CASE 5751: PHILLIPS PET. CO. FOF A SPECIAL ALLOWABLE, LEA COUNTY, MEW MEXICO

CASE NO.

575/

APPlication, Transcripts, Small Exhibits,

ETC.

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REFORE THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION Santa Fe, New Mexico

September 1, 1976

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

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Application of Cities Service Oil Company for an unorthodox location, Lea County, New Mexico.

Application of Phillips Petroleum Company for a special allowable, Lea County, New Mexico. CASE 5751

CASE

5750

BEFORE: Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

APPEARANCES

For the New Mexico Oil William F. Carr, Esq.

Conservation Commission: Legal Counsel for the Commission

State Land Office Building Santa Fe, New Mexico

For Cities Service Oil Co.: Jason W. Kellahin, Esq.

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Attorneys at Law
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Santa Fe, New Mexico

For Phillips Petroleum Co.: Donald G. Stevens, Esq.

Attorney at Law

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MR. NUTTER: We will call Case Number 5750.

MR. CARR: Case 5750, application of Cities Service
Oil Company for an unorthodox location, Lea County, New Mexico.

MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner please, Jason Kellahin, Kellahin and Fox appearing for the Applicant and we will have one witness to be sworn.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Examiner, I'm Don Stevens, attorney in Santa Fe, New Mexico representing Phillips Petroleum and we will have one witness.

MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner please, I would suggest that this case be consolidated with 5751.

MR. NUTTER: We will call now Case Number 5751.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Examiner, I'm Don Stevens, an attorney in Santa Fe representing Phillips Petroleum in this case. We previously requested consolidation and we still want it if you do but it isn't necessary for our case.

MR. NUTTER: Would it shorten the hearing if we consolidate the cases?

MR. STEVENS: Possibly slightly but not much.

MR. NUTTER: Well, that sounds good. Cases 5750 and 5751 will be consolidated for the purpose of the hearing and we will call 5751.

MR. CARR: Case 5751, application of Phillips
Petroleum Company for a special allowable, Lea County,
New Mexico.

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stand?

(THEREUPON, the witnesses were duly sworn.)

Will the witnesses in the consolidated case please

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examined and testified as follows:

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was

DONALD BARRETT

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. KELLAHIN:

- Would you state your name, please? Q
- My name is Donald Barrett.
- How do you spell that, Mr. Barrett?
- B-a-r-r-e-t-t.
- By whom are you employed and in what position?
- A. I'm employed by Cities Service Oil Company as a reservoir engineer.
 - And where was you ocated?
 - Midland, Lexas.
- Q Have you ever testified baroks the Oil Conservation Commission?
 - No, sir, I have not. à.
- For the be afit of the Examiner would you briefly outline your education and your experience as a petroleum engineer?

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ł	A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree from the
	University of Missouri at Rolla in geology. I have a Bachelor
	of Science degree in petroleum engineering from the University
	of Tulsa. I'm a registered professional engineer in Texas. I
	have worked three years total as a production engineer II for
-	Sun Oil Company in Michigan and one year for Cities Service in
	Midland and for the past two-and-a-half years I have been a
	reservoir engineer for Cities Service in Midland.

- Q. And in connection with your work, is the area involved in this application under your jurisdiction?
 - A Yes, it is.

MR. KELLAHIN: Are the witness's qualifications acceptable?

MR. NUTTER: Yes, they are.

- Q (Mr. Kellahin continuing.) Mr. Barrett, what is proposed by the applicant in Case 5750?
- A. We propose to drill an unorthodox location located very close to the center of the southeast quarter of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East in Lea County, New Mexico.
 - Q Now, is this in a unit?
- A. Yes, it is. It is located in Tract One of our Southeast Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Unit.
 - Q Is that a waterflood project?
 - A Yes, it is.

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Q	And	is	the	unorthodox	location	related	to	your
waterflood	d pro	ojeo	ct?					

- A. Yes, it is.
- Q. Now, referring to what has been marked as Exhibit Number One would you discuss the information shown on this exhibit?
- A. The exhibit is a plat of the entire unit area outlined by the dark dashed line. The proposed location is marked near the center of Tract One. What we are proposing to do is drill this location to prevent oil from the particular tract from being swept across the lease line, to prevent waste and also to increase the recovery from the total area.
 - Q How are your injection wells shown?
- A. The injection wells are shown with a circle around them. They are well No's. 1, 2 and 3 in that particular tract
- Q And you do not own the offsetting acreage, that one quarter section?
 - A No, sir, we do not.
 - Q Is that Phillips'?
 - A Yes, it is.
- Q Now, referring to what has been marked as Exhibit
 Number Two would you identify that exhibit?
- A Exhibit Number Two is a structure contour map constructed on the top of the Premier sand which is the primary producing interval in this particular area.

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Q Does that indicate that the sand is quite level in this area?

A. Right, there is very little relief in the portion of the area that we are looking at.

Q Now, referring to what has been marked as Exhibit
Number Three, would you identify and discuss that exhibit?

A Exhibit Number Three is a bubble map that shows the relative position of the waterflood front and the drainage radius of the U. S. Minerals No. 4 Well. The circles are proportional to the amount of water having been injected and the amount of oil having been produced by the Phillips well.

What we are attempting to show here is to give some idea of how much remaining reserves there are left to be recovered in this particular area of the field.

what we feel would be oil that would have been recovered had there been no wells at all that has already been swept by injection. We feel that had the well been drilled right in the exact center without any other producing wells there, we probably would have been able to drain approximately forty acres of the reservoir. As it is we have swept approximately

- Are you referring now to your exhibit?
- A I will refer to the next exhibit which is a volumetric calculation that goes along with this particular plat.
 - Q That is Exhibit Number Four?

