CASE 5774: BELCO PET. CORP. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING AND AN UNORTHODOX LOCATION, EDDY COUNTY

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CASE NO.

APPIICATION, Transcripts, Small Exhibits, ETC.

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION P. O. BOX 2088 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

September 8, 1977

Mr. W. Thomas Kellahin Kellahin & Fox P. O. Box 1769 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Mr. Kellahin:

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Reference is made to your letter dated September 7, 1977, wherein you request an additional 60-day extension of time in which Belco Petroleum Corporation may complete its Mollie Well No. 1, which well is the unit well on the lands pooled by Commission Order No. R-5305. Under the provisions of said order, the deadline for completion of the well was February 24, 1977.

It is our understanding that due to various problems encountered, including litigation over the pipeline right of way to connect the well and test it, Belco has been unable to complete the well within the prescribed period.

Extension of the deadline to October 24, 1977, is hereby approved.

Yours very truly,

JOE D. RAMEY Director

JDR/DNS/fd

cc: OCC Artesia Case File 5774 JASON W- KELLAHIN ROBERT E. FOX W, THOMAS KELLAHIN KELLAHIN and FOX ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOO DON GASPAR AVENUE P. O. BOX 1769 SANTA FE. NEW MEXICO B 7501 September 7, 1977

Mr. Dan Nutter Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

> Re: NMOCC Case 5774 Order No. R-5305 Request for Extension

Dear Mr. Nutter:

Confirming our telephone conversation, Belco Petroleum Corporation requests a further extension of time to complete its Mollie No. 1 well for an additional sixty days from August 24, 1977 to October 24, 1977.

Right of way problems cortinue to prevent this well from being connected to a pipeline and that its proximity to the City of Carlsbad deems testing into a pipeline necessary.

The right of way problem is the subject of an Eddy County Case captioned Llano v. Tracey. I have discussed this case with Mr. Jay Forbes, attorney for Tracey. He advised me that the Court will hold a hearing next week and appoint a Commissioner to determine damages. It is his estimation that an additional sixty day period will be sufficient to complete the suit, construct the pipeline and test the well.

Your consideration of another sixty day extension will be appreciated.

Very truly yours, Thomas Kellahin

CC: Mr. Lee Nering

WTK:kfm

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION P. O. BOX 2088 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

June 21, 1977

Kellahin and Fox P. O. Box 1769 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Attention: Mr. Jason W. Kellahin

Extension: Order No. R-5305

Gentlemen:

and the second

Reference is made to your letter dated June 20, 1977, wherein you request further extension to the deadline imposed by Commission Order No. R-5305 for the completion of Belco Petroleum Company's Mollie Well No. 1, the unit well for the lands pooled by said order.

It is our understanding that right-of-way problems have to date prevented this well from being connected to a pipeline, and that its proximity to the City of Carlsbad deems testing into a pipeline necessary. Therefore, although the well has been completed and is ready to produce, it technically remains incomplete for lack of a test or pipeline connection.

The time for completion of Belco's Mollie No. 1 is hereby extended to August 24, 1977.

Very truly yours,

JOE D. RAMEY, Secretary-Director

JDR/DSN/dr

cc: Oil Conservation Commission - Artesia Case File 5774 JASON W, KELLAHIN ROBERT E, FOX W, THOMAS KELLAHIN KELLAHIN AND FOX ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOO DON GASPAR AVENUE POST OFFICE BOX 1789 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

June 20, 1977

AREA CODE 505 Evanier Rutter

TELEPHONE 982-4315

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Mr. Joe D. Ramey, Director New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Re: Case No. 5774, Order No. R-5305

Dear Mr. Ramey:

Under the provisions of the above order, all interest underlying the N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, Eddy County, were pooled for the drilling of the Mollie Well No. 1 by Belco Petroleum Company.

The Commission has previously granted extensions of time for the completion of this well, due to its location, and the inability of Belco to adequately test the well without a pipeline connection. The well has been drilled to total depth but still has no pipeline connection. The most recent extension gave Belco until June 25 to complete the well.

Llano is attempting to get a pipeline into the area, but has been forced to condemnation proceedings to obtain a right-of-way. Initial hearing on this condemnation was May 23, but the judge re-set it for July 18 for determination of value of the property involved.

Because this well is located adjacent to a residential area, and the Lake View Christian home, Belco feels it should not be tested except into the pipeline.

For this reason, Belco requests an extension of time of days for the completion of the well, to August 24.

Your consideration of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jason W. Kellahin

CC: Mr. Lee Nering

JWK:kfm

Dockets Nos. 27-76 and 28-76 are tentatively set for hearing on October 13 and 27, 1976. Applications for hearing must be filed at least 22 days in advance of hearing date.

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 29, 1976

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

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

CASE 5763: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit Service Drilling Company, The Travelers Indemnity Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Gonzales-Pittman Well No. 1, located in Unit M of Section 24, Township 21 North, Range 21 East, Mora County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.

CASE 5769: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit Juanita Frank, The Aetna Casualty and Surety Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Greathouse Frank Well No. 2, located in Unit C of Section 10, Township 23 North, Range 1 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.

CASE 5770: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit George H. Krause, The Hartford Accident and Indemnity Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Krause Beck Well No. 1, located in Unit J of Section 10, Township 29 North, Range 12 West, San Juan County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.

CASE 5771:

771: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for compulsory pooling and an unorthodox location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the W/2 of Section 22, Township 17 South, Range 26 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to its Tom Brown GO Con Well No. I to be drilled at an unorthodox location 660 feet from the North line and 1980 feet from the West line of said Section 22. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof, as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision. Also to be considered will be the designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well.

CASE 5772: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox location of its Federal BZ Well No. 16 to be drilled at a point 1980 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the East line of Section 28, Township 17 South, Range 25 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to test the Morrow formation, the N/2 of said Section 28 to be dedicated to the well.

CASE 5773:

: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for a unit agreement, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the North Millman Unit Area comprising 2,017 acres, more or less, of State lands in Township 19 South, Range 28 East, Eddy County, New Mexico.

CASE 5774:

Application of Belco Petroleum Corporation for compulsory pooling and an unorthodox location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to its Mollie Well No. 1 to be drilled at an unorthodox location 1100 feet from the North line and 1500 feet from the East line of said Section 31. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof, as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision. Also to be considered will be the designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well.

CASE 5775: Application of Cities Service Oil Company for compulsory pooling and an unorthodox well location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the W/2 of Section 30, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to its Tracy "E" Well No. 1 to be drilled at an unorthodox location 1880 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the West line of said Section 30. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision. Also to be considered will be the designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well.

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| 6 | LEE NERING | | | | |
| 7 | Direct Examination by Mr. Kellahin | | | 9 | |
| 8 | Cross Examination by Mr. Nutter | | | 18 | |
| 9 | | | | | |
| 10 | EXHIBIT INDEX | | | | |

Offered

Admitted

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Belco's Exhibit One, Land Plat Belco's Exhibit Two, Plat Belco's Exhibit Three, List Belco's Exhibit Four, Document Belco's Exhibit Five, Letters Belco's Exhibit Six, Letters Belco's Exhibit Seven, Structure Map Belco's Exhibit Eight, Aerial Photo Belco's Exhibit Nine, Map

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| | 1 | MR. NUTTER: We will call next Case Number 5774. |
| | 2 | MS, TESCHENDORF: Application of Belco Petroleum |
| | 3 | Corporation for compulsory pooling and an unorthodox location, |
| | 4 | Eddy County, New Mexico. |
| | 5 | MR. KELLAHIN: TOM Kellahin of Kellahin and Fox |
| | 6 | appearing on behalf of the applicant and I have two witnesses |
| | 7 | to be sworn. |
| | 8 | (THEREUPON, the witnesses were duly sworn.) |
| | 9 | |
| BETVICE <i>vice</i> v Mexico 87501 | 10 | MARY WARD |
| 5 4 5 W | 11 | called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was |
| trish reporting eral Court Reporting Si No. 122, Santa Fe, Ne Phone (505) 982-9212 | 12 | examined and testified as follows: |
| 200 | 13 | |
| morrish General Co. Mejia, No. 12 Phone | 14 | DIRECT EXAMINATION |
| sid m calle Megi | 15 | BY MR. KELLAHIN: |
| 8 32 2 3 8 | 16 | Q. Would you please state your name and occupation? |
| • | 17 | A. Yes, my name is Mary Ward. I'm a Landman with |
| | 18 | Belco Petroleum Corporation. |
| | 19 | Q Ms. Ward, have you previously testified before this |
| | 20 | Commission in your capacity as a Landman for Belco Petroleum |
| | 21 | Corporation? |
| | 22 | A. Yes, I have. |
| | 23 | Q And have you qualified as an expert in mineral inter |
| | 24 | ownership in New Mexico and land titles in compulsory pooling |
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Page. 1 A. Yes, I have. 2 Have you made a study of and are you familiar with Q. 3 the land title problems with regards to this particular 4 application? 5 A. Yes, sir. 6 MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner please, are the 7 witness' qualifications acceptable? 8 MR. NUTTER: Yes, they are. (Mr. Kellahin continuing.) Ms. Ward, would you 9 0. sid morrish reporting service *General Court Reporting Service* 825 Calle Mejia, No. 122, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 Phone (505) 982-9212 please refer to what has been marked as Exhibit Number One, 10 11 identify it and tell me what Belco is seeking? Exhibit Number One is a land plat. It is showing 12 Α. where we want to dedicate the north half of Section 31, it's 13 the proration unit, to drill our No. 1 Mollie. 14 Q. Please refer to what has been marked as Exhibit 15 Number Two and identify it? 16 A. Exhibit Number Two is the north half of Section 31. 17 As you can see it is made up in the majority with town lots. 18 What is indicated by the red hashed marks? Q. 19 The hashed marks are lots and land under lease by A. 20 21 Michael Grace and I have shown the acreage that I propose to force pool with an "FP". And on some of those you will see 22 "FP" with a "Req". That means that eight of those people 23 have requested we force pool them. 24 25 Please refer to what has been marked as Exhibit Q

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1 Number Three and identify it?

