

1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO
2 ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
3 OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
4 STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
5 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

6 12 April 1989

7 EXAMINER HEARING

8 IN THE MATTER OF:

9 In the matter of cases called on this
10 date and continued or dismissed with-
11 out testimony presented.

CASES
9643
9645
9636
9637
9648
9649
9572
9573

12 BEFORE: Michael E. Stogner, Examiner
13
14
15

16 TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

17 A P P E A R A N C E S
18

19 For the Division:

20 Robert G. Stovall
21 Attorney at Law
22 Legal Counsel to the Division
23 State Land Office Bldg.
24 Santa Fe, New Mexico
25

I N D E X

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CASE 9648	7
CASE 9549	8
CASE 9572	9
CASE 9573	10

1 MR. STOGNER: This hearing
2 will come to order for Docket No. 11-89. Today's date is
3 April 12th, 1989. I am Michael E. Stogner, the hearing
4 officer today.

5 I'll go through the continued
6 cases first. We have three OCD cases, the May allowable, a
7 plugging case and a nomenclature. We'll move those up to
8 three and I understand that there is a party here opposing
9 Sun and we'll move that to the end of the docket.

10 I'll call first Case Number
11 9643, which is the application of Steve Sell for direction-
12 al drilling and an unorthodox gas well location, Eddy
13 County, New Mexico.

14 The applicant has requested
15 that this case be continued, at which time it will be read-
16 vertised for the April 26th, 1980 hearing.

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18 (Hearing concluded.)
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1 MR. STOGNER: Call next Case
2 Number 9645, which is the application of BP Exploration,
3 Incorporated, for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New
4 Mexico.

5 The applicant has requested
6 that this case be continued to the Examiner Hearing sche-
7 duled for May 10th, 1989.

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9 Hearing concluded.)
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1 MR. STOGNER: Call next Case
2 Number 9636, which is the application of Grand Resources,
3 Incorporated for statutory unitization, San Juan County,
4 New Mexico.

5 At the applicant's request
6 this case will be continued to the Examiner's hearing
7 scheduled for April 26, 1989.

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(Hearing concluded.)

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1 MR. STOGNER: Call next Case
2 Number 9637, which is the application of Grand Resources,
3 Incorporated, for waterflood project, San Juan County, New
4 Mexico.

5 At the applicant's request
6 this case will be continued to the Examiner's hearing
7 scheduled for April 26, 1989.

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(Hearing concluded.)

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1 MR. STOGNER: I'll call next
2 Case Number 9648, which is the application of Meridian Oil,
3 Incorporated to amend Division Order No. R-8868, Rio Arriba
4 County, New Mexico.

5 At the applicant's request
6 this case will be continued to the Examiner's hearing
7 scheduled for April 26th, 1989.

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9 (Hearing concluded.)
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1 MR. STOGNER: Call next Case
2 Number 9649, which is the application of Meridian Oil, In-
3 corporated for an unorthodox coal gas well location in San
4 Juan County, New Mexico.

5 At the applicant's request
6 this case will be continued to the Examiner's Hearing
7 scheduled for April 26, 1989.

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(Hearing concluded.)

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1 MR. STOGNER: I'll call next
2 Case Number 9572, which is the application of Dugan Pro-
3 duction Corporation for a nonstandard gas proration unit,
4 San Juan County, New Mexico.

5 At the applicant's request
6 this case will be continued to the Examiner's hearing
7 scheduled for May 24th, 1989.

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9 (Hearing concluded.)

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1 MR. STOGNER: I'll call next
2 Case Number 9573, which is the application of Dugan Produc-
3 tion Corporation for a nonstandard gas proration unit in
4 San Juan County, New Mexico.

5 At the applicant's request
6 this case will be continued to the Examiner's hearing
7 scheduled for May 24th, 1989.

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(Hearing concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SALLY W. BOYD, C. S. R. DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Transcript of Hearing before the Oil Conservation Division (Commission) was reported by me; that the said transcript is a full, true and correct record of the hearing, prepared by me to the best of my ability.

