

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR DIVISION USE ONLY

**NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**  
- Engineering Bureau -

**ADMINISTRATIVE APPLICATION COVERSHEET**

THIS COVERSHEET IS MANDATORY FOR ALL ADMINISTRATIVE APPLICATIONS FOR EXCEPTIONS TO DIVISION RULES AND REGULATIONS

**Application Acronyms:**

- [NSP-Non-Standard Proration Unit] [NSL-Non-Standard Location]
- [DD-Directional Drilling] [SD-Simultaneous Dedication]
- [DHC-Downhole Commingling] [CTB-Lease Commingling] [PLC-Pool/Lease Commingling]
- [PC-Pool Commingling] [OLS - Off-Lease Storage] [OLM-Off-Lease Measurement]
- [WFX-Waterflood Expansion] [PMX-Pressure Maintenance Expansion]
- [SWD-Salt Water Disposal] [IPI-Injection Pressure Increase]
- [EOR-Qualified Enhanced Oil Recovery Certification] [PPR-Positive Production Response]

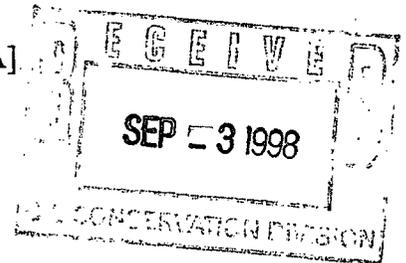
**[1] TYPE OF APPLICATION - Check Those Which Apply for [A]**

- [A] Location - Spacing Unit - Directional Drilling  
 NSL     NSP     DD     SD

Check One Only for [B] and [C]

- [B] Commingling - Storage - Measurement  
 DHC     CTB     PLC     PC     OLS     OLM

- [C] Injection - Disposal - Pressure Increase - Enhanced Oil Recovery  
 WFX     PMX     SWD     IPI     EOR     PPR



**[2] NOTIFICATION REQUIRED TO: - Check Those Which Apply, or  Does Not Apply**

- [A]  Working, Royalty or Overriding Royalty Interest Owners
- [B]  Offset Operators, Leaseholders or Surface Owner
- [C]  Application is One Which Requires Published Legal Notice
- [D]  Notification and/or Concurrent Approval by BLM or SLO  
U.S. Bureau of Land Management - Commissioner of Public Lands, State Land Office
- [E]  For all of the above, Proof of Notification or Publication is Attached, and/or,
- [F]  Waivers are Attached

**[3] INFORMATION / DATA SUBMITTED IS COMPLETE - Statement of Understanding**

I hereby certify that I, or personnel under my supervision, have read and complied with all applicable Rules and Regulations of the Oil Conservation Division. Further, I assert that the attached application for administrative approval is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and where applicable, verify that all interest (WI, RI, ORRI) is common. I understand that any omission of data, information or notification is cause to have the application package returned with no action taken.

Note: Statement must be completed by an individual with supervisory capacity.

W. T. Kellahin  
 Print or Type Name

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 Signature

Attorney  
 Title

9/2/98  
 Date

**KELLAHIN AND KELLAHIN**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

EL PATIO BUILDING

117 NORTH GUADALUPE

POST OFFICE BOX 2265

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2265

TELEPHONE (505) 982-4285  
TELEFAX (505) 982-2047

W. THOMAS KELLAHIN\*

\*NEW MEXICO BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION  
RECOGNIZED SPECIALIST IN THE AREA OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES-OIL AND GAS LAW

JASON KELLAHIN (RETIRED 1991)

September 2, 1998

**HAND DELIVERED**

Mr. Michael E. Stogner  
Oil Conservation Division  
2040 South Pacheco  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

*Hills*  
RE: ~~North Indian Basin Unit Well No. 12~~  
2080 feet FNL & 2130 feet FWL  
Section 33, T21S, R24E  
Administrative Application of  
Marathon Oil Company for Approval  
of an Unorthodox Gas Well Location,  
Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Stogner:

Please find enclosed our administrative application for approval of  
an unorthodox gas well location for Marathon Oil Company's ~~North Indian~~  
Basin Unit Well No. 12.

*Hills*

Very truly yours,



W. Thomas Kellahin

fx: Marathon Oil Company  
Attn: Walter Dueease

98 AUG 31 PM 12: 27

OIL CONSERVATION DIV.

98 SEP -3 PM 2: 38

OIL CONSERVATION DIV.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE  
APPLICATION OF MARATHON OIL COMPANY  
FOR APPROVAL OF AN UNORTHODOX GAS WELL  
LOCATION, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

**ADMINISTRATIVE APPLICATION**

Comes now Marathon Oil Company, by and through its attorneys, Kellahin and Kellahin, and in accordance with Division General Rule 104.F applies to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for administrative approval of an unorthodox gas well location for its Indian Hills Unit Well No. 12 ("Well No. 12") which was drilled at an unorthodox gas well location 2080 feet FNL and 2130 feet FWL of Section 33, T21S, R24E, Eddy County, New Mexico and is currently dedicated to a standard 320-acre proration and spacing unit consisting of the N/2 of this section for production from the Indian Basin Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, and in support states:

(1) Marathon Oil Company ("Marathon") is the operator of the Indian Hills Unit which includes all of Section 33 in which the subject well is located. **See Exhibit 1**

(2) Section 33 is within the current boundary of the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, the special rules and regulations of which provide, among other things, that:

- (a) wells shall be no closer than 660 feet to an outerboundary of a GPU;
- (b) a GPU consisting of 320-acres;
- (c) multiple wells can be drilled within a GPU limited however to no more than one well per 80 acre tract;
- (d) a maximum oil allowable of 1400 BOPD;
- (e) a maximum gas allowable of 9.8 MMCFPD; and
- (f) a GOR of 7,000 to 1.

