Care No. 9867

MALLON OIL COMPANY SO 200 19 AM 9 12

1099 18th Street, Suite 2750, Denver, Colorado 80202 (303) 293-2333

June 12, 1990

State of New Mexico Oil Conservation Division P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, NM 87504-2088

Attention: Mr. William LeMay

Certified: # P 297 360 106

Re: Order Number R-9124

Compulsory Pooling

Dear Mr. LeMay:

Pursuant to Order Number R-9124, Mallon Oil Company as operator, must furnish the Division with an itemized schedule of actual costs within 90 days following completion of the Amoco-Red Bluff #3 well.

Enclosed please find our AFE Comparison Report, which would satisfy the requirement set out in Order Number R-9124. For your information, the completion date was March 31, 1990.

Should you have any questions, please advise.

Sincerely,

MALION OIL COMPAN

Candman

KEM/lkh Enclosure

AFE200 DRILLING AND COMPLETION THROUGH C5/31/90

MY LOW DIL CONHANY -AFE COMPARISON REPORT

PAGE 1 RUN: 12 JUN 1990

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AFE200 URILLING AND COMPLETION THROUGH US/31/90

AM LOW DIL CONPANY AFE COMPARISON REPORT

PAGE 2 RUN: 12 JUN 1990

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO



ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

GARREY CARRUTHERS
GOVERNOR

February 27, 1990

POST OFFICE BOX 2088 STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING SANTA FE. NEW MEXICO 87504 (505) 827-5800

Mr. Ernest L. Padilla Padilla & Snyder Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 2523 Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: CASE NO. 9867 and 9868 ORDER NO. R-9124

Applicant:

Mallon Oil Company and George Mitchell d/b/a
G.P. II Energy, Inc.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of the above-referenced Division order recently entered in the subject case.

Sincerely,

FLORENE DAVIDSON OC Staff Specialist

Copy of order also sent to:

orene Davidson

Hobbs OCD x	
Artesia OCD x	_
Aztec OCD_	
Other William F. C	Carr

THE SALE OF THE CHARLES

MALLON OIL COMPANY

1099 18th Street, Suite 2750, Denver, Colored 580202 5 Fill 10 23 (303) 293-2333

March 1, 1990

Class File 17

Mr. George Mitchell G.P. II Energy, Inc. P.O. Box 50682 Midland, TX 79710

SENT EXPRESS MAIL - #B48900276

RE: Amoco-Red Bluff Federal #3
Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

Pursuant to New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Order Number R-9124, enclosed please find two copies of the Authority for Expenditure for the above captioned well, evidencing the estimated well costs. If acceptable, please execute the indicated copy and return to Mallon Oil Company, along with a check for your proportionate share of the well costs. Failure to respond within fourteen (14) days from receipt of this AFE, shall result in a "non-consent" participation.

An Operating Agreement for the Amoco-Red Bluff Federal #3 well will be mailed under separate cover.

If you should have any questions, please advise.

Sincerely,

KAL

andman

/sss Enclosure

cc: New Mexico Oil Conservation Division

Box 2088

Santa Pe, NM 87504-2088

Attention: Mr. David R. Catanach

SENT EXPRESS MAIL - B48900277

MALLON CIL COMPANY AUTHORETY FOR EXPENDITURE - Drilling & Production

G.P. II Energy, Inc.

FIELD/PROSPECT	Brushy Draw-Delaware/Peo	os River		LEASE NUMBER	
WELL NAME	Arroco-Red Bluff-Federal	# 3		PROPERTY NO.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
LOCALTICN	130' FNL, 1805' FEL, (NA	1/4 NE/4), Section	28, 126S, R29E	NM-01-17 PREPARED BY:	DATE:
COUNTY, STATE	Eddy County, New Mexico			JOE H. COX, Jr. APPROVED BY:	11-27-89 DATE:
CONTRACTOR (TENTATIVE)				Kevin M. Fitzgeral APPROVED BY:	d 11-27-89 DATE:
CONFREIGN (TENTALIVE)	Capital Diffilling			ANTICIPATED START/S	
COST EST	IMATE		TANGIHLE EXPENSE	INIANGIBLE EXPENSE	LAUCIT
DRIILING-CASING POINT			\$ 4,650	\$ 82,420	\$ 87,070
DRILLING-COMPLETION			\$ 82,725	\$ 75,000	\$157,725
WORKOVER			\$	\$	\$
OIHER (SPECIFY)			\$\$	\$	\$
TOTAL COSTS			\$ 87,375	\$ <u>157,420</u>	\$244,795
well is to be drilled th 5,200'. The estimates o	the Operating Agreement Marcugh the Williamson Sand of costs are based on actua be notified if the cost o	Member of the Cha al bids and histo	proposes the drill erry Canyon Format rical costs, howev	ion to a total depth or er are estimates only	of approximately
ATTACH PROGNOSIS AND CO	OSI BREAKDOWN				
COST SHARING		BCP		ACE)
George Mitchell, Jr.	d/b/a	28.46 % \$	24,780	<u>28.46</u> %	\$ <u>44</u> ,889
G.P. II Energy, Inc.					
PARINER APPROVAL					
COMPANY:		SIGNATURE:		I	ATE:
George Mitchell, Jr.	i/b/a				