Sally W. Boyd CSR

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. 9643, 9645, 9656, 9681, 9648, 9649, 9572, 9573 heard by me on 12 April 1989.
M. F. [Signature], Examiner
Oil Conservation Division

1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO
2 ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
3 OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
4 STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
5 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

6 26 April 1989

7 EXAMINER HEARING

8 IN THE MATTER OF:

9 Application of Steve Sell for direct- CASE
10 ional drilling and an unorthodox gas 9643
11 well location, Eddy County, New Mexico.

12 BEFORE: David R. Catanach, Examiner

13 TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

14 A P P E A R A N C E S

15 For the Division:

16 Robert G. Stovall
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18 Legal Counsel to the Division
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20 Santa Fe, New Mexico

21 For Steve Sell:

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I N D E X

KURT BOLEY

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MR. CATANACH: At this time we'll call Case 9643.

MR. STOVALL: Application of Steve Sell for directional drilling and an unorthodox gas well location, Eddy County, New Mexico.

MR. CATANACH: Are there appearances in this case?

MR. KELLAHIN; Mr. Examiner, I'm Tom Kellahin of the Santa Fe law firm of Kellahin, Kellahin & Aubrey, appearing on behalf of the applicant and I have two witnesses to be sworn.

MR. CATANACH: Any other appearances?

(Witnesses sworn.)

KURT BOLEY,
being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. KELLAHIN:

Q Mr. Boley, would you state your name and occupation for the record?

A Kurt W. Boley.

1 Q How do you spell your last name, sir?

2 A B-O-L-E-Y.

3 Q And your first name?

4 A K-U-R-T, and I'm a geologist.

5 Q Mr. Boley, have you testified on a prior
6 occasion before the Oil Conservation Division as a petro-
7 leum geologist?

8 A Yes, I have.

9 Q And have you made a geologic study and
10 have come to geologic conclusions with regards to Mr.
11 Sell's application for directional drilling and an unor-
12 thodox gas well location in Eddy County, New Mexico?

13 A Yes, I have.

14 MR. KELLAHIN: We tender Mr.
15 Boley as an expert petroleum geologist.

16 MR. CATANACH: He is so qual-
17 ified.

18 Q Mr. Boley, let me have you take what is
19 marked as Exhibit Number One and have you identify that for
20 us.

21 A It's a land plat showing the mineral
22 interest ownerships of the surrounding sections to our two
23 leases.

24 Q The area outlined in the yellow outline
25 is what, sir?

1 A Section 34 and Section 35, Township 21
2 South, Range 24 East, and they're Steve Sell's two leases.

3 Q Where is the proposed surface location
4 of the well that you're seeking approval to drill?

5 A The surface location?

6 Q Yes, sir.

7 A It is in the southwest quarter of Sec-
8 tion 35.

9 Q The direction to which you seek to move
10 this well in an unorthodox direction is which way?

11 A To the west.

12 Q What are the primary potentially pro-
13 ductive formations that you're seeking approval to
14 penetrate and produce from?

15 A The Cisco and the Morrow.

16 Q When we deal with those formations in
17 this particular area, are you subject to any special pool
18 rules?

19 A Yes, the Indian Basin Pool rules.

20 Q Indian Basin Pool rules would require a
21 standard well to be located where, sir?

22 A 1650 from the outer boundaries of any
23 section and 330 from the interior 40, 40 acre (unclear).

24 Q In terms of the southern boundary of
25 Section 35, will your well be at a standard location as to

1 that boundary?

2 A As to the south boundary?

3 Q Yes, sir.

4 A Correct, yes, it will.

5 Q And so the boundary that you're en-
6 croaching is the boundary in Section 34.

7 A Correct.

8 Q Are the interest owners between Section
9 35 and 34 the same individuals and companies or are they
10 different?

11 A Exactly the same.

12 Q Are the percentages of ownership between
13 the two sections among those individuals and companies the
14 same?

15 A Yes, they are the same.

16 Q They are identical, are they not?

17 A Yes, they are.

18 Q Participants, then, in the revenues de-
19 rived from the well in the event it produces commercial
20 hydrocarbons will be shared in the same fashion as if a
21 well had been drilled in 34?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Yes, that is correct.

