## STATE OF NEW MEXICO

## ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

RECEIVED

CASE NOS. (13,100) and 12,811

SEP 2 > 2003

AWAITING FINAL COMMISSION ACTION

Oil Conservation Division

NO EVIDENCE OR TESTIMONY TAKEN

# REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

## COMMISSION HEARING

BEFORE: LORI WROTENBERY, CHAIRMAN JAMI BAILEY, COMMISSIONER ROBERT LEE, COMMISSIONER

September 12th, 2003 Santa Fe, New Mexico

These matters came on for hearing before the Oil Conservation Commission, LORI WROTENBERY, Chairman, on Friday, September 12th, 2003, at the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, 1220 South Saint Francis Drive, Room 102, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Steven T. Brenner, Certified Court Reporter No. 7 for the State of New Mexico.

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#### APPEARANCES

## FOR THE COMMISSION:

DAVID K. BROOKS, JR.
Assistant General Counsel
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

## FOR DUGAN PRODUCTION CORPORATION:

MONTGOMERY & ANDREWS, P.A. 325 Paseo de Peralta P.O. Box 2307 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2307 By: EDMUND H. KENDRICK

## FOR SAN JUAN COAL COMPANY:

JAMES G. BRUCE Attorney at Law P.O. Box 1056 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES:

KATHRYN BECKER
Deputy General Counsel
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

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WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had at 9:06 a.m.:

MR. BROOKS: Yes, we're deferring the final action matter till after the -- The Commission is deferring the final action matter until after the hearing, and we'll let you know before we take it before the Commission.

MS. BECKER: Fantastic, thank you.

MR. BROOKS: Thank you.

(Off the record)

MR. BRUCE: Madame Chair, before we begin on that case, there was one other item on the schedule for final action, which was the San Juan Coal Company-Dugan Production Corporation matter, and Mr. Kendrick is here on behalf of Dugan Production Corp. and I was here on behalf of San Juan.

Mr. Brooks had previously asked me, or inquired, because he had heard there had been a settlement agreement between the parties, and I just wanted to report that there had been. Mr. Kendrick knows a lot more about it than I do, but because of that settlement we would ask -- and perhaps it's already been done, but we would ask that any decision on that pending case -- I think it's 13,100 -- be deferred, and when the settlement finally occurs, then San Juan would request that that matter be dismissed.

CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: Okay, thank you, Mr. Bruce.

Mr. Kendrick, could you give us just a little bit 1 2 of a summary --MR. KENDRICK: Sure --3 CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: -- of the settlement? 4 MR. KENDRICK: -- sure, Ned Kendrick for Dugan 5 Production Company. 6 7 There has been a tentative settlement, and the date that we're trying to get a final settlement entered is 8 mid-October, I think October 18th. So if it's possible --9 We may or may not get this completed by the time of the 10 next Commission Hearing, but we'll be very close by mid-11 October, and so we can report to you then if we're not --12 the status and -- you know, there's a very high probability 13 we'll settle this before the November Commission meeting. 14 15 So I think there's no desire on the part of San Juan Coal to pursue their Application pending completion of these 16 settlement negotiations. 17 CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: Okay, that sounds good. 18 We will defer final action --19 20 MR. KENDRICK: Thank you. 21 (Off the record at 9:08 a.m.) 22 23 (The following proceedings had at 11:55 a.m.:) 24 CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: We've got a couple of items of business. 25

We've got the minutes of the Oil Conservation 1 Commission meeting held on August 14th, 2003. 2 Commissioners, have you had a chance to review 3 those minutes? 4 5 COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Yes, I have, and I move 6 that we adopt them. 7 COMMISSIONER LEE: Second. 8 CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: All in favor say aye. 9 COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Aye. 10 COMMISSIONER LEE: Aye. 11 CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: Aye. And I will sign those on behalf of the Commission. 12 And then we'll take just a few moments, because I 13 14 believe we're going to hear a report from the Division on the Kersey and Company matter, so we'll wait just a moment. 15 (Off the record at 11:56 a.m.) 16 17 (The following proceedings had at 11:58 a.m.:) 18 CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: Okay, I believe that the Division has an update on Case 12,811. This is the 19 Application of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for 20 21 an order requiring operators to bring 388 wells into compliance with Rule 201.B and assessing appropriate civil 22 penalties in Eddy, Chaves and Otero Counties, New Mexico. 23 24 MS. BECKER: Yes, madame Commissioner and 25 honorable Chair, Commissioners, I am Kathryn Becker on

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behalf of the Department, and I'm requesting an extension
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2
     of time in this matter.
               CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: Okay, then we will postpone
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     any final action in this case until the October 16th
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     Commission Hearing. Will that work?
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               MS. BECKER:
                            It will.
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7
               CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: Okay, and we'll get more
     information from you --
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               MS. BECKER: Yes.
9
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               CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: -- at that point, or
     before.
11
                            Certainly. It's actually in the
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               MS. BECKER:
13
     best interest of both parties as an investigation was
14
     undertaken after the August 14th hearing to find out, in
15
     fact, if those -- two of the three wells had been, in fact,
     plugged, and so we're looking into that at this time so
16
17
     that we can procedurally set those apart.
               CHAIRMAN WROTENBERY: Sounds good.
18
                                                    Thank you
19
     very much, Ms. Becker.
20
               (Thereupon, these proceedings were concluded at
     11:59 a.m.)
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## CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ss. COUNTY OF SANTA FE

I, Steven T. Brenner, Certified Court Reporter and Notary Public, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing transcript of proceedings before the Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me; that I transcribed my notes; and that the foregoing is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative or employee of any of the parties or attorneys involved in this matter and that I have no personal interest in the final disposition of this matter.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL September 14th, 2003.

STEVEN T. BRENNER CCR No. 7

My commission expires: October 16th, 2006