A. Yes, sir, Exhibit Three is a list of names,
description and amount of acreage of the sixteen forced pool
proposed interest, including -- I have made a list of the
leases under lease to Michael Grace on page three of this
exhibit.

Page

7 Q What is the total acreage that Mr. Grace controls?
8 A. He has a total of twenty point forty-eight, thirty9 eight under lease.

10 Q. What is the total acreage remaining outstanding? 11 Believe it or not, eight point nine, one, oh, six. A. 12 Q. Okay. With regard to Exhibit Number Three is there 13 any significance to the first eight names on the list? 14 A. Yes, Tom, those eight have requested I force pool them and that is your Exhibit Four. 15

Q All right, identify Exhibit Number Four.

17 A. That will be -- it's the second page I sent these
18 people with my original letter and gave them the choice of
19 leasing, joining or being force pooled and these are the
20 returned back pages from these eight requesting they be force
21 pooled. That's Exhibit Four.

22 Q. Please refer to Exhibit Number Five and identify23 it?

A Well, after about eight months I couldn't get anything out of these people so I sent them this July 13th

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| | | 1 | letter with return receipt requested and those copies are also |
| | | 2 | attached. |
| a. | | 3 | Q What, if any, responses did you receive to your |
| | | 4 | correspondence marked as Exhibit Number Five? |
| | | 5 | A. Well, five leased and one joined and we are now |
| | · | 6 | asking to force pool the remaining seven. |
| | | 7 | Q All of the parties listed on Exhibit Number Three |
| | | 8 | have been notified in writing of Belco's intent to force pool |
| | 501 | 9 | them? |
| | BETVİCE ^{vice} v Mexico 87501 | 10 | A. Yes, sir. |
| 19 | ₩ <u>₹</u> ₹ | 11 | Q Would you please refer to Exhibit Number Six and |
| | reporting <i>st Reporting Su</i> Santa Fe, Ne 505) 982-9212 | 12 | identify it? |
| | 200 | 13 | A. Well, since he had twenty acres I decided to ask |
| | morrish <i>General Co</i> dejia, No. 12 Phone | 14 | Mr. Grace once again so I sent him another letter on July 23rd, |
| | | 15 | return receipt requested. I didn't get any response. |
| | sid 825 Calle | 16 | MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes my examination of |
| | | 17 | this witness. |
| | | 18 | |
| | | 19 | CROSS EXAMINATION |
| | | 20 | BY MR. NUTTER: |
| | | 21 | Q Ms. Ward, now, as I understand it from Exhibit |
| · | | 22 | Number Three, there is a total of twenty-nine point three-nine |
| . • | | 23 | acres that isn't controlled by Belco, is that right? |
| | | 24 | A. That's right, sir. |
| | | 25 | Q And of these twenty-nine point three-nine acres, eight |

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| 1 | point nine belong to a variety of people and twenty point four |
| 2 | eight belongs to Mr. Grace? |
| : | A Yes, sir, that's correct. |
| 2 | And of the variety of people, eight have requested |
| Ę | the forced pooling action rather than join in or lease? |
| 6 | A Yes, sir, that's your Exhibit Four. |
| 7 | Q The others haven't responded one way or the other? |
| 8 | A No, sir. |
| ç | Q And Mr. Grace hasn't responded with respect to his |
| 10 | twenty point four acres? |
| 11 | A No, he hasn't. |
| 12 | Q. So the forced pooling action is directed at the |
| 13 | variety of people who control eight point nine acres and |
| 10 11 12 12 13 14 | Mr. Grace who controls twenty point four acres? |
| 15 | A That's correct, sir. |
| 16 | Q. Now, looking at your Exhibit Number Two and your |
| 17 | Exhibit Number One I'm having difficulty finding the location |
| 18 | of the well on the large-size plat. Where would it be with |
| 19 | respect to Exhibit Number Two? |
| 20 | A All right, on your right, say, in the northeast part |
| 21 | of there, you will see lots five and seven. It will be in |
| 22 | block twelve, kind of in the northeast part. In block twelve |
| 23 | there is lots five and seven. |
| 24 | Q Okay. |
| 25 | A That is a Belco lease from the Lakeside Veterans |
| | |

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| 1 | Club and they have already given us a drilling tract on that |
| 2 | east part of five and seven. |
| 3 | Q. I see, so will it be in five or will it be in |
| 4 | seven? |
| 5 | MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner please, we have anothe |
| 6 | aerial photograph. It shows the specific location. |
| 7 | A But it will be in five or seven on that east side. |
| 8 | Q (Mr. Nutter continuing.) It will be on that tract |
| 9 | there? |
| 10 | A. Yes, sir. And like I said, they have already given |
| 11 | us a tract agreement to drill on. It is outside the city |
| 12 | limits. |
| 9 10 7176-786 (coc) 2000 13 14 | Q But it is in a rather developed portion of the |
| Ë 14 | town? |
| 15 | A. No, sir, not this particular see, it is north |
| 16 | of the river. Okay, north of that there is only about one |
| 17 | house. In the north half of block twelve, across the tracts |
| 18 | over here is almost vacant and ' a same in lot fifteen north. |
| 19 | |
| 20 | |
| 21 | A. That's right and across the river south. |
| 22 | |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | MR. NUTTER: She may be excused. |
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(THEREUPON, the witness was excused.)

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3 LEE NERING 4 called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was 5 examined and testified as follows: 6 7 DIRECT EXAMINATION 8 BY MR. KELLAHIN: 9 Q. Would you please state your name and occupation? sid morrish reporting service *General Court Reporting Service* 825 Calle Mejia, No. 122, Sante Fe, New Mexico 87501 Phone (505) 982-9212 10 A. My name is Lee Nering, I'm Administrative Geologist 11 for Belco Petroleum Corporation, Houston, Texas. 12 Q. Mr. Nering, have you previously testified before 13 the Oil Conservation Commission and had your qualifications 14 as an expert witness accepted and made a matter of record? Yes, I have. 15 A. And are you familiar with the facts surrounding 16 0 this particular application? 17 I am. 18 A. MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner please, are the 19 witness' qualifications acceptable? 20 MR. NUTTER: Yes, they are. 21

(Mr. Kellahin continuing.) Mr. Nering, will you 22 Q refer to what has been marked as Exhibit Number Seven, 23 identify it and state what information it contains? 24 25 Exhibit Number Seven is a geological structure map A.

which depicts configuration of the Morrow formation in the 1 2 vicinity of the proposed application, as well as the Morrow 3 wells in the vicinity, most of which are contained within 4 the Carlsbad Morrow production. The significance of this 5 geological exhibit is that it illustrates a three-element condition of geology which is pertinent to the understanding 6 of production from the Morrow in this area. These three 7 structrual conditions as depicted by the map are related to 8 the trapping mechanism of the Morrow formation and as such 9 10 should be taken into consideration.

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11 The first of these geological elements is the rather prominent anticline which trends northeast as shown on 12 the east half of the exhibit. It should be noted that the 13 bulk of the production from the Morrow, and I might add that 14 the Morrow penetrations are shown by a double circle with a 15 datum in each case. One of the reasons for the bulk of the 16 production from the Morrow coming from the anticlinal area is 17 due to the multiplicity of pays in this area. 18

The second geological element, structural element, is shown immediately to the left of the anticlinal area and is a linear rather narrow syncline which separates the anticlinal area on the east side of the area from a monocline on the west side of the area. The significance of the syncline is that the structural positions of Morrow sands within the borders of the syncline have some bearing on potential water

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¹ problems within the Morrow formation although it is a well-² established fact that the Morrow production is one of a ³ combination of sand, stratigraphic conditions, as well as ⁴ structure, particularly in the Carlsbad area.

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5 The remaining third element, in addition to the 6 anticline and the syncline, is an east dipping monocline as 7 shown on the western portion of the mapped area and it can be 8 noted that the proposed Belco No. 1 Mollie is located in the 9 proximity of the downdip limit of the monocline as it approaches 10 the synclinal area. This synclinal area is, of course, 11 important as far as production is concerned. I might point out 12 that in Section 32 the Cities Service Oil Company drilled a 13 dry Morrow test and Belco drilled a dry Morrow test in Section 14 5. These wells were dry due to structural position, as well as decreasing sand conditions. I mentioned previously that 15 16 the bulk of production is on the anticlinal area primarily 17 due to not only structural position but also due to multiplicity 18 of pay. The Morrow sands diminish in number as the sedimentation occurs west of the syncline. Another significant fact 19 of the monocline on the western side of the syncline is that 20 21 there are very few penetrations in this area. Those which have 22 penetrated this area to the Morrow indicate far less number of 23 potential reservoirs within the Morrow formation and in 24 addition, at this time, an updip limit of the Morrow produc-25 tion has not been established nor, in fact, has a downdip limit

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¹ as you approach the syncline been established.

Q. What other units have Belco force pooled in this
3 area?

4 A. Belco has over the past year, actually over the past 5 three years, force pooled three wells in this area, two are 6 in Section 5 of the Township adjacent to the south and one most 7 recently in April of this year, our Douglas No. 1 in Section 7, 8 approximately two miles south of the proposed Belco Mollie No. 9 These wells are rather expensive wells. Belco is estimating 10 for the cost of our Belco No. 1 Mollie, a combined completed 11 cost of approximately six hundred and fifty thousand dollars. 12 This can be subdivided into two factors, the drilling costs 13 which amount to four hundred and fifty thousand dollars and 14 completions costs of approximately two hundred thousand dollars 15 Q. Have you prepared in the form of an exhibit the 16 estimated well costs?

