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STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Phillips Case 9965  
Petroleum for a carbon dioxide  
injection project, Lea County,  
New Mexico

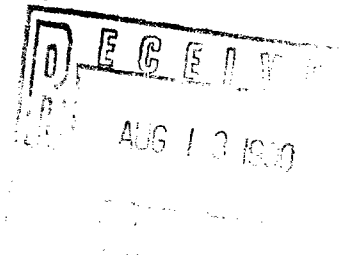
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE: MICHAEL E. STOGNER, EXAMINER

STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

June 13, 1990

**ORIGINAL**



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FOR THE DIVISION:        ROBERT G. STOVALL  
                                 Attorney at Law  
                                 Legal Counsel to the Divison  
                                 State Land Office Building  
                                 Santa Fe, New Mexico

FOR THE APPLICANT:      KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN & AUBREY  
                                 Attorneys at Law  
                                 117 N. Guadalupe  
                                 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504  
BY:    W. THOMAS KELLAHIN, ESQ.

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1 HEARING EXAMINER: This hearing will come  
2 to order. Call next case No. 9965.

3 MR. STOVALL: Application of Phillips  
4 Petroleum Company for a carbon dioxide injection  
5 project, Lea County, New Mexico.

6 HEARING EXAMINER: Call for appearances.

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

11 HEARING EXAMINER: Are there any other  
12 appearances? Will the witness please stand and be  
13 sworn.

14 SUSAN G. COURTRIGHT,  
15 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn  
16 upon her oath, was examined and testified as follows:

17 DIRECT EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. KELLAHIN:.

19 Q. Miss Courtright, would you please state  
20 your name and occupation.

21 A. Yes. My name is Susan Courtright, and I'm  
22 a reservoir engineer for Phillips Petroleum  
23 Corporation.

24 Q. Miss Courtright, on prior occasions have  
25 you testified before the Division as a reservoir

1 engineer?

2 A. Yes, I have.

3 Q. Pursuant to your employment as a reservoir  
4 engineer, have you made a study of the subject matter  
5 of this application by Phillips?

6 A. Yes, I have.

7 Q. Did you prepare the exhibits and compile  
8 the necessary information for completing the C-108  
9 that was filed in this case?

10 A. Yes, either I compiled them or they were  
11 prepared under my supervision.

12 MR. KELLAHIN: At this time, Mr. Examiner,  
13 we tender Miss Courtright as an expert reservoir  
14 engineer.

15 HEARING EXAMINER: Miss Courtright is so  
16 qualified.

17 Q. (BY MR. KELLAHIN) Let me direct your  
18 attention to what we've marked as Exhibit 1. Would  
19 you identify that, please.

20 A. Exhibit No. 1 is the area of the view  
21 around Leamex Well #26, our proposed CO2 injection  
22 well.

23 Q. Take a moment and orient us as to where  
24 your project is in relation to any other similar-type  
25 pilot injection CO2 projects.

1           A.       Yes.  The acreage shown in yellow  
2 highlights the Phillips acreage, and we're located  
3 halfway in between the Conoco MCA CO2 flood to the  
4 west and our East Vacuum CO2 flood to the east.  This  
5 acreage is 100 percent Phillips, and the only royalty  
6 interest is the state one-eighth royalty interest.

7           Q.       What is represented by the area on the  
8 display contained within the yellow shading that is  
9 outlined in green?

10          A.       Yes.  That is our proposed project area.  
11 It's 480 acres, which we propose for our ~~Leamex~~  
12 ~~Paddock~~ CO2 project.

13          Q.       Within that project area, is the working  
14 ~~interest~~ and the mineral and overriding royalty  
15 ~~interest~~ the same?

16          A.       Yes, it is.  And with our particular  
17 project, there are two leases involved, ~~the Leamex~~  
18 ~~lease~~ and the Devon State Lease.  ~~The~~ production from  
19 ~~those~~ leases is both 100 percent Phillips and  
20 ~~one-eighth~~ royalty to the state, and the production is  
21 ~~dedicated~~ to the same institution.

