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1 2	BEFORE: TERRY WARNELL, Hearing Examiner DAVID K. BROOKS, Legal Advisor					
3	This matter came on for hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, TERRY WARNELL,	W				
4	Hearing Examiner, and DAVID K. BROOKS, Legal Advisor, on Thursday, September 2, 2010, at the New					
5	Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural resources Department, 1220 South St. Francis drive, Room 102					
6	Santa Fe, New Mexico.	,				
7	REPORTED BY: Paul Baca Paul Baca Court Reporters					
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20	INDEX	GE				
21	WILLIAM JAMES BALL, JR.					
22	Direct Examination By Mr. Bruce	6				
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4 5	DEVON-2	C-102 form for Loving 7 Fee	20	
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11	5577077 03		•	
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13	DEVON-8B	Case No. 14534 Affidavit of Notice with attachments	20	
14 15	DEVON-8C	Case No. 14535 Affidavit of Notice with attachments	20	
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11		with attachments	
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19	DEVON-9	Geologic illustrations for Case Nos. 14528 and 14535	45
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- 1 THE EXAMINER: Let's go ahead then and go
- 2 back on the record. And Mr. Bruce, we're going to
- 3 hear all of these? There are five cases?
- 4 MR. BRUCE: Correct.
- 5 THE EXAMINER: So then let's go ahead and
- 6 call Case 14534. I think they all -- do they all
- 7 read the same.
- 8 MR. BRUCE: Not quite.
- 9 THE EXAMINER: Not quite? Okay. So we're
- 10 going to hear all five of these cases. Case 14534,
- 11 application of Devon Energy Production Company, LP,
- 12 for approval of a nonstandard gas spacing and
- 13 proration unit, unorthodox well locations and
- 14 compulsory pooling, Chaves County, New Mexico.
- Case No. 14535, application of Devon
- 16 Energy Production Company, LP, for compulsory
- 17 pooling, Chaves County New Mexico.
- Case No. 14536, application Devon Energy
- 19 Production Company, LP, for compulsory pooling,
- 20 Chaves County, New Mexico. That's three, I believe.
- Case No. 14537, application of Devon
- 22 Energy Production Company, LP, for compulsory,
- 23 pooling, Chaves County, New Mexico.
- And the fifth case, Case No. 14528,
- 25 application of Devon Energy Production Company, LP,

- 1 for nonstandard gas spacing and proration unit in
- 2 unorthodox well locations and compulsory pooling,
- 3 Chaves County, New Mexico.
- 4 Call for appearances.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, Jim Bruce, of
- 6 Santa Fe, representing the applicant. I have two
- 7 witnesses.
- 8 THE EXAMINER: Any other appearances?
- 9 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, I'm Tom
- 10 Kellahin, of the Santa Fe law firm of Kellahin &
- 11 Kellahin, appearing this morning in all five cases
- 12 for Chisos, LTD.
- 13 THE EXAMINER: Would the witnesses please
- 14 stand and state your name and be sworn?
- 15 (William James Ball, Jr., and Curtis D.
- 16 McKinney were duly sworn by the court reporter.)
- 17 WILLIAM JAMES BALL, JR.,
- 18 having been previously duly sworn, testified as
- 19 follows:
- 20 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 21 BY MR. BRUCE:
- Q. Mr. Ball, could you state your full name
- 23 and where you reside?
- A. William James Ball, Jr., Edmond, Oklahoma.
- 25 Q. Who do you work for, and in what capacity?

- 1 A. Devon Energy Production Company, LP. Land
- 2 advisor for New Mexico.
- Q. Have you previously testified before the
- 4 Commission?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And were your credentials as an expert
- 7 petroleum land man accepted as a matter of record?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And are you familiar with the land matters
- 10 involved in these applications?
- 11 A. Yes.
- MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I tender
- 13 Mr. Ball as an expert petroleum land man.
- 14 THE EXAMINER: Any objections,
- 15 Mr. Kellahin, to him?
- MR. KELLAHIN: No.
- 17 THE EXAMINER: So recognized.
- 18 Q. (By Mr. Bruce) Mr. Ball, could you
- 19 identify Exhibit 1 for the Examiner and discuss its
- 20 contents briefly?
- 21 A. It's an exhibit showing the first five
- 22 wells that we plan on drilling on the LE Ranch. The
- 23 LE Ranch is about 164 square miles or sections of
- 24 land, approximately 104,000 acres. And again, these
- 25 are the first five wells that we plan on drilling

- 1 there.
- 2 You'll note on the bottom notation, below
- 3 the listed five, the notation is for the Loving
- 4 7 fee 1H. That notation is there just to indicate
- 5 to you that that one will be a little bit of a
- 6 directional down into a pilot hole formation.
- 7 Q. And what is the approximate depths of
- 8 these wells?
- 9 A. The average of all five, as shown on this
- 10 exhibit, is about 8,600 feet, approximately. And
- 11 the total vertical depth is approximately
- 12 11,600 feet.
- 0. And all of these wells will be drilled --
- 14 the pilot hole will be drilled to test the Devonian
- 15 formation?
- 16 A. That's correct. Our plan is to go into
- 17 the top of the Devonian, because it's just a few
- 18 hundred feet below the Mississippi Limestone, which
- 19 is our objective.
- 20 Q. The primary objective?
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 Q. Mr. Ball, let's go through the plan plats
- 23 next. What is Exhibit 2?
- 24 A. They're C-102 forms. I believe you'll see
- 25 that on this C-102 form, the top page. It shows the

- 1 proration units, the surface location, the bottom
- 2 hole location, and other general descriptions.
- 3 If you note on the top two -- that should
- 4 be the Loving Well and the Goodnight Well -- those
- 5 are the proration units that will go across the
- 6 section lines.
- Q. Okay.
- 8 A. Do you want me to describe the second
- 9 page? It's just the Midland Map Company maps
- 10 showing the proration unit. Once again, the red dot
- 11 is the surface location, the green is the bottom
- 12 hole location.
- 13 Q. Okay. Now, with respect to the Exhibit 2,
- 14 which is the Loving 7 No. 1 Well, the pilot hole is
- 15 at an unorthodox oil well location in the southwest
- 16 quarter, northeast quarter of the section, correct?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. And does Devon request unorthodox location
- 19 approval for that well?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Now, this is the well you mentioned that
- 22 the pilot hole will be directionally drilled a
- 23 little bit. There are two unorthodox locations in
- 24 this case; is that correct?
- 25 A. That is correct.