MALLON OIL COMPANY

AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURE

Mell Name and Number Amoco-Red Bluff-Federal #3 AFE NO.
DETAILS OF COST ESTIMATE 910 & 920 INTANGIBLE COSTS DRY HOLE PRODUCE 101 Damages Losses \$ \$ 102 Roads & Location 5,000 6,00 103.1 Mobilization/Demobilization incl. 103.2 Drilling-Footage 5200 ft. @ \$7.85 /ft 40,820 40,82 103.3 Daywork 1 days WDP. @ 3200 /day: 3,200 3,200 3,20 103.4 Turnkey Contract N/A 201 Completion Unit 6 days @ \$1,300 7,80 106 Mud Chemicals 2,500 2,50 107 Power, Water & Fuel 3,000 6,50
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130 Mud Logging 4,500 4,50 202 Well Stimulation 37,000 Perforation 4000 41,00
165 Abandonment Costs
TOTAL INTANGIBLE DRILLING COSTS \$ 82,420 \$157,42
930 TANGIBLE EQUIPMENT COSTS
Job Italian Seattment Copy
299 Surface Casing 450 ft 8 5/8" size @ \$9.00 /ft \$ 4,050 \$ 4,05
300 Intermediate Csg ft size @ \$ /ft
301 Production Csg. <u>5,200'</u> ft <u>5 1/2"</u> size @ \$6.00 /ft <u>31,20</u>
302 Tubing & Attachments 5,200' 2 7/8" @ 1.50 7,80
303 Rods & Pumps
304 Well Head Equipment 600 1,50
305 Flowlines 4,500' x .75
306 Installation 4,500' x .50 2,25
305 Flowlines 4,500 x .75 306 Installation 4,500 x .50 307 Pumping Unit & Engines 25,00
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309 Non-Controllable Equipment
211 Puildings
312 Other Equipment Contingency 5% 4,20
The other injury contingency of
TOTAL TANGIBLE EQUIPMENT COSTS \$ 4,650 \$ 87,37
AFE Date: November 27, 1989 TOTAL COST \$ 87,070 \$244,79



Amoco Production Company

501 WestLake Park Boulevard Post Office Box 3092 Houston, Texas 77253

November 21, 1989

RECEIVED NOV 2 7 1989

RE: EA 52,689

West Pecos Area

Eddy County, New Mexico

Mallon Oil Company 1099 18th Street, Suite 2750 Denver, Colorado 80202

ATTENTION: Karen McClintock

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your letter dated November 2, 1989 wherein you requested an extension to March 31, 1990 to drill your next Pecos River Prospect well. After careful consideration, we must deny your request.

Very truly yours,

Emily F. Goodfellow

Landman

EFG/sdc

DEFORE EXAMINER CASANACA
OIL CONSTRUCTION SIVISION

Mallon EXHIBIT NO.

2 9867

CASE NO.

CAMPBELL & BLACK, P.A.

Job -

JACK M. CAMPBELL
BRUCE D. BLACK
MICHAEL B. CAMPBELL
WILLIAM F. CARR
BRADFORD C. BERGE
MARK F. SHERIDAN
WILLIAM P. SLATTERY
PATRICIA A. MATTHEWS

JEFFERSON PLACE
SUITE I - IIO NORTH GUADALUPE
POST OFFICE BOX 2208

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2208

TELEPHONE: (505) 988-4421 TELECOPIER: (505) 983-6043

February 5, 1990

HAND-DELIVERED

Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Department of
Energy and Minerals
State Land Office Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

RECEIVED

FEB 5 1990

OIL CONSERVATION DIV.

Attn: William J. LeMay, Director

Re: Case 9867: Application of Mallon Oil Company for Compulsory Pooling,

Eddy County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a Subpoena Duces Tecum seeking certain information from Mallon Oil Company which is necessary for George Mitchell d/b/a G.P. II Energy, Inc. to prepare its case in opposition to the above-referenced application. We would appreciate your advising us as soon as the Subpoena Duces Tecum is executed by an appropriate Division representative so that we may have it served on Mallon Oil Company.

I have provided on this date, Ernest L. Padilla, attorney for Mallon Oil Company with a copy of the Subpoena Duces Tecum.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM F. CARR

WFC:mlh Enclosure

cc: George Mitchell d/b/a G.P. II Energy, Inc.

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MALLON OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 9867 (De Novo)

SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM

RECEIVED

TO: Joe Cox
Mallon Oil Company
1099 18th Street, Suite 2750
Denver, Colorado 80202

MAY 1 1 1990

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Pursuant to Section 70-2-8, N.M.S.A. (1978) and New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Rule 1211, YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear at the place, day and time specified below and produce for inspection and copying the documents described on the attached Exhibit A.

PLACE

Morgan Hall State Land Office Building 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

DAY AND TIME

May 24, 1990 at 8:00 o'clock A. M. Commission Hearing This subpoena is issued on the application of George Mitchell d/b/a G.P. II Energy, Inc., through its attorney, William F. Carr, Post Office Box 2208, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2208.

