

NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

EXAMINER HEARING

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Hearing Date MAY 10, 1989 Time: 8:15 A.M.

NAME	REPRESENTING	LOCATION
DAVID MILLER	BASS ENTERPRISES	MIDLAND, TX
Louis Wilpitz	Bass Enterprises Production Co.	Fort Worth, TX
William J. Dan	Campbell + Black, P.A.	Santa Fe
W. K. Keller	Keller Keller & Company	Santa Fe
DAN NUTTEB	CONS ENGR	Santa Fe
Bob Brown	Byrum	Santa Fe
KENT LUND	AMOCO PRODUCTION	DENVER
Dr. Bobe Friedrich	El Paso Natural Gas	El Paso TX
Cwenholz	Hinkle Law Firm	Santa Fe, N.M.
W. Perry Pearson	Montgomery Anderson	Santa Fe, NM
Vic Lyon	CCD	S.F.
Jack Ahlen	Curry and Thornland	Roswell
Louis J. Mazzullo	Nearburg Producing Co	Midland, TX
John Roe	Dugan Production Corp	Farmington.
SCOTT HALL	CAMPBELL + BLACK	SF
Byrum	DAVID PERCIBATTI Nearburg Producing	Roswell Dallas - TX

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NAME	REPRESENTING	LOCATION
Joel Levine	Gas Company of New Mexico	Alb, NM
Ernst H. Kalle	Padilla & Snyder	Santa Fe, NM
MICHAEL HEDTRICK	MUSSELMAN OWEN & KING OPERATING, INC.	MIDLAND, TX
Jim Sikes	BP EXPLORATION INC	HOUSTON, TX
Dave Johnson	BP Exploration Inc	Houston, TX
Kirk Moore	ORYX ENERGY COMPANY	DALLAS, TX
JACK A. MORGAN	U.S. RESOURCES, INC.	DALLAS, TX
Jim Bannigan	J&L Exploration	Rockwell, NM
Richard Dillon	SUN EIP CO / ORYX ENERGY CO	MIDLAND TX
Patrick Galvin	ORYX ENERGY Co. (SUN)	MIDLAND, TX
Chris Phillips	NMCO operating (Mesa Grande Ltd)	Tulsa, OK

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 10 May 1989

7 EXAMINER HEARING

8 IN THE MATTER OF:

9 Application of Bass Enterprises Pro-
10 duction Company for compulsory pool-
11 ing, Lea County, New Mexico, and

CASE
9664

12 Application of Bass Enterprises Pro-
13 duction Company for compulsory pool-
14 ing, Lea County, New Mexico.

9665

15 BEFORE: Michael E. Stogner, Examiner

16 TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

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

18 For the Division:

19 For Bass Enterprises
20 Production Company:

W. Thomas Kellahin
Attorney at Law
KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN & AUBREY
P. O. Box 2265
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

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25

I N D E X

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1 MR. STOGNER: I'll call next
2 Case Number 9664, which is the application of Bass Enter-
3 prises Production Company for compulsory pooling in Lea
4 County, New Mexico.

5 At this time I'll call for
6 appearances.

7 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner,
8 I'm Tom Kellahin of the Santa Fe law firm of Kellahin,
9 Kellahin & Aubrey, appearing on behalf of the applicant and
10 I have three witnesses.

11 MR. STOGNER: Are there any
12 other appearances?

13 Will the witnesses please
14 stand and be sworn at this time?

15 Raise your right hands.

16
17 (Witnesses sworn.)

18
19 MR. STOGNER: You may be
20 seated. Mr. Kellahin.

21 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner,
22 for hearing purposes we'd like to consolidate Case 9664,
23 which you've just called, with the next case, 9665. These
24 two spacing units, each of which are to be pooled, involved
25 similar wells to similar depths and the testimony is com-

1 patible for each case and I think can be heard as a conso-
2 lidated matter.

3 MR. STOGNER: If there are no
4 objections Case Number 9665 will be called at this time,
5 which is the application of Bass Enterprises Production
6 Company for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico.

7 Let the record show, I
8 believe, Mr. Kellahin, that these three witnesses that were
9 sworn in on the previous case, will also be testifying?

10 MR. KELLAHIN: Yes, Mr. Exa-
11 miner.

12 MR. STOGNER: Let the record
13 so show.

14 Mr. Kellahin.

15 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner,
16 the exhibits have been marked separately for each case but
17 we will simply use one set of the exhibits. The geologic
18 exhibits, I believe, are identical for each case and there
19 are some small changes in the correspondence used by the
20 landman in order to obtain voluntary agreement, but for the
21 most part, on all substantive issues the exhibits will be
22 the same for each case.

23

24

25

LOUIS W. WILPITZ,
being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his

1 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

2
3 DIRECT EXAMINATION

4 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

5 Q Mr. Wilpitz, for the record would you
6 please state your name and occupation?

7 A My name is Louis Wilpitz and I'm a pet-
8 roleum landman with Bass Enterprises Production Company in
9 Ft. Worth, Texas.

10 Q Mr. Wilpitz, would you spell your last
11 name for us?

12 A Sure. W-I-L-P-I-T-Z.

13 Q Mr. Wilpitz, let me have you direct your
14 attention to what is marked as Bass Exhibit Number One in
15 Case 9664 and before we describe some of the details shown
16 on the display, would you simply show us what this exhibit
17 is?

18 A Yes. It's a plat of the area that we're
19 interested in. The yellow portions of the map indicate
20 Bass Enterprises leases that we own 100 percent. The blue
21 area represents farmout acreage we have committed to our-
22 selves.

23 MR. KELLAHIN: Excuse me, Mr.
24 Examiner, I can't hear here.

25 Q All right, sir, please identify Exhibit

1 Number One.

2 A Okay. The yellow portions of the map
3 are the Bass leases owned 100 percent by Bass Enterprises.

4 The blue areas cover lands we've enter-
5 ed into farmout agreements with leasehold owners in those
6 tracts with, and the red indicates the proration unit that
7 we're concerned with for the forced pooling hearings.

8 Q For Case 9664 it's advertised as a com-
9 pulsory pooling for the drilling of the Reeves 21 State No.
10 2 Well. In what quarter section is that well located?

11 A The northwest quarter of the southeast
12 quarter of Section 21.

13 Q All right, it would be a 40-acre dedica-
14 tion?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q And what is the primary producing forma-
17 tion that you're seeking to produce from?

18 A The Reeves Queen.

19 Q For Case 9665 will you show us the
20 40-acre tract for which that well is proposed?

21 A Yes. It's also shown on Exhibit One and
22 is the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Sec-
23 tion 21.

24 Q Describe for us what has been your par-
25 ticular involvement as a petroleum landman on behalf of

1 your company.

2 A After determining the ownership in the
3 two 40-acre tracts that we're interested in, we made ini-
4 tial contact with the owners under letter of August 25th,
5 which is shown as Exhibit Three.

6 Q What's the purpose of doing so, Mr.
7 Wilpitz?

8 A We were endeavoring to -- to obtain
9 either a farmout support or participation in the drilling
10 of a well in those two tracts voluntarily.

11 Q And were you the landman involved in
12 trying to obtain voluntary agreement on both tracts for the
13 working interest ownership?

14 A Yes, sir, that's correct.

15 Q Have you on prior occasions testified
16 before the Oil Conservation Division?

17 A No, I have not.

18 Q Would you take a moment and describe
19 your educational and employment experience as a petroleum
20 landman?

21 A Okay. I received a Bachelor of Science
22 degree in economics from Texas A & M University in 1980 and
23 began employment with Bass Enterprises Production Company
24 in the Land Department in October of 1981 and have been
25 there since.