- 1 Q. The initial pilot hole down to, say, the
- 2 top of the Morrow. And where will the Devonian be
- 3 located?
- 4 A. The Devonian is just immediately directly
- 5 below the Mississippi Limestone formation.
- 6 Q. And what quarter section will be dedicated
- 7 in the Devonian?
- 8 A. That would be southwest of the -- excuse
- 9 me, southeast of the northeast.
- 10 Q. So the well will be drilled vertically
- down towards the Morrow-Mississippian and then
- 12 deviated slightly over toward the southeast
- 13 quarter/northeast quarter in the Devonian, correct?
- 14 A. That's correct, half of Section 7.
- 15 Q. Okay. So there will be unorthodox
- 16 locations in the southwest/northeast and in the
- 17 southeast/northeast?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. Devon also requests the highlighted
- 20 nonstandard unit. And for the record, could you
- 21 describe the acreage in the nonstandard unit for the
- 22 Mississippian?
- 23 A. It would be the south half of the
- 24 northeast of 7, the north half of the southeast of
- 25 7. In Section 8, it would be the south half of the

Page 10

- 1 northwest and the north half of the southwest of 8.
- Q. And do you seek forced pooling of both the
- 3 nonstandard unit as to the Missippian?
- A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And then you also seek forced pooling as
- 6 to separately the southwest/northeast and the
- 7 southeast/northeast?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. The southeast/northeast, as to the
- 10 Devonian only? And the southwest/northeast as to
- 11 any oil zone that may be discovered uphole?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. Now, turn to the second page of Exhibit 2,
- 14 briefly. Could you describe a little bit the land
- 15 holdings within the LE Ranch?
- 16 A. Devon has leased all these fee lands, with
- 17 the exception of -- well, has leased or we've
- 18 recently reached an agreement in the last few days
- 19 with all the parties that own minerals,
- 20 approximately 12 royalty owners, with the exception
- 21 of one.
- 22 And as you can see, in most cases all the
- 23 way around the proration unit Devon has these lands
- 24 leased up.
- 25 Q. But as to mineral ownership in the

- 1 LE Ranch, are the 12 owners or so you've mentioned
- 2 common throughout this area?
- A. Yes, they are.
- 4 Q. Okay.
- 5 A. It's kind of on a checkerboard pattern for
- 6 some. For example, as you can see, there are 320
- 7 splits in most of the sections, and the ratios on
- 8 some of the royalty owners are different on one side
- 9 than they are on the other.
- But in some cases, they're consistent.
- 11 For example, if someone might have 6.25 on the east
- 12 half, they'll have 6.25 on the west half percent.
- 13 Q. Okay. But with respect to -- and this
- 14 goes back to notice purposes for the nonstandard
- 15 unit portion or even the unorthodox location portion
- 16 of the application.
- 17 The interest owners are all the same in
- 18 Sections 7 and 8 and in most of the other sections,
- 19 correct?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- Q. Let's go to Exhibit 3. And what does that
- 22 reflect?
- 23 A. Of course, it's a C-102. And it reflects
- 24 the same type of information: Surface location,
- 25 bottom hole, location proration unit or well unit

- 1 outline.
- It's the same situation as far as the
- depth. We'll go down to the top of the Devonian.
- 4 But our objective, as with each one, is again the
- 5 horizontal and Mississippi Limestone.
- 6 Q. And in this instance, the well location,
- 7 which is an unorthodox oil well location, will be
- 8 vertically drilled from the surface down into the
- 9 Devonian, correct?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. And you seek approval of the unorthodox
- 12 locations for any oil zones that may be included in
- 13 that vertical limit, correct?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. And you also seek approval of the
- 16 nonstandard unit?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. And finally, you seek forced pooling of
- 19 all the -- and we'll get to the company in a
- 20 minute -- of mineral interests in the nonstandard
- 21 unit and in the 40 acres where the vertical hole is
- 22 located?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. The remaining three are a little
- 25 simpler, Mr. Ball. Could you run through

- 1 Exhibits 4, 5 and 6 and just discuss what is being
- 2 sought in these cases?
- 3 A. The same objectives as the other two.
- 4 They're obviously just a regular well unit, not a
- nonstandard location and not a special well unit
- 6 situation.
- 7 Q. So the Mississippian unit will be the
- 8 north half of Section 28 in this matter?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. And the well locations are orthodox?
- 11 A. That's right.
- 12 Q. And the surface location, the pilot hole,
- 13 will be vertically drilled to the Devonian?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. So you seek the forced pooling of the
- 16 northeast/northwest quarter as to 40-acre zones and
- 17 the north half as to 320-acre zones?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. And does the same hold true as to the
- 20 Jinglebob 29 fee reflected on Exhibit 5?
- 21 A. Yes, it does.
- 22 Q. Again, it's a north half well unit for the
- 23 Mississippian or any gas zone?
- 24 A. That's correct.
- 25 Q. And you would also seek to force pool the

- 1 northwest quarter/northwest quarter as to any
- 2 40-acre oil zones?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- Q. And again, the surface location, the pilot
- 5 hole, will be drilled vertically into the Devonian?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- Q. And finally, as to the Open Range Well in
- 8 Section 34, the north half unit will be will be
- 9 dedicated to any gas well zones?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. And the northwest/northwest will be
- 12 dedicated as to any oil zones?
- 13 A. Correct.
- Q. Who do you seek to force pool in these
- 15 cases?
- 16 A. We've reached agreement with two other
- 17 parties. But we're only force pooling Samedan
- 18 Royalty Corporation.
- 19 Q. Two other parties were notified of these
- 20 matters, I believe, Pure Energy Resources and
- 21 Chisos?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- 23 Q. And you have reached voluntary agreement
- 24 with those two interests, obviously?
- A. Yes, we have.