DATED this <u>22</u> md day of May, 1990.

NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

EXHIBIT "A"

INSTRUCTIONS

"Documents" or "records" mean every writing and record of every type and description in the possession, custody or control of Mallon Oil Company whether prepared by you or otherwise, which is in your possession or control or known by you to exist, including but not limited to, all drafts, correspondence, memoranda, handwritten notes, notes, minutes, entries in books of accounting, computer printouts, tapes and records of all types, minutes of meetings, studies, contracts, agreements, books, pamphlets, schedules, pictures and voice recordings, videotapes and every other device or medium on which, or for which information of any type is transmitted, recorded or preserved and whether or not such documents or records are marked or treated as confidential or proprietary. The term "document" also means a copy where the original is not in possession, custody or control of the company or corporation to whom this request is addressed, and every copy of the document where such copy is not an identical duplicate of the original, all things similar to any of the foregoing however denominated by the parties.

- 1. For the Mallon Oil Company Amoco Red Bluff Federal Well No. 3, located 130 feet from the North line and 1805 feet from the East line of Section 28, Township 26 South, Range 29 East, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico, the following:
 - (a) All logs, including but not limited to all porosity logs and all resistivity logs.
 - (b) Any and all daily drilling reports and completion reports and production data.

RECEIVED

FEB 6 1999

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION DIV.

SANTA FE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL

RESOURCES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MALLON OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

CASE NO. 9867

MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM

Mallon Oil Company, by its attorneys, hereby moves the Division to quash the Subpoena Duces Tecum issued February 5, 1990, which subpoena commands Kevin Fitzgerald to appear on February 7, 1990, at 8:15 a.m. in the Oil Conservation Division Conference Room.

In support of this motion, movant states:

- 1. The subject Subpoena Duces Tecum was issued on the application of George Mitchell d/b/a G.P.II Energy (Mitchell). This application is a compulsory pooling application filed in response to the application of Mallon Oil Company (Mallon) for compulsory pooling of the Mitchell interest.
- 2. Under the Mallon application, Mallon will show that the owners of the Mitchell interest had agreed to

participate in the drilling of the Mallon well and they withdrew their consent at a time when Mallon, under a farmout agreement with Amoco Production Company, almost immediately had to commence diligent drilling operations on the lands covered by both compulsory pooling applications in order to maintain the farmout agreement.

- 3. Under the circumstances, the subpoena requests information that would disclose information to Mitchell which would eliminate the Mitchell interest's risk in evaluating a decision of whether to participate in the drilling of the well, all to the detriment of Mallon.
- 4. Mallon Oil Company has recently provided, at Mitchell's request, log information relative to the subject well's east offset. Further, Mitchell has had adequate opportunity to evaluate the risk of drilling the well drilled by Mallon.
- 5. Under the circumstances, the subpoena is unreasonable and oppressive and constitutes an abuse of process in that its effect is to confiscate a property right owned by Mallon without adequate compensation to Mallon.

Respectfully submitted,

PADILLA & SNYDER

Ernest L. Padilla

P. O. Box 2523

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2523

(505) 988-7577

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Motion to Quash Subpoena Duces Tecum was hand-delivered to William F. Carr, Esq., Campbell & Black, P. A., 110 North, Guadalupe, Suite 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504, this day of February, 1990.

rnest L. Padilla

173.

PADILLA & SNYDER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

200 W. MARCY, SUITE 212

P.O. BOX 2523

ERNEST L PADILLA MARY JO SNYDER SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2523

FAX 988-7592 AREA CODE 505

(505) 988-7577

RECEIVED

February 16, 1990 (

FFB 16 1950

OIL CONSERVATION DIV. SANTA FE

HAND DELIVERED

William J. LeMay, Director Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Re: Application of Mallon Oil Company

For Compulsory Pooling - Case No. 9867

Dear Mr. LeMay:

Enclosed for your consideration is a Motion for Reconsideration and short supporting Memornadum Brief in the above-referenced matter, which Mr. Stovall has asked me to file with the Division.

Mr. Stovall indicated that you would like to meet with me and Mr. Carr sometime next week. In this regard, I have to be in El Paso for depositions sometime in the early afternoon of Tuesday, February 20, 1990, and will probably not be available the remainder of the week. If there is a problem with meeting on Monday or early Tuesday, please let me know.

Man

ELP:pmc

cc: William F. Carr, Esq. (w/encl.)
Robert G. Stovall, Esq. (w/encl.)
Mallon Oil Company (w/encl.)

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MALLON OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

CASE NO. 9867

RECERVED

MOTION TO RECONSIDER DENIAL
OF MOTION OT QUASH
SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM

FEB 16 1990

OIL CONSERVATION DIV. SANTA FE

COMES NOW Mallon Oil Company, by its attorneys, and hereby moves the Division to reconsider its denial of Mallon's Motion to Quash the <u>Subpoena Duces Tecum</u> issued February 5, 1990, and as grounds therefore states:

- 1. The information sought in the <u>Subpoena Duces Tecum</u> constitutes either confidential business information or a trade secret and is a form of property that cannot be taken without violating the taking provision of the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution.
- 2. Mallon Oil did not have an adequate opportunity to brief its Motion to Quash and requests this Division to reconsider its denial in light of United States Supreme Court precedent.

