Case Number

4262

Application

Transcripts.

Small Exhibits

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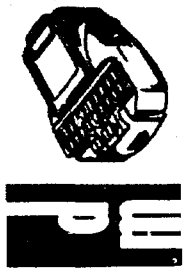

BEFORE THE
NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Santa Fe, New Mexico
November 25, 1969

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Plains Radio Broadcasting Company for an exception to Order No. R-3221, as amended, Chaves, County, New Mexico. Case No. 4262

BEFORE: Elvis A. Utz, Examiner.

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

MR. UTZ: Case 4262.

MR. HATCH: Case 4262. Application of Plains Radio Broadcasting Company for an exception to Order No. R-3221, as amended, Chaves County, New Mexico.

MR. WHITTENBURG: Mr. Examiner, I am George Whittenburg, with the law firm of Folley, Snodgrass and Calhoun, in Amarillo, Texas.

I am here today representing Plains Radio Broadcasting Company. We propose the introduction of evidence from several wells, as shown by Rinehart's Oil and Gas Reports. And we have the testimony of one witness, Mr. J. P. White.

(Witness sworn).

MR. HATCH: The record should show that there is a letter of appearance from the New Mexico Attorneys.

MR. UTZ: Do you have more than one copy of the exhibits?

MR. WHITTENBURG: I just have these originals -- and I just have this one map.

(Whereupon, Applicant's Exhibits 1 and 2 were marked for identification.)

J. P. WHITE, JR.

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WHITTENBURG:

Q State your name, please.

A J. P. White, Jr.

Q What is your residence?

A Roswell, New Mexico.

Q Are you familiar with the L. E. Ranch east of Roswell?

A Yes, sir.

Q Does this ranch include Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East?

A Yes, sir.

Q What was this ranch known as in times past?

A It was always known as the L. E. Ranch -- that was the brand name, and it doesn't mean anything otherwise.

Q Are you familiar with the three wells drilled on Section 34, 11, 29?

A Yes, sir.

Q All right. Does this topographical accurately reflect the terrain and the location of these three wells and the water surface -- the surface water tanks in this area?

A Yes, sir.

Q All right. Does this line accurately represent the south boundary of the L. E. Ranch?

A Yes, sir.

MR. UTZ: Mr. Whittenburg, are you going to refer to that map anymore?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Not for him.

MR. UTZ: You don't need it anymore?

MR. WHITTENBURG: He will testify to some things that can be --

MR. UTZ: Well, you can put it on the wall, if you want to -- we both need to refer to it.

MR. WHITTENBURG: Well, I don't think he needs to refer to it.

Q (By Mr. Whittenburg) Are you familiar with the underground formations on the L. E. Ranch?

A Yes, I am, to a great extent.

Q What is the basis of your knowledge?

A From what standpoint?

Q From both: take water first, and then oil --

A This land is located east of Roswell. And practically all of the terrain is a mixture of red beds, salt deposits and gypsum -- overlying the San Andres, the Queen, first, and the San Andres Formations.

At this point that you referred to, these were public wells -- at that point, overlying portions of approximately seventeen hundred feet of the San Andres Formation.

Q Mr. White, at one time, did you own this ranch?

A Our family owned this ranch, yes, for over thirty years.

Q All right. Did you drill numerous water wells?

A Yes. My father drilled a good many water wells prior to his death in 1934. And for over twenty-five years, I was manager of the ranch and drilled enumerable attempts for water.

I also observed the drilling of possibly twenty-five or thirty oil tests, none of which, to my knowledge, had any water of any consequence.

Q Okay. Have you drilled water wells in this area near these three wells?

A Yes, that area was tested.

Q Did you discover any water in the vicinity --

A Nothing of any consequence -- there's nothing that you would call potable water.

Q Did you discover any salt beds in this area?

A Yes, sir.

Q Okay.

A At a location of approximately -- oh, I would say, a mile and a half to two miles, west of this location, we attempted a water well exploration, and we did find a small amount of water within the first twenty-five or thirty feet.

And we went on down, and for the next one hundred and fifty feet, it was pure salt. We abandoned the well at that time, and attempted to produce this shallow water. And we, in fact, put up a windmill on it -- but it was fed by surface water there, and it was soon exhausted.

Q All right.

A Other attempts were made in that area, by my father and by myself for potable water -- for livestock purposes, in particular.

Q What do you have to do for livestock water on this ranch? It's a rather large ranch --

A Well, during the time that I was manager and part owner of this ranch, I either built or had built over fifty earthen tanks, all of which were more or less selected from red bed formations, or red clay, a clay that was impervious -- and these tanks still exist out there. And the deeper tanks, in that period of time, even though were replenished, whole or part, in some years, have never been dry.

Q Do these water tanks that you built, the surface water tanks that you built in the red clay formations: did you have any experience with any of them leaking?

A No, sir. Not if they were in the red clay.

Q All right.

A If they were in the gypsum formation, yes, but we avoided the gypsum formations.

Q All right. Now, is there a great amount of water piped from one place to another --

A Yes. The last year that I had charge of this ranch, through one of the soil conservation programs, I intalled over one hundred and sixty thousand feet of plastic pipe on this ranch.

Q Where is the best water on this ranch?

A There is one small area -- I would say, two small areas on the ranch, that produce fairly good water -- it's an area approximately seven or eight miles to the northwest of this location we are referring to, covering not only two sections that produces fairly good water -- that's right on the highway, and can be easily shown.

And then, my father, after he acquired this property, back in the middle '25s, he started a well drilling program on the ranch, and after drilling -- oh, I don't

know -- ten or twelve dry holes, he decided to drill in an igneous dyke -- that's a geological formation, that runs east and west up through the ranch.

And even though, he had expert advice from some of the geologist that he would never find water in that igneous dyke -- he did -- a small amount, about three gallons of water a minute, at about three hundred feet in depth, in this igneous dyke -- and it was igneous all the way down.

That well is still in production, and it is drinking water.

MR. UTZ: Where is that well located?

THE WITNESS: It is -- now, this well would be -- I'm not familiar with the sections and so forth, but I could show it to you -- that map doesn't show the whole --

MR. WHITTENBURG: No, it does not.

THE WITNESS: It would be at least --

MR. WHITTENBURG: Seven to ten miles --

THE WITNESS: -- twelve to fourteen miles north of this location. It would be north of the 385 Highway that runs east from Roswell.

