

BEFORE THE  
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Aztec, New Mexico  
January 24, 1957

IN THE MATTER OF:

Case No. 1201

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

120 East Chaco

Aztec, NEW MEXICO

REGISTER

HEARING DATE January 24, 1957 TIME: 10:00 a.m.

NAME:	REPRESENTING:	LOCATION:
Warren W Rutz	Magnolia Petroleum Co.	Farmington, N. Mex.
St. Hainey	El Paso Natural Gas	El Paso.
H. M. Rodgers	"	Farmington
W. B. SMITH	PHILLIPS PETRO. Co	"
De Lasso Loos	Blockwood & Nichols Co	Durango, Colo.
W. J. Linton	Blockwood & Nichols Co	Durango, Colo.
J. E. Atkins	✓	✓
Tom Rugan	Pacific Northwest	Farmington
Richard Gray	" "	Salt Lake City, Utah
George Pappin	" "	Farmington
Donald L. Anderson	" "	Salt Lake City, Utah
Rudy Motto	Southern Union	Farmington
Rodney Heath	" "	"
H. L. Kendrick	El Paso	Farmington

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NAME:	REPRESENTING:	LOCATION:

BEFORE THE  
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
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IN THE MATTER OF:

THE APPLICATION OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION FOR AN ORDER EXCEPTING CERTAIN WELLS IN THE BLANCO-MESAVERDE GAS POOL, SAN JUAN AND RIO ARriba COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO, FROM THE REQUIREMENT OF ANNUAL DELIVERABILITY TESTS FOR 1956 IN EXCEPTION TO ORDER R-333-C AND D; OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE, TO EXTEND THE PROVISIONS OF ORDER R-901 TO MARCH 1, 1957. APPLICANT, IN THE ABOVE-STYLED CAUSE, SEEKS AN ORDER EXCEPTING APPROXIMATELY 67 GAS WELLS, WHICH WERE CONNECTED TO ITS GATHERING SYSTEM IN THE BLANCO-MESAVERDE GAS POOL PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1, 1956, FROM THE REQUIREMENT OF AN ANNUAL DELIVERABILITY TEST FOR 1956 AND PERMITTING THE ASSIGNMENT OF ALLOWABLES FOR ALL WELLS CONNECTED TO PACIFIC'S GATHERING SYSTEM DURING 1956 ON THE BASIS OF THEIR INITIAL DELIVERABILITY TESTS; OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE TO EXTEND THE PROVISIONS OF ORDER R-901 TO MARCH 1, 1957.

CASE NO. 1201

TRANSCRIPT OF EXAMINER HEARING

MR. MANKIN: The next and last case on the Docket is Case No. 1201, application of Pacific Northwest Pipeline Corporation for an order excepting certain wells in the Blanco-Mesaverde Gas Pool, San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico, from the requirements of annual deliverability tests for 1956 in exception to Order R-333-C and D; or in the alternative, to extend the provisions of Order R-901 to March 1, 1957. Would you stand and be sworn again Mr. Dugan?

THOMAS A. DUGAN

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

By MR. MANKIN

Q Would you state your name for the record, please.

A Thomas A. Dugan, Engineer with Pacific Northwest Pipeline Corporation.

Q Proceed.

A Pacific Northwest Pipeline Corporation has connected approximately 66 wells located in the Blanco - Mesaverde Gas Pool to its gathering system in New Mexico prior to November 1, 1956. 51 of these wells were connected during the last week of October, 1956. Pacific has a considerable difficulty in getting satisfactory annual deliverability tests on these wells, because of the fluctuation of the low demand, mechanical difficulties, and the many inherent problems involved in starting the delivery of gas through a new system. Pacific would like to request that the 1956 annual deliverability tests be waived on the 66 wells, on a portion 66 wells, which were connected to our system prior to November 1 and that portion being on wells which we have not filed annual tests on. We request that that portion be waived and that the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission accept initial deliverability tests and grant allowable on these wells which were connected to our system during 1956. Therefore, Pacific requests that the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission grant approval to take exception to Order R-333-C and D, Section A, Sub-section 2, Section A Sub-section 3, Article A, Paragraph 3. If the above request is denied, Pacific would then like an extension to Order R-901 to April 1, 1957, instead of the March 1, which was requested in our original letter for the hearing.

Q You are at this time requesting that your application be amended as pertains Order R-901 for the extension of that order to be instead of March 1, 1957, to be April 1, 1957?

A Yes sir.

Q Is there objection to amendment of that application at this time? If not, it will be so accepted. Did you have anything else Mr. Dugan?

A No, that is all. That is all the statement I have although, we have found that the wells connected to our system, there have been 16 annual tests filed, and we would like for these tests to remain in force. Now, of the remaining, we have as

of this day we have a hundred wells in New Mexico in the Blanco Mesaverde Pool connected to our line, and we would like to file initial deliverability tests on these remaining wells and that the tests be treated as an initial and when the 1957 annual deliverability test is taken that it will supersede the 1956 tests immediately as in ordinary cases in initial deliverability tests.

