CASK 1896: application of MUNTAIN States Petro. Corp. for a non-standard unit adjacent to Pine Lake-PC.

### Casa Mo.

1896

Application, Transcript, 5 mall Exhibits, Etc.

LAW OFFICES OF

### MODRALL, SEYMOUR, SPERLING, ROEHL & HARRIS

SIMMS BUILDING

P. O. BOX 466

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO TELEPHONE CHAPEL 3-4514

June 2, 1960

JOHN F. SIMMS (1885-1954)

J. R. MODRALL
AUGUSTUS T. SEYMOUR
JAMES E. SPERLING
JOSEPH E. ROEHL
GEORGE T. HARRIS
DANIEL A. SISK
LELAND S. SEOBERRY
BURNS M. ERREBO
ALLEN C. DEWEY
FRANK H. ALLEN

New Mexico Oil
Conservation Commission
Post Office Box 871
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Attention: Ida Rodriguez

Dear Ida:

Enclosed is your file of Case No. 1896 which I borrowed from you yesterday in connection with the Mountain States Application in Case No. 1984.

Very truly yours,

Burns H. Errebo

BHE/b

### BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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

> CASE NO. 1896 Order No. R-1610

APPLICATION OF MOUNTAIN STATES
PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR A 181ACRE RON-STANDARD GAS UNIT IN THE
PICTURED CLIFFS FORMATION ADJACENT
TO THE PINE LAKE PICTURED CLIFFS
POOL, RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO,
AND FOR AN UNORTHODOX GAS WELL
LOCATION.

### ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

### BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 o'clock a.m., on February 10, 1960, at Santa Fe, New Moxico, before Daniel S. Mutter, Examiner duly appointed by the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," in accordance with Bule 1214 of the Commission Rules and Regulations.

MOW, on this day of February, 1960, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the application and the recommendations of the Examiner, Daniel S. Mutter, 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, Mountain States Petroleum Corporation, is the operator of partial Section 30, Township 26 North, Range 2 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.
- (3) That the applicant proposes the establishment of a 181-acre non-standard gas unit in the Pictured Cliffs formation adjacent to the Pine Lakes-Pictured Cliffs Pool consisting of all of said partial Section 30, said unit to be dedicated to applicant's Federal Well No. 30-F, located at an unorthodox location 790 feet from the South line and 750 feet from the West line of said Section 30

-2-Case No. 1896 Order No. R-1610

(4) That approval of the subject application will neither cause waste nor impair correlative rights.

### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That a 181-acre non-standard gas unit in the Pictured Cliffs formation adjacent to the Pine Lake-Pictured Cliffs Fool consisting of all of partial Section 30, Township 26 North, Range 2 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, be and the same is hereby established. Said unit is to be dedicated to applicant's Federal Well No. 30-F, located at an unorthodox location 790 feet from the South line and 750 feet from the West line of said Section 30.
- (2) That the establishment of the above-described 181-acre non-standard gas unit shall not become effective until such time as the Commission is furnished with a copy of an executed communitization agreement covering the subject acreage.

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

> STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

JOHN BURNOUGHS, Chairman

MURRAY E. MORGAN, Momber

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



1000 RIO BRAZOS ROAD AZTEG, NEW MEXICO

January 6, 1960

Mountain States Petroleum Corporation 936 Cardenas SE Albuquerque, New Mexico

Attn: Mr. F. J. Ray

Dear Mr. Rays

We have received two copies of Federal Notice of Intention to Drill, along with New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission Form C-128 for your #30-F Federal well located in the SW Section 30-26N-2W.

As you are aware, Section 30 is a very narrow section, due to irregularity? in the Public Land Survey, being only 1485' wide at the North end and 1501.5' wide at the South end. New Mexico Oil Commission Rules and Regulations require that a gas well have dedicated a legal quarter-section being 160 acres, more or less. Obviously this is impossible in your case; however, as your unit is non-standard it will be necessary that it be approved after notice and hearing before the Oil Commission. Because of the width of Section 30 your location is also non-standard, as our rules and regulations require that a gas well be located at least 790' from the boundary lines of the tract upon which it is located. In your application for hearing this matter should also be mentioned.

Application should be made to Mr. A. L. Porter Secretary-Director of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission, Box 871, Santa Fe, N.M. The matter will probably be set for hearing after advertising in about 10 days or two weeks.

If you have any questions regarding the above mitter, please contact us.

Yours very truly

Emery C. Arnold upervisor. District #3

ECAIKS

co: Mr. A. L. Porter, OCC, Santa Fe. N.M.