- 1 Q. And you do not seek to force pool them?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. As to Samedan, what interest does it own
- 4 in all of these well units?
- 5 A. In all of these well units, Samedan
- 6 Royalty Corporation owns 6.25 percent.
- 7 Q. And that is of unleased mineral interest?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 O. What is Exhibit 7, Mr. Ball?
- 10 A. Exhibit 7, lower in your stack, of course,
- 11 going from the bottom up, is the operating
- 12 agreement, certain pages out of it.
- Then just above that is the AFE which
- 14 accompanied the well proposal. And that was made
- 15 back on July 14th. There's proof of the facts, and
- 16 then it was sent Certified Mail.
- Just above that is -- basically after it
- 18 was mailed out, we felt like there needed to be some
- 19 clarification, a better clarification, as to the
- 20 situation with the pilot hole.
- 21 So there's correspondence in there, e-mail
- 22 and another Certified letter. The Certified letter
- 23 is August 2nd.
- And then again, not knowing what Samedan
- 25 was going to do, on August 5th, regardless of not

- 1 knowing what they did, I just decided to mail them
- 2 the JOA, which is the bottom part of this exhibit.
- O. Okay. And Exhibit 7 contains all of the
- 4 proposal letters as to all five wells, correct?
- 5 A. That is correct.
- 6 Q. Now, these proposals were sent out in July
- 7 and August, not that long ago. Did Devon have prior
- 8 contacts with Samedan?
- 9 A. Our contacts started with Samedan on
- 10 October 17, 2008, so almost two years.
- It's been quite an experience from my end
- 12 to have dealt with five different land men within
- 13 the organization. And we did not get an inclination
- or a response as to what they were going to do
- 15 until, I think, a week ago today, when they finally
- 16 did respond to what they considered was a lease
- 17 form, that they wanted to lease interest.
- 18 But the conditions in the lease were not
- 19 acceptable to Devon nor the terms that they put with
- 20 this.
- During that time, just to show how much
- 22 time, it was almost 19 months that I had been
- 23 getting the reason that they didn't have an answer
- 24 out of their business unit.
- So basically, we are still in

- 1 negotiations. I am hopeful that we will come to an
- 2 agreement. Devon wants to make an agreement with
- 3 them, and I think we'll get there.
- 4 Q. And if Samedan does sign a lease or reach
- 5 other voluntary agreement, will you notify the
- 6 Division?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Now, you mentioned the first contact was
- 9 October 2008. It wasn't just then, and then these
- 10 letters? There were a number of contacts and
- 11 negotiations in the interim, correct?
- 12 A. Many dozens, yes.
- 13 Q. In your opinion, has Devon Energy made a
- 14 good-faith effort to obtain the voluntary joinder of
- 15 Samedan in these well units?
- 16 A. Yes, we have.
- 17 Q. Now, each well proposal to Samedan
- 18 contained in AFE. What are the approximate costs of
- 19 these wells?
- 20 A. They're in the approximate range of
- 21 3,100,000.
- 22 Q. And is this cost reasonable and comparable
- 23 to the cost of other wells drilled at this depth in
- 24 this area of New Mexico?
- 25 A. Yes, they are.

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- 1 Q. And what overhead rates does Devon
- 2 propose?
- A. Monthly drilling -- excuse me. Daily
- 4 drilling overhead rates, 5,500. Monthly is \$550.
- Q. Are these rates reasonable and comparable
- 6 to what you're charging in your operating agreement?
- 7 A. Yes, they are.
- 8 Q. Do you request a 200 percent risk charge
- 9 if Samedan goes nonconsent?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And do you request that Devon Energy be
- 12 appointed operator of the well?
- 13 A. Yes.
- MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I've handed you
- 15 Exhibits 8A through 8E. And these are the
- 16 individual well notifications for each of the cases.
- 17 You will see that Pure and Chisos were notified, as
- 18 well as Samedan.
- 19 Of course, Pure and Chisos are dismissed
- 20 from the case, but Samedan did receive actual notice
- 21 of all of the pool of applications.
- Q. (By Mr. Bruce) Mr. Ball, in your opinion,
- 23 is the granting of these applications in the
- 24 interest of conservation and the prevention of
- 25 waste?

- 1 A. Yes, they are.
- Q. And were Exhibits 1 through 7 prepared by
- 3 you or under your supervision or compiled from
- 4 company business records?
- 5 A. Yes, they were.
- 6 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I move the
- 7 admission of Devon Exhibits 1 through 7 and 8A
- 8 through 8E.
- 9 MR. KELLAHIN: No objection, Mr. Examiner.
- THE EXAMINER: Exhibits 1 through 7 and 8A
- 11 through 8E are admitted.
- 12 (Devon Exhibits 1 through 7 and 8A through
- 13 8E inclusive were admitted.)
- MR. BRUCE: I have no further questions of
- 15 the witness.
- MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, because
- 17 Mr. Ball has testified that Devon and my client have
- 18 reached a voluntarily agreement, I have no
- 19 questions. And dismissal of my client from these
- 20 cases causes us not to engage Mr. Ball in any
- 21 questions.
- THE EXAMINER: Thank you.
- Mr. Brooks.
- MR. BROOKS: Well, I think the Examiner
- 25 having experienced some difficulty in keeping this

- 1 all sorted out, I'm having a little trouble keeping
- 2 it sorted out in my mind. I want to ask you a few
- 3 questions, just to clarify.
- We're dealing with five different wells
- 5 here, correct?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- 7 MR. BROOKS: And there's a different unit
- 8 for each one?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- MR. BROOKS: You know, it looked to me
- 11 like only, from what I saw, two of them, 14528 and
- 12 14534, involve an unorthodox unit for the purpose
- of, I assume, a horizontal well; is that correct?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. Those two cases
- 15 have three things going on with it: Nonstandard
- 16 location, the pooling, and the nonstandard gas
- 17 spacing.
- 18 MR. BROOKS: Are the other three vertical
- 19 wells?
- 20 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, down to the
- 21 Devonian. But in all cases, they're all going to be
- 22 horizontal. That's our objective.
- MR. BROOKS: Okay. Well, what is the
- 24 spacing unit in these cases?
- 25 THE WITNESS: For Mississippi, horizontal

