CASE 3856: Application of SKELLY OIL COMPANY FOR A WATERFLOOD PROJECT, RIO ARRIBA COUNTY.

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SKELLY OIL COMPANY

1860 Lincoln Street Denver, Colorado 80203

April 17, 1970

File: Jicarilla "B" #5 Jicarilla "B" #6 Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

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Case 3856

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. C. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

The captioned lease was approved for waterflooding the Otero Gallup zone under Commission Order No. R-3503 entered in Case No. 3856 dated September 17, 1968.

This lease has not responded to the waterflooding, therefore, we plan to discontinue waterflood operations and shut down injection wells No. 5 and No. 6 and Water Supply Well No. 17 effective April 17, 1970. The cumulative injection to March 1, 1970 was 458,681 bbls. of water. Plans are to continue operations of the wells on the lease and recover the remaining primary oil therefrom.

Yours very truly,

A. H. Hurley District Operations Superintendent

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AHH: vs

cc: New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission, Aztec, New Mexico U. S. Geological Survey, P. O. Box 959, Farmington, I.M.

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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

> CASE No. 3853 Order No. R-3503

APPLICATION OF SKELLY OIL COMPANY FOR A WATERFLOOD PROJECT, RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on September 4, 1968, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Blvis A. Utz.

NOW, on this <u>17th</u> day of September, 1968, 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, Skelly Oil Company, seeks permission to institute a waterflood project in the Otero-Gallup Pool by the injection of water into the Gallup formation through its Jicarilla "B" Well No. 5, located in Unit L, and its Jicarilla "B" Well No. 6, located in Unit F, of Section 32, Township 25 North, Range 5 West, NMPM, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

(3) That the applicant further seeks an administrative procedure whereby said project could be expanded to include additional lands and injection wells in the area of the said project as may be necessary in order to complete an efficient injection pattern; that said administrative procedure should provide for administrative approval for conversion to water injection in exception to the well response requirements of Rule 701 E-5 of the Commission Rules and Regulations. -2-CASE No. 3856 Order No. R-3503

(4) That the wells in the project area are in an advanced state of depletion and should properly be classified as "stripper" wells.

(5) That the proposed waterflood project should result in the recovery of otherwise unrecoverable oil, thereby preventing waste.

(6) That the subject application should be approved and the project should be governed by the provisions of Rules 701, 702, and 703 of the Commission Rules and Regulations; provided however, that the showing of well response as required by Rule 701 E-5 shall not be necessary before obtaining administrative approval for the conversion of additional wells to water injection.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the applicant, Skelly Oil Company, is hereby authorized to institute a waterflood project in the Otero-Gallup Pool by the injection of water into the Gallup formation through the following-described wells in Section 32, Township 25 North, Range 5 West, NMPM, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico:

> Jicarilla "B" Well No. 5, located in Unit J. Jicarilla "B" Well No. 6, located in Unit F

(2) That the subject waterflood project is hereby designated the Skelly Jicarilla Otero Waterflood Project and shall be governed by the provisions of Rules 701, 702, and 703 of the Commission Rules and Regulations;

<u>PROVIDED HOWEVER</u>, that the Secretary-Director of the Commission may approve expansion of the Skelly Jicarilla Otero Waterflood Project to include such additional lands and injection wells in the area of the project as may be necessary to complete an efficient water injection pattern; that the showing of well response as required by Rule 701 E-5 shall not be necessary before obtaining administrative approval for the conversion of additional wells to water injection.

(3) That monthly progress reports of the waterflood project herein authorized shall be submitted to the Commission in accordance with Rules 704 and 1120 of the Commission Rules and Regulations. -3-CASE No. 3856 Order No. R-3503

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

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

STATE OF NEW MEXICO STE CONSERVATION COMMISSION DAVID CARGO Cha

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

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

September 17, 1968

Mr. Ronald Jacobs Skelly Oil Company Post Office Box 1650 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102

Dear Sir:

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Enclosed herewith are two copies of Commission Order No. R-3503 entered in Case 133, 3856, approving the Skelly Jicarilla Otero Waterflood Project.

Injection is to be into the two authorized water injection wells, each of which shall be equipped with tubing set in a packer within 50 feet of the uppermost perforation. The casing-tubing annulus shall be loaded with an inhibited fluid and either left open or equipped with a pressure gauge to facilitate detection of leakage in the tubing, casing or packer.

