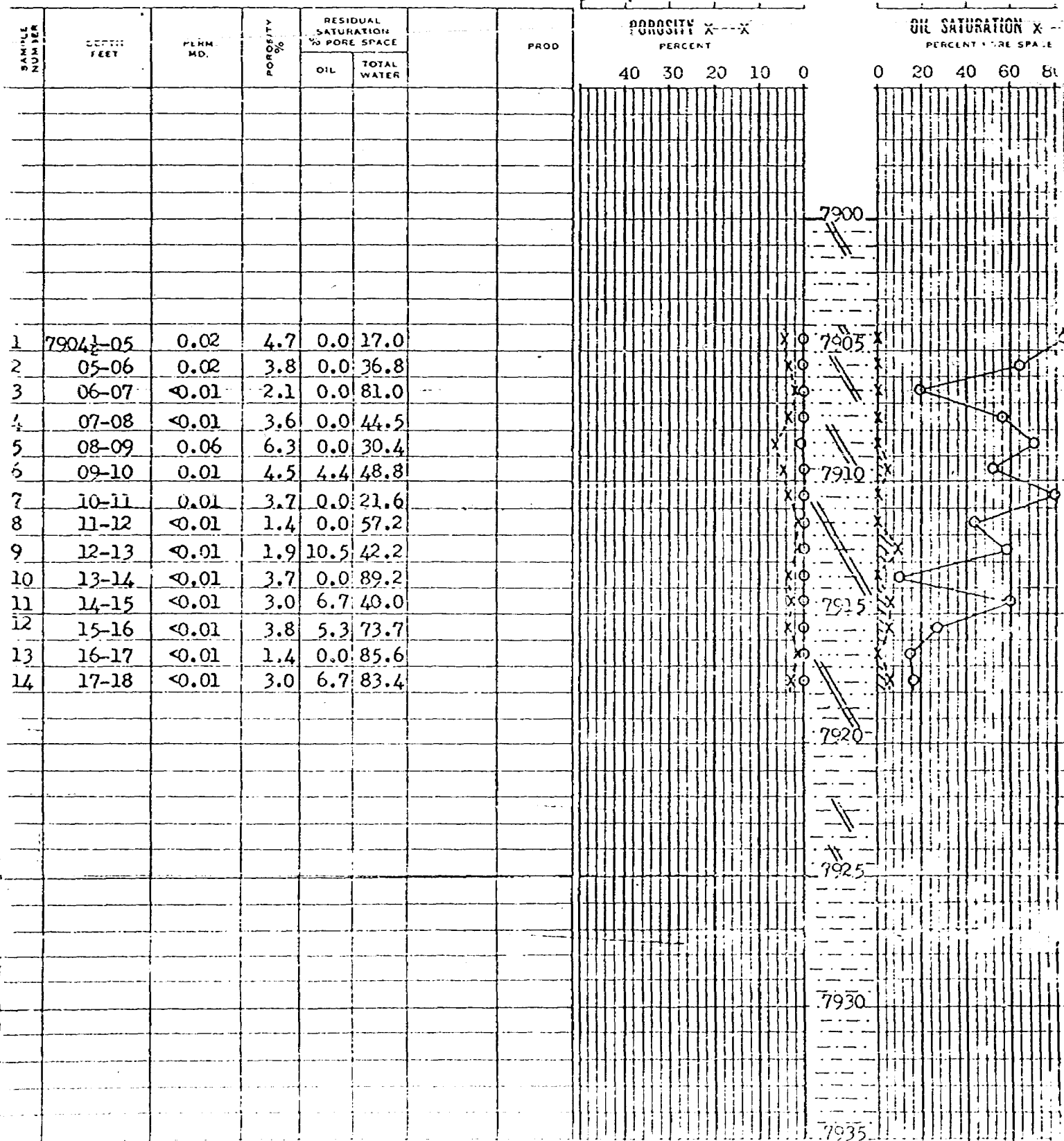
COMPANY EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY DATE ON 7/18/59 FILE NO. RP-3-1037  
WELL SAN JUAN 31-6 NO. 16-33 DATE OFF 7/22/59 ENGRS. ENGLISH  
FIELD WILDCAT (BLANCO MESA VERDE DAKOTA) FORMATION DAKOTA ELEV. 6499' DF  
COUNTY RIO ARriba STATE NEW MEX. DRUG. FLD. OIL EMULSION MUDCORES DIAMOND  
LOCATION SEC. 33-T31N-R6W REMARKS SAMPLED BY REPRESENTATIVE OF CLIENT.

SAND LIMESTONE CONGLOMERATE CHERT   
SHALE DOLOMITE VERTICAL FRACTURE

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## TABULAR DATA and INTERPRETATION

## COMPLETION COREGRAPH

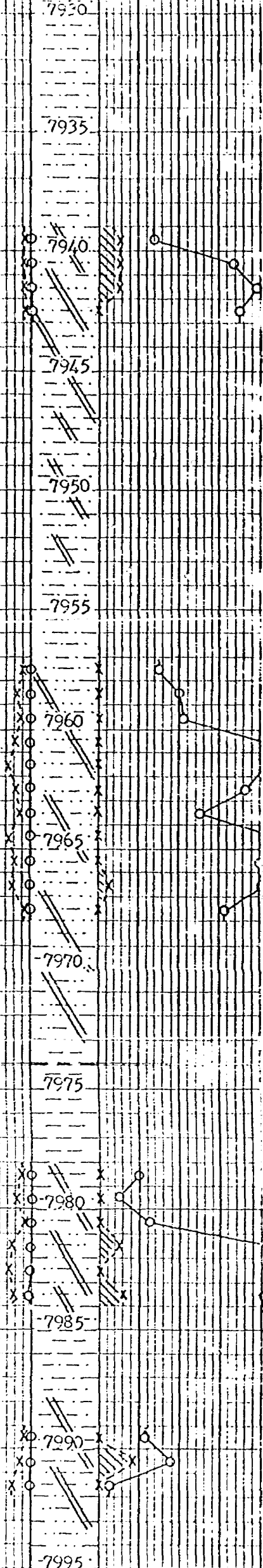


15	7939-40	<0.01	1.8	11.2	72.1
16	40-41	<0.01	1.8	11.2	33.3
17	41-42	0.01	1.8	11.2	22.2
18	42-43	0.02	1.3	0.0	30.8

19	7957-58	<0.01	2.0	0.0	70.0
20	58-59	<0.01	3.3	0.0	60.6
21	59-60	0.01	2.4	0.0	58.3
22	60-61	0.01	3.8	0.0	15.8
23	61-62	0.02	5.6	0.0	17.9
24	62-63	0.01	3.7	0.0	27.0
25	63-64	0.01	2.8	0.0	50.0
26	64-65	0.01	5.4	0.0	11.1
27	65-66	0.01	3.9	0.0	20.5
28	66-67	0.01	4.1	4.9	19.5
29	67-68	0.05	1.6	0.0	37.4

30	7978-79	0.01	2.6	0.0	80.7
31	79-80	<0.01	3.7	0.0	89.2
32	80-81	<0.01	1.6	0.0	75.0
33	81-82	0.02	4.6	10.9	8.7
34	82-83	0.04	5.3	0.0	7.5
35	83-84	0.07	4.2	11.9	19.0

36	7989-90	<0.01	1.8	0.0	77.7
37	90-91	<0.01	2.9	17.2	65.5
38	91-92	0.02	4.4	0.0	97.6



[illegible]

8005

8015

8020

The diagram shows a vertical column with several horizontal lines and symbols. On the left side, there are circles and crosses. On the right side, there are crosses and triangles. The numbers 8030 and 8035 are placed near the top and bottom of the column, respectively.

[illegible]

EXHIBIT NO. 12

Company: Blackwood & Nichols, Ltd.  
 Well: Northeast Blanco Unit No. 1  
 Basin Dakota Field  
 SE/NE, Sec. 27, T31N, R7W  
 San Juan County, New Mexico

DAKOTA FORMATION CORE DATA

<u>DEPTH (ft)</u>	<u>SAMPLE FOOTAGE (ft)</u>	<u>HORIZONTAL PERMEABILITY (md)</u>
7831-7832	1	0.01
7832-7833	1	0.01
7833-7834	1	0.01
7834-7835	1	0.01
7835-7836	1	0.01
7836-7837	1	0.01
7837-7838	1	0.01
7838-7839	1	0.01
7839-7840	1	0.01
7840-7841	1	0.01
7841-7842	1	0.01
7842-7843	1	0.01
7843-7844	1	1.50
TOTAL	13	1.62

$$\text{Avg. } K = \frac{1.62}{13} = \underline{0.125 \text{ md}}$$

CORE DESCRIPTIONS

CORE #1 6990-7039. Recovered 21' blk. shale, bottom 6' sli sandy.

CORE #2 7039-7042. Core jammed in bbl. Recovered 2' blk shale.

CORE #3 7042-7045. Core jammed in bbl. Recovered 3' blk shale.

CORE #4 7800-7830. Recovered 25 1/2'.  
 1. shale, gry-blk, platy, sli sandy, micaceous, tr coal  
 2. sand, gry, vfg, calc, sli silty, scattered mica., dnse  
 3. shale, blk, micaceous, w/scattered sand lenses, 15% sand  
 4. sand, gry, vfg, calc, very silty, shale stringers, abdt mica, dnse, tite.  
 5. same  
 6. same, 20% blk shale  
 7. shale and sand in alternating layers, predominately shale  
 8. shale, blk, sli sandy, calc, micaceous  
 9. same, w/pearly pelecypod frags  
 10. same  
 11. same  
 12. same  
 13. same  
 14. same, concentric fractures parallel to bedding  
 15. limestone, buff-blk, dnse, silic, crypto-alm, horizontal fractures  
 16. shale, blk, sli sandy, micaceous  
 17. same, concentric fractures parallel to bedding  
 18. same, no fractures  
 19. shale and sand in alternating layers, predom. shale  
 20. shale and sand in alternating layers, predom. sand  
 21. sand, gry-wn, fg, hard, dnse, scattered intergranular poro  
 22. same, sli silty, w/horizontal fractures  
 23. same, shaley (40%), micaceous  
 24. shale, blk, micaceous (75%); sand (25%)  
 25. sand, gry, fg, hard, micaceous, w/about pyrite  
 26. same (60%); shale (40%)

CORE #5 7830-7831. No recovery.

CORE #6 7831-7844. Full recovery.  
 1. sand, gry-wn, fg, hard horiz. frac, tr fair intergranular poro  
 2. same, w/thin shale partings, tr fair poro  
 3. same, no frac, tr fair poro  
 4. same, sli silty, tr fair poro  
 5. same  
 6. same, fair poro  
 7. same, tr fair poro  
 8. same  
 9. same

10. same
11. same, w/ thin shale partings
12. same, tr fair poro
13. same, shale (20%), tr poro

CORE #7 7844-7844. Full recovery.

1. sand, gry-an, fg, hard, tr intergranular poro
2. same, w/ scat shale partings and horiz frac
3. same
4. same

---0---

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN SAMPLE & CORE DESCRIPTION

a - angular	ls - limestone
abdt - abundant	ag - medium grained
bent - bentonite (itic)	poro - porosity
blk - black	pyr - pyrite
brn - brown	qtzitic - quartzitic
calc - calcareous	r - rounded
dnse - dense	sa - subangular
fg - fine grained	scat - scattered
foss - fossiliferous	sdv - sandy
frac - fractured	sh - shale
frag - fragment(s)	silic - siliceous
fx - finely crystalline	sli - slight
glau - glauconite(ic)	sr - subrounded
grn - green	ss - sandstone
gry - gray	tr - trace
horiz - horizontal	v - very
lgr - intergranular	vert - vertical
incl - inclusions	wh - white
lg - large grained	xln - crystalline

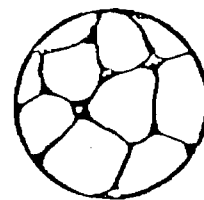
Core Analysis Data

CORE #6 - 7831-7844

DEPTH	DEPTH	PERMEABILITY mD/DAKCY	REF POROSITY %	TOTAL POROSITY %
1	7832	0.01	4.20	4.65
2	7833	0.01	2.75	3.70
3	7834	0.01	4.10	4.42
4	7835	0.01	1.17	2.08
5	7836	0.01	1.97	2.81
6	7837	0.01	2.28	3.50
7	7838	0.01	3.08	7.80
8	7839	0.01	8.50	9.50
9	7840	0.01	7.20	7.90
10	7841	0.01	2.76	3.96
11	7842	0.01	2.65	2.55
12	7843	0.01	1.53	3.80
13	7844	1.50*	2.35	3.60

\* This plug was taken across a natural, well bonded horizontal fracture.





# Effect of Overburden Pressure and Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone Cores

Rex D. Thomas, SPE-AIME, U. S. Bureau of Mines  
Don C. Ward, SPE-AIME, U. S. Bureau of Mines

## Introduction

Research on the potential of nuclear explosions to stimulate gas production from low-permeability (tight) sandstone reservoirs is being conducted by the U. S. Bureau of Mines in cooperation with the Atomic Energy Commission. This report describes the part of that research that was conducted to establish correlation between permeability measured on dry cores at low external pressure (routine analysis) and permeability at reservoir conditions.

Cores used in this research were obtained from two Plowshare gas-stimulation projects. Project Gasbuggy cores from the Pictured Cliffs formation, Chozma Mesa field, Rio Arriba County, N. M., can be described as very fine grained, slightly calcareous, well indurated sandstone. Project Wagon Wheel cores from the Fort Union formation, Pinecliff field, Sublette County, Wyo., can be described as very fine grained, slightly calcareous, very well indurated sandstone.

Underground reservoirs are under considerable compressive stress as a result of the weight of overlying rocks (offset somewhat by internal-fluid pressure). The resultant net confining pressure or effective overburden pressure is referred to in this report simply as overburden pressure. The resulting effects on the physical properties of the reservoir rock have been studied.<sup>1-3</sup> Overburden pressure causes only a small decrease in porosity, which can usually be ignored.<sup>3</sup> This was confirmed for Project Gasbuggy and Project Wagon Wheel cores. A commercial laboratory found that the porosity of these cores is reduced by about 5

percent of the original porosity. The effect of overburden pressure on permeability, however, is appreciable and varies considerably for different reservoir rocks,<sup>1-3</sup> causing greater reductions in permeability for low-permeability rocks.<sup>2-3</sup> The effect of overburden pressure on relative permeability has been found to be small<sup>4</sup> or nonexistent.<sup>5</sup>

This report presents material that confirms and extends previous research findings on the effect that overburden pressure has upon the permeability of dry cores. Also presented are the results of research on the relative gas permeability of low-permeability cores under overburden pressure.

## Apparatus and Procedure

Cylindrical cores 2.0 to 7.5 cm long and 2.5 cm in diameter were cut parallel to the bedding plane. After the cores were dried overnight in a vacuum oven (4.5 psia, 70°C), the gas (N<sub>2</sub>) permeability of each core was measured in a Hassler cell. An external pressure of 100 psi over the inlet pressure was used to maintain a good seal between the rubber sleeve and the core.<sup>6</sup> Permeability was measured at inlet pressures of 45, 60, and 100 psia, with atmospheric pressure at the outlet. A bubble tube and timer were used to measure gas flow rate. Initial permeability ( $k_i$ ) then was calculated by the Klinkenberg technique to correct for the effect of gas slippage. All other permeabilities reported here were calculated by this method.

In the same manner, permeability was measured at

*Research conducted to determine the potential of nuclear explosions to stimulate gas production verifies that the gas permeability of tight sandstone cores is markedly decreased with increasing overburden pressure. Water saturation also reduces the gas permeability by a large amount. The relative permeability, however, does not change significantly with overburden pressure.*

increasing external pressures of about 500, 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 5,000, and 6,000 psi. External pressures actually were somewhat higher to compensate for internal pressure. The core and stainless steel end pieces were placed in a rubber sleeve (piece of bicycle inner tube) 0.1 cm thick. Rubber cement was used to seal the stainless steel end pieces to the rubber sleeve. Shrinkable plastic tubing proved unsatisfactory because high pressure was required to seal the core. The jacketed core was mounted in a high-pressure cell with distilled water as the external fluid.

Cores used in relative permeability studies were first subjected to high external pressure and then allowed to recover their initial permeability. Bulk volume, dry weight, and porosity were measured by conventional gas-expansion techniques. Cores then were subjected to a vacuum (0.3 psia) for 2 hours, immersed in water, and allowed to stand under a vacuum overnight. The cores were weighed and again subjected to vacuum overnight and weighed again to assure complete saturation. Most of the cores were completely saturated after one night. Porosity values calculated on the basis of water saturation are in good agreement with those measured by conventional gas-expansion techniques.

Water in the core was allowed to evaporate at atmospheric conditions to a saturation of about 70 percent and the core was placed in the holder for 2 hours under external pressure (100 psi above inlet) only so the water saturation was uniform. Gas permeability then was measured at three inlet pressures between 30 and 100 psia with atmospheric pressure at the outlet. This procedure was repeated for decreasing water saturations at the same external pressure. After the permeability was measured the core was weighed to determine if any water was lost. In all cases the amount lost was negligible. After the core was dried in a vacuum oven, the gas permeability at this external pressure was measured. The procedure was repeated for external pressures of 3,000 and 6,000 psi.

## Results and Discussion

### Effect of Overburden Pressure on Permeability

Core number, length, porosity, and initial permeability of the cores used in this research are shown in Table 1. The core number refers to the depth in feet at which the core was obtained. Typical plots of the effect of simulated overburden pressure on Gasbuggy cores are shown in Fig. 1. The permeability is decreased by about 75 percent at an overburden pressure of 3,000 psi and by 90 percent at 6,000 psi. The hydrostatic loading used in these experiments does not reproduce subsurface conditions exactly; in an actual reservoir the horizontal component of stress is usually less than the vertical component. Since the actual loading is not known, this method probably is as realistic as any other. Cores that contain microfractures are affected to a greater extent, as shown in Fig. 2. In these cores the permeability is decreased by about 95 percent at a simulated overburden pressure of 3,000 psi, with most of the reduction occurring below 2,000 psi.

The data shown in Table 1 and Figs. 1 and 2 were obtained by subjecting the core to successive incre-

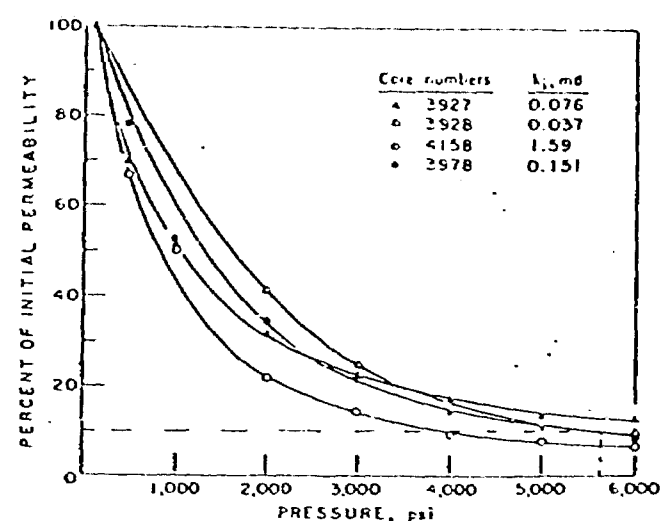


Fig. 1—Effect of overburden pressure on gas permeability of Gasbuggy cores.