17 An AFE which will give detailed statistical informa-Α. tion relative to actual costs for these wells will be prepared. 18 19 It has not been done on this date. It will be prepared and 20 presented to the Commission and to all interested concerned 21 parties upon issuance of an order. I might point out that our 22 estimated costs for the Mollie No. 1 are based almost exclusively 23 on the drilling within the past six months. In fact, our 24 Douglas No. 1 two miles to the south is presently completing 25 and its costs are quite comparable to our estimate for the

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Mollie Well at six hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

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2 Q. What is the cost of the Douglas Nell? 3 A. The Douglas Well presently had an AFE cost of, that 4 is an estimated cost, of six hundred and thirty-one thousand 5 dollars and it is anticipated because of certain environmental conditions probably to run slightly in excess of that. By 6 7 environmental conditions I am referring to fencing requirements, as I think has been stated by the previous testimony 8 9 that this drilling is in the vicinity of the City of Carlsbad. 10 Neither our Douglas Well nor the Mollie No. 1 are within the city limits of the City of Carlsbad but it does make a 11 difference as far as attempting to maintain controlled 12 13 conditions when you are dealing with environmental considerations which do add to costs. 14

Q. With regard to the costs of supervision for drilling
to be charged during the drilling of the well and after completion of drilling, what is your recommendation to the Commission?

A I'm recommending to the Commission and these recommendations are based upon requests previously made and granted by the Commission for cur latest two applications, these being the Jarvis Meade No. 1 Well, which on this map is identified as 4 Meade in Section 5 and our Douglas No. 1 in Section 7. Our recommendations and consideration given was for seventeen hundred and fifty dollars per month charge while

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drilling and two hundred and sixty dollars per month charge while producing. The two hundred and sixty dollars is five dollars more than the request made on the Douglas No. 1. Do you have a recommendation with regards to a risk factor to be assessed against the non-participating parties? A Yes, I do.

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Page.

Q What is that?

I have a risk recommendation of two hundred percent. Α. 8 I based this on five factors. The first of this I would like 9 to point out may be redundant but the vicissitudes of the 10 Morrow formation leads to dry holes because of the nature of 11 the sedimentation and the stratigraphy of the Morrow formation. 12 At this time because we are drilling on the west flank of the 13 local geology we have no way of adequately controlling our 14 definition of stratigraphy. 15

Our second factor involved in risk is the fact 16 that we have no way of knowing at this time an updip limit 17 of Morrow production. It is possible that Morrow production 18 will not be present at the Mollie No. 1 which leads us to 19 our third consideration, a fact that I mentioned previously, 20 there is presently no updipped known limit of production in 21 the Morrow formation in the vicinity of the Mollie well. There 22 have been no wells drilled to the Morrow for several miles to 23 the west. 24

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A final consideration is our concern that perhaps

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Page. 1 due to the fewer number of potential reservoirs to be 2 encountered in the Morrow formation, the likelihood of being 3 on the downdip limit of the monocline and I think it is 4 obvious from the map that the syncline is of some structural 5 importance relative to trapping conditions. We feel that we 6 run a risk, a fairly high risk for water production. I might 1 add that an Antweil well approximately three miles to the 8 southwest of our proposed location, presently producing at a 9 higher structural elevation is producing water and is experienc 10 ing some difficulty with low volume of production which at the 11 cost of these wells provides an extreme risk to the operator 12 as a potentially commercial well. 13 What risk factor did the Commission assign in the a

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14 forced pooling orders for the Meade well and for the Douglas 15 Well?

16 In the case of the Jarvis Meade, again I point out A. 17 in Section 5 identified as 4 Meade and in the case of the 18 Douglas No. 1 in Section 7, the Commission assigned a risk 19 factor of two hundred percent.

20 Q Does Belco desire to be designated the operator of 21 the unit?

22 A. Belco makes this recommendation and does desire to 23 be designated as the operator of the unit.

24 0. Please refer to Exhibit Number Eight and identify it? 25 Exhibit Number Eight is a copy of an aerial photo of A.

sid morrish reporting service General Court Reporting Service 5 Calle Mejia, No. 122, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 Phone (505) 982-9212

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the north half of Section 31. It is at a scale of one inch 2 equals five hundred feet. I must apologize for the deteriora-3 tion of the photo from its original photo. However, I do think it points out the salient factors on this photo. I have 5 attempted to show the proposed orthodox location shown by the 6 footage lines. I've also shown the four orthodox locations 7 and I think it's apparent from the photo itself that three of 8 the four orthodox locations are in obviously very residential 9 areas and hardly a place where Belco would be desirous of 10 drilling a Morrow gas well. The orthodox location in the east 11 half of the north half of 31 is one that was considered but I 12 think it can be seen from this somewhat poor copy of an aerial 13 photograph that we will be dealing with vegetation in the 14 form of orchards and it's not too clear on the photo but there 15 are residences immediately in the vicinity of the orthodox 16 location and there is also a street directly under the 17 orthodox location and as such, after considering all of the factors of environment and disruption of normal conditions 18 19 within the City of Carlsbad and its environs, we determined 20 that a better location would be as shown in the white area 21 and the white area represents the approximate size of our pad 22 for the location, the pad being in the order of three hundred 23 and fifty feet by two hundred and thirty feet.

16

Q. What is the exact footage location for the requested
 site?

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Page 17

1 A. The requested site is eleven hundred feet from the 2 north line of Section 31 and fifteen hundred feet from the east 3 line of Section 31, which would place it in Unit B. The well at present has not been staked. I believe our measurements 4 are in keeping and as reasonable as we can make them and we 5 believe our footage measurements are reasonably correct and 6 we expect that this location will be and as can be seen from 7 the photo, it will be in a cultivated area. This photo was 8 taken at a time when cultivation was at an early stage. This 9 is alfalfa in growth at this time. 10

11 Q Would you please refer to what has been marked as
12 Exhibit Number Nine and identify it?

13 Exhibit Number Nine again is a map of the north half A. of Section 31 and one of the considerations that Belco 14 attempts to observe and be in keeping with is the city limits 15 of the City of Carlsbad and it should be noted that the exhibit 16 has a notation on this of the date of the city limits as 17 presented to us by the city attorney's office and as plotted 18 by the assistant city engineer. Since that time, and I have 19 two newspaper clippings which were not meant to be exhibits 20 but if you care to review these. Since the date in April of 21 this year the City annexed fifty-six acres in this part of 22 the environs of Carlsbad which is known as La Huerta and 23 this line of the 1976 annexation is shown on the map which 24 25 lies along the east side of Canal Avenue but that it clearly

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1.8 Page. shows that our proposed location remains approximately 1 2 four hundred feet to the east of the city lines. 3 Q. In your opinion, Mr. Nering, is the entire unit 4 reasonably productive of gas at the requested location? 5 È. With the exception of the risk factors that I have outlined in five possibilities, I believe the entire area, if 6 productive, should drain the three hundred and twenty acres. 7 Q. In your opinion, Mr. Nering, will the approval of 8 this application be in the best interests of conservation, 9 prevention of waste and the protection of correlative rights? 10 That is my opinion. A. 11 Were Exhibits Seven, Eight and Nine either compiled 0. 12 under your direction and supervision or prepared by you 13 directly? 14 A. Seven, Eight and Nine were compliled and completed 15 by me. 16 MR. KELLAHIN: If the Examiner please, we move 17 the introduction of Exhibits One through Nine. 18 MR. NUTTER: Belco's Exhibits One through Nine will 19 be admitted into evidence. 20 (THEREUPON, Belco's Exhibits One through Nine 21 were admitted into evidence.) 22 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes our direct examination. 23 CROSS EXAMINATION 24 BY MR. NUTTER: 25

sid morrish reporting service *General Court Reporting Service* 825 Calle Mejia, No. 122, Sante Fe, New Mexico 87501 Phone (505) 982-9212

| | | Page19 |
|--|----|---|
| | 1 | Q. Mr. Nering, referring to your Exhibit Number Seven, |
| | 2 | we see the trough or the syncline running northeast-southwest |
| | 3 | here. I also see this R. C. Bennett Well which is in the syncline |
| | 4 | A. Yes, sir. |
| | 5 | 0 There is no symbol as to whether it is a producer or |
| | 6 | a dry hole, what is the status of that well? |
| | 7 | A. That well is in the process of being completed. |
| | 8 | Q Is it making a well? |
| 106/2 | 9 | A. I don't know. It has tested gas. |
| exico 8 | 10 | Q. From the Morrow formation? |
| . New M 212 | 11 | A. Yes. However, I am reluctant to describe it as |
| anta Fc, 5) 982-9 | 12 | a completed well. From past experience drill stem testing in |
| ejia, No. 1.22, Santa Fc, New Mexico 87501 Phone (505) 982-9212 | 13 | the Morrow is not totally necessary of assured production. |
| gla, No. Pho | 14 | It may be noted also that our Douglas Well in Section 7 is also |
| 020 Caue Mo | 15 | shown by that same symbol. Again, it is in the process of |
| 070 | 16 | completing. |
| | 17 | Q. Are you making a well of it? |
| | 18 | A. Yes, we will make a well. |
| | 19 | Q. In the Morrow formation? |
| | 20 | A. In the Morrow. I have tests on it. I don't have |
| | 21 | them with me but we do have tests from yesterday. |
| | 22 | Q. What about the Cities Service Tracy E 1 up here in |
| | 23 | Section 30? |
| | 24 | A. I think it's the subject of the next hearing. |
| | 25 | Q I see. And Cities Service does have a well here in |
| | 1 | |

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1 Section 30, the Ives No. 1?

2 A. Yes, sir, that well is currently producing at a rate
3 of about a million and a half a day from the Morrow.

20

Page.