Q (By Mr. Whittenburg) Mr. White, going to the surface, there, around these three wells, which direction

would water drain, deposited on the surface there, at the three wells?

A This ranch is -- contains about one hundred and twenty-two thousand acres, and as we knew it, there was a drainage draw, known as -- along the arroyo, that entered this ranch on the northeast corner.

This draw ran diagonally through the ranch, and veered to the west. The water, in general, tried to work its way toward this draw -- in other words, the water at this point, the subject point, attempts to go to the southwest -- mostly to the west.

Q All right. Do you know, from your experience, from your observations, that the oil wells drilled in the area, which direction the underground formations dip?

A Well, I'm quite sure that all of the formations in that area dip to the southeast at approximately sixty feet to the mile.

This red bed formation that I referred to outcrops at the Pecos River, and soon after that to the west, the San Andres outcrops immediately west at Roswell.

Q Are you familiar with the Malstrom Windmill, south of these three wells?

A I have been there, yes, sir.

Q When were you first familiar with this windmill?

A Well, I was familiar with this ranch for five or six years prior to my father's death in 1934, and worked with him in developing that ranch -- and at that time. I knew the owner of that Malstrom Ranch -- his name was Douthitt.

Q Would you describe the water at that Malstrom Windmill?

A It was my understanding, and I can't tell you definitely, but I know that all of the ranchers in this red bed section, and I mean, from the Plains, west to the Pecos, and on south to Carlsbad, are more or less dependent on either rain water that they catch off their barns or houses, or they haul water -- with few exceptions.

The water at the Malstrom Ranch, to my understanding, it was not a real potable water -- it was water that could be used in part by stock, but it was supplemented by a tank -- by tank water for livestock purposes.

Q Are these the characteristics of that water prior to the time these three wells were drilled in this area?

A I'm sure it was.

Q Now, would you describe the type of soil underlying

the -- first, are you familiar with the disposal pit that was used in connection with these three wells?

A Yes. It was granted by us to Republic Natural Gas Company, who operated as part owners of the property at that time -- the oil properties at that time.

Q Did this pit handle all of the salt water from all three wells?

A Yes, sir.

Q Okay. To you knowledge, has water from the salt water disposal pit ever broken through the dykes on the salt water --

A Not to my knowledge. At least, not while we owned this property.

Q And that would be since --

A In 1962, we disposed of the property.

Q Now, would you describe the type of soil bed underlying this salt water disposal pit?

A Well, all of that country, as I stated, conglomered of gypsum, red clay and salt beds.

Q Is this the same type bed that underlies the surface water tanks that you described earlier?

A Yes, sir. That's right, with the exception

that these red bed formations are not continuous -- in other words, sometimes they stop very abruptly, and gypsum will start in.

On occasion, I have dug tanks, in what I thought was a red bed formation, and on one side or another, I would hit gypsum -- well, gypsum is soluble, and does not hold water very good. And so, I would then take the red clay removed from other parts of the tank, and clape this gypsum apart -- and I would get good results, perfect results.

Q While you owned the ranch, did this salt water disposal pit ever leak?

A Not to my knowledge, no.

Q Okay. To your knowledge, is there any underground movement of shallow water through this area?

A Not to my knowledge. Not that we ever found -- nothing that we ever thought might exist. The only underground water that might exist there would be perhaps where these gypsum beds might be formed for a small distance and run into a clay bank -- and that would be the end of it.

Q Do you know whether or not the people there at the Malstrom Ranch hauled their drinking water?

A I don't know at this time.

Q Do you know at any time whether they --

A Well, they did -- the Douthitt's did, I know.

Q They did not drink this water from this well?

A I don't -- I don't think they use it for household use. Now, they might have used it for other purposes -- I don't know. It was not my business.

MR. WHITTENBURG: All right. I have no further questions on direct examination.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. UTZ:

Q Where is the pit located?

A I think you will find it -- well, Mr. Whittenburg will show you.

MR. WHITTENBURG: This pit -- the east line of this pit lines up at a point a quarter of a mile east -- and it starts in about here (indicating) -- it's very close -- it wouldn't be off two or three acres.

MR. UTZ: Now, what's this line cross here? (Indicating).

MR. WHITTENBURG: That's the south boundary line of the Elliott Ranch.

MR. UTZ: I see.

Q (By Mr. Utz) Generally, is this below the

cap?

A Yes, it is. Yes, it is -- it's below the cap block, and of course, you know the cap block is a different geological formation.

In other words, the San Andres and the cap is much deeper than the seventeen hundred feet at this particular point.

Q Now, how many producing wells are they producing in this pit at the present time?

MR. WHITTENBURG: None, at the present time -- number one, the No. 1 well, the northern most well, is the one --

MR. UTZ: That you want to produce; is that correct?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, that we want to produce.

MR. UTZ: Well, what is this two and three here? Are they abandoned wells?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Well, three -- if we can get an economical operation going -- they are very marginal wells -- and we would like to produce three at a later time, but we would like to see what we can do with one first.

Number two is producing some gas with which we pump number one with. Right now, I believe it has been -- they moved up the hole and plugged --

THE WITNESS: It's plugged back to the Mississippian.

MR. UTZ: Mississippian Gas?

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. Plugged off of the Devonian and tried to produce gas out of the Mississippian.

Q (By Mr. Utz) What is the one and three producing from?

A The Devonian. It was drilled in 1953.

MR. WHITTENBURG: Mr. Examiner, this particular map shows the cap rock in this area, and Range 29 is in this area -- these two maps together, might be helpful to show the cap rock on these.

MR. UTZ: What is the one-thirty well in Section 30 of 11 South, 30 East, and the Gulf One at Section 29 -- why are they shown on this map; for any purpose in this case?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, Mr. Examiner -- to enable me to understand the lay of the underground formations, I drew lines through those and took the information off of Rinehart's Oil and Gas Reports, to show this, and I have all of the reports for each one of those wells, and would

introduce all of them into evidence.

Primarily, these show -- these three show the anhydrate formation, coming up, slightly, to the south -- and this shows the anhydrate formation sloping drastically off in this direction -- (indicating) -- and it shows a salt -- well, I'll introduce these four reports into evidence or move that they be introduced in evidence.