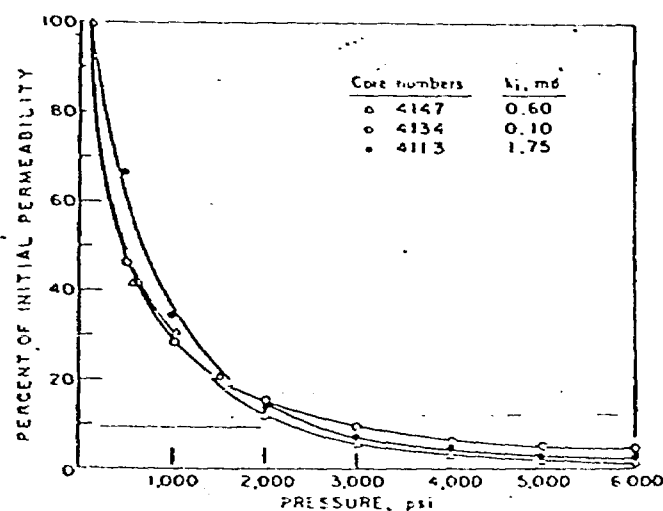


Fig. 2—Effect of overburden pressure on gas permeability of fractured Gasbuggy cores.

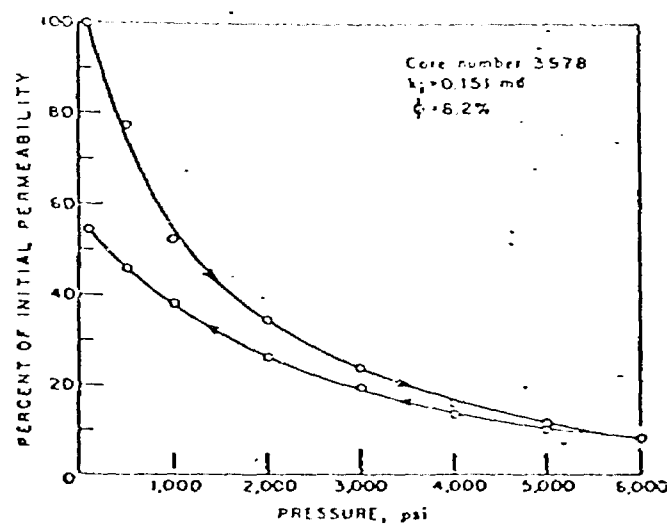


Fig. 3—Hysteresis effect at decreasing confining pressures.

TABLE 1—EFFECT OF OVERBURDEN PRESSURE ON GAS PERMEABILITY

Effective Overburden Pressure (psi):				500	1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000
Core Number*	Length (cm)	Porosity (percent)	$k_{if}$	Permeability (md)						
Gasbuggy										
3927	2.1	8.1	0.076	0.053	0.040	0.024	0.0175	0.0132	0.0105	0.0095
3928	7.5	8.3	0.037	0.031	0.024	0.015	0.0093	0.0059	0.0046	0.0035
3978	2.1	8.2	0.151	0.118	0.078	0.052	0.036	0.024	0.0175	0.0132
4113**	2.1	10.1	1.75	1.16	0.602	0.252	0.113	0.068	0.042	0.029
4134**	2.1	11.6	0.10	0.046	0.029	0.0153	0.0095	0.0065	0.0055	0.0047
4146**	7.5	11.6	2.40	1.73	1.32	0.31	0.14	0.069	0.052	0.022
4147**	7.5	11.3	0.60	0.247	0.181	0.071	0.034	0.0186	0.0118	0.0082
4158	2.1	13.6	1.59	1.06	0.80	0.35	0.225	0.152	0.116	0.100
Wagon Wheel										
8084	3.8	7.7	0.028	0.022	0.020	0.010	0.0070	0.0047	0.0035	0.0030
8122	3.8	11.4	0.071	0.055	0.048	0.034	0.027	0.024	0.021	0.019
8975**	3.8	8.7	0.039	0.029	0.024	0.0114	0.0073	0.0048	0.0032	0.0025
10156	3.8	8.5	0.088	0.067	0.051	0.032	0.025	0.022	0.018	0.016
10990**	3.8	9.0	0.048	0.020	0.0175	0.0080	0.0050	0.0040	0.0025	0.0019

\*Number denotes depth in feet.

\*\*Slightly fractured.

†Initial permeability.

mental increases in external pressure. The core was assumed to be in equilibrium at each pressure when permeability measurements remained constant for 15 minutes, which required between 1 and 2 hours. A period of 30 minutes to an hour was required to attain equilibrium when the inlet pressure was changed. Consequently, each external pressure was maintained for a minimum of 2 hours.

The effect of decreasing external pressure was determined on a few cores, and typical results are shown in Fig. 3. Other researchers<sup>2,3</sup> have observed and shown that this hysteresis is mainly dependent on the stress history of the core. Cores generally recover their original permeability after 3 to 6 weeks at atmospheric conditions. This time could be shortened by storing the core in an oven at 70°C.

The effect of overburden pressure on the permeability of cores from Project Wagon Wheel is similar to that on cores from Project Gasbuggy, and typical results are shown in Fig. 6. The permeability is decreased to about 30 percent of initial permeability at an overburden pressure of 3,000 psi and to 20 percent at 6,000.

A study of the data in Table 1 indicates that the original porosity of the core and the reduction in permeability caused by overburden pressure are not related. Pore structure (fractures to uniform pores) is probably the governing factor.

#### Water Saturation Effects

The data in Table 2 show that the permeability decreased with increasing water saturation. The values at 20-, 40-, and 60-percent water saturation were obtained from individual relative-permeability curves for Gasbuggy and Wagon Wheel cores. Relative-permeability curves for three cores from Project Gasbuggy are shown in Fig. 5 with the data points for Core 3978. Data points were omitted for the other cores to avoid confusion. This figure shows that al-

though gas permeability is reduced, the relative gas permeability of Gasbuggy cores is not significantly affected by increased overburden pressure. This conclusion is in agreement with the results of others.<sup>4,5</sup>

Extremely low values of permeability that resulted from water saturation and overburden pressure required that either long flow times or high inlet pressures (high differential across the core) be used. Since a high inlet pressure increases the end effects by changing the distribution of water in the core, long flow times were required. Although end-effect problems were encountered with the short cores (Cores 3978 and 4158), the permeability of these cores was

TABLE 2—EFFECT OF OVERBURDEN PRESSURE AND WATER SATURATION ON GAS PERMEABILITY

Water Saturation (percent):		0	20	40	60
Core Number	Pressure (psi)	Permeability (md)			
<u>Gasbuggy</u>					
3927	100	0.115	0.099	0.041	0.0023
3927	3,000	0.026	0.023	0.009	0.0005
3927	6,000	0.012	0.010	0.003	0.0002
3978	100	0.112	0.080	0.034	0.011
3978	3,000	0.036	0.026	0.011	0.004
3978	6,000	0.013	0.009	0.004	0.0013
4158	100	0.447	0.335	0.156	0.045
4158	3,000	0.075	0.056	0.026	0.0074
4158	6,000	0.027	0.020	0.010	0.0026
<u>Wagon Wheel</u>					
8084	100	0.038	0.030	0.014	0.0042
8084	3,000	0.012	0.0095	0.0043	0.0013
8084	6,000	0.0070	0.0056	0.0025	0.0008
8122	100	0.074	0.054	0.017	0.006
8122	3,000	0.027	0.020	0.008	0.002
8122	6,000	0.020	0.015	0.006	0.002
10156	100	0.100	0.074	0.029	0.003
10156	3,000	0.028	0.020	0.008	0.0008
10156	6,000	0.017	0.013	0.005	0.0005

high enough to yield reasonable results. Permeability measurements for Core 4161 (7.5 cm long, 0.053 md) required more than 2 hours per reading. These extremely long flow times can cause errors.

End effects, long flow times, and changes in permeability due to water saturation tend to decrease the accuracy of permeability measurements, especially at the higher water saturations.

The initial permeability of many of the dry cores used in this research was not reproducible following saturation and drying. The changes probably were caused by solution of material in the pores and by particle movement. These caused both increases and decreases in permeability. The variation, although sometimes large, usually was less than 5 percent; however, we feel that the relative permeability curves are essentially correct. To eliminate the effects of solution and particle movement, the permeability of the dry core following saturation, rather than the permeability initially measured, was used in calculating relative permeability.

A composite of the relative permeability curves for Gasbuggy cores is shown in Fig. 5. These curves are representative of permeabilities encountered in this formation. At a water saturation of 50 percent, the relative permeability of the cores ranges from 15 to 20 percent and is not affected by overburden pressure.

Similar results were obtained on cores from Project Wagon Wheel, as shown in Table 2 and Fig. 6 with data points for Core 8122. These cores were cut to a length of 3.8 cm to alleviate some of the long flow time and end-effect difficulties encountered with Gasbuggy cores. These curves are representative of the permeabilities encountered in the formation. At a water saturation of 50 percent, the relative permeability of these cores ranges from 12 to 21 percent. The data in these figures show, as do the data from Gasbuggy cores, that relative gas permeability is not significantly affected by increased overburden pressure.

#### Correlation with Nuclear Stimulation Projects

Many of the basin areas of the Rocky Mountain region consist of thick, low-permeability sandstones containing large quantities of natural gas. This type of reservoir has been the object of the AEC's Plowshare Program experiments, Projects Gasbuggy and Rulison, and proposed Projects Wagon Wheel, WASP, and Rio Blanco. Because most wells in these reservoirs have not been commercial, only limited reservoir analysis and production-test data are available. Reservoir analysis is most difficult because low permeability requires long-term testing. Also, it is difficult to determine permeability and net pay from these tests. Knowledge of the gas permeability is necessary in predicting gas recovery, and because it is not economical to define the characteristics of different strata by well test, it is desirable to be able to relate laboratory-measured permeability to the true in-situ permeability.

Conventional analysis by a commercial laboratory (confirmed in our laboratory) of about 200 Gasbuggy cores gave an average initial gas permeability of 0.16 md on dry cores and an average water saturation of 48 percent. The effective overburden pressure of this

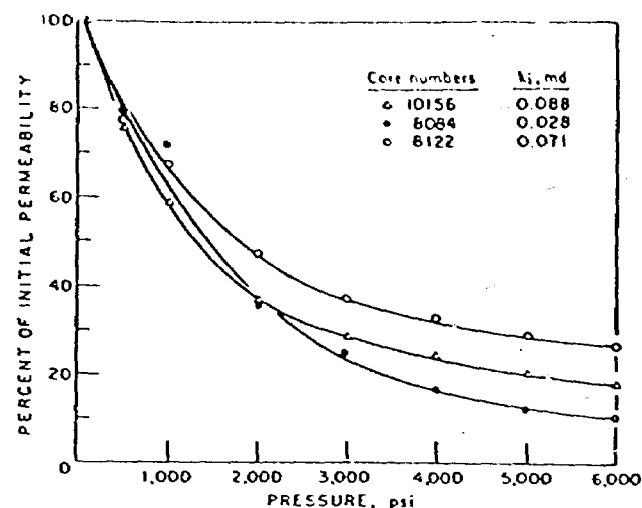


Fig. 4—Effect of overburden pressure on gas permeability of Wagon Wheel cores.

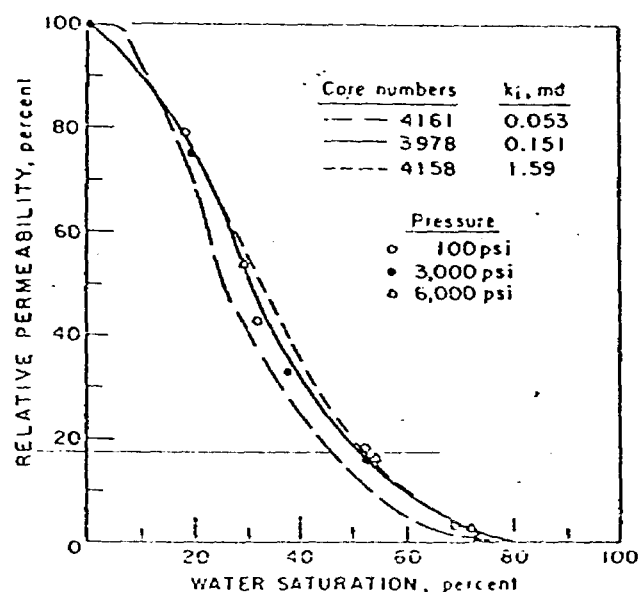


Fig. 5—Relative gas permeability of Gasbuggy cores.

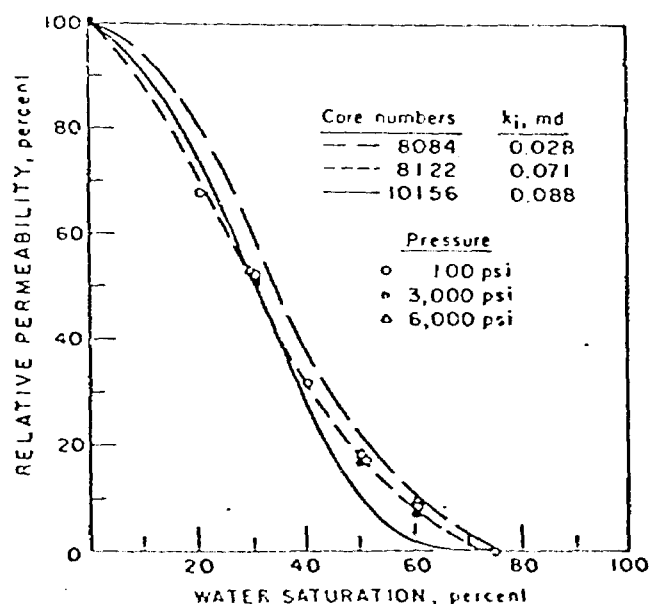


Fig. 6—Relative gas permeability of Wagon Wheel cores.

reservoir is about 3,000 psi. From Fig. 1, the reduction factor resulting from the overburden pressure is 0.25, and the reduction factor for a water saturation of 48 percent (Fig. 5) is 0.20; thus the total reduction is 5 percent of the initial permeability, or 0.008 md. This value compares favorably with permeability determinations of about 0.01 md from both preshot and postshot flow testing at Gasbuggy. The gas reservoir at Project Rulison is similar to that at Gasbuggy, having an average initial dry permeability of 0.11 md and an average water saturation of 45 percent. Simulated in-situ permeability has not yet been measured in the laboratory on Rulison cores; however, using an effective overburden pressure of 5,000 psi and curves of Gasbuggy core data (Figs. 1 and 5), the reduction factor because of overburden pressure would be 0.12 and that for water saturation 0.24. This results in a combined reduction to 3 percent of the initial permeability, or 0.003 md. Postshot production testing at Rulison is not complete, and the only preshot determination of permeability was made from tests of a 32-ft isolated zone that gave an average value of 0.008 md. No cores are available from this zone. Rulison reservoir rock is said to be less compressible than that of Gasbuggy; therefore Gasbuggy pressure-effect data would be expected to indicate a greater reduction for Rulison than actually exists.

The average initial permeability of dry Wagon Wheel cores is 0.068 md, with an average water saturation of 50 percent. An estimated effective overburden pressure of 3,000 psi gives a reduction factor of 0.28 (Fig. 4). Water saturation further reduces permeability by a factor of 0.18 (Fig. 6). Therefore, the total reduction in permeability is to approximately 5 percent of the initial permeability, or 0.0034 md.

Original manuscript received in Society of Petroleum Engineers office June 16, 1971. Revised manuscript received Dec. 20, 1971. Paper (SPE 3634) was presented at SPE 46th Annual Fall Meeting, held in New Orleans, Oct. 3-6, 1971.

This value can be used to predict postshot gas recovery from the proposed Wagon Wheel experiment.

Cores are not yet available from Projects Rio Blanco and WASP.

### Conclusions

The gas permeability of tight sandstone cores is markedly decreased with increasing overburden pressure. Most of the decrease takes place at pressures to 3,000 psi. At 3,000 psi, the permeability of unfractured samples ranges from 14 to 37 percent of the initial permeability. In fractured samples, permeability may be reduced to as low as 6 percent of initial permeability.

Water saturation also reduces the gas permeability greatly; however, the relative permeability does not change significantly with overburden pressure.

Permeability calculated from laboratory results are in good agreement with in-situ permeabilities determined from production test data. Although not confirmed, predictions for other projects appear to be reasonable.

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EXHIBIT NO. 14

DETERMINATION OF IN SITU FORMATION PERMEABILITY  
FROM LABORATORY CORE ANALYSIS DATA IN THE  
ROSA TIGHT GAS AREA

The relationship needed to determine in situ permeability from core analysis data is published in a technical paper by Rex D. Thomas and Don C. Ward entitled "Effect of Overburden Pressure and Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone Cores", which is presented as Exhibit No. 13. The authors' studies involved taking routine laboratory air permeability measurements at the normal 100 psi or less external pressures. To simulate the effect of in situ conditions, these permeability measurements were then made at external pressures ranging from 500 to 6000 psi. The results of these tests were then plotted on a graph of Percent of Initial Permeability (ratio of permeability at 100 psi to a permeability at a higher pressure) vs. Pressure.

Figure 1, on Page 121, of Exhibit No. 13, is one such graph which presents results of tests run on cores taken from the Pictured Cliffs Formation. These cores were taken from Project Gasbuggy, located in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Cores from the Pictured Cliffs Formation and the Dakota Formation can be expected to provide similar results due to the low permeability characteristics of both sands.

The characteristics of core 3978, presented in Figure 1, can be used to represent the core data from the Rosa Tight Gas Area. The average laboratory air permeability from the Rosa Area was 0.124 millidarcy compared to an initial laboratory core permeability for core 3978 of 0.151 millidarcy. The confining pressure due to overburden at a depth of 7950 feet in the Rosa Area is approximately 5600 psi.

Entering the graph in Figure 1 at 5600 psi results in an 90% permeability reduction between laboratory determined permeability values and in situ permeability in the Rosa Area. Applying this 90% reduction to the average laboratory permeability of 0.124 millidarcy results in an average in situ permeability of 0.012 millidarcy for the Rosa Tight Gas Area.

The water present in the reservoir also causes the in situ permeability to be less than laboratory permeability as discussed in Exhibit No. 13. However, this correction will not be used in this case.