1896

HONOLULU OIL CORPORAT

P. G. DRAWER 1391 MIDLAND, TEXAS

December 18, 1959

Waven Waven

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 871 Santa Fe, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Honolulu Oil Corporation has been informed of the application by Mountain States Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox well location. This proposed location is 790 feet from the South line and 750 feet from the West line of Section 2, T26N, R2W, N.M.P.M., Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

As an offset operator Honolulu Oil Corporation has no objection to this proposed unorthodox location and hereby waives notice of hearing.

Very truly yours,

HONOLULU OIL CORPORATION

George R. Hoy M Division Drilling and Proration Engineer

GRH:mm

Mountain States Petroleum Corp. 936 Cardenas SE Albuquerque, New Mexico



### Oil Company

A Division of Socony Mobil Oil Company, Inc.

P. O. Box 2406 Hobbs, New Mexico

December 18, 1959

car 1896 sortife

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission District Supervisor 1000 Rio Brazos Road Aztec, New Mexico

Dear Sir:

This letter shall serve as a waiver from Socony Mobil Oil Company, Inc. for Mountain States Petroleum Company's proposed unorthodox location at 750' FWL and 750' FSL of Section 30, Township 26 North, Range 2 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

Yours very truly,

MOBIL OIL COMPANY A Division of Socony Mobil Oil Company, Inc.

District Production Superintendent

nrh

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission (2) Mountain States Petroleum Company (1)



Case 1896 Mountain States Petroleum Corp. 0.1 Telephone: Diamond 3-9574

ALBERT J. BLAIR, JR. President

Albuquerque, New Mexico Office

Telephone: Alpine 5-8038

January 14, 1960 affacent to pe

P. O. Box 1362

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Secretary- Director Oil Conservation Commission Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Porter

We request approval of the unorthodox Pictured Cliffs location shown on the attached plat.

This well, Mountain States-Federal 30-F is located 790 feet from the South line and 750 feet from the West line of Section 30-26N-2W, NMPM. Section 30 is a narrow section due to irregularity in the Public Land Survey being only 1485 feet wide at the North end and 1501.5 feet wide at the South end. Section 30 contains 181 acres and we request that this acreage be dedicated to the well.

Very truly yours

1 Ray

F. J. Ray

1 1000 Waivers have been obtained from offset operators stating that they do not object to the location.

Attach.

CASE 1892:

Application of Texaco Inc. for approval of a unit agreement. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval of its Remuda Basin Unit Agreement, which unit is to comprise approximately 8572 acres in Townships 22 and 23 South, Ranges 29 and 30 East, Eddy County, New Mexico.

CASE 1893:

Application of Petro-Atlas, Inc. for an order cancelling the over-production charged against one well in the South Blanco-Pictured Cliffs Pool, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order cancelling the overproduction charged against the Aztec Well No. 1, located in the SE/4 NW/4 of Section 8, Township 27 North, Range 9 West, South Blanco-Pictured Cliffs Pool, San Juan County, New Mexico. Such overproduction was occasioned by applicant's delay in filing Form C-122-A.

CASE 1894:

Application of Robert N. Enfield for designation of a unit area. Applicant, in the above styled cause, seeks a designation of the following-described 560 acres as the Southwest Mescalero Unit Area: Section 32, E/2 NE/4; Section 33, S/2 and NW/4, Township 10 South, Range 32 East, Lea County, New Mexico.

CASE 1895:

Application of Northwest Production Corporation for a non-standard gas unit. Applicant. in the above-styled cause, seeks an order establishing a 160-acre non-standard gas unit in an undesignated Pictured Cliffs pool consisting of the N/2 SE/4, NE/4 SW/4, and SE/4 NW/4 of Section 21, Township 26 North, Range 2 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled in either the NE/4 SE/4 of the NW/4 SE/4 of said Section 21.

CASE 1896:

Application of Mountain States Petroleum Corporation for a non-standard gas unit for an unorthodox gas well location. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the establishment of a 181-acre non-standard gas unit adjacent to the Pine Lake-Pictured Cliffs Gas Pool consisting of all of Section 30, Township 26 North, Range 2 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Said unit is to be dedicated to the Federal 30-F Well, to be located at an unorthodox location 790 feet from the South line and 750 feet from the West line of said Section 30.

### OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION P. O. BOX 871 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

February 18, 1960

Mr. Burns Errebo P. O. Box 466 Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Errebo:

On behalf of your client, Mountain States Petroleum Corporation, we enclose two copies of Order No. R-1610 in Case 1896 issued by the Oil Conservation Commission on this date.