1 MR. KELLAHIN: At this point,
2 Mr. Examiner, we tender Mr. Wilpitz as an expert petroleum
3 landman.

4 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Wilpitz is
5 so qualified.

6 Q Let's take a moment now, sir, and go to
7 what is marked as Exhibit Number Two. Describe for us what
8 that is.

9 A Exhibit Two is a listing of the parties
10 in the north half of the southeast quarter of Section 21
11 that as of today we have not received commitments from who
12 executed contracts to either participate or farmout in
13 these two wells.

14 Q Will these parties be the same parties
15 in either well holding the same percentage working interest
16 in each well?

17 A They'll be identical in both wells.

18 Q As of today, approximately what
19 percentage does Bass have committed on a voluntary basis
20 for the drilling of the well?

21 A We have 37 percent to date that is com-
22 mitted to farmout to us on the well.

23 Q On each of the spacing units.

24 A That's correct.

25 MR. STOGNER: I'm sorry, what

1 percentage?

2 A 37 percent.

3 MR. STOGNER: 37 percent.

4 Q When we look at Exhibit Number Two, the
5 balance, then, is totaled and shows an uncommitted inter-
6 est of just short of 63 percent?

7 A That's correct, in both tracts.

8 Q What efforts have been made by Bass to
9 contact these individuals and attempt to obtain from them
10 voluntary commitments either on participation or by farmout
11 in each of the wells?

12 A We -- those efforts are set forth in the
13 exhibits that we have indicated as first the Number Three,
14 Exhibit Number Three in both cases, letter of August 25th,
15 1988. Jens Hansen of our company wrote an initial letter
16 requesting support of a well in those tracts through
17 farmout agreements or participation.

18 Then nextly, under letter of March 14th,
19 1989, and letter of March 29th, 1989, we contacted the par-
20 ties again being more specific as to what our requests
21 were.

22 And then last week under letters of
23 April 6th, 1989, and April 10th, 1989, we contacted once
24 again by letter stating that we were having to move ahead
25 on this and were needing their participation or farmout to

1 us in order to support these wells.

2 Q Describe for us in a general way what
3 occurred from August of 1988 to March 14th of 1989, during
4 that period of time.

5 A Two general things occurred during that
6 period of time, the first of which is we were negotiating a
7 farmout agreement with HEYCO, et al, the parties that own
8 37 plus percent in there. Over that period of time we were
9 negotiating the farmout on the north half of the southeast
10 quarter and other lands.

11 Also during that time we had attempted
12 to make telephone contacts with the parties listed on
13 Exhibit Two and received very little response to our re-
14 quests in following up by telephone on our letters, and had
15 contacted everyone and did make telephone contact with all
16 of the parties listed on Number Two around the period of
17 the March 14th letter as Exhibit Number Four, before that
18 was sent. So we did make telephone contact with them all
19 and apprise them of where our directions were in the area.

20 Q What, if any, response did you receive
21 from any of the parties to be pooled to the March 14th,
22 1989 letter?

23 A We received no response until that time
24 but upon saying that we would -- would need to file a
25 pooling action, we did receive phone calls from a couple of

1 parties and have had some -- some further communication
2 that they want to either participate or farmout with us.

3 Q Notwithstanding those conversations and
4 correspondence with each of these parties, as of today's
5 hearing do you have commitments in writing from any of
6 those parties for either participation or farmout for each
7 of the wells?

8 A No, sir, not yet; not as of yet. We're
9 still communicating on that.

10 Q Describe for us Exhibit Number Five.

11 A Exhibit Number Five was a letter of
12 March 29th, 1989, which was addressed to Yates Exploration,
13 Inc., in Cibola out of Albuquerque, proposing and request-
14 ing their support of the Reeves 21 State Well No. 2 in Case
15 9664. An identical letters was sent out only being changed
16 to reflect the particulars of the No. 3 Well under Case No.
17 9665.

18 Q All right, sir, would you identify and
19 describe for us Exhibit Number Six?

20 A Exhibit Number Six was a letter regard-
21 ing the Reeves State Well No. 2 and also the Reeves State
22 Well No. 3 and their respective cases that were sent to all
23 of the parties on Exhibit Two except for Yates Exploration
24 and Cibola Exploration, where we were narrowing the -- the
25 process and confirming the time at which we would file an

1 application for a compulsory pooling.

2 Q All right, sir, would you identify and
3 describe Exhibit Number Seven?

4 A Yes, sir. Exhibit Number Seven in both
5 cases was almost identical in content to the letter as
6 Exhibit Number Six, except that this letter was sent to
7 Yates Exploration and Cibola.

8 Q In your opinion, Mr. Wilpitz, do you at
9 this time in order to effect the formation of spacing units
10 for each of the wells need compulsory pooling orders from
11 the Oil Conservation Division?

12 A I believe it's absolutely necessary.

13 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes
14 my examination of Mr. Wilpitz, Mr. Examiner. We would move
15 the introduction of at this time of his exhibits One
16 through Seven in Case 9664, as well as Case 9665.

17 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits One
18 through Seven will be admitted into evidence at this time.

19
20 CROSS EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. STOGNER:

22 Q Mr. Wilpitz, it appears that the King
23 Ranch Oil & Gas, Incorporated, out of Houston, Texas, is
24 the single biggest party which is being pooled today. Has
25 there been any telephone conversations?

1 A Yes, sir, we've had more than three
2 telephone contacts with their Land Department.

3 Q And approximately what dates, how long
4 ago?

5 A Those -- those calls were -- there were
6 three telephone calls that I recall between the August 25th
7 and March 14th, 1989 letters, and their opinion is that
8 they're not, in the words of their Land Department, not up
9 to speed on this area and prefer to be pooled and just go
10 under the pooling order, was the last contact I had with
11 them, with their Land Department.

12 MR. STOGNER: I have no fur-
13 ther questions of this witness. Are there any other ques-
14 tions of Mr. Wilpitz?

15 MR. KELLAHIN: No, sir.

16 MR. STOGNER: You may be ex-
17 cused.

18
19 DAVID MILLER,
20 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his
21 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

22
23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

25 Q All right, sir, would you please state

1 your name and occupation?

2 A Yeah, my name is David Miller. I am a
3 contract consulting geologist working full time for Bass
4 Enterprises Production Company in Midland, Texas.

5 Q Mr. Miller, on a prior occasion have you
6 testified before the Division as a petroleum geologist?

7 A No, sir, I have not.

8 Q Would you take a moment and describe for
9 us your educational background?

10 A Yeah, I have a Bachelor's degree in
11 geology from Texas A & M in 1959 and Master's degree in
12 1961.

13 Q Would you describe what has been your
14 employment experience as a petroleum geologist subsequent
15 to graduation?

16 A Okay. I worked 16 years for Exxon
17 Company USA. My last position prior to resignation was as
18 District Geologist of the Midland Production District.

19 I've worked two years for Petrus Oil
20 Company, four years for Henry Petroleum in Midland as Ex-
21 ploration Manager, and I've been with Bass for the past
22 almost two years

23 Q With regards to the two Queen wells
24 that are the subject of this application, would you gener-
25 ally describe what it is that you've done?

1 A Okay. I have done the geology. I did
2 correlate the logs. I've picked the top of pay, the base
3 of pay, the net effective pay in these -- in the surround-
4 ing wells in this, oh, about a 15-section area, and have
5 determined that Bass does have a drilling prospect, and
6 have written up same.