22          Q.       When we look at the area of review around  
23 the initial injector, the half-mile radius, then there  
24 are no other operators of wells in this area other  
25 than Phillips?

1 A. No, sir, this is all Phillips acreage.

2 Q. You referred to the Philmex area where you  
3 have also instituted a waterflood injection project --  
4 I'm sorry -- a carbon dioxide project?

5 A. Yes, sir. In the southwest quarter of  
6 Section 26 is our current Maljamar CO2 pilot. We are  
7 injecting CO2 into our Philmex Well No. 38, indicated  
8 by the green upside down triangle, and we are  
9 injecting CO2 at line pressure, supply line pressure  
10 or approximately 1750 psi.

11 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, for your  
12 reference, we have made copies of Division Order  
13 R-3668 and then 3668-A and B. That project was  
14 originally a waterflood. It was amended in June of  
15 1989 to provide for the injection of CO2. Examiner  
16 Catanach heard that case, and then subsequently it was  
17 modified six months later to correct a well location  
18 and to change some typographical errors in the order  
19 and to broaden the zone of injection.

20 Q. ~~Let~~ me ask you to describe for the Examiner  
21 how the Philmex CO2 project compares to or contrasts  
22 from what you propose to do with the Leamex project?

23 A. Our Philmex CO2 pilot is similar to our  
24 paddocked flood in that we will be injecting into only  
25 one well, and that this injection will be straight

1 from line pressure.

2           It is dissimilar from our pilot in that it  
3 will be going into a different formation, and that is  
4 the Leamex Paddock formation, which is approximately  
5 6,000 feet deep opposed to the Grayburg/San Andres,  
6 which is about 4,500 feet deep.

7           Q.     Looking at your Exhibit 1, describe for us  
8 your plan of operation, if you will, for the injection  
9 of CO2 and then the subsequent production of the  
10 hydrocarbons.

11          A.     Yes. We plan to inject into our Leamex  
12 Well No. 26, which is in Unit Letter M of Section 22.  
13 Our two current producing wells are Leamex 21 in Unit  
14 N, and Devon State 2 in Unit Letter O, both of Section  
15 22.

16                 We do show other wells within the half mile  
17 radius which have been drilled to and tested in the  
18 Leamex Paddock formation. These are indicated by a  
19 small "p" to the side of the well. These wells  
20 include the No. 3 Well, located in Unit J of Section  
21 22, Leamex No. 35 in Unit K, Leamex 34 in Unit Letter  
22 L, all of Section 22. Also Leamex 30 in Unit P of  
23 Section 21, Philmex 15 in Unit Letter A of Section 28,  
24 and, lastly, Philmex 13 in Unit B of Section 27.

25          Q.     Describe for us the productive intervals



1 within the project.

2 A. The production will be from the paddock  
3 zone, which is a primarily dolomite with some shale  
4 stringers.

5 Q. We'll get into the geology later, but  
6 describe for us briefly the mechanics of how you  
7 propose to inject the gas and then recover the  
8 hydrocarbons.

9 A. ~~We will be injecting~~ into Leamex 26, which  
10 ~~is~~ our well which is our highest structure well, and  
11 we will be producing from the wells which are downdip  
12 ~~to this~~ injection well.

13 Q. ~~Have you~~ instituted a waterflood aspect to  
14 ~~the~~ project?

15 A. No, we have not. ~~We will be~~ going straight  
16 ~~to~~ continuous CO2 injection.

17 Q. Currently, the producing wells then for the  
18 Paddock Pool are which wells?

19 A. ~~The only three~~ wells which are producing  
20 ~~from the Paddock Pool~~ are the Leamex 26 and 21 and the  
21 ~~Devon State No. 22.~~

22 Q. ~~And then you'll~~ convert one of the 3, the  
23 26, for injection and continue to produce the other  
24 two in some combination?