- 1 limestone is 320; and the Devonian oil would be 40.
- 2 MR. BROOKS: Okay. But you're not
- 3 applying for a nonstandard unit. So what is the
- 4 situation there?
- 5 THE WITNESS: I think the difference is
- 6 the two that we are doing the nonstandard versus the
- 7 others is they cross the section lines.
- MR. BROOKS: I'm not sure I understand why
- 9 it would not be necessary, if you're doing a
- 10 horizontal in a 40 acre spacing, to have a
- 11 nonstandard unit, even if they didn't cross the
- 12 section lines.
- MR. BRUCE: The Mississippian would be
- 14 320 acres of gas.
- MR. BROOKS: Okay. You're doing the
- 16 horizontal in the Mississippian and in the Devonian?
- 17 MR. BRUCE: That is correct.
- MR. BROOKS: Okay. So the horizontal is
- 19 only in the Mississippian?
- MR. BRUCE: But the pilot holes go down to
- 21 the Devonian. But then they come back and kick off
- 22 in the Mississippian.
- 23 MR. BROOKS: Okay. So the only horizontal
- 24 wells are in the Mississippian?
- MR. BRUCE: That is correct.

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Page 22
1
               MR. BROOKS: Which is some 320-acre
2
    spacing. Okay, that helps.
3
               Samedan is the only party to be approved,
    correct?
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
               MR. BROOKS: And that is true of all
6
 7
    cases?
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
 8
               MR. BROOKS: All five cases?
10
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
               MR. BROOKS: And do I understand that
11
12
     Samedan's interest is uniform in all the lines
13
     involved?
14
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
15
               MR. BROOKS: And that would apply to all
16
     formations?
17
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
18
               MR. BROOKS: Okay. That also simplifies
19
     things.
20
               Now, what about the unorthodox well
21
     location aspects in Cases 28 and 34? Have you given
22
     notice to the owners?
               I don't recall any that I heard the
23
24
     explanation of the compliance with the notice
25
     requirements for the nonstandard location.
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- 1 Are there any, or are they all common
- 2 ownership?
- 3 THE WITNESS: It's all the same parties.
- 4 And Devon, our working interest is the same all the
- 5 way around.
- 6 MR. BROOKS: Are all the working interests
- 7 identical in the offsetting units versus the units
- 8 where the nonstandard locations will be?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- MR. BROOKS: Okay. So then there are no
- 11 discrepant working interests between any of the
- 12 units adjoining the nonstandard units?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Say that again, sir.
- MR. BROOKS: Well, I think I was just
- 15 repeating myself. I think I've already got your
- 16 answer.
- But just to be sure: In every instance
- 18 where, in both of the two nonstandard locations, the
- 19 offsetting units have identical working interest
- 20 ownership to the unit in which the nonstandard
- 21 location is located; is that correct?
- THE WITNESS: I'm looking, sir. Just a
- 23 second. The royalty ownership for the offsetting
- 24 nonstandard proration units --
- MR. BRUCE: For the unorthodox locations,

Page 24 Mr. Ball. That's what he asked. 1 2 THE WITNESS: Yes, they're the same. 3 MR. BROOKS: Okay. So I'm looking at Exhibit 2, which is 14528. 5 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. 6 MR. BROOKS: And in Exhibit 2, the project area consists of -- I'm not clear on this. What is 8 the project area for the well in Exhibit 2? 9 THE WITNESS: For the horizontal 10 Mississippi Limestone, the project area is outlined 11 on the second page. 12 MR. BROOKS: Okay. That's what I was 13 thinking. Because it's the same as is outlined on 14 the first page by the hashmarks, right? 15 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. 16 MR. BROOKS: So that the project area 17 consists of Units G, H, I and J in Section 7 and 18 Units E, F, K and L in Section 8? THE WITNESS: That's correct, sir. 19 20 MR. BROOKS: Okay. And it's a 320-acre 21 unit. So what's nonstandard about the location? 22 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, that would be 23 the oil well location.

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well, it's not nonstandard in the Mississippian?

MR. BROOKS: Okay. So the horizontal

24

25

- 1 It's only nonstandard in the Devonian?
- 2 MR. BRUCE: It is standard in the
- 3 Mississippian. It would be nonstandard as to any
- 4 oil zone.
- 5 MR. BROOKS: Forty-acre unit?
- 6 MR. BRUCE: Yes.
- 7 MR. BROOKS: That's because it's 2,500
- 8 from the north, which puts it 140. From the south
- 9 edge of the unit, it's 1,400 from the east line of
- 10 the section, which puts it 80 feet from the east
- 11 line of the unit?
- MR. BRUCE: That is correct, Mr. Examiner,
- 13 for everything but one thing. And I think
- 14 Mr. McKinney will go into this a little bit.
- 15 As to the Devonian --
- MR. BROOKS: Yeah.
- MR. BRUCE: -- the unorthodox location is
- 18 actually in the southeast/northwest in Unit H.
- MR. BROOKS: So the bottom hole location
- 20 will be in H, rather than G, for the Devonian?
- MR. BRUCE: For the Devonian. And it will
- 22 be approximately 2,500 feet from the north line and
- 23 I think about 1,280 from the east line.
- MR. BROOKS: So the offsetting units to
- 25 the nonstandard location are going to be Units F, I