7 Q As a result of that study are you able
8 to reach an expert geologic opinion with regards to a re-
9 commendation for the Examiner for a risk factor penalty to
10 be assessed against the working interest owners that elect
11 not to participate in the well?

12 A I believe that I am, sir.

13 Q Are you familiar with the statutory fact
14 that the examiner is allowed to assess a risk factor pen-
15 alty of up to 200 percent?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Within that range of discretion for the
18 Examiner, what is your recommendation and opinion for a
19 risk factor penalty?

20 A In this case I believe the risk is suf-
21 ficient to expect the -- or request the maximum penalty,
22 200 percent.

23 Q Does that apply for each well?

24 A Yes, sir, it does.

25 Q Regardless of the fact of how the wells

1 are drilled and what particular sequence?

2 A Yes, sir, it does.

3 Q Let's have you give us the reasons for
4 that opinion and in order to discuss with you in some
5 detail your justification, let me direct your attention
6 first of all to Exhibit Number Eight. Would you identify
7 that for us, please?

8 A Okay. This is a location plat or loca-
9 tion map showing the 9-township -- I mean the 9-section
10 area in 18 South, 35 East, with the Section 21 centered,
11 showing the locations that Bass is here proposing today.

12 This also shows the other wells in the
13 area and I have highlighted for each case the Well No. 2
14 and the Well No. 3, the wells that we are here today re-
15 questing to force pool.

16 Q No. 2 is in the northwest of the south-
17 east?

18 A That is correct.

19 Q No. 3 is in the northeast of the south-
20 east.

21 A That is correct.

22 Q The principal geologic formation that
23 you desire to test is what, sir?

24 A Is the Queen Sand.

25 Q All right. Let's go to Exhibit Number

1 Nine. In examining the offsetting wells that are shown on
2 this display, identify for us the closest offsetting Queen
3 producers.

4 A Okay, the closest offsetting Queen pro-
5 ducers are in the northeast quarter of Section 28, which is
6 south of the Bass proposed locations.

7 Q And how are those wells named or identi-
8 fied?

9 A Okay, these wells are the Tamarack oper-
10 ated ARCO State 28 No. 1 in the northeast quarter of the
11 northeast quarter and the No. 2 in the northwest quarter of
12 the northeast quarter.

13 Q When we look at the northwest quarter of
14 27, which will be the diagonal southeast offset for your
15 section --

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Do we have any wells that penetrated the
18 Queen formation in that 160-acre tract?

19 A There are many wells that penetrated the
20 Queen. In fact all the wells in this section penetrated
21 the Queen Section. The wells indicated with the hexagons
22 and the triangles are deep completions or deep tests. The
23 most significant well in this section is the Hondo well
24 which is in the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter.
25 This well was drilled in March of --

1 A Excuse me, the Hondo well is not shaded
2 in any color.

3 A It is not shaded.

4 Q It is shaded as a --

5 A As a dry hole.

6 Q -- dry hole symbol right just below the
7 "H" of Hondo?

8 A That is correct, yes, sir.

9 Q All right. Tell us about that well.

10 A Okay, that well was drilled in March and
11 April of this year; was plugged and abandoned after pene-
12 trating of the Queen formation. It was evaluated with open
13 hole logs, with a mud log. The well did not have suffi-
14 cient porosity developed to -- to be commercially produc-
15 tive and the well was plugged without setting pipe.

16 Q Was the Hondo well attempted after the
17 two completions were made successful in the northeast
18 quarter of 28?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q What do you conclude by that sequence of
21 events, Mr. Miller?

22 A I conclude that the Queen porosity is
23 very erratic in this area and that drilling a direct offset
24 to a producing well does not insure that you will have a
25 commercial well.

1 The porosity -- the sand is present, the
2 porosity is plugged by anhydrites and salts and it is very
3 erratic where you will find the porosity and I have another
4 example to that, which is the Occidental Petroleum well in
5 the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section
6 28.

7 This well was drilled in 1988 as a
8 direct offset to the Tamarack No. 2 ARCO State and this
9 well again had the sand present; there was very little
10 porosity.

11 It is pretty much a rule of thumb in
12 this area that if you have less than 10 percent porosity in
13 this sand it will not produce commercial quantities of oil.
14 The Hondo well had porosity. The maximum porosity was
15 about 8 percent and that was only in about 4 feet of the
16 overall 10 feet of sand.

17 Q When we look to the east of Section 21,
18 do you have any subsurface geologic control for the Queen
19 as we move into Section 22?

20 A Yes, sir, I do. I have subsurface con-
21 trol in the northwest quarter, the southwest quarter, and
22 the southeast quarter of Section 22.

23 Q Do we have any commercial Queen produc-
24 tion in the west half of 22?

25 A There is one well, the Hondo well which

1 is the label No. 3 in the southeast quarter of the south-
2 west quarter, is a commercial Queen well in Section 22.

3 Q As we move to the north of the spacing
4 units in Section 21, do you have any commercial Queen
5 production?

6 A No, sir, we do not.

7 Q And as we look to the west of the
8 spacing units the Queen production is over in 20?

9 A There are two wells in Section 20 that
10 have been completed in the Queen. The No. 1, Collier No. 1
11 Well is completed in this same zone. It's very easy to
12 correlate this -- this zone of porosity. This well has
13 made gas but no oil.

14 The No. 2 Well in the southeast quarter
15 of that section potentialled as a gas well. Apparently it
16 has never been hooked up to a pipeline as there is no pro-
17 duction reported in the State reports from that well.

18 Q Have you attempted to map the Queen on a
19 structural basis?

20 A Yes, sir, I have.

21 Q Is that shown on Exhibit Number Ten?

22 A That is, yes, sir.

23 Q Let's go to Exhibit Number Ten and have
24 you describe that display for us.

25 A Okay. This is a structure map on the

1 top of the Queen Sand in this -- this area. The contour
2 interval is 20 feet. The scale of the map is one inch
3 equal 2000 feet. And what this map shows is that in this
4 area the Queen structure is a Strawn nose which is trending
5 from the northwest to the southeast and this is approxi-
6 mately perpendicular to the regional trend for the Queen in
7 this area and I believe it reflects the drape of the Queen
8 for these formations over a deep-seated fault feature that
9 is at depth.

10 Q Is structure significant in helping you
11 find a well location in the southeast quarter of Section
12 21?

13 A Structure is significant in that it's --
14 the Queen zone seems to -- the Queen porosity seems to
15 follow the structure more but the porosity is definitely
16 the most important thing as this is predominantly a strati-
17 graphic trap play.

18 Q As we move from the Hondo wells in the
19 north half of 28, moving north through Section 21, are you
20 able to establish with reasonable geologic probability the
21 location and shape of the structure as we go into Section
22 21?

23 A I believe I can give a reasonable inter-
24 pretation of the structure in 21 in that I have penetra-
25 tions on the north of 21 and also in 16; penetrations in

1 20, 28, 22.

2 I do not have penetrations in the south
3 half or the northwest quarter of Section 21, so it is not
4 definite, but I believe I have enough data to come up with
5 a reasonable geologic interpretation.

6 Q Does the extent of geologic data avail-
7 able at this point allow you to reach an opinion such that
8 the risk to be assessed against the nonconsenting owners is
9 less than 200 percent for each of these wells?

