

JUL 28 2000

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July 26, 2000

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 2040 South Pacheco Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: San Juan 28-7 #270 Non Standard and Unorthodox location Basin Fruitland Coal/Blanco P.C. South I, Sec. 3, T27N, R7W 2580' FSL & 275' FEL Rio Arriba County API # - applied for

Michael:

Conoco is requesting a non-standard location for the above well for geological reasons stated in the next paragraph. The unorthodox location allows Conoco the ability to access the Fruitland Coal within a new well bore removing the risk of mechanical complications in existing wellbores.

This Pictured Cliffs/ Fruitland Coal well #270 in this non-standard location is requested because we want to access a NW trending Pictured Cliffs (PC) sand bench at this location. This shoreline sand bench is currently accessed by well #s 103 (Sec.3 NE), and #102 (Sec.2 SW). These two wells have EURs of 1261 and 1125 MMCFG respectively. The proposed well #270, would lie between these two wells, along the western edge of this shoreline bench, thus accessing additional gas reserves. The proposed location is approximately 1320' from #103 and 3300' from #102 (see attached PC EUR map). There is no log coverage of the PC in well #102, but a strike-oriented cross section between #103 and well #124Mshows the shoreline sand bench mentioned above, and the approximate proposed location of #270.

This well is located interior to the boundaries of the 28-7 Unit and does not affect any other unit. Conoco is the only operator in the 28-7 Unit.

If you have any questions or need additional information please give me a call @ (281) 293-1005. Thank you for your time.

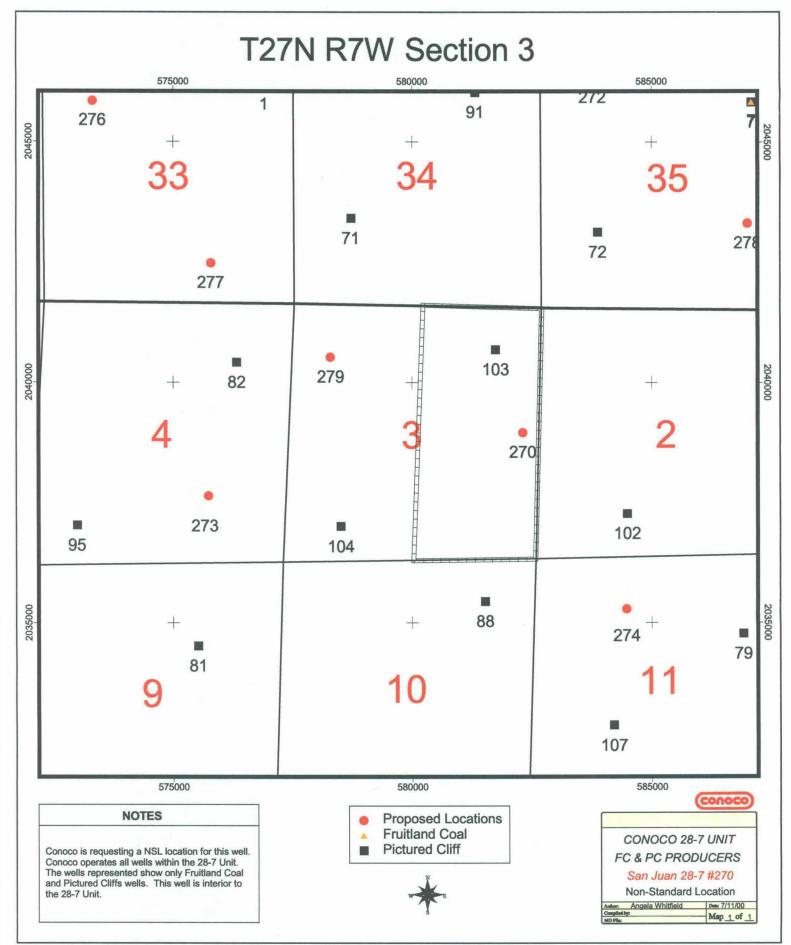
1 Sincerely. Bulero

Deborah Marberry Regulatory Analyst P.O. Box 2197

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## ONGARD INQUIRE LAND BY SECTION

07/31/00 08:44:35 OGOMES -TP7K PAGE NO: 2

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ONGARD INQUIRE LAND BY SECTION

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CMD : OG6C101	ONGARD C101-APPLICATION FOR		07/31/00 08:45:22 OGOMES -TP7K
Opr Name, Addr: C 1	5073 API Well No: 30 ONOCO INC 0 DESTA DR W IDLAND,TX 79705		/C/P): P ate : 05-05-200C
Prop Idn: 16608 S	AN JUAN 28 7 UNIT		Well No: 271
U/L	Sec Township Range I		East/West
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From:Stogner, MichaelSent:Friday, July 28, 2000 4:53 PMTo:Hayden, StevenCc:Chavez, Frank; Perrin, CharlieSubject:FW: Conoco application

Steve,

Per our telephone conversation this morning concerning Conoco's SJ 28-7 Un. #270 adm. NSL PC/Frt.-Coal appl.