4 Q Then you figure that it is structurally a little bit
5 higher than your Mollie location?

A. Yes, sir.

6

17

18

Okay, now, you mentioned that the Commission had
awarded a two hundred percent risk factor for the Meade 4 and
the Douglas Well, and also that your combined fixed rates for
operating costs while producing for your proposed Mollie Well
are two hundred and sixty dollars a month, which was five
dollars more than granted by the Commission for the Douglas
Well?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. How much did the Commission authorize for the
16 Douglas well for CFR while drilling?

A. While drilling, seventeen hundred and fifty.

Q Seventeen hundred and fifty?

Yes, sir. The same is true for the Jarvis Meade. The A. 19 only difference occurs in the monthly charges for a producing 20 rate. We felt that because of the inflationary charges and 21 the fact that the Mollie being in a somewhat more sensitive 22 environmental area, may have additional monthly charges and I 23 think a charge of five dollars a month more is reasonable. 24 I see. Now, you mentioned that on Exhibit Number Q. 25

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Page. 21 1 Nine that the City had annexed some additional land. Now, 2 this little hachured line that comes around like so is the 3 old city limit? 4 That is as of April 27th, 1976. The annexation A. 5 continued, if you will observe on Canal Avenue, the extreme 6 northeast point of that city limit, it is the continuation of 7 a dashed line. If you would like --8 Well, I think if you would just describe, Mr. Nering, Q. 9 I see a dashed line running straight north on the east side of 10 Canal Street and the annexation is all to the west of that? 11 A. Yes, sir. 12 So this area to the east of Canal Street is the same a 13 as the city limits were and as they are now? 14 A, Yes, sir, and if you would like I can pass along --15 Q I don't think that will be necessary. I think I 825 understand where the city limits are now. 16 17 A. Okay. Now, your aerial photo here, Exhibit Eight? 18 Q Yes, sir. 19 A. I see the location and apparently there is a little 20 Q. white patch has been pasted onto the photograph. 21 22 A. It is the approximate size of the pad. 23 a I was going to ask if this had been drawn to scale 24 to illustrate the size of the pad. 25 A. It is. It is our anticipated pad size which measure

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22 Page three hundred and fifty feet by about two hundred and thirty 1 feet and it is to scale. 2 And this location then is immediately south of the 3 0. street that runs east and west there, isn't it? 4 That's right. λ. 5 Okay, what is this across the street, I can't tell? 6 0 I realize that the photo is poor. Across the street 7 A. is an uncultivated area, it does contain one ramshackle building. 8 It is not capable of residency. To the west about three hundred 9 sid morrish reporting service *General Court Reporting Service* 825 Calle Mejia, No. 122, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 Phone (505) 982-9212 feet from the northwest on the other side of that street is 10 another building that probably with considerable renovation 11 would be capable of residency but it is three hundred feet from 12 the drill site. It is presently unoccupied. 13 14 Where would that be on this photograph, Mr. Nering, ۵ is it this dark spot? 15 That's the dark spot. 16 A. Is there a little street running north and south 17 Q. immediately west of the alfalfa patch? 18 No, sir. No, there is kind of a lane that goes A. 19 back in there northwest of the drill site and the dark line 20 represents a line of trees along which there is a lane. That 21 lane is about five hundred and fifty feet from the drill site 22 and just to the north on that lane you will see another dark 23 spot. In that vicinity is another house which is a residence. 24 25 And it would be approximately how far from the Q.

Page_____23____

location?

1

2 A. It would be almost six hundred feet. You see this 3 scale is one inch is five hundred feet. That particular 4 residence is about six hundred feet. The nearest residence, I might add, is due west of our location which is also the city 5 6 limits. You see the white line running north-south immediately 7 on the west side of the alfalfa patch, that's a lane, it's a 8 wooded lane that runs back in there and goes to the -- it's 9 difficult to make it out but there is a VFW Club sitting there 10 beside the river.

11 Q Okay, I was going to ask you, there is a large
12 building down here south of the alfalfa patch and that is the
13 VFW Club building?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. And it is approximately five hundred feet from the
16 drill site, is it?

A. Yes, five hundred plus feet.

18 Q Now, to the east of your location there is nothing
19 but the railroad turn-around yard and so forth?

A That is correct. I might add that as recently as Friday we considered proposing a location over in there but because of the difficulties in getting inside the switching areas of the railroad we considered it a much more difficult location than in the alfalfa patch. Plus I might add that in that direction is downdip and would have added considerably

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17

24 Page_ 1 to our geological risk. 2 I don't know if it is material or not but referring Q. back to some of Ms. Ward's exhibits, would the alfalfa patch 3 be one of the lands that you have under lease or is it one of 4 the lands being force pooled? 5 MS. WARD: We have it under lease. 5 7 Q. (Mr. Nutter continuing.) You've got the alfalfa patch under lease? 8 It's leased, yes, sir. 9 A. 10 At this time you don't have your AFE but that will be Q. prepared and submitted to the Commission? 11 12 A. Very shortly. 13 MR. NUTTER: Okay, are there any further questions 14 of Mr. Nering? He may be excused. 15 (THEREUPON, the witness was excused.) MR. NUTTER: Do you have anything further, Mr. 16 Kellahin? 17 MR. KELLAHIN: No, sir. 18 MR. NUTTER: Does anyone have anything they wish to 19 offer in Case 5774? We will take the case under advisement 20 and take a fifteen minute recess. 21 (THEREUPON, the hearing was in recess.) 22 23 24 25

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25 Page_

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 I, SIDNEY F. MORRISH, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, 3 do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript 4 of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission 5 was reported by me, and the same is a true and correct record 6 of the said proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skill and 7 ability.

Sidney F. Morrish, C.S.R.

t do nettouy a sector ele Ex 1000 ¹5 **23** heard h in 774 New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission

..., Examiner

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| /2 Section 31. |
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EXHIBIT NO.

| /2 Section 31. | | | EXHIBIT NO. |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|----------------|
| • | Force P | Poct Acreage | CASE NO. 21-76 |
| NAME | ADDRESS | DESCRIPTION | ACREAGE |
| City of Carlsbad | Municipal Corporation of Carlsbad Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | Lots & & 10, Blk. 121, N. Carlsbad | 1.7218 |
| Draper Brantley | 706 Riverside Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | Lot 2, Blk. 202, Scarborough 1 | .7633 |
| Mrs. Ruth Gibson | 601 Lakeside Drive ~Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | Lot 3, Blk. 181, Westfall | ,3489 |
| Raymond Moore | 1310 Doepp Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | Lot 9, Blk. 2, Casa Del Rio | .4299 |
| Evelyn Thomas James | 1121 Tracy Place Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | Lot 11, Blk. 211, Tracy | .2669 |
| John Pa slay | 1412 Doepp Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | Lot 1, Blk. 2, Casa Del Rio | .3587 |
| T. R. Duffin | 903 Riverside Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | Lots 1 & 3, Blk. A., Rio Vista | 1.4233 |
| John Most | ll33 Tracy Place Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | Lot 23. Blk. 211, Tracy | .3214 |
| B. L. Blessinger | 1120 North Spring Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | ' Lot 14, Blk. 1, Casa Del Rio | .6457 |
| Roscoc Melvin | 801 Elma Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | Lot 7, Blk. 220, Bennett | .2290 |
| Dell Bosse | 202 Westridge Carlsbod, New Mexico 88220 | Lots 9 ½ 34, B1k. 211, Tracy | 1.0445 |
| Grigg Lazenby | 601 Pierce Carlsbad, New Mexico 38220 | Lot 6, Blk. 181, Westfall | .2755 |
| - | | * | |

92.

N/2 Section 31 Continued Michael P. Grace Victor Throgmorton Don McKinley Cecil Orininstool P. 0. Box 148 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 914 Alamosa Carlsbad, New Mexico 80220 1108 North Main Carlsbad, New Mexico 801 West Riverside Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 88220 See Attached Sheet Lot L, Blk. 217, Tracy Lot 12, Blk. 2, Casa Del Río Lot 5, Blk. 219, Bennett Total of 29.34444 Acres plus 20./838 .2583 .3064 .5170
| MICHNEL |
|---------|
| Ъ. |
| GRACE |

| | Elizabeth Neumann | Denton K. Smith | Rigdon | Constance Chapman | Ruth Born | Sue Gentry | P. Panagopoulos | Margaret Spence | Erna G. Small | W. L. Walterschied | Antonio Hernandez | Roy Dugger | Name |
|---------|--|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|-------------|
| Total | W/2 Lots 2 and 4, B1k. C, Rio Vista Add. | Lot 10, B1k. 8,1 Williams | W4/5 Lot 10 and 11 lot 12, Blk. 8, La Huerta | " NE corner lot 14, Blk. C, Río Vista | Lot 11, Blk. 222, Porter | Lot 2 and 4, Blk. 152, Lakeside | Lot 2, Blk. 213, Tracy Addition | E/75' Lot 3, Blk. 219, Bennett | NW/69 X 222' Lot 1, Blk. 9, La Huerta | Lot 20, Blk. 211, Tracy | Lot 25, Blk. 211, Tracy, E/85' of Lot 12, W/2 of Lot 14 Blk. 152, Lakeside | B1k. 1, Lots 1,3,4, & 15 B1k. 2, Lots 6,7,17 & 18 B1k. 3, Lots 1,2,3,:,6,7,9,10 and 12, Casa Del Rio Estates | Description |
| 20.4838 | 1.6529 | .4959 | 2.4753 | 1.4509 | .3099 | 2.2034 | .8110 | .3013 | .5500 | .2755 | 1.6070 | 8.3467 | Acreage . |

CALL STITU

28

| ´City of Carlsbad | NMOCC NUTLEY BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORAT EXHIBIT NO | 1.7216 |
|-------------------|--|--------------|
| Page 2 | CASE NO. 5714 | Asked to be |
| March 26, 1976 | DATE 9.29.16 | Force Pooled |

We will appreciate your advising us in the very near future as to your wishes on this matter. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Mary Ward

Mary Ward Landman

MA/csn

Enclosure

Re: Worlow Prospert Balco #1 Jakeside I will lease my interest to Balco. N/2 Sec 31 T215 R27E Eddy Co 9. M. 88220

I prefer to join in drilling this test.