24 Q And do you have the consent and approval
25 of all the owners for the drilling of this well at the un-

1 orthodox location?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Let's turn now, sir, to Exhibit Number
4 Two, and you have put a copy of that display on the wall.
5 Let me have you go to that. Starting with Exhibit Number
6 Two, would you identify it before you describe it?

7 A This is a cross section, basically a
8 regional cross section, covering from Section 36, Township
9 21 South, Range 23 East, through Section 13 of Township 22
10 South, Range 24 East.

11 This cross section is on the top of the
12 Cisco. The formation highlighted in red is the top of the
13 Cisco. Do you want me to further explain it?

14 Q Well, explain the major conclusion you
15 reached from conducting a generally east/west cross sec-
16 tion through this area as identified on this display.
17 What's the major point?

18 A The major point is I'm showing three
19 biohermal highs from west to east.

20 The first biohermal high is -- well, it
21 encompasses Section 31, 32 of Township 21 South, Range 24
22 East, and basically 6 and part of Section 5 of Township 22
23 South, Range 24 East, and it shows approximately 250 feet
24 per mile of dip off of -- off the main Indian Basin Pool
25 itself in this bioherm, coming down, and we show another

1 nose here, which I've drawn in a prospect, and another
2 bioherm south, which is McKittrick Hills Upper Penn Pool.

3 Q When you talk about the bioherm here,
4 you're referring to the one that you've identified gener-
5 ally in the area of the Section 34 and 35, where the well
6 is to be located.

7 A Yes, that's correct.

8 Q All right. Now as we move to the south
9 and east there is a third bioherm identified on the dis-
10 play?

11 A Yes. The McKittrick Hills Upper Penn
12 Pool, there's one well in that particular field -- pool,
13 I'm sorry.

14 Q Having identified the bioherm within
15 Sections 34 and 35, have you determined where is the
16 optimum location in Section 35 to penetrate that bioherm
17 and hopefully obtain the greatest potential recovery of
18 hydrocarbons?

19 A Yes, I have, and I'll briefly -- could
20 we possibly move to this exhibit?

21 Q Sure, let's do that. Let's go to
22 Exhibits Number Three.

23 A This is a blown-up version of this area
24 showing it in greater detail.

25 Q I've drawn the bioherm here. Let me

1 give you some background on the wells around it just to
2 show you why I think there is a bioherm here.

3 This well was drilled in 1969 and
4 swabbed 1800 barrels of salt water per day from -- it is
5 low to this major high just to the west in the Indian Basin
6 Pool. These wells were drilled in '79 and the Champion
7 Well here drilled in 1930.

8 This well had substantial hydrocarbon
9 shows, being down dip from the water well here, up to 15/17
10 barrels of oil an hour, per hour, 2-1/2 to 2.9-million
11 cubic feet of gas per day, but the well watered out rather
12 quickly within approximately three weeks and that's why I
13 put this particular well on the gas/water contact, which is
14 everything in yellow I'm assuming is high enough to produce
15 gas and everything below is too low in the water.

16 This well --

17 MR. STOVALL: Mr. Kellahin,
18 excuse me, if I may, would you ask your witness, when we go
19 to read a transcript "this well" doesn't have your finger
20 on it.

21 A I'm sorry.

22 MR. STOVALL: If you wouldn't
23 mind identifying the well more specifically it would sure
24 help on the transcript.

25 A Okay. The well I was previously talking

1 about that had such good shows is the HEYCO Well located in
2 Section 35 of Township 21 South, Range 24 East.

3 The next well I mentioned is in Section
4 2 of Township 22 South, Range 24 East. It is Morris
5 Antweil No. 1 Little Walt. It -- it is -- the porosity is
6 approximately 23 feet down dip from the HEYCO Well, still
7 tested 600 and 300 MCF of gas per day and in the first test
8 flowed salt water in 53 minutes and the second test flowed
9 salt water in 58 minutes.

