

*Entered November 28, 1966
A.L.P.*

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION
COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR
THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE No. 3455
Order No. R-2565-B
NOMENCLATURE

APPLICATION OF BENSON-MONTIN-GREER
DRILLING CORPORATION FOR DIVISION OF
AN OIL POOL INTO TWO POOLS AND FOR
SPECIAL RULES FOR EACH, RIO ARRIBA
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on November 16, 1966, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission."

NOW, on this 28th day of November, 1966, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony presented and the exhibits received at said hearing, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That by Order No. R-2565, dated September 9, 1963, as amended by Order No. R-2565-A, dated September 9, 1963, and Order No. R-2855, dated December 29, 1964, temporary Special Rules and Regulations were promulgated for the Puerto Chiquito-Gallup Oil Pool, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

(3) That by Order No. R-3118, dated September 21, 1966, said temporary Special Rules and Regulations were continued in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

(4) That by Order No. R-2580, dated October 30, 1963, the

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Puerto Chiquito-Gallup Oil Pool was redesignated the Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool.

(5) That the applicant, Benson-Montin-Greer Drilling Corporation, seeks the abolishment of the Puerto Chiquito-Gallup Oil Pool (redesignated the Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool), Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, the creation of the East Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool, and the creation of the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool, with vertical limits of each to be the Mancos formation and horizontal limits as follows:

EAST PUERTO CHIQUITO-MANCOS OIL POOL

RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Sections 2 through 5: All
Sections 8 through 10: All
Sections 15 through 17: All
Sections 20 through 22: All
Sections 27 through 29: All
Sections 32 and 33: All

TOWNSHIP 26 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Sections 3 through 10: All
Sections 14 through 18: All
Sections 20 through 23: All
Sections 26 through 29: All
Sections 32 through 35: All

TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Sections 3 through 10: All
Sections 15 through 22: All
Sections 27 through 30: All

TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, NMPM

Section 1: E/2
Section 12: E/2
Section 13: E/2
Section 24: E/2
Section 25: E/2

WEST PUERTO CHIQUITO-MANCOS OIL POOL

RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Sections 6 and 7: All

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TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM (CONTINUED)

Sections 18 and 19: All

Sections 30 and 31: All

TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, NMPM

Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 26 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Section 19: All

Sections 30 and 31: All

TOWNSHIP 26 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, NMPM

Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, NMPM

Section 1: W/2

Sections 2 through 11: All

Section 12: W/2

Section 13: W/2

Sections 14 through 23: All

Section 24: W/2

Section 25: W/2

Sections 26 through 30: All

(6) That the applicant proposes that the East Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool be governed by all the previous rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission presently applicable to the Puerto Chiquito-Gallup Oil Pool (redesignated the Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool).

(7) That the applicant also seeks the promulgation of temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool, including a provision for 320-acre spacing units.

(8) That the applicant further seeks the establishment of an administrative procedure whereby the operators in the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool would be permitted to conduct interference tests and to transfer allowables among producing wells on the same lease or, if in a unitized area, to wells in the same participating area in order to facilitate the gathering of information pertaining to reservoir characteristics.

(9) That the Puerto Chiquito-Gallup Oil Pool (redesignated the Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool) encompasses more than one separate common source of supply and should therefore be abolished.

(10) That each of the proposed pools encompasses a separate common source of supply.

(11) That the East Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool and the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool should be created with horizontal limits as proposed by the applicant and vertical limits comprising the Niobrara member of the Mancos shale.

(12) That the East Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool should be governed by all the previous rules, regulations, and orders presently applicable to the Puerto Chiquito-Gallup Oil Pool (redesignated the Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool).

(13) That in order to prevent the economic loss caused by the drilling of unnecessary wells, to avoid the augmentation of risk arising from the drilling of an excessive number of wells, to prevent reduced recovery which might result from the drilling of too few wells, and to otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights, temporary Special Rules and Regulations providing for 320-acre spacing units should be promulgated for the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool.

(14) That the temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool should provide for limited well locations in order to assure orderly development of the pool and protect correlative rights.

(15) That the said temporary Special Rules and Regulations should be established for a three-year period in order to allow the operators in the West Puerto-Chiquito Mancos Oil Pool to gather reservoir information to establish the area that can be efficiently and economically drained and developed by one well.

(16) That an administrative procedure should be established whereby the operators in the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool would be permitted to conduct interference tests and to transfer allowables among producing wells on the same lease or, if in a unitized area, to wells in the same participating area, during the temporary three-year period in order to facilitate the gathering of information pertaining to reservoir characteristics.

(17) That this case should be reopened in November, 1969, at which time the operators in the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool should appear and show cause why the said pool should not be developed on 40-acre spacing units.

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IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the Puerto Chiquito-Gallup Oil Pool (redesignated the Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool) is hereby abolished.