As to allowable, our calculations indicate that when all of the authorized injection wells have been placed on active injection, the maximum allowable which this project will be eligible to receive under the provisions of Rule 701-E-3 is 560 barrels per day when the Northwest New Mexico normal unit allowable is 70 barrels per day or less.

Please report any error in this calculated maximum allowable immediately, both to the Santa Fe office of the Commission and the appropriate district promation office.

C. States

In order that the allowable assigned to the project may be kept current, and in order that the operator may fully benefit from the allowable provisions of Rule 701, it behooves him to promptly notify both of the aforementioned Commission offices by letter of any change in the status of wells in the project area, i.e., when active injection

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

-2-Mr. Ronald Jacobs Skelly Oil Company Post Office Box 1650 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102

commences, when additional injection or producing wells are drilled, when additional wells are acquired through purchase or unitization, when wells have received a response to water injection, etc.

Your cooperation in keeping the Commission so informed as to the status of the project and the wells therein will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A. L. PORTER, Jr. Secretary-Director

Enclosures ALP/DSH/ir

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Oil Conservation Commission Offices in Hobbs and Aztec, N.M. Mr. D. E. Gray, State Engineer Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico. U. S. Geological Survey, P. O. Box 959, Farmington, N. Mex.

Case 3856 Heard 9- 4-68 Rec. 9-6-68 Shant Skelly's request for a waterflood project + conversio of 2 welle to water injection Disailla 'B' # 5 1-32-25 N-5W. - 'B' # 6 F - - - - -Anjection will be them tubine + under a packer set at 5800 and 6000 hin the 5+6 reap. Lujection shall be in the Halling Zane.

OPERATORS OF OTERO-GALLUP WELLS WITHIN TWO-MILE RADIUS OF PROPOSED INJECTION WELLS - JICARILLA "B" NO. 5 & 6

Amerada Petroleum Corporation P. O. Box 2040 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101

El Paso Natural Gas Company P. O. Box 1492 El Paso, Texas 79948

Gulf Oil Corporation P. O. Box 1150 Midland, Texas 79704

B.W.P., Inc. 1012 Alpine Midland, Texas 79702



SKELLY OIL COMPANY

P. O. BOX 1650

PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

C. L. BLACKSHER, VICE PRESIDENT

TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74102 August 6, 1968

W. P. WHITMORE, MGR. PRODUCTION W. D. CARSON, MGR. TECHNICAL BERVICES BARTON W. RATLIFF, MGR. JOINT OPERATIONS GEORGE W. SELINGER, MGR. CONSERVATION

> Re: Application for Waterflood Jicarilla "B" Lease Rio Arriba County, New Mexico Director

Mr. A. L. Porter, Jr., Secretary-Director Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Mr. Porter:

Attached, in triplicate, is our application for permission to conduct a waterflood project into the Gallup formation on our Jicarilla "B" lease, located in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

Please set this matter down for the next Examiner Hearing, which we understand will be September 4, 1968.

We are, also, attaching a list of names and addresses of operators of Otero-Gallup wells within the two-mile radius of our proposed initial injection wells.

George W Leening

RJJ:br Attach.

cc-Mr. L. C. White White, Gilbert, Koch & Kelly P. O. Box 787 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 w/ attach.

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September 4, 1968 - Examiner Hearing

Docket No. 26-68

CASE 3856:

Application of Skelly Oil Company for a waterflood project, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a waterflood project by the injection of water into the Gallup formation through its Jicarilla "B" Wells Nos. 5 and 6 located in Units L and F, respectively, of Section 32, Township 25 North, Range 5 West, Otero-Gallup Pool, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

CASE 3857:

Application of Coastal States Gas Producing Company for special pool rules, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the promulgation of special pool rules for the Tulk-Pennsylvanian Pool in Township 14 South, Range 32 East, Lea County, New Mexico, including a provision for 160-acre spacing and proration units with the assignment of 80-acre allowables.

