1	STATE OF NEW MEXICO	
2	ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT	
3	OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION	
4	IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING) CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION)	
5	DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF) CONSIDERING:)	
6	APPLICATION OF YATES ENERGY)	
7	CORPORATION)	
8		
9		
10	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS	
11	EXAMINER HEARING	
12	BEFORE: JAMES MORROW, Hearing Examiner	
13	January 24, 1991	
14	Santa Fe, New Mexico	
15	This matter came on for hearing before the Oil	
16	Conservation Division on January 24, 1991, at 10:10 a.m. at	
17	Oil Conservation Division Conference Room, State Land Office	
18	Building, 310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico,	
19	before Freda Donica, RPR, Certified Court Reporter No. 417,	
20	for the State of New Mexico.	
21		
22	FOR OIL CONCERNATION BY TRADE DON'T TO	
23	FOR: OIL CONSERVATION BY: FREDA DONICA, RPR DIVISION Certified Court Reporter	
24	CCR No. 417	
25	(ORIGINAL)	

1	I N D E X	
2	January 24, 1991	
3	Examiner Hearing CASE NO. 10217	
4	APPEARANCES	PAGE 3
5	YATES ENERGY CORPORATION WITNESSES:	
6	SHARON HAMILTON	
7	Direct Examination by Mr. Padilla	4
8	Cross-Examination by Mr. Carr	11
9	BILLY DON BAKER, JUNIOR Direct Examination by Mr. Padilla	13
10	Cross-Examination by Mr. Carr	19
11		
12	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	23
13	* * *	23
14		
15	EXHIBITS	ID ADMTD
16	Applicant's 4-8 Applicant's 1-3	5 10 5 19
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

APPEARANCES FOR THE DIVISION: ROBERT G. STOVALL, ESQ. General Counsel Oil Conservation Commission State Land Office Building 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 FOR THE APPLICANT: PADILLA & SNYDER 200 W. Marcy, Suite 216 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 BY: ERNEST L. PADILLA, ESQ.

1	HEARING EXAMINER: At this time we'll hear case 10217.
2	MR. STOVALL: Application of Yates Energy Corporation
3	for compulsory pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico.
4	HEARING EXAMINER: Call for appearances.
5	MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, my name is Ernest L.
6	Padilla, Santa Fe, New Mexico, for the applicant in this
7	case. I have two witnesses to be sworn.
8	MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner, my name is
9	William F. Carr with the law firm of Campbell & Black, P.
10	A., of Santa Fe. I represent Harvey E. Yates Company; HEYCO
11	Employees, Limited; Spiral, Inc.; Explorers Petroleum; W. T.
12	Wynn. I do not have a witness.
13	THE COURT: Witnesses stand and be sworn, please.
14	(Witnesses sworn.)
15	MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, I'll call Sharon Hamilton
16	at this time.
17	SHARON HAMILTON
18	the witness herein, having been first duly sworn, testified
19	as follows:
20	DIRECT EXAMINATION
21	BY MR. PADILLA:
22	Q. Ms. Hamilton, for the record, please state your
23	full name and by whom you're employed.
24	A. Sharon Hamilton; I'm employed by Yates Energy
25	Corporation as a landman.

Q. Have you previously testified before the Oil
Conservation Division as a petroleum landman and had your
credentials accepted as a matter of record?
A. Yes, I have.
Q. Have you prepared certain land exhibits for
introduction at this hearing today?
A. Yes, I have.
MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, I would tender Ms. Hamilton
as a petroleum landman at this time.
HEARING EXAMINER: She's so qualified.
Q. (By Mr. Padilla) Ms. Hamilton, would you, first
of all, tell us briefly what you seek or what Yates Energy
Corporation seeks by this application?
A. We request the right to compulsory pool a 40-acre
tract for the purpose of drilling a Grayburg-Delaware test.
Q. Are there interest owners working interest
owners who have not agreed to pool their interests at
this time?
A. Yes, sir, there are.
MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, I'd like to start off with
exhibit the land exhibits are marked Exhibits 4 through
8, and I'd like to start with Exhibit Number 4 first,
please. And the geological exhibits are marked 1, 2 and 3,
and I'll take those up with the second witness.
Q. (By Mr. Padilla) Ms. Hamilton, let me hand you