25 A. That's correct.

1 Q. Describe for us the type of order you're  
2 requesting from the Examiner in terms of the specific  
3 details. If it aids you in your discussion, you might  
4 refer to the order that we received on the Philmex  
5 property. If not, summarize for us the kinds of  
6 components or parts that you want in the order.

7 A. One, we would like the project area to be  
8 defined as follows, and that is the east half of the  
9 southeast quarter of Section 21, the southwest quarter  
10 and the west half of the southeast quarter of Section  
11 22, the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of  
12 Section 27, along with the north half of the northwest  
13 quarter of Section 27, and, lastly, the northeast  
14 northeast of Section 28.

15 Q. What's the purpose for that area being  
16 described as the project area for the CO2 injection?

17 A. That would allow us at any later time to go  
18 back to any well which is deep enough to reenter and  
19 test these wells to see if there is any sort of  
20 response in the paddock in these wells.

21 Q. The initial effort then to determine  
22 response for the CO2 injection in 26 is to look to  
23 Well 21 and 2; if that appears to be successful, then  
24 you want the opportunity to produce the hydrocarbons  
25 out of the other wells in the project area?

1           A.       That's correct. And that will mean the  
2 addition of three additional proration units, and that  
3 would be Unit J and O in Section 22 and Unit B in  
4 Section 27.

5           Q.       Describe for us your proposal to the  
6 Examiner with how to handle the producing allowable  
7 for the project.

8           A.       We would like the project to be  
9 assigned a maximum project allowable which is the sum  
10 of the individual well top allowables, and that is to  
11 include all the wells which are completed in the  
12 Leamex Paddock field.

13          Q.       For example, show us how that might work.  
14 If currently we have three wells in the project area,  
15 what would be the actual producing maximum allowable  
16 for the project on a daily basis?

17          A.       As we have three wells currently completed  
18 in the Leamex Paddock, we would request that we  
19 receive the top allowable for three wells. And the  
20 well allowable for the Leamex Paddock formation is 142  
21 barrels a day.

22          Q.       It's customary, is it not, in projects like  
23 this to take the allowable for the injector and  
24 transfer that to the producing wells?

25          A.       That's correct.

1 Q. So you do get credit for the allowable that  
2 an injector might otherwise be able to earn?

3 A. Yes, that's right.

4 HEARING EXAMINER: Let me make sure I've  
5 got this straight. The allowables currently enacted  
6 for the Paddock is 142 barrels of oil per day per 40  
7 acre unit?

8 THE WITNESS: Yes.

9 HEARING EXAMINER: So this would be  
10 multiplied presently times three for the two producing  
11 wells?

12 THE WITNESS: Correct.

13 HEARING EXAMINER: And then any time  
14 another well comes on board, it would be multiplied by  
15 that factor?

16 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

17 HEARING EXAMINER: Okay. Just want to make  
18 sure I understand.

19 Mr. Kellahin?

20 MR. KELLAHIN: That you, Mr. Examiner.

21 Q. We'll get into some of the details of the  
22 C-108 in a moment, but describe for the Examiner  
23 whether or not there are any pressure limitations  
24 necessary. You understand the .2 psi per foot of  
25 depth guideline of the Division?

1           A.     Yes. ~~We~~ are asking that our maximum  
2 pressure be 1800 psi, and that does not abide by the  
3 .2 psi per foot requirement by the Commission.  
4 However, if we are granted the 1800 psi maximum  
5 limitation, we will make full utilization of our line  
6 supply pressure. And, of course, we will conduct a  
7 separate test and submit that to the Commission prior  
8 to beginning CO2 injection.

9           Q.     What would be the surface pressure if .2  
10 psi per foot of depth is applied?

11          A.     That would limit us to approximately 1,200  
12 psi.

13          Q.     And your line pressure into the project is  
14 what, 1800?

15          A.     ~~The~~ maximum line pressure guaranteed us is  
16 ~~1800~~.

17          Q.     Have you used a similar concept, if you  
18 will, in the Philmex CO2 flood?

19          A.     Yes, that's correct. After conducting our  
20 separate test, we are allowed the 1800 as our maximum  
21 pressure.