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    and J in Section 7?
1
              MR. BRUCE: Well, I and J, not F.
              MR. BROOKS: Why not F?
3
              MR. BRUCE: It doesn't encroach on Unit F.
5
    It's only 1,400 feet from the east line.
              MR. BROOKS: Well, I thought you said that
     the bottom hole location was going to be in Unit G?
              MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, for this well --
              MR. BROOKS: Or Unit H? Where is the
    bottom hole location going to be?
10
               MR. BRUCE: The bottom hole location in
11
12
     the Devonian only will be in Unit H. But you said,
13
     "Unit F." So it should be G, I and J; not F.
14
               MR. BROOKS: Okay, I understand that.
15
     sorry. I said "F," and I should have said "G."
16
     It's G, I and J are the offsetting units?
17
               MR. BRUCE: In the Devonian.
18
               MR. BROOKS: In the Devonian.
19
               MR. BRUCE: As to other uphole zones that
20
     are oil, the offsetting units will be H, I and J.
21
               MR. BROOKS: Okay. Now, is the ownership
22
     of the working interest uniform as to Units G, H, I
23
     and J in Section 7?
24
               THE WITNESS: Yes, they are.
25
               MR. BROOKS: And is that true in all
```

```
formations?
1
 2
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
               MR. BROOKS: Thank you. That's what I
 3
     needed to know.
 4
 5
               Now, let me go to Case No. 14534. That
     will be what exhibit number?
 6
 7
               MR. BRUCE: Exhibit 3, Mr. Examiner.
               MR. BROOKS: Exhibit 3? Okay. Yeah, it
 8
     looks like 145311, but I realize that's probably
 9
10
     something you didn't get copied. Something didn't
11
     come out on the copy. Okay.
12
               This well is located in Unit G of
     Section 1, correct?
13
14
               THE WITNESS: Correct.
15
               MR. BROOKS: And the drilling pattern is
16
     the same, i.e., it's going to be a horizontal in the
17
     Mississippian and a vertical in other formations in
18
     which it might be completed?
19
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
               MR. BROOKS: Okay. And the project area
20
     for the horizontal is in Section 1 of 12 South, 28
21
22
     East? It's Units G, H, I and J?
23
               And in Section 6 of 12 South, 29 East,
     it's Units E, F, K and L; is that correct?
24
```

THE WITNESS: That's correct.

25

- 1 MR. BROOKS: And that's a 320-acre
- 2 nonstandard unit. But it's nonstandard in
- 3 configuration, not in size, correct? So it's
- 4 320-acre spacing?
- 5 THE WITNESS: That's correct.
- 6 MR. BROOKS: Okay. Now, as to then the
- 7 nonstandard unit aspects, the surface location is in
- 8 Unit G of Section 1, correct?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- MR. BROOKS: And it's nonstandard to the
- 11 south, but it's not nonstandard to the east or west,
- 12 correct?
- 13 THE WITNESS: That's correct.
- MR. BROOKS: Now, that surface location,
- is the same thing going to be true of the bottom
- 16 hole locations in the units that might be completed
- 17 on 40 acres?
- 18 THE WITNESS: I believe the bottom hole
- 19 location is standard, which is 1,980 on the south
- 20 and the west.
- MR. BRUCE: Mr. Ball, the surface
- 22 location.
- THE WITNESS: Oh. I thought he said,
- 24 "bottom hole."
- MR. BROOKS: Yeah. I was asking about the

- 1 bottom hole location because, you know, a
- 2 nonstandard surface location does not require an
- 3 exception. So unless you're trying to complete in a
- 4 formation in which it will be nonstandard, then you
- 5 don't need a nonstandard location.
- 6 Well, if you plan to complete a formation
- 7 and any part of the hole and that formation is a
- 8 nonstandard, then you need a nonstandard location
- 9 approval.
- 10 But only the surface location or location
- in formations in which you're not going to have the
- 12 hole opened or completed then doesn't require
- 13 nonstandard location approval. That's why I'm
- 14 asking the question the way I am.
- MR. BRUCE: Well, the surface location,
- 16 that is the pilot hole location --
- MR. BROOKS: Right.
- 18 MR. BRUCE: -- is unorthodox as to any oil
- 19 zone.
- MR. BROOKS: Right. And it may be
- 21 completed as to oil zones as to which it's
- 22 unorthodox?
- MR. BRUCE: That is correct.
- MR. BROOKS: Okay. But the only
- 25 encroachments as from the surface location, at least

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Page 30
    the only encroachment, is toward Unit I in
1
    Section 1, correct?
3
              MR. BRUCE: J.
               THE WITNESS: J.
              MR. BROOKS: Okay, J. I stand corrected.
 5
               The only encroachment is toward Unit J in
     Section 1?
               THE WITNESS: That's correct.
 8
               MR. BROOKS: And so here comes my question
     then: Is ownership of the working interest
10
11
     identical as between Units G and J in Section 1,
    12 South, 28 East?
12
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, it is.
13
               MR. BROOKS: And is that true for all
14
     formations?
15
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
16
17
               MR. BROOKS: Okay. Now, let's talk about
18
     the unorthodox spacing units or proration units that
     you are requesting. And once again, that only
19
     applies in Cases No. 14528 and 14534; is that
20
     correct?
21
22
               THE WITNESS: That's correct, sir.
23
               MR. BROOKS: And this is in the
     Mississippian?
24
25
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
```

- 1 MR. BROOKS: Okay. Now, I foresee that
- 2 these are problem situations. Because if you cut
- 3 out four units in this way out of the middle of two
- 4 sections, then it's going to be very difficult for
- 5 anybody to form standard spacing units in that
- 6 pattern.
- 7 So it's important that we have
- 8 notification all the way around. Do you have
- 9 notification all the way around to the extent that
- 10 there's not other ownership?
- 11 MR. BRUCE: I think I asked Mr. Ball this
- 12 question. But Mr. Ball confirmed that if you just
- 13 look at the Loving Well, that the interest owners in
- 14 Sections 7 and 8 surrounding the nonstandard unit
- 15 are also all the same interest owners within the
- 16 nonstandard unit.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 18 MR. BROOKS: Okay. And is the same thing
- 19 true of Section 1 of 12 South, 28 East, and
- 20 Section 6 of 12 South, 29 East, in Case No. 14534?
- 21 THE WITNESS: If what you're saying is,
- 22 you take the 320 project area of this well, the
- 23 Goodnight, and if I was to take exact 320s all the
- 24 way around, it's not the same leasehold owners.
- Because you can see there in Section 36 we