Q Is there anything further Mr. Dugan?

A To make that a little clearer, 66 wells connected to our line prior to November 1, there are 50 wells, that we have not filed the annual deliverability test on in lieu of, and those are the 50 wells which will be in question at the present time of course there is no question about the wells connected after November 1, as to the initial deliverability tests being applicable for those wells.

Q So you are only requesting for those 50 wells at this - be granted?

A Yes.

Q You did say however, there was approximately 34 additional wells that have been hooked on since November 1, that was not the subject of this extension which you will comply with the rules on deliverability tests?

A Yes, that is correct.

Q Is there further question of the witness?

MR. UTZ: Mr. Dugan, have you filed any initial potential tests or initial deliverability tests on these 50 wells as of today?

A Yes, we have filed 71 tests - initial deliverability tests, along with the 16 annuals, so that would leave us 5 that are in the process of being calculated and 8 that are in the process of the actual tests, which that leaves a total of 13 wells that have not been filed to date.

MR. UTZ: Of the 50 wells, that you are asking for an exception to, how many of these tests have been filed as an initial deliverabilities test?

A There are 3 with the actual tests in process now and I believe that there are four that are being calculated at the present time, which makes it a total of 7 of the 15 that have not been filed.

MR. UTZ: And these 7 are in the process of being taken now?

A Yes sir.

MR. UTZ: How soon do you think you can get those in?

A Well, the four that are being calculated, they should be in within a week, and are being mailed today, and of the 3, one of those we can get the tests in within a 10 day period, probably. The other two because of mechanical difficulties is questionable when we will be able to complete the tests.

MR. UTZ: I am just a little hazy as to exactly what you are asking for in regard to these two wells which you are not sure of when you can report a test on. As you know, they are already quite delinquent, would you expect an allowable retroactive to November 1, on these wells, even though they were not filed within the next 30 days?

A No sir, not on these 2 wells.

MR. UTZ: Then you are not applying for an exception on these two wells insofar as retroactive allowables?

A No, there is no accumulative production and we are not seeking to build up any overproduction.

MR. UTZ: If the Commission agrees to accept the initial deliverability tests in lieu of annual tests, as requested in your application here, it is your understanding that all wells so tested and so reported will receive an allowable as of 11/1/57, is that correct? 56?

A That is right.

MR. UTZ: With the exception these two wells, which you say you are not asking for retroactive allowables on, if we grant you the authority to use initial, in lieu of annual tests, will this suffice for any deviation we might have to make as to regular procedure in order to allow you to get on stream? In other words, will this solve your problem insofar as getting these wells on stream?

A It will solve our testing problems, yes.

MR. UTZ: Well, I think that is all we are talking about. Can you tell me, can you give me the names and locations of the two wells?

A Yes, I can. They are Unit 29-6 Well No. 20-8, located in the SW/4 of Section 8, Township 29 North, Range 6 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, the second well in Unit 30-5 Well No. 14-31, located in the NE/4 of Section 31, Township 30 North, Range 5 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

MR. UTZ: That is all I have.

MR. MANKIN: Mr. Rainey.

MR. RAINEY: David Rainey, of El Paso Natural Gas Company. Mr. Dugan, I would like to ask one or two clarifying questions. When do you anticipate you will be able to take these annual tests on the 50 some odd wells?

A You mean the annual tests for 1957?

MR. RAINEY: That is right. Are you going to give those preference over the other wells to get those tests in or are you going to just test them in the normal course of the testing period?

A Well, we have not made out a testing schedule, for 1957, although at the present time we are planning on following the normal course on the deliverability tests.

MR. RAINEY: One other question, it is my understanding that you stated that at such a time as you did get annual tests that if the relief asked for is granted here, that those tests would immediately supersede the initial deliverability tests rather than being used to next February, 1958.

A I believe that would be the case with any initial deliverability test.

MR. ARNOLD: I believe that would be first the month following when we get the tests.

A Yes, that is right.

Q Is there further question of the witness?

MR. ARNOLD: I would like to ask a question about wells that you have connected since, November 1, which you were also granted relief on under Order R-901 insofar as the 45 day period is concerned. To get the test in, are you going to be alright on those - In other words -

A Well, we have filed tests on all wells that were connected after November 1, with the exception of six wells, and those tests are now in progress and four of the wells were connected the last week in December to our line.

MR. ARNOLD: They wouldn't be delinquent would they?

A No.

MR. ARNOLD: So you won't need any further relief on those wells, will you?

A No sir, I do not believe we will.

MR. ARNOLD: I believe that is all I have.

Q Is there further question of the witness? If there is no further question of the witness, the witness may be excused, any statements to be made in this case? If not, we will take the case under advisement and the hearing is adjourned.

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