Primarily, I want to show the reports that the upper formations dip up to the south and off in this direction (indicating), so, if there were any underground shallow water, it would first pick up this salt and contaminate it, and secondly, it would more than likely, go up in this direction (indicating), rather than over toward that mill.

Now, on this well down here (indicating) -- this was a dry hole, and it has the tops --

MR. UTZ: Now, you are referring to the east -- the Steinburger No. 1, in Section 33, of 12 South --

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes. I haven't introduced that: but, it does not have the tops available for the shallow formations, but it does have the correlation for the tops of the Glorietta Formations -- in the San Andres.

Q (By Mr. Utz) Now, Mr. White, is it your testimony

that the beds dip sixty feet per mile southeast in this area?

A That's my understanding.

Q And the surface dips to the southwest?

A At this point, yes -- it dips toward the -- this long arroyo draw, which I referred to, which comes through the ranch.

Q Do you have any knowledge of the wells shown on some of our maps of Section 11 to the southeast on Section 34?

A I would just have to look at a map, sir.

MR. HATCH: Mr. Utz is referring to maps of the State of New Mexico, issued by the New Mexico State Highway Department, the transit division, quadrangle number 95.

MR. UTZ: This is the --

MR. HATCH: Ninety-four inlay.

MR. UTZ: Now, Section 3, of this well located here (indicating), is the Malstrom Well?

THE WITNESS: I'm not familiar with that.

MR. UTZ: I see. You don't know whether it would be a good well or a bad well or any well at all?

THE WITNESS: No, sir, I don't.

Q (By Mr. Utz) That location would be approximately two miles to the southeast: is that correct?

A I presume so.

Q And the Malstrom well is approximately one mile south?

A That's right: yes, sir.

Q How much water do you propose to produce into this pit of produced --

MR. WHITTENBURG: I think it's varied in times past -- I think it would be between fifty to eighty barrels per day -- I'm just not certain.

MR. UTZ: How salty is this water?

MR. WHITTENBURG: This water is pretty salty, to my understanding.

MR. UTZ: You never had any analysis run on it?

MR. WHITTENBURG: We have never had any analysis run on it. It would be my presumption that if it did get into fresh water, it would contaminate it.

MR. UTZ: Did you say how much oil these wells were producing?

Mr. WHITTENBURG: The No. 1 -- I believe, when Mobil was the operator, and sold out -- I believe, it was between sixteen and twenty barrels a day.

MR. UTZ: It's not producing now at all?

MR. WHITTENBURG: It's not producing now at all.

MR. UTZ: Is this because it can't produce or have you got it shut-in --

MR. WHITTENBURG: We've got it shut-in pending this hearing.

MR. UTZ: Is it producing sixteen to twenty-one barrels per day before you shut it in?

MR. WHITTENBURG: That's my understanding -- prior to the time that Plains Radio Broadcasting Company purchased it.

MR. UTZ: Plains hasn't produced this well at all?

MR. WHITTENBURG: I think they pumped it -- I think a pumper put it together to see what it would pump, and it pumped some, and I think that was his estimate -- the sixteen to twenty.

MR. UTZ: And, in addition to this, you propose to produce the No. 3 Well if it will produce?

MR. WHITTENBURG: If in the -- in the alternative, of course, we have applied for a permit to dispose of salt water into the No. 3 Well.

If we did that, of course, we would not be able

to produce the No. 3 Well. If we were able to get the exception and were able to make it economical, at a later date, we would try to pump the No. 3 well.

MR. UTZ: Your application proposes an alternative?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, sir. It is a marginal situation, and would not justify lining the pit -- probably would not justify -- to force the water into a salt water disposal well.

MR. UTZ: Now, if we should rule that you have to dispose in a No. 3 well: how is it completed?

MR. WHITTENBURG: I believe it is shown on those oil and gas reports -- it's completed also on the -- let's see here -- producing for perforations -- twenty-eight perforations, between eighty-seven forty-three and eighty-seven fifty.

MR. UTZ: Eighty-seven forty-three?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Eighty-seven forty-three -- at a depth of eighty-seven forty-three and eighty-seven fifty.

This, of course, as it stands now, would be going back into the same pay formation, at a lower -- well, at approximately the same depth, but I believe the formation --

a deeper formation dips to the south on these three wells.

MR. UTZ: Does this well have tubing in it now?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes.

MR. UTZ: Then, it would be your proposal to just inject down the well as it is now?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes.

MR. UTZ: No packer around the tubing?

MR. WHITTENBURG: I suspect we would do whatever we needed to get it down the tubing -- to that formation.

MR. UTZ: Questions of the witness?

MR. HATCH: Mr. White, do you know the depth of that Malstrom Windmill?

THE WITNESS: No, sir.

MR. HATCH: When were you last in this area?

THE WTINESS: As owner?

MR. HATCH: No, have you been preparing for this case?

THE WITNESS: No -- I've been out to the property, in general, quite often.

MR. HATCH: But not making investigations --

THE WITNESS: No.

MR. HATCH: -- looking for particular wells?

THE WITNESS: No.

MR. HATCH: Mr. Whittenburg, have you been to the area?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, sir, I have.

MR. HATCH: Were you looking for any windmills?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, I did not see a windmill in this area -- I was by this well -- (indicating) -- in this area, on Sunday.

MR. UTZ: You are referring to the Malstrom Well?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes. Yes, I was by there Sunday.

MR. HATCH: Did you find out the depth of the water?

MR. WHITTENBURG: No, I did not.

MR. HATCH: The windmill is still there?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, it is.

MR. HATCH: And does it appear to be producing?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, sir.

MR. UTZ: That is the only windmill you saw in the area?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, sir. That's the only one I saw in the area.

MR. HATCH: Mr. Whittenburg, of course, you

were not sworn as a witness. Perhaps we should swear you as a witness.

MR. WHITTENBURG: All right, sir.

(Whereupon, at this point, Mr. Whittenburg was sworn upon his oath for the testimony previously given and for testimony given after this point.)

MR. HATCH: One reason I am interested in the size of this pit, as you realize, the order of the Commission requires the pits that have been used for salt water disposal, at one time, to be covered, filled and to be compacted within so many months after they are not used anymore.

And you have testified that this is a forty-acre pit?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Approximately, yes, sir. I suppose we would have to do that, if we were not able to use this -- this pit.