Very truly yours,

A. L. PORTER, Jr. Secretary-Director

ir/

Enclosures: (2)

(2)

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CASE NO.

El Paso Matural Gas Company Carl 1876
El Paso, Texas

December 18, 1959



Warrel Warrel

Oil Conservation Commission Aztec, New Mexico

Attention: Mr. Emory Arnold

Gentlemen:

By letter dated December 14, 1959, Mountain States Petroleum Corporation requested an unorthodox Pictured Cliffs location in Section 30-26N-2W, NMPM. The well is to be located 790' from the south line and 750' from the west line of the section and the entire section is to be dedicated to the well.

El Paso Natural Gas Company, as operator of the W/2 NW/4 Section 29 and the NW/4 NW/4 Section 32, has no objections to the proposed well.

Very truly yours,

D. N. Canfield Division Landman Land Department

DNC:MC:plr

cc: Mr. Floyd J. Ray Mountain States Petroleum Corporation 936 Cardenas S.E. Albuquerque, New Mexico

45.89 45.19 45.31 45.31

This is to certify that the above plat was prepared from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision and that the same are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Scale 4 inches equal 1 mile

LOT 4

750

Sec. Line

45.44 ACS.

190,

1501.5' S 89° 56'E

(8 sal)

Registered Professional Engineer and/or Land Surveyor
James P. Leese N. Mex. Reg. No. 1463

Sec. Line

REF: U.S.G.L.O. PLAT DATED AUG.3,1918.

W MEXICO

### BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF:

CASE 1896: Application of Mountain States Petroleum Corporation for a non-standard gas unit for an unorthodox gas well location.

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

FEBRUARY 10, 1960

### BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

### IN THE MATTER OF:

CASE 1896: Application of Mountain States Petroleum Corportation for a non-standard gas unit for an unorthodox gas well location. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the establishment of a 181-acre non-standard gas unit adjacent to the Pine Lake-Pictured Cliffs Gas Pool consisting of all of Section 30, Township 26 North, Range 2 West, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. Said unit is to be dedicated to the Federal 30\_F Well, to be located at an unorthodox location 790 feet from the South line and 750 feet from the West line of said Section 30.

BEFORE:

Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner.

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

MR. NUTTER: We will take up next Case 1896.

MR. PAYNE: Case 1896. Application of Mountain States Petroleum Corporation for a non-standard gas unit for an unorthodox gas well location.

MR. ERREBO: Burns Errebo, Modrall, Seymour, Sperling, Rohel and Harris, appearing on behalf of the Applicant. We will have one witness, Mr. Floyd Ray.

(Witness sworn.)



CH 3-669

### DIRECT EXAMINATION

### BY MR. ERREBO:

- Q State your name, please.
- A Floyd Ray.
- Q Mr. Ray, by whom are you employed?
- A Mountain States Petroleum Corporation.
- Q And in what capacity?
- A Petroleum engineer at Albuquerque.
- Q Mr. Ray, are you a petroleum engineer by trade?
- A Yes.
- Q And what has been the nature of your experience?
- A I worked for Shell Oil Company seven and a half years in the Tulsa area, and I've worked in New Mexico approximately three to three and a half years operating a drilling rig, and doing well completion work.
- Q Actually, has your work in connection with oil operations been rather general?
  - A Yes, sir.
- Q And would you say that that covered perhaps a scope of duties from lease acquisition to setting tank batteries?
  - A Yes, sir.
  - Q Did you graduate from the university with a degree?



PHONE CH 3-6691

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

PHONE CH 3-6691

A Yes, from the University of Oklahoma with a BS in petroleum engineering.

Q Mr. Ray, are you familiar with the subject of this application?

A Yes, sir.

Q This application is, is it not, for approval of a nonstandard unit in an unorthodox location?

A That's correct.

Q And that for a well located in Section 30, Township
26 North, Range 2 West?

A Yes.

Q Does that unit that you will propose today, does it compose all of Section 30?

A All of Section30.

Q Is that a fraction section?

A Yes, it is about one-fourth of a regular section.
Slightly over.

Q Have you obtained a photostatic copy from the Land Office of their township map covering 26 North, 2 West?

A Yes, sir.

MR. ERREBO: May it please the Examiner, we would like to offer this in evidence. May it please the Examiner, the purpose of this exhibit is to show that a fractional section does occur, Section 30, lying around the Range line on the west side of the township.



