

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  
7 3 August 1988

8 EXAMINER HEARING

9 IN THE MATTER OF:

10 Application of Maxus Exploration Comp- CASE  
11 any for a non-standard oil proration 9445  
12 unit and an unorthodox oil well locat-  
13 ion, Lea County, New Mexico.

14  
15 BEFORE: Michael E. Stogner, Examiner

16 TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

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

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

24 For the Applicant: Paul A. Cooter  
25 Attorney at Law  
RODEY LAW FIRM  
P. O. Box 1357  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

## I N D E X

## EDUARDO GONZALES

Direct Examination by Mr. Cooter 3

Cross Examination by Mr. Stogner 9

## E X H I B I T S

Maxus Exhibit One, Land Plat 5

Maxus Exhibit Two, Structural Map 6

Maxus Exhibit Three, Cross Section 7

1 MR. STOGNER: Call next Case  
2 Number 9445.

3 MR. STOVALL: Application of  
4 Maxus Exploration Company for a nonstandard oil proration  
5 unit and an unorthodox oil well location Lea County, New  
6 Mexico.

7 MR. STOGNER: Paul Cooter with  
8 the Rodey Law Firm representing the applicant. I have one  
9 witness, Mr. Gonzales.

10 MR. STOGNER: Are there any  
11 other appearances in this matter?

12 MR. STOGNER: Will the witness  
13 still stand and be sworn?

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15 (Witness sworn.)

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17 EDUARDO GONZALES,  
18 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his  
19 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

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21 DIRECT EXAMINATION

22 BY MR. COOTER:

23 Q Would you state your name for the  
24 record, please, sir?

25 A My name is Eduardo Gonzales.

1 Q By whom are you employed and in what  
2 position, Mr.Gonzales?

3 I'm employed by Maxus Exploration Com-  
4 pany of Midland, Texas, in the capacity of Senior Geolo-  
5 gist.

6 Q Will you relate for the Commission very  
7 very briefly your education and professional experience?

8           A           I have a Master of Science degree from  
9 Texas Tech University.

10 I've been employed in the oil industry  
11 for ten years. Eight years of that has been served in the  
12 Permian Basin and the primary area that I have been respon-  
13 sible for is southeast New Mexico.

14 I'm a member of the American Association  
15 of Petroleum Geologists and I've been designated by them as  
16 as a Certified Petroleum Geologist.

17 Q Have you previously testified before  
18 this Division and placed your qualifications of record?

19 A Yes.

20 MR. COOTER: Is the -- are the  
21 qualifications of this witness accepted?

22 MR. STOGNER: Mr. Gonzales is  
23 so qualified.

24 Q Mr. Gonzales, would you relate what  
25 Maxus seeks by this application?

1                   A                   Maxus Exploration seeks approval of the  
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6                   This is an irregular section in which  
7 we're attempting to maximize our geological, geophysical  
8 advantage by placing the location where we feel we'll have  
9 the best structural advantage and thereby lessen the risk  
10 of a dry hole, which is the nature of our business.

11 We feel that by placing the well in that  
12 location we will lessen the risk to Maxus and further im-  
13 prove the chances for drilling this well and hopefully any  
14 offsets.

15           Q           Is the proposed location within an ex-  
16   isting pool?

17 A It is not.

18 Q And to what depth is the well planned?

19                   A                   The well is proposed to a total depth of  
20   12,500 feet.

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22 have marked as Exhibit Number One. Would you identify that  
23 document?

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25   the Maxus acreage outlined in red and the proposed location

1 indicated by a red circle.

2 Q Section 6, you mentioned is an irre-  
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4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q The so-called South half is more or less  
6 regular, containing 320 acres and the north half consists  
7 of 4 small lots going from east to west numbered 1 through  
8 4.

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10 Q Lot 3 comprises some 17.1 acres, does it  
11 not?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q And your proposed proration unit would  
14 consist of that Lot 3, together with the more or less  
15 standard 40-acre tract described as the northeast of the  
16 southwest, which adjoins that to the south.

17 A Yes.

18 Q Is there common ownership under both  
19 tracts?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Now let me direct your attention to  
22 Exhibit Number Two. Identify that document for us.

23 A Exhibit Number Two is a structural in-  
24 terpretation done by integrating the geology and the geo-  
25 physics done by Maxus Exploration.

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2 Devonian formation. Outlined on this map are the acreage  
3 area of Maxus and also indicated in the red circle there in  
4 Section 6 is the proposed location.

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7   seismic lines which are integrated to form the structural  
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23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q And protect correlative rights, as well?

25 A Yes, sir.



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3 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits One,  
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5 MR. COOTER: And that con-  
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8 CROSS EXAMINATION

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10 Q Mr. Gonzales, let's take a look at the  
11 location first.

12 What is the width of Lot 3? I guess  
13 what I'm getting at is how far from the quarter quarter  
14 section line between Lot 3 and the northwest quarter of the  
15 southwest quarter -- or I'm sorry, the northeast quarter  
16 of the southwest quarter is this well?