10 It's just quite a bit down dip from the
11 HEYCO well with the shows and the test so indicates.

12 Also, these wells have pressures, bottom
13 hole pressures, based on the drill stem tests of 2450
14 pounds plus or minus. The Indian Basin Pool is approxi-
15 mately 1600 pounds right now.

16 And, so my conclusion basically is that
17 we've got significant water show from just the uppermost
18 part of the reef in this well; significant hydrocarbon
19 shows down dip from this well, and the only possible way
20 for that to occur is for there to be a trap between those
21 two points and the trap is also indicated by the fact that
22 you're dipping from Section -- Section 31 and 32 in Section
23 21 South -- Township 21 South, Range 24 East, approximately
24 250 feet per mile towards our Section 34 and Section 35.
25 And then from the old Anadarko Federal Well in the south-

1 west corner of Section 34 the dip changes just past that
2 point, the HEYCO Well in Section 35 to approximately 50
3 feet per mile. So we have a large nose created here and a
4 very good well control and there's only one place that's
5 bioherm can possibly be, it's here, and it's where it's so
6 indicated on the exhibits, and the standard location would
7 only put us approximately 400 feet, or so, up dip from the
8 HEYCO Well, which was obviously wet and too far down dip in
9 Section 35.

10 Q Have you identified on the display the
11 closest standard location?

12 A Yes, I have. It's marked -- it is
13 marked "orthodox location" here. Our surface location
14 here, indicated by "surf", surface, and we plan to deviate
15 the hole 430 feet, approximately, to the northwest for a
16 bottom hole location of 1650 from the south, 850 from the
17 west, and I feel like this is high enough to achieve pro-
18 duction and I would also, one more technical point, and
19 another reason I would like to drill dues west of the HEYCO
20 Well is because bioherms are convex in nature. The closer
21 you are to the reef core the higher the porosities en-
22 countered in the reef itself. In other words, toward the
23 flanks the porosity moves further into the bioherm.

24 That is what this map is really showing.
25 This is from the north of Section 34, the Champlin Well,

1 the HEYCO Well, and the Antweil Well in Section 2, Town-
2 ship 22 South, Range 24 East, and it gives you a view
3 towards the west and you would be looking at the formation
4 of the bioherm from east to west and you would see the
5 convex nature if it were exposed on the surface and that's
6 what this map is showing. It's showing the Champlin Well
7 on the north flank as being approximately 20 feet to the
8 porosity from the top of the bioherm.

9 The HEYCO Well, which is closer to the
10 core, the porosity is only 8 feet into the bioherm, and
11 then the Antweil Well in Section 2 is on the south flank
12 and is approximately 23 feet to the porosity, and so I'm
13 just showing the convex nature of the bioherm and I would
14 like to drill due west of the HEYCO (not clearly under-
15 stood), so that's why I'm picking this particular spot and
16 we cannot drill in my proposed location because it is in
17 the Bottom of Walt Canyon, which is subject to vicious
18 flash floods (unclear).

19 Q If you'll return to your seat, we'll
20 talk to the examiner about the reasons for the directional
21 drilling.

22 A Okay.

23 Q Mr. Boley, if you'll turn to what is
24 marked as Exhibit Number Four. Would you identify Exhibit
25 Number Four for us?

1 A It's a topographic map showing our two
2 sections in yellow and showing the proposed surface loca-
3 tion on the indicated nose where the red dot is, and the
4 proposed bottom hole location, which is just almost into
5 the bottom of Walt Canyon and it's actually on the side of
6 a cliff that drops straight into Walt Canyon, and --

7 Q Have you been out on the surface of
8 Section 35?

9 A Yes. several times.

10 Q Let me direct your attention to Exhibit
11 Number Five, Mr. Boley. Were these photographs taken by
12 you or taken in your presence?

13 A They were taken by me.

14 Q When we look at photograph number 1 on
15 Exhibit Five, would you help orient the Examiner as to
16 where you were standing when you took the photograph and
17 what your direction of view was when you made this photo-
18 graph?