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A Right. This indicates that we have already swept approximately thirteen acres of the forty acres that would have been available to us through the injection wells.

MR. NUTTER: Which forty acres are you talking about, your basic forty acres?

A. The basic forty acres would be if the well were located in the exact center of that quarter section. It would include the total area from wells 101, 102, 103 and U. S. Minerals No. 4.

MR. NUTTER: In other words, you are talking about if a well had been drilled at the point that is just west of your proposed location?

A Yes, sir, that is correct.

MR. NUTTER: And the square would represent --

A Would represent a total forty-acre plat.

MR. NUTTER: Like this, this square is the forty acres you are talking about?

A. Yes, sir, that is correct.

MR. NUTTER: Okay.

A And the crosshatch again represents the area of that particular forty acres we feel has already been swept by injection.

MR. NUTTER: Okay.

A By drilling the well we feel that we will in effect, have half of a five-spot available to us for secondary

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recovery purposes and as represented by the dashed lines running through the middle on a diagonal between Wells 101 and 103. With this particular setup we feel that the remaining primary and secondary oil left to be recovered by the well in the proposed location is approximately a hundred thousand barrels.

- O. In your opinion is oil being swept off the unit at the present time?
 - A. Yes, sir, I believe that it is.
- Q. Is there any other information on Exhibit Number Four that you want to discuss?
 - A. No, sir.
- Q Referring to what has been marked as Exhibit Numbers Five and Six, would you discuss those exhibits?
- A. Exhibit Number Five is a production curve prepared from the New Mexico production reports on Phillips Petroleum U. S. Minerals No. 4 Well showing the oil produced and the water produced on a barrels per month basis and the producing GOR.

Exhibit Number Six is a production performance curve from the Southeast Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Unit showing the oil produced, the water produced in barrels per day and the producing GCR.

Q. Now, can you relate the information shown on the two exhibits?

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A. The one major point that I would like to point out
between these two particular exhibits is the declining GOR
on both curves with the exception of about a year if you shift
the curve on the U. S. Minerals No. 4 approximately one year
ahead, these two curves will just almost overlay identically
which indicates to me that the Phillips well is receiving
pressure maintenance and waterflood oil as a result of inject-
ion into the Tract One wells.

- Now, in your opinion is approval of this application by Cities Service necessary to protect the interest owners in the waterflood project?
 - A Yes, sir, it is very definitely.
- Q And is that going to impair the correlative rights of any other operator?
 - A. No, sir, it will not, we have previously agreed.
- Q Does Cities Service have any objection to Phillips' application for a capacity allowable?
 - A. No, sir, we do not.
- Q Were Exhibits One through Six prepared by you or under your supervision?
 - A Yes, sir, they were.

MR. KELLAHIN: At this time I would like to offer into evidence Exhibits One through Six, inclusive.

MR. NUTTER: Cities Exhibits One through Six will be admitted into evidence.

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(THEREUPON, Cities Service Exhibits One through Six were admitted into evidence.)

MR. NUTTER: Are there any questions of this witness?

MR. STEVENS: None.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. NUTTER:

Mr. Barrett, you mentioned shifting the curves one year to the right, actually there is a difference of four years in the starting point of these two curves. Now, if we look at the Maljamar GSA unit curve we see that injection started in 9-67?

Yes, sir. A.

Then we have a period of two years and three months Ţ production curve there prior to the time of the commancement of injection and then oil production on the unit did go up rather rapidly in the next twelve to fourteen months, I believe?

A. Yes, sir.

And it peaked out there in late '68, the first peak. We don't have a similar production history for the Phillips well. Was it drilled only in February or March of 1969?

Yes, sir, I believe that is the proper timing on it. This was all of the information that I had available to me.

So we don't have any comparable production history for

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it because it wasn't even in existence then?

- A That is correct.
- Q Now, when do you think it received a response to your water injection program, from the time it was first drilled or did this response occur later?
- A. I would say within a year after or possibly two as the GOR began to decline you would expect a well under primary production to exhibit just the opposite in that the GOR should increase without any other outside effects.
- Q Do you know when your 101, 102 and 103 were put on injection?
- A No, sir, I do not at the present time. They were early in the project, though.
- Q. Did you put all of the wells on at the same time, do you know?
- A. Within a very short period of time. I would say within six months.
 - Q So there wasn't any pilot period or anything?
 - A No, sir, there was no pilot.
- And the net effect then for the -- if it has been due to response from your waterflood project, the net effect has been that the Phillips well has experienced no decline, it has produced at a uniform rate for six or seven years?
 - A Yes, sir, that is correct.
 - Q With a declining GOR. Now, you say that you have no

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objection to the application of Phillips in Case Number 5751, that is for capacity allowable for their Minerals No. 4 Well, is that correct?

- A That is correct.
- Q But that's premised on the assumption that your unorthodox location would be approved?
 - A Yes, sir.

MR. NUTTER: Are there any further questions of Mr. Barrett?

MR. KELLAHIN: That is a correct assumption, Mr. Nutter.

MR. NUTTER: He may be excused.

(THEREUPON, the witness was excused.)

MR. NUTTER: Do you have anything further at this point?

MR. KELLAHIN: That's all I have right now.

W. J. MUELLER

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. STEVENS:

Q Would you state your name, residence, occupation and by whom you are employed?

	A.	M	y na	me :	is t	₩,	J.	Mueller,	spel:	led	M-u-e-	-1-1-e-r	•
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- Q Have you previously testified before this Commission and had your qualifications accepted by it?
 - A Yes, sir.