## SUMMARY OF PERMEABILITY DATA

EXHIBIT NO. 15

WELL	SAMPLE FOOTAGE TOTAL (ft.)	LABORATORY PERMEABILITY TOTAL (md)
1. Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 27	65.0	9.07
2. El Paso Natural Gas Co. San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 28-X	87.7	11.66
3. El Paso Natural Gas Co. San Juan 30-6 Unit No. 31	34.0	5.90
4. Amoco Production Co. Rosa Unit No. 1	24.0	3.51
5. Northwest Pipeline Corp. San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 16	62.5	3.60
6. Blackwood and Nichols Ltd. Northeast Blanco Unit No. 1	<u>13.0</u>	<u>1.62</u>
TOTAL:	286.2	35.36

$$\text{Average laboratory permeability} = \frac{35.36}{286.2} = \underline{\underline{0.124 \text{ md}}}$$

$$\text{Average in-situ permeability (10\% of laboratory)} = \underline{\underline{0.012 \text{ md}}}$$



ROSA TIGHT GAS AREA

EXHIBIT NO. 16

Natural Production Tests  
(Pilot Tube)

OPERATOR	WELL	LOCATION	NATURAL PRODUCTION TEST DEPTH	DAKOTA DEPTH	PRODUCTION RATE NATURAL (MCFPD)	PRODUCTION RATE AFTER FRAC (MCFPD)
1. El Paso Natural Gas Co.	San Juan 30-4 Unit No. 39	SENE 18 30-4	8615	8425	527	2506
2. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 39	SWNE 7 30-5	7822	7686	161	1703
3. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 37	NESW 8 30-5	7870	7688	666	3944
4. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 49	SWSW 9 30-5	7780	7683	TSTM	855
5. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 73	NWNE 10 30-5	8035	7919	338	2635
6. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 72	SWSW 10 30-5	7905	7790	338	2456
7. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 53	NESW 16 30-5	7820	7685	264	1209
8. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47	NWSW 17 30-5	7930	7794	2174	1610*
9. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 38	SWNE 18 30-5	7891	7667	128	2035
10. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 48	NWNE 20 30-5	7870	7790	370	3691
11. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 38	NENW 2 30-6	7970	7832	241	2828
12. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 36	NENE 27 31-6	7890	7806	TSTM	2557
13. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 35	NENE 35 31-6	8080	7908	338	2643
14. Northwest Pipeline Corp.	San Juan 31-6 Unit No. 31	SESE 35 31-6	7928	7796	370	3770

14 WELL AVERAGE  
13 WELL AVERAGE (Excluding Well No. 8)

42.5  
288

2460  
2525

Natural Production Rate Limit for Tight Gas @ 7950 ft. is 336 MCFPD.

\*Note after frac production rate is less than natural production rate.

EXHIBIT NO. 17

FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS  
Rosa Tight Gas Area  
Basin Dakota Field

Calculation of Initial Pre-Stimulation Flow Rates Using Darcy's Law

Darcy's Law: 
$$Q_g = .703 k h \frac{(P_e^2 - P_{wf}^2)}{U_g T Z \ln (.61 r_e/r_w)}$$

where:

- $Q_g$  = gas flow rate - standard cubic feet per day
- $k$  = permeability of formation - used average in situ value of 0.012 md from core data
- $h$  = net pay - average of 42 ft. for wells completed in the Rosa Tight Gas Area.
- $P_e$  = bottom hole pressure at drainage radius  $r_e$  - average of 3330 psi. from 7 day buildup tests run in the Rosa Tight Gas Area
- $P_{wf}$  = flowing bottom hole pressure - assumed to be equal to atmospheric pressure at wellbore conditions, to determine maximum flowrate (14.6 psi)
- $U_g$  = average gas viscosity - calculated to be 0.020 cp
- $T$  = bottom hole temperature - calculated to be 667°R
- $Z$  = average gas compressibility factor - calculated to be 0.88
- $r_e$  = drainage radius for 160 acre spacing - 1320 ft.
- $r_w$  = wellbore radius - .17 ft.
- $g_g$  = gas gravity - .7 - used for calculation of  $U_g$  and  $Z$
- $P_c$  = pseudo critical pressure - 668 psi. - used for calculation of  $U_g$  and  $Z$
- $T_c$  = pseudo critical temperature - 392° R - used for calculation of  $U_g$  and  $Z$

$$Q_g = .703 (0.012) (42) \frac{(3330^2 - 14.6^2)}{(0.020) (667) (0.88) \ln (.61 1320/.17)}$$

$$Q_g = 39,546 \text{ SCFGPD} = \underline{39.5 \text{ MCFGPD}}$$

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

26 August 1981

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Four Corners Gas  
Producers Association for designation  
of a tight formation, San Juan and Rio  
Arriba Counties, New Mexico.

CASE  
7317

BEFORE: Richard L. Stamets

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Oil Conservation  
Division:

W. Perry Pearce, Esq.  
Legal Counsel to the Division  
State Land Office Bldg.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

For the Applicant:

William F. Carr, Esq.  
CAMPBELL, BYRD, & BLACK P. A.  
Jefferson Place  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

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2

I N D E X

KEVIN H. McCORD

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STATEMENT BY MR. PLUMLEY

32

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Applicant Exhibit D, Document	9
Applicant Exhibit E, Economic Criteria	11

1  
2  
3 MR. STAMETS: We'll call next Case 7317.

4 MR. PEARCE: Application of Four Corners  
5 Gas Producers Association for designation of a tight formation,  
6 San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico.

7 MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner,  
8 my name is William F. Carr, with the law firm Campbell, Byrd,  
9 & Black, Santa Fe, appearing on behalf of the applicant.

10 This is a continuation of Case 7317 and  
11 I would request that the record show that Kevin McCord, who  
12 testified in the previous case, is qualified and that he is  
13 under oath in this matter.

14 MR. STAMETS: The record will so show.

15  
16 KEVIN H. McCORD  
17 being called as a witness and being previously sworn upon his  
18 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

19  
20 DIRECT EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. CARR:

22 Q Mr. McCord, have you prepared additional  
23 exhibits for introduction in this case at the request of the  
24 Commission?

25 A Yes, I have.

1  
2 Q Will you please refer to what has been  
3 marked for identification as Four Corners Exhibit A, identify  
4 this, and explain what it shows?

5 A In our previous hearing there was some  
6 question as to the quality of the Dakota formation in the  
7 eastern four townships, that being 30 North, 2 West; 31, 2;  
8 30, 3; and 31, 3.

9 I have prepared some information to try  
10 and show that the Dakota formation exists and has the same  
11 or poorer qualities as the rest of the Rosa Unit.

12 Exhibit A is an electric log, the E. L.  
13 Poteet Monero Dome No. 1. This well is located Township 31  
14 North, Range 1 West, Section 24, so it's off your map. It's  
15 approximately six miles to the east of the area, and what  
16 I'd like to point out on Exhibit A is on page four, tops of  
17 formations, the Greenhorn, Graneros, and Dakota, are shown,  
18 the Dakota being at 2300 feet.

19 My purpose of this exhibit is to indicate  
20 the Dakota is present. This is to the east of the area and  
21 there is Dakota to the west of the area. I'm assuming there  
22 is Dakota formation in between.

23 The Dakota being at 2300 feet, which is  
24 considerably different from the average of 7950 for the Rosa  
25 tight gas area. This is due to a steep upward trend of the

1  
2 formation there; we're coming out of the San Juan Basin in  
3 that area.

4 Q Mr. McCord, will you now refer to what  
5 has been marked for identification as your Exhibit B and re-  
6 view this for Mr. Stamets?

7 A Exhibit B presents core data from Rodney  
8 DeVilliers well, the No. 31 - 1 West Jicarilla. This well  
9 is located approximately four miles south of our four town-  
10 ships in question; location 29 North, 3 West, Section 21.

11 This presents the actual core analysis  
12 results on page two, and on page one is a summary of core  
13 analysis for this well.

14 This indicates that our laboratory perm-  
15 eability is 0.018 millidarcies and applying a 10 percent  
16 factor to this, which we considered for the rest of the Rosa  
17 Unit, results in a 0.002 millidarcy in situ permeability  
18 for this well.

19 I've also noted that a DST was run on  
20 this well when they were completing -- excuse me, when they  
21 were drilling it, and they estimated 15 to 20 Mcf of gas per  
22 day at the surface. I used this 0.002 millidarcy in my  
23 Darcy's Law calculation, as presented previously, and that  
24 resulted in a 9 Mcf per day flow rate.

25 This indicates the closeness of these

1  
2 two ways of estimating natural flow.

3 Q Mr. McCord, have you also reviewed DS --  
4 or cased hole DST's on wells located elsewhere but in this  
5 general area?

6 A Yes, I have. I've looked at a cased  
7 hole DST run by PanAm Corporation. This is the Jicarilla No.  
8 1 Pagosa, which is located three miles north of our four sub-  
9 ject townships, Township 32 North, Range 3 West, Section 23.

10 I reviewed this cased hole DST data,  
11 attempted a Horner plot on it, and I was not able to come up  
12 with any reliable permeability information from this well.  
13 The flow mentioned during this DST, I believe they recovered  
14 90 feet of drilling mud, which calculates to virtually no  
15 flow of reservoir fluids at all; therefor, it was a dry hole,  
16 and it indicated this area was not productive.

17 Q Does Southland Royalty Company also have  
18 plans in the area?

19 A Yes, sir. At this time Southland Oil  
20 Company -- or excuse me, Southland Royalty is drilling the  
21 Sims Federal No. 1 Well, and this is in 30 North, 4 West,  
22 Section 13, and this is the northwest of the southeast. It  
23 is -- it was one of the wells I referred to last time as some  
24 of the new developments in the area.

25 Their current status, they are currently



1  
2 running a cased hole DST as of two days ago. Therefor, we  
3 don't have this information at this time. We will try to  
4 evaluate this information and supply it to the Conservation  
5 Division when we get this data available.

6 MR. CARR: Mr. Stamets, we would request  
7 that the record be held open to permit us to submit the  
8 written results of the Southland Royalty Company test as soon  
9 as it can be obtained. We had hoped to have it today, but  
10 they're doing it this week, and we'll get it to you as soon  
11 as it's possible.

12 MR. STAMETS: Okay, that would be fine.

13 A Okay. Mr. Stamets, I'd like to point  
14 out that there were, other than the one dry hole mentioned  
15 previously in 30 North, 3 West, Section 34, a Sunray DX Oil  
16 Company Jicarilla Tribal No. 1, there were no other Dakota  
17 formation tests in these four townships; therefor, I have  
18 surrounded the area with the data I've just presented to you.  
19 This is virtually all we can come up with to try and tie this  
20 area into the rest of the Rosa Unit.

21 It's obviously a poor area. There's  
22 been no wells drilled in the area. The incentive prices will  
23 certainly help us to develop this area.

24 MR. STAMETS: So what you've given us  
25 today is basically three wells that form a triangle from 31,1,

1  
2 to 32, 3, to 29, 3, that seem to indicate that the Dakota  
3 formation is extant in those four townships, and that it is  
4 not any better than the formation evidence that you presented  
5 at the last hearing.

6 A That is correct.

7 MR. STAMETS: Okay.

8 Q Mr. McCord, will you now refer to Exhibit  
9 C and review this for Mr. Stamets?

10 A Exhibit C is an update of the new loca-  
11 tions in the area, updating my map of figure -- of Exhibit  
12 Number Two, presented previously.

13 I've noted there that we have 19 wells  
14 with some sort of current activity as of August 6th of 1981.  
15 This is -- these 19 wells are listed on pages two and three  
16 of Exhibit C, and the appropriate information following them  
17 about what has been going on during this time period.

18 Page one, I've summarized wells not  
19 plotted on this map. As you'll notice there, we have 16 wells  
20 that have been drilled, 3 that have just been staked. Of  
21 these 16 as of August 6th, only 4 have been completed as --  
22 as to IP data. We have three producers in the area and one  
23 dry hole. And this is just a written list of these new wells.

24 MR. STAMETS: All the IP's on here are  
25 after frac?

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A Yes, sir, they are.

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MR. STAMETS: Did any of these wells make any attempts to determine pre-frac flow?

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A To my knowledge, no, they did not. It's possible, digging through some of Northwest Pipeline's records, we might be able to come up with some sort of pre-frac flow rate. My feeling is that that information would be no different from the information we've already got doing the same -- same procedures.

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Q Mr. McCord, of the three producers shown on Exhibit C, do all three of these appear to be -- look like they will be economic successes?

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A Well, we have the one dry hole, which obviously is not. We have one well, the well listed as No. 4, Northwest Pipeline 30-5 No. 50, with an IP of 735 Mcf of gas per day. My economics, which I'll show later, will indicate that that will not be an economic well under 103.

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Wells -- Well No. 2, Schalk 54 No. 1-E, 2170 Mcf per day, and Well 18, Rosa No. 77 for an IP of 2544 Mcf of gas per day, also I'll show later these indicate to be indicative of an average well for the area, which is what I used in my economics.

24

25

Q Mr. McCord, will you now refer to Exhibit D and explain to Mr. Stamets what this shows?

1  
2 A All right, Exhibit D was some information  
3 supplied to me by Mitchell Energy Corp. This information is  
4 supplemental to Exhibit Number Sixteen, presented previously.

5 Okay, Exhibit Number Sixteen indicates  
6 a number of pre-frac natural flow tests taken in the Rosa  
7 Tight Gas Area, mainly by Northwest Pipeline Corp. These  
8 wells are generally in 30-5 and 31-6. This information sup-  
9 plied by Mitchell Energy Corp., as you can see from the start,  
10 pre-frac, pre-stimulation rate tests are in 31-4, 31-5, in  
11 that area, so we're talking about the northern part of the  
12 area.

13 So we have additional information here.  
14 This 8-well pre-stimulation average that they referred to of  
15 119 Mcf per day, refers to their eight tests that they've  
16 taken in the northern part of the Rosa Area.

17 Also here, K. McCord 14 well pre-stimu-  
18 lation average of 423, are my results as presented in Exhibit  
19 Number Sixteen. They've averaged the entire 22 wells for  
20 312 Mcf per day average for a Rosa Well, and I also indicated  
21 in Exhibit Sixteen, and they have here, I excluded Well No. 8  
22 in the average, in that its production, its natural production  
23 rate of 2174 Mcf of gas per day was higher than its after  
24 frac flow rate of 1610 Mcf of gas per day. I felt that this  
25 test was in error; therefor, I deleted it from my average.

1  
2 They also did the same and came up with  
3 a 224 Mcf of gas per day average for the Rosa area.

4 Q What is the production limitation pre-  
5 scribed by the Oil Conservation Division rules for a depth of  
6 7950?

7 A This is 336 Mcf of gas per day, so we're  
8 below it.

9 MR. STAMETS: In either event.

10 A In either event.

11 Just additional information to try and  
12 tie in more of the acreage, to indicate that my initial -- my  
13 additional information was holding throughout the area.

14 Q Will you now refer to Four Corners Ex-  
15 hibit E and review this for Mr. Stamets?

16 A Exhibit E is the economic criteria re-  
17 quested by the Commission. I worked with Frank Chavez on  
18 these numbers and we came up with a production rate, listed  
19 there under No. 1, for an average Rosa Well throughout the  
20 entire area, Year 1 to be 330 Mcf of gas per day; Year 2,  
21 205; Year 3, 145; Year 4, 115; and Year 5-on with an 8-1/2  
22 decline in our yearly production.

23 This forecast was constructed by using  
24 an IP of 2100 Mcf of gas per day for Rosa -- for all the  
25 average Rosa wells, or for the entire Rosa wells in the area.

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They averaged 2100 Mcf of gas per day.

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The first month average on-line production, being in the range of 15 to 20 percent, as I pointed out previously, being 420 Mcf of gas per day. Applying a decline rate of 40 percent for Year 1, 35 percent for Year 2, 25 percent for Year 3, 15 percent for Year 4, and 8-1/2 percent for year 5 on, results in a production rate shown under 1.

9

10

Also, this is a dry gas area, so no condensate production figures were used.

11

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This type of production rate is indicative of the area and it also results in an average ultimate natural gas production of 0.691 Bcf for 33 wells tested in the area. This was the best average production we could come up with for the area.

16

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Once again, using this average, you assume we have no dry holes at all in the area, so this will be a high side case on economics.

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The average well life for a Rosa -- for a Rosa well would be 30 years. Natural gas prices used in our economics, we started with an NGPA 103 based price of July, 1981, and this was 2.476 dollars per Mcf of gas, and we used a 10 percent per year escalation rate.

24

25

We used a BTU factor of 1.15 and for the 107 price we used double the NGPA 103 price.

1  
2 In figuring taxes we used the State and  
3 Local tax rate of 9 percent and Federal Income tax rate of  
4 50 percent.

5 We considered to be -- we considered to  
6 have a Federal Oil and Gas Lease, using a 12-1/2 royalty to  
7 our government. Operating costs of \$3000 per year, which will  
8 escalate at 10,000 per year.

9 MR. CARR: 10 percent.

10 MR. STAMETS: How about 10 percent?

11 A Excuse me, 10 percent per year -- you  
12 can read better than I can . Overhead expenses of 20 percent  
13 investment and 20 percent of yearly operating costs, and a  
14 sales delay of six months.

15 Page two of my economics reviews that  
16 we have reserves of .691 Bcf over a 30-year well life.

17 At Mr. Chavez' request we ran the econ-  
18 omics, determined payout, determined return on investment  
19 and present worth for the projects at 103 and 107 prices,  
20 in first Case 1 and Case 2, using no discount rate there for  
21 our money.

22 I presented two different well costs,  
23 one of \$470,000 and one of \$820,000. The reason I did this,  
24 Northwest Pipeline claims that a well can be drilled and pro-  
25 duced in the -- drilled and fraced and ready for completion

for \$470,000.

Case 2, I believe, is a little more realistic. Amoco, the last three wells they have drilled, have been in excess of \$800,000, and the four wells that Mitchell is currently drilling, the Rosa 81 through 84, they indicate those costs are going to be well over \$800,000 a well.

So there's a difference in operating practices there.

Anyway, for Case 1, \$470,000 well cost, using 103 prices, payout of 3.17 years, return on investment of 7.01, with a present worth of 1.869 million dollars.

When we look at 107 prices, our payout decreases to 1.68 years, return on investment of 16.32, and a present worth of 4.438 million.

Case 2, using an \$820,000 well cost, 103 prices, our payout is 5.97 years, return on investment of 3.51, with a present worth of 1.662 million.

Using 107, our payout decreases to 2.77 years, return on investment of 8.74, present worth of 4.141 million.

Now, in Case 3, I attempted to use some type of discount factor to have somewhat more reasonable numbers. It's certainly going to cost us something to invest our money in this project. 15 percent discount, we might be



1  
2 looking at a high side due to today's economics. A number  
3 of 20, and Mitchell suggested 22 percent in what they use,  
4 might be a better indication of -- of the -- of what this  
5 project will actually result in.

6 Anyway, using a 15 percent discounted  
7 money, our present worth, discounted 15 percent for our \$470,000  
8 case, considerably drops to a \$253,000 present worth, versus  
9 our initial 1.869 million.

