CASE 6181: YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION L.
FOR AN UNORTHODOX LOCATION, EDDY
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Case No.

6181

Application

Transcripts

Small Exhibits

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BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION Santa Fe, New Mexico March 22, 1978

EXAMINER HEARING

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6)	
_	IN THE MATTER OF:)	
7	Application of Yates Petroleum	<i>)</i>	CASI
3	Corporation for an unorthodox location, Eddy County, New Mexico.))	6181
•)	

BEFORE: Richard L. Stamets, Examiner.

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

Lynn Teschendorf, Esq.
Legal Counsel for the Commission
State Land Office Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico

For the Applicant:

Joel M. Carson, Esq.

LOSEE & CARSON

Attorneys at Law

300 American Home Bu

300 American Home Building Artesia, New Mexico

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MR. STAMETS: Call the next case, Case 6181.

MS. TESCHENDORF: Case 6181, application of Yates

Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox location, Eddy

County, New Mexico.

MR. CARSON: Mr. Examiner, my name is Joel Carson,
Losee & Carson, P. A., Artesia, New Mexico, appearing on
behalf of the applicant. I have one witness, Mark Wilson,
who needs to be sworn:

(THEREUPON, the witness was sworn.)

MARK D. WILSON

was called as a witness by the applicant, and having been first duly sworn, testified upon his oath as follows, to-wit:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. CARSON:

- Q State your name, please?
- A. Mark D. Wilson.
- Q Mr. Wilson, by whom are you employed and in what capacity?
- A. I am an independent geologist and acting now as a consultant for Yates Petroleum Corporation in this case.
- Mr. Wilson, would you explain to the Examiner a little bit about your educational experience and background?
 - A. Okay. I have an A.B. Degree in Geology from the

University of Pennsylvania in 1947, and a M.S. Degree in Geology from Ohio State in 1949.

Experience-wise, I have worked thirteen years for Shell Oil Company with ten of these years primarily in southeast New Mexico.

I received extensive training in syntegraphy and depositional environments and sandstones and cabonates while I was with Shell.

I have worked fourteen years as the consulting geologist and as an independent geologist, again, principally in southeast New Mexico.

I have worked one year as a consultant in Alabama. Six years with half-time retainer fees with Yates Petroleum Corporation in Artesia.

I have testified as an expert witness before the oil and gas commission in Alabama.

Q Mr. Wilson, could you tell the Examiner briefly about your experience with the Pennsylvanian formation in southeast New Mexico? Have you dealt with that extensively?

A. Yes, with both Shell and since I have been an independent -- I have worked with the Pennsylvanian for probably, at least, twenty years.

MR. CARSON: Are his qualifications acceptable, Mr. Examiner?

MR. STAMETS: As soon as he said he was an Ohio State

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graduate, I considered him qualified. Yes, he is considered qualified.

Q (Mr. Carson continuing.) Mr. Wilson, would you state the purpose of this application, please?

A. Case 6181, Yates Petroleum Corporation, as the operator of the Rio Pecos working interest unit requests approval for the unorthodox gas well location for the Rio Pecos GB Well No. 2, to be drilled nineteen hundred and eighty feet from the south line and eleven hundred feet from the west line of Section 20, Township 18 South, Range 27 East, Red Lake Field, Eddy County, New Mexico.

The south half of said Section 20 is to be dedicated to the well.

Q I'll refer you to Applicant's Exhibit Number One and ask you if that was prepared by you or under your supervision?

- A. It was prepared by me.
- Q What does it purport to show?
- A. Exhibit One is the land plat showing the proposed location and the outline in red of the Rio Pecos working interest unit.
- Q I refer you to Applicant's Exhibit Number Two and ask if that was prepared by you or under your supervision?
 - A. I was prepared by me.
 - Q. What does that show, Mr. Wilson?

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A. Exhibit Two is a portion of the Lake McMillan, North, topographic sheet showing the proposed location at the base of the Pecos River bluffs where the surface is essentially flat.