22                   HEARING EXAMINER: Before we go any  
23 further, I've got some questions on this particular --  
24 your 1800 in your -- let me rephrase that. Your  
25 current CO2 pilot project down in Section 26 has a

1 1800 pressure limit?

2 THE WITNESS: Yes. In the order I believe  
3 it states 1750, and we had --

4 HEARING EXAMINER: In 3668-A or B? Here it  
5 is, in paragraph 5 of 3668-A.

6 THE WITNESS: Yes. And that was 1700 psi.  
7 Later, after the separate test, we wrote a letter to  
8 the Commission and were granted the full line pressure  
9 of 1800.

10 HEARING EXAMINER: And that was done  
11 administratively; right?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes.

13 HEARING EXAMINER: I keep hearing about the  
14 line pressure of 1800 psi. What line are we talking  
15 about?

16 THE WITNESS: We are talking about the CO2  
17 supply line which goes through our property, through  
18 the Phillips acreage, which supplies CO2 to both East  
19 Vacuum and to Conoco's Maljamar unit.

20 HEARING EXAMINER: Whose line is that?

21 THE WITNESS: That is Big Three's.

22 HEARING EXAMINER: That's a feeder line  
23 from the Seminole; is that right?

24 THE WITNESS: No. We receive the CO2 from  
25 McElmo Dome in Colorado, the Cortez pipeline.

1 HEARING EXAMINER: That's the Shell  
2 pipeline, as I know it, the one that comes from  
3 southwest Colorado across New Mexico and eventually  
4 into the Seminole area; is that correct?

5 THE WITNESS: Yes.

6 HEARING EXAMINER: I know it was a Shell  
7 line for some reason. You know it as something  
8 different. I wanted to make sure we're talking about  
9 the same thing.

10 Okay, Mr. Kellahin.

11 Q. (BY MR. KELLAHIN) Let's turn to your next  
12 display. Identify Exhibit No. 2 for us.

13 A. Exhibit No. 2 is a cross-section through  
14 the current three producing Leamex Paddock wells in  
15 addition to two wells, one on either side of the  
16 producing wells.

17 Q. Your proposed injector is the second well  
18 from the left?

19 A. That's correct, and the middle three logs  
20 are the current Paddock producers.

21 Q. When we look at the line on the display,  
22 it's the bottom line running horizontal that connects  
23 the various logs, what does that represent?

24 A. Yes. These logs were correlated based on  
25 the top of the Paddock pay. However, I'd like to

1 point out to you, the second log from the right for  
2 the Devon State #2, this is the discovery well in the  
3 Paddock field. What we have marked is the top of the  
4 Paddock as reported to the state at the time this well  
5 was discovered.

6 Q. What does that represent in terms of your  
7 project?

8 A. We did not correlate based on this topic.  
9 It was chosen by another company. This well was  
10 drilled by Kirby Petroleum. And we subsequently  
11 bought this well and this lease several years ago. So  
12 we simply noted at the top of this formation simply  
13 for reference sake.

14 Q. Your geologists have made new correlations  
15 for you for these three wells with control wells on  
16 each end?

17 A. Yes, that's correct.

18 Q. What significance do you as an engineer  
19 attach to the project with this correlation?

20 A. We will be injecting into the structurally  
21 high well, the Leamex #26, and there are two benefits  
22 to this. One is it will aid in increasing the induced  
23 recovery and also minimize CO2 breakthrough.

24 Q. Why would you put the CO2 at that point in  
25 the structure as opposed to somewhere else in the



1 structure?

2 A. By injecting upstructure, we will be able  
3 to promote a more efficient flood and more or less  
4 create a gas cap type of a flood.