**Administrative Application of  
Marathon Oil Company  
Page 2**

(3) In July, 1996, Well No. 12 was drilled and completed in the Indian Basin Upper-Penn Associated Pool with a initial potential of 227 BO, 253 MCF of gas and 661 barrels of water. However, it only produced approximately 47 barrels of oil in July 1996 and had no further production until it was worked over in July, 1998 when it commenced pumping 165 BOPD, 1000 MCFGPD and 3800 BWPD. To date the total cumulative production has been 39,325 MCF, 4112 BO and 107,189 BW.

(4) Well No. 12 is located 618 feet from the southern boundary of its GPU and encroaches upon the S/2 of Section 33 which is also included in the Indian Hills Unit.

(5) A search of Marathon's records fails to disclose why Marathon inadvertently failed to obtain Division approval for this well location prior to drilling.

(6) Marathon's files reflect the following:

(a) in September, 1995, Marathon staked the well at a standard location 1980 feet from the north and west lines of Section 33;

(b) within the standard drilling window of the N/2 of Section 33, there are only two areas flat enough to be acceptable for BLM drilling purposes; **See area highlighted in blue on Exhibit 2.**

(c) one of those areas in this GPU is already dedicated to the Indian Hills Well No. 9 located 990 feet FNL and 1980 feet FEL of Section 33;

(d) the second blue area in this GPU is where the Well No. 12 is located.

(e) however, the BLM also required that the staked location be moved 180 feet to the southeast to comply with the special drilling stipulations for the East Indian Basin Oil Field Development;

**Administrative Application of  
Marathon Oil Company  
Page 3**

(f) the BLM regarded the original standard location as one that would interfere with the Scenic Byways Visual Resources of State Highway 137 which is visible 0.5 miles to the north in Section 28; **See Exhibit 3**

(7) Marathon plans to use the Well No. 12 as a "dual" producer and injector for the disposal of produced water into the Devonian formation and production of gas and oil production from the Upper Pennsylvanian formation. **See wellbore schematic Exhibit 4.**

(8) On April 20, 1998 Marathon filed its administrative application (Form C-108) with the Division seeking approval for the disposal portion of this wellbore. The Division has not granted approval.

(9) No notification of this application is required because encroachment is towards the S/2 of Section 33 which is included in the Indian Hills Unit and therefore has common ownership with the N/2 of Section 33.

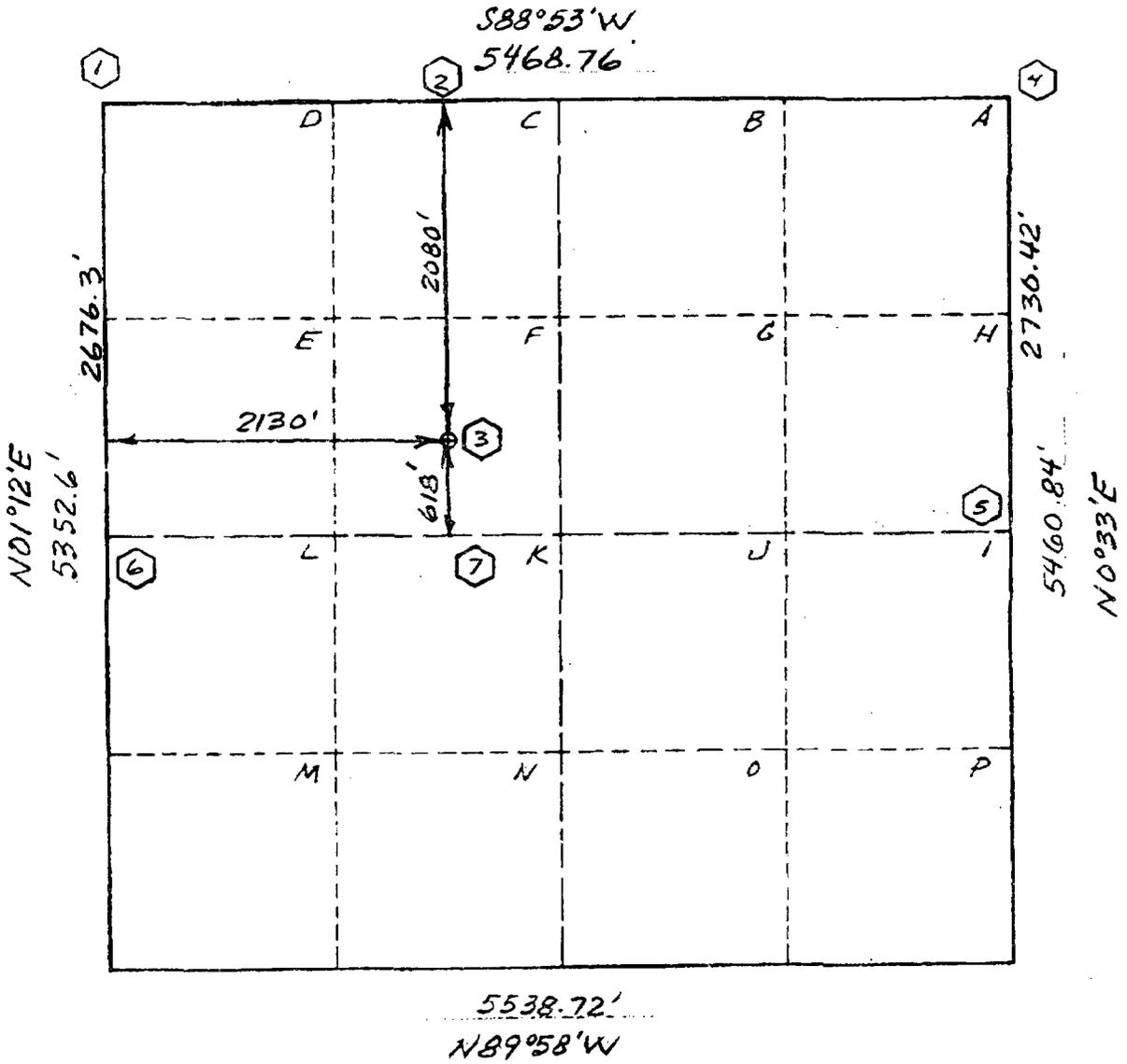
WHEREFORE, Marathon Oil Company requests that this matter be approved administratively by the Division.