MR. STEVENS: Are the witness' qualifications acceptable, Mr. Examiner?

MR. NUTTER: They are.

Q (Mr. Stevens continuing.) Would you briefly first outline what Phillips seeks here and I'll ask you for your comments on the Cities Service application and how they relate to each other?

A Well, briefly, Phillips wears two hats in this, both cases here. We are a twenty-seven point percent working interest owner in the Southeast Maljamar Unit and the proposed unorthodox location requested by Cities Service as operator in the Southeast Maljamar Unit is on a tract that Phillips put into the unit.

Phillips after the formation of the unit drilled the Minerals 4 about two point three years after the unit was formed and we do request a capacity allowable for our Minerals 4 to compete with the unorthodox location requested by Cities Service as operator of the Southeast Maljamar Unit.

Q All right, perhaps it would be best for you to

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comment, if you will, on Phillips' viewpoints on the Cities Service application for this unorthodox location?

A Okay, our Exhibit Number One in the Cities Service

Case 5750 is Phillips' conditional waiver. They would like

the exhibit put into the record for that case wherein Phillips

as an offset operator and one hundred percent working interest

owner of the U. S. Minerals No. 4 located in Unit O of

Section 30, 17 South, 33 East in the Maljamar Grayburg
San Andres Field, Lea County, New Mexico, conditionally waivers

objection to the proposed unorthodox location for the Cities

Service-operated Southeast Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Unit

Tract One Well No. 4 at thirteen hundred and fifty-five feet

from the south line and eleven hundred and thirty-five feet

from the east line of Section 30.

Q Can I interrupt and ask you, how close is that to Phillips' lease line on this well and what would be a normal spacing?

A. This unorthodox location is one hundred and eighty-eight feet from the outer contiguous acreage, boundary of the two tracts being the Southeast Maljamar Unit in our U. S. Minerals 4 lease or proration unit.

Q What would be the maximum ordinary allowable under state-wide rules?

A. I think under the infield drilling order that
Cities Service has in the Southeast Maljamar Unit they can

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boundary of their unit.

Q Okay.

The two conditions of Phillips for waiver of objection by Phillips Petroleum Company to Cities Service application are, one, that the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission approve a special capacity allowable for Phillips-operated U. S. Minerals Well No. 4, this being Case 5751 with the Commission today, in order to permit Phillips a competitive withdrawal rate from the reservoir. This capacity allowable for the U. S. Minerals Well No. 4 to become effective upon the completion date of the Southeast Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Unit Tract One Well No. 4 which will by virtue of being in an active waterflood project also enjoy a capacity allowable.

drill within three hundred and thirty feet of the outer

Our second condition of approval is that we think for the protection of correlative rights and the maximum recovery in this area that waterflood operations should be continued and this minimum operation should at least be voidage replacement for the unorthodox well, the 1-4 and so our condition number two is that the total combined monthly water injected volumes into the Southeast Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Unit, Tract Numbers One, Two and Three, be maintained at or above two hundred percent of the total monthly fluid volume withdrawal from the proposed unorthodox 1-4. This condition will insure a more balanced injection to withdrawal

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ratio for maximum reservoir recovery and protection of correlative rights.

We feel that approximately fifty percent of the water injected into the three injection wells could be attributed to volume replacement of the unorthodox location.

- Referring to what has been marked as Exhibit Number Two would you point out the wells you are talking about, you have given the descriptions of them.
- On Exhibit Number Two, shown by a red arrow, is the proposed unorthodox location of Cities Service, Tract One, Well No. 4. Shown by a yellow arrow is the current producing well, the Phillips U. S. Minerals No. 4 located in Unit O of Section 30.

Also shown on Exhibit Number Two are Tracts One, Four and Five colored in yellow. These are the four tracts that Phillips contributed to the Southeast Maljamar Unit. This was some four hundred acres Phillips put into the unit or approximately thirty-seven percent of the total acreage in the unit was contributed by Phillips. For this we received a Phase One participation of twenty-one point three percent which was based on remaining primary and current production at that time. We have a Phase Two Participation of twentyfour point seven, four percent which is in effect now.

Only Phase Two participation formula by the operators gave credit for undeveloped acreage. This forty sid morrish reporting service General Court Reporting Service 825 Calle Mejia, No. 122, Santa Fe, New Mexico 8750 Phone (505) 982-9212 formula it would only have received zero point one seven eight percent interest.

MR. NUTTER: Because it wasn't developed at the time?

A. Right. Yet in the approximately seven-and-a-half years that U. S. Minerals No. 4 has been produced, it has produced a volume of oil equal to twenty-three percent as much as the Southeast Maljamar Unit has produced in this same time.

- Q A summation then might be that you do not oppose this unorthodox location so long as the amount of water reinjected would be two hundred percent of the amount taken out by the Cities Service?
- A Yeah, approximately a replacement of voidage by the Cities Service well.
 - Q. The two hundred percent is based upon what?
- A On the fact that you draw bubble maps like Cities

 Service did and an attributable half of the injection goes

 north and half south or half east and half west, so the

 attributable injection into those three injection wells in

 any combination they want, approximately only about half of it

 could be attributed to the acreage bounded by the outer

 boundary of the three injection wells.
 - A Have you further comments on Cities Service's

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application?