5 Q. The portions of the log that are shown with  
6 the orange shading, what do those represent?

7 A. Those are the current producing  
8 perforations.

9 Q. Will you continue to maintain those  
10 perforations in the two producing wells?

11 A. Yes, we will.

12 Q. Where will the CO2 be injected in the  
13 Leamex 26 Well?

14 A. There will be no additional perforations  
15 added. We will use the current producing  
16 perforations.

17 Q. Let's turn now, if you will, to Exhibit No.  
18 3 and identify and describe that.

19 A. Exhibit No. 3 is a structure map based on  
20 the top of the Paddock Pay as we identified it in the  
21 Exhibit No. 2 or our cross-section. What this further  
22 indicates is that our injection well, Leamex #26, is  
23 structurally high on an east-west trending anticline.

24 Q. Have you quantified an amount of additional  
25 recovery that you anticipate if this CO2 project is

1 successful?

2 A. Yes. ~~We anticipate~~ on recovering an  
3 additional 118,000 barrels of oil. ~~This~~ is based on  
4 recovering 10 percent of the original oil in place and  
5 the potential CO2 swept area.

6 Q. What's your basis for using a 10 percent  
7 recovery of the additional oil in place?

8 A. That is an industry accepted value of  
9 probable recovery due to a CO2 flood.

10 Q. Turn now to Exhibit No. 4. Would you  
11 identify and describe that?

12 A. Yes. This is a combined production or a  
13 composite production plot from our three Leamex  
14 Paddock wells. The oil shown in the black is in  
15 barrels per day, the blue indicates water production  
16 in barrels of water per day, and the red is the GOR in  
17 Mcf per barrel.

18 Q. What's the significance then of the gas-oil  
19 ratio we see plotted in red?

20 A. There are several significant trends shown  
21 on this plot. One is the relatively constant GOR and  
22 also the increasing water production.

23 Q. The water production is the blue line?

24 A. Yes, that's correct.

25 Q. And then your oil production is this

1 declining black line?

2 A. That's correct. The relatively constant  
3 GOR and the increasing water production indicates to  
4 me that this reservoir is receiving some pressure  
5 support by means of the waterdrive reservoir.

6 Q. What, if anything, will happen to the plot  
7 of data with the institution of the CO2 injection into  
8 the project?

9 A. We wouldn't anticipate the GOR to increase  
10 because that's hydrocarbon gas; however, we will  
11 increase our oil production. And I might also point  
12 out that having this sort of pressure support is  
13 advantageous to us for CO2 flood. We will most likely  
14 be near or above miscibility conditions.

15 Q. Why is that important to you as a reservoir  
16 engineer?

17 A. That is more efficient to operate a CO2  
18 flood at those conditions.

19 Q. Let's turn now to the details of the C-108,  
20 and I believe you have marked your C-108 as Exhibit 5  
21 and then labeled each of the pages?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Including the attachments consecutively,  
24 starting with the number 1?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. You've described some of the basic  
2 information for the project. Let's skip just a little  
3 bit around. Let's go to page 5 and look at the  
4 schematic for the injector.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Describe for us how the well exists now and  
7 what you propose to do in order to convert it for CO2  
8 injection.

9 A. The perforations shown in the lower left-  
10 hand corner, perforations from 6031 to 6063 are the  
11 current producing interval perforations, and they will  
12 remain to be our injection perforations. However, we  
13 will go in hole with a ~~packer and plastic-coated~~  
14 tubing, and we will also place pressure gauges so that  
15 we might monitor the casing pressure.

16 HEARING EXAMINER: If I may, before we get  
17 off this well --

18 THE WITNESS: Yes.

19 HEARING EXAMINER: I notice that the  
20 production string is cemented all the way back up to  
21 surface. Is this the way it exists now?

22 THE WITNESS: Yes, it is.

23 HEARING EXAMINER: When was this well  
24 drilled?

25 THE WITNESS: This well was drilled in --

1 HEARING EXAMINER: Approximately.

2 THE WITNESS: -- 1976, approximately.

3 HEARING EXAMINER: It seems unusual for it  
4 to be cemented back to the surface. Was it in  
5 anticipation of the CO2 project?

