



NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Hearing

9:00 a.m., August 20, 1953

MR. CHRISTIE: My name is R. S. Christie, engineer for the Amerada Petroleum Corporation, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

This is an application to drill in exception to the order for Knowles Pool - - drill a well in the Knowles Pool in exception to order No. R-23 and R-40, which applies to the Knowles field.

Order No. R-23 provides that wells shall be drilled on a uniform pattern on an 80-acre proration unit. As Exhibit No. 1, I present a copy of Order R-23.

MR. SPURRIER: It will be admitted.

MR. CHRISTIE: Order No. R-40 is a supplemental order for the Knowles field which provides for a double allowable on 80-acre tracts. As Exhibit No. 2, I would like to present a copy of Order No. 40.

MR. SPURRIER: It will be admitted.

MR. CHRISTIE: Under the present orders issued on the Knowles field, we drilled a well on pattern in the NW/4 SE/4, known as the Hamilton A No. 1 and the well was started on October 16, 1952 and completed January 27, 1953 as a dry hole. The well was drilled to a depth of 12,309 feet. The Devonian was never encountered. It is estimated that the top of the Devonian is at approximately 13,080 feet. As you know, the base of the present producing wells is below

the oil water contact.

As Exhibit No. 3, I would like to present data as to the Devonian in the field.

We would like to have an exception to the existing order with respect to our well in the NE/4 SE/4 of Township 16 South, Range 38 East. In order to meet changing conditions, to prevent inequity and to preserve correlative rights, we suggest that there should be granted an exception to Rules - - Order No. R23 and 40, which would permit the drilling of a well in the NE/4 SE/4 of Section 34.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Christie; in your application there is no mention made of exception to Order R-23.

MR. CHRISTIE: Are you reading the - - -

MR. WHITE: No, I'm reading the publication "In the matter of the application of Amerada Petroleum Corporation for approval of an application to drill its No. 2, Hamilton 'A', NE/4 SE/4 of Section 34, Township 16 South, Range 38 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, said well being an exception to the spacing order for the Knowles Pool as set out in Order R-40, and to determine the allowable to be assigned said well."

MR. CHRISTIE: I believe that is an error because it should have cited the original order.

MR. SPURRIER: You mean R-23?

MR. CHRISTIE: R-23, that's right.

MR. GRAHAM: What unit well is in that particular 80?

MR. CHRISTIE: It was a dry hole on that particular unit which was drilled on pattern, and it was a direct offset No. 1.

MR. SPURRIER: Are there any further questions of the witness?

MR. WHITE: Have the adjoining owners been contacted on this?

MR. CHRISTIE: No, they haven't.

MR. WHITE: Who owns the 80 acres immediately to the east?

MR. CHRISTIE: The Amerada Petroleum Company.

MR. SPURRIER: If there are no further questions, the witness may be excused.

Is there anyone else to be heard in this case? If not, we will take it under advisement and move on to case 568.