ERQUE, NEW MEXICO

## DEARNLEY-MEIER REPORTING SERVICE,

PHONE CH 3-6691

(By Mr. Errebo) Mr. Ray, what is the total acreage within Section 30?

- 181 acres.
- Now, has a well been drilled on this section?
- A Yes, sir, a well has been drilled 790 feet from the South line and 750 from the West line.
- Actually the need for the approval by the Commission of this application arises from the fact that this unit does not comply with the statewide rules as to shape of approration unit. is that correct?
  - Yes, sir.
- And it also arises from the fact that this well is located within 750 feet from the lease line, is that correct?
  - That is correct.
- Actually, you have located that well insofar as the northsouth boundaries of that lease are concerned in the middle of the lease, have you not? In other words, in the middle of an eastwest --
- Middle of the east-west. The section is 501 feet and a half wide, and we are 750 feet from the West line, which is as close to the middle as we could get.

MR. ERREBO: Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

MR. ERREBO: I would like to state Mr. Ray had prepared a set of exhibits for this hearing and was in Farmington yesterday



PHONE CH 3-6691

and his briefcase was stolen, and we have gotten together these exhibits which we believe are adequate, but there are some gaps perhaps, and that might explain the reason for that.

We have here Form C-128, New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission, which we would like to offer for the record, and that will be introduced and offered by reference from the Commission's records.

We would like to submit it at this time and have permission to withdraw it. I think this is the only copy that we have. It does show the dimensions, the lot size of each of the lots.

MR. NUTTER: The Commission will take notice of the plat that has been filed and is in the well file.

(By Mr. Errebo) Mr. Ray, have you prepared as an Exhibit, as an additional exhibit, a plat showing acreage which is the subject of this application and also the surrounding acreage and the wells completed thereon?

> A Yes, sir.

MR. ERREBO: We would like that marked as Commission's or Applicant's Exhibit 3.

On this Exhibit, Mr. Ray, you have shown in red the boundaries of the presently recognized Pine Lake-Pictured Cliffs Peol, have you not?

That is correct. A

And actually this proposed unit borders the boundaries of that pool on the south?



HONE CH 3-6691

### SERVICE, Inc. LBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

A We are on the South line, yes.

Q And you have shown in blue hatchers the short sections which do occur on the West side?

- The blue hatcher shows the acreage that is missing.
- Q And you have indicated the completions to the best of your knowledge in the immediate vicinity of this lease?
  - That is correct.
  - When was this well completed? Q

Well, actually, it hasn't officially been completed. We have fractured and swabbed it. It is flowing. We are cleaning That was the 6th of February.

Do you have any estimate or idea of what this well will be capable of producing?

- Approximately three million, maybe better.
- Actually this map does show, does it not, that there are direct offsets to the east and a diagonal offset to the south?
  - Yes, through the southeast.
- Southeast. Mr. Ray, did you write the offset operators for waivers to this application?

Yes, sir, I wrote the offset operators and received waivers, which they sent to the Oil Conservation Commission.

And the copies which you received have now been lost, is that correct?

That is correct, with one exception, that Humble operated the SW of 29 until just recently and Cabot is operating that now, so



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Mr. Ray, do you know whether the unit agreement has been prepared covering this proposed unit and whether or not that has been submitted, has been circulated among the other parties that own any interest in this proposed unit?

- Yes, sir.
- And upon the signature of that agreement, actually, by all parties and all agencies involved, then you would propose to submit that to the USGS?
  - A Yes, sir.
- Do you find that there is any need for expeditious Q handling of that unitization agreement?
- Yes, the acreage we drilled on expires the 28th of February.
  - Acreage that you drilled on? Q
  - A Yes, sir.
- Q Actually, it's acreage to be included within the unit?
  - A That's correct.
- Q Can you state to the Examiner who is operator of the four lots in the proposed unit?
  - Mountain States Petroleum Corporation.
- And actually the working interest is owned by other parties, it is presently owned by the other parties which you propose to take an assignment from?



PHONE CH 3-669

# DEARNLEY-MEIER REPORTING SERVICE, Inc.

A	Yes	sir.

Do you have anything further that you care to add at this time?

- No. sir.
- Q You did prepare the plat which was designated Exhibit 3?
  - Yes, sir.

MR. ERREBO: We would like to offer Exhibits 1, 2, and 3 in evidence.

MR. NUTTER: Mr. Errebo, what is Exhibit No. 2?

MR. ERREBO: Exhibit No. 2 is that offered by reference.