- Q. Is that one of the considerations of your application for an unorthodox location, is the adequate drilling?
- A. It is because of the rugged topography immediately east of the drill site.
- Q I'll refer you to Applicant's Exhibit Number Three and ask if that was prepared by you or under your supervision?
 - A. It was prepared by me.
- Q. Could you explain to the Examiner what that exhibit shows?
- A. There are two things on this exhibit. There is a map on the left-hand side of it and there are two well logs on the right-hand side.

The map portion of Exhibit Three on the left side shows in solid contours the total thickness of the Morrow series of the Pennsylvanian system and in dotted contours the structural attitudes at the base of the lower Strawn-Morrow limestone which is also the top of the Atoka series.

The proposed drill site which is shown in red with the arrow is in a pronounced Morrow thick which trends north and northeast of the vicinity of the Read & Stevens Scoggins

Deep Unit No. 1 in Section 31, and towards the proposed

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1 Fe, New Mexico 87501

location.

Then, trends north-northwest into Sections 30 and 31 of Township 17 South, 27 East.

This location is deemed most likely to encounter the Rio Pecos channel sandstones. The producing reservoir of the GB No. 1 and would you please refer to the well log on the right-hand side there.

This channel sand is expected to trend north-north-west up the Morrow thick shown on enclosure three. This location is also considered to be the best location of Section 20 for encountering the fifty-eight foot Scoggins channel sandstone, again, it is the left log of those two there, which should follow the north-northeast trending Morrow thick from the Read & Stevens well to the proposed drill site.

The drill stem test data shown on the enclosure three indicates that this channel sandstone flowed gas at a sustained rate of thirty thousand cubic feet of gas per day and recovery was seven thousand sixty feet of gas cut water and thirty thousand seven hundred parts per million of chloride.

Our drill site should be about two hundred feet higher than the Read & Stevens well as is shown by the structural contours on enclosure three and should be on an axis north-northwest trending anticlinal nose. That would be

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the dotted contours there.

In summary, the proposed drill site would seem to offer, one, the best chance to hit the main channel sands in the reservoir at the Rio Pecos GB No. 1; two, a good chance to find new gas reserves in the Scoggins channel sandstones; three, a topographically acceptable drill site at the base of the Pecos River bluffs; four, the correlative rights of the royalty owners in Section would be best protected by this drill site.

MR. CARSON: Mr. Examiner, I would like to move the admission of these exhibits.

MR. STAMETS: These exhibits will be admitted.

Q (Mr. Carson continuing.) Mr. Wilson, in your professional capacity, is it your opinion that the granting of this application will afford to the applicant the opportunity to produce its just and equitable share of gas, prevent economic loss caused by the drilling of unnecessary wells and will avoid the agumentation of risk arising from the drilling of an excessive number of wells and will otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights?

A I believe so.

MR. CARSON: I have no further questions at this time.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. STAMETS:

Q Mr. Wilson, I presume looking at your Exhibit Number
Three that the prime reason for this location is based on
geology and not on the topography?

A It is the combination of geology and topography.

We could probably drill a little bit further east there but that's the ten foot contour there on the topographic map and that slope is quite steep. I think that location would be much more expensive over there.

MR. STAMETS: Any other questions of the witness?

He may be excused. Anything further in this case? The case will be taken under advisement.

(THEREUPON, the case was concluded.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE I, SIDNEY F. MORRISH, a Certified Shorthand Reporter,

ability.