what we have marked as Exhibit Number 4 and have you 1 2 identify that for the Examiner, please. This is a land plat of Township 18 South, Range 3 31 East, in Eddy County, New Mexico. Our proposed location 4 5 is in the southwest of the northwest quarter of Section 12, and it's highlighted in yellow on your plat. 6 7 This is a 40-acre tract? Yes, sir. This is a 40-acre tract to be 8 dedicated to the well. 9 Is that well proposed at a standard location? 10 Q. 11 Α. Yes, sir, it is. 12 Ms. Hamilton, let me hand you what we have marked Q. as Exhibit Number 5 and have you identify that for the 13 14 Examiner, please. 15 This is an ownership summary for the 40-acre 16 tract that indicates the interests of all parties involved 17 as working interest owners. 18 Can you start at the top of that list and tell us Q. exactly who has and who has not participated in drilling of 19 20 this well? Yes, sir. Yates Energy Corporation is the owner 21 22 of a .23683771 interest in this well. HEYCO Development 23 Corporation, formerly Harvey E. Yates Company, is the owner of a .37159510 interest in this well. 24 These interests are

under the control of Yates Energy Corporation, and we wish

to force pool the remaining owners.

- Q. What efforts have you made to force pool or to gain the voluntary joinder of the other interest owners?
- A. We have requested farmout from the other owners in this area and have been unable to negotiate any farmout contracts.
- Q. Let me hand you what we have marked Exhibit

 Number 5 and have you go -- or have you tell the Examiner

 what that is, please.
 - A. Exhibit Number 5 is a summary --
 - Q. I'm sorry, Exhibit Number 6.
- A. It's a summary of the correspondence that has been sent by Yates Energy Corporation to the individual owners. It begins on August the 29th of '90 when we made a well proposal and ends through a letter of January 4th. And copies of the correspondence are attached.
- Q. Briefly tell the Examiner what efforts you have made to communicate with the interest owners identified in Exhibit Number 5 and what correspondence or other communications you have had as shown by Exhibit Number 6. In other words, I'd like for you to compare Exhibits Number 5 and 6 as far as your efforts to seek the voluntary joinder of the working interest owners who have not agreed to drill the well.
 - A. On August 29th we proposed the well to all

1	interest owners. On September the 12th of 1990 we sent
2	letters to all interest owners requesting farmout. We had a
3	telephone conversation with Chevron, discussing a
4	possibility of a farmout; and on January the 3rd, 1991, we
5	sent an additional letter to Chevron with the terms as they
6	had discussed on the telephone.
7	Q. And you ultimately asked me to file a compulsory
8	pooling hearing; is that correct?
9	A. Yes, sir. We asked that we proceed with the
10	hearing, and on January the 3rd the application was made for
11	the pooling request.
12	Q. In your opinion, have you exhausted all
13	reasonable possibilities of gaining voluntary joinder for
14	drilling this well?
15	A. Yes, sir, we have.
16	Q. Have these same parties been force pooled in
17	other actions before the Oil Conservation Division?
18	A. Yes, sir, they have. They were force pooled in a
19	location in this Section 12 in the northeast of the
20	northwest quarter for the drilling of the number one.
21	Q. And did they join at that time?
22	A. No, sir. They were under non-consent under force
23	pool order.
24	Q. Ms. Hamilton, do you have anything else further
25	concerning Exhibit Number 6?