- 1 have plantation. And going around, it looks like
- 2 it's all Devon until another area to the south,
- 3 where it says "Crystal" and "Chase."
- 4 MR. BRUCE: Just as to Sections 1 and 6,
- 5 Mr. Ball, are the interest owners the same?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yes, they are.
- 7 MR. BROOKS: And I'm inclined to think
- 8 that's all we would require, because the owners up
- 9 in Section 36 could form standard units.
- 10 The owners in Section 6 can only develop
- 11 their acreage -- if there's any desire to develop in
- 12 the Mississippian, the acreage in Section 6, then
- 13 there's going to have to be some more nonstandard
- 14 units created there.
- But I do not see that the owners in
- 16 Section 36 are adversely affected.
- MR. BRUCE: There's one other thing.
- Mr. Ball, do the leases from the fee
- 19 owners in these two wells, have they executed
- 20 provisions of the lease form that allows you to form
- 21 a nonstandard unit for purposes of these horizontal
- 22 tests?
- THE WITNESS: Yes. We obtained waivers or
- 24 have agreed to obtain waivers in the case of the
- 25 Pure and Chisos. We are wrapping up the paperwork.

- 1 But they are aware that we've done a waiver from the
- 2 lease form that allows us to go across section
- 3 lines. And of course, they're very much aware of
- 4 everything in this well here.
- 5 MR. BROOKS: Okay. Who are the working
- 6 interest owners in those units? Are those the same
- 7 ones, Chisos and Samedan?
- 8 THE WITNESS: The only working interest
- 9 owners will be Chisos, for part of their interest,
- 10 Chisos, Ltd. --
- MR. BROOKS: Right.
- 12 THE WITNESS: -- Devon, and a person named
- 13 D.K. Boyd.
- MR. BROOKS: And do you have a waiver from
- 15 Mr. Boyd?
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- MR. BROOKS: Okay. Can you file copies of
- 18 those waivers in this case so we can be sure that
- 19 we're --
- MR. BRUCE: Yes, sir.
- 21 MR. BROOKS: -- taken care of on the
- 22 notice requirements there?
- Because in the case of compulsory pooling,
- 24 by rule, if the parties have joined by contract,
- 25 they don't have to be notified, so we don't have

- 1 that issue.
- But we do have that issue as to the
- 3 nonstandard units. So if notice is not necessary
- 4 because of the waiver, then we need the waivers to
- 5 be filed.
- I think I've taken care of all my
- 7 concerns. Sorry it took so long.
- 8 THE EXAMINER: I appreciate that. Thank
- 9 you.
- Mr. Ball, on the Goodnight No. 1, that's
- 11 the second well that we're talking about on
- 12 Exhibit 3, page 2?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- 14 THE EXAMINER: I'm curious as to why
- 15 you're dipping down to the southeast with that well
- 16 and not just going --
- 17 THE WITNESS: I think, if it's all right,
- 18 if I let our geologist, who's going to testify in a
- 19 minute. But I think it's probably a science reason
- 20 that he will go over.
- 21 THE EXAMINER: Have you had enough fun for
- 22 the morning? It's times like this when I'm glad
- 23 Mr. Brooks is here, because I've got all these
- 24 questions for him when I go to write these up.
- 25 All right. I don't think there's any more

- 1 A. Yes.
- MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I request that
- 3 Mr. McKinney be recognized as an expert petroleum
- 4 geologist.
- 5 THE EXAMINER: Mr. McKinney is so
- 6 recognized.
- 7 Q. (By Mr. Bruce) Mr. McKinney, you have two
- 8 exhibits. Would you just first explain why you
- 9 broke them up into two exhibits?
- 10 A. I'm trying to minimize the paperwork and,
- 11 you know, get them coordinated geographically so
- 12 that we could, you know, work through this
- 13 information, a lot of the information here, as
- 14 efficiently as possible.
- 15 Q. And for what wells does Exhibit 9 apply?
- 16 A. There's a label in the lower right-hand
- 17 corner. It's Case 14528, Loving 7 Fee No. 1; and
- 18 Case 14535, the Longhorn 28 Fee No. 1.
- 19 Q. And why don't you run through these
- 20 exhibits and discuss in particular what you are
- 21 seeking, first with respect to the Mississippian
- 22 development?
- 23 A. All right. There's three sheets attached
- 24 as part of Exhibit 9. The front sheet is a subsea
- 25 structure map on the Mississippian. These are all

- 1 in 10 South, 29 East.
- In the upper left of the map, you see the
- 3 red rectangle. That's the proposed horizontal
- 4 proration unit for the Loving 7 Fee No. 1.
- 5 The well itself, the surface location, is
- 6 designated by the open black circle and the black
- 7 horizontal line. Heading off to the east is the
- 8 path of the horizontal proposed path.
- 9 And you can see there's a fault associated
- 10 with that proration unit. And we've located this
- 11 well, for purposes of the Mississippian, on the
- 12 upthrown side of that fault.
- And we'll be drilling that well -- the
- 14 pilot hole will be drilled as has been discussed
- 15 previously. It will be slightly directionally
- 16 drilled to move it a little bit away from the fault
- 17 for the bottom hole objective, which would be the
- 18 Devonian oil, as previously discussed.
- But our primary objective is the gas
- 20 potential in the Mississippian. That's what this
- 21 exhibit addresses.
- 22 And the wells are labeled with the subsea
- 23 structure value for the Mississippian top. And
- 24 beneath the wells, in blue, generally beneath it, if
- 25 there was an overspotting problem, it may shift a