I prefer to be force pooled. City of Carlobal Lota 8 + 10 - FP Blk 121 n Carlabah

City Attorney Mike MicCormick

99-1

Mr. Draper Brantley Page 2 March 30, 1976

,7633

Asked to be Force Pooled

We will appreciate your advising us in the very near future as to your wishes on this matter. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Mary Ward

Mary Ward Landman

Ma/csn

Enclosure



I will lease my interest to Belco.



I prefer to join in drilling this test.



I prefer to be force pooled.

- 5774 Exb. 4

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Mr. A. Page 2 HeAdoo_ March 29, 1976

-30-76 .3489

Asked to be Force Pouled

We will appreciate your advising us in the very near future as to your wishes on this matter. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Lot 3 Blk 181 Inlestfall FP

Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Mary Ward

Mary Ward Landman

M/csn

Enclosure



I will lease my interest to Balco.

I prefer to join in drilling this test.

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I prefer to be force pooled.

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1310 Deepo De Carlina, W.m. 88220 may 6, 1976 F. P. Letter Beles Petroleum Corporation Force Rooled 411 Petroleum Building 204 W. Leves malind, Iekas 19701 Araly Word . intel Dear Mrs. Ward, letter In regard to your may 3 explaining the avalor rospect, we probable, will but to be forced pooled. My husband, Ray moore, tille has been a patione in. Douston al the Center Pavelion Dospital. He can be Contacted there 0713-790-1700 Jul 292. That you for your letter !.

Very truly yours, Shirley M. Woore (Mrs. Reymond Moore)

Bennett

MAY 10 1976 MIDLAND OFFICE

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casa Del FP Sot

9 Blk. Blk. 99.4

411 Petro aum Buliding 204 W. Taxas Midand, Taxas 79701 Telebraan (917) 633-6366

Asked to be Force Pooled

Belco Petroleum Corporation

May 18, 1976

Belco

Ms. Evelyn James 1121 Tracy Place Carlsbad, New Mexico

> Re: Avalon Prospect Belco #1 Lakeside N/2 Section 31, T21S, R27E Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Ms. James:

Please reference my letter of May 3, 1976, in which Belco Pet roleum Corporation offered to lease your .2669 ac., Lot 11, Blk. 211 under the captioned section for \$200.00 per net mineral acre or \$53.38 for a one year lease and a 3/16 royalty.

If you prefer to join with us in drilling the captioned well, please advise and I will be most happy to give you further details. If you prefer to be force pooled, please say so on the bottom of this letter and return same to me in the enclosed envelope.

Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Many Ward

Mary Ward Lanuman

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MAY 20 1976 MIDLAND OFFICE 5

PLEASE FORCE POOL MY ACREAGE

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Am not interested in and of your offers. - Encly Shor

411 Petroleu a Building 204 W. Tekas Midland, Tekas 79701 Telephone (915) 683-6366

Belco Petroleum Corporation

Asked to be Force Pooled

May 18, 1976

Belco

Mr. John Paslay 1412 Doepp Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

> Re: Avalon Prospect Belco #1 Lakeside N/2 Section 31, T21S, R27E Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Paslay,

Please reference my letter of May 3, 1976, in which Belco Petroleum Corporation offered to lease your .3587 ac., Lot 1, Blk 2 under the captioned section for \$200.00 per net mineral acre or \$71.74 for a one year lease and a 3/16 royalty.

If you prefer to join with us in drilling the captioned well, please advise and I will be most happy to give you further details. If you prefer to be force pooled, please say so on the botto $_m$ of this letter and return same to me in the enclosed envelope.

Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience.

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Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Man Ward Mary Ward Landman

MW/sam

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411 Petroleum Building 204 W. Teras Midland, Teras 79701 Teleprone (215) 633-6366

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Belco Petroleum Corporation

MIDLAND OFFICE

MAY 21 1976

May 18, 1976 Force Pooled

Belco

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Mr. T. R. Duffin 902 East Riverside Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

> Re: Avalon Prospect Belco #1 Lakeside N/2 Section 31, T21S, R27E Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Duffin:

Please reference my letter of May 3, 1976, in which Belco Petroleum Corporation offered to lease your 1.4233 ac., Lots 1&3, Blk. A under the captioned section for \$200.00 per net mineral acre or \$284.66 for a one year lease and a 3/16 royalty.

If you prefer to join with us in drilling the captioned well, please advise and I will be most happy to give you further details. If you prefer to be force pooled, please say so on the bottom of this letter and return same to me in the enclosed envelope.

Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Mary Ward

Mary Ward Landman

mss/k

PLEASE FORCE POOL MY ACREAGE

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(Mrs. T.R.) Roberta V. Duffi

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411 Petroleum Building 204 W. Teras Micland, Toras 79701 Teleonone (915) 633-6366

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Asked to be Force Pouled

-FP

Belco Petroleum Corporation

Belco

JUN-24-1376 Itay 18, 1976

MIDLAND OFFICE

yacy

Dr. John A. Most 1133 Tracy Place Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

> Re: Avalon Prospect Belco #1 Lakeside N/2 Section 31, T21S, R27E Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Dr. Most:

Please reference my letter of May 3, 1976, in which Belco Pet roleum Corporation offered to lease your .3214 ac., Lot 23, Blk. 211 under the captioned section for \$200.00 per net mineral acre or \$64.28 for a one year lease and a 3/16 royalty.

If you prefer to join with us in drilling the captioned well, please advise and I will be most happy to give you further details. If you prefer to be force pooled, please say so on the bottom of this letter and return same to me in the enclosed envelope.

Please let me hear from you at your earliest conveniese.

Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Mary Ward

Mary Mard Landman

FM/sam

PLEASE FORCE POOL MY ACREAGE Survey and

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cuse 5774 Exh. 4

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| | NMOCC NUTLEY BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION EXHIBIT NO. 5 CASE NO. 5774 DATE 9-29-76 | Receipts Sent July 13, 1976 |
|--|---|--|
| Beico Succiet - Dell Bosse - FF Pucciet - Forrest Neal - (lassed) Pucciet - Ovid J. Pinckert - (lassed) | | |
| Receipt - Kictor Throgmorton - FP Receipt - Bill Bessinger - FP | N/2 Se | Prospect #1 Lakeside ection 31, T215, R27E County, New Mexico |

Belco Petroleum Corporation proposes to drill an 11,600' Morrow Test to be located approximately 1320' FNL and 1500' FEL of Section 31, T21S, R27E Eddy County, New Mexico.

According to our information you own under the captioned section which is currently unleased.

It is our intention to commence the above referenced test immediately and we herein offer to purchase an oil and gas lease covering your specific interest at a consideration of \$200 per net mineral acre for a one year primary term lease, and provide for a 3/16 base royalty.

As an alternative, you may wish to join with Belco in the drilling of this test and pay your proportionate part of the drilling cost. We estimate the cost to be approximately \$550,000 for a completed producer. If you should desire to join us, please let me know at your earliest convenience and I will send you a copy of the proposed Operating Agreement and an AFE covering the cost of the well for your consideration.

Of course you also have the option to elect to be force pooled in this matter. If this is your preference, I would appreciate your indicating the same in the space provided below on the enclosed extra copy of this letter and returning it to me at your earliest convenience in replying.

We will appreciate your advising us in the very near furture as to your

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Page 2 July 13, 1976

wishes on this matter. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Yours very turly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Mary Ward

Mary Ward Landman

MW/sam

Enc.

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Page 2 July 13, 1976

| wishes on | this | matter | r. If | you | should | have | any | questions, | please | feel | free | to |
|-----------|--------|---------|-------|-----|--------|------|-----|------------|--------|------|------|----|
| contact m | e at a | any tin | ne. | | | | - | | | | | |

Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Mary Ward

Mary Ward Landman

MW/sam Enc.

I will lease my interest to Belco.

I prefer to join in drilling this test.

I prefer to be force pooled.

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Case 577.4 Exh. 5



Case 5774 Exh. 5



Care 5774 Exh. 5 NMOCC. Nutter BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION EXHIBIT NO. 6 CASE NO. 5774 DATE 9-29-76

July 23, 1976

M. P. Grace P. O. Box 1418 Carlsbad, new Mexico 88220

> Re: Avalon Prospect Belco #1 Lakeside N/2 Section 31, T2IS, R27E Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Grace:

You have previously been advised of Belco's intention to drill the captioned well as an 11,600' Morrow test to be located approximately 1320' FNL and 1500'FEL of Section 31, T2IS, R27E, Eddy County, New Mexico. You have not as yet advised Belco whether or not to join in drilling this test.

We proposed a proration unit covering the N/2 of Section 31, T21S, R27E, According to our records, the ownership and percentages within this u unit will be as follows:

| | Company Name | Acres | Percentage |
|-------------|----------------------------------|----------|------------|
| 1 | | 201.4520 | 63.4182 |
| 1 | Cities Service Co. | 40.1983 | 12.6546 |
| 1 | Pecos Valley Vending Co. | 27.9348 | 8,7940 |
| | Michael P. Grace | 20.4838 | 6.4484 |
| | Robert S. Light | 5.7159 | 1.7994 |
| 4 | M. McDonnold, Jr. | 4.7199 | 1.4859 |
| ļ | Francis G. Tracy | 1.4922 | .4698 |
| | Leonard May | 1.4692 | .4625 |
| | Don McCormick | .9771 | .3076 |
| | Mary Neal Thomas | .7633 | .2403 |
| | Mollie Lorentzen | .4904 | . 1544 |
| | Louise H. Whitlock | .3673 | . 1156 |
| | Dr. Robert J. Harris | .2754 | .0867 |
| l | Dr. Robert C. Murray | .2479 | .0780 |
| * • • | Force Pool Acreage (Unleased) | 11.0690 | 3.4846 |
| | Total | | |
| | Total | 317.6565 | 100.0002 |



63.1

We estimate the cost of the completed will to be approximately \$550,000.00. An AFE will be furnished you as soon as one is available, along with a copy of the Operating Agreement if you desire to join.