3. A memorandum is attached hereto that more fully sets forth Mallon's position and legal basis for granting the requested relief.

WHEREFORE for the foregoing reason, Mallon Oil respectfully requests the Division to reconsider its decision to deny its Motion to Quash the <u>Subpoena Duces</u>

Tecum and to Quash the <u>Subpoena Duces Tecum</u>.

Respectfully Submitted,

PADILLA & SNYDER

Ernest L. Padilla

P. O. Box 2523

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 988-7577

Attorneys for Mallon Oil Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion To Reconsider Denial Of Motion To Quash Subpoena Duces Tecum was Hand-Delivered to William F. Carr, Esq., Campbell & Black, P.A., 110 North Guadalupe, Santa Fe, New Mexico and Robert G. Stovall, Esq., Oil Conservation Division, 310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico on this day of February, 1990.

Ernest L. Padilla

RECEIVED

FEB 16 1990

OIL CONSERVATION DIV. SANTA FE

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MALLON OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

CASE NO. 9867

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO RECONSIDER DENIAL OF MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM

A <u>Subpoena Duces Tecum</u> was issued on February 5, 1990 which commanded Kevin Fitzgerald to appear on February 7, 1990, at the Oil Conservation Division Conference Room to produce <u>inter alia</u>:

For the Mallon Oil Company Amoco Red Bluff Federal No. 3, located 130 feet from the North line and 1805 feet from the East line of Section 28, Township 26 South, Range 29 East, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico, the following:

- (a) All logs, including but not limited to porosity logs and all resistivity logs.
- (b) Any and all daily drilling reports and completion reports and production data.

A Motion to Quash <u>Subpoena Duces Tecum</u> was filed and a hearing was held on February 7th and 8th, 1990. This hearing was held to resolve issues with respect to the issue of force pooling. Argument was heard concerning the Motion

to Quash <u>Subpoena Duces Tecum</u> and the Motion was denied. Counsel for Mallon Oil Company did not have sufficient opportunity to brief the issue and to inform the Division of the caselaw supporting his argument that the subpoena would result in a taking of property without just compensation contrary to the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution. He respectfully asks the Division to consider the legal authorities cited herein and to reconsider the denial of his Motion to Quash.

Mallon does not contest the Oil Conservation Division's jurisdiction to require production of documents pursuant to its subpoena powers as set forth in Section 70-2-8, N.M.S.A. 1978. Mallon has, in fact, previously produced extensive geological data, logs and information relative to the subject well's offsetting production. Mallon further continues to be willing to submit the data to the Division with the condition that such information be held strictly confidential and not be divulged to George Mitchell or his agents.

Mallon objects to producing documentation which constitutes confidential business information and the trade secrets of its business. The Subpoena requests information that would disclose information to Mitchell which would eliminate the Mitchell interests' risk in evaluating a decision of whether to participate in the drilling of the well.

The United States Supreme Court in <u>Carpenter v. U.S.</u>, 108 S.Ct. 316 (1987), recently held <u>inter alia</u> that a newspaper had a property right in keeping information confidential prior to publication. In reaching this holding the Supreme Court reviewed the longstanding rule of law that confidential business information is property. The Court explained:

Confidential business information has long been recognized as property. Ruckelhaus v. Monsanto Co., 467 U.S. 986, 1001-1004, 104 S.Ct. 2962, 2874, 81 L.Ed.2d 815 (1984); Dirks v. S.E.C., 463 U.S. 646, 653, n.10, 103 S.Ct. 3255, 3260, n. 10, 77 L.Ed. 2d 911 (1983); Board of Trade of Chicago v. Christie Grain & Stock Co., 198 U.S. 236, 250-251, 25 S.Ct. 637, 639-40, 49 L.Ed. 1031 (1905); cf. 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(b) (4). 'Confidential information acquired or compiled by a corporation in the course of its business is a species of property corporation has to which the exclusive right and benefit, and which a court of equity will protect through the injunctive process or other appropriate remedy.' 3 W. Fletcher, Cyclopedia of Law of Private Corporations Sec. 857.1, p.260 (rev. ed. 1986) (footnote omitted).

Id. at 320.

Property rights are not created by the Constitution; rather they are created and their dimensions are defined by existing rules or understandings that stem from an independent source such as state law. Ruckelshaus v. Monsanto Co., 467 U.S. 986, 104 S.Ct. 2962, 81 L.Ed.2d 815 (1984).

In New Mexico "property" has been defined as "every interest a person may have in a thing that can be the subject of ownership, including the right to enjoy, use, freely possess and transfer that interest." Muckleroy v. Muckleroy, 84 N.M. 14 (1972). A trade secret fits within the definition of property. It is defined as:

information, including a formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique or process that: (1) derives independent value, actual or potential from not being generally known to and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by other persons who can obtain economic value from disclosure or use; and (2) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

Section 57-3A-2(D), N.M.S.A. 1989.