In the alternative, applicant seeks the creation of a new pool for Pennsylvanian oil production from its State "26" Well No. 1 located in Unit D of Section 26, said Township and Range, and promulgation of the aforesaid special rules therefor. WHITE, GILBERT, KOCH & KELLY (GILBERT, WHITE AND GILBERT) OF ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW LINCOLN BUILDING SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

August 8, 1968

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POST OFFICE BOX 787 TELEPHONE 982-4301 (AREA CODE 505)

Mr. A. L. Porter, Jr. Secretary Director New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: Skelly Oil Company, Waterflood Project Jicarillo "B" Lease, Rio Arriba County

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Dear Mr. Porter:

CARL H. GILBERT (1891-1963)

L.C.V.HITE WILLIAM W. GILBERT SUMNER S. KOCH WILLIAM BOOKER KELLY JOHN F. MCCARTHY, JR.

L.C.VHITE

Will you please note on your records in the above matter that the undersigned appears as resident counsel for the applicant.

Very truly yours,

ewhit.

L. C. WHITE

ICW:Le

CC: Mr. George Selinger Skelly Oil Company Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102

DOCKET MAILED 8/22/68 Dat

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF SKELLY) OIL COMPANY FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING A WATERFLOOD ON ITS JICARILLA "B" LEASE BY THE INJECTION INTO TWO WELLS LOCATED IN SECTION 32, TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST, OTERO-GALLUP POOL, RIO ARRIBA COUNTY,) NEW MEXICO.

3856 CASE NO.

3 3 14 3 35

APPLICATION

Comes now Skelly Oil Company and alleges and states:

1. That it is a Delaware corporation authorized to do business in the State of New Mexico, and that it is operating wells on its Jicarilla "B" lease located in Sections 31 and 32, Township 25 North, Range 5 West, and Sections 5 and 6, Township 24 North, Range 5 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

2. That the oil wells on this lease have declined in production to near the economic limit, and that of the 22 wells on the Jicarilla "B" lease all produced Gallup oil except Wells 1, 21 and 22, and that the current production from the six active oil wells is less than 40 barrels of oil per day.

3. That in order to recover oil which would not otherwise be recovered and to increase the ultimate recovery, applicant proposes to conduct a waterflood project on said lease by injecting water into the Gallup formation, Otero-Gallup Pool, in its Jicarilla "B" Well No. 5, located in Unit "L" of Section 32, and Well No. 6, located in Unit "F" of Section 32, both in Township 25 North, Range 5 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

4. That based on the performance and information gained from the injection into the aforementioned two wells the applicant may request administrative approval to expand the project and to convert additional wells.

5. That attached hereto and made a part hereof is Exhibit "A", a plat showing the location of the proposed injections wells and the location of all other wells within a radius of two miles from the proposed injection wells and the formation from which said wells are producing or have produced. The plat also indicates the lessees within the aforementioned two-mile radius.

6. That attached hereto and made a part hereof is Exhibit "B", a log of the proposed injection wells.

7. That attached hereto and made a part hereof is Exhibit "C", a diagrammatic sketch of the proposed injection wells showing all casing strings including diameter and setting depths; quantities used and tops of cement; perforation interval; tubing strings, including diameter and setting depths; and the type and location of packers.

8. That applicant proposes to inject into the Gallup formation through perforations 5,948-6,064' in Well No. 5, and through perforations 6,031-6,151' in Well No. 6. A water supply source has been completed in Well No. 17 on said lease in the Ojo Alamo from perforation between the intervals of 2,010-2,125', and that an initial injected volume of 1,500 barrels of water per day is planned into the two wells at a maximum pressure of 1,250 psi.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, applicant prays that this Commission set this matter down for hearing, that notice hereof be given as required by law, and that at the conclusion of said hearing based on the evidence adduced, the Commission enter its order granting Skelly Oil Company permission to conduct a waterflood project in the Otero-Gallup Pool, on the Jicarilla "B" lease through injection in its Wells 5 and 6, and to further provide for administrative expansion of the project area and the conversion of additional wells by administrative means without the necessity of separate hearings, and for such other orders, rules and regulations as may be necessary in the premises.

Respectfully submitted,

SKELLY OIL COMPANY

George W. Selinger Ronald J. Jacobs Its Afformeys

Of Counsel: Mr. L. C. White White, Gilbert, Koch & Kelly P. O. Box 787 Santa Fe, New Mexico

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MR. UTZ: Case 3856.