3 do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me, and the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skill and

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission



ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

June 23, 1978

POST OFFICE BOX 2088 STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501 (505) 827-2434

GCYERNOR

NICK FRANKLIN
SECRETARY

Yates Petroleum Corporation 207 S. 4th Street Artesia, New Mexico 88210

Attention: Eddie M. Mahfood

Re: Case No. 6181, Order No. R-5683

Dear Mr. Mahfood:

Referring to your letter of June 20, 1978, it is my understanding that you wish to dedicate the W/2 of Section 20, Township 18 South, Range 27 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to your Rio Pecos Well No. 2 to be drilled at a non-standard location 1980 feet from the North line and 1100 feet from the West line of said Section 20. It is further understood that this unorthodox location was approved by Division Order No. R-5683 with the S/2 of the Section to be dedicated to the well.

As this change in dedication results in the well being more nearly at a standard location and as the location is unorthodox only by virtue of its being located too close to an interior quarter-quarter section line, the dedication change proposed is hereby approved.

Very truly yours

JOE D. RAMEY,

Director

JDR/RLS/dr



207 SOUTH FOURTH STREET ARTESIA. NEW MEXICO 88210

TELEPHONE (505) 746-3558

June 20, 1978

Mr. Joe D. Ramey, Secretary-Director New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission Drawer 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico

Attn: Mr. R. Stamets

Re: Non Standard Location R5683

Rio Pecos GB Com #2, L-20-18s-27e

S. F. YATES

JOHN A. YATES VICE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT JUN 21 1978 VICE PRESIDENT

HICTY CHOW. HARPER

Dear Mr. Stamets:

NMOCC Order No. 5683 allows a non-standard location for a south-half 320 acre gas well spacing. We recently learned of a discrepancy in title on one of the tracts. We are unable to locate the tract's diverse title holders, and the Working Interest owners have decided to dedicate the west half 320 acres to the drilling unit. The wellsite as proposed at the hearing remain the same, 1980' FSL 1100' FWL Section 20 T18S R27E.

We would like to have NSL R5683 amended administratively to allow for a west-half dedication instead of the south halfsection.

Thank you.

EMM/OH

Yours very truly,

YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Eddie M. Mahfood

Engineer

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

LAND COMMISSIONER PHIL R. LUCERO



STATE GEOLOGIST EMERY C. ARNOLD

DIRECTOR JOE D. RAMEY April 4, 1978

Other

Mr. Joel Carson Losee & Carson Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 239 Artesia, New Mexico 88210	ORDER NO. R-5684 Applicant:
Accord, New Lealer 50210	Yates Petroleum Corporation
Dear Sir:	
	copies of the above-referenced entered in the subject case.
Yours very truly, JOE D. RAMEY Director	
JDR/fd	
Copy of order also sent to	:
Hobbs OCC X Artesia OCC X Aztec OCC	

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. 6181 Order No. R-5683

APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR AN UNORTHODOX WELL LOCATION, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on March 22, 1978, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Richard L. Stamets.

NOW, on this 4th day of April, 1978, 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, Yates Petroleum Corporation, seeks approval of an unorthodox well location for its Rio Pecos "GB" Well No. 2 to be located 1980 feet from the South line and 1100 feet from the West line of Section 20, Township 18 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, to test Wolfcamp and Pennsylvanian formations, Red Lake Field, Eddy County, New Mexico.
- (3) That the S/2 of said Section 20 is to be dedicated to the well.
- (4) That a well at said unorthodox location will better enable applicant to produce the gas underlying the proration unit.
- (5) That no offset operator objected to the proposed unorthodox location.
- (6) That approval of the subject application will afford the applicant the opportunity to produce its just and equitable share of the gas in the subject pool, will prevent the economic loss caused by the drilling of unnecessary wells, avoid the augmentation of risk arising from the drilling of an excessive number of wells, and will otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

-2-Case No. 6181 Order No. R-5683

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That an unorthodox well location for Wolfcamp and Pennsylvanian formations is hereby approved for the Yates Petro-leum Corporation Rio Pecos "GB" Well No. 2 to be located at a point 1980 feet from the South line and 1100 feet from the West line of Section 20, Township 18 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Red Lake Field, Eddy County, New Mexico.
- (2) That the S/2 of said Section 20 shall be dedicated to the above-described well.
- (3) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Oil Conservation Division of the New Mexico Energy and Minerals Department may deem necessary.