Respectfully submitted,



W. Thomas Kellahin  
Kellahin and Kellahin  
P.O. Box 2265  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2265  
(505) 982-4285  
Attorneys for Applicant

Section 33 Township 21 S Range 24 E  
Eddy County  
 Scale 1" = 1000'



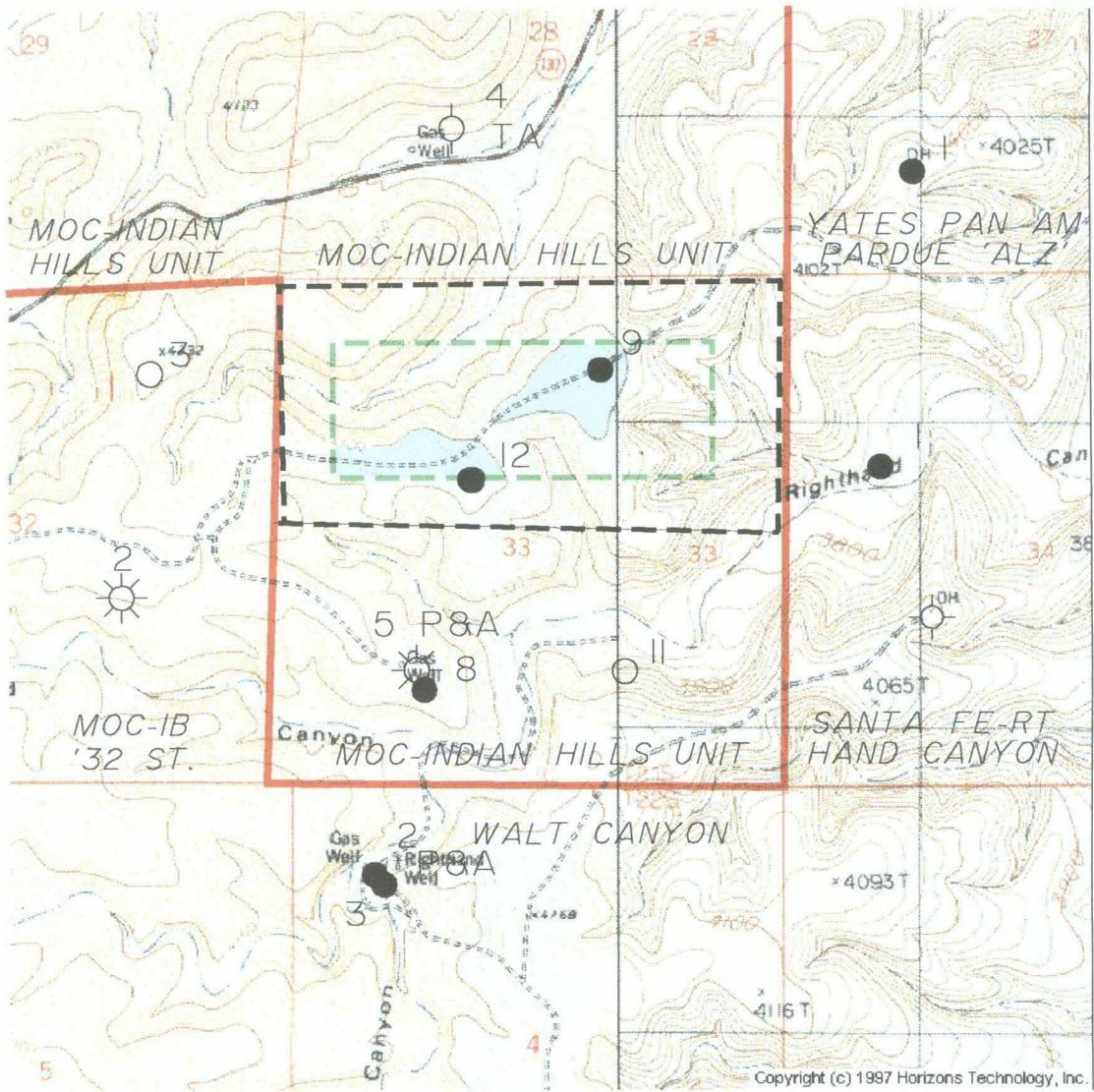


EXHIBIT  
2

The Top of

Scenic Byway

Gas Well

915 687 8171

Right Hand Canyon

Canyon

CANYON

Gas Well

Gas Well

Right Hand Well

Gas Well

OH

34 5895T

4065T

x4093T

4116T

4021T

x4025T

2 N/2 320

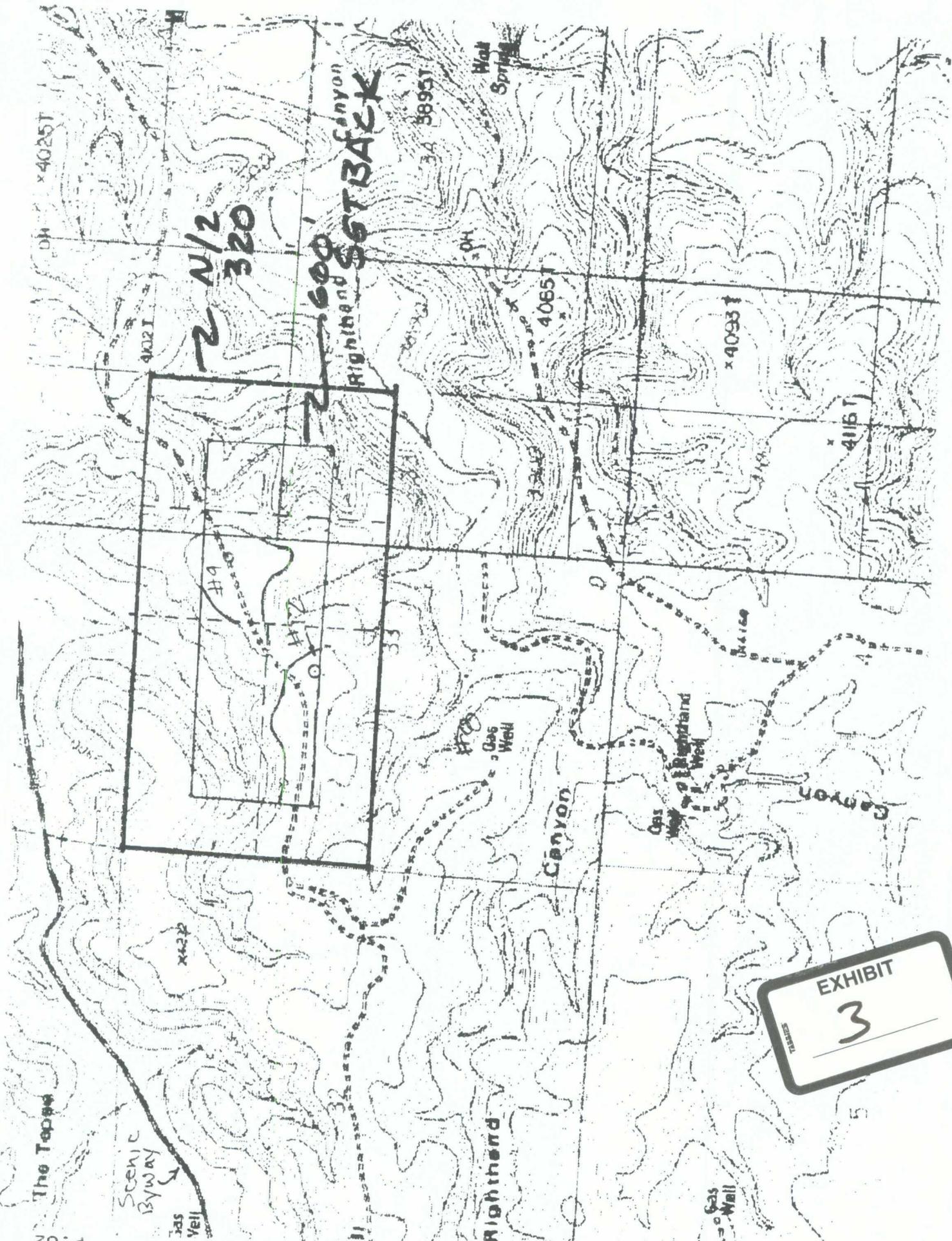
600'

Right Hand Canyon SGT BACK

Well Springs

EXHIBIT

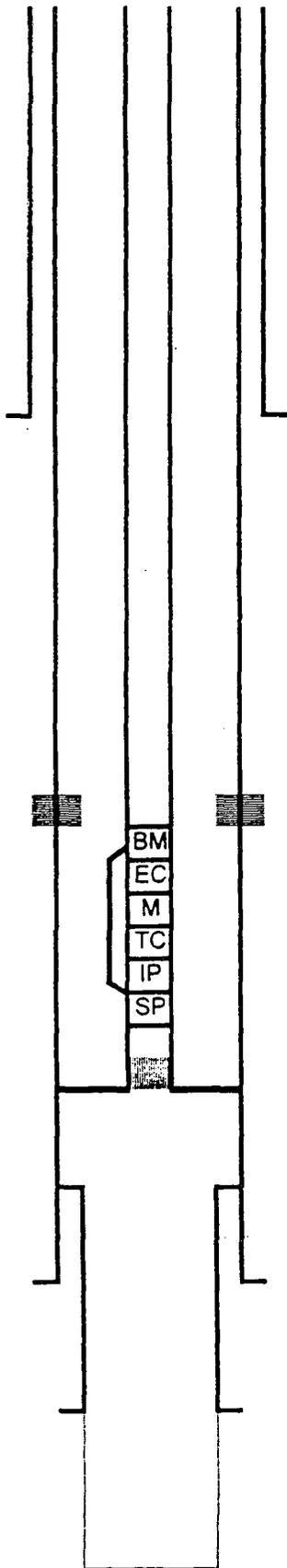
3



Indian Hills Unit Well No. 12  
(Part III B)

PROPOSED DOWNHOLE SEPARATION AND INJECTION

FIELD: INDIAN BASIN  