10 When we look at 107's instead of 4.3  
11 million dollar present worth, that drops to 808,000 dollars.

12 Therefor, when you use this discounted  
13 money, due to the 30-year life of the project, your economics  
14 change considerably.

15 This DROI number 15 is discounted return  
16 on investment and this is nothing more than our summation of  
17 our cash flows discounted 15 percent and divided by the well  
18 cost to give an indication of -- of what type of return on  
19 investment we'd be looking at discounted.

20 For \$470,000 this number is less than  
21 1, 0.54; for 107 it's 1.72.

22 The significance of this number, when  
23 this number is zero, that means you've -- you've gotten 15  
24 percent back on your money.

25 Also presented for an \$820,000 well case,

1  
2 which is what I believe is more indicative of the cost of the  
3 wells in the area, present worth 15 for 103 price is only  
4 \$39,000. Our DROI 15 is 0.05. It -- we've just broken even  
5 there.

6 And with a 107 price, our present worth  
7 would jump to \$593,000 with DROI 15, 0.72.

8 I would say that a DROI of 15 in the  
9 neighborhood of 1, would be something of an economical pro-  
10 ject. Anything less than that, you might be better off putting  
11 your money elsewhere.

12 Also, with Mr. Chavez' request, I con-  
13 tacted Amoco and they supplied us with some economics for  
14 their Gallegos Canyon infill wells, and I used these as a  
15 comparison to these Rosa wells to indicate what infill wells  
16 would look like using a 103 price for an established 103  
17 economic area.

18 There were somewhat different parameters  
19 used. Our average well cost for these wells is approximately  
20 \$420,000, and this was taken from ten infill well locations  
21 scattered throughout the Gallegos Canyon area.

22 P factor used was 1.1. This is wet  
23 gas that they produce. We did not use a condensation -- or  
24 condensate production in our economics. Reserves for these  
25 wells, approximately 1.176 Bcf with a well life of 40 years.

103 prices, a payout of 2.73 years, return on investment of 16.04, and undiscounted present worth of \$3,820,000.

When you use our 15 percent discounted numbers, present worth 15, \$440,000, and discounted return on investment 15 of 1.05.

Comparing that with our \$820,000 there is certainly quite a difference in the economics there.

Q Mr. McCord, it would appear, then, that the Gallegos Canyon infill wells are more economical to drill and produce than the Rosa area?

A That is correct.

Q And all of these calculations are based on the assumption that you -- all the wells you drill are in fact producers?

A Once again, yes, that's -- this is probably a high side because there are numerous dry holes in this area, and this assumes every well you drill will be a producer, producing .691 Bcf.

Q In your opinion, without the incentive price will the Rosa Area be developed?

A No, sir, I don't believe it will. I believe that only wells that will be drilled under current 103 prices are the wells needed to -- to hold acreage in the

1  
2 area. I don't think it will be adequately developed without  
3 107 prices.

4 Q Generally, what conclusions now can you  
5 reach about the entire area which is governed by this applica-  
6 tion?

7 A I'll just state again the conclusions  
8 I've drawn in my initial presentation.

9 The estimated average in situ gas perme-  
10 ability throughout our Dakota pay section in the Rosa Tight  
11 Gas Area is expected to be .1 millidarcy or less.

12 For an average Dakota well depth of 7900  
13 feet, a stabilized production rate at atmospheric pressure  
14 of wells completed for production in the Dakota formation,  
15 is not expected to exceed the maximum allowable rate of 336  
16 Mcf of natural gas per day without stimulation.

17 No well drilled in the Dakota formation  
18 in the Rosa Area is expected to produce without stimulation  
19 more than 5 barrels of crude oil per day; therefor, I believe  
20 that the Rosa Tight Gas Area meets all the specifications  
21 required as stated and should be designated a tight formation  
22 in the Basin Dakota Pool under Section 107 under the Natural  
23 Gas Policy Act of 1978.

24 Q Mr. McCord, were Exhibits A through E  
25 compiled under your direction?

1  
2 A Yes, all but Exhibit D, which was, as I  
3 stated, presented to me by Mitchell Energy Corp.

4 Q And your -- does your review of these  
5 exhibits indicate that they are correct and accurately portray  
6 the data you are attempting to show?

7 A Yes, they do.

8 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Stamets, we  
9 would offer Exhibits A through E.

10 MR. STAMETS: These exhibits will be  
11 admitted.

12 MR. CARR: I have nothing further of Mr.  
13 McCord on direct.

14  
15 CROSS EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. STAMETS:

17 Q Mr. McCord, Exhibit E, the last page of  
18 your economic exhibit.

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q In Case No. 1 you're looking at what  
21 you consider to be the lowest possible well cost in the area?

22 A That is correct.

23 Q And does your 107 situation mean that  
24 you could do -- that this is comparable to putting your money  
25 in a money market certificate with 16.32 percent interest?

1  
2 A. No. Your return on investment number is  
3 not a percentage. That's -- that number is generated by  
4 taking your total cash flow generated divided by your well  
5 cost.

6 So your return on your investment, you're  
7 getting 16 times the money you spent, is what that number  
8 means.

9 That is not a percentage.

10 MR. CARR: Over thirty years.

11 A Yes, and that's over thirty years, also.

12 The percentages involved are your dis-  
13 counted return on investment that I have presented, and what  
14 this number indicates, since I have discounted it at 15 per-  
15 cent, that means any number over zero will give you a -- any  
16 number greater than zero will give you more than a 15 percent  
17 return on your money, and assuming you can get 15 percent in  
18 the bank or anything to that, it's certainly a lot -- a lot  
19 better proposition to put your money in the bank and get it  
20 back that way.

21 Q Can you convert, for example, in a 103  
22 situation, the 0.54, can you convert that into a percentage  
23 rate of return?

24 A Not from the figures I have here. These  
25 were the numbers supplied to me by Amoco. I don't have their

1  
2 printout. This was information that they considered confi-  
3 dential and did not want to present unless we -- we absolutely  
4 had to.

5 We can confer from that DROI 15 number  
6 that your return would be less -- excuse me, somewhat more  
7 than 15 percent, but the actual number, we don't have.

8 MR. STAMETS: Other questions of this  
9 witness?

10 MR. CHAVEZ: Yes, sir.

11  
12 QUESTIONS BY MR. CHAVEZ:

13 Q Mr. McCord, in a discounted rate of re-  
14 turn what does the absolute number zero indicate? Does that  
15 indicate a break even point?

16 A Yes, it does.

17 Q At 15 percent.

18 A That's right. That would mean that  
19 your money is worth -- all that is doing is taking your future  
20 monies and bringing it to the present.

21 Q Okay. The average depth for the Dakota  
22 in these townships, how did you arrive at that again?

23 A I -- every well involved in the area, I  
24 took the top of the Dakota formation and we averaged that  
25 number.

1  
2           A           Okay. But in the far eastern townships  
3 the slope of the Dakota is quite a bit steeper and the Dakota  
4 formation is at about 2300 feet.

5           A           Now, that, once again, that well is out-  
6 side of the formation -- outside of the area. Now, the actual --  
7 you're right, it is going up at a steep angle there. Where  
8 it exactly turns, we need to have a well out there to -- to  
9 show us where the Dakota is. I don't know that.

10          Q           Can you make some kind of projection as  
11 to the rate of dip which the -- or rate of rise towards the  
12 east throughout --

13          A           Not other than it's very steep. It --  
14 it comes up real fast, and that's just -- I have not worked  
15 that much with the geology in that area.

16          Q           Would work such as that give you an aver-  
17 age Dakota depth which might be shallower than what you'd  
18 use for where wells were completed and thus require a smaller  
19 volume of unstimulated flow rate?

20          A           That is possible, although not -- it would  
21 be -- it's my feeling we've got most of our area over here  
22 established and all our wells are established, are somewhat  
23 deeper than that. We have a small portion of our area over  
24 here to the far east that might be possibly shallower than  
25 that. If we take an average, it could bring that number down,



1  
2 but once again, if you weighted your average, your number  
3 would certainly be very close to what we've got. This would  
4 not be a great percentage of these wells.

5 Q Do you know what depth the Southland  
6 Royalty Simms Federal Well encountered the top of the Dakota?

7 A No, sir, but we'll know that when we  
8 get our information. That's -- that well, they just moved  
9 the drilling rig off of it. They, in fact, they were trying  
10 to speed up their completion to get this DST data to present  
11 for this hearing, so we will have that information then.

12 MR. CHAVEZ: I have no further questions.

13  
14 RECROSS EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. STAMETS:

16 Q Mr. McCord, in Case No. 1 on Exhibit E,  
17 is that an economic venture at the 103 price?

18 A Under the 103 price that would be a  
19 very marginally economic venture. Once again, looking at your  
20 discounted return on your investment 15, that being 0.54,  
21 it's in the range between zero and one, which makes it ques-  
22 tionable. Due to the fact, knowing how these economics were  
23 arrived at, being an average well where you drill no dry holes,  
24 you'll get .7 Bcf, it would marginally economic as it is there.

25 If you consider everything involved, the

1  
2 real chance that you could drill a dry hole, those numbers  
3 are not really realistic; they're the high side. So therefor,  
4 I would say that if it was economic, it was just on the margin  
5 of it.

6 The more -- the more common cost of  
7 \$820,000, or more indicative cost, that's -- that's not  
8 economic, no.

9 Q And the return on investment means that  
10 you get back \$7.00 for every dollar you spent over a period  
11 of years?

12 A Yes, sir, that's correct, over thirty  
13 years. There's a time -- that time factor means an awful  
14 lot when you consider discounted money.

15 Q And if you put your money in a 15 percent  
16 money market certificate, or some such thing as that, you  
17 would -- would you be making more money than drilling this  
18 well?

19 A Under 103, \$470,000 case, you would make  
20 more money drilling the well.

21 If it was \$820,000, you'd break even.  
22 So you'd be a lot better off putting your money in the bank.

23 Once again, assuming you have a commer-  
24 cial well, not a dry hole. That -- that factor is always  
25 going to be involved, because we're talking average well, and

1  
2 there are dry holes in the area.

3 The only way to counter that effect is  
4 use a success factor or to greatly increase the cost of your  
5 wells. It's something to take into account, the cost of dry  
6 holes, which would even decrease our economics even more.

7 Q How does Northwest Pipeline drill such  
8 economical wells?

9 A I've had that asked to me quite a few  
10 times. They have somewhat different completion practices  
11 than, say, Amoco would, but other than that, they're doing it  
12 real cheap.

13 Q Does Amoco management know about the  
14 engineering of Northwest Pipeline?

15 A Well, since we have a lot of Amoco  
16 management here, I would prefer not to talk about it.

17 I'm sure they -- they probably know that  
18 but once again, you've got a difference in philosophy of  
19 companies on how to complete these wells. Some people feel  
20 that large fracture treatments, large volume treatments, are  
21 the way to go. Other companies, such as Northwest, feel you  
22 don't need to go to all that trouble.

23 I guess time will tell with thirty years  
24 of Dakota well production which is best.

25 But other than that, it's -- it's just

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a difference in philosophy of the companies.

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Now that's just the stimulation costs, is a big factor there. That certainly doesn't account for all the difference in those costs. Those are just the costs reported to me.

7

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Q

It sounds to me as though what you're saying is, that if -- if Northwest Pipeline were the operator of this entire area, and they got the 103 price, they'd be able to drill it up and make money.

11

A

If they got the 103 price?

12

Q

Right.

13

A

14

15

If they drilled no dry holes. If they did, if they drilled dry holes, it's marginally economic right now, as presented in Case 3.

16

17

18

19

Like I said before, I feel that a DROI number less than one is somewhat questionable economics in whether you should be drilling that, because there are -- there are success factors involved.

20

Q

21

22

23

So the Exhibit E estimates that every well will be a producer and does not try to take into account a certain number of dry holes in respect to the average recovery for the entire area.

24

A

25

Correct. Once again, the way to do that, or to incorporate that type of number, would -- would be to

1  
2 acre spacing. Other than two instances there have not been  
3 any infills drilled.

4 So companies don't feel it's that econo-  
5 mical of a venture to be drilling more wells in the area.

6 Q Do you feel that the ratio of dry holes  
7 will increase as you move west and east out of this central  
8 area?

9 A Yes, greatly.

10 Q I don't recall from the original hearing  
11 if there was any geologic evidence that was indicating that  
12 there is a fairway or something through here that was being  
13 drilled up, or these wells are simply being drilled because  
14 of Geological Survey demands on drilling, or is this where  
15 the older wells were and these wells are being drilled as  
16 stepouts.

17 A I would say more in the stepout area.  
18 I don't remember presenting any fairway type areas that we --  
19 that you just referred to. Most of these are older wells.  
20 They're stepping out, trying to, really, just -- just satisfy  
21 your unit agreement, and some type of drilling to have an  
22 adequate development of the area.

23 Q In Case No. 1, with the 103 pricing,  
24 what percentage of dry holes would it require to be drilled  
25 before that process became uneconomical?

1  
2 considerably increase your well costs or incorporate some  
3 type of success factor there. But once again, using this --  
4 this type of approach, comparing the actual economics we  
5 found right here versus our Gallegos Canyon well, it shows  
6 a considerable difference in the two projects.

7 Q Looking at the original Exhibit Two, it  
8 appears, though, there aren't too many dry holes through the  
9 central north/south portion of the area, at least in compari-  
10 son to the numbers, percentages both east and west of there,  
11 is that correct?

12 A Yes, that is. My feeling there is that  
13 these are all areas held by units and to develop these units  
14 and to show to the USGS that they're adequately trying to  
15 develop these units, wells are going to have to be drilled.

16 Under the current pricing scheme, we  
17 certainly have less chance of finding a dry hole in this area  
18 versus drilling our exploratory wells and developing the en-  
19 tire acreage. I believe that's why there's been a consider-  
20 able number of wells drilled in this area versus the rest of  
21 it. I think that to develop your outer areas we're going --  
22 we're going to need some type of price incentive to have this  
23 done.

24 Also, another fact, these wells in the --  
25 in the middle part of the area developed essentially on 320-

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A. It wouldn't take but one, probably.

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Q One in four, one in five, one is three, one in two?

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A. I imagine, at a guess, you could probably say one in eight, as far as that goes. You're talking here, once again, looking at your discounted return on investment numbers, it's marginal now assuming no dry holes. Just say using a dry hole will increase your initial well cost from \$470,000 up, well, you see that doubling that money right there brings it down to just a break even point there.

So that would take, what, one dry hole in -- let's see, one dry hole in two, wouldn't it?

Q Uh-huh. That would mean that if you had got every other hole a dry hole, it would be a break even proposition. So what would that, say, if you had one dry hole in four, it would be a money making proposition?

A. Considering that \$470,000 that sounds reasonable, yes. Once again, though, that's one instance where they claim they can drill it for that -- that type of money, and we have -- and that was just a number presented to me and the last seven wells, or the last three wells Amoco has drilled and the last four wells Mitchell has drilled in the area cost \$800,000, so therefor, considering that \$470,000 well cost for those, it's not reasonable at all.

1  
2 MR. STAMETS: Are there any other ques-  
3 tions of this witness? Mr. Kendrick, back in the hall, we'll  
4 give you a turn.

5  
6 QUESTIONS BY MR. KENDRICK:

7 Q Mr. McCord, the cost of development  
8 figures that you've given in the range of \$400,000 to \$800,000,  
9 relates only to drilling and completing the well, has no  
10 secondary recovery or, excuse me, secondary or remedial action  
11 numbers involved.

12 A That's correct. Another -- the only  
13 numbers involved are therefor operating costs or just what  
14 we've used here.

15 We've used \$3000 per year escalating at  
16 10 percent as straight operating costs.

17 We've also include overhead expenses of  
18 20 percent of investment and 20 percent of yearly operating  
19 costs, so those are also involved as expenses for the well,  
20 but no -- no remedial work.

21 Q If remedial action were required on one  
22 of the classes of wells, would you expect it to be needed on  
23 the cheaper original cost or the more expensive original cost?

24 A That's a good question. This could be  
25 a personal feeling, but I personally think that -- that you



1  
2 need to put more of a fracture stimulation on these wells,  
3 which would increase your cost.

4 Using that as the only basis of the dif-  
5 ference in the costs, I know there's something else involved  
6 there, too, but my feeling is that in the life of the well,  
7 this would certainly be a better completion practice to use.

8 But if the \$470,000 well cost had a some-  
9 what smaller size fracture stimulation, it's possible that  
10 this well might need the remedial work more than the \$800,000  
11 well, bringing up the cost.

12 MR. STAMETS: Mr. Chavez?

13  
14 QUESTIONS BY MR. CHAVEZ:

15 Q. Mr. McCord, has Southland Royalty apprised  
16 you of their AFE cost for the Chacosa Canyon No. 1 or for the  
17 Simms Federal 1 that they are presently testing, of what  
18 their costs have been to date?

19 A. I haven't asked for that information but  
20 that should be easy enough to get, especially since they're  
21 going to supply us with this other information. I'm sure  
22 they'd more than happy to supply us with an AFE.

23 MR. STAMETS: Good, you can supply that  
24 along with the other information.

25 Any other questions?

1  
2 MR. PLUMLEY: Yes, sir.

3 MR. STAMETS: Identify yourself for the  
4 record, please.

5 MR. PLUMLEY: I'm Byron Plumley, with  
6 Atlantic Richfield, out of Denver.

7 I'd like -- there was a telegram sent  
8 yesterday, I think, to the Commission, and I would like to  
9 reiterate that.

10 ARCO has reviewed and agrees with this  
11 application, and that ARCO would urge the Commission to ap-  
12 prove of this application.

13 MR. STAMETS: All right, we appreciate  
14 that.

15 If there are no further questions, Mr.  
16 McCord may be excused.

17 Are there any other statements?

18 With the provision for the other inform-  
19 ation that we've discussed here, the case will be taken under  
20 advisement.  
21

22 (Hearing concluded.)  
23  
24  
25

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 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 C.S.R.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. \_\_\_\_\_ heard by me on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, Examiner  
Oil Conservation Division

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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1  
2 MR. STAMETS: The hearing will please  
3 come to order.

4 We'll call at this time Case 7317.

5 MR. PADILLA: Application of Four Corners  
6 Gas Producers Association for designation of a tight forma-  
7 tion, San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico.

8 MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner,  
9 my name is William F. Carr, with the law firm Campbell, Byrd,  
10 and Black, Santa Fe, New Mexico, appearing on behalf of Four  
11 Corners, and I have one witness.

12 We would also like to enter our appearance  
13 at this time for Gary Paulson, an attorney for Amoco out of  
14 Denver.

15 MR. STAMETS: Any other appearances in  
16 this case?

17 MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner please,  
18 I'm Tom Kellahin, Santa Fe, New Mexico, appearing in associa-  
19 tion with Mr. Larry Pain, an attorney for Phillips Petroleum  
20 Company.