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

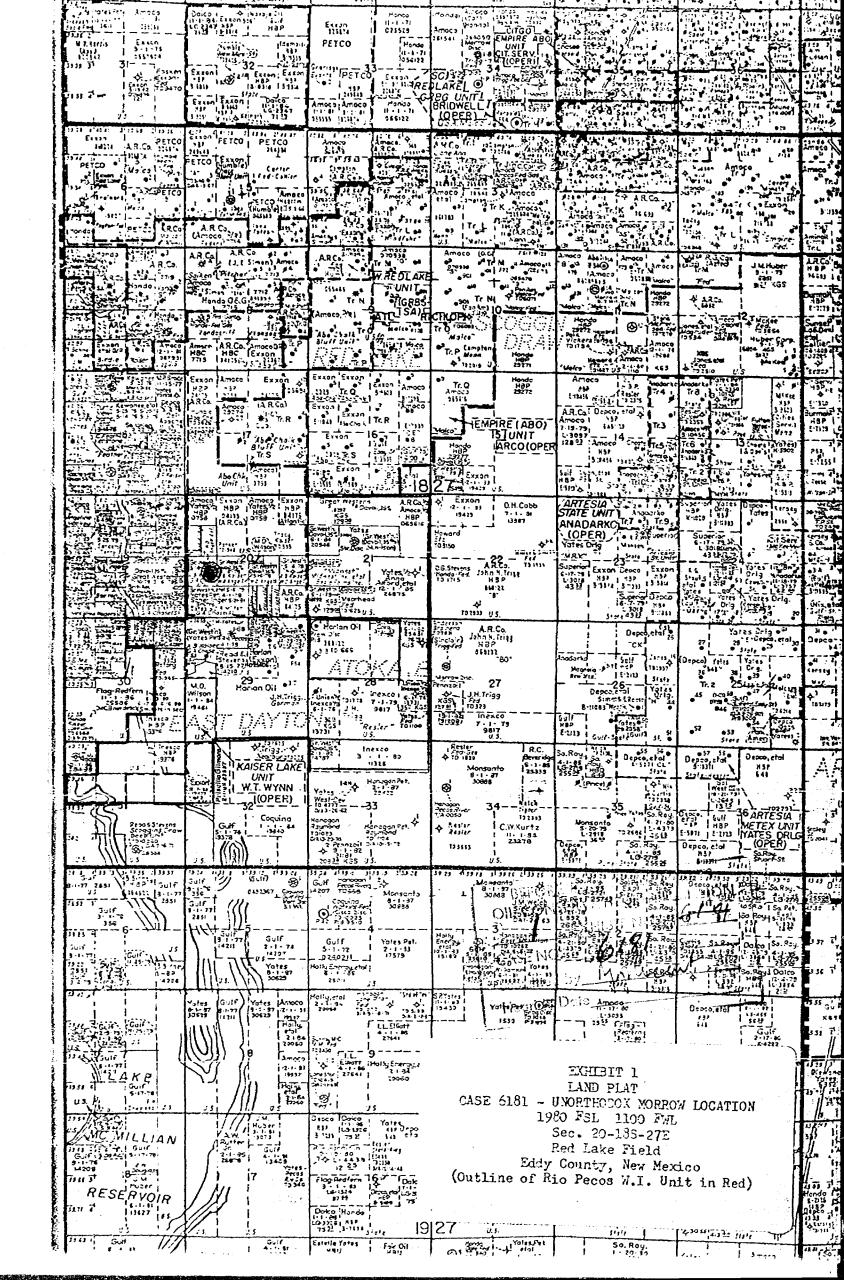
STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