T	A. NO, SIF, I do not.
2	MR. PADILLA: I would point out to the Examiner that
3	included in Exhibit Number 6 is my affidavit of mailing and
4	the notice that we have sent to the various interest owners.
5	Q. (By Mr. Padilla) Ms. Hamilton, let's proceed on
6	with what we have marked as Exhibit Number 7, please.
7	Identify that, please.
8	A. This was the proposal AFE submitted for the
9	drilling costs for the drilling of this well.
10	Q. Ms. Hamilton, have any of the non-working
11	interest owners returned a completed AFE to you?
12	A. No, sir, they have not.
13	Q. And are the bottom line figures identified on
14	that exhibit reasonable figures, in your opinion?
15	A. Yes, sir, in my opinion, I believe they're
16	reasonable costs.
17	Q. Has anyone objected to those costs?
18	A. No, sir, they have not.
19	Q. Ms. Hamilton, should the Oil Conservation
20	Division approve this application, does the Yates Energy
21	Corporation desire to be named the operator?
22	A. Yes, sir, we do.
23	Q. Under an order?
24	A. Yes, sir, under an order.
25	Q. What overhead charges have you I should ask:

1	Do you have any overhead charges that you recommend that the
2	division incorporate into a compulsory pooling order?
3	A. We would request a \$4,000.00 overhead drilling
4	rate and a 350 monthly producing rate.
5	Q. Are these figures reflected in what we have
6	marked Exhibit Number 8?
7	A. Yes, sir, Exhibit Number 8 is a copy of the Ernst
8	& Young overhead rate summary. And we've requested the rate
9	based under the 1990 publication.
10	Q. What are those rates for a producing well?
11	A. For the depth interval that we're requesting,
12	it's \$4,000.00 monthly drilling and 350 monthly producing.
13	Q. So, Ms. Hamilton, do you have anything else
14	further to add to your testimony?
15	A. No, sir, I do not.
16	MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, we tender Exhibits 4
17	through 8. And we pass the witness for cross-examination.
18	HEARING EXAMINER: Exhibits 4 through 8 are accepted
19	into evidence.
20	On the where you summarize the interest there,
21	the 37 percent plus interest shown as HEYCO Development
22	Corporation in the upper portion of Exhibit Number 5?
23	THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
24	HEARING EXAMINER: I believe you indicated that Yates
25	Energy Corporation controlled that interest. Is that the

1 way you put it? 2 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. What did you mean by that? 3 HEARING EXAMINER: THE WITNESS: Under contract obligations between Yates 4 Energy Corporation and Harvey E. Yates Company there's a 5 farmout commitment that we feel we've satisfied the 6 7 requirements of the contract between the two companies to 8 justify the farmout to Yates Energy Corporation of that 9 interest. HEARING EXAMINER: And the 1.4 percent plus listed 10 11 below as the Employees Limited, that's a different --12 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, that's a separate interest. 1.3 MR. CARR: I have just a couple of questions. 14 HEARING EXAMINER: You go ahead. 15 CROSS-EXAMINATION 16 BY MR. CARR: 17 Ms. Hamilton, on the 12th you supplied farmout 18 terms to those parties that you're now seeking to force 19 pool, correct? 20 Yes, sir, we did. 21 Q. In addition to that, were there any other 22 negotiations between you and those parties concerning the 23 farmout? 24 No, sir, there were not. 25 Q. That proposal appears to seek a farmout of all

interests in the north half of that section; is this
correct?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Would Yates Energy be interested or willing to
consider a farmout on just the 40 acres which are involved
in this case?
A. We would prefer to negotiate a farmout for the
development of our prospect, which we consider to be the
north half. As we haven't received a proposal for the
40-acre tract, I'm not sure what management would consider.
MR. CARR: That's all. Thank you.
HEARING EXAMINER: All right. In looking through the
letters that were sent to the interest owners, there was a
mention of a number one well. Has it already been drilled?
THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. The number one well is drilled
and producing in the northeast of the northwest quarter of
Section 12.
HEARING EXAMINER: All right. Did Yates Energy drill
that well?
THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, we did.
HEARING EXAMINER: Did the costs on your AFE reflect
comparable costs or the actual costs in that well?
THE WITNESS: The number one well was drilled to just
the San Andres, so it was the 5,000 foot test. And it was
drilled in August. And so this AFE for the number two well