21 MR. STAMETS: Any other appearances?

22 MR. PAULSON: Yes, sir, Gary Paulson  
23 Amoco Production Company, appearing in association with Mr.  
24 Carr.

25 We do have a supporting statement to make

1  
2 on behalf of the application.

3 MR. STAMETS: Does anyone else have an  
4 appearance? Any other witnesses in this case?

5 I'd like to have the witness stand and  
6 be sworn at this time, please.

7  
8 (Witness sworn.)

9  
10 KEVIN H. McCORD  
11 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his oath,  
12 testified as follows, to-wit:

13  
14 DIRECT EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. CARR:

16 Q Will you state your name and place of  
17 residence?

18 A My name is Kevin H. McCord and I live  
19 in Farmington, New Mexico.

20 Q By whom are you employed and in what  
21 capacity?

22 A I am self-employed. I'm a self-employed  
23 petroleum engineer acting as a consultant for the Four Corners  
24 Gas Producers Association.

25 Q Have you previously testified before

1  
2 this Commission or one of its examiners and had your creden-  
3 tials as a petroleum engineer accepted and made a matter of  
4 record?

5 A. Yes, I have.

6 Q. Are you familiar with the application of  
7 Four Corners Producers Association in this case?

8 A. Yes, I am.

9 Q. Are you familiar with the subject area?

10 A. Yes.

11 MR. CARR: Are the witness' qualifica-  
12 tions acceptable?

13 MR. STAMETS: They are.

14 Q. Mr. McCord, will you briefly state what  
15 Four Corners Gas Producers Association seeks with this ap-  
16 plication?

17 A. The Four Corners Gas Producers Associa-  
18 tion is applying for a portion of the Basin Dakota gas field  
19 to be designated as a tight formation under Section 107 of the  
20 Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

21 The proposed Rosa tight gas area is  
22 located in the northeastern portion of the San Juan Basin.  
23 The area is approximately 25 miles northeast of the town of  
24 Bloomfield in northwestern New Mexico, and covers portions of  
25 Rio Arriba and San Juan Counties.



Q Have you prepared certain exhibits for introduction in this case?

A I have.

Q Have each of these exhibits previously been submitted to the Oil Conservation Division and the United States Geological Survey with a statement of the meaning and purpose of each, as is required by Oil Conservation Division rules?

A Yes, they have.

Q Will you please refer to what has been marked for identification as Applicant's Exhibit Number One and explain to Mr. Stamets what this is and what it shows?

A Exhibit Number One displays the Rosa tight gas area on a map of the Dakota reservoir in the San Juan Basin. The Rosa area includes approximately 270,260 acres in Townships 30 and 31 North, Ranges 2 through 7 West.

Q Will you now refer to Exhibit Two and review this for the Examiner?

A Exhibit Number Two is a Dakota formation completion and production map of the proposed Rosa tight gas area. The production figures presented for each producing well are initial potential, date of initial potential, average daily production for 1980, and January 1, 1981 cumulative production of gas and oil.

Exhibit Number Two also presents completion and production data from wells surrounding the proposed tight gas area. The Rosa tight gas area contains 53 producing Dakota formation gas wells, while 14 wells in this area are abandoned in the Dakota at this time.

A list of these wells and their production figures is presented as Exhibit Number Three. Examination of these figures indicate that these Dakota wells have not produced great quantities of natural gas, suggesting that low permeability reservoir rock could be present in the area.

Q Now, Mr. McCord, will you please refer to Applicant's Exhibit Number Four and review this for the Examiner?

A Exhibit Number Four is a type log of a Dakota well found in the Rosa tight gas area. This log is from the Northwest Pipeline Corporation Rosa Unit No. 68 Well found in Section 17, Township 31 North, Range 5 West. This well is in the north central section of the Rosa tight gas area.

The type log shows the entire Greenhorn and Dakota formations and part of the Mancos and Morrison formations.

The type log shown is in a part of the Rosa tight gas area which has exhibited better producing

1  
2 characteristics than the remainder of the area. Wells in the  
3 remaining sections of the Rosa area would be expected to have  
4 the same or poorer log characteristics than this type log.

5 Q How is the Dakota formation defined by  
6 the Oil Conservation Division?

7 A The State of New Mexico has defined the  
8 Dakota producing interval in the Basin Dakota Field to begin  
9 at the base of the Greenhorn limestone and extend to a point  
10 400 feet below the base of the Greenhorn. The formations  
11 covered in this 400 feet are the Graneros Shale, Dakota Sand-  
12 stone, and Morrison formations.

13 The Dakota formation is productive in  
14 this area while the Morrison formation is generally water-  
15 bearing. Sands in the Graneros Shale are not adequately  
16 developed in this area to be productive.

17 Q Mr. McCord, what is the average depth  
18 of the Dakota formation in the area which is governed by this  
19 application?

20 A 7950 feet.

21 Q And what is the gross thickness of the  
22 formation?

23 A Approximately 250 feet.

24 Q Could you generally describe the geolo-  
25 gical characteristics of the Dakota?

1  
2 A. It's generally, let's see here, the Dakota  
3 consists generally of barrier beach deposits about 40 to 60  
4 feet thick. This is the Upper Dakota. Composed of fine  
5 grained, quartz rich sandstones characterized by an increase  
6 in grain size upward and low angle crossbedding.

7 The next highest unit is transitional  
8 between fluvial and marine sedimentation containing dark  
9 carbonaceous shales, thin mudstones, siltstones, and sandstones.  
10 This unit represented a lagoonal type environment.

11 The basal Dakota was deposited by a  
12 system of meandering streams creating deposits of carbonaceous  
13 shales, thin coal seams, siltstones, and thin channel sand-  
14 stones.

15 Q Will you now refer to what has been  
16 marked Applicant's Five and Six and explain what these are  
17 and what they show?

18 A. Exhibit Numbers Five and Six are log  
19 cross sections through the Rosa area showing the continuity  
20 of the Dakota formation using the base of the Greenhorn form-  
21 ation for a datum line.

22 Q Now, Mr. McCord, when I look at your  
23 Exhibit Number Two, is there any control in the Dakota on the  
24 east side of the subject area?

25 A. No, sir, there's not. There's been

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very sparse drilling in that area. Only one well was drilled and that would be in Section -- or Township 30 North, Range 3 West, Section 34. A Dakota well was drilled by Sunray DX Oil Company, Jicarilla Tribal No. 1, in September of '64. It was drilled and abandoned.

Other than that there is no control to the east part of the area.

Q In your opinion is the Dakota continuous across the basin?

A. Yes, it is.

Q What is the porosity range within the area governed by the application?

A Overall the Dakota sand has a porosity range of from 1/2 percent to 11-1/2 percent in the Rosa area, with the average pay porosity being in the neighborhood of 4 to 6 percent.

Q Is the in situ permeability cutoff in the Rosa tight gas area less than .01 millidarcy?

A Yes, it is. The formation is dependent upon stimulation techniques to be commercially productive.

Q And have you calculated permeability for the area?

A. Yes, I have.

Q Would you please refer to Applicant's

Exhibits Seven through Twelve and review these for Mr. Stamets?

A. Okay. Exhibits Numbers Seven through Twelve present core analysis data used to determine the average laboratory permeability to air for Dakota formation pay zones in this area. The exhibits contain the actual core analysis reports, plus summary tables, showing the analysis of cores taken from only the productive portion of the Dakota formation for each well. The cored intervals chosen for permeability averaging were determined by log examination of the interval cored for each well. Only cored intervals of sand with more than 10 ohms resistivity appearing on the induction resistivity log of the well were used for permeability averaging. This 10 ohms resistivity cutoff represents the average resistivity shown by the shale sections on the logs. Values less than this cutoff were not considered to be pay zones.

The average laboratory permeability to air determined for the Rosa area in this manner was 0.124 millidarcy. The actual in situ permeability of the formation is less than this laboratory determined value, mainly due to the confining pressures found in the Basin Dakota reservoir.

Q Will you now refer to and identify what you have marked Applicant's Exhibit Thirteen?

A. Exhibit Number Thirteen presents a

1  
2 technical paper entitled Effect of Overburden Pressure and  
3 Water Saturation on Gas Permeability of Tight Sandstone  
4 Cores, which was written by Rex D. Thomas and Don C. Ward of  
5 the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

6 This paper presents relationships between  
7 laboratory determined permeability in cores and actual in  
8 situ permeability found in reservoirs.

9 Exhibit Number Fourteen explains how in  
10 situ permeability is calculated from the core analysis, using  
11 the technical paper presented.

12 Q Will you now refer to your Exhibit Number  
13 Fifteen and explain this exhibit?

14 A Exhibit Fifteen is a summary of all  
15 laboratory core analysis results for the Rosa tight gas area.  
16 An average in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy  
17 was calculated from the average laboratory permeability value  
18 of 0.124 millidarcy for the Rosa area. This in situ perme-  
19 ability value is well below the 0.1 millidarcy tight gas  
20 cutoff. These permeability measurements substantiate that  
21 the Dakota formation is very tight in this area and must be  
22 stimulated to obtain commercial gas production.

23 Q Mr. McCord, can gas be produced in com-  
24 mercial quantities from the formation in the subject area  
25 without stimulation?

1

2

A. No, it cannot.

3

Q Now I believe you stated that the average

4

depth of the Dakota in this area was 7950 feet. What is the

5

maximum stabilized production rate against atmospheric pres-

6

sure allowed for wells in the subject area in this depth by

7

the Oil Conservation Division rules?

8

A. 336 Mcf of gas per day.

9

Q Have you obtained stabilized unstimulated

10

gas production rates for Dakota wells in the area?

11

A. Yes, I have. Obtaining stabilized un-

12

stimulated gas production rates for Dakota Wells is not a

13

standard procedure used by companies when completing their

14

wells in the San Juan Basin. Past experience has shown that

15

these lower permeability Dakota wells must be stimulated to

16

obtain commercial production; however, some wells drilled in

17

the Rosa tight gas area were drilled with gas as a circulation

18

medium through the Dakota formation. This drilling procedure

19

enables unstimulated natural gas from the Dakota formation to

20

rise to the surface while drilling the well. Unstimulated

21

natural production tests can be taken while drilling with

22

natural gas when the gas used for circulation is shut off

23

and the pipe rams closed on the blowout preventer stack. This

24

enables the injected gas to go down through a bleedoff line

25

to the reserve pit.



1  
2 After injection gas has sufficient time  
3 to return to the surface any further gas production through  
4 this line should be unstimulated gas production from the well.  
5 A gas measuring device, such as a pitot tube placed in the  
6 center of the natural gas production stream, is used to measure  
7 the natural gas flow rate from the well. A pitot tube  
8 measures the impact pressure of the gas flow rate, which is  
9 used to determine the velocity of the gas. This gas velocity  
10 combined with the known area of the blowoff line is used to  
11 calculate the flow rate of the gas through the line.

12 Natural unstimulated gas production tests  
13 performed in this manner were found for 14 wells in the Rosa  
14 area. The results of these unstimulated gas production  
15 tests are presented in Exhibit Sixteen. These gas flow rates  
16 range from rates too small to measure to 2174 Mcf of natural  
17 gas per day. The average unstimulated gas production rate  
18 is 423 Mcf per day. This value is larger than the 336 Mcf  
19 per day limit for tight gas at an average depth of 7950 feet.  
20 On an individual well basis six wells meet the unstimulated  
21 natural production requirement with three wells just at the  
22 limit and five wells being over the 336 Mcf per day limit.

23 Testing natural gas wells in this manner  
24 is not very accurate but it can give the tester some idea if  
25 a well will be gas productive or not. The exact nature of

1  
2 these tests have many factors which leave their results  
3 questionable.

4                   The Mesaverde formation is also productive  
5 in the tight gas -- in the Rosa tight gas area. While the  
6 Dakota formation is open to flow to the surface during the  
7 natural flow test, the overlying Mesaverde can also be pro-  
8 ducing at the same time. There is no way to separate the  
9 production from each zone using a natural production test  
10 conducted in this manner.

11                   Also, the length of these unstimulated  
12 production tests are not long enough to establish a stabilized  
13 production rate. This length of test can by no means be  
14 considered to be a stabilized production test of the well's  
15 productivity.

16                   Also, the natural gas injected into the  
17 well for circulating purposes can also cause erroneous results  
18 if this gas is still returning to the surface while the test  
19 is being taken.

20                   It is reasonable to assume that the  
21 three test uncertainties presented could all contribute to  
22 make unstimulated production tests performed in this manner  
23 report erroneously high production rates. This assumption  
24 is supported by well production data presented in Exhibit  
25 Sixteen. The well listed as number eight, the Northwest

1 Pipeline Corporation San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 Well, shows  
2 an unstimulated natural gas production rate of 2174 Mcf per  
3 day. After fracturing, the initial production for this well  
4 is 1610 Mcf per day. The initial potential for a well is  
5 calculated from a 3-hour flow test following a 7-day pressure  
6 build-up, which is a more controlled and accurate test than  
7 the pitot tube test.  
8

9 This, combined with the fact that an  
10 after-frac production test should definitely not be lower  
11 than the unstimulated production test, indicates the unstimu-  
12 lated production test is probably in error.

13 Exhibit Sixteen also presents a 13 well  
14 average unstimulated production rate, which includes the er-  
15 roneous rate found -- excuse me, whic excludes the erroneous  
16 rate found for the San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 47 Well. This 13  
17 well average rate is 288 Mcf per day, which is below the 336  
18 Mcf per day rate limit for tight gas determination in the  
19 Rosa area.

20 Due to the uncertain nature of the un-  
21 stimulated production rate testing process, this 288 Mcf per  
22 day production rate, while being below the tight gas guide-  
23 line, is still thought to be higher than the actual average  
24 unstimulated gas production rate for the area.

25 Q

Have you calculated the unstimulated gas

1  
2 flow rate using the in situ permeability value of .012  
3 millidarcies?

4 A. Yes, I have. In order to test the validity  
5 of this natural production figure, Darcy's Law was used to  
6 calculate an unstimulated gas flow rate using the average  
7 in situ permeability value of 0.012 millidarcy calculated for  
8 the Dakota formation in this area from core analysis study.

9 Exhibit Number Seventeen presents this  
10 calculation and shows that an initial unstimulated gas flow  
11 rate of 39.5 Mcf per day is associated with the average in  
12 situ permeability of 0.012 millidarcy for the Rosa area.

13 The calculated unstimulated gas production  
14 rate and the average actual unstimulated gas production rate,  
15 excluding the erroneous production rate mentioned previously,  
16 are both less than the 336 Mcf per day limit for a tight gas  
17 reservoir in the Rosa area. As a result of these calculations  
18 the unstimulated natural gas production rate from the Dakota  
19 formation in the Rosa area is not expected to exceed 336 Mcf  
20 of gas per day.

21 Q. Do you have any unstimulated oil pro-  
22 duction figures for this area?

23 A. Yes. The natural gas produced from the  
24 Rosa tight gas area is virtually dry gas, having very little,  
25 if any, oil or condensate production associated with it.

Exhibits Number Two and Three show that only one well, the natural -- excuse me, the Northwest Pipeline Corporation Rosa Unit No. 56, has reported any oil production associated with its gas production.

MR. STAMETS: What's the location of that well?

A. Okay, Section 35, 31, 5.

MR. STAMETS: Okay.

A. This well has only produced 26 barrels of oil since 1976. These dry gas production figures indicate that no well drilled in the Rosa tight gas area is expected to produce without stimulation more than 5 barrels of crude oil per day.

Q. Mr. McCord, will the production of hydrocarbons from the subject area impair fresh water supplies in this area?

A. No, they will not.

Existing State and Federal regulations will assure that development of a Dakota formation will not adversely affect or impair any fresh water aquifers that are being used or expected to be used in the foreseeable future for domestic or agricultural water supplies. Regulations require that casing programs be designed to seal off potential water-bearing formations from oil and gas producing formations.

1  
2                   These zones, these fresh water zones  
3 exist from the surface to the base of the Ojo Alamo formation.  
4 The Ojo Alamo depth averages 2385 feet in the proposed Rosa  
5 tight gas area.

6                   Most wells drilled in the Rosa area are  
7 drilled with natural mud to an average depth of 3700 feet.  
8 After intermediate casing is set the remainder of the well  
9 is drilled with natural gas. Neither the natural mud or the  
10 gas will contaminate any fresh water zones.

11                   Normal casing designs in the Rosa area  
12 consist of 9-5/8ths or 10-3/4 inch OD surface casing, being  
13 set from the surface to an average depth of 3700 feet.  
14 Cementing of the intermediate casing includes enough cement  
15 to cover formations to a depth above the Ojo Alamo formation.  
16 The cement covers the Pictured Cliffs, Fruitland, and Kirt-  
17 land formations, which are possible oil and gas bearing  
18 formations throughout the area.

19                   The production casing is cemented from  
20 total depth to a depth above the Mesaverde formation, or to  
21 a point approximately 3000 feet above total depth. This  
22 cement covers the Dakota, Gallup, and Mesaverde, which are  
23 possible oil and gas bearing formations. A temperature survey  
24 is run after cementing the production casing to assure that  
25 all necessary zones were covered with cement. Therefor, all

1  
2 oil, gas, and water bearing formations in this area are iso-  
3 lated from each other by cement and casing.

4 The major water aquifer in this area,  
5 the Ojo Alamo formation, as well as the Pictured Cliffs,  
6 Fruitland, and Kirtland formations, is covered by cement and  
7 two strings of casing to protect them from the contamination  
8 with other formations.

9 Stimulation of the Dakota formation  
10 involves large fracture treatments, usually consisting of one  
11 or two percent potassium chloride water base that will not  
12 harm a fresh water aquifer.

13 Fresh water protection is adequate even  
14 with these large stimulation treatments due to zone isolation  
15 caused by cementation. The large distance of over 5500 feet  
16 between the Dakota formation and the Ojo Alamo fresh water  
17 aquifer is additional insurance that no wells exist that --  
18 that no existing fresh water zones will be contaminated by  
19 the stimulation of Dakota wells in the area.

20 Therefor, New Mexico and Federal regu-  
21 lations will protect any fresh water supply that may be  
22 affected by drilling, completing, and producing the Dakota  
23 formation in the Rosa tight gas area.

24 Q Mr. McCord, is the price authorized by  
25 Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act necessary to provide

1  
2 a reasonable incentive for production of natural gas from the  
3 subject formation due to the extraordinary risk for costs  
4 associated with such production?

5 A. Yes, it is.

6 Q In your opinion is the data available to  
7 you and presented at this hearing supporting the conclusion  
8 that the entire area governed by this application qualifies  
9 for a tight formation designation under Section 107 of the  
10 Natural Gas Policy Act?

11 A. Yes, it does.

12 Q At this time would you briefly summarize  
13 the conclusions you have reached in making a study of the  
14 subject area?