If you do not wish to participate in drilling this test, we would, of course, be pleased to consider a farmout of your interest.

We will appreciate gour early consideration of this proposal since we would like to start drilling this test around the middle of August, 1976.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call me collect at the above number.

Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Case 5774 Exh. 6

99.2

Mary Ward

Mary Ward Landman

MW/sam



Case 5774 Exh.6

02.3







OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION P. O. BOX 2088 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

April 26, 1977

Kellahin & Fox P. O. Box 1769 Sants Fe, New Mexico 87501

Attn: Mr. Jason W. Kellahin

Re: Extension Order No. R-5305

Gentlemen:

 Reference is made to your letter of April 13, 1977, requesting an additional extension of time during which Belco Petroleum Corporation may complete its Mollie Well No. 1. This well is being drilled pursuant to the Commission's pooling order, No. R-5305, which required that the well be completed by February 24, 1977. The time for completion has heretofore been extended to April 25, 1977.

In view of the problems involved in making a successful completion of the aforesaid well, we concur that additional time is probably necessary, and a 60-day extension, to June 25, 1977, is hereby approved.

Yours very truly,

JOE D. RAMEY Director

JDR/DNS/fd

cc: Case File 5774 NMOCC Artesia JASON W. KELLAHIN Robert E. Fox W. Thomas Kellahin KELLAHIN AND FOX ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOO DON GASPAR AVENUE POST OFFICE BOX 1789 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

April 13, 1977

TELEPHONE 982-4315 AREA CODE 505

File Case-577el

Mr. Joe D. Ramey, Director New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Re: Case No. 5774, Order No. R-5305

Dear Mr. Ramey:

Confirming our telephone conversation, Belco Petroleum Company requests a further extension of time to complete its Mollie No. 1 well, for an additional sixty days.

Under the above order, the Commission pooled all interests underlying the N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, Eddy County. The pooling order, entered October 27, 1976, required completion within 120 days, or by February 24, 1977, unless an extension of time were granted. The Commission extended the time for completion to April 25.

The well has been drilled to total depth at 11,595 feet, and has been subject to extensive testing and bottom-hole surveys. Several times the well has been acidized, and Belco needs to conduct further tests, and is considering the possibility of fracing in order to complete this well as a producer.

Your consideration of another sixty day extension will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jaron Kellohn

Jason W. Kellahin

CC: Mr. Lee Nering

JWK:kfm

JASON W. KELLAHIN ROBERT E. FOX W. THOMAS KELLAHIN

KELLAHIN AND FOX ATTORNEYS AT LAW 500 DON GASPAR AVENUE POST OFFICE BOX 1769 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

February 8, 1977

Stands Examine

TELEPHONE 982-4315

AREA CODE 505

Mr. Joe D. Ramey New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Re: Case No. 5774: Order No. R-5305

Dear Mr. Ramey:

Under the provisions of the above case and order, the Commission pooled all interests underlying the N/2, Sec. 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, Eddy County. One of the provisions of the order required that if the well were not completed within 120 days after commencement, the operator shall appear and show cause why the order should not be rescinded.

Belco Petroleum Corporation commenced drilling of its Mollie No. 1 well on the compulsory-pooled unit on October 14, 1976, prior to the date of the order. The well has been drilled to a total depth of 11,595 feet, and subsequent to reaching TD, has been subject to testing and study to determine the proper method of completion for the particular formation encountered in this well, in order to maximize recovery.

For this reason, Belco respectfully requests an additional sixty days in which to make final completion of its Mollie No. 1 well.

Yours very truly,

Jason W. Kellahin

CC: Lee Nering

WTK:kfm

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION P. O. BOX 2088 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

Pebruary 15, 1977

Mr. Jason Kellahin Kellahin & Fox Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 1769 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

> Re: Mollie Well No. 1-B 31-T21S-R27E, Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Kellahin:

On February 15, 1977, the Commission approved the request of Belco Petroleum Corporation for an additional 60 days in which to complete the subject well. Said well is located on a proration unit compulsorily pooled by Commission Order No. R-5305 and this action is taken in compliance with said order.

Yours very truly,

JOE D. RAMEY Director

JDR/RLS/få

November 13, 1976

L. Larsen 1120 N. Spring CARLSBAD, N.M. 88220

OIL CONSERVATION COUNTISSION State of New Mexico P.O. Box 2088 SANTA FE, N.1. 87501

Docket No.26-76, case 5774

Please find enclosed your copy concerning application of BELCO Petroleum Corp. for compulsory pooling and unorthodox location, addressed to

> Mr.B.L. Blessinger 1120 N. Spring, Carlsbad

There is no Mr. Blessinger läving at our address.

The property - 1120 N. Spring, Carlsbäd - has been bought on November 14, 1975, by Raymond and Lily LARSEN, with the mineral rights leased to BELCO until February 6, 1978.

We are, thus, the new owners, tied to BELCO as per contract in our possession. We do not think that BELCO's application for compulsory pooling concerns the property located 1120 p. spring, Carlsbad.

cc. Belco Petroleum

Truly youns, 60 m L. Larsen

Dockets Nos. 27-76 and 28-76 are tentatively set for hearing on October 13 and 27, 1976. Applications for hearing must be filed at least 22 days in advance of Learing date.

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - WEDDESDAY - SPTTERBER 29, 1976

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

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

- CASE 5768: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit Service Drilling Company, The Travelers Indemnity Company, and all other interested parties to eppear and show cause why the Gonzales-Pittman Well No. 1, located in Unit M of Section 24, Township 21 North, Mange 21 East, Mora County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.
- CASE 5769: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit Juanita Frank, The Aetna Casualty and Surety Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Greathouse Frank Well No. 2, located in Unit C of Section 10, Township 23 North, Range 1 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.
- <u>CASE 5770</u>: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit George H. Krause, The Hartford Accident and Indemnity Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Krause Beck Well No. 1, located in Unit J of Section 10, Township 29 North, Range 12 West, San Juan County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.
- CASE 5771: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for compulsory pooling and an unorthodox location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the W/2 of Section 22, Township 17 South, Range 26 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to its Tom Brown GO Com Well No. I to be drilled at an unorthodox location 660 feet from the North line and 1980 feet from the West line of said Section 22. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof, as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision. Also to be considered will be the designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well.

CASE 5772: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox location of its Federal BZ Well No. 16 to be drilled at a point 1980 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the East line of Section 28, Township 17 South, Range 25 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to test the Morrow formation, the N/2 of said Section 28 to be dedicated to the well.

CASE 5773:

73: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for a unit agreement, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the North Millman Unit Area comprising 2,017 acres, more or less, of State lands in Township 19 South, Runge 28 East, Eddy County, New Mexico.

CASE 5774:

Application of Belco Petroleum Corporation for compulsory pooling and an unorthodox location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to its Mollie Well No. 1 to be drilled at an unorthodox location 1100 feat from the North line and 1500 feet from the East line of said Section 31. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof, as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision. Also to be considered will be the designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well.

CASE 5775:

: Application of Cities Service Oil Company for compulsory pooling and an unorthodox well location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the W/2 of Section 30, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to its Tracy "E" Well No. 1 to be drilled at an unorthodox location 1880 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the West line of said Section 30. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision. Also to be considered will be the designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. 10000 Old Katy Road Suite 100 Houston, Texas 77055 Telephone (713) 932-4700 Cable: BELPETEX

Belco Petroleum Corporation

MON - 3 4 er tatta contra and the

Belco

November 3, 1976

Stamili Evandersis

REGISTERED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission District IV P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

> RE: Belco Mollie Com-1 Section 31, T21S-R27E Eddy County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

LGN/b

Attachment

Pursuant to Order No. R-5305, dated October 27, 1976, Case No. 5774, paragraph No. 3, page 3 of said Order of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission, please find attached Belco's itemized schedule of estimated well costs for the Belco Mollie Com-1.

Yours very truly,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Lee G. Nering Administrative Geologist

RUT

| REVA | | | | ETROLL | | | | | | C.CJEAN | 617 | 0.5 | | |
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| 442 | PROD. FACILITIES-TANKS, EQUIPT. & LINES | | | 20,00 |
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| | TOTAL TANGIBLE EXPENSE | \$ 118,000 | \$ 122,000 | \$ 240.00 |
| | TOTAL WELL COST | \$ 448,000 | \$ 183,000 | \$ 631.00 |

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OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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



DIRECTOR JOE D. RAMEY

1. A. A.

LAND COMMISSIONER PHIL R. LUCERO October 28, 1976

> Re: CASE NO. 5774 ORDER NO. R-5305

> > Applicant:

Belco Petroleum Corporation

Dear Sir:

Mr. Tom Kellahin

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Kellahin & Fox Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 1769

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

fours very truly, JOE D. RAMEY Director

JDR/fd

Copy of order also sent to:

| Hobbs OCC | x | |
|-------------|---|--|
| Artesia OCC | X | |
| Aztec OCC | | |

Other

BLFORE 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. 5774 Order No. R-5305

APPLICATION OF BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR COMPULSORY POOLING AND AN UNORTHODOX LOCATION, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on September 29, 1976, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this <u>27th</u> day of <u>October</u>, 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, Belco Petroleum Corporation, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

(3) That the applicant has the right to drill and proposes to drill it Mollie Well No. 1 at an unorthodox location 1150 feet from the North line and 1575 feet from the East 1100 of said Section 31.