MR. NUTTER: You wanted to withdraw that, is that

right?

MR. ERREBO: This is a copy of a form in your file which copy we propose to offer in evidence.

MR. NUTTER: I see.

MR. ERREBO: We do propose to withdraw this copy here.

MR. NUTTER: I see. Mountain States' Exhibits 1, 2 and 3 will be entered in evidence. Do you have anything further, Mr. Errebo?

(By Mr. Errebo) Mr. Ray, do you feel that the granting of this application will prevent waste and protect the correlative rights of all parties concerned?

A In my opinion it will.

MR. ERREBO: That's all.



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MR. NUTTER: Does anyone have any questions of Mr.

Ray?

MR. PAYNE: Yes. sir.

MR. NUTTER: Mr. Payne.

### CROSS EXAMINATION

### BY MR. PAYNE:

Q Mr. Ray, was a notice of intention to drill approved on this well.

A It was approved the USGS pending approval by the Oil Conservation Commission.

Q You haven't actually had approval from the Aztec District
Office?

A No, sir.

Q Now, you state on your acreage dedication plat, the operator is the only owner on the dedicated acreage outlined on the plat in blue. I take it that is not exactly the case at this time?

A No, sir, we are the operator.

Q You are the operator, but you propose to be the owner by assignment in the future?

A That is correct.

Q Now, this Pine Lake-Pictured Cliffs Pool is not prorated, is it?

A I don't believe it is.

Q There is now way you could form a standard unit?



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MR. PAYNE: That's all, thank you.

### EXAMINATION BY MR. NUTTER:

Mr. Ray, as I understand it, you request that this matter be handled expeditiously so that the lease won't expire. Does this 181 acre contain more than one lease?

- Yes. sir. it does.
- What are the actual leases that are involved there?
- There is -- Lot one is a Humble lease which we have a farmout on, it is the northernmost lot, and which I understand is held by production; Lots 2, 3, and 4, we obtained a farmout from A. G. Hill, and it is my understanding that expires.
- So there is actually two leases; Lot 1 and Lots 2, 3, and 4?

Yes. A

MR. ERREBO: If it please the Examiner, I examined title on this sometime ago and as I recall, there are two leases involved in this unit.

MR. NUTTER: You are aware that any approval of this non-standard unit would be contingent upon the consummation of the communitization agreement?

MR. ERREBO: I do.

EXAMINATION BY MR. PAYNE:

Mr. Ray, isn't it somewhat unorthodox procedure to drill a well when you have received the approval of the USGS but



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haven't received the approval for the unorthodox location from the Oil Conservation Commission?

- Yes, sir, it is.
- Q. Is there any particular reason why that occurred in this case?

Well, the only way we could hold the acreage as far as we could see was to get in and drill it when the weather was such that we could in that area. It's very rough, there is quite a bit of snow on the ground and at this time of the year it starts thawing and it is almost impossible to drill and that's the reason we proceeded. In fact, the last two weeks we worked on this well, the only way we could get in there was on a truck with a fourwheel transmission drive.

### EXAMINATION BY MR. NUTTER:

Mr. Ray, is this one of the two wells that Mountain States Petroleum Corporation has written the Oil Conservation Commission regarding, to receive permission to produce without installing tubing?

No, sir, this well is tubed. The Heward 1 and Federal 3. The Heward 1 is the one that we seek approval to produce without tubing, and for the same reasons, that it's almost impossible to get to the wells, although those wells aren't actually connected, but we hope they will be in the near future.

This is a gas well?

Yes, sir.



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Q Are those two other wells gas wells?

A Yes, sir.

MR. NUTTER: Any further questions of Mr. Ray? He may be excused.

(Witness excused.)

MR. NUTTER: Do you have anything further, Mr. Errebo?

MR. ERREBO: That's all that I have.

MR. NUTTER: Does anyone have anything further in Case

1896?

MR. ERREBO: I believe I offered these in evidence?

MR. NUTTER: Yes.

MR. ERREBO: All right.

MR. NUTTER: Take the case under advisement and the

hearing is adjourned.



STATE OF NEW MEXICO )
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO )

I, J. A. Trujillo, Notary Public in and for the County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Proceedings before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me in Stenotype and reduced to typewritten transcript by me, and that the same is a true and correct record to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

WITNESS my Hand and Seal this, the day of Defending 1960, in the City of Albuquerque, County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico.

PNOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:
October 5, 1960

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. 1960...

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission

RQUE, NEW MEXICO