15 A The estimated average in situ gas perme-  
16 ability throughout the Dakota pay section is expected to be  
17 0.1 millidarcy or less for an average Dakota well depth of  
18 7950 feet. The stabilized production rate at atmospheric  
19 pressure of these wells completed for production in the Dakota  
20 formation is not expected to exceed a maximum allowable rate  
21 of 336 Mcf of natural gas per day without stimulation. No  
22 well drilled into the Dakota formation in the Rosa area is  
23 expected to produce without stimulation more than 5 barrels  
24 of crude oil per day.

25 The proposed Rosa tight gas area meets



all the specifications required as stated above and should be designated a tight formation in the Basin Dakota Pool under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

Q Mr. McCord, has this area been approved for infill drilling?

A Yes, it has in May of 1979.

Q And that was by Commission Order R-1670-V?

A Yes, I believe so.

Q Have any infill wells been drilled in the subject area?

A There have been a few infill wells drilled in this area after I have gathered all the data for this report. I'll point those out. They are both John Schalk wells. One would be in the southeast --

MR. STAMETS: Start out with the township and range.

A Sure.

MR. STAMETS: It makes it a little easier to find.

A Okay, 30, 30 North, 5 West, Section 2, southeast quarter.

The other well being in 30 North, 5 West, Section 12, I believe the northeast quarter.

These are recent wells that have been

1 drilled. My information on this map is May of 1981, so these  
2 are recent wells and it's my understanding have not been com-  
3 pleted at this time.  
4

5 Q How would you characterize the develop-  
6 ment of the subject area on the original 320-acre spacing?

7 A Very, very sparse development under 320  
8 acres. I believe I calculated under the existing acreage 53  
9 producers. This is only 6 percent of our 320-acre spacing,  
10 and to my knowledge these two Schalk wells mentioned are the  
11 only two infill wells that have been attempted in the area.  
12 I believe that might have had something to do with that man's  
13 holdings in the area more than all the economic criteria  
14 involved.

15 Q Mr. McCord, in your opinion will further  
16 development of the subject area depend upon approval of this  
17 application and the resulting incentive price?

18 A I think, yes, to be adequately developed  
19 this area will need the 107 price to make it economically  
20 feasible.

21 Q Will you please refer to and identify  
22 what has been marked as Applicant's Exhibit Eighteen?

23 A Exhibit Eighteen is a written text ex-  
24 plaining each of the exhibits I have just presented.

25 Q And this text was submitted with the

1  
2 exhibits to the Commission and USGS?

3 A Yes, that's correct.

4 Q Were Exhibits One through Eighteen pre-  
5 pared by you or have you reviewed each of these exhibits and  
6 can you testify as to their accuracy?

7 A Yes, I can. There were prepared by me.

8 Q In your opinion will granting this ap-  
9 plication result in the production of gas that otherwise would  
10 not be produced?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Will granting this application be in the  
13 best interest of conservation, the prevention of waste, and  
14 the protection of correlative rights?

15 A Yes, it will.

16 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Stamets, we  
17 would offer into evidence Applicant's Exhibits One through  
18 Eighteen.

19 MR. STAMETS: These exhibits will be  
20 admitted.

21 MR. CARR: Mr. Stamets, I've been asked  
22 to direct certain questions to Mr. McCord on behalf of the  
23 USGS and I'll be happy to do that now or at a later time,  
24 whenever you desire.

25 MR. STAMETS: Well, why don't you just

1  
2 go ahead and do that now, Mr. Carr, and then we'll get that  
3 part out of the way.

4 Q Mr. McCord, what is the basis for the  
5 boundaries of the proposed tight gas sand area designation,  
6 and is this based on geologic and/or engineering parameters?

7 A The area studied, and I'd like to point  
8 out is just an area of study, I'm not trying to say that areas  
9 outside are not tight gas areas, it was assigned to me by the  
10 Four Corners Gas Producers Association.

11 It is my feeling that it is not based on  
12 either geologic or engineering parameters, mainly on the  
13 rights of the Association.

14 Q Could you provide a structure Isopach  
15 insert map for the Dakota for the Rosa tight gas area?

16 A It would be possible to supply a structure  
17 Isopach map, although I do not believe that this would show  
18 any more information than what cumulative production is shown  
19 on Figure Two. I believe this indicates that the well, the  
20 Rosa area is definitely not a very prolific area, and because  
21 of that I do not believe this information would be helpful,  
22 but if requested, we could supply this.

23 Q Now, Mr. McCord, the type log for the  
24 Rosa Unit No. 68 Well, which is used as your Exhibit Number  
25 Four, indicates that four separate zones were perforated for

1  
2 production. In reviewing the wells presented and the two  
3 cross sections, being Exhibits Number Five and Six, in some  
4 wells more than four zones were perforated.

5 The question is, is this application  
6 asking for all zones in the Dakota to be designated as a  
7 tight formation or only certain zones? And for the purposes  
8 of this question, zone refers to an individual sandstone  
9 separated by shale from other sandstones.

10 The question is, are you asking for all  
11 of the zones in the Dakota to be designated tight formations?

12 A. Yes. The Four Corners Gas Producers  
13 requested that the entire Dakota section as defined 400 feet  
14 below the base of the Greenhorn be designated as a tight  
15 formation.

16 Q Is this application asking for a tight  
17 sand designation for infill locations within the Rosa tight  
18 gas area, and there are certain examples given here. First,  
19 in Township 30 North, Range 5 West, Section 9, there are ap-  
20 parently two infill locations. Is it the request of the ap-  
21 plicant that these be included in the tight sand designation?

22 A. Yes, it is.

23 Q There are also two locations in Section  
24 10 and two in 20 of Township 30 North, Range 5 West.

25 A. Yes, those also.

1

2

Q In Township ---

3

MR. STAMETS: What was the last section?

4

5

MR. CARR: Section 20. All of this first group, they are all in Township 30 North, Range 5 West.

6

7

MR. STAMETS: And there are two in there or just one?

8

MR. CARR: Two, according to the question.

9

10

MR. STAMETS: Infill locations in Sections 9 and 20 --

11

MR. CARR: And 10.

12

13

MR. STAMETS: And 10. Let me get 10 marked on my exhibit, please.

14

15

MR. CARR: All right. Now in Township 31 North, Range 5 West, one location in Section 8.

16

17

18

19

A Okay. I believe there should be two locations in Section 8. I do not have an infill well in that location, or in that section. I believe that should be two locations, and yes, we are asking for that also.

20

21

Q And, again, two locations in Section 11 and in Section 17?

22

23

24

25

A Yes.

Q And now in Township 31 North, Range 6 West, two locations in Section 27 and two locations in Section 35.

1  
2 A Yes, we ask that these be part of the  
3 application as well.

4 MR. STAMETS: What was the second section,  
5 please?

6 MR. CARR: 35.

7 Q So you are asking that all infill loca-  
8 tions within the Rosa area be included within the tight sand  
9 designation?

10 A That is correct.

11 Q Mr. McCord, I direct your attention now  
12 to Exhibit Number Three, and it indicated that 12 Dakota wells  
13 were drilled in 1980, and 9 Dakota wells were drilled in 1981,  
14 all at current 103 prices.

15 Is it no longer economical to drill  
16 wells such as those drilled in 1980 and '81 under 103 prices?

17 A Yes, it would still be economical to  
18 drill some of these newer wells that were drilled in 1980 and  
19 1981 under 103 prices if there were -- existed any good pro-  
20 ducing characteristics such as exhibits by those wells. As  
21 to the current time there are not any of this type of location  
22 available. Therefor, to continue to drill wells in this area  
23 the 107 price would be necessary to -- to substantially com-  
24 plete the area.

25 Q Is it your answer that if there were

1  
2 comparable locations in the Rosa area that the wells could  
3 be drilled at 103 prices?

4 A Yes, it's my feeling they could.

5 Q At this time, based on your study, you  
6 do not believe there are comparable locations?

7 A I don't believe that, no.

8 Q Is the 107 price necessary to have an  
9 economical well that would be similar in production potential  
10 to those drilled in 1980 and 1981?

11 A Yes, it would be necessary because as we  
12 stated before there are no more wells of the calibre drilled  
13 of the ones in 1980 and '81 with -- with that calibre for  
14 103 prices; therefor, the 107 is needed.

15 Also, there is no more drilling, the  
16 drilling plan for 1981 has been discontinued in this area  
17 because of the marginal economics.

18 Q Mr. McCord, could you provide economic  
19 data as to the rate of return on -- showing comparison of  
20 several of the 21 wells that were drilled in 1980 and 1981,  
21 using the 103 price and contrasting that with the 107 price?

22 A Yes, it is possible to provide this  
23 economic data, although in the instance of this area, there  
24 is mainly developed on 320 acres, acre spacing, and it's my  
25 understanding that economics are not required of 320-acre



spacing in the Dakota.

Q Of the 21 wells that were drilled in 1980 and '81, do you know if the economics on these wells made them attractive prospects?

A Yes, in some of the wells they were attractive prospects under 103 prices, but it is my understanding that some of these wells drilled in '80 and '81 were demand wells. Also, some had marginal 103 economics. This is exemplified by the fact that the drilling in 1981 has been discontinued for the area because of the low profitability of these wells.

MR. CARR: I have no further questions of Mr. McCord.

MR. STAMETS: Are there other questions of the witness? Mr. Chavez?

QUESTIONS BY MR. CHAVEZ:

Q How many unspud Dakota locations or non-completed Dakota wells are there in this area at this time?

A Okay, Mr. Chavez, I have them marked on my map. Once again, the map is dated as of 5 of 81, so there have been some wells drilled since then.

In Township 31 North, Range 6 West, Section 8, Rosa No. 88, and that's in the south --- excuse me,

1  
2 the northwest quarter.

3 Q Has it been completed or just spud?

4 A To my knowledge it's either -- I don't  
5 have the information as to -- at this time what stage of prog-  
6 ress it's in. It has been staked and is a possible location  
7 for a future well. That's really the only thing I'm sure of.  
8 That's what I have marked on the map.

9 Also, in 31 North, 6 West, Section 14,  
10 in the northeast quarter, the Amoco Rosa 67. It's my under-  
11 standing that this well is dry in the Dakota and Amoco is  
12 possibly going to recomplete in the Mesaverde or PC in this  
13 well.

14 All right, in 31 North, 5 West, Section  
15 20, the northeast one quarter, the Rosa No. 85.

16 In that same township and range, Section  
17 33, southwest quarter, the Rosa No. 77.

18 In 31 North, 4 West, Section 7, the  
19 northeast quarter, Mitchell, the Rosa No. 81.

20 In Section 9 of that same township,  
21 southwest quarter, the Rosa 82 by Mitchell.

22 Section 12, in the northwest quarter,  
23 the Amoco Rosa No. 87.

24 Section 15, northeast quarter, Mitchell  
25 Rosa No. 83.

1

2

Section 23, the northeast, Rosa No. 84.

3

That's all for that township.

4

Q. These are staked but not completed wells?

5

A. The Mitchell wells I do know about. They

6

have all been drilled. Only one well has been perforated and

7

fraced and it is testing water at this time; no commercial

8

gas production.

9

The other three wells have not been com-

10

pleted at this time.

11

All right, Township 30 North, 4 West,

12

Section 13, Southland, the Simms Federal No. 1. That's the

13

southeast quarter. This is drilled due to lease expiration

14

date.

15

Okay, in 30 North, 5 West, I have the

16

two Schalk infill locations, the 54-1E in Section 2, and the

17

57-1E in Section 12.

18

In Section 5, San Juan 30-5 Unit No. 79,

19

in the northeast quarter.

20

Section 6, the southwest quarter, the

21

30-5 Unit No. 50.

22

Section 23, the southwest quarter, the

23

30-5 Unit No. 83.

24

Section 25, the 30-5 Unit No. 82 in the

25

northwest quarter.

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Q Section what, I'm sorry?

A 25. No. 82.

Q What was that, I'm sorry?

A That's the 30-5 Unit No. 82, the northwest  
quarter of 25, 30-5, okay?

Q Okay.

A Section 27, the southwest quarter, 30-5  
Unit No. 81, and Section 36, the northeast quarter, the 30-5  
Unit No. 77.

That is all the wells I have that are  
staked in this area as of this time.

Q Is the drilling of these wells pending  
the outcome of this hearing? Or is it just pending rig  
availability?

A I cannot tell you the actual answer to  
that. I don't know what the future plans on these wells, if  
any of them have been completed. I know some of them have  
been drilled but I would not be able to separate each one  
out. I've just picked them up through PI as possible locations  
in this area. I do not know the status of them all.

MR. CHAVEZ: That's all the questions  
I have.

MR. STAMETS: Are there other questions  
of the witness? Mr. Padilla?

## CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. PADILLA:

Q Mr. McCord, you testified about comparable locations. What do you mean by a comparable location? Does that mean -- I think it would mean that that's a good location. Are you saying that in this area you've run out of good locations now?

A Yes. In my talks with Phillips Petroleum Company, who is mostly in this 30-5 Unit, they have drilled most of these newer wells and from talking with these people, their feeling is that -- that all of their good drilling locations have been used up.

Q What have they based their justification for --

A To tell you the truth, I couldn't answer that for you. That's just information they supplied to me.

Q And that's the same thing for the same calibre, same calibre, quote, same calibre of location, is that the same thing?

A Yes. Yes.

Q Can you tell me what marginal economics are for drilling Dakota wells in this area?

A Well, of course, Mr. Padilla, that's going to differ for any large company you're talking about,

1  
2 and if I said what marginal economics were, one company would  
3 call it good, one company would probably call it bad.

4 But I would say anything greater than a  
5 3-year payout would be considered pretty marginal to be drilled.  
6 You just need a greater rate of return, greater return on your  
7 money than tying it up for that great period of time.

8 That's pretty rough, but once again,  
9 each company is going to have a different opinion of that  
10 same question.

11 Q Well, how much does it cost to drill one  
12 of these wells?

13 A On information supplied by Amoco, appro-  
14 ximately \$800,000 to drill and complete these wells, and ap-  
15 proximately 20 percent of that goes to the stimulation costs.  
16 So it's a considerable amount.

17 Q How much revenue would, say, a Section  
18 103 price, can you get from a -- one of these wells located,  
19 say, in 30 North, 5 West? The newer wells.

20 A Okay. I'd come up with an average  
21 ultimate production of .65 Bcf throughout the entire area.  
22 It's going to be, I would -- I would estimate that is a pretty  
23 good average for a 30-5 Unit. The actual dollars involved  
24 that that comes out to, I haven't calculated.

25 Q Wouldn't you have to apply the dollar

1  
2 amount in order to determine whether or not you should get  
3 the incentive price?

4 A To determine payout, yes. It's just a  
5 matter, I haven't -- I haven't plugged in that number to give  
6 an ultimate amount of money the wells will produce. That is  
7 how I determined a payout of approximately six years under  
8 103 prices, taking an average decline and actual decline for  
9 the area, which is a rapid initial decline in the first year,  
10 leveling off through about year five at about a 10 percent  
11 decline rate. Using those numbers and a .65 Bcf, your payout  
12 to recover your \$800,000 cost is approximately six years.

13 Q Well, what's a 3-year payout? Is that  
14 on 107 prices?

15 A No, a 3-year payout I mentioned to you,  
16 was my feeling, and this was only my feeling, of whether a  
17 well would be worth drilling or not.

18 A 6-year payout to me would be very  
19 marginal economics. You'd be tying up your money a lot  
20 longer than need be there. You just -- you need better econ-  
21 omics than that to be drilling these wells.

22 Q This Exhibit Number Two doesn't show any  
23 wells at all in almost the entire east half of that area,  
24 except the well in the Section 34, 3 North, 3 West. That  
25 means that there have been no wells drilled with the exception

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of that one well that I mentioned on there.

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A. No wells to the Dakota, that is -- that is correct. This would be an area that the 107 prices would virtually be a must for the exploration of. Obviously, no one has thought under 103 prices this area is worth prospecting. The 107 would -- would encourage drilling of wells in this area.

Q Is this -- is this area unitized currently under -- do you know?

A I don't believe it's under a unit agreement, not the farther east. Most of the -- most of the newer wells are under existing units.

Q Is this east half area drilled in shallower formations?

A It might possibly be but I don't have that information. I've just concentrated on Dakota wells. To my knowledge, if so, there would be very, very few wells.

Q You don't know whether there are any Pictured Cliffs wells, Pictured Cliff wells at all in this area?

A. Not offhand I don't. I would have to check, check my PI cards to see if any were drilled.

MR. PADILLA: I believe that's all I have, Mr. Examiner.



## CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. STAMETS:

Q Mr. McCord, in reviewing the exhibits, apparently you have based your contention that you would expect to find permeability throughout this area less than one-tenth of a millidarcy on a number of cores that were available in the area.

A Yes, sir, that's correct.

Q Okay. I looked at Exhibit Number Two and identified eleven wells with potentials, I presume after stimulation, that exceeded 3-million cubic feet a day. I also noted that none of these wells happened to be a well that was cored. It seems as though the cored wells are always the poorer wells.

Is there any way of going backwards from what we have on these wells and determining the permeability?

A Yes. The main thing being, first of all, I'd like to state that I'm sure you're aware that the initial potential is a very misleading figure on wells.

I have looked at approximately 20 wells throughout the area and have found that the first month's production from those wells is in the range of 15 to 20

1  
2 percent of their IP, which indicates that their IP number is  
3 very misleading as what the wells will do against line pressure  
4 when put on line, actual production.

5 Also, I've found that the average first  
6 year production is approximately 16 percent.

7 So I'd like to state that the IP is a  
8 misleading number. Also, I see some of the wells you're talking  
9 about with over 3-million IP wells -- IP data, some of these  
10 are also wells that had initial natural production tests taken  
11 on them in a manner I described earlier, with the pitot tube  
12 test. With that test I found that averaging all these wells  
13 involved, found that all these wells still stayed under the  
14 336 Mcf per day criteria, which associates approximately to  
15 a .1 millidarcy at reservoir conditions. Therefor, if they  
16 are below the 336, using Darcy's Law they would also be below  
17 the .1 millidarcy for the area.

18 That is about the only way I can come up  
19 with -- with an answer to your question are the natural pro-  
20 duction tests that were taken; in each case they were below  
21 the .1 millidarcy in situ.

22 Q I believe you indicated, though, that  
23 the pitot tube tests were not noted for their accuracy.

24 A That's -- that's correct, they are not.  
25 But in most instances I believe that they would be reporting

1  
2 rates too high, is my feeling. I think the actual production,  
3 the stabilized production rate, would be much lower than they  
4 report.

5 Q There is, as Mr. Padilla pointed out,  
6 a dearth of evidence relative to Townships 30 and 31 North,  
7 Ranges 2 and 3 West, the only evidence being that no wells  
8 have been drilled.

9 On what could we base a finding that the  
10 permeability in the area is .1 of a millidarcy or less and  
11 productive capacity would be less than 366?

12 A That would just have to be used from --  
13 from the data we found already in the adjoining townships.  
14 It is a way away but there has also been no -- no active  
15 drilling in this area, which indicates that the area needs to  
16 be further developed, which the 107 price would -- would  
17 definitely encourage that.