(4) That there are interest owners in the proposed proration unit who have not agreed to pool their interests.

(5) That to avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, to protect correlative rights, and to afford to the owner of each interest in said unit the opportunity to recover or receive without unnecessary expense his just and fair share of the gas in said pool, the subject application should be approved by pooling all mineral interests, whatever they may be, within said unit. -2-Case No. 5774 Order No. R-5305

(6) That the applicant should be designated the operator of the subject well and unit.

(7) That any non-consenting working interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production.

(8) That any non-consenting working interest owner that does not pay his share of estimated well costs should have withheld from production his share of the reasonable well costs plus an additional 200 percent thereof as a reasonable charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well.

(9) That any non-consenting interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to object to the actual well costs but that actual well costs should be adopted as the reasonable well costs in the absence of such objection.

(10) That following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner that has paid his share of estimated costs should pay to the operator any amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and should receive from the operator any amount that paid estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs.

(11) That \$1750.00 per month should be fixed as a reasonable charge for supervision (combined fixed rates) while drilling said well, and \$255.00 per month should be fixed as a reasonable charge for supervision while producing; that the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charge attributable to each non-consenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating the subject well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each non-consenting working interest.

(12) That all proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason should be placed in escrow to be paid to the true owner thereof upon demand and proof of ownership.

(13) That upon the failure of the operator of said pooled unit to commence drilling of the well to which said unit is dedicated on or before January 1, 1977, the order pooling said unit should become null and void and of no effect whatsoever. -3-Case No. 5774 Order No. R-5305

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That all mineral interests, whatever they may be, in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico, are hereby pooled to form a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit to be dedicated to applicant's Mollie Well No. 1 to be drilled at an unorthodox location 1150 feet from the North line and 1575 feet from the East line of said Section 31, said location being hereby appreved.

PROVIDED HOWEVER, that the operator of said unit shall commence the drilling of said well on or before the first day of January, 1977, and shall thereafter continue the drilling of said well with due diligence to a depth sufficient to test the Morrow formation;

PROVIDED FURTHER, that in the event said operator does not commence the drilling of said well on or before the first day of January, 1977, Order (1) of this order shall be null and void and of no effect whatsoever; unless said operator obtains a time extension from the Commission for good cause shown.

PROVIDED FURTHER, that should said well not be drilled to completion, or abandonment, within 120 days after commencement thereof, said operator shall appear before the Commission and show cause why Order (1) of this order should not be rescinded.

(2) That Belco Petroleum Corporation is hereby designated the operator of the subject well and unit.

(3) That after the effective date of this order and within 30 days prior to commencing said well, the operator shall furnish the Cormission and each known working interest owner in the subject unit an itemized schedule of estimated well costs.

(4) That within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him, any non-consenting working interest owner shall have the right to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production, and that any such owner who pays his share of estimated well costs as provided above shall remain liable for operating costs but shall not be liable for risk charges.

(5) That the operator shall furnish the Commission and each known working interest owner an itemized schedule of actual well costs within 90 days following completion of the well; that if no objection to the actual well costs is received by the Commission and the Commission has not objected -4-Case No. 5774 Order No. R-5305

within 45 days following receipt of said schedule, the actual well costs shall be the reasonable well costs; provided however, that if there is an objection to actual well costs within said 45-day period the Commission will determine reasonable well costs after public notice and hearing.

(6) That within 60 days following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner that has paid his share of estimated costs in advance as provided above shall pay to the operator his pro rata share of the amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and shall receive from the operator his pro rata share of the amount that estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs.

(7) That the operator is hereby authorized to withhold the following costs and charges from production:

- (A) The pro rata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him.
- (B) As a charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well, 200 percent of the pro rata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him.

(8) That the operator shall distribute said costs and charges withheld from production to the parties who advanced the well costs.

(9) That \$1750.00 per month is hereby fixed as a reasonable charge for supervision (combined fixed rates) while drilling said well, and \$255.00 per month while producing; that the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charge attributable to each non-consenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating such well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each non-consenting working interest.

(10) That any unsevered mineral interest shall be considered a seven-eighths (7/8) working interest and a one-eighth (1/8) royalty interest for the purpose of allocating costs and charges under the terms of this order. -5-Case No. 5774 Order No. R-5305

(11) That any well costs or charges which are to be paid out of production shall be withheld only from the working interests share of production, and no costs or charges shall be withheld from production attributable to royalty interests.

(12) That all proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason shall be placed in escrow in Eddy County, New Mexico, to be paid to the true owner thereof upon demand and proof of ownership; that the operator shall notify the Commission of the name and address of said escrow agent within 90 days from the date of this order.

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

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



STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PHIL R. LUCERO, Chaipman

ARNOLD mber

TOE D. RAMEY, Member & Secretary

SEAL

dr/
JASON W. KELLAHIN Robert E.Fox W.Thomas Kellahin KELLAHIN AND FOX ATTORNEYS AT LAW 500 DON GASPAR AVENUE POST OFFICE BOX 1769 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501



September 13, 1976

Mr. Bill Carr Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Re: Belco Petroleum Corporation

Dear Bill:

Please find enclosed the written application on behalf of Belco Petroleum Corporation which I called in last week.

I understand from Diane that the case will be heard on September 29, 1976 and that the forced pooling and unorthodox well location have been correctly advertised.

Very truly yours, W. Thomas Kellahin

CC: Mr. Lee Nering Mrs. Mary Ward

WTK:kjf

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Enclosure

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BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, AND APPROVAL OF AN UNORTHCDOX WELL LOCATION, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

APPLICATION

COMES NOW, BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION, as provided by Section 65-13-4, New Mexico Statutes Annotated, 1953, as amended, and applies to the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico for an order pooling all the mineral interest in and under the N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico in formations of Pennsylvanian age or older, and further applies for an unorthodox well location for said well and in support thereof would show the Commission:

1. Applicant is the owner of the right to drill and develop the following described acreage: N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico.

2. Applicant has obtained voluntary agreement for pooling from all but the persons named below, whose addresses, and the interest owned according to applicant's information and belief are as set forth on the attached schedule marked Exhibit A and incorporated by reference herein.

3. As required by the provision of Commission Rule 104, applicant proposes to dedicate the N/2 of Section 31, T21S,

R27E, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico to a well, designated as Belco's # 1 Mollie, to be drilled at an unorthodex location approximately 1100 feet from the North line and 1500 feet from the East line of said section to test the Morrow formation.

4. Applicant requests that it be designated operator of the pooled unit requested above.

5. Applicant has been unable to obtain voluntary agreement from the pooling of the unpooled interest indicated in paragraph 2 above, and in order to avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, to protect correlative rights, and to prevent waste, the Commission should pool all interests in the said unit.

6. Applicant further requests for a provision for a period of 120 days from the date of the order in which to commence subject well.

WHEREFORE, applicant respectfully requests that the Commission set this matter for hearing before the Commission's duly appointed examiner, and that after notice and hearing as required by law, the Commission enter its order pooling all interest underlying the N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico. and designating applicant as operator of the pooled unit, together with provisions for applicant to recover its costs of drilling and completing the well, a reasonable charge for supervision,

-2-

a risk factor in the amount of 200%, all to be recovered out of production, for approval of the unorthodox location and for such other and further provisions as may be proper in the premises.

- 3 -

Respectfully submitted,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

KELLAHIN & FOX P. O. Box 1769 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Attorneys for Applicants

N/2 Section 31

FORCE POOL

| Grigg Lazenby | Dell Bosse | Roscoe Melvin | B. L. Blessinger | John Most | T. R. Duffin | John Paslay | Evelyn Thomas James | Raymond Moore | Mrs. Ruth Gibson | Draper Brantley | City of Carlsbad | NAME | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|-------------|------------|
| 604 Pierce Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | 202 Westridge Carlsbad, New Mexico <i>f</i> | 801 Elma Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | 1120 North Spring Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | ll33 Tracy Place Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | 903 Riverside Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | 1412 Doepp Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | 1121 Tracy Place Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | 1310 Doepp Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | 601 Lakeside Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | 706 Riverside Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | Municipal Corporation o Carlsbad, New Mexico 8 | ADDRESS | |
| 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | of Carlsbad 88220 | | FURCE FUUL |
| Lot 6, Blk. 181, Westfall | Lots 9 & 34, B1k. 211, Tracy | Lot 7, B1k. 220, Bennett | Lot 14, B1k. 1, Casa Del Rio | Lot 23, Blk. 211, Tracy | Lots 1 & 3, Blk. A., Rio Vista | Lot], Blk. 2, Casa Del Rio | Lot 11, Blk. 211, Tracy | Lot 9, Blk. 2, Casa Del Rio | Lot 3, B1k. 181, Westfall | Lot 2, Blk. 202, Scarborough | Lots 8 & 10, B1k. 121, N. Carlsbad | DESCRIPTION | |
| .2755 | 1.0445 | .2290 | .6457 | .3214 | 1.4233 | .3587 | .2669 | .4299 | .3489 | .7633 | 1.7218 | ACREAGE | |

N/2 Section 31 Continued

| Michael P. Grace | Victor Throgmorton | Don McKinley | Cecil Brininstool |
|---|---|---|--|
| P. O. Box 148 Calrsbad, New Mexico 88220 | 1108 North Main Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | 914 Alamosa Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | 801 West Riverside Carïsbad, New Mexico 88220 |
| See Attached Sheet. | Lot L, Blk. 217, Tracy | Lot 12, B1k. 2, Casa Del Rio | Lot 5, Blk. 219, Bennett |
| 20.4838 | . 2583 | .5170 | .3064 |

Total of 29.39411, acres

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|---------|--|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|-------------|
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| 20.4838 | 1.6529 | .4959 | 2.4793 | 1.4509 | .3099 | 2.2034 | .8110 | .3013 | .5500 | .2755 | 1.6070 | 8.3467 | Acreage |

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OIL CONSERVATION COMM Senta Fe

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, AND APPROVAL OF AN UNORTHODOX WELL LOCATION, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

APPLICATION

COMES NOW, BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION, as provided by Section 65-13-4, New Mexico Statutes Annotated, 1953, as amended, and applies to the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico for an order pooling all the mineral interest in and under the N/2 of Section 31, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico in formations of Pennsylvanian age or older, and further applies for an unorthodox well location for said well and in support thereof would show the Commission:

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4. Applicant requests that it be designated operator of the pooled unit requested above.

