

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

6 20 August 1986

7 EXAMINER HEARING

8
9 IN THE MATTER OF:.

10 The hearing called by the Oil Con- CASE
11 servation Division on its own motion 8968
12 to permit John Caranta d/b/a Cardel
13 Oil Company, et al, to appear and show
14 cause why Caranta Well No. 1 in Rio
15 Arriba County, should not be plugged
16 and abandoned in accordance with a
17 Division approved plugging program.

18 BEFORE: David R. Catanach, Examiner

19
20 TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

21
22 A P P E A R A N C E S

23 For the Oil Conservation Division: Jeff Taylor
24 Attorney at Law
25 Legal Counsel to the Division
State Land Office Bldg.
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

For the Applicant:

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I N D E X

ERNIE BUSCH

Direct Examination by Mr. Taylor

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E X H I B I T S

Division Exhibit One, Plugging Program

Division Exhibit Two, Map

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MR. CATANACH: We'll call next
Case Number 8968.

Which is in the matter of the
hearing called by the Oil Conservation Division on its own
motion to permit John Caranta d/b/a Cardel Oil Company, and
all other interested parties to appear and show cause why
the Caranta Well No. 1, located 1980 feet from the south and
east lines (Unit J) of Section 23, Township 32 North, Range
1 West, Rio Arriba County, should not be plugged and aban-
doned in accordance with a Division approved plugging pro-
gram.

(Witness sworn.)

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

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. TAYLOR:

Q Please state your name for the record.

A My name is Ernie Busch. I'm District
Geologist, District III, Oil Conservation Division, employed
in Aztec, New Mexico.

1 Q How long have you been so employed, Mr.
2 Busch?

3 A Just under three years.

4 Q Have you previously testified before the
5 Commission and had your credentials accepted as a matter of
6 record?

7 | A | I have.

8 MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Examiner, I
9 tender the witness as an expert geologist.

10 MR. CATANACH: The witness is
11 considered qualified.

12 Q Mr. Busch, does your district, District
13 III, include that part of Rio Arriba County involved in this
14 case?

15 A Yes, it does.

16 Q Would you please state the purpose of
17 Case 8968?

18 A Yes. To call Cardel Oil Company to hear-
19 ing to show cause why the Caranta No. 1, Unit J of Section
20 23, 32 North, 1 West, Rio Arriba County, should not be plug-
21 ged and abandoned.

22 Q Have you reviewed the reports and the
23 files of the Commission on this case?

24 A Yes, I have.

25 Q Would you please go through the file or

1 other records you have, then, for the Examiner?

2 A Exhibit One is in the form of a Division
3 approved plugging program, broken down into nine items, ex-
4 cuse me, seven items, and I'll go through those briefly.

5 Item one, pull 7-inch casing.

6 Item two, go in hole with tubing to TD
7 and set a 150-foot cement plug.

8 Item three, wait on cement a minimum of 3
9 hours; go in the hole with tubing and tag same.

10 Item four, pull out of hole to base of
11 Gallup and set a cement plug to cover the Gallup.

12 Item five, come out of hole to 257 feet
13 and set a cement plug 50 feet below and 50 feet inside sur-
14 face pipe.

15 Item six, set the top plug and dry hole
16 marker with a minimum of ten sacks of cement.

17 Item seven, fill the pits, clean, and
18 level location.

19 Q Okay, would you then identify Exhibit Two
20 for the Examiner.

21 A Yes.

22 Q And explain what that is?

23 A Exhibit Number Two is a copy of the
24 United States Geological Survey topography map being used as
25 a vicinity plat here, locating the well in J of Section 23,

1 32 North, 1 West.

2 Q Now what is the purpose for plugging this
3 well? Is Cardel Oil Company still in business to the best
4 of your knowledge?

5 A No, Cardel Oil Company is not in busi-
6 ness.

7 Q And this well has been abandoned without
8 being properly plugged.

9 A That's correct.

10 Q Do you have any communications relative
11 to the well in the well file that should be brought to the
12 attention of the Commission?

13 A No, I do not.

14 Q Are the exhibits that you've presented to
15 us, One and Two, copies of documents received by you or pre-
16 pared by you in the normal course of business?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And if -- would failure to plug this well
19 cause waste or create a hazard?

20 A Yes.

21 MR. TAYLOR: I move then the
22 admission of Exhibits One and Two.

23 MR. CATANACH: Exhibits One and
24 Two will be admitted into evidence.

25 MR. TAYLOR: And that's all we

1 have in this case.

2 MR. CATANACH: I have no ques-
3 tions of the witness.

4 He may be excused.

5 Is there anything further in
6 Case 8968?

7 If not, it will be taken under
8 advisement.

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10 (Hearing concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

Sally W. Boyd CSR

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is
a complete record of the proceedings in
the Examiner hearing of Case No. 8968
heard by me on August 20, 1986.

David H. Catant, Examiner
Oil Conservation Division