A Yes, Phillips -- we don't believe we are really scabbing here or taking unfair advantage of anybody, we have paid a major share of the waterflood development costs in this area through our participation in the Southeast Maljamar Unit. We have not been restrictive to any waterflood development in the area. Conoco proposed completion of the Pearl B No. 3 to water injection in 1973, our west offset, we did not oppose that, we have not put any restrictive covenants on the Cities Service operated unit and we feel that the operations of the 4 have not in any way impeded waterflood development. In fact, we feel that our operations have probably added reserves development in this area so I doubt seriously that Cities Service would be drilling the proposed unorthodox location that they propose here had our Minerals 4 been a dry hole. We did prove up additional acreage for the unit.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Examiner, I'll ask, we plan next to go into Case Number 5751 and we will submit information and exhibits for that. Would you like to cross examine the witness now in relation to the Cities Service case or wait until the end?

MR. NUTTER: Mr. Kellahin, did you have any questions that you wished to ask this witness at this time?

MR. KELLAHIN: No, we don't have any questions.

MR. NUTTER: I might just ask a couple of questions

here at this point, Mr. Mueller.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. NUTTER:

Q. As you are aware, the Commission has had some difficulty with certain waterflood projects in southeast. New Mexico and has on occasion had to limit injection rates to some percentage of the reservoir voidage. What would the effect be if the Commission should have to set some kind of a maximum injection rate here on your conditional waiver?

I'm not suggesting that they will but I'm just saying if they would.

A. I'm saying that if it is imposed on Cities Service that they just get out and meet the requirement and we would waiver our objection to that continuing with the maximum capacity allowable on the 1-4 if the restriction is placed by the Commission on their injection.

Now, when you are talking about two hundred percent of total monthly fluid withdrawal, you say oil and water but you would include an equivalent reservoir volume of gas in there too, wouldn't you?

A. I belive that Cities Service's tract and our well are currently at solution ratio, about three hundred cubic feet, there is no free gas.

So gas if it were calculated in there would be

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a very minor thing?

A Yes. Actually it is included in the formation volume factor.

Q At this time?

A. Yes. I think they are at about three hundred GOR and so are we, which is actually solution ratio.

MR. NUTTER: Okay, Mr. Stevens, we will go to Case 5751.

W. J. MUELLER

called as a witness, having been previously sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. STEVENS:

Q For the record are you the same party who testified in Case 5750, Mr. Bill Mueller?

A Yes, sir.

A Briefly, what does Phillips seek in this application?

A. In the application today Phillips seeks a capacity allowable for its U. S. Minerals Well No. 4 located in Unit O of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East, Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico. It is directly offset to the northeast and west by water injection and to the south by oil-water contact.

A Exhibit Number One is the borehole compensated acoustic log run by Dresser-Atlas on our U. S. Minerals Well No. 4.

This log shows on the two-inch section, we have Yates, Queen, Grayburg and San Andres marked. The four areas in red colored at the bottom of the two-inch section that are about forty-two, fifty to forty-three, fifty, are the four lower Grayburg sands we are producing from. These four sands are detailed on the five inch -- excuse me, this is reduced scale so I guess it is about two-and-a-half inch. It shows our actual perforations on the large-scale section of the log with the well being perforated from forty-two, fifty to sixty; forty-two, eighty-four to ninety-six; forty-three, twelve to twenty-four and forty-three, forty to fifty.

six feet of net pay in these four sands and that they had an average porosity of ten point two percent and a weighted average water saturation of forty-six percent, that the forty-acre original oil in place calculations for the proration unit of our U. S. Minerals No. 4 is approximately seven hundred and fifty thousand barrels of oil. We anticipate that through the offset injection we would recover at least fifty percent of this or approximately three hundred and seventy-five

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thousand barrels of oil should be the estimated current ultimate recovery for the U. S. Minerals No. 4. We've only produced a cumulative of one hundred and seventy-one thousand barrels of oil and, therefore, have a remaining recovery in excess of two hundred thousand barrels of oil which we feel deserves careful protection.

We do not feel that this reserve definitely indicates that we have not produced any oil from outside of our own forty-acre reserve limit and I can't say if oil has moved into the forty acre unit or not.

- Q Would this amount of pay tend to be greater or lesser than the other wells in the field, in your opinion?
- A This is one of the best wells in the field and I would say particularly this area would be maybe number one or number two.
- Q Would this be the reason why this well has produced twenty-three percent as much as the Southeast Maljamar itself as previously testified?
 - A. Yes, sir.
- Q In other words, could a summation be made that as a better well that explains the better porosity and that explains the amount of oil it has produced and will produce?
- A The Southeast Maljamar Tract One which was the old total U. S. Minerals lease one, two and three, was one of the best tracts put in the Southeast Maljamar Unit.

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Q Referring then to what has been marked as Exhibit
Two would you explain it, please?

A Exhibit Two is the average annual oil, water and gas production for our U. S. Minerals No. 4 since completion in 1969 through the first half of 1976. In the seven-and-a-half years this well has been completed it has accumulated a hundred and seventy-one thousand, two hundred and two barrels of oil. The well's reserves have been pressured by offsetting injection as is evidenced by the decrease in gas production here.

Q Would you point out what the various colors mean on your graph there?

A Yes, the color code is indicated on the right-hand side of the graph, the red-shaded curve being barrels of oil per day, the blue-shaded curve being barrels of water per day and the green-shaded curve being MCF of gas per day.

Our current producing gas-oil ratio is approximately three hundred to one. Initially we started out at about fifteen hundred to one.

The well has not sustained any decline, in fact, it has experienced an increase over the seven-and-a-half years of its production and when Cities Service first approached us earlier this year to drill this unorthodox location we stated that if we thought our waiver would be conditioned upon a capacity allowable for this well, so in May of this year

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we inserted a two-inch tubing pump in this well and tested it on May 6th through May 1lth at rates of one hundred and forty-one barrels of oil to a high of a hundred and ninety-one barrels of oil per day and water rates from a hundred and fifty barrels of water per day to two hundred and fifteen barrels of water per day. The six day average test was a hundred and sixty barrels of oil per day and a hundred and eighty barrels of water per day. I think this is approximately the initial rate we could anticipate if the well is given a capacity allowable, approximately twice the normal allowable of eighty barrels of oil per day.