19 A This is basically looking at our loca-
20 tion. This is due -- well, it's not due west but it's just
21 slightly north and mainly west from the HEYCO, the old
22 HEYCO location in Section 35, and it's showing --

23 Q Well, what direction are you viewing?

24 A We're looking basically to the south.

25 Q What's the significance of the red dots?

1 A They are showing, coming from the left
2 is coming down the hill from HEYCO, the lowermost left dot.
3 They're -- all these dots are beneath stakes. If you look
4 hard enough you can see the stakes. I put the dots on so
5 that the stakes were more -- more evident.

6 The dots just show basically our road
7 coming from the old HEYCO location down and heading south
8 into our location. We kind of basically have a natural
9 road or contour interval there to travel down to the loca-
10 tion.

11 Q When we get to the photograph number 2
12 where are you standing and what is your direction of view
13 in that photograph?

14 A I'm standing on the edge of the cliff
15 due west of our proposed location, where below my feet it
16 dropped at least 100 feet straight cliff into the canyon
17 and the red dot on the right is approximately above, verti-
18 cally, where our bottom hole location, or -- or the bit
19 will end up underneath this dot vertically, basically.
20 It's 1658 -- 1650 from the south and 850 from the west of
21 Section 35, showing the rough terrain.

22 Q When we get to photograph 3 where are
23 you standing and what is your direction of view?

24 A I'm standing on a nose above our loca-
25 tion and I just took two pictures as close as possible to

1 being exactly next to each other, just to get a panoramic
2 view down to our location. The dot to the west is below
3 our well stake and it shows a real nice flat area up here
4 to drill on and the -- the dot to the far right is simply
5 showing approximately up the hill from where the dot in
6 photograph 2 was.

7 Q But your --

8 A Showing the relation, that, in other
9 words, from the left dot in the number 3 photograph to the
10 right dot, is looking basically -- those two dots were ac-
11 tually on a northwest axis which is the direction we're
12 kicking our well from.

13 Q What's the direction of view that you're
14 looking at when you look at photograph number 3?

15 A That's approximately due west.

16 Q Have you found a suitable surface
17 location, then, in the vicinity of the bottom hole
18 location?

19 A No, no, it's just -- it's far too rough.

20 Q Is the proposed surface location that
21 you desire to utilize a point that is the closest usable
22 location to the proposed bottom hole location?

23 A Yes, it is.

24 Q Let's give the examiner the estimated
25 footages again now on the surface location, if you will.

1 A Okay.

2 Q Your surface location is unorthodox --

3 A Yes, it is.

4 Q -- from the south and the west lines of
5 the spacing unit?

6 A It is -- our surface location is approx-
7 imately 1327 feet from the south line and 1143 feet from
8 the west line.

9 Q The proposed bottom hole location then
10 will be what?

11 A 1650 feet from the south line and 850
12 feet from the west line.

13 Q Is that information shown on Exhibit
14 Number Six?

15 A Yes, it is.

16 Q And what is Exhibit Number Six?

17 A It's a survey plat for when we staked
18 our well, showing the different interests in the well.

19 Q When we look at the affidavit of
20 mailing, Exhibit Number Nine, there were two parties noti-
21 fied, a Mark Nearburg and then the Yates Petroleum Corpor-
22 ation. Wherein do they have interests in this area?

23 A South of both of our leases. Nearburg
24 has mineral rights to Section 2 of Township 22 South, Range
25 24 East. And Yates, Yates Petroleum has Section 3 of Town-

1 ship 22 South, Range 24 East leased --

2 Q Have --

3 A -- for minerals.

4 Q Have either Nearburg or Yates objected
5 to either the directional drilling or the unorthodox loca-
6 tions?

7 A No, they have not.

8 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes
9 my examination of Mr. Boley.

10 We would move the introduction
11 of Exhibits One through Six at this time.

12 MR. CATANACH: Exhibits One
13 through Six will be admitted as evidence.

14

15 CROSS EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. CATANACH:

17 Q Mr. Boley, has your surface location ac-
18 tually been staked yet?

19 A Yes, sir, it has, and is shown in the
20 photograph, if you look hard enough. It's hard to see the
21 little red flag but it's there.