(2) That a new pool in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, classified as an oil pool for Mancos production, is hereby created and designated the East Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool, with vertical limits comprising the Niobrara member of the Mancos shale, and with horizontal limits as follows:

EAST PUERTO CHIQUITO-MANCOS OIL POOL

RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Sections 2 through 5: All
Sections 8 through 10: All
Sections 15 through 17: All
Sections 20 through 22: All
Sections 27 through 29: All
Sections 32 and 33: All

TOWNSHIP 26 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Sections 3 through 10: All
Sections 14 through 18: All
Sections 20 through 23: All
Sections 26 through 29: All
Sections 32 through 35: All

TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Sections 3 through 10: All
Sections 15 through 22: All
Sections 27 through 30: All

TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, NMPM

Section 1: E/2
Section 12: E/2
Section 13: E/2
Section 24: E/2
Section 25: E/2

(3) That a new pool in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, classified as an oil pool for Mancos production, is hereby created and designated the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool, with vertical

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limits comprising the Niobrara member of the Mancos shale, and with horizontal limits as follows:

WEST PUERTO CHIQUITO-MANCOS OIL POOL

RIO ARriba COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Sections 6 and 7: All

Sections 18 and 19: All

Sections 30 and 31: All

TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, NMPM

Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 26 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, NMPM

Section 19: All

Sections 30 and 31: All

TOWNSHIP 26 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, NMPM

Sections 1 through 36: All

TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, NMPM

Section 1: W/2

Sections 2 through 11: All

Section 12: W/2

Section 13: W/2

Sections 14 through 23: All

Section 24: W/2

Section 25: W/2

Sections 26 through 30: All

(4) That the East Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool shall be governed by all the previous rules, regulations, and orders presently applicable to the Puerto Chiquito-Gallup Oil Pool (re-designated the Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool).

(5) That temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool are hereby promulgated as follows:

SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE

WEST PUERTO CHIQUITO-MANCOS OIL POOL

RULE 1. Each well completed or recompleted in the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool shall be spaced, drilled, operated, and

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produced in accordance with the Special Rules and Regulations hereinafter set forth.

RULE 2. Each well completed or recompleted in the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool shall be located on a standard unit consisting of approximately 320 acres which shall comprise any two contiguous quarter sections of a single governmental section, being a legal subdivision (half section) of the United States Public Lands Survey. For purposes of these rules, a unit consisting of between 316 and 324 contiguous surface acres shall be considered a standard unit.

RULE 3. Each well completed or recompleted in the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool shall be located within 165 feet of the center of a governmental quarter-quarter section.

RULE 4. The Secretary-Director of the Commission may grant an exception to the requirements of Rule 3 without notice and hearing when an application has been filed for an unorthodox location necessitated by topographical conditions or the recompletion of a well previously drilled to another horizon. All operators offsetting the proposed unorthodox location shall be notified of the application by registered or certified mail, and the application shall state that such notice has been furnished. The Secretary-Director may approve the application upon receipt of written waivers from all offset operators or if no offset operator has entered an objection to the unorthodox location within 20 days after the Secretary-Director has received the application.

RULE 5. A standard unit in the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool (316 through 324 acres) shall be assigned a 320-acre proportional factor of 8.00 for allowable purposes. Any unit containing less than 316 acres or more than 324 acres shall be assigned a proportional factor in the same ratio to 8.00 as the acreage in the unit bears to 320.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

(1) That any well presently drilling to or completed in the Niobrara member of the Mancos shale within the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool that will not comply with the well location requirements of Rule 3 is hereby granted an exception to the requirements of said rule. The operator shall notify the Aztec District Office

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of the Commission in writing of the name and location of the well on or before December 15, 1966.

(2) That any operator desiring to dedicate 320 acres to a well presently drilling to or completed in the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool shall file a new Form C-102 with the Commission on or before December 15, 1966.

(3) That the Secretary-Director of the Commission is hereby authorized to approve interference tests and the transfer of allowables to wells on the same lease or, if in a unitized area, to wells in the same participating area, provided however, that no transfer well shall be permitted to receive, in addition to its own allowable, more than one top unit allowable for the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool; that the Secretary-Director of the Commission is hereby authorized to permit the accumulation of allowables for wells shut in for interference tests and to permit the transfer of back allowables from shut-in wells, provided however, that the period of time authorized to produce back allowable shall not exceed six months following completion of the interference tests.

To obtain administrative approval for interference tests and the transfer of allowable, the operator shall submit in triplicate a request for such authority describing in detail the proposed method of conducting such tests and transferring the allowable. The application shall be accompanied by a plat showing thereon all Mancos wells within a radius of two miles of the proposed shut-in well(s) and the transfer well(s). The plat shall also identify each lease or participating area as to ownership or operating rights. The application shall include evidence that all offset operators to the shut-in well(s) and the transfer well(s) have been furnished a complete copy of the application. It shall also be accompanied by Form C-116 for each shut-in well, showing the results of a pre-shut-in test to determine the amount of allowable to be transferred. The transferred allowable shall not exceed the volume of oil produced during the last 24 hours of a 72-hour period during which the well shall be produced at a constant rate. The Commission and offset operators to both the shut-in well(s) and the transfer well(s) may witness such tests if they so desire and shall be notified of the tests at least 48 hours prior to the commencement thereof.

The Secretary-Director of the Commission may grant approval of the interference tests and transfer of allowable upon receipt

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of waivers from all offset operators or upon expiration of a 20-day waiting period, provided no offset operator has objected to the proposed test and transfer.

(4) That notwithstanding any of the provisions of Rule 104(a) of the Commission Rules and Regulations, the temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool shall not be applicable outside the limits of said pool as hereinabove defined or as hereafter extended.

(5) That this case shall be reopened in November, 1969, at which time the operators in the West Puerto Chiquito-Mancos Oil Pool may appear and show cause why the said pool should not be developed on 40-acre spacing units.

(6) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION


JACK M. CAMPBELL, Chairman


GUYTON B. HAYS, Member


A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary

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