1	is has been it's changed from the number one AFE
2	because this is a 5,500 foot test. And so this AFE is
3	different in that it covers the additional footage, and it's
4	updated as to the current rates.
5	HEARING EXAMINER: Deeper into the San Andres; is that
6	correct?
7	THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, this goes through the San
8	Andres into the Delaware.
9	HEARING EXAMINER: You will test the Delaware?
10	THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, that is our total depth is to
11	test the Delaware and the Grayburg.
12	HEARING EXAMINER: The witness may be excused.
13	MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, at this time I'll call Bill
1 4	Baker.
15	BILLY DON BAKER, JUNIOR
16	the witness herein, having been first duly sworn, testified
17	as follows:
18	DIRECT EXAMINATION
19	BY MR. PADILLA:
20	Q. Mr. Baker, would you state your name please?
21	A. Billy Don Baker, Junior.
22	Q. You're a geologist employed by Yates Energy
23	Corporation?
2 4	A. Yes, sir, I am.
25	Q. Have you previously testified before the Oil

1 Conservation Division and had your credentials accepted as a 2 geologist? 3 Yes, sir, I have, and they were. Α. 4 Q. Mr. Baker, have you prepared geologic exhibits 5 for introduction at this hearing? Yes, sir, I prepared three exhibits. 6 7 And you've made a study of the projected depth as Q. 8 far as geology is concerned? 9 Yes, sir. I'd done a study of this area on 10 several formations. 11 MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, we tender Mr. Baker as a 12 petroleum geologist. HEARING EXAMINER: We'll accept Mr. Baker's 13 14 qualifications. 15 Q. (By Mr. Padilla) Mr. Baker, first of all, please 16 generally describe the type of geology that you hope to 17 encounter in the Delaware. 1.8 This particular proposed prospect is situated Α. 19 right in front of the Pecos Slope Abo shelf. It's right 20 outside the Tamano field, the Tamano Bone Springs field. 21 This is a proposed 5,500 foot Grayburg/Delaware test. 22 primary objective of the test is what is called the Grayburg 23 Loco Hills Sand. We will be penetrating through a number of 24 potentially productive sands in the Queen, Grayburg. 25 is a potential for San Andres carbonate in the area and

potential for a Delaware sand.

- Q. Mr. Baker, let's move to what we have marked as Exhibit Number 1 and have you identify that, please.
- A. Yes, sir. This is a structure map on the top of the Grayburg formation, which I stated is the primary objective of the Prickly Pear Number 2. This particular exhibit here shows the well data in the area on the top of the Grayburg formation with relationship to our proposed location. It also indicates a cross section A to A prime, which I will get into a little bit with Exhibit 3 of mine, which will also show the structural datums on the top of the Grayburg formation and the potential pay horizons.
- Q. Mr. Baker, in terms of risk, what does this exhibit show?
- A. This exhibit shows that our proposed location will be approximately 50 feet high to the shoal well, which has set overall prospect up. But as I will show in a little bit by my isopach, it also indicates that there is a number of wells located back to the west in Section 11 that have the pay sand currently behind pipe that have not been tested that are in a much favorably up-dipped portion within the Grayburg formation too.
- Q. When you say "shoal well," what do you mean by shoal well?
 - A. The shoal well that I will talk about in a little

bit is the HEYCO Taylor One Y, Deep Taylor One Y. It is currently a Bone Springs producer. It was drilled to the Bone Springs, but it encountered the Grayburg Loco Hills Sand. It had significant mud log shoals. And by saying that, that means oil and gas shoals registered by chromatographs and registered by a mud logger.

- Q. Is that the well that's colored there in the middle of Section 12?
- A. Yes, sir, it's colored in half by -- in pink.