MR. HATCH: Do you know how many years this was used before this for a disposal?

MR. WHITTENBURG: I think every year, since they drilled the wells -- from '54 or '55.

MR. HATCH: Is this a natural pit or --

MR. WHITTENBURG: No, it's a -- it's actually a dug out pit, yes, sir.

MR. WHITE: I can answer that.

MR. HATCH: All right.

MR. WHITE: It's a bull dozier pit -- it's just four sides -- it's just a bull dozier type pit -- most of it is just a natural ground lift.

MR. HATCH: Did the water that was disposed in it, did it cover most of the area?

MR. WHITE: I never did see the pit covered completely -- the only water that was lost, I think, was about that much -- the pit was fenced.

MR. HATCH: That's all I have.

MR. UTZ: Approximately, how deep were the dykes around --

MR. WHITE: Well, as I recall, they were four -- not over five feet in heighth.

MR. UTZ: Any other questions of the witnesses? You may be exucsed.

(Witnesses excused.)

MR. UTZ: Statements in this case?

MR. WHITTENBURG: I would like to make one sum up statement, if I might.

MR. HATCH: Excuse me, I don't believe he ever introduced the exhibits.

MR. UTZ: Do you want Exhibit Nos. --

MR. WHITTENBURG: That is all the -- all five cards are Exhibit No. 1 -- I mean No. 2.

MR. HATCH: Well, this would be Exhibit No. 1.

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, No. 1.

MR. UTZ: Exhibit No. 1, consisting of a map of the area in question, and Exhibit 2, consisting of four parts of well records, for wells in the area, will be introduced in the record of this case.

Statements?

MR. WHITTENBURG: The only statement that I would like to make is that there -- for this half mile, the anhydrate bed on the surface, does come up in this direction -- (indicating) -- and goes off in this direction (indicating) and, of course, to this well I don't know, I don't have the information off in this direction (indicating) -- but the anhydrate dips very drastically from this well to this well -- (indicating) -- and it does dip up -- and there is a salt formation shown on the reports for this No. 1 well and this well (indicating).

I believe that Mr. White testified there is no underground movement of shallow water in this area. If there were, it would go off in this direction or this

direction (indicating).

And if there were such movement, it would pick up the salt from this area (indicating) -- and contaminate the water of the wells.

The whole area is quite salty -- the water porosities are not very good, and they have been that way for an awful long time.

MR. UTZ: In other words, it is your contention, in your statement, that any drainage that might come from this pit would go to the east, rather than to the south?

MR. WHITTENBURG: Yes, sir. More so to the east.

MR. UTZ: Any other statements?

The case will be taken under advisement.

(Whereupon, a short recess was taken).

I N D E X

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E X H I B I T S

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
) ss
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO)

I, CA FENLEY, Court Reporter in and for the County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me; and that the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

Court Reporter

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. 4262 heard by me on May 25, 1969.

Examiner
New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
P. O. BOX 2088 - SANTA FE
87501

GOVERNOR
DAVID F. CARGO
CHAIRMAN

LAND COMMISSIONER
ALEX J. ARMIJO
MEMBER

STATE GEOLOGIST
A. L. PORTER, JR.
SECRETARY - DIRECTOR

December 3, 1969

Mr. George A. Whittenburg, II
Folley, Snodgrass & Calhoun
Attorneys at Law
Amarillo Petroleum Building - Suite 417
Amarillo, Texas 79101

Re: Case No. 4262
Order No. R-3891
Applicant:
Plains Radio Broadcasting Co.

Dear Sir:

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

Very truly yours,

A. L. PORTER, Jr.
Secretary-Director

ALP/ir

Copy of order also sent to:

Hobbs OCC x
Artesia OCC x
Aztec OCC
Other State Engineer Office

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION
COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR
THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE No. 4262
Order No. R-3891

APPLICATION OF PLAINS RADIO BROADCASTING
COMPANY FOR AN EXCEPTION TO ORDER NO.
R-3221, AS AMENDED, CHAVES COUNTY, NEW
MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on November 25, 1969, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Elvis A. Utz.

NOW, on this 3rd day of December, 1969, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That the applicant, Plains Radio Broadcasting Company, is the owner and operator of the White Ranch Well No. 1, located in Unit E of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, White Ranch Siluro-Devonian Pool, Chaves, New Mexico.

(3) That Order (3) of Commission Order No. R-3221, as amended, prohibits in that area encompassed by Lea, Eddy, Chaves, and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico, the disposal, subject to minor exceptions, of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, on the surface of the ground, or in any pit, pond, lake, depression, draw, streambed, or arroyo, or in any watercourse, or in any other place or in any manner which

would constitute a hazard to any fresh water supplies and said disposal has not previously been prohibited.

(4) That the aforesaid Order No. R-3221 was issued in order to afford reasonable protection against contamination of fresh water supplies designated by the State Engineer through disposal of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, in unlined surface pits.

(5) That the State Engineer has designated, pursuant to Section 65-3-11 (15), N.M.S.A., 1953 Compilation, all underground water in the State of New Mexico containing 10,000 parts per million or less of dissolved solids as fresh water supplies to be afforded reasonable protection against contamination; except that said designation does not include any water for which there is no present or reasonably foreseeable beneficial use that would be impaired by contamination.

(6) That the applicant seeks an exception to the provisions of the aforesaid Order (3) to permit the disposal of salt water produced by applicant's White Ranch Well No. 1 in an unlined surface pit located in the vicinity of said well.

(7) That the subject well produces approximately 80 barrels of water per day.

(8) That there appears to be no shallow fresh water in the vicinity of the subject pit for which a present or reasonably foreseeable beneficial use is or will be made that would be impaired by contamination from the subject pit.

(9) That the applicant should be permitted to dispose of salt water produced by its White Ranch Well No. 1 located in Unit E of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico, in the unlined surface pit located in the vicinity of said well.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the applicant, Plains Radio Broadcasting Company, is hereby granted an exception to Order (3) of Order No. R-3221, as amended, to dispose of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, by its White Ranch Well No. 1, located in Unit E of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East,

NMPM, White Ranch Siluro-Devonian Pool, Chaves County, New Mexico, in the unlined surface pit located in the vicinity of said well.

(2) That the Commission may by administrative order rescind such authority whenever it reasonably appears to the Commission that such rescission would serve to protect fresh water supplies from contamination.