WELL: INDIAN HILL UNIT #12  
LOCATION: 2080 FNL 2130 FWL, SEC. 33, T21S - R24E  
COUNTY: EDDY  
STATE: NM  
STATUS: SHUT IN  
DATE: 3/16/98  
ELEVATIONS: 4115' GL & 4113' KB



9 5/8"

@ 1800' SURFACE: 9 5/8", 36#, K-55 set at 1800'. CMT w/ 970 sxs  
Circulated

PRODUCTION: 7", 23# & 26#, K-55 set at 10210', CMT w/ 1325 sxs  
Circulated 164 sxs

LINER: 4 1/2" 11.35#, L-80 FL-4S @ 10,900'  
TOL @ 10,000'

PRODUCING  
INTERVAL: 7804' - 8200'

SQUEEZE PERFS: 8,140'-8,164' [2 spf/49 holes]

DOWNHOLE EQUIP.: 2 7/8" 6.5# L-80 TBG, Bypass Manifold, Expansion Chamber,  
Motor, Thrust Chamber, Injection Pump, Oil-water separator,  
Injection Tubing, Seal Bore Asm. & Packer

PKR @ 9,200'

TOL @ 10,000'

7" @ 10,210'

4 1/2" Liner @ 10,900'

INJECTION ZONE: 6 1/8" OPENHOLE

TD @ 11,500'