18 In answer to your question, there is  
19 really no way to -- to tie that area in with the rest of --  
20 with the rest of the -- the middle part of the area where the  
21 data is. The only point, without drilling wells in that  
22 area, it's just going to be tough.

23 MR. STAMETS: We're going to take about  
24 a fifteen minute recess while we have a little conference up  
25 here among the staff, at which time we will resume the hearing.

(Thereupon a recess was  
taken.)

MR. STAMETS: Mr. McCord, after examining  
the information which has been submitted here today, it would  
appear to the Division staff that it will be necessary to  
continue this case for the presentation of economics data,  
which would demonstrate the wells in the area are not economic  
under the current 103 price.

And I would ask that this additional  
information be coordinated with Mr. Frank Chavez, who is our  
District Supervisor in Aztec, and also providing information  
to Mr. Padilla as to what is being done and the process that  
you intend to use to provide this data.

MR. CARR: We'll be glad to do that and  
after we meet with Mr. Chavez we will -- and agree on exactly  
what data is going to be required -- we'll notify all those  
who appeared in this case of what additional information has  
been requested.

MR. STAMETS: I'd also suggest that if  
there is any evidence which could be brought in that would  
help relative to 30 and 31 North, 2 and 3 West, that should  
be offered.

Is there anything -- any other questions

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of this witness? The witness may be excused.

3

4

I understood that there might someone here who would have trouble getting back and would like to make a statement.

5

6

7

MR. PAULSON: Yes, Mr. Examiner. Gary Paulson on behalf of Amoco Production Company.

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We have come today in support of this application as a working interest owner in the area. It is our feeling that the added incentive price is required and necessary for future Basin Dakota development, and we would ask that the application be favorably considered by the Commission.

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We do have evidence to present to the effect that a number of the wells that have been drilled in this area, in the Rosa Unit, were drilled upon demand by the USGS, and we had with respect to one year, 1980, evidence to present to the effect that the development plans submitted by the working interest owners for the Rosa Unit was to the effect that no wells were drilled and the USGS rejected that, and required -- or eventually a plan was submitted whereby three wells were drilled.

23

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So at least some of the development activity in the area has been as a result of the USGS demand rather than a economic decision which was made by the working

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interest owners in the area.

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5

And that will support the intent and we certainly have that evidence available in the event the Commission would like to consider it.

6

Thank you very much.

7

MR. STAMETS: Any other statements?

8

9

MR. PAID: Mr. Chairman, my name is Larry Pain. I'm an attorney with Phillips Petroleum Company.

10

11

Phillips Petroleum Company does support the application and urges that it be granted.

12

13

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19

We are responsible for drilling of several of the wells that are listed in Exhibit Three that were drilled in 1980 and 1981, and you have requested additional economic information. We believe that any such information would show that some of the wells that were drilled were drilled with acceptable economics on the basis that they were within a small area that is somewhat more favorable than the remainder of the area covered by the application.

20

21

22

We feel that there are very few, if any, additional prospects of that character in the area covered by the application.

23

24

25

We are prepared to submit further evidence in that regard, if you would like for us to do so.

Phillips owns approximately 27,008 acres

1  
2 of oil and gas leases in the area covered by the application.  
3 Granting of the application would provide us with numerous  
4 additional drillable prospects over what we face now. What  
5 we face now is largely uneconomic prospects in the area.

6 We believe that the Commission should  
7 take a favorable attitude toward the granting of applications  
8 for tight formations where the criteria are reasonably satis-  
9 fied. Common sense tells us that the price limits established  
10 under the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 are considerably  
11 lower than the BTU equivalent of oil prices and that the  
12 pricing assumptions that were used by Congress; to-wit, oil  
13 equivalency as of the time of enactment of the NGPA was an  
14 assumption that worldwide prices would not rise any faster  
15 than the rate of inflation, has been completely shattered  
16 by events which have occurred since the enactment of the  
17 NGPA. With world oil selling at well in excess of \$30.00  
18 per barrel, and an assumption of a 5.8 BTU equivalency  
19 factor, any gas that can be developed at any cost less than  
20 approximately \$6.00 per Mcf can and should be developed in  
21 order to enhance our domestic supply situation and reduce  
22 our dependency on imports.

23 The Section 107 pricing authority under  
24 the NGPA is an appropriate method for stimulating additional  
25 domestic gas sources, which should be viewed favorably by

1  
2 this Commission and also by the FERC as it reviews your re-  
3 commendations.

4 Thank you very much.

5 MR. STAMETS: Are there any other state-  
6 ments at this time?

7 Go off the record a second.

8  
9 (Thereupon discussion was  
10 had off the record.)  
11

12 Is there anything further in this case  
13 today?

14 This case, then, will be continued to  
15 the August 26th Examiner Hearing.

16  
17 (Hearing concluded.)  
18  
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25



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SALLY W. BOYD, C.S.R., DO HEREPY CERTIFY that  
the foregoing Transcript of Hearing before the Oil Conserva-  
tion 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.

Sally W. Boyd CSR

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is  
a complete record of the proceedings in  
the Examiner hearing of Case No. \_\_\_\_\_,  
heard by me on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, Examiner  
Oil Conservation Division

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Phone (505) 455-7409

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
STATE LAND OFFICE BLDG.  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO  
29 July 1981

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Four Corners Gas  
Producers Association for designa-  
tion of a tight formation, San Juan  
County, New Mexico, and Rio Arriba  
County, New Mexico.

CASE  
7317

BEFORE: Richard L. Stamets

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Oil Conservation  
Division:

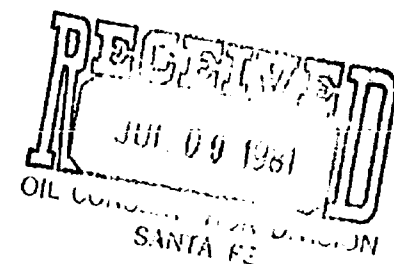
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For the Applicant:

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and

Gary Paulson, Esq.  
Amoco Production Company  
17th and Broadway  
Denver, Colorado 80202



BEFORE THE  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS  
ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGNATION OF  
TIGHT FORMATION, SAN JUAN AND  
RIO ARriba COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO.

Case 7317

APPLICATION

Comes now FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION, by and through its undersigned attorneys and as provided in the Oil Conservation Division's Special Rules and Procedures for Tight Formation Designations under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 promulgated by Oil Conservation Division Order No. R-6388 on June 30, 1980, hereby makes application for an order designating certain portions of the Dakota formation (Basin Dakota Field) as a tight formation under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 and in support of its application would show the Division:

1. Applicant is the owner and operator of certain interests in the Dakota formation (Basin Dakota Field) underlying the following described lands situated in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico:

Township 30 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 3 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 4 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 5 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 6 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 7 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 3 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 4 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 5 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 6 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 7 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Containing a total of 270,260 acres, more or less.

2. The Dakota formation is expected to have an estimated average in situ gas permeability throughout the pay section of less than 0.1 millidarcy per foot.

3. The average depth of the top of the Dakota formation is 7950 feet and the stabilized production rate, against atmospheric pressure, of wells completed for production in said formation, without stimulation, is not expected to exceed 336 mcf of gas per day.

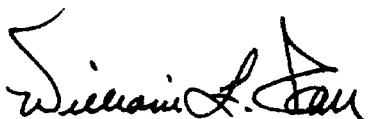
4. No well drilled into the Dakota formation in the above-described area is expected to produce, without stimulation, more than five barrels of crude oil per day.

5. Attached to this application and incorporated herein by reference is a complete set of exhibits which applicant proposes to offer or introduce at the hearing on this application, together with a statement of the meaning

and purpose of each exhibit. These exhibits cover all aspects of the required evidentiary data described in Section D of the Oil Conservation Division's Special Rules and Procedures for Tight Sand Formation Designation under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

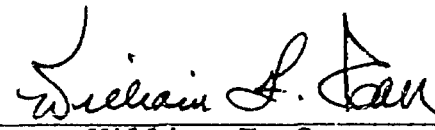
WHEREFORE, Applicant prays that this application be set for hearing before a duly appointed examiner of the Oil Conservation Division and that after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter its order recommending to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that pursuant to 18 CFR, Section 271.701 - 705 that the Dakota formation underlying the above-described land be designated a tight formation, and making such other and further provisions as may be proper in the premises.

Respectfully submitted,  
CAMPBELL, BYRD & BLACK, P.A.

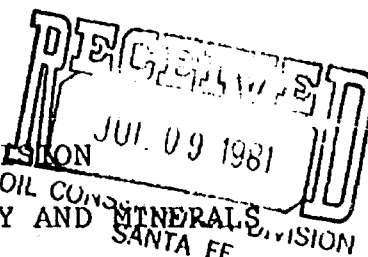
By   
William F. Carr  
Attorneys for Applicant  
Post Office Box 2208  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
Telephone: (505) 988-4421

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of this Application and a complete set of all exhibits which Applicant proposes to offer or introduce at hearing, together with the statement of meaning and purpose of each, has been mailed to the United States Geological Survey, postage prepaid, at Post Office Box 26124, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87125, on this 9th day of July, 1981.

  
William F. Carr

BEFORE THE  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS  
SANTA FE



IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS  
ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGNATION OF  
TIGHT FORMATION, SAN JUAN AND  
RIO ARriba COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO.

Case 7317

APPLICATION

Comes now FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION, by and through its undersigned attorneys and as provided in the Oil Conservation Division's Special Rules and Procedures for Tight Formation Designations under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 promulgated by Oil Conservation Division Order No. R-6388 on June 30, 1980, hereby makes application for an order designating certain portions of the Dakota formation (Basin Dakota Field) as a tight formation under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 and in support of its application would show the Division:

1. Applicant is the owner and operator of certain interests in the Dakota formation (Basin Dakota Field) underlying the following described lands situated in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico:

Township 30 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 3 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 4 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 5 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 6 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 30 North, Range 7 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 3 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 5 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 6 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Township 31 North, Range 7 West, N.M.P.M.  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Containing a total of 270,260 acres, more or less.

2. The Dakota formation is expected to have an estimated average in situ gas permeability throughout the pay section of less than 0.1 millidarcy per foot.

3. The average depth of the top of the Dakota formation is 7950 feet and the stabilized production rate, against atmospheric pressure, of wells completed for production in said formation, without stimulation, is not expected to exceed 336 mcf of gas per day.

4. No well drilled into the Dakota formation in the above-described area is expected to produce, without stimulation, more than five barrels of crude oil per day.


5. Attached to this application and incorporated herein by reference is a complete set of exhibits which applicant proposes to offer or introduce at the hearing on this application, together with a statement of the meaning

and purpose of each exhibit. These exhibits cover all aspects of the required evidentiary data described in Section D of the Oil Conservation Division's Special Rules and Procedures for Tight Sand Formation Designation under Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

WHEREFORE, Applicant prays that this application be set for hearing before a duly appointed examiner of the Oil Conservation Division and that after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter its order recommending to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that pursuant to 18 CFR, Section 271.701 - 705 that the Dakota formation underlying the above-described land be designated a tight formation, and making such other and further provisions as may be proper in the premises.

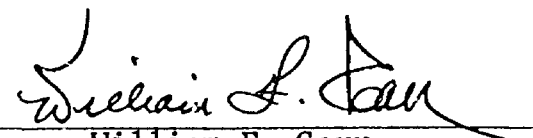
Respectfully submitted,

CAMPBELL, BYRD & BLACK, P.A.

By   
William F. Carr  
Attorneys for Applicant  
Post Office Box 2208  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
Telephone: (505) 988-4421

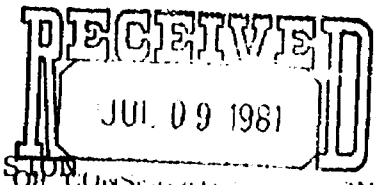
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William F. Carr



BEFORE THE  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS



IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS  
ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGNATION OF  
TIGHT FORMATION, SAN JUAN AND  
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Case 7317

APPLICATION

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Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

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Containing a total of 270,260 acres, more or less.

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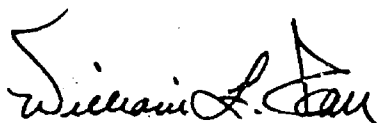
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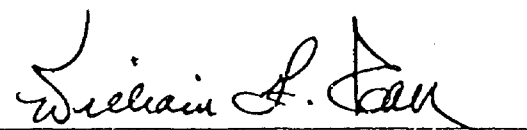
Respectfully submitted,

CAMPBELL, BYRD & BLACK, P.A.

By   
William F. Carr  
Attorneys for Applicant  
Post Office Box 2208  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
Telephone: (505) 988-4421

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William F. Carr

# Memo

From

PRENTISS CHILDS  
Planner

To

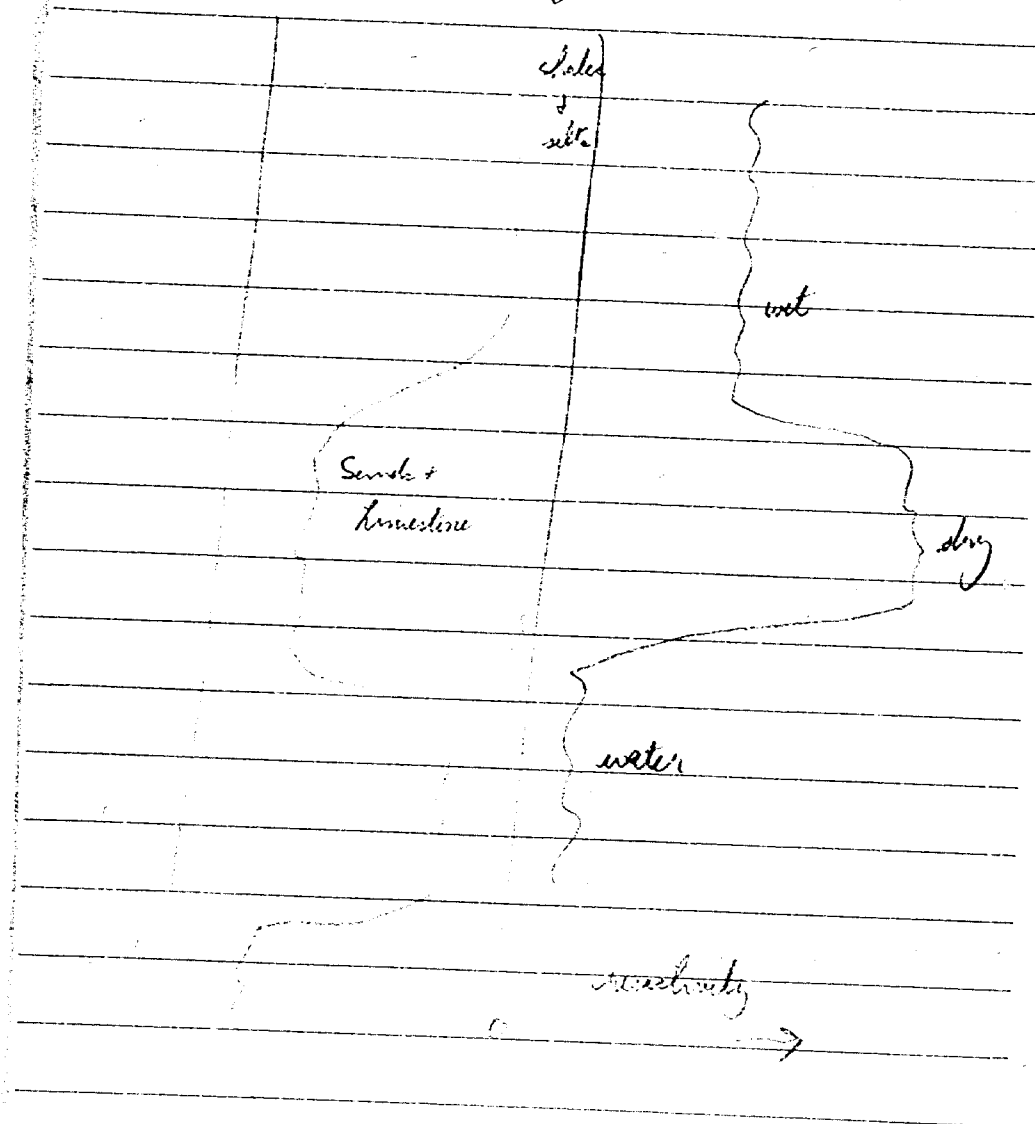
deductible  
prohibition cost  
~~and~~ never recoverable  
income @ both water  
- taxes  
should would like a 15% profit

Oil Conservation      Santa Fe, New Mexico



**KILSBY TUBESUPPLY**  
DENVER: (303) 371-7600  
COLORADO: (800) 332-1194  
OTHER STATES: (800) 525-1820

SP - Gamma Ray



CARBON STEEL • STAINLESS STEEL • ALLOY • ALUMINUM

August 26, 1981

Kevin H. McLeod w/ Four Corners Gas Producers Association

Pg. 4

- Exhibit A - electric log showing tops of formations, the Greenhorn, Graneros, & Dakota, are shown, Dakota @ 2300' of E.L. Potest Monro Dome #1 (30N-1W-24) approx. 6 mi. East. (see off map)
- Avg. in 7950' for the Rose tight gas area. due to steep upward trend of the form.

Pg. 5

- Exhibit B - core data from Rodney De Villiers #31 1 W. Guarilla located 4 mi. south of 21, 29N, 3W.

page 1 - summary of core analysis → lab perme = 0.018 md → 10% core

2 - actual core analysis results →

Case # 7317

August 26, 1981

Examiner Hearing

Kevin H. McCord

Four Corners Gas Producers Association

- 4 I. Exhibit A: Electric log showing formation tops F.L. Potul Shores  
A. Greenhorn Dome #1 (32W-1W-2)  
B. Graneros appx. 6 mi. east of mouth  
C. Dakota @ 2300'
- 5 II. Exhibit B: Core data from Rodney De Villiers #31-1W Guarilla  
located 4 mi. south in 21, 29N, 3W.  
A. Page one: summary of core analysis  
1. Lab perm. = 0.018 md.  
2. Applying a 10% factor (which was considered for the rest of the Rosa Unit), 0.002 md. in situ perm.  
3. estimated 15 to 20 MCF of gas per day from DST.  
4. Davey's law presented previously results in a 9 MCF per day flow rate.  
B. Page two: actual core analysis results
- 6 III. Cased hole DST by PanAm Corp. on Guarilla #1 Payson located 3 mi.  
North in 23-32N-3W. Was unable to come up w/ any  
reliable perm. info. also turned out to be a dry hole.
- 7 IV. Southland Royalty Sines Fed. #1 13, 30N, 4W is at present  
drilling and will submit DST results when data is available.
- V. Summary of Guarilla Trubal #1 - dry hole.