6 THE WITNESS: No, sir.

7 HEARING EXAMINER: I'm glad to see that.  
8 Please continue, Mr. Kellahin.

9 Q. (BY MR. KELLAHIN) What else will you do or  
10 would determine necessary as a reservoir engineer in  
11 order to utilize the wellbore for CO2 injection?

12 A. We will do a small acid clean-up job prior  
13 to beginning CO2 injection.

14 Q. How do you monitor the integrity of your  
15 injector?

16 A. That will be via the pressure gauge placed  
17 to monitor the casing annulus.

18 Q. Do you handle the operations of the  
19 injector any differently than an injector that injects  
20 saltwater?

21 A. Yes. We will be monitoring and having CO2  
22 monitors placed around the well site.

23 Q. When we look at your Exhibit 1, you have  
24 shown us your half-mile radius of review. Pursuant to  
25 that area, have you also tabulated the wellbore

1 information for all those wells within that half-mile  
2 radius?

3 A. Yes, we have.

4 Q. Turn us to the page of your Exhibit 5 that  
5 shows your tabulation of the wellbore information.

6 A. Page No. 4 shows the examination of all  
7 these wells, when they were drilled, and their present  
8 completions and where the tops of cements are.

9 Q. In making your examination, do you find any  
10 of those wells to be inadequately plugged, abandoned,  
11 completed in such a way to expose any other formation  
12 to risk by the injection of CO2 into the flood  
13 formation?

14 A. No, sir. Examination of all the wells have  
15 indicated that we do have proper cement jobs behind  
16 the casing.

17 There was one well which I would like to  
18 bring to your attention. It is the first well. It's  
19 Devon State #2. And we show the top of cement as  
20 being 2,500 feet. If you refer to page no. 6, the  
21 initial completion only placed cement in the wellbore  
22 up to a depth of 10,234. Subsequent to that, we  
23 perforated the well at 9,180 and placed further cement  
24 in the casing annulus. By temperature survey we  
25 determined the top of that cement is at 2,500.

1 Q. So what does that tell you?

2 A. This well is properly cemented.

3 Q. Have you provided wellbore schematics of  
4 all the plugged and abandoned wells?

5 A. Yes, we have.

6 Q. Direct our attention to that portion of  
7 your exhibit that talks about the water analysis.

8 A. Yes. Page No. 12 also identifies the  
9 Phillips acreage outlined in yellow, and we had the  
10 half-mile radius circle along with the two mile radius  
11 circle shown. Just inside the two mile radius circle  
12 is Attachment No. 11, and this was the well which we  
13 obtained a fresh water sample from.

14 Our other fresh water analysis is about a  
15 mile outside of the two mile radius, and this is  
16 Attachment No. 10.

17 Q. Ten is Page 13 of the exhibit and  
18 Attachment 11 is Page 14?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. In your opinion, will the injection of CO2  
21 as proposed cause potential risk to any fresh water  
22 sources?

23 A. No, sir.

24 Q. In your opinion, will the flood fluids  
25 remain confined into the hydrocarbon formation in

1 which those hydrocarbons are being produced?

2 A. Yes, it will.

3 Q. Let's go back to page 2 of your exhibit  
4 108, Exhibit No. 5. Summarize for us the potential  
5 ranges of injection for the operation and the  
6 pressures you anticipate.

7 A. Yes. ~~An average rate, estimated rate,~~ is  
8 380 Mcf per day. ~~However, should this well take a~~  
9 ~~million cubic feet of CO2, we will set a ceiling~~  
10 ~~limitation~~ at a million.

11 As we discussed earlier, the pressures, the  
12 average we anticipate to be 1720, while the maximum  
13 that we are requesting is 1800. Once again, that 1800  
14 is the maximum line pressure which our CO2 supplier  
15 has guaranteed us, and we would like to be able to  
16 make full utilization of this line pressure.