(3) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DAVID F. CARGO, Chairman

ALEX J. ARMIJO, Member

A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary

esr/

ATWOOD, MALONE, MANN & COOTER
LAWYERS

JEFF D. ATWOOD [1903-1960]

CHARLES F. MALONE
RUSSELL D. MANN
PAUL A. COOTER
BOB F. TURNER
ROBERT A. JOHNSON
JOHN W. BASSETT

ROBERT E. SABIN
RUFUS E. THOMPSON

[505] 622-6221
P. O. DRAWER 700
SECURITY NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO 88201

November 18, 1969

Mr. A. L. Porter, Jr.
Oil Conservation Commission
State Land Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

RE: Case No. 4662 on the November 25, 1969, Examiner Hearing Docket

Dear Mr. Porter:

Would you please file the enclosed Entry of Appearance in the above captioned case. The presentation will be handled by George A. Whittenburg, II, of Folley, Snodgrass & Calhoun, attorneys, in Amarillo, Texas.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

R. E. Thompson

RET:sas

cc: George A. Whittenburg, II, Esquire

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF	)	
	)	
PLAINS RADIO BROADCASTING COMPANY	)	No. 4662
	)	
FOR AN EXCEPTION TO ORDER NO. R-3221,	)	
	)	
AS AMENDED, CHAVES COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.	)	

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

The undersigned, Atwood, Malone, Mann & Cooter of Roswell, New Mexico, hereby enters its appearance in this case as New Mexico counsel for Plains Radio Broadcasting Company.

DATED this 18th day of November, 1969.

ATWOOD, MALONE, MANN & COOTER

BY Rufus E. Thompson

Post Office Drawer 700
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

REPUBLIC NATURAL GAS CO. #3 White Ranch

CHAVES COUNTY — NEW MEXICO — WHITE RANCH SILURE-DEVONIAN

Well: REPUBLIC NATURAL GAS CO. #3 White Ranch — Result: OIL

Locn: Sec 34-11S-29E, 990' FSL 660' FWL Sec

Spud: 11-12-53; Comp: 1-25-54; Elev: 3788' DF; TD: 8774' dolo

Casing: 13 3/8" 76'/60 sx, 8 5/8" 2150'/1075 sx; 5½" 8774'/125 sx

Prod Zone: Devonian, T/pay 8742', prod from perfs 28/8743-50'

IPF: 351.36 BOPD thru 13/64" ch on 2" at 8747, Grav 47.3, TP 195#, CP Pkr at 8735'

Comp. Info: CRD 8725-45', rec 20' gray sh; CRD 8745-50', rec 5' gray sh; CRD 8750-57', rec 6½' sh & dolo, bleeding oil; DST 8717-57', op 4 hrs 15 min, rec 2060' free oil, 430' HO&GCM, FP 0-900#, SIP 3625#/30 min; DST 8757-8762', op 2 hrs, 10 min, rec 2520' free oil, 430' HO&GCM, FP 250-1100#, SIP 3475#/30 min; CRD 8764-79', rec 14' dolo w/good por, bleeding oil; CRD 8779-85', rec 1' ll, no desc; A/250 gals, KO & flwd 10.8 BO/1st hrs thru 14/64" ch, TP 350# flwd 5.4 BO/2nd hr thru 12/64" ch, TP 375#.

Tops: (EL) Anhy 316', Yates 865', San And 2112', Glor 3350', Tubb 4880' Abo 5693', Hueco 6718', Miss 8130', Dev 8742'; (Sample) San And 2125' Tubb 4590', ABo 5700', Miss 8138', Hueco 6680'.

OIL REPORTS — Date: 2-9-54 — Card No: 2 NM bm — 324

REPUBLIC NAT. GAS CO. & SEABOARD OIL CO OF DEL. #1 WHITE RANCH

CHAVES COUNTY — NEW MEXICO — WILDCAT

Well: REPUBLIC NAT. GAS CO. & SEABOARD OIL CO. OF DEL. — Result: OIL

Locn: E/part of county, 10 mi SE Chisum Siluro-Dev Field; Sec 34-11S-29E, 1980' FNL 660' FWL of Sec.

Spud: 1-14-53 Comp: 4-7-53 Elev: 3792' TD: 8781' PB 8777'

Casing: 13 3/8" 89'/150 sx, 8 5/8" 2130'/750 sx, 5½" 8771'/100 sx

Prod. Zone: T/Pay (Siluro-Dev) 8728', Producing thru perfs 200/8725-8775'

IPF: 294 BOPD thru 1/4" chk on 2" at 8770', Gty 47.1, GOR 46-1, TP 550#, CP pkr.

Comp. Info: DST 2698-2890', op 1 hr, rec 50' SGCM & 200' mud, FP 275# SIP 975#/15 mins; DST 3365-3448', op 30 mins, rec 100 mud & 60' salty wtr-cut mud & 90' SW, FP 0#, SIP 1400#/15 mins; DST 8340-8400', op 7 hrs, gas in 72 mins, est 30,000 CFGPD, rec 250' HGCM; CRD 8753-60', rec 7' buff coarse xln dolo, good pin point & vuggy poro, scatt stain, vert fracs, cht nodules in bttm 1'; DST 8715-60', op 1 hr, gas in 39 mins, est 20,000 CFGPD, oil in 48 mins, flwd est 30 BOPH in 12 mins, rev out 8710' clean 48.5 Gty oil & 50' HO&GCM, FP 2850-3600#, SIP 3750#/15 mins; DST 8717-75', op 1 hr & 44 mins, mud in 20 mins, oil in 29 mins, cleaned to pits for 15 mins, flwd to tanks for 1 hr, flwd 91 BO, rec out 8177' oil, 480' O&GCM & 60' sli brackish wtr, FP 2900-3700#, SIP 3800#/15 mins; SIM 8775-8781'. (CONTINUED)

Re-issued to show correct location:

OIL REPORTS — Date: 4-21-53 — Card No: 1 NM bb — 1 — 324

REPUBLIC NAT. GAS CO. & SEABOARD OIL CO. OF DEL. #1 WHITE RANCH

CHAVES COUNTY — NEW MEXICO — WILDCAT

REMARKS CONTINUED:

Tops: Anhy 345', Salt 380', Yates 870', Queen 1558', San And 2110', Glor 3364', Tubb 4884', Abo 5695', Hueco 6717', Bend 8076', Miss 8120', Siluro-Dev 8728'.