MR. HATCH: Case 3856. Application of Skelly Oil Company for a waterflood project, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

MR. JACOBS: Appearing on behalf of the Applicant, Skelly Oil Company, Ronald J. Jacobs, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and the Commission's file should also reflect that Mr. L. C. Witte has entered an appearance as local Counsel for us in this matter. We have one witness we would like to have sworn.

MR. UTZ: Are there any other appearances in this case?

(Witness sworn.)

(Whereupon, Applicant's Exhibits Numbers 1 through 5 were marked for identification.)

A. H. HURLEY

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

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. JACOBS:

Q Will you please state your name, by whom you are employed and in what capacity?

A My name is A. H. Hurley. I'm employed by Skelly Oil Company as District Engineer, Denver, Colorado.

Q As District Engineer in Denver, Colorado, do you have under your supervision the area in Rio Arriba County, known as the Otero-Gallup Pool?

A I do.

Q Are you familiar with Skelly Oil Company's operations in producing properties in that area?

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A Yes, sir.

Q Are you familiar with the application in this case?

A Yes, sir, I am.

Q Have you heretofore testified before this Commission as a Ré-roleum Engineer, and on such occasions, have your qualifications been accepted?

A Yes, sir, I have and they have.

Q I direct your attention now to what has been marked for identification as Exhibit Number 1. Would you relate to the Examiner what this exhibit shows?

A Exhibit 1 is a map of the area including the surrounding Skelly's Jicarilla B Lease. Included in the legend are all wells currently completed in the area and coded as to their completion horizon.

Q Now, the Jicarilla B Lease is described as what geographical area?

A The Jicarilla B Lease includes Sections 31 and 32 of 25 North, 6 West, and 5 and 6, 24 North, 6 West.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 5 West.

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THE WITNESS: 5 West. I'm sorry.

Q Both those descriptions should have been 5 West?

A 5 West, yes, sir.

Q Now, you propose to inject by utilizing initially

two wells, is that correct?

A Correct.

Ω What wells are those?

A Shown on the map in red triangles, we propose to inject into the Gallup Formation in Wells 5 and 6 in Section 32.

Ω And you've indicated by appropriate symbols the producing formations from which all the wells in the general area are completed or are producing from?

A Correct.

Q What is the nature of production from the Gallup Formation of the wells in the immediate vicinity on the Jicarilla B Lease and other leases in this area?

A The Gallup wells are currently producing an average of five barrels of oil per day. Cumulative production has averaged approximately 28,900 barrels of oil per well.

Q Are the wells reaching a point where they are approaching their economic limit?

A They are.

Q In order to recover oil which would not otherwise be recovered, do you feel it's necessary to commence an injection project to see if the Gallup Formation is floodable and additional

oil can be recovered?

A That's correct. This project is more or less experimental, pilot-type project. The Gallup is a fractured reservoir and meaningful engineering estimates of recoveries cannot be made. It is in the primary state of depletion and we propose to test the results of water injection by this procedure.

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Q In fact, in northwest New Mexico, the Gallup Formation sometimes can be successfully flooded and sometimes cannot, is that correct?

That's correct.

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And the only real way to find out is to try it?

A That's correct.

Q I direct your attention now to what has been marked for identication as Exhibit Number 2. Would you relate to the Examiner what this exhibit is.

A Exhibit 2 is an electrical log of cur Jicarilla B Well Number 5 proposed for water injection with the current perforations and the perforations proposed for injection indicated thereon.

Q I direct your attention now to what has been marked for identification as Exhibit Number 3. Would you relate to the Examiner what this exhibit shows?

A Exhibit Number 3 is the same as Exhibit Number 2 for our proposed injection well, Jicarilla B Number 6.

Q That's a log of the --

A It's an injection -- electric log of the section indicating the proposed perforations in the Gallup Formation for injection.

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Q I direct your attention now to what has been marked for identification as Exhibit Number 4. Would you relate to the Examiner what this exhibit shows?

A Exhibit 4 is a downhole schematic of our proposed injection well, completion of the Jicarilla B Number 5 Well, showing the casing strings, cement tops and tension packer.

Q Now, with relation to the cement, cementing program in this well, you have an estimate as to where the top of the cement occurs?

A Yes. That's shown on Exhibit 5. There are two tops. It states cemented top of the bottom state is at 5600 feet. Our proposed packer setting is 5910 feet. The top of the injection interval would be 5948 feet.