169.34      171.06  
 84.45      84.89      85.31      85.75

④ 412.16	③ 42.38	② 42.59	① 42.81
⑤ 42.29	⑥ 42.51	⑦ 42.72	⑧ 42.94
⑫ 42.42	⑪ 42.64	⑩ 42.85	⑨ 43.07
⑬ 42.55	⑭ 42.77	⑮ 42.98	⑯ 43.20

340.40

SECTION 33      TOWNSHIP 21 S.      RANGE 24 E

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS, AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING  
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSIDERING:

NOMENCLATURE  
CASE NO. 10748  
Order No. R-9922

APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM  
CORPORATION FOR POOL CREATION,  
CLASSIFICATION OF THE NEW POOL  
AS AN ASSOCIATED POOL AND FOR  
SPECIAL POOL RULES, EDDY COUNTY,  
NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on June 17, 1993, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 6th day of July, 1993, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

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

(2) The applicant, Yates Petroleum Corporation, seeks the creation of a new associated pool for the production of oil and gas from the Upper Pennsylvanian formation comprising the W/2 of Section 17, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

(3) The applicant further seeks the promulgation of temporary special rules and regulations including 320-acre oil and gas spacing, designated well location requirements, a limit of no more than one well per quarter section, a special depth bracket allowable of 1400 barrels of oil per day per standard proration unit and an administrative procedure for approval of unorthodox well locations and non-standard spacing and proration units.

(4) At the time of the hearing the applicant requested that the portion of its request for an administrative procedure for obtaining approval for unorthodox well locations and non-standard spacing and proration units be dismissed.

**NOMENCLATURE**

**CASE No. 10748**

**Order No. R-9922**

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(5) Nearburg Producing Company (Nearburg), a leasehold operator in this area, appeared at the hearing in support of Yates' application with the exception of the request to limit the well density to one well per quarter section. In addition, Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P. and Marathon Oil Company appeared through counsel at the hearing but did not present evidence or testimony nor did they protest the application.

(6) On October 15, 1992 the applicant commenced re-entry operations on its Hickory "ALV" Federal Well No. 1 (previously the Pan American Petroleum Corporation I. T. Hollowell "A" USA No. 1) located 1650 feet from the North and West lines (Unit F) of Section 17, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico. The subject well has been completed in the Canyon formation through the perforated interval from approximately 8,139 feet to 8,259 feet.

(7) According to applicant's evidence and testimony, the Hickory "ALV" Federal Well No. 1 was tested in the Canyon formation on June 15, 1992 at a rate of 408 BOPD, 1,197 BWPD and 511 MCFGD.

(8) The subject well is located approximately 10 miles south of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool and directly adjacent to the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool.

(9) The applicant's geologic evidence and testimony in this case indicates that:

a) the Hickory "ALV" Federal Well No. 1 is producing from the same Dolomite section, albeit structurally lower, being produced in the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool;

b) the Dolomite section in the Hickory "ALV" Federal Well No. 1 exhibits similar geologic characteristics to the Dolomite section being produced in the North and South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pools;

c) the subject reservoir will likely ultimately be determined to be a separate "oil leg" of the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool or an extension of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool.

(10) The engineering evidence and testimony in this case indicates that the oil being produced in the Hickory "ALV" Federal Well No. 1, having a gravity of approximately 42 degrees, is similar to that being produced in the North and South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pools. The gravity of oil being produced in the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool ranges from 58-60 degrees.

**NOMENCLATURE**

**CASE No. 10748**

**Order No. R-9922**

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(11) The evidence currently available regarding the subject reservoir indicates that a new associated pool for the production of oil and gas from the Upper Pennsylvanian formation should be created and designated the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, with horizontal limits comprising the W/2 of Section 17, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

(12) The applicant contends that the similarities between the subject reservoir and the North and South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pools are sufficient to justify the promulgation of special rules and regulations similar to those currently governing these pools.

(13) The North Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool is currently governed by Special Rules and Regulations as promulgated by Division Order No. R-4691, as amended, and Order No. R-5565, which require 160-acre spacing with wells to be located no closer than 660 feet from the outer boundary of the proration unit nor closer than 330 feet from any quarter-quarter section line or subdivision inner boundary, an oil allowable of 700 barrels per day, and a limiting gas-oil ratio of 10,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil.

(14) The South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool is currently governed by Special Rules and Regulations as promulgated by Division Order No. R-5353, as amended, which require 320-acre oil or gas spacing with wells to be located no closer than 660 feet from the outer boundary of the proration unit nor closer than 330 feet from any quarter-quarter section line or subdivision inner boundary, an oil allowable of 1400 barrels per day, and a limiting gas-oil ratio of 10,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil.

(15) The Special Rules and Regulations for the North and South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pools do not prohibit the drilling of more than one well on a standard proration unit.

(16) In support of its request to limit the well density to one well per quarter section, the applicant testified that the Hickory "ALV" Federal Well No. 1, based upon analogies to wells in the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, should be capable of draining an area of approximately 80-100 acres.

(17) Without a limitation on well density, the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool has been developed on 40-acre well spacing, which, according to the applicant, is too dense for this type of reservoir.

**NOMENCLATURE**

**CASE No. 10748**

**Order No. R-9922**

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(18) Nearburg requested that the proposed pool rules contain a rule similar to Rule No. 22 of the Special Rules and Regulations for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool which states that all or part of the 1400 BOPD allowable may be produced by a single well or by two or more wells on a standard proration unit.

(19) Nearburg has the opportunity, during the period when temporary special rules and regulations are in place for the subject reservoir, to acquire drainage data and reopen this case in order to present evidence and testimony to support its request.

(20) In the absence of compelling evidence to support denser well spacing, and in order to prevent the drilling of unnecessary wells, the Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should provide for 320-acre well spacing with no more than two wells per standard unit.

(21) The applicant requested an oil allowable of 1400 barrels per day per standard proration unit and a gas-oil ratio limitation of 2,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil. Applicant's requested oil allowable is based upon:

a) a similar oil allowable currently in effect for both the North and South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pools, and,

b) a gas well in the subject reservoir being able to effectively compete with gas wells in the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool, whose gas allowable has stabilized, according to the applicant, at approximately 5.5 MMCFGD.