OIL REPORTS — Date: 4-21-53 — Card No: 1-"A" NM bb

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
P. O. BOX 2088
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

October 16, 1969

Case 4262

Folley, Snodgrass & Calhoun
Attorneys at Law
Amarillo Petroleum Building, Suite 417
Amarillo, Texas 79101

Attention: Mr. George A. Whittenburg, II

Re: Application to dispose of salt water in exception to Order No. R-3221, as amended, Chaves County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Confirming our telephone conversation of October 16, 1969, the requested case will be set for the last examiner hearing in November or the first in December, 1969.

You will not need to furnish the Commission any other information, materials, or forms prior to the hearing concerning the surface disposal. You will be expected, at the hearing, to present information to show that surface disposal will not present a hazard to fresh water supplies in the area. Concerning the disposal well to be used in the alternative, the Commission does need information concerning the disposal formation and disposal intervals.

If you have been admitted to the practice of law in another state you may present your own case if you have a letter of appearance from a New Mexico attorney.

A copy of the docket will be mailed to you when it has been completed.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE M. HATCH
Attorney

GMH/esr

COPY

LAW OFFICES
FOLLEY, SNODGRASS & CALHOUN
AMARILLO PETROLEUM BUILDING, SUITE 417
AMARILLO, TEXAS 79101

A. J. FOLLEY
ROY C. SNODGRASS, JR.
O. M. CALHOUN
GEORGE A. WHITTENBURG, II

TELEPHONE 376-4557
POST OFFICE BOX 2709
ZIP CODE 79105

RECEIVED
OCT 3 8 35 AM '69
STATE LAND OFFICE
SANTA FE, N. M.

September 23, 1969

Case 4262

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission
Land Commissioner
Not → ~~Guyton B. Hays, Member~~
Post Office Box 1148
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

COPY

Re: White Ranch Lease, Chaves County, New Mexico, Well No. 1 in Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, NMPM

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to my telephone conversation with Mr. D. S. Nutter, Chief Engineer, I am writing to request a hearing for the consideration of an exemption from Order No. R-3221, as amended, on behalf of Well No. 1 on the above lease, located in the center of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, NMPM.

Plains Radio Broadcasting Company is the operator of this lease, and is in the process of filing Form C-104 for the reason of change in ownership from Avalanche-Journal Publishing Company and/or Mobil Oil Corporation to Plains Radio Broadcasting Company.

Plains Radio Broadcasting Company does now have a blanket plugging bond, as required by Rule 101. I was not sure of this when I talked with Mr. Nutter.

Please set a hearing date at your convenience, preferably October 22, 1969, if possible. I am not admitted to practice in the State of New Mexico, but would like permission to appear on behalf of Plains Radio Broadcasting Company at the hearing with a letter appearance from a New Mexico attorney, if possible.

Please let me know as soon as possible what material and information I need to provide you prior to the hearing, and please send me any forms or applications that need to be filled out for the hearing.

White Ranch Well No. 1 - Unit E
White Ranch Seluro - Devonian

Thank you for your help and courtesy.

Respectfully,

FOLLEY, SNODGRASS & CALHOUN

George A. Whittenburg, II

GAWII/s

cc: Mr. D. S. Nutter, Chief Engineer
State Land Office Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Mr. J. P. White, Jr.
Box 874
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

RECEIVED
OCT 3 8 35 AM '69
STATE LAND OFFICE
SANTA FE, N. M.

RECEIVED
OCT 3 8 35 AM '69
STATE LAND OFFICE
SANTA FE, N. M.

NOTE: DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY, THIS HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY RATHER THAN WEDNESDAY AS CUSTOMARY.

Docket No. 32-69

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 25, 1969

9 A.M. - OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING - SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

The following cases will be heard before Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner, or Elvis A. Utz, Alternate Examiner:

CASE 4259: Application of Aztec Oil & Gas Company for salt water disposal, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to dispose of produced salt water into the San Andres formation in the perforated interval from 5112 feet to 5138 feet in its State "SS" Well No. 1 located in Unit F of Section 24, Township 17 South, Range 36 East, Spencer-San Andres Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

CASE 4260: Application of Tamarack Petroleum Company, Inc. for a water-flood expansion, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to expand its Northeast Pearl Queen Unit Waterflood Project, Pearl-Queen Pool, by the conversion to water injection one additional injection well, its Unit Well No. 18, located in Unit L of Section 23, Township 19 South, Range 35 East, Lea County, New Mexico.

CASE 4261: Application of Pennzoil United, Inc., for special pool rules and unorthodox gas well location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the promulgation of special pool rules for the Quail Ridge-Morrow Gas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, including a provision for 320-acre spacing units. Applicant further seeks approval of the unorthodox location in said pool for its Mescalero Ridge Well No. 1 at a location 660 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the West line of Section 20, Township 19 South, Range 34 East.

CASE 4262: Application of Plains Radio Broadcasting Company for an exception to Order No. R-3221, as amended, Chaves County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an exception to Order No. R-3221, as amended, which order prohibits the disposal of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil on the surface of the ground in Lea, Eddy, Chaves, and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico. Said exception would be for the applicant's White Ranch Well No. 1 located in Unit E of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, White Ranch Siluro-Devonian Pool, Chaves County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to dispose of salt

water produced by said well in an unlined surface pit located in the vicinity of said well. In the alternative, applicant seeks authority to dispose of said produced water into the Siluro-Devonian formation in the perforated interval from 8743 feet to 8750 feet in its White Ranch Well No. 3 located in Unit M of said Section 34.

CASE 4263: Application of Wynn & Brooks for an unorthodox gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox location of its Federal "E" Well No. 3, to be located 590 feet from the South line and 1590 feet from the West line of Section 13, Township 27 North, Range 8 West, Blanco-Mesaverde and Basin-Dakota Pools, San Juan County, New Mexico.

CASE 4264: Application of Wynn & Brooks for an unorthodox gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox location of its Federal "J" Well No. 1, to be located 2390 feet from the South line and 2410 feet from the East line of Section 11, Township 27 North, Range 8 West, Blanco-Mesaverde and Basin-Dakota Pools, San Juan County, New Mexico.