Q Referring then to what has been marked as Exhibit
Number Three would you explain it, please?

A Exhibit Number Three is the June 1976 daily average production in barrels of oil per day, barrels of water per day and MCF per day for the wells in two-and-a-half sections flat area. As noted on this plat the U. S. Minerals No. 4 with an average June production of eighty-three barrels of oil per day, seventy-seven barrels of water per day is the highest oil producer on the plat. The only well approaching it is the Cities Service Tract Seven, Well No. 6 located over in the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 29 and it produced sixty barrels of oil per day and a hundred and thirty-one barrels of water per day.

Q. Your red is oil, blue is water and green is gas in

MCF?

A. Correct. The blue figures under the injection wells are the daily average injections for the month of June, 1976.

As noted here on the daily average June injection on Tract One of Cities Service, had the condition which we requested be imposed at that time it would have permitted Cities Service to produce the Tract 1-4 in excess of two hundred and fifty barrels of fluid a day. I think there is about five hundred barrels injection there, four, eighty or four, eighty-five.

The normal injection rate has been approximately six hundred barrels a day, I think, on the average waterflood.

And then from that could you say that if Cities were to drill this well they would not exchange their practices as presently constituted?

A. That's right. I mean, the major capacity they have now in the 7-5 is about a hundred and ninety barrels of fluid a day.

I will state, though, I believe the records will show and I do not have them with me, I'm sorry, but at the time we drilled the U. S. Minerals No. 4, only wells I and 3 were on injection. I believe Well No. 2 was a producer in Tract One of Cities Service Unit and it was only subsequently placed on injection after the U. S. Minerals 4 was drilled.

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Q. Referring to what has been marked as Exhibit Number Four, would you explain that, please?

A. Exhibit Number Four is the cumulative barrels of oil produced, colored in red, under each of the current producing wells in this area and colored in blue is the cumulative water injected under each of the injection wells in the area. I note that the cumulative production of Fhillips Well No. 4 here was based on a 1-1-76 figure or it's the end of the annual report for '75 since those are handy figures. I indicate that our estimate of approximately three hundred and fifty to four hundred thousand barrels of ultimate recovery from the Minerals 4's own forty acre development isn't too far out of line when you look at the Conoco operated MC-8 Unit Well No. 199. The direct northwest offset has accumulated some three hundred and twenty-seven thousand barrels of oil and the northwest offset to that was another two hundred and twenty-two thousand barrels of oil.

Q From that information could you infer that the high productivity of the 4 is at least in part due to a high productivity area as opposed to the waterflood injection offsetting?

A Yes, there is a very good sand development right in the diagonal across the middle of the southwest-southwest section of the lease here, tract or section, but just a narrow band where the sand is well developed, Lower Grayburg sands.

And this would negate a contention which might be made

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 that the high productivity was due to the waterflood, is that correct?

A. Well, I think we've got good sand development, plus they have pressured us up. This also down there in Tract Nine, Well No. 5, you see they have an accumlative recovery of a hundred and fifty-five thousand barrels being greater than the cumes in the area offsetting it.

- And it also would be an edge well?
- A. Yes, it will be an edge well.

We do not believe that the capacity allowable would be detrimental to any waterflood project in this area, nor would it hurt any proposed completions in this area. It should not result in the loss of reserves to the projects if Cities Service is granted the unorthodox location they propose in Tract One, Well No. 4.

the reserves under our forty-acre tract, however, the estimated remaining reserves of this well of two hundred thousand barrels of oil from just its own forty-acres would have a remaining life of seven to ten years under the current state-wide allowable of eighty barrels of oil per day and this project life could or this producing life of No. 4 could possibly even exceed the project life of the offset waterflood development such that it would result in possibly a subsequent loss of reserves in Minerals 4 if the fluid under its forty-

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acre tract migrates back into abandoned acreage. So although they have pressured us up now, it may come back to them if their project is not continued for as long as Minerals 4 is produced.

- Q Inasmuch as this unorthodox location of Cities would have a capacity allowable you seek merely what they would get also?
 - A Yes, just at a different producing rate.
- Q This also, would it not, prevent, if you are able to produce it, prevent migration of oil off your tract due to the Cities Service's flood elsewhere, is that affirmative?
- A. I don't believe they have a flood elsewhere but I do not anticipate oil migration off our tract since we are blanked in by water injection on all sides and dry holes to the south.
- Q. Were Exhibits One through Four and Exhibits One and
 Two in Case 5750 prepared by you or under your direction?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q And in your opinion would the granting of your application tend to protect correlative rights and prevent waste?
 - A Yes, sir.

MR. STEVENS: We move at this time the introduction of Exhibits One through Four in Case 5751 and One and Two in Case 5750.

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MR. NUTTER: Phillips' Exhibits One and Two in Case 5750 and Exhibits One through Four in Case 5751 will be admitted.

(THEREUPON, Phillips' Exhibits One and Two (Case 5750) and Exhibits One through Four (Case 5751) were admitted into evidence.)

MR. STEVENS: We have no further questions.

MR. NUTTER: Are there any questions of the witness, Mr. Kellahin?

MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Nutter, I don't believe we covered the testimony, what effective date do you propose for your capacity allowable?

THE WITNESS: The completion date of the Cities Service unorthodox location in Tract One, Well No. 4.

MR. KELLAHIN: Thank you.