10 A I do not believe the risk should be less
11 than 200 percent, no, sir.

12 Q Let's turn to Exhibit Number Eleven, Mr.
13 Miller, and would you identify and describe that exhibit
14 for us?

15 A Okay. This is a net effective pay map
16 of the Queen Sand that I have drawn based on a porosity
17 cutoff of equal to or greater than 10 percent. The scale
18 is again one equal to 2000 feet and the contour interval is
19 5 feet.

20 Q What's your conclusion about the infor-
21 mation shown on the isopach?

22 A Okay, my conclusion is that the fairlane
23 of porosity is a very narrow trend; that it is well defined
24 in Section 27, pretty well defined in Section 28, and 22.
25 There is -- of course I have very little data to -- in Sec-

1 tion 21 to -- to make my interpretation on because I'm --
2 I'm projecting from the known to the unknown, away, going
3 away from the producing well.

4 Q Does the degree of accuracy of the
5 isopach of the Queen Sands in Section 21 allow you as a
6 geologist to reach a conclusion that the risk factor
7 penalty ought to be less than 200 percent for each of these
8 wells?

9 A No, sir.

10 Q Is water production a factor in the
11 Queen formation in this immediate area, Mr. Miller?

12 A No, not in this immediate area from the
13 Penn formation, no.

14 Q Describe for us what your recommendation
15 is about a drilling sequence between Well No. 2 and Well
16 No. 3.

17 A Okay. At this time it is very difficult
18 to determine which well should be drilled first. Our se-
19 quence of events will be to drill the Well No. 1 in the
20 south half of that southeast quarter and re-evaluate my
21 maps and the -- try to determine, or get a better fix on
22 which way the net pay is going to go and then propose the
23 Well No. 2, the second well, which may be what we've called
24 here No. 2 or No. 3.

25 Q Let's assume the drilling sequence takes

1 place as you've just suggested and Bass undertakes the
2 drilling of the No. 1 Well in the southeast of the
3 southeast.

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Will the results of that well allow Bass
6 to diminish the risk with regards to a decision for all
7 interest owners for the drilling of the second or the third
8 well?

9 A Based on the results that I have seen
10 from the Hondo well to the southeast of us and the OXY well
11 to the southwest of us, I believe the risk of drilling a
12 dry hole is extremely high in this area on any one well
13 step out, so I do not see that the risk is going to be
14 diminished tremendously.

15 Q Do you have a recommendation to the
16 Examiner as to how he might sequence the election periods
17 of working interest owners between the time they would have
18 to make an election decision on the last of the two wells
19 to be drilled?

20 A Okay. It would be our proposal to drill
21 the second well after a, you know, 90-day period of evalu-
22 ating the first well and then we would prefer an additional
23 90-day period before we drill the third well to give us
24 enough time to evaluate not only the logs, the maps, but
25 the production of the second well.

1 Q But let's assume the second well is
2 drilled and completed. What information do you propose to
3 make available to the working interest owners prior to the
4 time they need to make an election on the third well?

5 A Okay, we would, of course, the working
6 interest owners would receive all the data that we have
7 submitted to the State as required State data. We would
8 give them the logs of the second well so that they could
9 make their own evaluation, determining their own risk on
10 drilling the third well.

11 Q What type of logs would provide?

12 A It is our intention to run porosity --
13 gamma ray porosity logs and resistivity logs and we'd make
14 these available.

15 Q And you'd make those available plus the
16 completion information that is disclosed on the State re-
17 ports --

18 A Yes.

19 Q -- so that they will have that informa-
20 tion available before the election period expires in which
21 they must commit on the third well?

22 A That is correct.

23 Q What period of time do you propose to
24 allow those parties to examine the data and to make a deci-
25 sion on participation in the third well?

1 A I would think 30 days would be reason-
2 able.

3 Q Is that a period of time that you com-
4 monly could --

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q -- take that information and you, as a
7 geologist, examine and reach a conclusion about participa-
8 tion for your company?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q In addition to the geologic risk invol-
11 ved in drilling these type of Queen wells in this imme-
12 diate area, Mr. Miller, are there other types of risks in-
13 volved?

14 A Yes, there are other risks involved con-
15 siderably. One thing would be the risk of drilling --
16 making a completion and drilling a commercial well, or a
17 production stream risk.

18 The other risk which is unique to this
19 area is a waterflow that occurs at approximately 2800 feet.
20 Mr. Nutter is prepared to discuss these other risks and I
21 am not prepared to do so.

22 Q In what geologic formation does this
23 waterflow occur?

24 A This waterflow occurs apparently from
25 the base of the salt.

1 Q At approximately what depth?

2 A At approximately 2800 feet.

3 Q And your Queen wells are drilled to a
4 total depth of approximately what?

5 A 4600 feet.

6 Q What specific example in the immediate
7 area causes you to know that waterflow is a problem?

8 A Okay, the Hondo well just abandoned,
9 plugged and abandoned in the northwest quarter of the
10 northwest quarter of Section 27, encountered a very severe
11 waterflow that flowed as much as 2000 barrels of water a
12 day from that interval and this lasted for a number of
13 days.

14 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes
15 my examination of Mr. Miller, Mr. Stogner.

16 We would move the introduction
17 of his Exhibits Number Eight through Eleven.

18 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits Eight
19 through Eleven in both cases will be admitted into evidence
20 at this time.

21

22 CROSS EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. STOGNER:

24 Q Mr. Miller.

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q What kind of a timeframe in which the
2 No. 1 is to be drilled? Do you have as starting date yet
3 or what?

4 A We do not have a rig at this time
5 although we are actively seeking bids for a rig. I would
6 think within the next two months that we should be ready to
7 drill that well.

8 Q And how long do you think it will be out
9 there on that particular location before TD is reached?

10 A I think probably 10 to 15 days. I'm not
11 real sure of that.

12 Q Now is the waterflow, if you encounter a
13 waterflow, are you looking at an additional few more days
14 to complete this?

15 A Probably we are and probably consider-
16 ably more cost.

17 Q Okay. Would that tack on another 2 or 3
18 days to the 10 to 15 days or does that 10 to 15 days in-
19 clude that particular problem?

20 A I think it would add to it.

21 Q Okay, now you -- let me make sure I get
22 this straight, the time period.

23 The first well gets down. Then you're
24 requesting a 90-day period after the first well for --

25 A I was requesting a 90-day period from

1 the hearing or from the date of the ruling and then I was
2 requesting an additional 90 days between Well No. 2 and
3 No. 3 so that the 90 days did not run concurrently on Well
4 No. 2 and 3.

5 Q Do you see any problem if we tack on,
6 say, 180 days from the date of the hearing for the No. 3
7 Well with an option to seek an additional time period in-
8 stead of basing the No. 3 compulsory pooling on the No. 2
9 Well?

10 A I would see no problem in that.

11 MR. KELLAHIN: It should work,
12 Mr. Examiner.

13 Q And you mentioned a 30-day examination
14 period. Do you want to run that by me again? I'm not sure
15 I caught that.

16 A Oh, this is the time from the time that
17 we send an AFE and a proposal to drill to our working in-
18 terest partners or potential partners in this next well.
19 We would give them 30 days in which time to study the
20 data and make their own determination as to whether they
21 would go working interest drilling or a nonconsent on the
22 work.

23 Q Now is that for both wells?

24 A It would be the third well.

25 Q On the third well.

1 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Kellahin,
2 what is the normal period that we give, 45, do you remem-
3 ber?

4 MR. KELLAHIN: A 30-day elec-
5 tion period.

6 MR. STOGNER: Okay, so this is
7 no different from those orders. I'm sorry, there are so
8 many days mentioned in a compulsory pooling order I get
9 confused on the proper time.