CASE 4265: Application of Union Oil Company of California for salt water disposal, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to dispose of produced salt water into the Yates, San Andres and other formations in the open-hole interval from approximately 4450 feet to 5890 feet in its Midway State Well No. 3 located in Unit J, Section 12, Township 17 South, Range 36 East, Lovington Field, Lea County, New Mexico.

CASE 4245: (Continued from the November 5, 1969, Examiner Hearing) Application of Texas Pacific Oil Company, Inc., for several non-standard gas proration units, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the dedication and rededication of certain acreage and the establishment of the following non-standard gas proration units in Townships 22 and 23 South, Range 36 East, Jalmat Gas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico:

(Case 4245 continued)

A 160-acre unit comprising the W/2 SE/4 and the E/2 SW/4 of Section 8, Township 22 South, Range 36 East, to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-2 Well No. 56 located in Unit J of said Section 8;

A 200-acre unit comprising the NW/4 and the NW/4 SW/4 of Section 11, Township 22 South, Range 36 East, to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-2 Well No. 42 located in Unit E of said Section 11;

A 280-acre unit comprising the SE/4, S/2 SW/4, and the NE/4 SW/4 of Section 11, Township 22 South, Range 36 East, to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-2 Well No. 36 located in Unit M of said Section 11;

A 200-acre unit comprising the N/2 NE/4, the SE/4 NE/4, and the NE/4 NW/4 of Section 15 and the SE/4 SW/4 of Section 10, Township 23 South, Range 36 East, to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-1 Well No. 31 located in Unit H of said Section 15;

A 160-acre unit comprising the S/2 NW/4, SW/4 NE/4 and the NW/4 NW/4 of Section 15, Township 23 South, Range 36 East, to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-1 Well No. 33 located in Unit F of said Section 15;

A 240-acre unit comprising the SW/4 of Section 3, and the N/2 NW/4 of Section 10, Township 23 South, Range 36 East, to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-1 Well No. 35 located in Unit L of said Section 3;

A 160-acre unit comprising the S/2 NW/4 and N/2 SW/4 of Section 10, Township 23 South, Range 36 East, to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-1 Well No. 37 located in Unit F of said Section 10.

CASE 4266: Application of Texas Pacific Oil Company, Inc., for several non-standard gas proration units, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the dedication and rededication of certain acreage and the establishment of the following non-standard gas proration units in Township 22 South, Range 36 East, Jalmat Gas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico:

(Case 4266 continued)

A 280-acre unit comprising the SW/4 of Section 9 and the E/2 SE/4 and SW/4 SE/4 of Section 8 to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-2 Well No. 38 located in Unit K of said Section 9;

A 160-acre unit comprising the E/2 SW/4, SW/4 SW/4 and NW/4 SE/4 of Section 8 to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-2 Well No. 56 located in Unit J of said Section 8;

A 120-acre unit comprising the S/2 NW/4 and NW/4 SW/4 of Section 8 to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-2 Well No. 51 located in Unit F of said Section 8;

A 160-acre unit comprising the SW/4 of Section 5 to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-2 Well No. 41 located in Unit M of said Section 5;

A 160-acre unit comprising the NW/4 of Section 5 to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-2 Well No. 44 located in Unit F of said Section 5;

A 160-acre unit comprising the SE/4 of Section 5 to be dedicated to the State "A" a/c-2 Well No. 27 located in Unit P of said Section 5.

CASE 4267: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit Edward M. Kriss and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Edward M. Kriss Little Chama Valley Company Well No. 1, a wildcat well, located 545 feet from the North line and 1530 feet from the West line of Section 2, Township 1 North, Range 2 East, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.

CASE 4268: Application of Texaco Inc., for a unit agreement, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval of the State "JD" Unit Area comprising 160 acres, more or less, of State lands in the NW/4 of Section 27, Township 26 South, Range 37 East, Rhodes (Yates-Seven Rivers) Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

CASE 4269: Application of Texaco Inc. for a waterflood project, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a waterflood project in its State "JD" Unit Area by the injection of water into the Yates-Seven Rivers formations through two wells located in Unit D and Unit F of Section 27, Township 26 South, Range 37 East, Rhodes (Yates-Seven Rivers) Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

CASE 4270: Application of Byron McKnight for an exception to Order No. R-111-A, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an exception to the potash-oil area casing and cementing rules as set forth in Commission Order No. R-111-A. Applicant proposes to drill to a depth of approximately 3800 feet in the Yates formation two exploratory wells located in the SW/4 NE/4 and SE/4 NE/4 of Section 26, Township 19 South, Range 33 East, Lea County, New Mexico, in such a manner as to eliminate the necessity of running the salt protection string required by said Order No. R-111-A provided the production string would be cemented to the surface.

CASE 4271: Application of Texaco Inc. for a waterflood expansion and amendment of Order No. R-2748, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to expand its waterflood project in the Rhodes (Yates-Seven Rivers) Pool, authorized by Order No. R-2748, by the injection of water through four additional wells in Sections 22 and 27 of Township 26 South, Range 37 East, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant further seeks amendment of said order to establish a procedure whereby additional injection wells as may be necessary to complete an efficient injection pattern may be approved administratively.

CASE 4272: Application of Shell Oil Company for an unorthodox oil well location and to directionally drill, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to drill its Sanger Well No. 6 at an unorthodox surface location in Unit E 1490 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line of Section 27, Township 18 South, Range 38 East, Hobbs (Grayburg-San Andres) Pool, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant further seeks authority to directionally drill said well in such a manner as to bottom the well in the subject pool at a point in Unit D of said Section 27 approximately 200 feet north of said surface location. Applicant proposes to dedicate said Unit D to the well.

CASE 4273: Application of Tesoro Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox oil well location and amendment of Order No. R-2807-A, McKinley County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox oil well location of its Well No. 59, formerly classified as a water injection well, located 1430 feet from the South line and 2625 feet from the East line of Section 36, Township 18 North, Range 9 West, Hospah Upper Sand Oil Pool, McKinley County, New Mexico. Applicant further seeks the amendment of Order No. R-2807-A to permit a procedure whereby additional producing and injection wells in its Hospah Unit Area may be approved administratively.