The Restatement of Torts defines a trade secret as:

any formula, pattern, device or compilation of information which is used in one's business and which gives him an opportunity to obtain an advantage over competitors who do not know or use it.

Sec. 757, comment b.

The analysis of the Restatement of Torts has been cited with approval in numerous New Mexico cases including: Proctor v. Waxler, 83 N.M. 58, 487 P.2d 1356(1971); Jellison v. Gleason, 77 N.M. 445, 423 P.2d 876 (1967); Mozert v. Noeding, 76 N.M. 396, 415 P.2d 364 (1966); Bogart v. Hester, 66 N.M. 311, 347 P2d 327 (1959).

By enacting legislation concerning trade secrets the New Mexico legislature is indicating its recognition of the fact that this type of information is entitled to certain protection. The logs in question contain information which have an economic value and the effort to keep them secret is reasonable under the circumstances. These logs are a compilation of information which gives Mallon an opportunity or advantage over its competitors who do not possess it.

In <u>Ruckelhaus</u>, <u>supra</u>, the United States Supreme Court considered a case where an applicant for registration of pesticide brought suit seeking injunctive and declaratory relief from the operation of the data consideration and data disclosure provisions of the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act that would have had the effect of making registration information available to competitors to the detriment of the applicant. The Supreme Court held <u>interalia</u> that to the extent the applicant had an interest in its data which was cognizable as a trade secret under Missouri law that this created a property right which was protected by the taking clause of the Fifth Amendment.

In the instant case, Mallon Oil has logs which constitute trade secrets under New Mexico law. As trade secrets they constitute property that is protected by the taking clause of the Fifth Amendment. Even if the Division should determine that they are not trade secrets, they contain confidential business information which are the

property of Mallon and are similarly protected by the taking clause of the Fifth Amendment. As such, it would be improper for the Oil Conservation Division to require their production.

For the foregoing reasons, Mallon Oil Company respectfully requests the Oil Conservation Division to reconsider its denial of Mallon's Motion to Quash the Subpoena Duces Tecum.

Respectfully Submitted,

PADILLA & SNYDER

Ernest L. Padilla

P. O. Box 2523

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 988-7577

Attorneys for Mallon Oil

Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Memorandum In Support Of Motion To Reconsider Denial Of Motion To Quash Subpoena Duces Tecum was Hand-Delivered to William F. Carr, Esq., Campbell & Black, P.A., 110 North Guadalupe, Santa Fe, New Mexico and Robert G. Stovall, Esq., Oil Conservation Division, 310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico on this /bth day of February 1,990.

173.18

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MALLON OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 9867

RESPONSE TO MOTION TO RECONSIDER DENIAL OF MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM

Background:

GEORGE MITCHELL d/b/a/ G.P. II ENERGY, INC. ("Mitchell") acquired certain mineral interests in Section 28, Township 26 South, Range 29 East, Eddy County, New Mexico in Mid-1989. During the last half of that year there were various communications between Mitchell and Mallon Oil Company ("Mallon") concerning the development of a 40-acre tract (NW/4 NE/4) in Section 28 by drilling a well to test the Brushy Draw-Delaware Pool. At no time during these discussions was an agreement reached as to the cost of the well and, at all times, Mitchell was and is prepared to operate this tract and the well located thereon. (Testimony of Mr. Lewis, Case 9867 and 9868 Consolidated).

Mitchell advised Mallon on December 5, 1989, by telephone and in writing, that he "... decided not to join Mallon in this well...." (Mitchell Exhibit 3, Case 9867 and 9868 Consolidated). Even though Mallon had a farmout expiring on December 31, 1989, Mallon waited until December 26, 1989 to pursue a drilling rig and was only able to drill 30 feet with a cable tool before the end of the year to perpetuate the farmout. Mallon drilled the well to total depth with a rotary rig between January 3, and January 19, 1990.

No pooling application was filed by Mallon until after drilling had commenced. (Testimony of Mr. Cox, Case 9867 and 9868 Consolidated). A pooling application was also filed by Mitchell in which he sought to be named operator of a well to be drilled on this tract.

Mitchell sought and obtained a subpoena duces tecum from the Division requiring Mallon to produce certain data on the well it had drilled and to which it proposed to dedicate Mitchell's interest. A Motion to Quash Subpoena Duces Tecum was presented to the Division at the February 7, 1990 hearing and denied by the Examiner. Mitchell moved for enforcement of the subpoena by either requiring production of the subpoenaed data or by dismissing Mallon's pooling application. The Examiner deferred ruling on this motion to permit Mallon to seek judicial intervention.

The Division has apparently asked Mallon to seek reconsideration of its ruling (See letter of E.L. Padilla dated February 16, 1990). In support of its Motion to Reconsider, Mallon raises new and different arguments from those raised in its Motion to Quash.¹ This Memorandum is filed in Opposition to Mallon's Motion to Reconsider.

