

EXXON COMPANY, U.S.A.

POST OFFICE BOX 1600 • MIDLAND, TEXAS 79702-1600

PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT
SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION

October 10, 1994

Re: Yates Letter: Sept. 6, 1994
Avalon (Delaware) Field, Eddy Co., N.M.

David Boneau, Reservoir Engineering Supervisor
Yates Petroleum Corporation
105 S. Fourth Street
Artesia, N. M. 88210

Dear Mr. Boneau:

One of the action items from our 6/17/94 Working Interest Owners' Meeting was for you to provide an alternative Equity Formula.

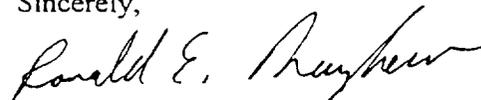
We have reviewed your proposal dated September 6, 1994. Instead of immediately circulating your letter, followed by our response, to the Working Interest Owners (WIO's) we believe it would be simpler if Yates and Exxon attempt to reach agreement on these matters, or at least clarify our positions as much as possible, prior to transmitting to WIOs. Our fundamental difference lies in equity resulting from how Phase 1 and 2 are defined. The waterflood is the reason the Unit has value to all of us and your representation of Phase 1 would be acceptable to us for the waterflood. The CO₂ flood has some probability of happening/not happening and your representation of Phase 2 is acceptable if a CO₂ flood is in the future at Avalon.

If your proposal is modified as follows we could support it:

- **Reference Item 4, your letter:** We prefer to vote for a Phase change coincident with WIO's agreeing to proceed with a CO₂ flood. However, if this is a problem, a compromise we would offer is to revise the automatic phase change date closer to an risked CO₂ injection date, such as the earlier of 12/31/2004 or the actual date of CO₂ injection.
- **Clarification, Item 5:** Investment equalization is not covered. It would seem consistent to treat it similar to Capital Expenditures, basing it on Phase 2 participation.
- **Clarification if Premier Acreage not in Unit:** Attachment 2 in your letter assumes a similar development plan if Premier acreage is not in the Unit. If Premier is not in the unit the 20 acre swath adjoining their 4 tracts could not be flooded; therefore, those reserves in those tracts would not be included in the calculation.

Our response to other areas of interest to you and other owners from our Working Interest Owners meeting are summarized in Attachment I. If these counterproposals are acceptable to you we will circulate the correspondence to all owners and request a vote under the pre-unit voting agreement.

Sincerely,



Ronald E. Mayhew
Avalon Project Manager