CASE 4274: Application of Pan American Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox oil well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to drill its Navajo Tribal "N" Well No. 11 at an unorthodox location 1150 feet from the West line and 560 feet from the North line of Section 17, Township 26 North, Range 18 West, Tocito Dome-Pennsylvanian "D" Oil Pool, San Juan County, New Mexico.

4262
Heard 11-25-69
Rec. 12-1-69

Grant Plains Radio. B.C. Co. and exception to R-3221 for their White Ranch #1 E-34 11S-29E. White Ranch - Siluro-Dev pool. Chavez Co. into a pit located in units M + N of said sec. 34.

Evidence shows that there is no fresh water in the area to be contaminated

Thos. A. Wtz.

For hearing on Nov. 5, 1969

Newspapers:

CASE _____:

Application of Plains Radio Broadcasting Company for an exception to Order No. R-3221, as amended, Chaves County, New Mexico.

Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an exception to Order No. R-3221, as amended, which order prohibits the disposal of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil on the surface of the ground in Lea, Eddy, Chaves, and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico. ~~after January 1, 1969~~. Said exception would be for the applicant's White Ranch Well No. 1 located in Unit E of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, White Ranch Silurn - Devonian Pool, Chaves County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to dispose of salt water produced by said well in an unlined surface pit located ~~in said~~ in the vicinity of said well.

well # 3
SW/SW/4 Sec. 34, 11, 29
Perf. 8743 - 8750

LAW OFFICES
FOLLEY, SNODGRASS & CALHOUN
AMARILLO PETROLEUM BUILDING, SUITE 417
AMARILLO, TEXAS 79101

A. J. FOLLEY
ROY C. SNODGRASS, JR.
O. M. CALHOUN
GEORGE A. WHITTENBURG, II

TELEPHONE 376-4557
POST OFFICE BOX 1709
ZIP CODE 79105

RECEIVED
OCT 3 8 35 AM '69
STATE LAND OFFICE
SANTA FE, N. M.

September 23, 1969

Case 4262

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission
Land Commissioner
~~Guyton B. Hays, Member~~
Post Office Box 1148
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Not

Re: White Ranch Lease, Chaves County, New Mexico, Well No. 1
in Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, NMPM

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to my telephone conversation with Mr. D. S. Nutter, Chief Engineer, I am writing to request a hearing for the consideration of an exemption from Order No. R-3221, as amended, on behalf of Well No. 1 on the above lease, located in the center of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, NMPM.

Plains Radio Broadcasting Company is the operator of this lease, and is in the process of filing Form C-104 for the reason of change in ownership from Avalanche-Journal Publishing Company and/or Mobil Oil Corporation to Plains Radio Broadcasting Company.

Plains Radio Broadcasting Company does now have a blanket plugging bond, as required by Rule 101. I was not sure of this when I talked with Mr. Nutter.

Please set a hearing date at your convenience, preferably October 22, 1969, if possible. I am not admitted to practice in the State of New Mexico, but would like permission to appear on behalf of Plains Radio Broadcasting Company at the hearing with a letter appearance from a New Mexico attorney, if possible.

Please let me know as soon as possible what material and information I need to provide you prior to the hearing, and please send me any forms or applications that need to be filled out for the hearing.

COPY

DOCKET MAILED
Date 11-14-69

Thank you for your help and courtesy.

Respectfully,

FOLLEY, SNODGRASS & CALHOUN

George A. Whittenburg, II

GAWII/s

cc: Mr. D. S. Nutter, Chief Engineer
State Land Office Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Mr. J. P. White, Jr.
Box 874
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

RECEIVED
OCT 3 8 35 AM '69
STATE LAND OFFICE
SANTA FE, N.M.

DRAFT

GMH/esr

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION
COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR
THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE No. 4262

Order No. R-3891

APPLICATION OF PLAINS RADIO BROADCASTING COMPANY FOR AN EXCEPTION TO ORDER NO. R-3221, AS AMENDED, CHAVES COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on November 25, 1969, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Elvis A. Utz.

NOW, on this _____ day of December, 1969, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That the applicant, Plains Radio Broadcasting Company, is the owner and operator of the White Ranch Well No. 1, located in Unit E of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, White Ranch Siluro-Devonian Pool, Chaves County, New Mexico.

(3) That Order (3) of Commission Order No. R-3221, as amended, prohibits in that area encompassed by Lea, Eddy, Chaves, and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico, the disposal, subject to minor exceptions, of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, on the surface of the ground, or in any pit, pond, lake, depression, draw, streambed, or arroyo, or in any watercourse, or in any other place or in any manner which

would constitute a hazard to any fresh water supplies and said disposal has not previously been prohibited.

(4) That the aforesaid Order No. R-3221 was issued in order to afford reasonable protection against contamination of fresh water supplies designated by the State Engineer through disposal of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, in unlined surface pits.

(5) That the State Engineer has designated, pursuant to Section 65-3-11 (15), N.M.S.A., 1953 Compilation, all underground water in the State of New Mexico containing 10,000 parts per million or less of dissolved solids as fresh water supplies to be afforded reasonable protection against contamination; except that said designation does not include any water for which there is no present or reasonably foreseeable beneficial use that would be impaired by contamination.

(6) That the applicant seeks an exception to the provisions of the aforesaid Order (3) to permit the disposal of salt water produced by applicant's White Ranch Well No. 1 in an unlined surface pit located in the vicinity of said well.

(7) ~~That there appears to be~~ That the subject well produces approximately 80 barrels of water per day.

(8) That there appears to be no fresh water in the vicinity of the subject ~~lined~~ pit for which a present or reasonably foreseeable beneficial use is or will be made that would be impaired by contamination from the subject pit.

(9) That the applicant should be permitted to dispose of salt water produced by its White Ranch Well No. 1 located Unit E of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, ~~Lea~~ County, New Mexico into the unlined surface pit located in the vicinity of said well.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That the applicant, Plains Radio Broadcasting Company, is hereby granted an exception to Order (3) of Order No. R-3221, as amended, to dispose of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil or gas, or both, by its White Ranch Well No. 1, located in Unit E of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 29 East, NMPM, White Ranch Siluro-Devonian Pool, Chaves County, New Mexico, in the unlined surface pit located in the vicinity of said well.

(2) That the Commission may by administrative order rescind such authority whenever it reasonably appears to the Commission that such rescission would serve to protect fresh water supplies from contamination.

(3) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.