- 1 little bit, but that's the overall isopach thickness
- 2 of the Mississippian.
- 3 So this exhibit is meant to demonstrate
- 4 that the Mississippian across this area, from the
- 5 northwest part of the map down to the southeast
- 6 part, is generally 500 feet or thicker. And so it's
- 7 present across the area, and that's one objective of
- 8 this exhibit.
- 9 The other would be just to show why we are
- 10 locating these wells and proposing these proration
- 11 units as we are. It has to do with the faults and
- 12 where the structure lies.
- 13 Let's see. Then also on that exhibit
- 14 you'll see that dashed line. That's just a line of
- 15 cross-section that I prepared just to demonstrate
- 16 what the zone actually looks like on logs.
- 17 This area has got a lot of older wells in
- 18 it, so the logs are stuff that you would find from
- 19 the '50s, generally. I hope this is not too small.
- 20 I heard your comment earlier.
- This is a two-well section. But basically
- 22 the cross-section demonstrates in blue, I've
- 23 highlighted the Missippian section. And you will
- 24 see there's 540-plus feet of it.
- These two wells actually demonstrate that

- 1 the Missippian has been tested in the area and shown
- 2 to have some gas. It wasn't commercial. We're
- 3 hoping to greatly improve on that with horizontal
- 4 wells.
- 5 And I've also noted with red dashed lines
- 6 to indicate the upper part of the Mississippian.
- 7 That's actually our objective with our horizontal
- 8 wellbores.
- 9 And then overlying it would be the
- 10 Atoka/Morrow section. And underlying it, below that,
- 11 blue line that you see, that's the Siluro/Devonian
- 12 section that we're going to test also with our pilot
- 13 hole.
- And then the final part of Exhibit 9, the
- 15 last page, is very much a look-alike practically to
- 16 the Mississippian structure. This is all pretty
- 17 conformable stuff. This is a map of the top of the
- 18 Sirliro/Devonian.
- And again, the one oddity really is up
- 20 there in the northwest part of the map, associated
- 21 with our Loving 7 Fee Well location. You'll see
- 22 those two red squares. Those are those proration
- 23 units that were discussed previously.
- 24 And there's two of them because as our
- 25 counsel said, the surface hole will be assigned

- 1 to -- we're applying for assignment to a proration
- 2 unit. That would be the southwest of the northeast.
- 3 And then the Devonian, we're applying to be assigned
- 4 there to the southeast of the northeast.
- 5 And then the other well, as shown on this
- 6 exhibit to the southeast, is our Longhorn 28 Fee
- 7 No. 1 Well, which is Case No. 14535.
- And that's quite a bit more standard
- 9 again, though we're staying on the upfront side of
- 10 the fault. And so the lateral is a little bit
- 11 shorter there because of trying to stay within
- 12 Section 28, you have a standard unit.
- 13 Q. And again, in the Loving Well, the
- 14 Devonian was directionally drilling it slightly to
- 15 the east, just to make sure you're away from that
- 16 fault?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 O. What is Exhibit 10?
- 19 A. Exhibit 10 is very similar to what we just
- 20 went through. I'll go through it also. It's again
- 21 to consolidate geographically and for efficiency.
- 22 I've got three case numbers represented on here.
- In the south, the first page of this
- 24 three-page Exhibit No. 10 is the Mississippian
- 25 subsea structure. Again, you can see the fault

- 1 shown in blue, downthrown to the northwest.
- 2 And our Goodnight Fee No. 1, which is Case
- 3 No. 14534, will be located again, the same sort of
- 4 designation, with the open circle showing the
- 5 surface location. And the black line, moving off to
- 6 the to the east, will be the lateral.
- 7 And the proposed proration unit is being
- 8 shown by the red rectangle for that Mississippian
- 9 gas proposal.
- 10 And the same is true for the other.
- 11 That's the one that has the nonstandard related to
- 12 the Siluro/Devonian, which we'll get to in just one
- 13 moment.
- 14 Again, I've got a little dotted line to
- 15 show a three-well cross-section. And also
- 16 designated on this in this particular area -- and
- 17 now we're down to, I believe, 11 South and 12 South,
- 18 29 East. So we've moved a bit south.
- 19 There is some production down here, and
- 20 that's indicated by the color coding. It's either
- 21 Devonian oil or Mississippian gas. So there is some
- 22 Mississippian gas production in the area of these
- 23 wells, actual sales.
- And then the three-well cross-section,
- 25 similar to the one I described before, again with

- 1 the Mississippian shown in blue. Here again the
- 2 Mississippian is present across the area from just
- 3 about 500 feet thick to over 600 feet thick.
- 4 Again, this Siluro/Devonian section is
- 5 shown at the base of the cross-section, highlighted
- 6 in green. And we're overlaying by the Atoka/Morrow
- 7 section above the Mississippian.
- 8 Also, similar to the last cross-section,
- 9 the upper part of the Mississippian, highlighted by
- 10 the red dashed horizontal lines, that's where we'll
- 11 try to land our horizontal.
- 12 And then the last exhibit or the last page
- of this Exhibit 10 is a map on the Siluro/Devonian.
- 14 Again, the fault shown is in blue. Everything is
- 15 the same as the previous one, except that now we've
- 16 got a 40-acre proposed proration unit.
- 17 And you can see, at this scale, it looks
- 18 like we're right on the line. We're actually -- I
- 19 think we're about 40 or 80 feet inside the line, but
- 20 certainly nonstandard. That will be the proration
- 21 unit we're trying to assign to this proposed well
- 22 for the Devonian.
- Q. And again, for the Goodnight No. 1 in
- 24 Section 1, you moved the well to the south to avoid
- 25 that fault in the Devonian?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. In your opinion, will each quarter section
- 3 attributed to the Mississippian horizontal be
- 4 productive in the Mississippian?
- 5 A. That's our thesis, yes.
- 6 Q. And could you describe just briefly -- you
- 7 did arrange to e-mail the directional drilling plans
- 8 to the Examiner last night. But could you explain
- 9 briefly how the horizontal portion of the wellbore
- 10 will be drilled and completed?
- 11 A. In each case, with the slight exception of
- 12 this on Exhibit 9, the Loving Well, which was
- 13 previously described, we're directionally drilling
- 14 that pilot hole slightly.
- But in each case, every well will have a
- 16 pilot hole. We'll drill down on top of the San
- 17 Andres in each case roughly 2,200 feet, set our
- 18 intermediate. And then drill down, tag into the
- 19 Siluro/Devonian 25 or 40 feet, depending upon what
- 20 the well tells us, and then we'll log that portion.
- 21 Then we will plug back and kick off
- 22 somewhere around 5,700 feet or so near the base of
- 23 the Abo section and directionally drill these
- 24 wells -- I think it's 10 degrees per 100 build --
- 25 and land these in this upper portion of the