(22) The oil allowable currently in effect for the North and South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pools was established by the Division, at least in part, in order to provide an incentive to operators to drill additional wells. In addition, there is no evidence at the current time to indicate that the proposed allowable will not cause excessive waste of reservoir energy, thereby resulting in decreased ultimate oil recovery.

(23) The Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should be assigned an oil allowable equal to the depth bracket allowable of 470 barrels of oil per day per 160-acre tract, or 940 BOPD.

(24) Temporary Special Rules and Regulations should be promulgated for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool for a period of eighteen months. These rules should provide for 320-acre oil and gas spacing and proration units, a limitation of one well per quarter section, designated well location requirements, an oil allowable of 940 barrels of oil per day per standard proration unit and a limiting gas-oil ratio of 2,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil.

**NOMENCLATURE**

**CASE No. 10748**

**Order No. R-9922**

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(25) This case should be reopened at an examiner hearing in January, 1995 at which time the operators in the subject pool should be prepared to appear and present evidence and testimony regarding the nature of the subject reservoir, the appropriate well spacing, and an appropriate oil allowable.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) A new associated pool for the production of oil and gas from the Upper Pennsylvanian formation is hereby created and designated the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool with horizontal limits comprising the W/2 of Section 17, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

(2) The Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool is hereby classified as an associated oil and gas pool and shall be operated in accordance with the General Rules and Regulations for the Associated Oil and Gas Pools of Northwest and Southeast New Mexico unless these general rules are in conflict with the Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool hereinafter promulgated in which case the provisions of the special rules and regulations shall apply.

(3) Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool are hereby promulgated as follows:

**SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS  
FOR THE  
INDIAN BASIN-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN ASSOCIATED POOL**

**RULE 2.** (a) A standard oil proration unit shall comprise 320 acres. A standard gas proration unit shall comprise 320 acres.

**RULE 2.** (b) Each well shall be located no closer than 660 feet from the outer boundary of the proration unit nor closer than 330 feet from any quarter-quarter section line or subdivision inner boundary. No more than one well per quarter section shall be permitted on a proration unit.

**RULE 22.** The special depth bracket allowable for a 320-acre proration unit shall be 940 barrels of oil per day. All or any part of the allowable may be produced by a single well or by two wells on the unit. However, total oil allowable assigned to a 320-acre unit shall not exceed 940 barrels per day.

**NOMENCLATURE**

**CASE No. 10748**

**Order No. R-9922**

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**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:**

(4) The location of all wells presently drilling to or completed in the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool or in the Upper Pennsylvanian formation within one mile thereof are hereby approved; the operator of any well having an unorthodox location shall notify the Artesia District Office of the Division in writing of the name and location of the well within 30 days from the date of this order.

(5) Pursuant to Paragraph A of Section 70-2-18, N.M.S.A. 1978 Comp., contained in Laws of 1969, Chapter 271, existing oil and gas wells in the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool shall have dedicated thereto 320 acres in accordance with the foregoing pool rules; or, pursuant to Paragraph C of said Section 70-2-18, existing wells may have non-standard spacing or proration units established by the Division and dedicated thereto.

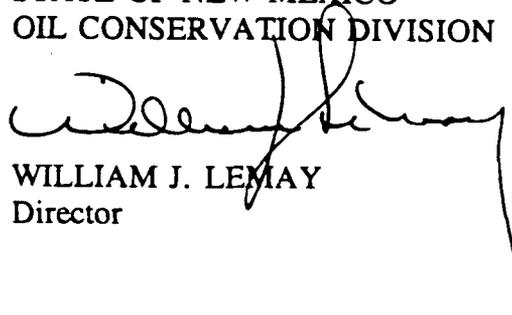
Failure to file new Forms C-102 with the Division dedicating 320 acres to a well or to obtain a non-standard unit approved by the Division within 60 days from the date of this order shall subject the well to cancellation of allowable until a non-standard spacing unit has been approved and, subject to said 60-day limitation, each well presently drilling to or completed in the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool or in its corresponding vertical limits, or within one mile thereof, shall receive no more than one-fourth of a standard allowable for said pool.

(6) This case shall be reopened at an examiner hearing in January, 1995, at which time the operators in the subject pool may appear and show cause why the Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool promulgated herein should not be rescinded.

(7) Jurisdiction is hereby 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.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

  
WILLIAM J. LEMAY  
Director

S E A L

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF CASE NO. 10748 BEING REOPENED UPON APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION TO AMEND THE SPACING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE INDIAN BASIN-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN ASSOCIATED POOL, ESTABLISHED BY ORDER NO. R-9922, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 10748  
ORDER NO. R-9922-A

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on December 16, 1993, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Jim Morrow.

NOW, on this 22nd day of December, 1993, the Division Director, having considered the record and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

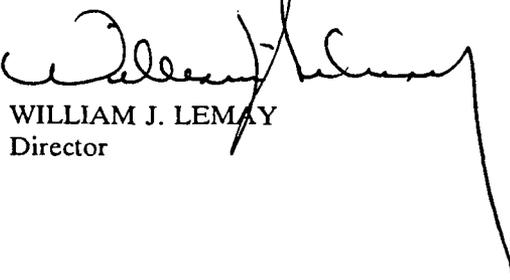
- (1) Due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) Yates Petroleum Corporation made application to reopen Case No. 10748 to amend the spacing requirements for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool established by Order No. R-9922, Eddy County, New Mexico.
- (3) By letter dated December 10, 1993, the applicant requested this case be dismissed.
- (4) The applicant's request for dismissal should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

Case No. 10748 is hereby dismissed.