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Respectfully submitted,

BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION

KELLAHIN & FOX P. O. Box 1769 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

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Attorneys for Applicants

| | Dell | Rosco | B. | John Most | 7. R. | John | Evely | Raymo | Mrs. | Draper | City | • | 7 |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|-------------|------------|
| Grigg Lazenby | Bosse | Roscoe Melvin | 3]essinger | Most | R. Duff≯n | John Paslay | Evelyn Thomas James | Raymond Moore | Ruth Gibson | r Brantley | City of Carlsbad | NAME | |
| 604 Pierce | 202 Westridge Carlsbad, New Mexico | 80! Elma Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico | 1120 North Spring Carlsbad, New Mexico | 1133 Tracy Place Carlsbad, New Mexico | 903 Riverside Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico | 1412 Doepp Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico | 1121 Tracy Place Carlsbad, New Mexico | 1310 Doepp Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico | 601 Lakeside Drive Carlsbad, New Mexico | 705 Riverside Drive Carlsbad, New Mexicc | Municipal Corporation Carlsbad, New Mexico | ADDRESS | |
| | 38220 | 38220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | 88220 | of Carlsbad 88220 | | FORCE POOL |
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N/2 Section 31

N/2 Section 31 Continued

Don McKinley Michael P. Grace Victor Throgmortun Cecil Brininstool P. O. Box 148 Calrsbad, New Mexico 88220 1108 North Main Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 914 Alamosa Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 801 West Riverside Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 See Attached Sheet Lot L, Blk. 217, Tracy Lot 12, Blk. 2, Casa Del Rio Lot 5, Blk. 219, Bennett 20.4838 .2583 .5170 .3064

Total of 29,3941/1 acres

| MICHAEL |
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| GRACE |

| | Elizabeth Neumann | Denton K. Smith | Rigdon | Constance Chapman | Ruth Born | Sue Gentry | P. Panagopoulos | Margaret Spence | Erna G. Small | W. L. Walterschied | Antonio Hernandez | Roy Dugger | Name |
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D‼ (* MISERVATION CO south for

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, AND APPROVAL OF AN UNORTHODOX WELL LOCATION, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

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KELLAHIN & FOX P. O. Box 1769 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Attorneys for Applicants

| Dell Bosse | Roscoe Melvin | B. L. Blessinger | John Most | T. R. Duffin | John Paslay | Evelyn Thomas James | Raymond Moore | Mrs. Ruth Gibson | Draper Brantley | City of Carlsbad | NAME | |
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Lot 6, B1k. 181, Westfall

.2755

Grigg Lazenby

604 Pierce Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

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N/2 Section 3]

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N/2 Section 31 Continued

| Michael P., Grace | Victor Throgmorton | Don McKinley | Cecil Brininstool | |
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| P. O. Box 148 Calrsbad, New Mexico 88220 | 1108 North Main Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | 914 Alamosa Carlsbad, New Mexico £8220 | 801 West Riverside Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 | - |
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Total of 29,3941, acres

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MICHAEL P. GRACE

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| 20.4838 | 1.6529 | .4959 | 2.4793 | 1.4509 | .3099 | 2.2004 | .8110 | .3013 | .5500 | .2755 | 1,6070 | 8.3467 | Acreage |

States No. 1



Case 5774 belas Restaleum Corporation Com. pool. Eldy Morrow fest - Penic N/Z 31. 27£. bloob #1 Mollie - to una the 1100 JnL. 1500 FEL.

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BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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

atou

5774 CASE NO. Order No. R- 5305

APPLICATION OF BELCO PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR COMPULSORY POOLING AND AN UNORTHODOX LOCATION, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on <u>S eptember 29</u>, 1976 at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner <u>Daniel S. Nutter</u>.

NOW, on this day of <u>Getcher</u>, 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, <u>Belco Petroleum Corporation</u>, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests <u>in the Pennsylvanian</u> <u>formation</u> underlying the <u>N/2</u> of Section <u>31</u>, Township <u>21</u> South , Range <u>27 East</u>, NMPM, <u>Eddy</u> County, New

Mexico.

-2-Case No. Order No. R-

(3) That the applicant has the right to drill and proposes
its Mollie Well No. 1 at an unorthodox location 1100 feet from
to drill/xxxxxx the North line and 1500 feet from the East line of
said Section 31.

(4) That there are interest owners in the proposed protation unit who have not agreed to pool their interests.

(5) That to avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, to protect correlative rights, and to afford to the owner of each interest in said unit the opportunity to recover or receive without unnecessary expense his just and fair share of the gas in said pool, the subject application should be approved by pooling all mineral interests, whatever they may be, within said unit.

(6) That the applicant should be designated the operator of the subject well and unit.

(7) That any non-consenting working interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production.

(8) That any non-consenting working interest owner that does not pay his share of estimated well costs should have withheld from production his share of the reasonable well costs plus an additional²⁰¹ proceed thereof as a reasonable charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well.

(9) That any non-consenting interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to object to the actual well costs but that actual well costs should be adopted as the reasonable well costs in the absence of such objection.

(10) That following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner that has paid his share of estimated costs should pay to the operator any amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and should receive from the operator any amount that paid estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs. Case Mo. Order No. R~

(11) That $\frac{1750.00}{1000}$ per month should be fixed as a reasonable charge for supervision (combined fixed rates) that the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charge attributable to each non-consenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating the subject well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each non-consenting working interest.

while brilling said Well, and \$255,00 per month should be fixed as a hear and chigge for supervision while producing;

(12) That all proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason should be placed in escrow to be paid to the true owner thereof upon demand and proof of ownership.

(13) That upon the failure of the operator of said pooled unit to commence drilling of the well to which said unit is dedicated on or before <u>January 1, 1977</u>, the order pooling said unit should become null and void and of no effect whatsoever.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

That all mineral interests, whatever they may be, (1)Pennsylvanian in the formation underlying the N/231 , Township 21 South of Section , Range 27 East ____, Eddy ____ County, New Mexico, NMPM, are hereby pooled to form a standard 320 - acre gas spacing and proration unit to be dedicated to a wer e Well No. 1 to be Filled at an unorthodox location 1100 feet from the North line and 1500 feet from the East line of said Section 31, Said Lagation ing hereby approved (PROVIDED HOWEVER, that the operator of said unit shall commence the drilling of said well on or before the first day of January , 1977, and shall thereafter continue the drilling of said well with due diligence to a depth sufficient to test the morrow formation;

PROVIDED FURTHER, that in the event said operator does not commence the drilling of said well on or before the <u>first</u> day of <u>January</u>, 1977, Order (1) of this order shall be null and void and of no effect whatsoever; unless said operator obtains a time extension from the Commission for good cause shown. -4-Case No. Order No. R-

<u>PROVIDED FURTHER</u>, that should said well not be drilled to completion, or abandonment, within 120 days after commencement thereof, said operator shall appear before the Commission and show cause why Order (1) of this order should not be rescinded.

(2) That <u>Belco Petroleum Corporation</u> is hereby designated the operator of the subject well and unit.

(3) That after the effective date of this order and within 30 days prior to commencing said well, the operator shall furnish the Commission and each known working interest owner in the subject unit an itemized schedule of estimated well costs.

(4) That within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him, any non-consenting working interest owner shall have the right to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production, and that any such owner who pays his share of estimated well costs as provided above shall remain liable for operating costs but shall not be liable for risk charges.

(5) That the operator shall furnish the Commission and each known working interest owner an itemized schedule of actual well costs within 90 days following completion of the well; that if no objection to the actual well costs is received by the Commission and the Commission has not objected within 45 days following receipt of said schedule, the actual well costs shall be the reasonable well costs; provided however, that if there is an objection to actual well costs within said 45-day period the Commission will determine reasonable well costs after public notice and hearing.

(6) That within 60 days following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner that has paid his share of estimated costs in advance as provided

-5-Case No. Order No. R-

above shall pay to the operator his pro rata share of the amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and shall receive from the operator his pro rata share of the amount that estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs.

(7) That the operator is hereby authorized to withhold the following costs and charges from production:

- (A) The pro rata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him.
- (B) As a charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well, <u>200</u> for the pro rata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him.

(8) That the operator shall distribute said costs and charges withheld from production to the parties who advanced the well costs. (9) That \$1750.00 per month is hereby fixed as a reasonable c' irge for supervision (combined fixed rates) that the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charge attributable to each nonconsenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating such well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each nonconsenting working interest. -6-Case No. Order No. R-

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(10) That any unsevered mineral interest shall be considered a seven-eighths (7/8) working interest and a one-eighth (1/8) royalty interest for the purpose of allocating costs and charges under the terms of this order.

(14) That any well costs or charges which are to be paid out of production shall be withheld only from the working interests share of production, and no costs or charges shall be withheld from production attributable to royalty interests.

(12) That all proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason shall be placed in escrow in <u>Eddy</u> County, New Mexico, to be paid to the true owner thereof upor demand and proof of ownership; that the operator shall notify the Commission of the name and address of said escrow agent within 90 days from the date of this order.

(13) 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.