10 MR. KELLAHIN: The one we're
11 focusing on is that 30-day election period and so that
12 they'll have the data that we have for their election on
13 the third well, we want to share the logs and the comple-
14 tion information.

15 Q Mr. Miller, let's refer now to Exhibit
16 Number Nine. When I look down there in the extreme south-
17 west quarter southwest quarter of Section 22 there's a dry
18 hole marker. I believe that's the Leatherwood Atlantic
19 State --

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q -- No. 1 and did that penetrate the
22 Queen?

23 A That well did penetrate the Queen. It
24 was drilled prior to the discovery of the Queen in this
25 area. It drilled to approximately 6000 feet. An electric

1 log and an old compensated gamma ray -- uncompensated
2 neutron log was run. The Queen was not tested.

3 This well was drilled to the Penrose.

4 Q And was tested in the Penrose?

5 A Tested in the Penrose and plugged with-
6 out setting casing.

7 Q Now you said this -- this well was
8 drilled prior to the discovery of the pool.

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q Approximately what date?

11 A The Leatherwood was completed in appro-
12 ximately, and I'm going to have to -- it was completed in
13 approximately 1970, I believe.

14 Q Okay, and the Reeves --

15 A I do have the scout ticket data here.

16 Q -- Queen pool was discovered in what
17 year?

18 A In 1977.

19 Q Well before the discovery.

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q What was the discovery well for the
22 Reeves Queen?

23 A The discovery well for the Reeves Queen
24 was the Honeysuckle No. 1 State 22, which is in the south-
25 east of the southeast of Section 22.

1 Q That is the one marked in red.

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q And that is still producing?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q So there really hasn't been much acti-
6 vity in the Queen after that discovery well until today's
7 date except for the two additional wells which is shown on
8 the map?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 MR. STOGNER: I have nothing
11 further of this witness. He may be excused.

12 Mr. Kellahin?

13 MR. KELLAHIN: One more wit-
14 ness, Mr. Examiner.

15
16 DANIEL S. NUTTER,
17 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his
18 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

19
20 DIRECT EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

22 Q Mr. Nutter, for the record would you
23 please state your name and occupation?

24 A My name is Dan Nutter. I'm a consulting
25 petroleum engineer.

1 Q Mr. Nutter, on prior occasions have you
2 testified before the Division as a consulting engineer?

3 A Yes, I have.

4 Q And have you made a study of certain
5 facts surrounding Bass' applications for two compulsory
6 pooling orders in Cases 9664 and 9665?

7 A Yes, I have.

8 Q What specifically were you asked to do,
9 Mr. Nutter?

10 A I was asked to make a study of the
11 drilling costs in this area, the risk factors involved and
12 the combined fixed rates for overhead costs.

13 Q And have you completed that study?

14 A Yes, I have.

15 Q And do you have opinions on both -- all
16 three of those issues?

17 A I do.

18 MR. KELLAHIN: We tender Mr.
19 Nutter as an expert petroleum engineer.

20 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Nutter is so
21 qualified.

22 Q Mr. Nutter, let me direct your attention
23 to the No. 2 Well, which is Case 9664, and to your Exhibit
24 Number Twelve. Would you take a moment and identify that
25 exhibit for us?

1 A In Case Number 9664 and in '65 Exhibit
2 Twelve is identical because these are the estimated well
3 costs, the AFE for the wells, and they're both projected at
4 this time to the same depth.

5 Now, these are not detailed AFE's. It's
6 a summary of costs and if the examiner has any questions
7 about specific items I can answer the cost. It is apparent
8 from examination of Exhibit Twelve in Case Number 9664 that
9 a dry hole would entail \$111,000 of intangible well costs.
10 The dry hole would encounter \$9000 of tangible well costs
11 and, of course, no lease equipment. So the total cost for
12 a dry hole to the Queen formation for either of these
13 pooled wells would be \$120,000.

14 The completed producer, of course, would
15 require additional pipe and testing and so forth and the
16 intangibles for the completed producer well would be
17 \$169,000. There would be \$65,000 worth of tangibles and
18 \$60,000 worth of lease equipment for a total estimated well
19 cost of \$297,000 for the completed producer.

20 Q Have you made a study to determine how
21 these estimated well costs that Bass proposes to utilize
22 for each of these wells compare to other AFE's or actual
23 well costs for similar wells in the immediate vicinity?

24 A Yes, I have. They're very favorably
25 compared.

1 Q And in what wells have you made that
2 comparison, Mr. Nutter?

3 A I have the estimated -- I have the AFE
4 that was used for the Hondo well which was just completed
5 last month and the estimated costs for a completed well
6 there is very similar to what we're talking about here.

7 Q Can you give us the numbers that Hondo
8 utilized for their AFE on the offset well in the northwest
9 of the northwest of 27?

10 A I don't have that number exactly with me
11 at this time but it was within just a few thousand dollars
12 of being the same.

13 Q In assessing the costs for drilling
14 wells of this type in the area, Mr. Nutter, have, in making
15 that study you determined whether or not there exists any
16 additional risk that the operator needs to consider?

17 A Yes, there are several risks. As Mr.
18 Miller mentioned in his testimony, there is always the risk
19 of not encountering the porosity in the Queen formation.

20 Q Are there any other risks involved in
21 drilling these wells?

22 A If you do encounter the Queen production
23 there is the inherent risk of not getting a good enough
24 well to pay out.

25 Q In addition to those risks are there any

1 mechanical risks involved in drilling the well?

2 A There's a severe risk that we're aware
3 of now at this time.

4 Q Do either of the AFE's have a dollar
5 factor built in as a contingency to anticipate that water-
6 flow issue?

7 A No, sir, they do not.

8 Q Describe for us what information you
9 have available on the waterflow issue.

10 A Okay. The Hondo Well was spudded on the
11 24th of March of this year and by the 26th of March they
12 had already run their surface pipe. They ran 458 feet of
13 8-5/8ths inch pipe for surface pipe.

14 On Day 4, the 27th of March, disaster
15 struck. I'm reading from the daily drilling report that
16 Hondo gave us.

17 On Day 4 the depth was 2801 feet. They
18 encountered a salt waterflow. They shut down for the
19 waterflow. It goes on to say they encountered the water-
20 flow at 2801 feet flowing out of the choke manifold with
21 pipe rams closed. Choke manifold pressure was 450 psi.
22 The standpipe pressure at 1000 feet was 825 psi. The pits
23 filled up. It cut through the pit wall, flooded the loca-
24 tion. They got 13 trucks out there hauling water and then
25 a Cat to build an overflow pit down the hill to catch this

1 water that was flowing out of the pit and onto the loca-
2 tion.

3 At that time just through Day 4 their
4 cumulative drilling cost was \$43,995. We'll say \$44,000
5 and you'll see what I mean when I say disaster struck here
6 in a minute.

7 On Day 5 there was zero drilling pro-
8 gress. They're waiting on orders for a good period of
9 time. The drill pipe pressure was 850 pounds. There was
10 2000 barrels of water per hour flowing. The flow decreased
11 to a 2-inch stream. 4-1/2 inch -- 4-1/2 hours was spent
12 working on their stuck drill pipe. They still had a 2-1/2
13 hour flow 4-1/2 hours later.

14 They called McCullough out, ran tempera-
15 ture and noise log, showed that the waterflow was into the
16 Redbeds at 500 feet. They attempted to break circulation
17 with Halcote, pressured up with 3000 psi, couldn't circu-
18 late cement, but the flow did cut down to a one inch
19 stream. The daily cost that day was \$22,000 and cumulative
20 costs are up to 66,000 plus now.