17 Q. In your opinion, Miss Courtright, will  
18 approval of this application be in the best interests  
19 of conservation, the prevention of waste, and the  
20 protection of correlative rights?

21 A. Yes, it will.

22 MR. KELLAHIN: Exhibit No. 6, Mr. Examiner,  
23 is our notification to the surface owner; I believe  
24 that was the State of New Mexico.

25 We would at this time move the introduction



1 of Exhibits 1 through 6.

2 HEARING EXAMINER: Exhibits 1 through 6  
3 will be admitted into evidence.

4 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes any  
5 examination of Miss Courtright.

6 HEARING EXAMINER: A few points I want to  
7 clarify.

8 THE WITNESS: Yes?

9 CROSS-EXAMINATION

10 BY HEARING EXAMINER:

11 Q. In the project area as you described and as  
12 the advertisement describes, I see the Devon State  
13 lease, the Leamex lease, and the Philmex lease. The  
14 working interest and all the mineral interests are the  
15 same throughout all three of those particular leases?

16 A. Yes, they are.

17 Q. And you mentioned about the beneficiary on  
18 the state -- and these are all state leases; correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Naturally, they have the same working  
21 interest and interest ownership. Is it the same  
22 beneficiary throughout all three of these particular  
23 leases?

24 A. I'm afraid I only did check the Leamex and  
25 the Devon State as those are our current producers,

1 and those are the same beneficiaries, and I will  
2 certainly check on the Philmex lease.

3 Q. Your notification to the State Land Office  
4 -- that was Exhibit 6, wasn't it, Mr. Kellahin?

5 MR. KELLAHIN: Yes, sir.

6 HEARING EXAMINER: -- were they aware  
7 through this notification of the project area?

8 MR. KELLAHIN: Yes, Mr. Examiner. We sent  
9 them a copy not only of my cover letter that filed the  
10 application, but they had a copy of the application  
11 itself and a copy of the C-108; so we sent them  
12 everything that you're looking at today.

13 Q. (BY HEARING EXAMINER) So they were aware  
14 of that, and you did not hear anything from the State  
15 Land Office?

16 A. No, sir.

17 Q. You mentioned the 10 percent figure on  
18 additional recovery as an industry constant?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Is that an industry constant for CO2 floods  
21 in general or for dolomite configuration such as what  
22 you have here?

23 A. That is for CO2 floods in general. They  
24 can average anywhere between 8 to 15 percent, and we  
25 chose 10 percent. This is something that our East

1 Vacuum flood located to the east has also indicated an  
2 additional recovery of about 9 to 10 percent.

3 Q. So you're saying they're somewhat  
4 consistent?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. You mentioned earlier in your geology that  
7 this was a dolomite; am I correct on that --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- with some shale stringers. Looking at  
10 Exhibit No. 2, do these shale stringers finger through  
11 the split in the perforations, or are they below this  
12 area? Do they cut the area off? Do they seal this  
13 particular injection interval? How do the shale  
14 stringers figure into this?

15 A. I'm afraid I can't testify too much to  
16 that. It does appear that a shale stringer does run  
17 through the sets of perforations. However, I would  
18 like to ask a geologist before stating any more.

19 Q. Okay. Do you know if there are fertile  
20 communications between those perforations in the  
21 natural formation, or the same thing, would you like  
22 to verify that with a geologist?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You're requesting a higher pressure than  
25 ~~our~~ .2 psi per foot of depth that we normally have.

1 Do you have any testimony today for the Paddock  
2 formation on a separate test?

3 A. We have not conducted a separate test yet,  
4 but we will conduct one prior to beginning injection.

5 Q. When do you propose to start or what's your  
6 time frame on this project?

7 A. We would like to begin injection by  
8 mid-August, and we will not be conducting any means of  
9 separate testing until we receive your order.

10 HEARING EXAMINER: Mr. Kellahin, without  
11 this information, I am reluctant to make that  
12 provision in the order. However, as most injection  
13 orders are, they allow for an administrative process.