MR. NUTTER: I believe that is one of the conditions of the waiver.

Was that all you had, Mr. Kellahin?

MR. KELLAHIN: That's all I had.

MR. NUTTER: If there is nothing further of the witness he may be excused.

(THEREUPON, the witness was excused.)

MR. NUTTER: Did you have anything further,

Mr. Stevens?

MR. STEVENS: Nothing, sir.

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sid morrish reporting service

General Court Reporting Service
825 Calle Mejia, No. 122, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
Phone (505) 982-9212

MR. NUTTER: Does anyone have anything they wish to offer in Cases 5750 or 5751?

We will take the cases under advisement and take a fifteen minute recess.

(THEREUPON, the hearing was in recess.)

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Phone (505) 982-9212

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, SIDNEY F. MORRISH, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me, and the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

Sidney F. Morrish, C.S.R.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. 3750-5/ heard by me on 1976.

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission

The control of

DIRECTOR

JOE D. RAMEY

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO P. O. BOX 2088 - SANTA FE 87501

LAND COMMISSIONER
PHIL R. LUCERO
September 17, 1976



Mr. Donald G. Stevens Attorney at Law Post Office Box 1797 Santa Fe, New Mexico Re: CASE NO. 5751 ORDER NO. R-5282

Applicant:

Phillips Petroleum Company

Dear Sir:

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

Yours very truly,

JOE D. RAMEY

Director

JDR/fd

Copy of order also sent to:

Hobbs OCC X
Artesia OCC X
Aztec OCC

Other Jason Kellahin

BUFORE 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. 5751 Order No. R-5282

APPLICATION OF PHILLIPS PETROLEUM COMPANY FOR A SPECIAL ALLOWABLE, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on September 1, 1976, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this 16th day of September, 1976, the Commission, a quorum being present, 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 Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That the applicant, Phillips Petroleum Company, is the owner and operator of the U.S. Minerals Well No. 4 located in Unit O of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East, NMPM, Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.
- (3) That said well is offset to the North and East by water injection wells in an active waterflood project in said Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Pool.
- (4) That said well has received a response to the injection of water into the Grayburg formation in the offsetting waterflood project.
- (5) That if applicant's said U. S. Minerals Well No. 4 is not permitted to produce at capacity, oil may be swept from under said U. S. Minerals Lease across lease lines onto other producing leases or onto undrilled acreage to the South.
- (6) That to prevent waste and protect correlative rights, the SW/4 SE/4 of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East, NMPM, should be designated a Waterflood Buffer Zone in the Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, and applicant's U. S. Minerals Well No. 4 located on said 40-acre tract should be permitted to produce at capacity.

-2-Case No. 5751 Order No. R-5282

(7) That the subject application should be approved and that monthly buffer zone project reports should be filed with the Commission on Form C-120.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That the SW/4 SE/4 of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East, NMPM, Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, is hereby designated a Waterflood Buffer Zone, and the Phillips Petroleum Company U. S. Minerals Well No. 4 located thereon is authorized an allowable equal to its ability to produce.
- (2) That the applicant herein shall file a Buffer Zone Project report monthly with the Hobbs district office of the Commission on Commission Form C-120 setting forth thereon production data concerning the above-described well.
- (3) That such Buffer Zone Project report shall be filed commencing with the month of assignment to the subject well of allowable in excess of the pool top unit allowable.
- (4) That the effective date of this order shall be the date that the Cities Service Oil Company Southeast Maljamar Unit Tract 1 Well No. 4, located 1355 feet from the South line and 1135 feet from the East line of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East, NMPM, Maljamar Sayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, is assigned its initial allowable.
- (5) 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.

SEAL

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PHIL R. LUCERO, Chairman

EMERY C. ARNOLD, Member

JOE D. RAMEY, Member & Secretary

Dockets Nos. 25-76 and 26-76 are tentatively set for hearing on September 15 and 29, 1976. Applications for hearing must be filed at least 22 days in advance of hearing date.

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 1, 1976

9 A.M. - OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

The following cases will be heard before Paniel S. Nutter, Examiner, or Richard L. Stamets, Alternate Examiner:

Application of Atlantic Richfield Company for a non-standard gas proration unit, unorthodox location, and simultaneous dedication, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for a previously established 185-acre non-standard Eumont gas proration unit comprising the SW/4 and SW/4 NW/4 of Section 19, Township 21 South, Range 36 East, Lea County, New Mexico. to be simultaneously dedicated to applicant's State "F" DE Wells Nos. 1 and 3, at unorthodox locations in Units E and K, respectively, of said Section 19.

CASE 5748: Application of TERRAPET Management Corporation for an unorthodox gas well location, Chaves County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox location of a well to be drilled at a point 990 feet from the South and West lines of Section 31, Township 14 South, Range 28 East, Buffalo Valley-Pennsylvanian Gas Pool, Chaves County, New Mexico.

CASE 5749: Application of Southern Union Supply Company for an unorthodox gas well location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox location of its Gallagher State "8" Well No. 3, proposed to be drilled at a point 660 feet from the South line and 1930 feet from the East line of Section 8, Township 17 South, Range 34 East, West Vacuum Field, Lea County, New Mexico.

CASE 5750: Application of Cities Service Oil Company for an unorthodox location, Lea County, New Mexico.

Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox location of its Southeast
Maljamar G-SA Unit-Tract 1 Well No. 4 to be located 1355 feet from the South line and 1135 feet
from the East line of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 Fast, Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres
Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

CASE 5751: Application of Phillips Petroleum Company for a special allowable, Lea County, New Mexico.

Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks a capacity allowable for its U. S. Minerals Well

No. 4 located in Unit O of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East, Maljamar GrayburgSan Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, said well being a direct offset to an active waterflood
project.