 And I have designated shoal wells by that half slash mark

 and producers by colored in full.
- Q. What else do you want to tell the Examiner concerning this exhibit?
 - A. That's generally all there is to it.
 - Q. Ready to move on to Exhibit Number 2?
- A. Yes, sir. Now, Exhibit Number 2 is an isopach of the Grayburg Loco Hills Sand which is, again, the primary target of the Prickly Pear Number 2. I have used a porosity cutoff, porosity off the density logs of greater than 10 percent from isopach values. And in doing so, I have indicated that there appear to be two stratigraphically parallel bars situated in this particular area that are basically running in an east-west orientation. This particular map indicates that the Prickly Pear Number 2 should encounter approximately 20 feet of the Grayburg sand

with greater than ten percent porosity involved.

- Q. In terms of your location, what kind of optimism or pessimism do you have with regard to encountering hydrocarbons?
- A. Once again, if you take both the isopach and the structure map and put the two together, it's fairly evident that we are in the fairway to encounter the Grayburg sand; but because of the structural relationship with where our location is located, we are at a significantly down-dip location as far as some wells located back in Section 11. We are going to be high to the well in Section 12. That indicates that we should have shoals here, but it's still unclear since there have not been any DSTs in this particular sand area as to where in the oil column we will be situated.
- Q. Are there any Delaware or Grayburg wells that produce in this area from those formations?
- A. There are two Grayburg wells that are Reid and Stevens wells that are located in the northwest quarter of Section 14. These appear to be in a stratigraphically similar sand pod, but it looks like this is one that's situated just to the south of us.
- Q. Do you have anything else further concerning this exhibit?
 - A. No, sir, I do not.

Q. Let's move on to your cross-section, which is Exhibit Number 3.

A. Cross-section A to A prime is a structural cross-section, hung on a datum of minus 250 feet subsea. This cross-section merely illustrates the top of the Grayburg formation, which was my structural datum that I mapped off Exhibit Number 1. It also indicates the entire Loco Hills Sand interval. And then I have colored in orange the sand that is greater than 10 percent. And I have indicated our proposed location as to how we believe we will be at a structural position as well as a stratigraphic position within the Grayburg formation.

I have also noted on the far right-hand portion of the cross-section is the shoal well, which is the Harvey E. Yates Taylor Deep 12 1-Y. The mud log shoal that was encountered when they went through the Loco Hills Sand, that is a very good mud log shoal; that is basically all it is at this time. But that's what is setting up the prospect.

- Q. Mr. Baker, based on your study and the exhibits that you have introduced here today, what recommendation do you have to the Examiner for a risk of penalty factor?
- A. Well, due to the fact that this particular sand has not produced in this immediate area and that we're located in a relatively down-dip structural position, I believe the maximum ought to be asked for.

1	Q. Do you have anything concerning your testimony
2	here today, Mr. Baker?
3	A. No, sir.
4	Q. In your opinion, Mr. Baker, would approval of
5	this application be in the best interests of the
6	conservation of oil and gas?
7	A. Yes, sir.
8	MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, we offer Exhibits 1 through
9	3. And we pass the witness at this time.
10	HEARING EXAMINER: Exhibits 1 through 3 are accepted
11	into evidence. Mr. Carr?
12	CROSS-EXAMINATION
13	BY MR. CARR:
14	Q. Mr. Baker, did you indicate that the Prickly Pear
15	Number 1 defined the prospect for you in the north half of
16	this section?
17	A. No, sir. The Prickly Pear Number 1, it that
18	particular prospect was proposed shortly after our Thornbush
19	Federal Number 1. That one defined the San Andres formation
20	only. At the time that well was proposed, it was strictly a
21	San Andres test and did not define the rest of the potential
22	pay intervals that are located within our prospect area.
23	Q. And what is it producing from?
24	A. Right now it's a Queen producer.
25	Q. And the primary objective in the number two well