22 Q Has it been -- has it been approved by
23 the BLM?

24 A It's not on BLM land. It's on fee land.

25 Q You testified that your bottom hole lo-

1 cation will put you approximately 400 feet up structure
2 from the HEYCO Well?

3 A It's 400 feet northwest of the surface
4 location, 432 feet, or something. It's northwest. If I
5 said up dip I misspoke.

6 Q Okay. Where do you estimate that
7 gas/water contact to be at?

8 A At approximately -3955, somewhere in
9 that neighborhood, since the HEYCO Well watered out fairly
10 quickly.

11 Q Where was the HEYCO Well?

12 A It's in Section 35 closest to our pro-
13 posed location, that dry hole.

14 Q Is that at -3940?

15 A Yes. The -- the top of the bioherm is
16 at -3945.

17 I'm simply estimating, and it's hard to
18 estimate on a bioherm how high they're going to grow. I'm
19 estimating we'll get up dip 40 to 50 feet. The -- the pro-
20 ducing well in the McKittrick Hills Pool in Section 12 of
21 Township 22 South, Range 24 East, only shows 20 feet of
22 structure up dip from wells that tested pure water; how-
23 ever, that well, particular well, has made 7-billion cubic
24 feet of gas and is delivering 7-to-8-million cubic feet per
25 day currently.

1 Q What's the closest producing well to
2 your -- to your location?

3 A Well, this particular well has never
4 been plugged. It's been shut in for 17 years. It's been
5 sitting there since 1976, I believe.

6 MR. KELLAHIN: Identify the
7 well for us.

8 A Oh, I'm sorry, it's -- this is a Mara-
9 thon operated well in Marathon's Indian Hills Unit. It's
10 in Section 33 of Township 21 South, Range 24 East.

11 Also, these wells north to south in Sec-
12 tion 21 to 28, 33, all watered out approximately the same
13 time in 1976. Some have been plugged and some have been
14 just shut in for -- for long, long periods of time, but
15 that's the closest what I guess you could call active; how-
16 ever it's not producing.

17 The closest producing well in the Cisco
18 formation would be this well in 29, Section 29 in Township
19 21 South, Range 24 East.

20 The rest have watered out.

21 Q Do you consider this bioherm from the
22 same -- producing from the same source of supply as the
23 Indian Basin Morrow and Upper Penn Pools?

24 A Well, it's where the gas was deriving
25 from or it would be the same porosity units within the

1 field or --

2 Q Could be considered the same pool?

3 A In my opinion the -- the drilling of the
4 well, if it turned out to be a commercial well, would be a
5 new field because it -- it is an integral part of the
6 Indian Basin Cisco Reef but it is a separate event. In
7 other words we had thickening when the sea level was still
8 in this area for X amount of time. We had just a thicken-
9 ing of the reef, a round, knoblike thickening, which is
10 called a bioherm. It's very, very porous (unclear) lime-
11 stone, which would probably be (not clearly understood), so
12 it is a -- it's actually -- there would be a contact here
13 and another, say, gas/water contact up here.

14 Originally, I believe, the gas/water
15 contact, this pool, Indian Basin Pool proper was at -3759,
16 approximately, that's where I approximately placed it,
17 which puts this well, drilled back in '69, just four years
18 after the field had started producing, it was just -- it
19 was just flat low to the Indian Basin from the very begin-
20 ning, just too low to produce. So there are several
21 reasons why this would be a venture, or a new gas accumula-
22 tion in this area, (not clearly audible).

23 MR. CATANACH: That's all the
24 questions I have.

25 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner,

1 I'd like to call at this time Mr. Dennis Moore. Mr. Moore
2 is a professional registered engineer in the State of Texas
3 and he has designed and recommended the directional
4 drilling program for Mr. Sell for the drilling of this
5 well.