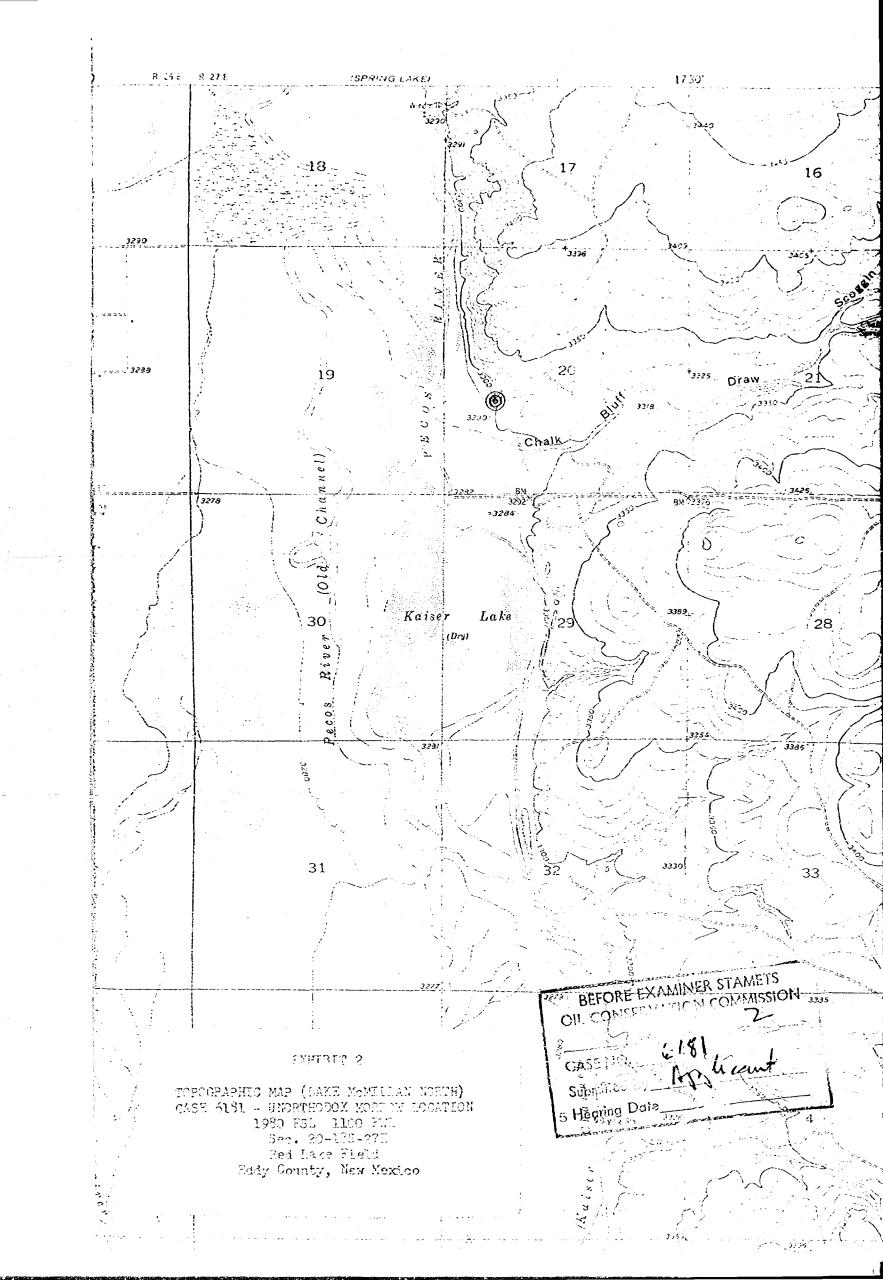
PHIL R. LUCERO, Chairman

BMERY C. ARNOLD, Member

JOE D. RAMEY, Member & Division Director

SEAL





LAW OFFICES

LOSEE & CARSON, P.A.

