

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY, MINERALS, AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTTTER OF THE HEARING CALLED
BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR
THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

Application of Tap Rock Resources	Case Nos. 21568
for compulsory pooling, Lea County,	21572
New Mexico	21573

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2020

STATUS CONFERENCE

This matter came on for hearing before the
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, William
Brancard, Hearing Examiner, Dylan Rose-Coss,
Technical Examiner, Dean McClure, Technical
Examiner, via Cisco Webex Virtual Meeting Platform

Reported by: Mary Therese Macfarlane
New Mexico CCR No. 122
PAUL BACA PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTERS
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A P P E A R A N C E S

For Tap Rock Resources:

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For COG Operating, LLC

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I N D E X

CASE NOS. 21568, 21572, 21573	page
CASES CALLED:	3

1 (Time noted 9:48 a.m.)

2 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: So now I got to
3 figure out where I am.

4 There are some more Tap Rock cases here for
5 status conferences, and I will call Case 21568 to get us
6 going here.

7 Tap Rock?

8 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, Jim Bruce representing
9 Tap Rock Resources, and I would ask that the matters, that
10 case that be consolidated with 21572 and 21573.

11 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Okay.

12 Other entries of appearance in these cases?

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. Michael Rodriguez for COG
14 Operating, LLC.

15 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Is everyone okay
16 with these three cases being consolidated?

17 Or are there more?

18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: There will be more, Mr.
19 Examiner.

20 COG has sent out proposals in mid December,
21 and as soon as the 30-day election period runs we will be
22 filing competing applications with Tap Rock's contest
23 applications.

24 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Oh, excellent.

25 So where are we on these cases? Mr. Bruce?

1 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I was hoping that COG
2 would have already filed their applications for the
3 February hearing. I think when things are at issue you
4 don't have to wait the 30 days after you send out a Well
5 Proposal.

6 But regardless, in this matter Tap Rock
7 does have lease expirations or farm-out expirations, and
8 thus needs to proceed with this matter. I don't know if
9 there would be any more time left in March or -- that's
10 when Tap Rock would prefer to go to hearing. Actually,
11 March 4th should be the date that COG'S applications will
12 be set for.

13 So I know generally on the first hearing of
14 the month they don't have contested hearings, but that
15 might be a good time to do it.

16 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Well, apparently
17 that system is sort of evolving.

18 So, Mr. Rodriguez, do you think your client
19 will be able to get these applications in for the March
20 4th hearing?

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, we should be able to file
22 applications here I believe this week or next, so that
23 shouldn't be a problem.

24 But again I want to emphasize that COG has
25 concerns with this pending merger where everything will be

1 shuffling around and would prefer and appreciate if we had
2 a hearing date no earlier than April.

3 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Mr. Bruce.

4 MR. BRUCE: Well, it's at your discretion,
5 Mr. Examiner, but certainly I would want it held by early
6 April. I'm getting -- I have asked my client what is the
7 earliest lease expiration they have, and I'll get back to
8 you on that.

9 I would guess March or early April would be
10 fine.

11 And the thing is they need to get APDs
12 issued, and there's federal acreage involved which means
13 it takes forever to get an APD issued by the Bureau of
14 Land Management, and they do need a pooling before they
15 can file for the APD under the OCD's regulations. So
16 there are time constraints.

17 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Okay. All right.
18 Given that COG hasn't filed yet, why don't we set this for
19 the April 8th hearing date. And, of course -- I don't
20 know, Mr. Rodriguez, when COG does file, hopefully you
21 will indicate in your application the potential conflict
22 and the need to schedule this with these pending matters
23 from Tap Rock.

24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. I'll go ahead and include
25 that language in the application.

1 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: So can we get a
2 Draft Order, Mr. Bruce, for April 8th? Or Mr. Rodriguez.
3 Either one.

4 MR. BRUCE: Yes, I'll do it. Thank you.

5 HEARING EXAMINER BRANCARD: Okay. Thank you.

6 (Time noted 9:52 a.m.)

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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO)

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3 COUNTY OF TAOS)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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I, MARY THERESE MACFARLANE, New Mexico Reporter

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CCR No. 122, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that on Thursday,

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January 7, 2021, the proceedings in the above-captioned

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matter were taken before me; that I did report in

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stenographic shorthand the proceedings set forth herein,

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and the foregoing pages are a true and correct

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transcription to the best of my ability and control.

13

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither employed by

14

nor related to nor contracted with (unless excepted by the

15

rules) any of the parties or attorneys in this case, and

16

that I have no interest whatsoever in the final

17

disposition of this case in any court.

18

/s/ Mary Macfarlane

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Mary Therese Macfarlane, CCR

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NM Certified Court Reporter No. 122

License Expires: 12/31/2021

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