6
7 DENNIS DEREK MOORE,
8 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his
9 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

10
11 DIRECT EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

13 Q Mr. Moore, would you please state your
14 name and occupation?

15 A Dennis Derek Moore and I'm a consulting
16 engineer.

17 Q Mr. Moore, have you testified before the
18 Oil Conservation Division on prior occasions?

19 A No, sir, I have not.

20 Q Would you take a moment and describe for
21 us when and where you obtained your engineering degree?

22 A I got my Bachelor's degree in petroleum
23 engineering from Texas A & M University in 1979.

24 Q Do you hold any subsequent degrees in
25 engineering?

1 A No, sir, I do not.

2 Q Would you summarize for us what has been
3 your professional employment experience as a petroleum en-
4 gineer?

5 A I worked for two years for Chevron Oil
6 Company in south Louisiana.

7 I worked for three years for Clayton
8 Williams as a drilling engineer and covered the biggest
9 part of the United States, and I've been in private prac-
10 tice for four years now.

11 Q You're in practice under the name of
12 Ford, Miller and Associates, Inc.?

13 A Yes, sir, that's correct.

14 Q What functions do your company and have
15 you performed for Mr. Sell in this case?

16 A In this case we've -- we have prepared a
17 number of the -- we've done some of the graphic work for
18 exhibits and done the design work and preparation work for
19 drilling the well.

20 Q Have you designed and made recommenda-
21 tions to other clients for the directional drilling of
22 wells?

23 A I have done that. I don't recall right
24 now if I've done it since I've been in private practice. I
25 have done it for other people, though, yes, sir.

1 Q Are you familiar with the directional
2 drilling procedures and program that are to be utilized for
3 this well?

4 A Yes, sir, I am.

5 Q And are you a registered professional
6 engineer in the State of Texas?

7 A Yes, sir, I am.

8 MR. KELLAHIN: We tender Mr.
9 Moore as an expert petroleum engineer.

10 MR. CATANACH: He is so qual-
11 ified.

12 Q Mr. Moore, let me commence your testi-
13 mony by again looking at Exhibit Number Six, which is the
14 C-102, the survey plat. Is it also your understanding as
15 it was Mr. Boley's understanding, that the surface location
16 and the proposed bottom hole location that they desire are
17 as shown on this display?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q Let's take Exhibits Seven and Eight to-
20 gether at the same time and before you describe the drill-
21 ing procedures recommended for this well, take a moment and
22 describe for us Exhibit Number Seven. What is that?

23 A Exhibit Number Seven is a vertical sec-
24 tion or a vertical cross section, if you will, of the pro-
25 file that the hole describes as we propose to drill it,

1 commencing a deflection from vertical at approximately 4900
2 feet; build angle at 1-1/2 degrees per 100 feet, to such
3 time that -- that we have achieved a position that we would
4 begin to drip angle again so that we would enter the Cisco
5 formation more or less vertical and then continue vertical
6 to TD.

7 Q When we look at Exhibit Number Eight,
8 what are we looking at in that display?

9 A This is a procedure prepared by
10 Directional Reservoir Guidance, a service company that will
11 be doing the directional work for us and they have outlined
12 a procedure by which we would ascertain the bottom hole
13 location and then -- and then do this directional work as
14 -- as shown graphically with Exhibit Seven.

15 Q Have you reviewed that procedure and
16 satisfied yourself based upon your professional experience
17 that this is an effective and efficient means by which to
18 directionally drill the well and penetrate the designated
19 formation?

20 A Yes, sir, I have.

21 Q All right, let's -- let's -- using them
22 together now, let's take us from the surface location, com-
23 mencing at a point 1143 feet from the west line and then
24 1327 feet from the south line, using that as a surface
25 location what happens from there on down?

1 A We would -- we would drill a 17-1/2 inch
2 hole and run 13-3/8ths surface casing approximately 350
3 feet; drill a 12-1/4 hole and set 9-5/8ths casing approx-
4 imately 2500 feet.

5 While waiting on cement we'd run a
6 multi-shot gyro survey to fix a bottom hole location at
7 that point so we would know where we were relative to
8 surface or relative to our desired target.

9 When drilling out below this interme-
10 diate string pipe we would pick up a nonmagnetic drill
11 collar that would allow us to do magnetic surveys for
12 direction and inclination and drill down to a kickoff point
13 that we have -- have projected at around 4900 feet, at
14 which time we would drop another multishot so that we would
15 know exactly where we were at that point and tie it back in
16 to this 2500-foot casing point so that we would have a con-
17 tinuous survey from surface to bottom at about 93-foot in-
18 tervals.

