

DEARNLEY-MEIER REPORTING SERVICE, Inc.

PHONE CH 3-6691

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

BEFORE THE
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Santa Fe, New Mexico
November 10, 1959

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:)

Application of John H. Trigg to include)
additional acreage in his water flood pro-)
ject in the Caprock-Queen Pool. Applicant)
in the above-styled cause, seeks an order)
including the SE/4 of Section 34, Township)
13 South, Range 31 East, in the John H.)
Trigg water flood project in the Caprock-)
Queen Pool, Lea and Chaves Counties, New)
Mexico.)

Case 1808

BEFORE:

Elvis A. Utz, Examiner

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

MR. UTZ: The next case will be 1808.

MR. FLINT: Application of John H. Trigg to include
additional acreage in his water flood project in the Caprock-
Queen Pool.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Examiner, I'm Jack M. Campbell,
Campbell and Russell, Roswell, New Mexico, appearing on behalf
of the Apolicant. I have one witness.

(Witness sworn.)

GENE A. SNOW

called as a witness, having been previously duly sworn, testi-
fied as follows:



DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. CAMPBELL:

Q Will you state your name, please?

A Gene A. Snow.

Q Where do you live, Mr. Snow?

A Maljamar, New Mexico.

Q By whom are you employed, what capacity?

A John H. Trigg, as Production Superintendent.

Q Have you testified previously before this Commission or its Examiners?

A Yes, sir, I have.

Q Did you testify before an Examiner in Case No. 1714 which was the original application of John H. Trigg for a water flood project?

A Yes, sir, I did.

Q At the time that that request was made, Mr. Snow, did you request of the Commission that it include in the project area of that particular water flood project the Southeast Quarter of Section 34, Township 13 South, Range 31 East?

A Yes, sir, I did.

Q Did you advise the Examiner at that time that a line agreement was being entered into between Cities Service Oil Company and John H. Trigg in connection with the placing of two of the wells in that quarter section on injection?

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A Yes, sir, I believe so.

Q And that Cities Service and that John H. Trigg was to place certain wells in his Section 4 on injection as a Cities Service project approached that area from the east?

A Yes, sir.

Q Was that Southeast Quarter of Section 34 excluded from the area approved by the Commission in this water flood?

A Yes, it was.

Q I refer you to what has been identified as Applicant's Exhibit No. 1 in this case and ask you to state what that is.

A That is a portion of the Caprock-Queen Field showing the Trigg water flood outlined in yellow, the Cities Service water flood outlined in blue, and a portion of the Great Western proposed project outlined in red.

Q The Southeast Quarter of Section 34 which you seek to include in the John H. Trigg water flood project area is adjacent to the southern portion of the Great Western water flood, is it?

A Yes, it is.

Q And it is surrounded on three sides by the Cities Service water flood, is it not?

A That's right.

Q Do you have any information concerning the present status of the Cities Service project insofar as the wells in Section 3 are concerned?

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A Yes, sir, they are 16, 12 and 13, has received considerable increase from their pilot flood, also their wells 18, 20 and 22 have discontinued to decline as you would expect primary production to do.

Q Are other wells on injection in Section 3?

A Yes, sir. Their No. 10, 14, 5 and 6 and they propose to put 21 and 17 on.

Q Do you say there has been some reaction to water flood in their Well No. 12?

A Yes, sir, considerable.

Q Does that normally lead to placing an offset well on injection in order to back up the increased production?

A Yes, it does.

Q Would you anticipate that some of the wells in the northern tier of Section 3 will be placed on injection within a short period of time?

A Yes, sir, I would say their 20 and possibly their No. 1-C would be placed on injection.

Q Now, what wells in Section 34 of the John H. Trigg Federal Lease there in the Southeast Quarter would be placed on injection under your line agreement?

A No. 1 and 3.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Examiner, that's all I have at this time. I don't know the reason, the particular reason why

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Section 34 of the Southeast Quarter was excluded in the original order. I presume because it wasn't contiguous. I don't know any particular reason why that is the case, but certainly it is apparent now that that tract is surrounded by the Cities Service project and a line agreement was referred to in the original hearing and it was apparent that this particular quarter section was in fact a part of the Trigg operations and that he had worked out a line agreement with Cities Service to place two wells in his area on injection, and also they're going to place two wells in his quarter section on injection.

I don't know exactly under this new order what the procedure is. It seems to me that one of several things possibly could be requested. Inasmuch as it was pointed out in the original hearing that this tract was owned by Trigg, was not a part of the Cities Service project, was requested to be included in the Trigg project, it would seem to me that it very reasonably could be added to the project at this time.

If that cannot be done, it seems to me that under the circumstances it is a reasonable extension of the existing area which is permitted, as I understand it, under the rule that has just been issued in connection with the statewide water flood rules.

MR. UTZ: As a buffer zone you mean?

MR. CAMPBELL: The third alternative would be the buffer zone. It would seem to me that in view of what has



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transpired before in connection with this particular quarter section that it would be perfectly proper simply to enter an order to the effect that at the time of the original order, since the Cities Service project had not proceeded to the extent it has now, that this was excluded at that time, but that since it is now moving and is adjacent to the tract that it should now be included as a part of the project area and come under the same order. I can't see anything wrong with that.