A.J. LOSEE 300 AMERICAN HOME BUILDING

JOEL M. CARSON P. O. DRAWER 239

CHAD DICKERSON ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO 88210

AREA CODE 505 746-3508

2 March 1978

Mr. Joe D. Ramey, Director New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Mr. Ramey:

Enclosed for filing, please find three copies of Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox gas well location for its Rio Pecos "GB" No. 2 Well in Eddy County, New Mexico.

We ask that this case be set for hearing before an examiner and that we be furnished with a copy of the docket for said hearing.

Yours truly,

LOSEE, CARSON & DICKERSON, P.A.

Joel M. darson

JMC:bjm Enclosures

cc w/enclosure: Mr. Jack W. McCaw-

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF:
YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION: CASE NO.
FOR AN UNORTHODOX GAS WELL LOCATION, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO:

APPLICATION

COMES NOW YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION, by its attorneys, and in support hereof, respectfully states:

 Applicant is the operator of the Wolfcamp and Pennsylvanian formations underlying:

Township 18 South, Range 27 East, N.M.P.M.

Section 20: S/2

and proposes to drill its Rio Pecos "GB" No. 2 Well at a point located 1,100 feet from the West line and 1,980 feet from the South line of said Section 20.

- 2. The applicant seeks an exception to the well location requirements of Rule 104-C.2(a) of the Oil Conservation

 Commission to permit the drilling of the well at the above mentioned unorthodox location to a depth sufficient to adequately test the Wolfcamp and Pennsylvanian formations.
- 3. A standard 320-acre gas proration unit comprising the S/2 of said Section 20 should be dedicated to such well or to such lesser portion thereof as is reasonably shown to be reasonably productive of gas.

4. The approval of this application will afford applicant the opportunity to produce its just and equitable share of gas, will prevent economic loss caused by the drilling of unnecessary wells, avoid the augmentation of risk arising from the drilling of an excessive number of wells, and will otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

WHEREFORE, applicant prays:

- A. That this application be set for hearing before an examiner and that notice of said hearing be given as required by law.
- B. That upon hearing the Commission enter its order granting applicant permission to drill a well 1,100 feet from the West line and 1,980 feet from the South line of said Section 20 and to dedicate the S/2 of Section 20, which is reasonably presumed to be productive of gas from the Wolfcamp and Pennsylvanian formations.
- C. And for such other relief as may be just in the premises.

YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATIO

Joel M. Carson

LOSEE, CARSON & DICKERSON, P.A.

P. O. Drawer 239

Artesia, New Mexico 88210

Attorneys for Applicant

Dockets Nos. 12-78 and 13-78 are tentatively set for hearing on April 5 and 19, 1978. Applications for hearing sust be filed at least 22 days in advance of hearing date.

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - WEDNESDAY - MARCH 22, 1978

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

The following cases will be heard before Richard L. Stemets, Examiner, or Daniel S. Nutter, Alternate Examiner:

CASE 6151: (Continued from February 22, 1978, Examiner Hearing)

In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit Vega Petroleum Corporation, American Employers' Insurance Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the North Caprock Queen Unit No. 1 Well No. 5Y located in Unit E of Section 8, Township 13 South, Range 32 East, Lea County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.

CASE 6152: (Continued from February 22, 1978, Examiner Hearing)

In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit Al Greer, American Employers' Insurance Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Thompson Well No. 1 located in Unit N of Section 10, Township 30 North, Range 11 West, San Juan County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.

- CASE 6179: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit McCoy and Phillips and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the John Bergin Well No. 1 located 2515 feet from the North line and 1410 feet from the West line of Section 21, Township 29 North, Range 11 West, San Juan County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.
- CASE 6180: In the matter of the hearing called by the Oil Conservation Commission on its own motion to permit Elvis L. Roberts, The Travelers Indemnity Company, and all other interested parties to appear and show cause why the Wade Well No. 1 located 850 feet from the North line and 1750 feet from the East line of Section 21, Township 29 North, Range 11 West, San Juan County, New Mexico, should not be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a Commission-approved plugging program.
- CASE 6137: (Continued from February 8, 1978, Examiner Hearing)

Application of Amoco Production Company for an unorthodox gas well location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox location of its Nellis Federal Well No. 3 to be located 1980 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the West line of Section 8, Township 19 South, Range 33 East, West Tonto-Pennsylvanian Cas Pool, Lea County, New Mexico, the N/2 of said Section 8 to be dedicated to the well.