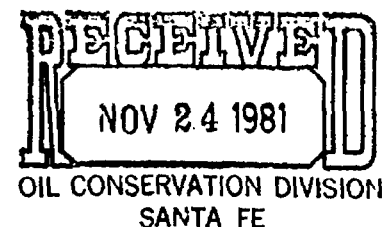
CAMPBELL, BYRD & BLACK, P.A.  
LAWYERS

JACK M. CAMPBELL  
HARL D. BYRD  
BRUCE D. BLACK  
MICHAEL B. CAMPBELL  
WILLIAM F. CARR  
BRADFORD C. BERGE  
WILLIAM G. WARDLE  
KEMP W. GORTHEY

JEFFERSON PLACE  
SUITE 1 - 110 NORTH GUADALUPE  
POST OFFICE BOX 2208  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501  
TELEPHONE: (505) 988-4421  
TELECOPIER: (505) 983-6043

November 24, 1981

Mr. R. L. Stamets  
Technical Support Chief  
Oil Conservation Division  
Post Office Box 2088  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501



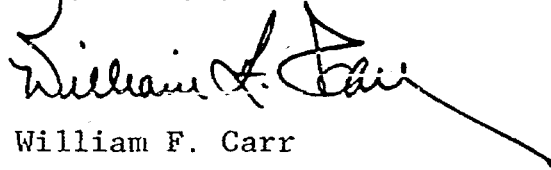
Re: Case 7317: Application of Four Corners Gas  
Producers Association for Designation of a  
Tight Formation, San Juan and Rio Arriba  
Counties, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Stamets:

Enclosed is a proposed order of the Division in the above-referenced matter.

If we may be of any further assistance to you in this case, please advise.

Very truly yours,

  
William F. Carr

WFC:lr

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Kevin McCord



gram western union Telegram western union Telegram western union Telegram western union Telegram

E  
UU AGT SANA

AYA105(1254)(1-013427M237)PD 08/25/81 1247  
TLX ARCO TLX A DAL  
ZCZC 01 PD DALLAS, TEXAS 8-25-81

PMS THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & MINERAL ATTN: MEMBERS OF  
THE NEW MEXICO OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION DIVISION

P.O. BOX 2088

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

RE: CASE NO. 7317

APPLICATION OF FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS

ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGNATION OF THE ROSA AREA OF  
THE BASIN DAKOTA FIELD AS A TIGHT GAS FORMATION

ARCO OIL AND GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ATLANTIC RICHFIELD COMPANY  
(ARCO), IS THE OWNER OF A NUMBER OF LEASES IN THE PROPOSED ROSA  
TIGHT GAS AREA IN NORTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO. ARCO HAS REVIEWED THE  
APPLICATION OF THE FOUR CORNERS GAS PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION FOR  
TIGHT FORMATION DESIGNATION OF THIS AREA AND FULLY SUPPORTS SAID

APPLICATION. ARCO URGES THE COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION  
OF FOUR CORNERS AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATION TO THE FEDERAL ENERGY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION THAT THE ROSA AREA OF THE BASIN DAKOTA FIELD  
BE DESIGNATED AS A TIGHT GAS FORMATION.

PAUL T. DAVIS

ARCO OIL AND GAS COMPANY

P.O. BOX 2819  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75221  
NNNN



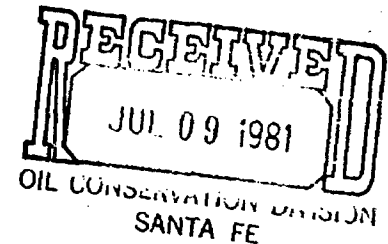
CAMPBELL, BYRD & BLACK, P.A.  
LAWYERS

JACK M. CAMPBELL  
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WILLIAM F. CARR  
BRADFORD C. BERGE  
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JEFFERSON PLACE  
SUITE 1 - 110 NORTH GUADALUPE  
POST OFFICE BOX 2208  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501  
TELEPHONE: (505) 988-4421  
TELECOPIER: (505) 983-6043

July 9, 1981

Mr. Joe D. Ramey  
Division Director  
Oil Conservation Division  
New Mexico Department of  
Energy and Minerals  
Post Office Box 2088  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501



Re: Application of Four Corners Gas Producers  
Association for Designation of a Tight  
Formation, San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties,  
New Mexico

Case. 7317

Dear Mr. Ramey:

Enclosed in triplicate is the application of Four Corners Gas Producers Association in the above-referenced matter.

The applicant requests that this matter be included on the docket for the examiner hearing scheduled to be held on July 29, 1981.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William F. Carr".

William F. Carr

WFC:lr

Enclosures

- CASE 7335: Application of C & E Operators, Inc. for amendment to Division Order No. R-5459, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the amendment of Division Order No. R-5459 by amending the location of the Northwest-Southeast trending line as described in Exhibit A of said Order No. R-5459 pertaining to Township 30 North, Range 11 West, as follows: Section 6: West and South; Section 8: West and South; Sections 9, 10, and 11: South; and Section 13: West and South.
- CASE 7336: Application of C & E Operators, Inc. for three triple completions, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to triply complete the following wells in Township 30 North, Range 11 West, to produce gas from the Farmer-Fruitland Pool, the Aztec-Pictured Cliffs Pool, and the Blanco Mesaverde Pool through separate strings of tubing: Aztec Wells Nos. 8 in Unit H of Section 8 and 9 in Unit H of Section 9; and Fee Well No. 8 in Unit C of Section 8.
- CASE 7337: Application of Beartooth Oil & Gas Company for downhole commingling, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the downhole commingling of Ojito Gallup-Dakota and Blanco Mesaverde production in the wellbore of its Minel Federal Well No. 1 located in Unit E of Section 7, Township 25 North, Range 3 West. Applicant further seeks the establishment of an administrative procedure for approval of downhole commingling of Gallup-Dakota and Mesaverde production in the W/2 of Sections 6 and 7, Township 25 North, Range 3 West.
- CASE 7338: Application of Beartooth Oil & Gas Company for downhole commingling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the downhole commingling of Fruitland and Farmington production in the wellbore of its Elledge Federal 34 Well No. 11 located in Unit D of Section 34, Township 29 North, Range 11 West.
- CASE 7339: Application of Doyle Hartman for compulsory pooling, unorthodox well location, and simultaneous dedication, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Jalmat Pool underlying the S/2 of Section 17, Township 24 South, Range 37 East, to be simultaneously dedicated to his Late Thomas Well No. 1 located in Unit M of said Section 17, and to two proposed wells, one to be drilled at an orthodox location in Unit J and the other at an unorthodox location 2310 feet from the South line and 330 feet from the West line, both in said Section 17. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said wells and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as operator of the wells, and a charge for risk involved in drilling said wells.
- CASE 7340: Application of Doyle Hartman for directional drilling and unorthodox location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to directionally drill his City of Jal Well No. 1, the surface location of which is 1635 feet from the South line and 1210 feet from the West line of Section 20, Township 25 South, Range 37 East, Jalmat Pool, to top the Jalmat at a bottom hole location 660 feet from the South and West Lines at a vertical depth of 2800 feet and to bottom said well at an unorthodox location 330 feet from the South and West lines at a vertical depth of 3500 feet.
- CASE 7317: (Continued from July 29, 1981, Examiner Hearing)
- Application of Four Corners Gas Producers Association for designation of a tight formation, San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the designation of the Dakota formation underlying Townships 30 and 31 North, Ranges 2 thru 7 West, containing 270,260 acres, more or less, as a tight formation pursuant to Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act and 18 CFR Section 271.701-705.
- CASE 7129: (Continued from August 12, 1981, Examiner Hearing)
- Application of Koch Exploration Company for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Dakota formation underlying the N/2 of Section 28, Township 28 North, Range 8 West, to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location thereon. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as operator of the well, and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well.
- CASE 7169: (Continued from August 12, 1981, Examiner Hearing)
- Application of Koch Exploration Company for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Dakota formation underlying the S/2 of Section 22, Township 28 North, Range 8 West, to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location thereon. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as operator of the well, and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well.

CASE 7315: Application of Rhema Oil Processing for an oil treating plant permit, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority for the construction and operation of an oil treating plant for the purpose of treating and reclaiming sediment oil at a site in the NW/4 of Section 30, Township 18 South, Range 38 East.

CASE 7274: (Continued from June 17, 1981, Examiner Hearing)

Application of Bass Enterprises Production Company for directional drilling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to directionally drill its James Ranch Unit Well No. 13 from an unorthodox surface location 660 feet from the South line and 1340 feet from the East line of Section 36, Township 22 South, Range 30 East, in such a manner as to bottom said well in the Morrow formation at a standard location at least 660 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the West line of Section 31, Township 22 South, Range 31 East, the S/2 of said Section 31 to be dedicated to the well.

CASE 7303: (Continued from July 15, 1981, Examiner Hearing)

Application of Florida Hydrocarbons Company for surface commingling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the surface commingling of Morrow, Strawn, Atoka, and Wolfcamp gas produced from five wells located in Unit F of Section 10, Units G and O of Section 15, and Units A and I of Section 22, all in Township 23 South, Range 34 East, Antelope Ridge Field, after separately metering the gas produced from each well and each zone. Lease liquids would be separated out at the wellhead and the gas processed in a plant, allocating plant production back to each well on the basis of meter readings. Applicant further seeks a procedure whereby additional wells could be similarly commingled in said system.

CASE 7316: Application of Blackwood & Nichols Company, Ltd. for amendment of Order No. R-6636, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the amendment of Division Order No. R-6636 which authorized directional drilling for its Northeast Blanco Unit Well No. 32-A in Section 7, Township 30 North, Range 7 West, to provide for an amended bottom hole location 2213 feet from the South line and 815 feet from the East line of said Section 7.

CASE 7317: Application of Four Corners Gas Producers Association for designation of a tight formation, San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the designation of the Dakota formation underlying Townships 30 and 31 North, Ranges 2 thru 7 West, containing 270,260 acres, more or less, as a tight formation pursuant to Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act and 18 CFR Section 271.701-705.

CASE 7318: Application of Phillips Petroleum Company for salt water disposal, Roosevelt County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to dispose of produced salt water into the Wolfcamp formation in the interval from 7332 feet to 7341 feet in its Peterson "H" Well No. 1 in Unit M of Section 29, Township 5 South, Range 33 East, South Peterson Field.

28R

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

all

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING  
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 7317  
Order No. R-6883

1128

APPLICATION OF FOUR CORNERS GAS  
PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGNATION  
OF A TIGHT FORMATION, SAN JUAN AND  
RIO ARriba COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO.

Jm

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on July 29, and August 26, 1981, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Richard L. Stamets.

NOW, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of ~~November~~, 1981, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That the applicant Four Corners Gas Producers Association requests that the Division in accordance with Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act, and 18 C.F.R. §271.703, recommend to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that the Dakota formation underlying the following lands situated in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the Dakota formation, be designated as a tight formation in said Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's regulations:

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 3 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 6 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 3 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 6 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Containing a total of 270,260 acres, more or less.

(3) That the area proposed for tight formation designation lies within the horizontal limits of the Basin Dakota Gas Pool, which is a very large area previously defined and described by the Oil Conservation Division in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties.

(4) *From next page*  
(5) (4) That within the Basin Dakota Gas Pool are large areas of extensive development and large areas of very limited development. *320-acre*

(6) (5) That the area for which a tight formation designation is sought is one of very limited development comprised of approximately 432 proration units of which 66 are developed by one well and two by one well plus an infill well. *being*

(7) (6) That the area proposed for tight formation designation is a largely undeveloped exploratory area.

(8) That the Dakota formation underlies all the above described lands; that the upper Dakota sand consists of barrier beach deposits about 40 to 60 feet thick, composed of fine grained, quartz-rich sandstones characterized by an increase in grain size upward and low angle crossbedding. The next highest unit is transitional between fluvial and marine sedimentation containing dark carbonaceous shales, thin mudstones, siltstones and sandstones. The basal Dakota consists of carbonaceous shales, thin coal seams, siltstones, and thin channel sandstone. ~~Counties, New Mexico.~~

(9) (8) That the top of the Dakota formation is found at an average depth of 7950 feet below the surface of the area set out in Finding No. (2) above; and has approximately 250 feet of gross thickness.

(10) (9) That the type section for the Dakota formation for the proposed tight formation designation is found at a depth of from approximately 7852 feet to 8084 feet on the log from the Northwest Pipeline Corporation Rosa Unit No. 68 Well located in Unit L of Section 17, Township 31 North, Range 5 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

(10) That the technical evidence presented in this case demonstrated that the predominant percentage of wells which may be completed in the Dakota formation within the proposed tight formation area may reasonably be presumed to exhibit permeability, gas productivity, or crude oil productivity not in excess of the following parameters:

- (a) average in situ gas permeability throughout the pay section of 0.1 millidarcy; and
- (b) stabilized production rates, without stimulation, against atmospheric pressure, as found in the table set out in 18 C.F.R. §271.703(c)(2)(B) of the regulations; and
- (c) production of more than five barrels of crude oil per day.

(11) That within the proposed area there is a recognized aquifer being the Ojo Alamo, found at an average depth of 2385 feet or approximately 5565 feet above the Dakota formation.

(12) That existing State of New Mexico and Federal Regulations relating to casing and cementing of wells will assure that development of the Dakota formation will not adversely affect any overlying aquifers.

*Previous  
page*

(4) ~~(13)~~ That the Dakota formation has been approved for infill drilling which permits the subject area to be developed with one Dakota well on each quarter section or 160 acre tract.

*in the instant case*  
(14) That the Division accepted evidence on economics within this area.

(15) That the economic data was highly variable and of no value in reaching a decision relative to this area.

(16) That based on technical data alone the area described on Exhibit "A" to this order should be recommended to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for designation as a tight formation.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That it be and hereby is recommended to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission pursuant to Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978, and 18 C.F.R. §271.703 of the regulations that the Dakota formation underlying those lands in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico, described on Exhibit "A" to this order, be designated as a tight formation.

(2) That jurisdiction of this cause is hereby retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

-4-

Case No. 7317  
Order No. R-

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year  
hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

JOE D. RAMEY  
Director

S E A L



EXHIBIT A

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 3 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

CASE NO. 7317  
Order No. R-6883-A

APPLICATION OF FOUR CORNERS GAS  
PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGNATION OF A TIGHT FORMATION, SAN JUAN AND RIO ARriba COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO.

NUNC PRO TUNC ORDER

BY THE DIVISION:

It appearing to the Division that Order No. R-6883 dated January 11, 1982, does not correctly state the intended order of the Division,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That Finding No. (6) on pages 2 and 3 of Order No. R-6883 is hereby corrected to read in its entirety as follows:

"(6) That the area for which a tight formation designation is sought is one of very limited development being comprised of approximately 846 proration units of which 66 are developed by one well and two by one well plus an infill well."

(2) That the corrections set forth in this order be entered nunc pro tunc as of January 11, 1982.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 1982.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING  
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 7317  
Order No. R-6883

APPLICATION OF FOUR CORNERS GAS  
PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION FOR DESIG-  
NATION OF A TIGHT FORMATION, SAN  
JUAN AND RIO ARriba COUNTIES, NEW  
MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on July 29 and August 26, 1981, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Richard L. Stamets.

NOW, on this 11th day of January, 1982, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That the applicant, Four Corners Gas Producers Association, requests that the Division in accordance with Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act, and 18 C.F.R. §271.703, recommend to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that the Dakota formation underlying the following lands situated in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the Dakota formation, be designated as a tight formation in said Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's regulations:

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

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Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 6 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Containing a total of 270,260 acres, more or less.

(3) That the area proposed for tight formation designation lies within the horizontal limits of the Basin-Dakota Gas Pool, which is a very large area previously defined and described by the Oil Conservation Division in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties.

(4) That the Dakota formation has been approved for infill drilling which permits the subject area to be developed with one Dakota well on each quarter section or 160-acre tract.

(5) That within the Basin-Dakota Gas Pool are large areas of extensive development and large areas of very limited development.

(6) That the area for which a tight formation designation is sought is one of very limited development being comprised of

approximately 432 320-acre proration units of which 66 are developed by one well and two by one well plus an infill well.

(7) That the area proposed for tight formation designation is a largely undeveloped exploratory area.

(8) That the Dakota formation underlies all of the above described lands; that the upper Dakota sand consists of barrier beach deposits about 40 to 60 feet thick, composed of fine grained, quartz-rich sandstones characterized by an increase in grain size upward and low angle crossbedding. The next highest unit is transitional between fluvial and marine sedimentation containing dark carbonaceous shales, thin mudstones, siltstones and sandstones. The basal Dakota consists of carbonaceous shales, thin coal seams, siltstones, and thin channel sandstone.

(9) That the top of the Dakota formation is found at an average depth of 7950 feet below the surface of the area set out in Finding No. (2) above, and has approximately 250 feet of gross thickness.

(10) That the type section for the Dakota formation for the proposed tight formation designation is found at a depth of from approximately 7852 feet to 8084 feet on the log from the Northwest Pipeline Corporation Rosa Unit Well No. 68 located in Unit 1 of Section 17, Township 31 North, Range 5 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

(11) That the technical evidence presented in this case demonstrated that the predominant percentage of wells which may be completed in the Dakota formation within the proposed tight formation area may reasonably be presumed to exhibit permeability, gas productivity, or crude oil productivity not in excess of the following parameters:

- (a) average in situ gas permeability throughout the pay section of 0.1 millidarcy; and
- (b) stabilized production rates, without stimulation, against atmospheric pressure, as found in the table set out in 18 C.F.R. §271.703(c)(2)(B) of the regulations; and
- (c) production of more than five barrels of crude oil per day.

Case No. 7317  
Order No. R-6883

(12) That within the proposed area there is a recognized aquifer being the Ojo Alamo, found at an average depth of 2385 feet or approximately 5565 feet above the Dakota formation.

(13) That existing State of New Mexico and Federal Regulations relating to casing and cementing of wells will assure that development of the Dakota formation will not adversely affect any overlying aquifers.

(14) That in the instant case the Division accepted evidence on economics within this area.

(15) That the economic data was highly variable and of no value in reaching a decision relative to this area.

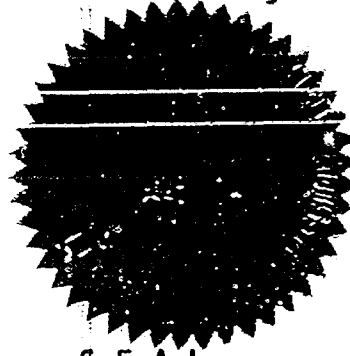
(16) That based on technical data alone the area described on Exhibit "A" to this order should be recommended to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for designation as a tight formation.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That it be and hereby is recommended to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission pursuant to Section 107 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978, and 18 C.F.R. §271.703 of the regulations that the Dakota formation underlying those lands in San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico, described on Exhibit "A" to this order, be designated as a tight formation.

(2) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.



SEAL  
fd/

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

*Joe D. Ramey*  
JOE D. RAMEY  
Director

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST, NMPM  
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Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, NMPM  
Sections 1 through 36: All

Exhibit A  
Order No. R-6883