21 On Day 6 there was also zero progress as
22 far as drilling is concerned. The salt water continued to
23 flow. They prepared to trip out of the hole. They rigged
24 up Halliburton. The pressured up to 2500 psi, pumped
25 through the bit, and established a rate of 3 or 4 barrels

1 per minute at 1600 psi with 500 gallons of flow check, 100
2 sacks of Class C cement with 3 percent calcium chloride.

3 The rig was shut down then. They picked
4 up the Kelly in the drill pipe.

5 Okay, at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon
6 the rate was 40 barrels per minute of flow. At midnight it
7 was down to 20 barrels a minute and at 6:00 o'clock in the
8 morning it was down to 12 barrels a minute of flow.

9 While they were pumping the cement a
10 bridge in the annulus broke up and it flowed plus or minus
11 10 yards of salt and Redbed to the pit. It flowed out
12 cement and flow check, estimated bottoms and up in less
13 than 5 minutes. That shows how fast it was coming up the
14 hole.

15 The daily cost that day was 32,000 and
16 our total cumulative well costs through Day 6 are up to
17 \$99,000.

18 Day 7 was another bad day. They had --
19 they monitored the waterflow. The waterflow was -- they
20 mixed more mud and so forth. The waterflow was 900 barrels
21 of water per hour that day. They hauled 12,120 barrels of
22 water away. The estimated flow was 900 barrels of water an
23 hour.

24 The daily cost that day was \$16,900 and
25 the cumulative costs were up to \$116,000.

1 Day 8 they hauled 23,850 barrels of salt
2 water. The cost was \$23,000. It was still flowing at the
3 rate of 994 barrels an hour with 15 trucks hauling water.

4 They pumped 30 barrels of fresh water
5 and 30 barrels of 50 BIZ (sic) sweep into the well to try
6 to clean it up a little bit. The mud cost was \$4000. The
7 daily cost that day was \$39,500 with a cumulative cost of
8 \$155,266.

9 Day 9, same thing over again. It was
10 flowing 900 barrels an hour. They were hauling water.
11 Cost that day was 22,593 for the mud that they tried to
12 cure the well with.

13 The daily cost was 54,480 including
14 casing because they did run casing that day but by this
15 time the Commission was requiring them to try to do some-
16 thing to stop this downhole blowout into the Redbeds and
17 into the salt.

18 So their cumulative costs up to this
19 point, now, are \$209,700.

20 Day 10, they started drilling again and
21 they hauled 19,200 barrels of water at a cost of \$17,000.
22 The flow was decreasing to about 5-to-600 barrels per hour
23 but they had 7 trucks still hauling.

24 The daily cost that was 19,000. Cumula-
25 tive costs were \$229,000.

1 Day 11, they pumped in some more fresh
2 water with some sweep. Their pipe keeps getting stuck in
3 the hole because this hole is washing in on the -- caving
4 in on the drill pipe, so they're using this sweep trying to
5 keep the formation back.

6 But that day they had 4 -- 3 reported
7 tight spots in their hole at 1950, 1620 and 1512. They
8 hauled 13,500 barrels of water on Day 11 at a cost of over
9 \$13,000. The rate, however, was decreasing. They only
10 needed three trucks to haul the water which was now flowing
11 at the rate of 150 barrels an hour, but the daily cost that
12 day was almost 17,000 and cumulative costs are up to
13 \$245,000 now.

14 Day 12, the flow was down to 50 barrels
15 an hour. They hauled 7,050 barrels of water away at a cost
16 of over \$8000. They had tight spots in the hole at 1215,
17 1316, 1420, 1512, 1650 and 1950, so they were pumping fresh
18 water in to try to dissolve these bridges.

19 On Day 13 they laid down their drill
20 pipe. They did some logging. They went back in with their
21 drill pipe; spotted 40 sacks of cement at 5050 to 4950.
22 They laid down of spot -- of drill pipe; spotted 50 sacks
23 at 4470 to 4370.

24 They then laid down 43 sacks and spotted
25 60 sacks at 3124 to 3024.

1 They hauled 3030 barrels of water. The
2 mud cost that day was \$4000. The daily cost of operation
3 was almost 7000 and the cumulative cost is up to \$267,000
4 now.

5 On Day 14 they laid down their drill
6 pipe, came out and changed their rams. They ran their
7 casing and packer. This was a Commission-required casing
8 program. Even though the well was not going to be a pro-
9 ducer they had to run some pipe in there to try to seal off
10 some of this area causing the trouble.

11 And finally they -- they released the
12 rig after running 43 joints of 5-1/2 inch pipe to 1779.
13 The float shoe was at 1885. They ran a centralizer on
14 every other joint. They cemented with 350 sacks of Class C
15 with some calcium chloride and some -- and 100 sacks of
16 Thickset. They cement bridged and it didn't circulate, so
17 they moved the rig off the location. They rigged up
18 McCullough, then. That was on the 6th of April. On the
19 11th of April they bled off a small stream of water from
20 the annulus and rigged up McCullough, ran surface noise and
21 temperature log; perforated four holes at 592 feet,
22 squeezed it with 250 sacks of neat cement. They got 6
23 sacks to the surface and squeezed the 100 barrels at 400
24 psi.

25 Q What's the total reported cost to that

1 operator for that project?

2 A We estimate that it cost the operator,
3 we don't have the actual costs, because they don't give a
4 daily cost every day, but we estimate that this thing cost
5 them somewhere between \$175,000 and \$200,000 additional
6 over what a dry hole would have cost to the depth that they
7 drilled.

8 Q Having studied the problem Hondo had in
9 drilling the offsetting well have you made a recommendation
10 to Bass with regards as to what additional incremental
11 costs they might expect to control waterflows in that part-
12 icular formation?

13 A Yes, I have Exhibits Twelve and Thir-
14 teen -- or Thirteen in Cases 9664 and 9665.

15 Now the Commission has -- we have a
16 drilling permit already approved for that No. 1 Well that
17 Mr. Miller had referred to. That drilling permit called
18 for 500 feet of surface pipe. We were going to run
19 8-5/8ths to 500 feet, which is close to what Hondo had run.
20 They had run 485 feet of their 8 and 5, but we were going
21 to run 500 and now the Commission has requested that this
22 surface casing program be changed to 1680 feet of 8-5/8ths
23 but Bass does not think that this provides enough protec-
24 tion, so what we're proposing to do is to drill a bigger
25 hole and run 11-3/4 inch surface pipe and then we would

1 drill out from under that. That would be run and cemented.
2 Then we would drill out from under that and if a waterflow
3 was encountered, then, we would run an intermediate string
4 of pipe before we would continue on down to test the pay.

5 So Exhibit Thirteen in these two cases
6 shows the incremental cost associated with the high -- high
7 pressure waterflow. The incremental costs required just to
8 get to the option of running the contingent intermediate
9 string, which would be run in the event of a waterflow
10 would be \$40,000. The incremental cost of the extra sur-
11 face pipe is \$29,435. The incremental surface and inter-
12 mediate hole cost because we would have to be drilling a
13 much larger diameter hole, would be \$3,800. The incre-
14 mental surface casing and equipment costs are \$4,000, and
15 the surface casing transportation would be 2765. So we
16 have a total incremental cost just to get to the option of
17 finding out whether we're going to encounter a waterflow or
18 not, for an additional \$40,000.

19 Now if we did encounter the waterflow
20 and continued to drill on down, we would run the intermed-
21 iate string if we encountered the waterflow.