CASE 6172: (Continued from March 8, 1978, Examiner Hearing)

Application of Morris R. Antweil for compulsory pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Pennsylvanian formation underlying the E/2 of Section 22, Township 19 South, Range 25 East, Eddy County, New Mexico, to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location thereon. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision. Also to be considered will be the designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well.

- CASE 6131:

 Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox location, Eddy County, New Mexico.

 Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for the unorthodox location of its Rio Peccs

 "GD" Well No. 2 to be located 1930 feet from the South line and 1100 feet from the West line of
 Section 20, Township 18 South, Range 27 East, Red Lake Field, Eddy County, New Mexico, to test
 the Wolfcemp and Pennsylvanian formations, the S/2 of said Section 20 to be dedicated to the well.
- CASE 6182: Application of Union 0il Company of California for a unit agreement, Lea County, New Mexico.

 Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for its Laguna Deep Urit Area comprising 2,558 acres, more or less, of State, Federal and fee lands in Townships 19 and 20 South, Range 33 East, Lea County, New Mexico.
- CASE 6183: Application of Mess Petroleum Company for a unit agreement, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for its North Scharb Unit Area comprising 1911 acres, more or less, of State and fee lands in Township 18 South, Range 35 East, Lea County, New Mexico.

Loel Carson NSL Yates Petroleum Corp 5/2 20 - 185 - 27E 1980 FSL 1100 FWL RID FECOS GB" NO 2 Wolfcamp and Pannsylvanian fins.
Red Lake, Field Eddy to

RLS

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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

	CASE NO 6181
	Order No. R- <u>5683</u>
	APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR AN UNORTHODOX COUNTY, NEW MEXICO. ORDER OF THE COMMISSION
	BY THE COMMISSION:
_	This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on March 22 , 1978 at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Richard L. Stamets .
	NOW, on this <u>day of</u> , 1978, 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, Yates Petroleum Corporation, seeks for its Ric Pecos "GB" Well No. 2 to be located approval of an unorthodox gask well location/ 1980 feet from the South
	line and 1100 feet from the West line of Section 20 , Township
	18 South , Range 27 East , NMPM, to test
Molfcamp a	nd Pennsylvanian formations, Red Lake Field, xx8004xx
	Eddy County, New Mexico.
	(3) That the $S/2$ of said Section 20 is to be dedicated to the
	well.
	(4) That a well at said unorthodox location will better enable
	applicant to produce the gas underlying the proration unit.
	(5) That no offset operator objected to the proposed unorthodox
	location.

-2-		
Case	No.	
Order	No.	R-

(6) That approval of the subject application will afford the applicant the opportunity to produce its just and equitable share of the gas in the subject pool, will prevent the economic loss caused by the drilling of unnecessary wells, avoid the augmentation of risk arising from the drilling of an excessive number of wells, and will otherwise prevent waste and protect correlative rights.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

Pennsylvanian

(1) That an unorthodox gas well lo	ocation for tel Wolfcamp and	
(1) That an unorthodox gask well lo	Well No. 2 to be located	
feet from the <u>South</u> line and <u>1100</u>		_
line of Section <u>20</u> , Township <u>18</u>		-
NMPM, Red Lake Field,		ty,
New Mexico.		

- (2) That the S/2 of said Section 20 shall be dedicated to the above-described well.
- (3) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such bil Communication Division of the New Mexico Green and Kines & Department further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

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

St of NM.
Oil Cous Com
Rucer o Chain
Arnold Member
Lamoy Munder and a
Division Director