In its Motion to Quash, Mallon asserts that Mitchell withdrew his consent to this well at a time when Mallon had to "immediately" commence drilling. Therefore Mallon could not comply with the New Mexico Oil and Gas Act and proceed with force pooling prior to drilling the well. This argument has apparently been abandoned by Mallon since the testimony at the February 7, 1990 Examiner hearing demonstrated that Mitchell advised Mallon of its decision not to participate in ample time for a pooling application to have been advertised and heard by the Division at its December 27, 1989 Examiner hearings.

Argument:

Mallon drilled the Red Bluff Federal No. 3 Well outside the provisions of the Oil and Gas Act. He now asks the Division to reconsider quashing its subpoena again going outside the Act and citing authority which is erroneous and inconsistent with the Division's clear statutory mandate. Mallon must do this for, in unambiguous terms, the Oil and Gas Act resolves against him all issues raised in his Motion to Reconsider.

As stated by the New Mexico Supreme Court the Oil Conservation Division ".. is a creature of statute, expressly defined, limited and empowered by the laws creating it."

Continental Oil Co. v. Oil Conservation Comm'n, 70 N.M. 310, 373 P.2d 809, 814 (1962).

Therefore, in ruling on this Motion, the Division must look to the Oil and Gas Act. nl

N.M.Stat.Ann. § 70-2-8 (1978) the Division's authority to subpoena data is set forth as follows:

The Commission, or any member thereof, or the director of the division or his authorized representative, is hereby empowered to subpoena witnesses, to require their attendance and giving of testimony before it, and to require the production of books, papers and records in any proceeding before the commission or the division. No person shall be excused from attending and testifying or from producing books, papers and records before the commission or the division, or from obedience to the subpoena of the said commission or division, whether such subpoena be signed or issued by one or more of the members of the said commission, or the director of the division, in any hearing, investigation or proceeding held by or before the said commission or division or in any cause or proceeding in any court by or against the said commission or division, relative to matters within the jurisdiction of said commission or division, on the ground or for the reason that the testimony or evidence, documentary or otherwise, required of him may tend to incriminate him or subject him to a penalty or forfeiture; provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed as requiring any person to produce any books, papers or records, or to testify in response to any inquiry, not pertinent to some question lawfully before such commission or division or court for determination.... (Emphasis added).

In this case there is no dispute that the director has authority to require production of the data covered by the February 5, 1990 subpoena for it is data relative to matters within the Division's jurisdiction.

The clear language of this statute provides that the only ground for quashing a Division subpoena is that the data sought is not pertinent to a question lawfully before the division. Mallon has not raised this argument for the subpoenaed data is clearly pertinent to the issues raised in this pooling case. Mallon, however, asserts that the data he acquired by jumping the gun and drilling outside the Oil and Gas Act should be protected by the Division as proprietary information or a trade secret.² He further asserts that to produce the subpoenaed material would take from him "... information which gives Mallon an opportunity or advantage over its competitors who do not posses it." (Mellon Memorandum at p. 5).

This argument is in direct contravention of the Oil and Gas Act. The New Mexico legislature recognized that compliance with a Division subpoena could require a person

²Rule 45 (b) authorizes a court to quash or modify a subpoena if it is unreasonable and oppressive. S.C.R.A. 1-045(b)(1986). If the documents are relevant and are sought for good cause the subpoena should be enforced unless the subpoena is unreasonable or the documents are privileged. Covey Oil Company v. Continental Oil Company, et al., 340 F.2d 993 (10th Cir. 1965); Kleinerman v. U.S. Postal Service, 100 F.R.D. 66 (D.Mass. 1983; No absolute privilege protects trade secrets from disclosure through the discovery process. 4 J. Moore, Moore's Federal Practice, Section 26.60[4] at p. 26-210 (1989-90 Supp.)

to give up proprietary data and expressly provide that "no person shall be excused ... from obedience to the subpoena ... for the reason that the evidence ... may tend to ... subject him to a penalty or forfeiture." Mallon's argument that the subpoena must be quashed or he may lose the advantage he gained on Mitchell must fail for it is inconsistent with New Mexico law.

Mallon is simply asking the Division to protect the advantage he gained over Mitchell by ignoring provisions of the Oil and Gas Act and drilling before he had obtained the joinder of the other interest owners in this spacing unit or a pooling order. His arguments in support of his Motion to Reconsider are in direct conflict with the Oil and Gas Act and the Motion must therefore be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

CAMPBELL & BLACK, P.A.

WILLIAM F. CARR

Post Office Box 2208

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Telephone: (505) 988-4421

ATTORNEYS FOR GEORGE MITCHELL d/b/a G.P. II ENERGY, INC.

5

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have caused to be hand-delivered a true and correct copy of Response to Motion to Reconsider Denial of Motion to Quash Subpoena Duces Tecum to Ernest L. Padilla, Esq., 200 West Marcy Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 and to Robert E. Stovall, Esq., 310 Old Santa Fe Trail, State Land Office Building, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 on this 19th day of February, 1990.

William F. Carr

to charact

CAMPBELL & BLACK, P.A.