CASE 5752: Application of Bettis, Royle & Stovall for a special allowable, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks a capacity allowable for its V. H. Justis Well No. 2 located in Unit D of Section 20, Township 25 South, Range 37 Yast, Jalmat Cil Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, said well being a direct offset to an active waterflood project.

CASE 5262: (Reopened)

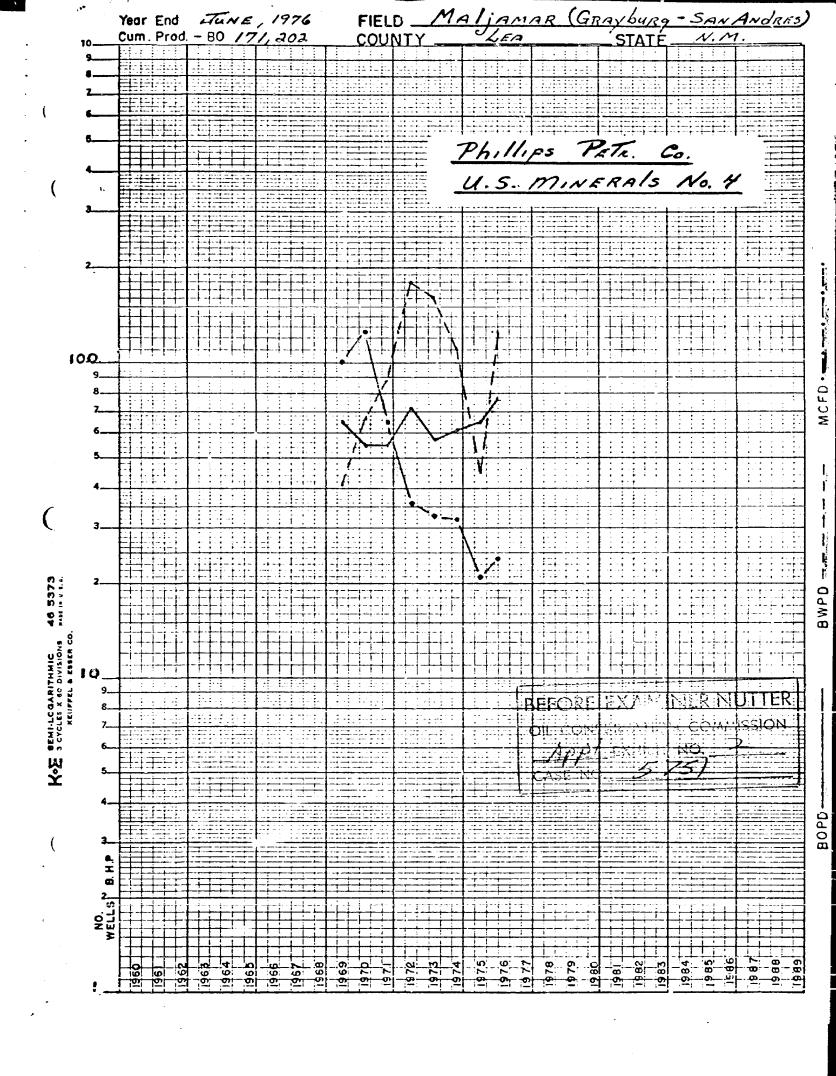
In the matter of Case 5262 being reopened pursuant to the provisions of Order No. R-4822-B, which order extended the special pool rules for Southwest Media-Entrada Oil Pool, Sandoval County, New Mexico, including a provision for 160-acre spacing and proration units and a special depth bracket allowable of 750 barrels of oil per day. All interested parties may appear and show cause why said pool should not be developed on 40-acre spacing and why the special depth bracket allowable should not be rescinded.

CASE 5737: (Continued & Readvertised)

Application of Howard Boatright for amendment of Order No. R-5208, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the amendment of Order No. R-5208 which authorized salt water disposal into the Delaware formation through applicant's State CS Well No. 1, located in Unit L of Section 17, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks to increase the maximum injection pressure for said well from 400 psi to 800 psi, and also to amend the specified packer setting depth from 2975 feet to 2585 feet.

CASE 5736: (Continued from August 18, 1976, Examiner Hearing)

Application of BCO Inc. for downhole commingling, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to commingle production from the Masin Dakota Gas Pool and Lybrook-Gallup Oil Pool and undesignated Greenhorn and Mancos production in the wellbore of its Dunn Well No. 2, located in Unit F of Section 10, Township 23 North, Range 7 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.



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MALJAMAR GRAYBURG-SAN ANDRES FIELD
LEA CO. NEW MEXICOL

CASE NO. CAS

Scale: 1"= 1000'

MALJAMAR GRAYBURG-SAN ANDRES FIELD

BEFORE EXAMINER NUTTER

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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CASE NO. 2 ZE

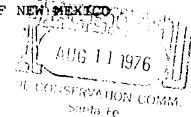
CASE NO

Scale: I, = 1000, FEA CO., NEW MEXICO

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PHILLIPS PETROLEUM COMPANY FOR A CAPACITY ALLOWABLE FOR ITS U. S. MINERALS WELL #4, MALJAMAR GRAYBURG - SAN ANDRES FIELD, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



APPLICATION

COMES NOW, Phillips Petroleum Company, under the provisions of Rule 701-E-3, N.M.O.C.C. Rules and Regulations, and applies to the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico for an order establishing a capacity allowable for its U.S. Minerals Well #4, located in Unit O (660 feet FSL and 1930 feet FEL), Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East, N.M.P.M., Maljamar Grayburg - San Andres Field, Lea County, New Mexico in support hereof Applicant would show:

- 1. Applicant is the owner of the above described well and lease right and is currently producing oil from said well.
- 2. Cities Service Oil Company is requesting before this
 Commission the approval of an unorthodox location for its
 SE Maljamar Grayburg San Andres Unit, Tract No. 1, Well #4 to be
 located in Unit I (1355 feet FSL and 1135 feet FEL), Section 30,
 Township 17 South, Range 33 East, N.M.P.M., near the boundary
 between Applicant's above described well and tract and the Cities
 Service above described well and tract.
- 3. Said Cities Service well would be closer to Applicant's well and boundary than is orthodox and would tend to endanger correlative rights.
- 4. Since the boundary between Applicant's and Cities Service' wells is in a butter zone of a waterflood project, granting of a capacity allowable to Applicant's well will protect correlative rights.