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

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

  
WILLIAM J. LEMAY  
Director

S E A L

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS, AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING  
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSIDERING:**

**CASE NO. 10748 (Reopened)  
Order No. R-9922-B**

**IN THE MATTER OF CASE NO. 10748  
BEING REOPENED PURSUANT TO THE  
PROVISIONS OF DIVISION ORDER NO.  
R-9922, WHICH ORDER PROMULGATED  
TEMPORARY SPECIAL RULES AND  
REGULATIONS FOR THE INDIAN BASIN-  
UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN ASSOCIATED  
POOL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

**ORDER OF THE DIVISION**

**BY THE DIVISION:**

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on February 2, 1995, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 6th day of February, 1995, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

**FINDS THAT:**

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

(2) By Order No. R-9922 issued in Case No. 10748 on July 6, 1993, the Division, upon application of Yates Petroleum Corporation, created the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool in Section 17, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico, and promulgated Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for said pool including the establishment of standard 320-acre oil or gas spacing and proration units, designated well locations, and a special depth bracket allowable of 940 barrels of oil per day.

(3) Pursuant to the provisions of Order No. R-9922, this case was reopened to allow the operators in the subject pool to appear and present evidence and testimony to show cause why the Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should not be rescinded and the pool developed on statewide rules and regulations.

(4) Yates Petroleum Corporation, Marathon Oil Company, Nearburg Producing Company and Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P. appeared at the hearing through legal counsel.

(5) Yates Petroleum Corporation requested at the hearing that the Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool remain in effect for an additional twelve month period.

(6) According to Yates' statement, the conductance of an environmental audit during the past eighteen months has precluded developmental drilling within the subject pool.

(7) All operators represented at the hearing were in agreement with Yates' request.

(8) Approval of Yates' request will allow the operators in the subject pool additional time to gather reservoir data pertinent to this case.

(9) No other operator and/or interest owner appeared at the hearing in opposition to Yates' request.

(10) The Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin- Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should remain in effect for an additional twelve month period.

(11) This case should be reopened at an Examiner hearing in January, 1996, at which time the operators in the subject pool should be prepared to appear and show cause why the Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin- Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should not be rescinded and the pool developed on statewide rules and regulations.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) The Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin- Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool are hereby continued in full force and effect for an additional twelve month period.

**Case No. 10748 (Reopened)**

**Order No. R-9922-B**

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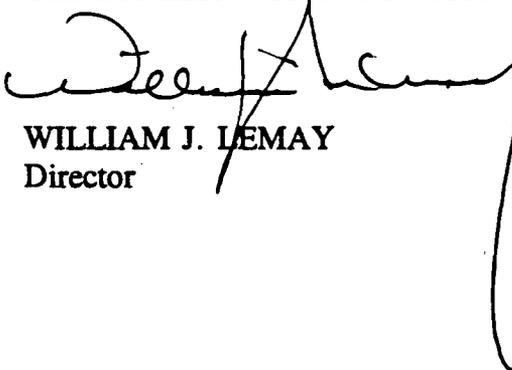
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(2) This case shall be reopened at an Examiner hearing in January, 1996, at which time the operators in the subject pool shall be prepared to appear and show cause why the Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin- Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should not be rescinded and the pool developed on statewide rules and regulations.

(3) Jurisdiction is hereby 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.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION



WILLIAM J. LEMAY  
Director

S E A L

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS, AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING  
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 10748 (Reopened)  
CASE NO. 11484  
Order No. R-9922-C

IN THE MATTER OF CASE NO. 10748 BEING REOPENED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION ORDER NO. R-9922-B, WHICH ORDER CONTINUED IN EFFECT THE TEMPORARY SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE INDIAN BASIN-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN ASSOCIATED POOL AS PROMULGATED BY DIVISION ORDER NO. R-9922, AS AMENDED, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION TO AMEND THE SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE INDIAN BASIN-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN ASSOCIATED POOL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on March 21, 1996, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 14th day of May, 1996, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

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

(2) Division Case Nos. 10748 (Reopened) and Case No. 11484 were consolidated at the time of the hearing for the purpose of testimony, and inasmuch as both cases concern the Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, one order should be entered for both cases.

CASE NO. 10748 (Reopened)

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(3) By Order No. R-9922 issued in Case No. 10748 on July 6, 1993, the Division, upon application of Yates Petroleum Corporation (Yates), created the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool in Section 17, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico, and promulgated Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for said pool including the establishment of standard 320-acre oil or gas spacing and proration units, designated well locations, and a special depth bracket allowable of 940 barrels of oil per day.

(4) Pursuant to the provisions of Order No. R-9922, Case No. 10748 was reopened and heard in February, 1995, to consider permanently adopting the Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool. At the request of Yates and for good cause shown, the subject temporary rules were continued in full force and effect for an additional twelve month period.

(5) Pursuant to the provisions of Order No. R-9922-B, this case is being reopened at the present time to allow the operators in the subject pool to appear and present evidence and testimony to show cause why the Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should not be rescinded and the pool developed on statewide rules and regulations.

(6) The applicant in Case No. 11484, Yates Petroleum Corporation, seeks to amend the Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool whereby:

- a) no more than one well would be allowed to be drilled per 80 acre tract;
- b) the simultaneous dedication of acreage to both oil and gas wells would be allowed;
- c) the gas-oil ratio limitation for the pool would be increased from 2,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil to 10,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil; and,
- d) the oil allowable for the pool would be increased from 940 barrels of oil per day to 1,400 barrels of oil per day.

(7) Yates Petroleum Corporation appeared and presented technical evidence and testimony in support of adopting amended and permanent rules for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool.

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(8) Marathon Oil Company and Santa Fe Energy Resources Inc., both operators in the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, appeared through legal counsel at the hearing in support of adopting permanent rules for the pool and in support of Yates' proposed pool rule amendments.

