

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

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PRE- AND POSTHEARING PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022

This matter came on for hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, William Brancard, Esq. Hearing Examiners, Leonard Lowe, Technical Examiner, on Thursday, March 17, 2022, via Webex Virtual Conferencing Platform hosted by the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Reported by: Mary Therese Macfarlane  
New Mexico CCR #122  
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1	C O N T E N T S	
2	HEARING CALLED TO ORDER:	3
3	POST-HEARING DISCUSSION ON CASES 20840, 20841, 20842, 21385, 21386:	3
4	PRESENTATION BY JONATHAN SAMANIEGO:	3
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1 (Time noted 8:15 a.m.)

2 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Good morning, everyone. It  
3 is March 17, 2022, and this is a hearing of the Oil  
4 Conservation Division. This week's worksheet is uploaded  
5 on the website for anyone who needs the agenda.

6 With us is the court reporter, Mary  
7 Macfarlane, so please speak clearly and slowly. And with  
8 us also is Mr. Leonard Lowe, who will be the technical  
9 examiner, and my name is Bill Brancard.

10 Unless we have any other issues today, we  
11 will get started with this agenda. It's not a very long  
12 one, so hang on.

13 Any other announcements, Mr. Lowe?

14 EXAMINER LOWE: No, not at this time.

15 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Thank you. All right.

16 (Note: Cases on agenda reported and transcribed  
17 under separate cover.)

18 (Time noted 9:12 a.m.)

19 EXAMINER BRANCARD: We are done with our  
20 regular docket.

21 Mr. Samaniego?

22 Mr. SAMANIEGO: Yes, sir. Thank you for  
23 allowing me to be heard, sir.

24 I got on the hearing when it started and it  
25 went so quick, and I guess mine were already heard and I

1 didn't know they were being heard.

2 EXAMINER BRANCARD: We had a lot of cases  
3 continued today, so was there any particular case number  
4 you had?

5 MR. SAMANIEGO: I've got five case numbers, but  
6 the same property. I'm going to read off three for  
7 Marathon and two for Matador. The Case Nos. are 20840,  
8 20841, 20842. Those are Marathon's. Then on Matador's  
9 21385, 21386.

10 I don't know if those were continued or  
11 heard, but I would just like to voice that we oppose the  
12 force pooling. We've reached out to both companies. They  
13 are not responding. I haven't been contacted, and I  
14 oppose being force pooled.

15 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Thank you.

16 Let me see. Those cases are part of a  
17 large number of cases, so they are combined together for  
18 one big hearing and they are now scheduled for April 21st.

19 MR. SAMANIEGO: On that April 21 hearing, can I  
20 be heard?

21 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Absolutely.

22 What we would prefer is that you file  
23 what's called an Entry of Appearance, just one sentence  
24 saying, you know, "I have an interest in these units and I  
25 enter my appearance," period, signed Jonathan Samaniego.

1 Unless you're also -- unless you have an entity or  
2 something that owns the property, you know, in a different  
3 name. You can use that name, whatever entity has the  
4 interest.

5 MR. SAMANIEGO: Okay. Also note that April 21st  
6 will be the fourth time I've opposed it, and they keep  
7 coming back. And they have avoided my calls. One day  
8 Marathon even just hung up on me.

9 EXAMINER BRANCARD: These cases were filed over  
10 two and half years ago. We have yet to have a hearing on  
11 them. They were continued to, uh...

12 MR. SAMANIEGO: And now I'll also note that on  
13 the Marathon Company they've got two refineries they shut  
14 down that are a total mess, and no one's bringing that up  
15 for them to clean that up. And they're force pooling here  
16 and they have no intentions of drilling it, and they are  
17 going to sell all their permits to the highest bidder to  
18 fund their brand-new refinery they're building in the  
19 Dakotas. They're done with New Mexico, and they're just  
20 dragging as much money out of here as they can, and I  
21 think that should be known.

22 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Well, at the hearing you can  
23 bring up these issues.

24 I will note -- I am not really an expert on  
25 these matters, Mr. Samaniego, but I do not believe that's

1 the same Marathon. I believe that's a different Marathon,  
2 the one that's in refining. But you can research that and  
3 figure that out pretty quickly.

4 So I would suggest you submit an Entry of  
5 Appearance. You know, your appearance today is noted but  
6 the cases really are scheduled for April 21st. And once  
7 you do that, you will not have to jump in, you will be  
8 asked if you are there and ready to talk.

9 MR. SAMANIEGO: Thank you. Thank you, sir. And  
10 I will enter that Notice of Appearance because I do want  
11 to be heard.

12 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Thank you. Appreciate it.

13 All right. Mr. Lowe, anything else today?

14 EXAMINER LOWE: No, I have nothing else.

15 EXAMINER BRANCARD: Okay. So we're going to get  
16 off here quickly. Sorry to disappoint anybody that wants  
17 to stick around, but both Marlene and I have gotten  
18 messages saying our computers are about to be shut down in  
19 a few minutes, so...

20 MR. RANKIN: Mr. Examiner, I was going to ask if  
21 it's possible thta Mr. Feldewert could test his technical  
22 capabilities for tomorrow's hearing. He's with the  
23 Chevron folks in the Chevron building in Houston, and  
24 wanted to just make sure that they were able to connect to  
25 the Webex.

1 (Note: Sound check with Mr. Feldewert reported  
2 but not transcribed.)

3 EXAMINER BRANCARD: All right. With that the  
4 hearings are done for March 17th, 2022, but as noted we  
5 will have a special hearing docket tomorrow March 18 at  
6 9:30, if you haven't gotten enough of us already.

7 So thank you, everyone. Have a great St.  
8 Patrick's Day.

9 (Time noted 9:19 a.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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I, MARY THERESE MACFARLANE, New Mexico Reporter

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CCR No. 122, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that on Thursday, March 17,

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2022, the proceedings in the above-captioned matter were

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taken before me; that I did report in stenographic

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shorthand the proceedings set forth herein, and the

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foregoing pages are a true and correct transcription to

12

the best of my ability and control.

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I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither employed by

14

nor related to nor contracted with (unless excepted by the

15

rules) any of the parties or attorneys in this case, and

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that I have no interest whatsoever in the final

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disposition of this case in any court.

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/s/Mary Therese Macfarlane\_\_\_\_\_

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Mary Therese Macfarlane, CCR

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NM Certified Court Reporter No. 122

License Expires: 12/31/2022

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