14 MR. KELLAHIN: We didn't mean to confuse  
15 you, Mr. Examiner. We want the standard order that  
16 allows the separate to justify the increased limits.

17 HEARING EXAMINER: I'm not confused, Mr.  
18 Kellahin. I just wanted to clarify that.

19 MR. KELLAHIN: It's not our intent to seek  
20 the increase now because we haven't conducted the  
21 separate test, and we will provide that to the  
22 Division before obtaining the increase.

23 HEARING EXAMINER: Good.

24 Q. I'd like to touch on something now, on the  
25 CO2, the volume, you said you had a ceiling limit of a

1 million cubic feet?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. How does Phillips anticipate they would  
4 handle the CO2 after a breakthrough in these producing  
5 wells?

6 A. We have spoke with our gas company, and  
7 they have allowed us to produce approximately 60 to 70  
8 percent should we be injecting the million a day, and  
9 they said that they will accept that volume of CO2.

10 Q. 70 percent?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. To sell to your gas purchasers?

13 A. Yes, that's correct.

14 Q. And that would be put into the line, and it  
15 would be stripped out at the plant?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. Once you meet, if this became an issue, the  
18 1 million ceiling limit, would injection of anything  
19 just cease, or do you anticipate a reinjection of gas  
20 or anything to that effect?

21 A. Do you mean will we inject over 1 million?

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. We will give this well all that it will  
24 take. However, you do have to -- since we are  
25 injecting updip, you do have to make sure that you do

1 not inject at such a high rate that you cause an  
2 inefficient flood; so we will be monitoring that, and  
3 we had initially set the limit at a million a day.

4 Q. That's an internal --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- ceiling that you have put on yourself?

7 A. That's correct.

8 HEARING EXAMINER: And that's not to be  
9 included in any kind of an order, is it, Mr.  
10 Kellahin? I'm not confused?

11 I have no further questions of Miss  
12 Courtright. Are there any other questions of this  
13 witness?

14 MR. KELLAHIN: I have one question, Mr.  
15 Examiner.

16 HEARING EXAMINER: Mr. Kellahin?

17 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

19 Q. The interval that's to be produced and  
20 flooded is the entire Leamex Paddock Pool as defined  
21 by the Oil Division?

22 A. Yes. The Leamex Paddock Pool is defined as  
23 the south half of Section 22.

24 Q. Do you know what the vertical limits are  
25 established for that pool?

1           A.     No, sir, I don't.

2           Q.     But the intent of the project is to remain  
3 confined to the vertical limits of the pool?

4           A.     That's correct.

5                   HEARING EXAMINER:  Are there any other  
6 questions of this witness?

7                   MR. KELLAHIN:  No, sir.

8                   HEARING EXAMINER:  If not, she may be  
9 confused.

10                   Does anybody else have anything further in  
11 Case 9965?  If not, the case will be taken under  
12 advisement.

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1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

2

3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO )  
 4 COUNTY OF SANTA FE ) ss.

5

6 I, Deborah O'Bine, Certified Shorthand  
 7 Reporter and Notary Public, HEREBY CERTIFY that the  
 8 foregoing transcript of proceedings before the Oil  
 9 Conservation Division was reported by me; that I  
 10 caused my notes to be transcribed under my personal  
 11 supervision; and that the foregoing is a true and  
 12 accurate record of the proceedings.

13 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative  
 14 or employee of any of the parties or attorneys  
 15 involved in this matter and that I have no personal  
 16 interest in the final disposition of this matter.

17 WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL July 15, 1989.

18

*Deborah O'Bine*

19

DEBORAH O'BINE  
 CSR No. 127

20

21 My commission expires: August 10, 1990

22

23

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is  
 a complete record of the proceedings in  
 the Examiner hearing of Case No. 9965,  
 heard by me on 16 June 1989:

24

25

*Michael A. ...*, Examiner  
 Oil Conservation Division