(9) The Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool currently comprises all or portions of Sections 27, 33 and 34, Township 21 South, Range 24 East, and all or portions of Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16 and 17, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

(10) According to the latest Division Monthly Statistical Report, there are twenty-one wells producing from the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool operated by five different companies. The pool rules currently in effect for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool are summarized as follows:

SIM. DEDICATION				
<u>SPACING</u>	<u>ALLOWABLE</u>	<u>POOL GOR</u>	<u>ALLOWED</u>	<u>DRILLING DENSITY</u>
320 Acres/Oil	940 BOPD	2,000:1	No	1 Well/160 acres
320 Acres/Gas	1.88 MMCFGD			

(11) The geologic evidence presented at the hearing in this matter and in numerous prior cases presented before the Division indicates that the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool is a small portion of an extensive Cisco-Canyon reservoir which encompasses the North Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool, the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, and the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool. This extensive reservoir comprises portions of Townships 19, 20, 20 1/2, 21 and 22 and Ranges 23, 24 and 25.

(12) The North Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool, South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool and the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool are all currently governed by permanent special rules and regulations summarized as follows:

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<u>POOL NAME</u>	<u>OIL/GAS/ ASSOCIATED</u>	<u>SPACING</u>	<u>ALLOWABLE</u>	<u>POOL GOR</u>	<u>SIM. DEDICATION ALLOWED</u>
North Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian	Oil	160 acres	700 BOPD 7.0 MMCFGD	10,000:1	No/NA
South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated	Associated	320 acres/ Oil 320 acres/ Gas	1,400 BOPD 9.8 MMCFGD	7,000:1	Yes
Indian Basin- Upper Pennsylvanian	Gas	640 acres	Prorated Gas	NA	NA

(13) In support of its request to increase the oil allowable and gas-oil ratio limitation and to include a provision whereby simultaneous dedication of acreage to both oil and gas wells is allowed, Yates presented geologic evidence which indicates that:

- a) the geologic properties (i.e. permeability, porosity, etc.) of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool closely resemble those of the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool;
- b) extension of the pool boundaries for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool and the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool through development drilling will likely demonstrate that the pools represent a single common source of supply; and,
- c) both the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool and the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool are located in an area of the Cisco-Canyon reservoir which is a transition zone between the oil producing portion of the reservoir and the gas cap, represented by the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool.

(14) The geologic evidence presented indicates that the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool is properly classified as an "associated" pool.

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(15) Previous cases presented before the Division have shown that oil allowables of 1,400 barrels per day per 320-acre proration unit should not have adverse effects on the reservoir or decrease ultimate recovery, therefore, the oil allowable for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should be increased as proposed by the applicant to be consistent with the North Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool and the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool.

(16) The reservoir conditions and correlative rights issues which prompted the deletion of Rule No. 5 (b) of the General Rules and Regulations for the Associated Oil and Gas Pools of Northwest and Southeast New Mexico for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, thereby allowing the simultaneous dedication of acreage to both oil and gas wells, also exist within the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, therefore, the simultaneous dedication of acreage to both oil and gas wells in the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should be allowed.

(17) In support of its request to amend the current pool rules so as to allow the drilling of a well on each 80-acre tract within a standard proration unit, the applicant presented drainage data from existing wells within the pool. The information presented indicates that the smallest drainage area calculated was approximately 60 acres, and that the average drainage area within the pool is approximately 112 acres.

(18) The evidence presented indicates that even though both the North Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool and the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool do not preclude the drilling of a well on each 40-acre tract within a standard proration unit, and that each of these pools has effectively been developed on 40-acre spacing, a more appropriate drilling density for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool is one well per 80-acre tract.

(19) The applicant did not present sufficient evidence to justify the need for establishing a limiting gas-oil ratio of 10,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil, however, the limiting gas-oil ratio for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool should be increased to 7,000:1 in order to be consistent with the limiting GOR currently in effect for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool.

(20) No other operator and/or interest owner appeared and presented evidence in opposition to Yates' proposed pool rule amendments or to adopting permanent rules for the subject pool.

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(21) The establishment of permanent Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, including certain amendments proposed by Yates Petroleum Corporation, will allow the "equivalent" development of the Cisco-Canyon reservoir, will provide the oil and gas allowable incentive necessary for further development and delineation of the pool, will prevent the economic loss caused by the drilling of an excessive number of wells, avoid the augmentation of risk arising from the drilling of an excessive number of wells, prevent reduced recovery which might result from the drilling of too few wells, and otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) The Temporary Special Rules and Regulations for the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, as promulgated by Division Order No. R-9922, as amended, are hereby amended as follows and continued in full force and effect until further order of the Division.

**SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS  
FOR THE  
INDIAN BASIN-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN ASSOCIATED POOL**

**RULE 2.** (a) A standard oil proration unit shall comprise 320 acres. A standard gas proration unit shall comprise 320 acres.

**RULE 2.** (b) Each well shall be located no closer than 660 feet from the outer boundary of the proration unit nor closer than 330 feet from any quarter-quarter section line or subdivision inner boundary. No more than one well per 80-acre tract shall be drilled or produced on a standard proration unit.

**RULE 6.** The limiting gas-oil ratio shall be 7,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil.

**RULE 22.** The special depth bracket allowable for a 320-acre proration unit shall be 1,400 barrels of oil per day. All or any part of the allowable may be produced by a single well or by two or more wells on the unit.

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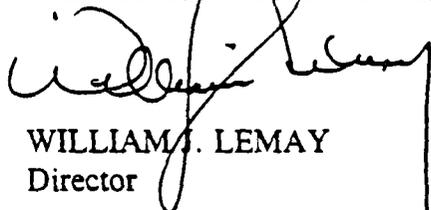
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:**

(2) The application of Yates Petroleum Corporation in Case No. 11484 to delete Rule No. 5 (b) of the General Rules and Regulations for the Associated Oil and Gas Pools of Northwest and Southeast New Mexico, as promulgated by Division Order No. R-5353, as amended, as it pertains to the Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, thereby allowing the simultaneous dedication of acreage to both oil and gas wells, is hereby approved.

(3) Jurisdiction is hereby 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.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION



WILLIAM J. LEMAY  
Director

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