LAWYERS

JACK M. CAMPBELL
BRUCE D. BLACK
MICHAEL B. CAMPBELL
WILLIAM F. CARR
BRADFORD C. BERGE
MARK F. SHERIDAN
WILLIAM P. SLATTERY
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JEFFERSON PLACE

SUITE 1 - 110 NORTH GUADALUPE

POST OFFICE BOX 2208

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2208
TELEPHONE: (505) 988-4421

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TELECOPIER: (505) 983-6043

February 19, 1990

HAND-DELIVERED

William J. LeMay, Director Oil Conservation Division New Mexico Department of Energy and Minerals State Land Office Building Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 DECEIVED

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OIL CONSERVATION DIV SANTA FE

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Re:

Case 9867: Application of Mallon Oil Company for Compulsory Pooling,

Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. LeMay:

Enclosed is the Response of G.P. II Energy, Inc. to Mallon's Motion for Reconsideration of the Division's Denial to Quash the Subpoena you issued on February 5, 1990 in the above-referenced case. By copy of this letter I am providing copies of our Memorandum in Opposition to Reconsideration to Ernest L. Padilla, Robert G. Stovall and David R. Catanach.

It is my understanding that you will receive oral argument on this matter on Tuesday, February 20, 1990 at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM F. CARR

WFC:mlh Enclosures

cc w/enc:

Ernest L. Padilla, Esq.

Robert G. Stovall, Esq. Mr. David R. Catanach

George Mitchell d/b/a G.P. II Energy, Inc.



BEFORE THE

FFR 1 9 1990

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

OIL CONSERVATION DIV. SANTA FE

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Mallon is simply asking the Division to protect the advantage he gained over Mitchell by ignoring provisions of the Oil and Gas Act and drilling before he had obtained the joinder of the other interest owners in this spacing unit or a pooling order. His arguments in support of his Motion to Reconsider are in direct conflict with the Oil and Gas Act and the Motion must therefore be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

CAMPBELL & BLACK, P.A.

WILLIAM F. CARR

Post Office Box 2208

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Telephone: (505) 988-4421

ATTORNEYS FOR GEORGE MITCHELL d/b/a G.P. II ENERGY, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have caused to be hand-delivered a true and correct copy of Response to Motion to Reconsider Denial of Motion to Quash Subpoena Duces Tecum to Ernest L. Padilla, Esq., 200 West Marcy Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 and to Robert E. Stovall, Esq., 310 Old Santa Fe Trail, State Land Office Building, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 on this 192 day of February, 1990.

William F. Carr

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MALLON OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 9867

SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM RESCENTED

TO: Kevin M. Fitzgerald Mallon Oil Company 1099 18th Street, Suite 2750 Denver, Colorado 80202

FEB 5 1990 OIL CONSERVATION DIV. SANTA FE

Pursuant to Section 70-2-8, N.M.S.A. (1978) and New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Rule 1211, YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear at the place, day and time specified below and produce for inspection and copying the documents described on the attached Exhibit A.

PLACE

Oil Conservation Division Conference Room State Land Office Building 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

DAY AND TIME

February 7, 1990 at 8:15 o'clock A. M. **Examiner Hearing**

This subpoena is issued on the application of George Mitchell d/b/a G.P. II Energy, Inc., through its attorney, William F. Carr, Post Office Box 2208, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2208.

DATED this _____ day of February, 1990.

NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

By:__(

EXHIBIT "A"

INSTRUCTIONS

"Documents" or "records" mean every writing and record of every type and description in the possession, custody or control of Mallon Oil Company whether prepared by you or otherwise, which is in your possession or control or known by you to exist, including but not limited to, all drafts, correspondence, memoranda, handwritten notes, notes, minutes, entries in books of accounting, computer printouts, tapes and records of all types, minutes of meetings, studies, contracts, agreements, books, pamphlets, schedules, pictures and voice recordings, videotapes and every other device or medium on which, or for which information of any type is transmitted, recorded or preserved and whether or not such documents or records are marked or treated as confidential or proprietary. The term "document" also means a copy where the original is not in possession, custody or control of the company or corporation to whom this request is addressed, and every copy of the document where such copy is not an identical duplicate of the original, all things similar to any of the foregoing however denominated by the parties.

- 1. For the Mallon Oil Company Amoco Red Bluff Federal West No. 3, located 130 feet from the North line and 1805 feet from the East line of Section 28, Township 26 South, Range 29 East, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico, the following:
 - (a) All logs, including but not limited to all porosity logs and all resistivity logs.
 - (b) Any and all daily drilling reports and completion reports and production data.

PADILLA & SNYDER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
200 W. MARCY, SUITE 212

P.O. BOX 2523 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2523

ERNEST L. PADILLA MARY JO SNYDER

FAX 988-7592 AREA CODE 505

(505) 988-7577

February 13, 1990

HAND DELIVERED

Robert G. Stovall, Esq. State Land Office Building 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Re: Case No. 9867

Dear Mr. Stovall:

Enclosed is a proposed order denying our motion to quash and granting leave to seek judicial intervention in the above referenced OCD case.

If the order meets with your approval, please sign it and return it to me so that I can present it to Bill LeMay.