19 Q When we get to the approximate 4911
20 depth, is that a true vertical depth?

21 A Yes, sir, that would be -- it would be
22 true vertical depth in the conventional sense, yes.

23 Q All right, at that point, then, what
24 occurs?

25 A At that point we would pick up a

1 drilling motor and a deflecting sub and a bit that would
2 allow us to increase angle at about 1-1/2 degrees per 100.
3 it would also allow us, we'd also have what's known as a
4 steering tool that would allow us to have a surface readout
5 and a continuous monitoring of the orientation of our tool,
6 so that we would be able to turn this motor, orient it, and
7 by proper orientation and application of weight we'd build
8 angle in the proper direction.

9 Q Have you approximated at what depth you
10 will penetrate the top of the Cisco formation?

11 A Yes, sir, we'll approximate it at, let's
12 see, I think the true vertical depth was 7764, an approxi-
13 mate measured depth would be about 7808.

14 Q How can we use Exhibit Number Seven to
15 know where we will be in terms of the side boundaries of
16 the spacing unit at the point we intersect the top of the
17 Cisco formation?

18 Where will we be from the west line and
19 the south line of the spacing unit?

20 A Okay, this is a -- this is a vertical
21 section as if a plane were projected downward on a line
22 from the surface to the bottom hole locations so that this
23 would give us a projection back to that plane that will al-
24 low us to do that. We will also have a, while drilling the
25 hole, if it deflects from that -- that plane, we will also

1 I have that -- that monitored so that we will know where we
2 are in 3-dimensional space.

3 Q The docket advertisement for this case
4 proposes to place restrictions on the extent to which the
5 well can be unorthodox at the point it penetrates the top
6 of the Cisco as well as the top of the Morrow, that re-
7 striction being no closer than 1600 feet from the south
8 line of the spacing unit and no closer than 800 feet to the
9 western boundary of that same section.

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q All right. Does this program allow the
12 operator the opportunity to stay within that restriction?

13 A Yes, sir, it does.

14 Q All right. Now you've penetrated the
15 top of the Cisco. At what point would you anticipate we'd
16 penetrate the top of the Morrow?

17 A Again, assuming a vertical hole, we
18 would anticipate entering the top of the Morrow at 9850
19 feet true vertical, 9894 measured.

20 Q So approval of a subsurface location no
21 closer than 800 feet from the west line and 1600 feet from
22 the south line for the Morrow is also anticipated under
23 this directional drilling program.

24 A Yes, sir, that's correct.

25 Q And what will be the approximate total

1 depth of the well?

2 A Approximate total depth would be 10,300
3 true vertical, or 10,344 measured.

4 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes
5 my examination of Mr. Moore, Mr. Catanach.

6 We've move the introduction of
7 Exhibits Seven and Eight.

8 MR. CATANACH: Exhibits Seven
9 and Eight will be admitted as evidence.

10 I have no questions of the
11 witness. He may be excused.

12 MR. KELLAHIN: If we have not
13 already done so, we'd like to admit Exhibit Nine, which is
14 the certificate of mailing that Mr. Boley referred to in
15 identifying the offset operators. It's a certificate that
16 I have executed indicating that we have sent by certified
17 mail, return receipt, notifications to Yates and to Near-
18 burg.

19 MR. CATANACH: Exhibit Nine
20 will be admitted into evidence.

21 Anything further in this case?

22 MR. KELLAHIN: No, sir. That
23 concludes our presentation.

24 MR. CATANACH: If not, this
25 case will be taken under advisement.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SALLY W. BOYD, C. S. R. DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Transcript of Hearing before the Oil Conservation Division (Commission) was reported by me; that the said transcript is a full, true and correct record of the hearing, prepared by me to the best of my ability.

Sally W. Boyd CSR

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. 9643 heard by me on April 26 1988.

David R. Catanah, Examiner
Oil Conservation Division