We would like to request in some manner that the Commission now do what we asked them to do the first time, and that is to include the quarter section as a part of this John H. Trigg project.

MR. NUTTER: What would you actually request, an order amending the original order to include that acreage?

MR., CAMPBELL: Yes. I can see no reason why it can't be done. If there is some reason why it can't, I see no reason why under the evidence, the line agreement that has been entered into and the prior record in this case, that this is not a reasonable extension of the existing project area which would bring it under the present statewide rule. The third alternative would be a buffer zone inasmuch as Cities Service is operating under the old rules. We don't care particularly which one it is, but we do feel under all the circumstances it ought now to be included in the John H. Trigg project area.



MR. UTZ: Does that conclude your direct?

MR. CAMPBELL: Yes, sir. I would like to offer the Exhibit No. 1 in evidence.

MR. UTZ: Without objection it will be entered.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. UTZ:

Q Mr. Snow, have you received any response from any wells in this quarter section in question?

A Our production has increased in the last three months, ~~whether~~ it can be attributed to the Cities Service pilot flood for certain I can't say, but I think that's what it is because we haven't made no perimeter work, remedial work on the wells.

Q How much has increased?

A On the average, 2 barrels per well per day.

Q Now, the closest injection well to this acreage is where now?

A No. 10.

Q No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 are not injection wells, any of them are injection wells?

A You mean in the Cities Service?

Q Yes, sir, on the Government C.

A No, sir. The Government C No. 1 would be a proposed injection well, but at this time, no.

Q What are your immediate plans as to putting injection



wells in this quarter section?

A We have no immediate plans, but as Cities Service sees fit to back up their wells in order to protect correlative rights, we would have to commence injecting in ours also.

MR. UTZ: Any other questions of the witness?

MR. NUTTER: Yes, sir.

MR. UTZ: Mr. Nutter.

BY MR. NUTTER:

Q Mr. Snow, I believe you said that Cities Service has had a response in their No. 18, 20 and 22 to the extent that it had arrested the decline of the primary production?

A Yes, sir.

Q And your wells which are on beyond that have had an increase due to the water flood?

A Well, now, we're up some now, I suppose it's that. I don't know what else I could attribute it to.

Q That would be a bit unusual when your wells have had an increase in production due to the water flood and their wells have not had an increase but merely arrested the decline, wouldn't it?

A Well, now, let's take their Government B No. 18, in January their production test was 5 barrels per day. The September test was 14 barrels per day.

Q That's more than an arrest in the decline then?



A Yes.

Q It's increased too then, hasn't it?

A The Government B No. 20 January test was 17-1/4 barrels per day and their September test was 14 barrels per day. Now, under normal circumstances why the decline would be, would probably be greater than that.

Q How about the 22?

A In their January test was 34 barrels per day. Their September test was 30 barrels per day.

Q How about the tests on your wells there in the Southeast of 34, Mr. Snow?

A If you would like, I'll just read them for you from March through October.

Q Okay.

A March, 22.2.

Q That's all four of them?

A This's average per well per day. April, 20.5; May, 20.4; June, 18.2; July, 18.3; August, 20.3; September, 20.3; October, 20.2.

Q Have they all performed more or less the same or has there been a --

A Well, about the same. I can give you individual tests for September for our gas-oil ratio test. The No. 1 produced 21 barrels per day, the No. 2, 29, the No. 3, 11, the No. 4, 25.

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There's been no jump in production in any certain well, they're just all about the same.

Q Do you have an earlier test on an individual basis?

A Not with me.

Q Has Cities Service actually put their No. 17 and 21 wells on injection, do you know?

A Monday they had completed logging and they had put their tubing that they planned to inject water through back in the oil and they're laying line right now.

Q Have you started injection in your No. 5 and 7 wells yet?

A No, sir, we have the line laid, we have the wells cleaned out and logged and the plastic lined tubing installed in the well and we are just waiting on Cities Service.

Q Now, what will be the location of the injection plant for injection of water in the Southeast of 34?

A To save expense, Cities Service proposes to furnish us water for 1 and 3; we in turn will furnish them water for the Kerr-McGee Government A No. 1, and the Cities Service No. C No. 7. We'll supply them a like amount.

Q Have you had any discussions with Cities Service as to the expected time that No. 13, 16 or 20 will be put on injection?

A No, sir, I have not, but going by their, by the stimulation that they have had, it would be in the very near future.

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Their No. 13 has increased from 19 barrels per day to 30 barrels per day.

Q How's their 112 done, do you know?

A No. 12?

Q Yes.

A 11.4 in January to 55 in September.

Q And No. 16?

A 10.6 in January to 42 in September.

Q So those wells have had a rather substantial response, haven't they?

A Yes, sir, they have.

MR. NUTTER: I believe that's all, thank you.

BY MR. FLINT:

Q Mr. Snow, is there any injection or response to injection in that portion of the Great Western flood in Section 34?

A No, sir. I don't believe that there has been.

Q Just on the basis of your experience and general knowledge, are you familiar with any water floods in the State of New Mexico that are comprised of non-continuous acreage or any extensions of floods which include non-continuous acreage?

A I'm not familiar with any.

MR. FLINT: That's all.

MR. UTZ: Are there other questions? If not, the witness may be excused.