1 is the Delaware? No, sir. As said, it is the Loco Hills. 2 We feel 3 like there are additional secondary targets, being not only the Queen, but the Grayburg, the San Andres, and a possible 4 Delaware sand. That's the reason we want to penetrate 5 6 through the top of the Delaware. 7 What do you mean when you say "prospect"? Q. Well, I mean in a certain area, I mean, you have 8 Α. 9 a prospect outline. Each individual well can have different 10 pay intervals that are the primary target within a prospect 11 area. 12 The prospect area then you're saying includes the 0. 13 north half, but you have different objectives within that 14 prospect? 15 Yes, sir, yes, sir. And that's standard practice Α. within any prospect area, especially situated along this 16 17 portion of the shelf. That's all I have. 18 MR. CARR: 19 HEARING EXAMINER: The notice and also on your 20 cross-section here, there's some Bone Springs data. Is the 21 Bone Springs -- will it be included in this test? 22 No, sir. The Bone Springs formation is a THE WITNESS: 23 much deeper formation, and we will not be penetrating that 24 That's what the primary target has been in this area

to date, has been the Bone Springs formation. We will not

1 be penetrating that formation, no, sir. That starts at 2 about 7,900 feet. 3 HEARING EXAMINER: So the Tamano Bone Springs is not a 4 part of this application. 5 THE WITNESS: No. sir. The Shugrette pool, what is the 6 HEARING EXAMINER: 7 producing interval? The North Shugrette pool was originally 8 THE WITNESS: the Queen field, which is situated by a number of oil wells 9 10 on here that are not circled. You can look at either my 11 structural or my isopach map. That is the Shugrette Queen 12 Seven Rivers field. That is a relatively old field that's currently under secondary flood, if I'm not mistaken. 13 Thornbush Federal Number 1, in which we encountered the San 14 15 Andres zone that we felt was a wildcat, has also been 16 included as part of the North Shugrette San Andres pool. 17 HEARING EXAMINER: Is this on this map? 18 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. It's located in the southeast of the southwest of Section 1, that oil well situated right 19 20 there, the only oil well in Section 1. Yes, sir, that was our Thornbush Federal Number 1. 21 That was drilled as a Bone 22 Springs test. It was dry in the Bone Springs and 23 subsequently recompleted in the San Andres formation. 24 HEARING EXAMINER: In the Shugrette pool? 25 THE WITNESS: Well, we asked for a new field discovery,

1	a new pool designation, and that's what the OCD designated
2	it, as North Shugrette San Andres, yes, sir.
3	HEARING EXAMINER: A little more on the number one
4	well. It produces from the Queen; is that correct?
5	THE WITNESS: The Prickly Pear Number 1 does, yes, sir,
6	the Prickly Pear. The Thornbush Federal Number 1 is from
7	the San Andres.
8	HEARING EXAMINER: This Prickly Pear Number 1, what is
9	the producing rate for it?
10	THE WITNESS: About three barrels a day right now.
11	It's a marginal producer.
12	HEARING EXAMINER: Any questions?
13	MR. STOVALL: No.
14	HEARING EXAMINER: The witness may be excused.
15	MR. PADILLA: We have nothing further, Mr. Examiner.
16	HEARING EXAMINER: Mr. Carr?
17	MR. CARR: We have nothing to present.
18	MR. STOVALL: Were 1 through 3 admitted?
19	HEARING EXAMINER: Yes. Case 10217 will be taken under
20	advisement.
21	(The foregoing hearing was adjourned at the
22	approximate hour of 10:40 a.m.)
23	
24	
25	

1	STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
2	:
3	COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
4	I, FREDA DONICA, RPR, a Certified Court Reporter, DO
5	HEREBY CERTIFY that I stenographically reported these
6	proceedings before the Oil Conservation Division; and that
7	the foregoing is a true, complete and accurate transcript of
8	the proceedings of said hearing as appears from my
9	stenographic notes so taken and transcribed under my
10	personal supervision.
11	I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not related to nor employed
12	by any of the parties hereto, and have no interest in the
13	outcome hereof.
14	DATED at Santa Fe, New Mexico, this 19th day of
15	February, 1991.
16	Freda Donica
17	Certified Court Reporter CCR No. 417
18	CCR NO. 417
19	
20	A state of the second of the s
21	the exercise of the figure from 10217.
22	Jan 24 1991.
23	Rif Conservation Division
24	
25	