

BEFORE THE  
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Hobbs, New Mexico  
October 31, 1956

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IN THE MATTER OF: \*  
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CASE 1171 \*  
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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE  
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Hobbs, New Mexico  
October 31, 1956

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IN THE MATTER OF:

The application of Neil H. Wills for approval of six (6) unorthodox well locations in the Russell Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico, in exception to Rule 104 (c) of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission Rules and Regulations. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order authorizing the following unorthodox well locations in Section 13, Township 20 South, Range 28 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, in the Russell Pool.

- Well No. 26: 1305 feet from North line and 1980 feet from East line.
- Well No. 27: 1325 feet from South line and 660 feet from West line.
- Well No. 28: 1325 feet from South line and 1315 feet from West line.
- Well No. 29: 1325 feet from South line and 5 feet from West line.
- Well No. 30: 660 feet from South line and 5 feet from West line.
- Well No. 31: 660 feet from South line and 1315 feet from West line.

CASE NO. 1171

Well No. 26 is a producing oil well and Wells No. 27 through No. 31 are proposed water injection wells to implement the applicant's water flood program in the Russell Pool as authorized by Order R-263 and R-899.

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BEFORE:

Warren W. Mankin, Examiner

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

EXAMINER MANKIN: The next and last case on the Docket today is Case No. 1171.

CURLEY: Case 1171, the application of Neil H. Wills for approval of six (6) unorthodox well locations in the Russel Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico, in exception to Rule 104 (c) of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission's Rules and Regulations.

NEIL H. WILLS

having first been duly sworn in testified as follows:

WILLS: I have not brought in any Exhibits and I don't know just exactly what to talk about on this application because its very apparent what I want on the application itself. I would be glad to answer any questions however, that might come up.

GURLEY: You're asking for six (6) unorthodox locations, is that correct Mr. Wills?

A. Thats right.

Q. And what is the reason that you want these locations approved?

A. Well, in the case of Well No. 26, I want the location approved in order to be able to produce No. 26 Well. The 26 Well was drilled originally as a gas input well, and since we have abandoned our gas repressuring of about two months ago, we want to - - - - in fact, we have converted the well into an oil well, and this application probably should have been made two months ago, this thing just slipped my mind because it is a non-standard location, and therefore I should have had approval and it just slipped my mind, actually it has been producing about two months. The other five locations are possible water input wells to supplement the flood at the south end of the field. We are having trouble getting water in the sand in the south end of the field and we are going to try to drill at least one and see if a different completion than in the original oil well - - - - - you see the original oil wells were, the pipe was set about sixty or seventy feet above the sand and shot, and we've had some Thies zones apparently around the sand in the south end. We have'nt had the trouble at the north end, so if this new well - - - - - or well that we may drill, we will run pipe through the sand and gas perforate, and get our water exactly the way we want it, into the sand exactly the way we want it, thats the reason for the last five.

EXAMINER MANKIN: Then these five unorthodox well locations, Mr. Wills, are to supplement the water flood already in progress?

A. Thats right.

Q. In the Russel Pool?

A. Right.

EXAMINER MANKIN: You're going to try the wells and put - - - - - and drill just one well at the time to determine what is necessary for water injection?

A. Well, my present plan was to drill only one to see if we are able then to get water in the sand sucessfully. It will probably be Well No. 27, and if it looks like we are able to get water in the sand, then we would probably like to drill all of those, the whole five, but certainly we will only drill one at this time but it seemed like it was silly to get approval for one and then come back later and get approval for the other 4. I thought I would do it all at once. - - - - -

GURLEY: Well, it is a strong possibility that you won't drill the remaining wells, is that correct sir?

A. No, I rather think we'll drill them all, but we are not sure until we try one.

GURLEY: Have you received permission from the USGS on drilling these wells?

A. I have'nt asked for permission.

Q. This is federal acreage though - - - - -

A. Its federal acreage, I assume that they would ask that I get permission from the Conservation first. I don't believe there will be any problem in getting their permission.

Q. And you have already drilled Well 27?

A. Years ago, we drilled probably in '48 as a gas input well. Its never been a producing oil well until the last month or so.

WILLS: (Continued) I think it was taken off about two months ago and probably on the last month.

EXAMINER MANKIN: I don't believe that your application indicated the name of the lease. You indicated that it was a federal lease, but does it not have a particular name, at the time it would be Well 26 through 31?

A. Well, the lease is in my name. Its Federal 050797, Las Cruces 050797 in my name, Neil Wills Lease.

Q. In spite of that, I mean does these wells not have a name other than your own which is carried as on the schedule or in this particular Russel Pool?

A. All my wells have been Neil Wills's et al, No. 1 Wills, and so on down.

Q. Oh, I see, then but the name is Wills?

A. Thats right.

Q. Wills is the name? I see.

A. Thats right.

Q. To reiterate here again, where is the water to come from for these water input wells? What source?

A. It comes from a lime zone thats about the base of the Yates, or about the top of the Reef as I have interpreted.

Q. At about what depth?

A. At about a 1,000 feet.

Q. At about a 1,000 feet?

A. The oil sand is at about 750 to 800 and the water around 1,000 to 1,100 depending on the position.

Q. So the water source is from below the producing or flooded interval?

A. Thats right.

Q. You said it was coming from the base of the Yates whereas the production is also from the Yates, is'nt it?

A. Top sand in the Yates.

Q. Top sand in the Yates?

A. I presume that they would call it the top of the Seven Rivers, the water zone. The fluid zone is found in every well drilled as far as I know in that area from Carlsbad to Lea. You see their oil - - - - - its also the Getty Oil Zone or the Barbar Oil Zone, thats the zone that produces oil farther east.

Q. These locations which you have proposed here, for 26 which is already drilled and for 27 through 31 which may be drilled now are not on a quarter quarter section line, is that correct?

A. Thats right, I have set them out five feet from the corner in each case.

Q. So they can be put in a particular unit?

A. Thats right. In fact, the first wells - - - - - 27, 28 and 29 would be Unit L and Well 30 and 31 would be Unit M. of Section 13. Well 26 is in Unit B of Section 13.

Q. Is there a question of the witness in this case? If there is nothing further, the witness may be excused and we will take the case under advisement. The hearing is adjourned.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO        )  
                                  :    ss  
COUNTY OF SANTA FE        )

I, Doris Arnold, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached transcript of proceedings before the New Mexico Oil Commission Examiner at Hobbs, New Mexico, is a true and correct record, to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

Dated at Santa Fe, New Mexico this 8th day of January, 1957.

Doris Arnold