Applicant requests that the granting of said capacity allowable

be made contingent upon the approval of Cities Service' unorthodox location application.

Applicant further requests that the Commission combine the hearing on this application with that of the above Cities Service hearing, set for September 1, 1976, for purposes of common testimony and exhibits and because Applicant's request is contingent upon approval of Cities Service' application.

WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commission set this matter for hearing before the Commission's duly appointed examiner on September 1, 1976, combined with Cities Service' unorthodox location application, and that after notice and hearing as required by law the Commission enter its order granting a capacity allowable to Applicant's U. S. Minerals Well #4, contingent upon the approval of Cities Service' unorthodox location application and for further orders as may be proper in the premises.

Respectfully submitted,
PHILLIPS PETROLEUM COMPANY

DONALD G. STEVEN

P.O. Box 1797

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

dr/

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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

CASE	NO.	5751

APPLICATION OF PHILLIPS
PETROLEUM COMPANY FOR A SPECIAL
ALLOWABLE, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

JSu D

Order No. R- 5282

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

ASN

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on <u>September 1</u>

19⁷⁶, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter

NOW, on this day of September, 1976, the Commission, a quorum being present, 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 Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That the applicant, Phillips Petroleum Company, is the owner and operator of the U. S. Minerals Well No. 4 located in Unit O of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East, NMPM, Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

- (3) That said well is offset to the North and East by water injection wells in an active waterflood project in said Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Pool.
- (4) That said well has received a response to the injection of water into the Grayburg formation in the offsetting waterflood project.
- (5) That if applicant's said U. S. Minerals Well No. 4 is not permitted to produce at capacity, oil may be swept from under said U. S. Minerals Lease across lease lines onto other producing leases or onto undrilled acreage to the South.
- - (7) That the subject application should be approved and that monthly buffer gone Project reports should be filed with the Commission on Form C-120.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That the SW/4 SE/4 of Section 30, Township 17 South,
 Range 33 East, NMPM, Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea
 County, New Mexico, is hereby designated a Waterflood Buffer Zone,
 and the Phillips Petroleum Company U. S. Minerals Well No. 4
 located thereon is authorized an allowable equal to its ability
 to produce.
- (2) That the applicant herein shall file a Buffer Zone Project report monthly with the Hobbs District Office of the Commission on Commission Form C-120 setting forth thereon production data concerning the above-described well.

- (3) That such Buffer Zone Project report shall be filed commencing with the month of assignment to the subject well of allowable in excess of the pool top unit allowable.
- (4) That the effective date of this order shall be the date that the Cities Service Oil Company Southeast Maljamar Unit Tract 1 Well No. 4, located 1355 feet from the South line and 1135 feet from the East line of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 33 East, NMPM, Maljamar Grayburg-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, is assigned its initial allowable.
- (5) 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.

- (a) That the applicant, Phillips Petroleum Company, is the owner and operator of the U.S. Thrierals Well 704 located in Unit O Section 30, Tawaship 17 South, Range 33 East, NMPM meljamal transport For the Lea County, Lea New Mexico.
- (3) That said will is upset to the north and East day water injection wells in an active water impaction in said maljaman praylong. Samples of Joseph in said maljaman praylong. Samples of Joseph.
- (4) That said well has kecissed a kerpone to the injection of water into the strayling Januation in the affecting water flood project.
- (5) Vileat is applicants said U.S. minusels were not is not permitted to perduce at capacity, oil may be surpt from under said U.S. minusels Leave across boase lines onto other producing leaves as acts undilled acreage to the South.
- (4) That to prevent want and procesh careful the SW/H

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 (7) That the subject application should be approved and

 that monthly suffer zone Prajet reports should be

 filed with the Commission on Form C-120.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the sw/4 SE/4 of Sestion 30, Township 17 South, Range 35 East, NMPM, Maljamal Brayburg-Dan Andrew Pool, Lea Caunty, New mexico, is hereby designated a Waterflood Buffer Zone, and the Phillips Petrolum Company U.S. Ministals Well no. 4 located thereon is authorized an allowable segual to its ability to produce.

(2) That the applicant herein shall file a Briffer Zone Project report monthly with the Holean District Office of the Commission Attheward thereon on Commission Form 12-120 setting forth thereon production data concerning the above Alexanded will

(3) That such Buffer Zone Project seport share bee filled bommeraing with the month of assignmenting accurace in excess of the post for which accompany to the strayest with accompany to the strayest will.

(4) That the effective date of this
order schall be the date that the
Cities Service Oil Company the Southeast
Maljamar Unit Tract I Wee 70.4, located
1355 feet from the South line and 1135 feet
I from the East line of Section 30, Township 17 South,
Nange 33 East, NMPM, Maljaman Hayburg-San Andres
Phal, Rea Canaly, how mexico, is assigned its initial
allowable.