Q And you do anticipate injection through tubing set on this packer?

A Through the tubing, right; unlined.

Q How will you treat the annulus space between the tubing and the casing?

A It will be filled with an inhibited fluid and a

permanent pressure gauge installed at the surface to monitor the surface pressure in the annulus.

Q I direct your attention now to what has been marked for identification as Exhibit Number 5. Will you please relate to the Examiner what the exhibit shows?

A Exhibit Number 5 is a downhole schematic showing the proposed completion of our Jicarilla B Lease Number 6 injection well. It shows the cement top at 5822. Shows the packer setting at 6000 feet and the proposed perforations for injection into the Gallup Formation.

 Ω And there, also, you've indicated the cement tops and in each case, the packer will be set below the calculated or the top of the cement?

A That's correct.

Q You will likewise treat the annulus base in the similar manner?

A Annulus base will be filled with an inhibited fluid and a pressure gauge installed at the surface.

Q And in each case, you will use two and three-eighths inch tubing?

A Yes, sir.

Q Mr. Hurley, what is the source of the water that will be injected, initially, into these two wells?

A Our Jicarilla B Number 17 Well in Section 5, 24 North,

5 West, has been recompleted in the Ojo Alamo Formation.

MR. UTZ: Section what?

THE WITNESS: That's Number 17 in Section 5, 24 North, 5 West. It has been recompleted in the Ojo Alamo Formation, perforated from 2,010 feet to 2125 feet and will deliver sufficient Ojo Alamo water to inject approximately 750 barrels per day into each injection wells, 5 and 6.

Q You're talking about a total of 1500 barrels of water a day into the two wells?

Yes, sir.

A

Q What is the nature of the water?

A It's fresh, potable water.

Q And considering that and the subsurface installation you propose on these two wells, in your opinion, is there any chance of damage to either any fresh-water-bearing sands in the area or any other producing sand or possible producing formation in the immediate vicinicy?

A No chance for it.

Q You're asking the Commission to grant you permission to inject into wells 5 and 6 and also provide for administrative expansion of the project without the necessity of a separate hearing should you desire to expand to include additional wells in the immediate vicinity of this lease?

A Yes, sir.

Q This Jicarilla B Lease, is this lease under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government?

A Yes, it is.

Q Have you discussed this proposal with representatives of the Government and explained the project to them?

A We have, and we have received their formal approval for the project based on like approval of the New Mexico Oil and Gas Commission.

Q Were Exhibits 1 through 5 prepared by you or under your direction or supervision?

A They were.

MR. JACOBS: We offer Exhibits 1 through 5.

MR. UTZ: Without objection, Exhibits 1 through 5 will be entered into the record in this case.

> (Whereupon, Applicant's Exhibits Numbers 1 through 5, inclusive, were admitted in evidence.)

MR. JACOBS: We have no further direct testimony, Mr. Utz.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. UTZ:

Q What kind of pressures do you anticipate you will need to inject this 1500 barrels?

A We're providing for 1250 psig. We don't, frankly, know exactly what it will take but we think that will be

sufficient.

 Ω It will take 1250 or close, whatever I understood you to say it would take?

A Yes, sir.

Q These wells were drilled when? I thought I saw it here somewhere.

A In '57. Late '57 and '58, generally, for all the Gallup wells. Number 5 was completed 12-4-'57. Number 6, 2-2-'58.

MR. UTZ: Are there any questions of the witness? You may be excused. Any statements in this case?

MR. JACOBS: Nothing further.

MR. UTZ: The case will be taken under advisement.

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WITNESS			PAGE	
A. H. HURLEY				
Direct Examination	by Mr. J	acobs	2	
Cross Examination	by Hr. Ut	2	9	

<u>E X H I B I T S</u>

Number	Marked for Identification	Received in Evidence
Applicant's Exhibits 1 through 5	2	9

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2. 7. 1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO ۱ ss. COUNTY OF BERNALILLO)

I, CHARLOTTE MACIAS, Notary Public in and for the County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me; and that the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability. Witness my Hand and Seal this 7th day of October, 1968.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: February 10, 1971.

I do hereby cartify that the foregoing is a corrigion record of the proceedings in the Lineting reamine of pass to 3856, heard by 1968

New Merico Oil Conservation Commission ... Examiner

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