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18 Q How far from the quarter quarter section  
19 line, or the subdivision inner boundary between Lot 3 and  
20 the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter?

21 It appears that your location that's on  
22 that quarter section line but, indeed, it is not, is it?

23 A It is not. I don't have the exact loca-  
24 tion but I think it's about 40 feet.

25 Q Okay. Now to the west of you, also,

1 that is a small lot, although it's about 34 acres. There  
2 again, how far from the eastern side of this proration unit  
3 are you?

4 A Okay. We are I'd say roughly, roughly  
5 800 feet.

6 Q And that would put you within about 300  
7 foot from your eastern side.

8 Yes, sir.

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10 inside the proration unit.

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Okay, let's talk about the offset own-  
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21 Q Okay. I show Gulf on your map and Gulf  
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24 A That well is now plugged and abandoned.

25 Q Oh, plugged and abandoned.

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6           Q           And you're within a mile of the Undesig-  
7  nated Dickinson-Devonian Pool but there's no special pool  
8  rules for that, so that is on 40-acre spacing; however,  
9  your -- and the oil allowable is based on 40 acres, so es-  
10  sentially what would happen would be -- what would this do  
11  to your allowable in this particular unit, Mr. Gonzales?

12          A           It  --  I don't -- I'm not sure it would  
13  make any special -- you know --

14          Q           So being spaced on -- being based no 40,  
15  it will give it a little bit more because it has a little  
16  more acreage in the unit.

17          A           Uh-huh.

18          Q           But do you know if any of those Devonian  
19  wells in this area, are they of marginal production or do  
20  they meet the allowable, do you know?

21          A           In this -- well, in the area of this map  
22  there is no Devonian production other than that plugged and  
23  abandoned pool in Section 34.

24          Q           So there's no Devonian production close  
25  to this particular area, is that correct?

1           A           The closest production would be some six  
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7 Exhibit Two and your Exhibit Three, were those determined  
8 by your seismic work?

9           A           Yes, sir. The fault particularly to the  
10 east side of the prospect, that is well defined by the geo-  
11 physical work and also by the geological work we can see a  
12 little bit of a (unclear) shallow formation and further to  
13 the southwest that's also defined well by the geophysical  
14 lines that we have. The real small faults are a little  
15 more interpretive but the Geological -- Geophysical Depart-  
16 ment feels that they are also there, although to a smaller  
17 displacement.

18                   MR. STOGNER: Are there any  
19 other questions of this witness?

20                   If not, he may be excused.

21                   Mr. Cooter, do you have any-  
22 thing further in this case?

23                   MR. COOTER: No, sir, that  
24 concludes our presentation.

25                   MR. STOGNER: Does anybody

1 else have anything else further in Case Number 9445?

2 If not, this case will be  
3 taken under advisement.

4

5 (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. 9445,  
heard by me on 3 August 1988.  
Michael J. Boyer Examiner  
Oil Conservation Division

## NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## EXAMINER HEARING

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Hearing Date AUGUST 3, 1988 Time: 8:15 A.M.

NAME	REPRESENTING	LOCATION
KADDIY WODELOS Ed Gonzales	PENNEON Maxus	Midland
Sub-Hunter Paul Cooter	Bryan Aden Law Firm	Santa Fe
Paul W. Burchell	El Paso Natural Gas	El Paso, TX.
Miguel Blanco	EPNG	Farmington
Johnny Green	"	"
VICTOR T. LYON	OCD	Santa Fe
Richard Jones	Amoco	DENVER
Tim Page	Mobil	Denver
Larry Bultmann	Mobil	Denver
John FAULHABER	MOBIL	DENVER
Galen Butler	Montgomery Ward	SW. IL
KENT LUND	AMOCO PRODCO.	Denver
SCOTT HALL	Campbell & Black	SF
Craig Eggerman	Mobil	DENVER
Gary Meade	Santa Fe Jaycees	SF
W. D. Keller	Keller & Keller	Santa Fe
Jim L. Barr	PENNZOIL	Houston

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EXAMINER HEARINGSANTA FE, NEW MEXICOHearing Date AUGUST 3, 1988 Time: 8:15 A.M.

NAME	REPRESENTING	LOCATION
R. A. Ullrich	Nassau Resources	Fararington
G J Johnson	NASSAU RESOURCES	DENVER



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4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q The so-called South half is more or less  
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7 of 4 small lots going from east to west numbered 1 through  
8 4.

9 A Yes.

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21                   Mr. Cooter, do you have any-  
22 thing further in this case?

23                   MR. COOTER: No, sir, that  
24 concludes our presentation.

25                   MR. STOGNER: Does anybody

1 else have anything else further in Case Number 9445?

2 If not, this case will be  
3 taken under advisement.

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5 (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. 94450  
heard by me on 3/24/88

Mark E. Stogner Examiner  
Oil Conservation Division