Ernest L. Padilla

ELP:pmc

Enclosure as stated

173.18

BEFORE THE

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERBY, MINERALS AND

NATURAL RESOURCES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MALLON OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

CASE NO. 9867 ORDER NO. ____

ORDER

The Division, having considered the Motion of Mallon Oil Company to Quash the Subpoena Duces Tecum issued by the Division on February 5, 1990,

It is HEREBY ORDERED THAT the motion is hereby denied.

It is FURTHER ORDERED THAT Mallon Oil Company's request for leave to seek judicial intervention is hereby granted.

Dated	
Dateu	

William J. LeMay, Director Oil Conservation Division

Approved:

William F. Carr, Esq. CAMPBELL & BLACK P.A.

110 North Guadalupe

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Attorneys for George Mitchell d/b/a G.P.II Energy, Inc.

Robert G. Stovall, Esq.
State Land Office Building
310 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, New Mexico 8750l
Attorney for Oil Conservation Division

Submitted by

Ernest L. Padilla PADILLA & SNYDER P. O. Box 2523

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2523 Attorneys for Mallon Oil Company

173.18

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110 North Guadalupe

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Attorneys for George Mitchell d/b/a G.P.II Energy, Inc.

Robert G. Stovall, Esq. State Land Office Building 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 8750l Attorney for Oil Conservation Division Submitted by:

Ernest L. Padilla PADILLA & SNYDER P. O. Box 2523

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2523 Attorneys for Mallon Oil Company

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MALLON OIL COMPANY

1099 18th Street, Suite 2750, Denver, Colorado 80202 (303) 293-2333

February 12, 1990

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Room 206 S. Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503 Attn: Mr. David Catanach

RE: Case number 9867 Case number 9868 Eddy County, NM

Dear Mr. Catanach:

Pursuant to the discussion in the compulsory pooling hearings for cases 9867 and 9868 on February 8, 1990 I am enclosing further data regrding typical Monthly Overhead charges and Drilling and Completion costs.

The only way that I knew to obtain these figures was to directly contact operators in the field and request the data since it is not of record anywhere. To this end I contacted J.C. Williamson at Midland, Texas; Richard Dillon, an engineer for Oryx Energy in Midland; and Mike Moylett a geologist for Exxon in Midland all on February 9, 1990. Mr. Moylett could not release the information due to company policy but the Williamson and Oryx Figures are as follows.

<u>Operator</u>	Monthly Overhead	Drilling & Completion
J.C. Williamson	"Approx.\$400/well/month"	"Approx. \$3000,000 for Williamson Sd. TD" (Not including battery)
Oryx	"350-400/well/month"	Actual cost on the only well they drilled (9-88) was \$460,000. This well was drilled to 6200'. AFE for Williamson Sd. depth well is \$390,000 (5300') (Both costs are exclusive of battery.)
Mallon	\$334.88/well/month	\$244,795 (Does not include battery)

I might add also that the operating expenses quoted by Mr. Lewis representing George P. Mitchell II seem totally unrealistic. I have had several phone conversations with the father, George H. Mitchell, who, incidentally has never mentioned that his son is involved with operating the Littlefield "BO" lease in Brushy Draw Field. The latest call was around October, 1989 when Mr. Mitchell (George H.) called to ask whether we would be willing to take disposal water from his lease when we got our disposal well going. He complained in that call that his present cost for disposal was a burden to the well economics and said he was paying 40¢/Bbl for disposal to the commercial disposal operation in the Field.

The two active producers on the lease (two of the four wells on the Littlefield "BO" lease are shown as being shut-in since 5-86 and 3-87) produced a total of 129,886 Bol water during 1988 for an average 5,412 Bbl/well/mo. At 40¢/Bbl that alone would total \$2,165/well/month in lease operating expense. During October 1989, the latest month for which I have data, the lease produced 5,248 BW or 2,624 BW/well, which is still \$1050/well/month in disposal cost. As I recall from Mr. Lewis' testimony this is about what they estimated the wells could be operated for, giving little or no room for pulling, maintenance, chemicals and labor all of which are substantial costs in the Brushy Draw Field area.

I realize this is a little more than you asked for but I thought it might be enlightening as to how well versed George P. Mitchell, II is in operating in the area.

Please feel free to call with any additional questions you may have.

Sincerely,

MALLON OIL COMPANY

Joe H. Cox, Jr. Production Manager

Joe Mort.

JC/lkh

cc: Ernie Padilla Bill Carr

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT



OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

GARREY CARRUTHERS . GOVERNOR

June 8, 1990

POST OFFICE BOX 2088 STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING SANTA FE NEW MEX CO 87501 (505) 827-5800

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Re: CASE NO. <u>9867 and 9868 De Novo</u> ORDER NO. <u>R-9124-A</u>

Applicant:

Mallon Oil Company and

George Mitchell d/b/a G.P. II
Eneggy, Inc.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of the above-referenced Commission order recently entered in the subject case.

Sincerely,

Alexena Alcudus

OC Staff Specialist

Copy of order also sent to:

Hobbs OCD X
Artesia OCD X
Aztec OCD

Other William F. Carr