I had Wayne Price in Env. scan it in for me. See attached items.

Let me know what yal' think.

Thanks.

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Price, Wayne Friday, July 28, 2000 4:47 PM Stogner, Michael; Hayden, Steven Conoco application













## Stogner, Michael

From: Sent:	Stogner, Michael Monday, July 31, 2000 8:17 AM
To:	Hayden, Steven
Subject:	RE: Conoco S J 27-7 U #270

Thanks, I'll start processing this application as a dual Fruitland coal/Pictured Cliffs NSL upon Aztec concurrence.

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From:	Hayden, Steven
Sent:	Monday, July 31, 2000 7:00 AM
To:	Stogner, Michael
Cc:	Chavez, Frank
Subject:	Conoco S J 27-7 U #270

Mike, after looking at the supplied materials, especially the Isopach and first well log, I have to concur with Conoco's reasoning on this one. It would appear that there is a three deep stack of barrier island type dunes or shoreface sand bodies that ought to be a very good prospect.

I also liked the wording on the Burlington S J 27-4 U # 16M denial.

Have a nice day, Steve Hayden Aztec

#### 08/01/00 13:37:07 OGOMES -TPO1 PAGE NO: 1

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## ONGARD INQUIRE LAND BY SECTION

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ONGARD INQUIRE LAND BY SECTION

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Page: 1 Document Name: untitled CMD : ONGARD 08/01/00 13:37:36 INQUIRE WELL COMPLETIONS OG6IWCM OGOMES -TPO1 API Well No : 30 39 7209 Eff Date : 03-01-1995 WC Status : A Pool Idn : 72319 BLANCO-MESAVERDE (PRORATED GAS) OGRID Idn : 5073 CONOCO INC Prop Idn : 16608 SAN JUAN 28 7 UNIT Well No : 103 GL Elevation: 6161 U/L Sec Township Range North/South East/West Prop/Act(P/A) B.H. Locn : 1 3 27N 07W FTG 816 F N FTG 1041 F E P Lot Identifier: Dedicated Acre: 319.25 Lease Type : F Type of consolidation (Comm, Unit, Forced Pooling - C/U/F/O) : U M0025: Enter PF keys to scroll PF01 HELPPF02PF03 EXITPF04 GoToPF05PF06PF07PF08PF09PF10 NEXT-WCPF11 HISTORYPF12 NXTREC

Page: 1 Document Name: untitled ONGARD CMD : 08/01/00 13:37:41 OG6IWCM INQUIRE WELL COMPLETIONS OGOMES -TPO1 API Well No : 30 39 7209 Eff Date : 03-01-1995 WC Status : A Pool Idn : 72439 BLANCO P. C. SOUTH (PRORATED GAS) OGRID Idn : 5073 CONOCO INC Prop Idn : 16608 SAN JUAN 28 7 UNIT Well No : 103 GL Elevation: 6161 U/L Sec Township Range North/South East/West Prop/Act(P/A) --- ---: 1 3 27N 07W FTG 816 F N FTG 1041 F E P B.H. Locn Lot Identifier: Dedicated Acre: 160.00 Lease Type : F Type of consolidation (Comm, Unit, Forced Pooling - C/U/F/O) : U

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08/01/00 13:37:46 CMD : ONGARD INQUIRE WELL COMPLETIONS OG6IWCM OGOMES -TPO1 API Well No : 30 39 20722 Eff Date : 03-01-1995 WC Status : A Pool Idn : 71599 BASIN DAKOTA (PRORATED GAS) OGRID Idn : 5073 CONOCO INC Prop Idn : 16608 SAN JUAN 28 7 UNIT Well No : 182 GL Elevation: 6172 U/L Sec Township Range North/South East/West Prop/Act(P/A) \_\_\_ \_\_\_ B.H. Locn : 1 3 27N 07W FTG 990 F N FTG 1180 F E P Lot Identifier: Dedicated Acre: 319.25 Lease Type : F Type of consolidation (Comm, Unit, Forced Pooling - C/U/F/O) : U MODOLE, Entor r DF kova to ga co 1 1

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# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