- 1 Mississippian, and then take them out to a legal
- 2 location at the edge of the proposed proration unit.
- Roughly, you know, measured depth, that's
- 4 going to vary with each well from 11,100 to -- I
- 5 think in one case, it may be over 13,000 feet. And
- 6 that will be the end of that well.
- 7 And then we will set 7-inch casing to the
- 8 base of the curve. And after we drill the lateral,
- 9 we'll attempt an open-hole acid frac completion in
- 10 the Mississippian for gas. Hopefully, we'll
- 11 encounter a fractured section.
- Q. Were Exhibits 9 and 10 prepared by you or
- 13 under your supervision?
- 14 A. They were prepared by me.
- 15 Q. And in your opinion, is the granting of
- 16 these applications in the interest of conservation
- 17 and the prevention of waste?
- 18 A. Yes.
- MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I'd move the
- 20 admission of Exhibits 9 and 10.
- THE EXAMINER: Exhibits 9 and 10 are
- 22 admitted.
- 23 (Devon Exhibits 9 and 10 were admitted.)
- 24 MR. BRUCE: I have no further questions of
- 25 the witness.

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1
               THE EXAMINER: Thank you.
               Mr. Brooks.
 2
               MR. BROOKS: Are you going to have an
 3
 4
     engineering witness, Mr. Bruce?
 5
               MR. BRUCE: No, sir, we're not.
 6
               MR. BROOKS: So any technical questions
     will be addressed to this witness.
 8
               As I understood you describe your drilling
 9
     plan, the kickoff point is not going to be in the
     Mississippian formation? It will be in the Abo
10
11
     formation; is that correct?
12
               THE WITNESS: I think that's where we will
13
     start the build, yes.
14
               MR. BROOKS: And you know, first off,
15
     these pilot hole -- and this question arose because
16
     when we were discussing the first case, I believe
17
     that it's 14528, Mr. Bruce indicated that the bottom
18
     hole location of the pilot hole in the Devonian was
19
     going to be different from the surface location.
20
               THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
21
               MR. BROOKS: And is that going to be true
22
     in the other wells?
23
               THE WITNESS: No.
24
               MR. BROOKS: All the other wells will be
25
     vertical?
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- 1 THE WITNESS: Yes, that's right.
- 2 MR. BROOKS: All right. As close as --
- 3 and I understand there's no such thing as a vertical
- 4 well.
- 5 THE WITNESS: As we all understand
- 6 vertical, right.
- 7 MR. BROOKS: Okay. Now, what we need, and
- 8 we probably need this only because we state these
- 9 things and keep account of them. But we will need
- 10 you to supply us with an estimate of the footage
- 11 locations of the point of penetration into the
- 12 Mississippian for each of these wells.
- Now, I don't think that anything would
- 14 have to be done, so far as changing the order, if
- 15 you miss the estimate, which probably will happen to
- 16 some extent, as long as both the estimated and the
- 17 actual point of penetration are within the producing
- 18 area. So it's not an outstanding --
- 19 THE WITNESS: I believe we submitted that
- 20 as part of our ATD --
- MR. BROOKS: Now, do you have that
- 22 information in the materials --
- 23 THE WITNESS: It's in the ATD. I'm not
- 24 sure it's in the materials. But we have it, and I
- 25 can get them to you probably today.

- 1 MR. BROOKS: Okay. I think that's all I
- 2 have, Mr. Warnell.
- 3 THE EXAMINER: Okay, all right.
- 4 Mr. McKinney, let's talk a little bit more. You
- 5 said you're going to start in the Abo?
- 6 THE WITNESS: More or less, yes. That's
- 7 the plan.
- 8 THE EXAMINER: And make your bend into the
- 9 Mississippian. You're going to be setting 7-inch?
- 10 THE WITNESS: At the base of the curve,
- 11 that is correct.
- 12 THE EXAMINER: At the base of the curve.
- 13 And then it will be open hole completion beyond
- 14 that?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. Well, it's
- 16 uncemented, I should say. We won't cement. We'll
- 17 put a slotted liner down there.
- 18 THE EXAMINER: I don't believe I have any
- 19 more questions at this time.
- MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I'd ask you to
- 21 take these matters under advisement, except for
- 22 Case 14528, which needs to be continued to
- 23 September 16th, in order to take care of an error in
- 24 the advertisement which was corrected a couple of
- 25 weeks ago. So it doesn't need to be continued

- 1 longer than that.
- THE EXAMINER: Okay. We're going to
- 3 supplement the record with the point of penetration.
- And you asked for something else, didn't
- 5 you?
- 6 MR. BROOKS: I don't recall. Did I ask
- 7 for anything else? I mean the record will reflect
- 8 if I did. I don't remember. I think I was just
- 9 clarifying most of the stuff, and it seems to be in
- 10 there.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Mr. Examiner, we'll submit
- 12 those to you in an explicit form. But I believe
- 13 that yesterday we e-mailed you our directional plan,
- 14 and it's written in there.
- 15 THE EXAMINER: It's in there?
- 16 THE WITNESS: It's kind of buried in
- 17 there. So we may just submit another simple written
- 18 to make it very clear. But it's in there. You just
- 19 have to dig.
- THE EXAMINER: Okay, good. So we'll
- 21 continue Case 14528 to September 16th. And we will
- 22 take under advisement Case Nos. 14534, 14535, 14536,
- 23 and 14537.
- 24 (The hearing concluded at 10:06 a.m.)

25