22 The incremental cost of an 8000 -- of a
23 3000 foot intermediate pipe string of 8-5/8ths inch casing
24 would be 32,550. The cementing and equipment cost for the
25 intermediate string would be \$12,000. There would be two

1 additional days for running, cementing and nipping up the
2 intermediate string at \$7,600. There would be intermediate
3 pipe transportation charges of \$4,000; incremental mud
4 costs of \$3,000 and two days of additional supervising --
5 supervision for running, cementing and nipping up the
6 intermediate casing at 750. So we'd have an additional in-
7 cremental cost of \$60,000. So if we go back to the -- if
8 we go back to Exhibit Number Twelve we saw that the dry
9 hole was going to cost \$120,000. The additional incremen-
10 tal costs on that would be \$40,000 for the -- to determine
11 if we needed the intermediate string; an additional \$60,000
12 if we did need the intermediate string. So the cost would
13 go up by \$100,000.

14 The producing well at \$297,000 would
15 also be increased by \$100,000.

16 Q Based upon your study of the costs in-
17 volved, do you have an opinion with regards to whether or
18 not the proposed AFE and the incremental costs associated
19 with a high pressure waterflow are fair and reasonable?

20 A I think they are to be safe, to really
21 be conscientious about trying to avoid this waterflow in
22 the first place and if you do encounter it, to be able to
23 handle it in a safe and sane manner is going to cost some
24 extra money and it also increases the risk of the loss of
25 the hole because if you've got that water down there at

1 that pressure, you've got another risk factor involved and
2 that is collapse of your casing after you do get it run.

3 Q What, in your opinion as a petroleum
4 engineer is an appropriate risk factor penalty that you
5 would recommend Mr. Stogner incorporate into each of the
6 forced pooling orders?

7 A Well, considering the factors that Mr.
8 Miller went into of the high risk of encountering the
9 porosity in the Queen here as evidenced by offsetting wells
10 being dry, the wells that are direct offsets to the pro-
11 ducing well being dry holes, plus the risk that I mentioned
12 earlier of even if you get a producer not having sufficient
13 reserves to pay out, plus this mechanical problem that
14 you're likely to encounter because of the waterflow, I
15 can't see anything less than the 200 percent at all.

16 Q Will that 200 percent change with the
17 drilling of the third well?

18 A If this waterflow is present that's
19 going to be there. We don't even know where the water's
20 coming from. There is a waterflood or a salt water dispo-
21 sal, there's injection of water about a mile to the north.
22 I don't know if that's the source or not, but this water
23 wasn't there before. They used to not encounter this
24 waterflow in these wells, but it's there today.

25 Q Regardless of the sequence of drilling

1 of the 1, 2 and 3 wells, the risk factor in your opinion
2 remains the same?

3 A I think it's the same. It's a risky
4 proposition even when you're talking about direct offsets.

5 Q Have you examined and reached a con-
6 clusion about the overhead rates that you would recommend
7 to Mr. Stogner that he incorporate into the order?

8 A Yeah, Ernst and Whinney for their 1988
9 survey results show that in southeast New Mexico a well of
10 this depth, an oil well of this depth, would have a monthly
11 combined fixed rate of \$3,069 and a monthly producing rate
12 of \$318, but I think that's talking about a well that you
13 can just go out and drill without anticipating a whole lot
14 of expected overhead. Certainly I'm sure that there's
15 going to be a lot more office supervision, a lot more
16 telephone calls and hours spent on these wells than would
17 be normal because of this critical situation with this
18 water, and I would recommend the 5000 and 500 be adopted as
19 the combined fixed rates for drilling and producing wells
20 here.

21 Q For each of the two wells involved here?

22 A Yes, sir. I realize that's in excess of
23 Ernst and Whinney but I think the conditions here justify
24 that.

25 Q Were Exhibits Twelve and Thirteen in

1 each of these two cases prepared by you?

2 A Yes, they were.

3 MR. KELLAHIN: We move the
4 introduction of Mr. Nutter's exhibits.

5 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits Twelve
6 and Thirteen will be admitted into evidence.

7 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes
8 my examination of Mr. Nutter.

9

10 CROSS EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. STOGNER:

12 Q Mr. Nutter, now Exhibit Twelve does not
13 reflect additional charges as Exhibit Number Thirteen, is
14 that correct?

15 A No. Exhibit Twelve was actually pre-
16 pared before the waterflow was encountered so this was a
17 clean situation without anticipating any waterflow prob-
18 lems. It could have been redone with the incremental costs
19 worked into it but I thought it better to show what we had
20 expected and what we now anticipate, especially, already
21 the Commission has change our surface casing program from
22 500 feet to 1680, so we know that's going to happen and we
23 think we'll probably need an intermediate if we encounter
24 the waterflow.

25 Q Now this additional surface casing is to

1 1680, is that right?

2 A That is correct. That is Commission
3 requirement now.

4 Q And where did you get the \$20.75 per
5 foot at for the 11-3/4?

6 A That's not the -- oh, that's -- okay,
7 that's the incremental cost above and beyond what the
8 original surface casing was going to cost.

9 Q Oh, okay, so this is --

10 A These are all incremental costs above
11 what the original was. You see your surface casing was
12 \$5,425 on the original cost estimate, and 1680 feet of
13 11-3/4 comes out to the sum of 5,425 plus 29,435. It
14 better, anyway.

15 Q Okay.

16 A So this, the original cost estimate
17 stands, but this goes on top of it.

18 Q Okay. Mr. Nutter, in your study of this
19 particular area was there any other waterflows encountered
20 other than this Hondo well?

21 A I'm not aware of any waterflows being
22 encountered by any well until this occurred. The last well
23 I think that was drilled in the area was that Tamarack No.
24 2 and I believe that was drilled in 1986, I think.

25 Q Did you research the records on that

1 well?

2 A Yes, I have looked at the well records
3 on that well.

4 Q Was there any mention of any trouble in
5 the (unclear) wells?

6 A I didn't see anything. As a matter of
7 fact --

8 Q And that -- I'm sorry.

9 A I've got the well file on the Hondo Well
10 and it doesn't mention a waterflow. It just mentions that
11 the pipes in the well. They don't say why.

12 Q In Bass' conversations with the OCD in
13 the Hobbs office has there been any mention or any reason
14 to think if the waterflow was not encountered in the Well
15 No. 1 that it will not be encountered in Wells No. 2 and 3?
16 Or vice versa, are we looking at maybe encountering it even
17 more in those wells.

18 A If it's coming from the north you're
19 liable to see it again. And also remember that that drill-
20 ing report, they plugged that well on the last day when
21 they ran that last -- perforated the pipe at 592 and
22 squeezed in the last cement was 4-11, which is a month ago
23 tomorrow. So you've had a chance for -- if they drained
24 off -- I don't even have a total on -- nobody really knows
25 how much water flowed because it broke through the pit and

1 it was stored in the pits for a number of days and it
2 flooded the location. A lot of it, I'm sure, went into the
3 sand, but if that kind of flow was encountered and then it
4 was allowed to recharge for a month, by tomorrow, there's a
5 good chance that you'd encounter that 2000 barrels a day
6 again.

7 Q Now you've requested \$5000 and \$500 for
8 the overhead charges. Now, let's see, according to Mr.
9 Wilpitz' testimony, there's 37 percent of the parties have
10 agreed. Now are their overhead charges \$5000 also on those
11 parties that have agreed?

12 A I couldn't tell you on that.

13 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Wilpitz, I
14 open the question to you.

15 MR. WILPITZ: Those are all
16 farmout parties so there'll be no overhead.

17 MR. STOGNER: Okay.

18 Q Mr. Nutter, in your tenure with the OCD
19 what was the highest overhead charges you put on an order?

20 A I've seen wells at 6000.

21 Q Thank you, Mr. Nutter.

22 MR. KELLAHIN: That's ancient
23 history, though, isn't it, Mr. Stogner?

24 MR. STOGNER: It's history,
25 Mr. Kellahin.

1 A We're not asking for the 17,000 a day
2 they get down on the gulf, by the way.

3 Q Thank you, Mr. Nutter.

4 MR. STOGNER: Are there any
5 questions of this witness?

6 He may be excused.

7 Mr. Kellahin, do you have
8 anything further in this case or both of these -- either of
9 these cases?

10 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner,
11 we have our certificates of mailing in compliance with the
12 notice orders in which we have return receipt cards from
13 each of the parties to be pooled and I would submit those
14 in each case as Exhibit Fourteen.

15 MR. STOGNER: Exhibit Fourteen
16 will be admitted into evidence at this time.

17 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes
18 our presentation, Mr. Examiner.

19 MR. STOGNER: Does anybody
20 else have anything further in Case -- in both -- either
21 cases Nos. 9664 or 9665?

22 These cases will be taken
23 under advisement.

24
25 (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 Nos. 9664 and 9665 heard by me on 10 May 1959.

Michael E. Stewart, Examiner
Oil Conservation Division

BASS ENTERPRISES PRODUCTION CO.

FIRST CITY BANK TOWER
201 MAIN ST.
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102
817/390-8400

RECEIVED

SEP - 7 1989

OIL CONSERVATION DIV.
SANTA FE

August 31, 1989

Certified Return Receipt No. P130098292

Stagner

Producers Engineering Company
1300 Main Street
Suite 1150
Houston, Texas 77002

Re: BEPCo-Reeves "21" State Well No. 2
NW/4 SE/4 Section 21, T18S-R35E, N.M.P.M.
Lea County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

M.S.

Under our letter of May 31, 1989, Bass transmitted for your review and election a copy of New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Order No. R-8937 which was issued in connection Case No. 9664 heard before the New Mexico Conservation Division. The subject order pooled all working mineral interests under the captioned lands as to those depths from the surface of the earth to the base of the Reeves-Queen pool or to a depth of 4600', whichever is deeper.

The terms of the order provided for a 200% penalty as a reasonable charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well. Additionally, the order stipulates that \$5000.00 per month while drilling and \$5000.00 per month while producing will be the reasonable charges for supervision (combined fixed rates).

Under letter of July 24, 1989, Bass provided you with a copy of a letter dated July 17, 1989 signed by Mr. William J. LeMay, Director of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division. In that letter the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division granted an extension of time in which to begin the subject well until October 15, 1989.

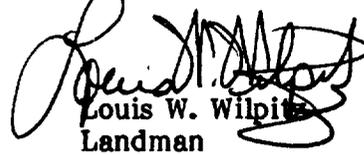
The order stipulates that, in the event the operator does not commence actual drilling operations on a proposed well within ninety (90) days from the pooler's receipt of the AFE, a new AFE must be transmitted. In keeping with that provision of the order, enclosed please find updated AFE cost estimates which reflects an estimated costs of \$355,900.00 as estimated total well costs.

If you desire to participate in the drilling of this well you must remit to Bass no later than thirty (30) days from your receipt of this notice, in the form of cashier's check or a money order, your prorata share of the well costs. Attached as Exhibit "A" please find a schedule indicating your working interest in the subject well.

Working Interest Owners
August 31, 1989
Page 2

Should you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact me at
(817) 390-8585.

Sincerely,


Louis W. Wilpita
Landman

LWW:tlo

cc: State of New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
P.O. Box 2088
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
Attention: Mr. William J. LeMay, Director

BASS ENTERPRISES PRODUCTION CO.

FIRST CITY BANK TOWER
201 MAIN ST.
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102
817/390-8400

August 31, 1989

Certified Return Receipt No. P130098289

Georgetown Exploration, Inc.
707 Travis
Suite 1700
Houston, Texas 77002

Re: BEPCo-Reeves "21" State Well No. 2
NW/4 SE/4 Section 21, T18S-R35E, N.M.P.M.
Lea County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Under our letter of May 31, 1989, Bass transmitted for your review and election a copy of New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Order No. R-8937 which was issued in connection Case No. 9664 heard before the New Mexico Conservation Division. The subject order pooled all working mineral interests under the captioned lands as to those depths from the surface of the earth to the base of the Reeves-Queen pool or to a depth of 4600', whichever is deeper.

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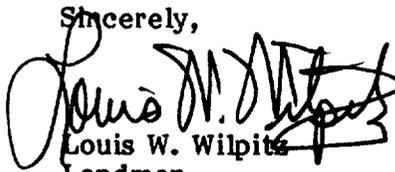
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If you desire to participate in the drilling of this well you must remit to Bass no later than thirty (30) days from your receipt of this notice, in the form of cashier's check or a money order, your prorata share of the well costs. Attached as Exhibit "A" please find a schedule indicating your working interest in the subject well.

Working Interest Owners
August 31, 1989
Page 2

Should you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact me at
(817) 390-8585.

Sincerely,



Louis W. Wilpitz
Landman

LWW:tlo

cc: State of New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
P.O. Box 2088
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
Attention: Mr. William J. LeMay, Director

EXHIBIT "A"

Parties Owning A Working Interest Under New Mexico Oil
Conservation Division Order No. R-8937
NW/4 SE/4 Section 21, T18S-R35E, N.M.P.M.
Lea County, New Mexico

<u>Parties</u>	<u>Interest</u>
King Ranch Oil & Gas, Inc.	.15000000
The Grayrock Corporation	.07500000
W.C. Blanks et ux, Violette Blanks	.06000000
American Cometra, Inc.	.07200000
Polaris Production Corp.	.01575000
H. Grady Payne, III	.00225000
Power-Can Resources, Inc.	.03750000
Producers Engineering Company	.05625000
Georgetown Exploration, Inc.	.05625000

BASS ENTERPRISES PRODUCTION COMPANY
APE COST ESTIMATE

WELL: REEVES "21" STATE #2 DEPTH: 4800'
LOCATION: SEC. 21 T18S, R35E, LEA COUNTY, NM

COST CATEGORY	ESTIMATED
V. TANGIBLE COMPLETION COST	
A. PROD. CASING/LINER	32,200
B. TUBING HEAD	1,000
C. PRODUCTION TUBING	11,730
D. CHRISTMAS TREE	0
E. DOWNHOLE EQUIP.	9,275
F. MISCELLANEOUS	1,795
TOTAL TANGIBLE COMPLETION COST	\$56,000
VI. LEASE EQUIPMENT/INSTALLATION	
A. EQUIPMENT	34,800
B. LAHOR	5,500
C. MISCELLANEOUS	1,100
TOTAL LEASE EQUIPMENT	\$41,400

***** COST SUMMARY *****

	DRY HOLE	COMPLETED
INTANGIBLE		
I Drilling	115,000	115,000
III Formation Evaluation	16,500	16,500
IV Completion		54,000
Subtotal	\$131,500	\$185,500
TANGIBLE		
II Drilling	73,000	73,000
V Completion		56,000
Subtotal	\$73,000	\$129,000
VI Lease Equipment		\$41,400
TOTAL	\$204,500	\$355,900