GARY E. JOHNSON Governor Jennifer A. Salisbury Cabinet Secretary

August 1, 2000

Lori Wrotenbery Director Oil Conservation Division

Conoco, Inc. P. O. Box 2197 - DU3066 Houston, Texas 77252

Attention: Deborah Marberry

Re: Administrative application dated July 26, 2000 for an off-pattern non-standard coal gas well location within a standard319.25-acre stand-up gas spacing and proration unit within the Basin-Fruitland Coal (Gas) Pool comprising the E/2 equivalent of Section 3, Township 27 North, Range 7 West, NMPM, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico/unorthodox Pictured Cliffs gas well location within a standard 160-acre gas spacing and proration unit within the South Blanco-Pictured Cliffs Pool comprising the SE/4 of Section 3 for the proposed San Juan "28-7" Unit Well No. 270 to be drilled 2580 feet from the South line and 275 feet from the East line (Unit I) of Section 3.

Dear Ms. Marberry:

The Division's preliminary review of the subject application finds the geological reasoning for this particular location within the Pictured Cliffs interval to be adequate; however, as stated in previous correspondence when an existing well in the appropriate quarter section (NE/4 equivalent) of a proposed 320-acre, more or less, unit for the Fruitland coal gas interval could be utilized, additional information will be necessary to explain: (i) why that well (s) is not a good candidate for reentry and recompletion; and (ii) what complications Conoco expects to encounter if this well (s) were to be utilized. Also, a detailed explanation, with reservoir and geological support data, as to how and why the proposed off-pattern well will not adversely affect this pool's development, thereby preventing waste.

Further, in this situation where the proposed unorthodox location is only 275 feet from an offset proration unit and/or possible proration unit even though it is within the unitized area, the possibility of correlative rights violations exists. Please provide me a copy of the Unit participation maps for both the Pictured Cliffs and Fruitland coal intervals. This topic was discussed in Findings Paragraphs No. 15 through 20 in the recently issued Division Order No. R-10987-B (see copy attached). Should the W/2 equivalent of Section 2, Township 27 North, Range 7 West, NMPM, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico not be included within either the Pictured Cliffs or Fruitland coal participating areas of the San Juan "28-7" Unit, please explain in great detail how this extreme unorthodox location will not adversely affect the working, over-riding royalty, and royalty interests in the W/2 of Section 2 or, in the alternative, proceed on another course of action to assure such affect interests are protected.

Thank you for your cooperation, understanding, and continued support in making this very important portion of New Mexico's conservation rules a meaningful success.

Sincerely

Michael E. Stogner Chief Hearing Officer/Engineer

cc: New Mexico Oil Conservation Division - Aztec
 U. S. Bureau of Land Management - Farmington
 New Mexico State Land Office - Santa Fe
 Mr. W. Thomas Kellahin, Legal Counsel for Conoco, Inc. - Santa Fe
 Ms. Lori Wrotenbery, Director - NMOCD, Santa Fe
 Ms. Yolanda Perez, Conoco, Inc. - Houston

Oil Conservation Division \* 2040 South Pacheco Street \* Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505 Phone: (505) 827-7131 \* Fax (505) 827-8177 \* http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us (13) Adopting Burlington's proposal to relax the footage setbacks of the pool is in the best interest of conservation, prevention of waste, and protection of correlative rights and provides workable, fair and efficient regulation of well locations.

(14) To increase the opportunity to locate wells in the optimum position and avoid processing numerous cases for unorthodox well locations, Burlington's request to relax the exterior and interior footage setback requirements within the Basin-Dakota Pool should be approved.

(15) Burlington did not present sufficient data outlining the existing federal exploratory units and participating areas and their relationship to adjoining proration units to support its request to apply special setback requirements to federal exploratory units.

(16) Burlington's proposal to allow Basin-Dakota gas wells to be drilled and completed virtually anywhere within a federal exploratory unit is inappropriate within a pool that is not entirely developed, such as the Basin-Dakota Pool, and is not in the best interest of conservation since it will not promote efficient drainage of this pool in an orderly manner.

(17) Such unrestricted development in a random manner promotes waste.

(18) Further, such unrestricted development in a random manner causes unnecessary wells to be drilled and completed to adequately drain the resulting gaps or holes in development. These unnecessary wells will create economic waste and hardship for those non-operating interest owners who contribute to the cost of these wells.

(19) Burlington has clearly shown by testimony presented at the hearing and by supplemental information provided subsequent to the hearing, that opportunities for correlative rights violations are created by allowing encroachment towards non-participating areas within the unit and/or mineral interest that have not ratified the agreement and who will not receive notice of the encroachment.

(20) Burlington's request to apply special setback requirements to federal exploratory units should therefore be denied.

(21) Accordingly, the Division should amend the special rules for the Basin-Dakota Pool to modify well location requirements as follows: