

3 IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED  
4 BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR  
THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

5 APPLICATION OF ALAMO PERMIAN  
6 RESOURCES, LLC FOR APPROVAL OF  
7 THE HIGH LONESOME QUEEN UNIT,  
8 ESTABLISHMENT OF A WATERFLOOD  
9 PROJECT AND CERTIFICATION OF  
THE WATERFLOOD PROJECT AS AN  
10 ENHANCED WELL RECOVERY PROJECT  
11 PURSUANT TO THE ENHANCED OIL  
12 RECOVERY ACT, EDDY COUNTY,  
13 NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 15116

ORIGINAL

11 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

12 EXAMINER HEARING

13 May 1, 2014

14 Santa Fe, New Mexico

15  
16 BEFORE: PHILLIP GOETZE, CHIEF EXAMINER

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18 This matter came on for hearing before the  
19 New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, Phillip Goetze,  
20 Chief Examiner, on Thursday, May 1, 2014, at the New  
Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources  
21 Department, 1220 South St. Francis Drive, Porter Hall,  
Room 102, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

22 REPORTED BY: Mary C. Hankins, CCR, RPR  
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1. (9:55 a.m.)

2 EXAMINER GOETZE: That brings us to the  
3 last case on the docket, Case 15116, application of  
4 Alamo Permian Resources, LLC for approval of the High  
5 Lonesome Queen Unit, establishment of a waterflood  
6 project and certification of the waterflood project as  
7 an enhanced well recovery project pursuant to the  
8 Enhanced Oil Recovery Act, Eddy County, New Mexico.

9 Call for appearances.

10 MR. FELDEWERT: May it please the Examiner,  
11 Michael Feldewert, Santa Fe office of the law firm of  
12 Holland & Hart, on behalf of the Applicant.

13 I have three witnesses here today, and if  
14 you give me one minute, I will track them down.

15 (Pause in proceedings, 9:56 a.m. to 9:57  
16 a.m.)

17 MR. FELDEWERT: We're ready. Mr. Examiner,  
18 I have my witnesses here today.

19 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

20 Would the witnesses please stand, identify  
21 yourself for the court reporter, and she will swear you  
22 in.

23 MR. WOODRUFF: Tyler Woodruff, Alamo  
24 Permian Resources.

25 MR. SEALE: Patrick Seale, Alamo Permian

1 Resources.

2 MR. FEKETE: Thomas Fekete, Alamo Permian

3 Resources.

4 (Mr. Woodruff, Mr. Seale and Mr. Fekete  
5 sworn.)

6 EXAMINER GOETZE: There are no other  
7 appearances?

8 Very well.

9 Mr. Feldewert.

10 MR. FELDEWERT: Mr. Examiner, we call our  
11 first witness.

12 TYLER WOODRUFF,  
13 after having been first duly sworn under oath, was  
14 questioned and testified as follows:

15 DIRECT EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

17 Q. State your name, identify by whom you are  
18 employed and in what capacity.

19 A. My name is Tyler Woodruff. I'm employed by  
20 Alamo Permian Resources as a senior landman.

21 Q. Would you spell your last name for the court  
22 reporter, please?

23 A. W-O-O-D-R-U-F-F.

24 Q. Mr. Woodruff, how long have you been a senior  
25 landman with Alamo?

1           A.     Four years.

2           Q.     And have your responsibilities included the  
3     Permian Basin?

4           A.     Yes.

5           Q.     Have you previously had the opportunity to  
6     testify before the Oil Conservation Division as an  
7     expert in petroleum land matters?

8           A.     Yes.

9           Q.     Were your credentials outlined and put into the  
10    record at that point?

11          A.     Yes.

12          Q.     Are you familiar with the application filed in  
13    this case?

14          A.     Yes.

15          Q.     Are you familiar with the status of the lands  
16    in the subject area?

17          A.     Yes.

18                   MR. FELDEWERT:  Mr. Examiner, I would  
19    tender Mr. Woodruff as an expert witness in petroleum  
20    land matters.

21                   EXAMINER GOETZE:  He is so qualified.

22          Q.     (BY MR. FELDEWERT) Mr. Woodruff, would you turn  
23    to what's been marked as Alamo Exhibit Number 1 and  
24    identify what the company seeks.  First identify the  
25    exhibit and then what the company seeks under this

1 application.

2 A. This is a C-108 form, and we are seeking the  
3 approval of the High Lonesome Queen Unit, as well as the  
4 approval of water injection into six initial wells for  
5 unit waterflood operations in the project area, which  
6 consists of the entire unit.

7 We're also seeking qualification of the  
8 project for an incentive tax rate authorized by the  
9 Enhanced Oil Recovery Act.

10 Q. And how many acres are involved in your  
11 proposed unit?

12 A. 680.

13 Q. If I turn to what's been marked as Alamo  
14 Exhibit Number 1, on the bottom, right-hand corner,  
15 there are page numbers. Okay? I'd like you to turn to  
16 what's been marked as page number 12 of Exhibit 1. And  
17 does page number 12 of Exhibit Number 1 provide a map of  
18 your unit area?

19 A. It does.

20 Q. And why don't you explain what is shown with  
21 the colors on this particular page of this exhibit?

22 A. The red-hatched outline identifies the unit  
23 boundaries. The unit consists of 680 acres made of  
24 three state leases, all owned 100 percent by Alamo. The  
25 black dots represent the existing, producing Alamo

1 wells. The red triangles are identifying the locations  
2 of the proposed six injection wells, and the dashed  
3 circles around each of the triangles represent the area  
4 of review for each injection well.

5 Q. Now, the red circles, what do they signify?

6 A. Some potential locations for future producing  
7 wells.

8 Q. And the black circles, I think you testified,  
9 are your existing producing wells?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And you mentioned that there were the proposed  
12 injection wells identified with the black triangles. Is  
13 there a list of those wells on page 2 of Exhibit Number  
14 1?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And it provides, then, for the Division the  
17 footages of the injection wells shown in black triangles  
18 on page 12, correct?

19 A. Yes. In red triangles.

20 Q. I'm sorry. Red triangles. Yes.

21 If I then turn to what's been marked as  
22 Alamo Exhibit Number 2, is this a list of the current  
23 producing wells that are reflected as black circles on  
24 page 12 of Exhibit 1?

25 A. Yes.



1 Q. And this provides the API number for those  
2 wells?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And does it also provide what would become the  
5 unit well name for these wells when the unit is approved  
6 by the Division?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Going, then, back to your map and the circles  
9 that are around your triangles, on page 12, Exhibit  
10 Number 1, did the company compile a list of surface  
11 owners for each of the six injection wells identified on  
12 that map?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And did the company also identify all leasehold  
15 operators within a half mile of each injection well,  
16 within a half mile of that circle?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And if I look at what has been marked as Alamo  
19 Exhibit Number 3, is that an affidavit prepared by my  
20 office, with attached letters, providing notice of this  
21 hearing to these affected parties?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And that list includes the New Mexico State  
24 Land Office, correct?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Have you had discussions with the New Mexico  
2 State Land Office about inclusion of the three leases  
3 into a unitized area?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. If I turn to what's been marked as Alamo  
6 Exhibit Number 4, is that a copy of the -- most recent  
7 copy of the unit agreement that has been discussed with  
8 the New Mexico State Land Office?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And it follows their form; does it not?

11 A. Yes, it does.

12 Q. Where would I find the description of the  
13 horizon that is being unitized?

14 A. That would be Section 2 under Definitions.

15 Q. So if I go to page 4 of this exhibit, Section  
16 2, would you state for the record the stratigraphic  
17 interval that is being unitized under this agreement?

18 A. "'Unitized Formation' is defined as that  
19 stratigraphic interval occurring between the surface to  
20 a point 100 feet below the base the Penrose sandstone  
21 interval of the Queen Formation."

22 Q. And does this Exhibit Number 4 contain an  
23 Exhibit A to the unit agreement which identifies the  
24 unit boundary?

25 A. Yes, it does.

1 Q. And that corresponds to the area that we  
2 previously reviewed under Exhibit 1, correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And does it also contain an Exhibit B that  
5 provides the ownership breakdown for the ownership in  
6 question?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And then if I look at Exhibit C, it provides a  
9 percentage of the tract participation; does it not?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Has the New Mexico State Land Office given  
12 preliminary approval of this proposed unit?

13 A. Yes, they have.

14 Q. If I turn to what's been marked as Alamo  
15 Exhibit Number 5, is that a preliminary approval letter  
16 from the New Mexico State Land Office signed by  
17 Mr. Warnell?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And finally, Mr. Woodruff -- and I forgot to do  
20 this with Exhibit 1 -- that is the C-108 application,  
21 correct?

22 A. Yes, it is.

23 Q. And is that a full, complete and accurate copy  
24 of that application?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And did you sign that application?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And were you assisted in preparing that  
4 application by both a geologist and an engineer?

5 A. Yes, I was.

6 Q. And are they here today to discuss the  
7 technical portions of this application?

8 A. Yes, they are.

9 Q. Were Alamo Exhibits 1 through 5 prepared by you  
10 or compiled under your direction and supervision?

11 A. Yes, they were.

12 MR. FELDEWERT: Mr. Examiner, I would move  
13 the admission into evidence of Alamo Exhibits 1 through  
14 5.

15 EXAMINER GOETZE: Exhibits 1 through 5 are  
16 so admitted.

17 (Alamo Permian Resources, LLC Exhibit  
18 Numbers 1 through 5 were offered and  
19 admitted into evidence.)

20 MR. FELDEWERT: And that concludes my  
21 examination of this witness.

22 CROSS-EXAMINATION

23 BY EXAMINER GOETZE:

24 Q. So in the process of filing your C-108, in  
25 doing notification, you have not received anybody's

1 objections or comments?

2 A. No, I have not.

3 Q. And I'll ask the question real fast: Do we  
4 have copies of notification, return receipts in here to  
5 complete the C-108?

6 A. Yes. They're at the back of Exhibit 3.

7 MR. FELDEWERT: Do you have a page number?

8 EXAMINER GOETZE: I found it.

9 MR. FELDEWERT: Okay. Good. I'm sorry.

10 EXAMINER GOETZE: Usually you see them  
11 stapled with the C-108 and not all over the place.

12 Okay. I have no more questions for this  
13 witness.

14 MR. FELDEWERT: Call our next witness,  
15 Mr. Examiner.

16 THOMAS FEKETE,  
17 after having been previously sworn under oath, was  
18 questioned and testified as follows:

19 DIRECT EXAMINATION

20 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

21 Q. Would you please state your name, identify by  
22 whom you're employed and in what capacity?

23 A. Thomas Fekete. I'm a geologist with Alamo  
24 Permian Resources.

25 Q. And how long have you been a geologist with

1 Alamo?

2 A. Four years.

3 Q. And have your responsibilities included the  
4 Permian Basin of New Mexico?

5 A. Yes, they have.

6 Q. Mr. Fekete, have you previously testified  
7 before the Division as an expert in petroleum geology  
8 and had your credentials accepted and made a matter of  
9 public record?

10 A. Yes, I have.

11 Q. Are you familiar with the application filed in  
12 this case?

13 A. Yes, I am.

14 Q. And have you conducted a geologic study of the  
15 area at issue?

16 A. Yes, I have.

17 MR. FELDEWERT: I would tender Mr. Fekete  
18 as an expert witness in petroleum geology.

19 EXAMINER GOETZE: He is so qualified.

20 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) Mr. Fekete, if I go to  
21 Exhibit Number 1 and I go to Section 8 -- 52 of that  
22 exhibit.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. So if I go to Exhibit Number 1, page 52, there  
25 is a geologic summary comprised of Section 8, correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. It is Section 8 of the application, correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Did you prepare that summary?

5 A. Yes, I did.

6 Q. And does it accurately summarize your analysis?

7 A. Yes, it does.

8 Q. The first attachment I see to that summary,  
9 which is actually page 53 of Exhibit Number 1, is a type  
10 log for the Skelly State Well #3.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Is that one of the producing wells in the unit  
13 area?

14 A. Yes, it is.

15 Q. In reviewing this matter in preparation for the  
16 hearing, did you notice that there was an error with  
17 respect to the legal description for that type log?

18 A. Yes, I did. I made an error on the header. I  
19 typed "1,980 from south and west." The actual location  
20 should read "1,980 from north to west."

21 Q. If we keep our finger here, okay, and I flip  
22 over to Alamo Exhibit Number 6, is that a corrected type  
23 log for that same well?

24 A. Yes, it is.

25 Q. And it provides the correct legal description?

1 A. It does, yes.

2 Q. And does it also, then, identify the vertical  
3 extent of the proposed waterflood operation?

4 A. It does, yes.

5 Q. And how is that identified on Exhibit Number 6?

6 A. The formations are labeled, "Yates, Seven  
7 Rivers, Bowers, Queen, the Penrose" Unit. Penrose  
8 sandstone is the target of our water injection project.  
9 It's a sandstone. On the type log, it appears at a  
10 depth of 1,835 feet. The base being around 1,865. The  
11 average depth of this in our acreage is about 1,850  
12 feet. It's a radioactive sandstone. It generally 30  
13 feet thick. It develops porosity usually at about, oh,  
14 half of that sand. So, generally, there's about 10 to  
15 15 feet of actual reservoir in that 30 foot interval.

16 Q. And does your geologic summary discuss the  
17 nature of this particular sandstone in the unit area?

18 A. Yes, it does.

19 Q. And if I go back to that, which is page 52 of  
20 Exhibit Number 1, it notes in there, does it not, that  
21 this is a continuous east-to-west trend for at least  
22 eight miles?

23 A. Yes, it is.

24 Q. And does that trend include the unit area?

25 A. Yes, it does.



1 Q. Did you then prepare cross sections for this  
2 hearing using wells within the unit area?

3 A. I did.

4 Q. Now, these are rather large documents, correct?

5 A. Yes, they are.

6 Q. If I then turn to what's been marked as Alamo  
7 Exhibit Number 7, is that the first cross section for  
8 this unit area?

9 A. Yes, cross section A to A prime.

10 Q. Why don't we pull it out?

11 A. (Witness complies.)

12 Q. Using your legend in the bottom, right-hand  
13 corner of the exhibit, why don't you describe what wells  
14 are utilized and what you're showing here?

15 A. All right. This is a south-to-north structural  
16 cross section across our acreage. The wells that are in  
17 the cross section are surrounded by a red box colored in  
18 red. There are seven wells. The south is on the left  
19 side. North A prime is on the right side. It's a  
20 structural cross section. Our datum is plus 1,900 feet.  
21 The Penrose interval is bracketed by these two black  
22 lines (indicating) that go all the way across the cross  
23 section.

24 My experience has been that about 8 percent  
25 porosity is the required threshold for production from

1 this interval. And so I've got 8 percent porosity  
2 marked on all these porosity logs. I have then colored  
3 in yellow that part of the Penrose sand that meets or  
4 exceeds 8 percent. And I think what the cross section  
5 shows, starting from the south, is there are two dry  
6 holes with very little to no reservoir. Then on the  
7 very edge of the southern part of our acreage, there is  
8 a well that has no well log available.

9 But then as we move farther to the north  
10 along the cross section, what we see is the amount of  
11 yellow, the amount of porosity, both in terms of  
12 thickness and in terms of magnitude of the porosity  
13 increases. So we're getting better and better sand as  
14 we move up into the body of the sandstone, until  
15 finally, the northernmost well, the porosity is absent.  
16 The sand up there has been plugged by halite and  
17 anhydrite. So the sandstone has been occluded to the  
18 north. And that happens on the very northern part of  
19 our acreage.

20 Q. And do you know exactly where that occurs?

21 A. My interpretation is that it occurs at about  
22 where this dark black dashed line is on the map attached  
23 to the cross section.

24 Q. So your legendary [sic]?

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. And that particular acreage is part of a single  
2 state lease, correct?

3 A. Yes, it is.

4 Q. And your unit area includes the entirety of  
5 three state leases?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And the State Land Office has approved that  
8 designation of the unit boundary?

9 A. Yes, they have.

10 Q. Now, does the sand that you see here and  
11 depict, that extends across at least most of your  
12 unitized area that you show here?

13 A. Yes, at least 80, 85 percent.

14 Q. And no question of how far it extends to the  
15 north, and that's a state lease, correct?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. Have you also -- let's see. That's the  
18 south-to-north cross section.

19 Have you also done an east-to-west cross  
20 section?

21 A. I have.

22 Q. Is there anything else on this particular cross  
23 section you want to point out?

24 A. The only thing I would note -- and I can do  
25 that. I think the other cross section possibly shows it

1 even better -- is that the sandstone is bounded above  
2 and below by an anhydritic dolostone layer of some ten  
3 feet thickness. In my opinion, that dense  
4 low-porosity -- those dense low-porosity boundary layers  
5 should serve to confine any water injected in the  
6 Penrose sand -- to the Penrose sand instead of allowing  
7 leak-off.

8 Q. And is that going to be shown more clearly in  
9 your east-to-west cross section?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Let's turn to what's been marked as Alamo  
12 Exhibit 8, and pull that cross section out.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. Now, this particular cross section, which is  
15 Alamo Exhibit Number 8, likewise has a legend in the  
16 bottom, right-hand corner, correct?

17 A. It does.

18 Q. Starting with that, why don't you walk us  
19 through that again?

20 A. Okay. This is a cross action I prepared for  
21 Alamo Permian Resources. It is a west-to-east  
22 structural cross section, same datum, plus 1,900 feet as  
23 cross section A. Again, the wells involved in the cross  
24 section extend across our entire acreage block. They  
25 are shown surrounded by squares and colored in red.

1 Q. Let me stop you right there. The wells that  
2 you have used, did it include the type log for that  
3 Skelly State Well #3, which is marked as Alamo Exhibit  
4 Number 6?

5 A. Yes, it did. And both cross sections actually  
6 contain that type log. The type log is the second from  
7 the west.

8 Similarly, what I did was I went through, I  
9 noted 8 percent porosity on the logs. I colored 8  
10 percent greater. And what this cross section shows is  
11 the very good continuity of the sandstone across our  
12 block from west to east, and, again, the anhydritic  
13 dolostones underlying and overlying the sandstone. It  
14 appears they are continuous, very, very good porosity.  
15 It looks like an ideal flood candidate to me.

16 Q. Now, you mentioned your -- this shows more  
17 clearly what you believe to be good confinement for that  
18 zone?

19 A. Yes, it does. And I think it's because several  
20 of these logs penetrate a little deeper, shows a little  
21 more of the section.

22 Q. In your opinion, will the confinement that  
23 you've shown here in the black lines at the bottom of  
24 Exhibit Number 8 prevent vertical migration of the  
25 injected fluids into this Penrose sand?

1           A.    Yes, they will.

2           Q.    And with respect to what you have shown as you  
3   move to the north with the sandstone being plugged, will  
4   that prevent, in your opinion, the lateral migration the  
5   injectant?

6           A.    Yes, I think so.

7           Q.    And this trend that you show here, does this  
8   exist throughout the eight-mile area that you discuss in  
9   your geologic summary?

10          A.    It does.

11          Q.    And does it include, then, your unitized  
12   interval?

13          A.    Yes.

14          Q.    Anything else about this cross section before  
15   we leave it?

16          A.    No.  I think those are the points I wanted to  
17   make.

18          Q.    From a geologic perspective, Mr. Fekete, do you  
19   have any concerns with freshwater zones in this area,  
20   the impact, to the extent they exist?

21          A.    No, I don't.  Besides these anhydrite layers  
22   that we have down here, we have at least 800 feet of  
23   overlying anhydritic dolostones, embedded anhydrites,  
24   and embedded halites or salts.  Those will be much more  
25   apparent to see on my cross section cc later on.  But we

1 have a very, very thick section of, basically, evaporite  
2 that I think will serve well to seal off any kind of  
3 water injection that goes here from migrating vertical.

4 Q. You mentioned that your cross section includes  
5 the type log of the Skelly State Well #3?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. If I look at Exhibit Number 6, does that  
8 depict, for the Division, this 800 feet or so of -- what  
9 did you call that?

10 A. Well, they're anhydritic dolostones, embedded  
11 anhydrites, embedded halites. Yes, it does show them.

12 Q. Could you just describe that for the record?  
13 What does it show?

14 A. It would be from the top of the -- it would  
15 extend, basically, from the top of the Penrose unit at  
16 1,835 feet up to, I would say, 1,000 feet on the type  
17 log.

18 Q. Now, do you have any evidence as to whether  
19 there are any freshwater zones in this area?

20 A. Our regulatory department did a very thorough  
21 exhaustive study. They could find no freshwater wells  
22 within a mile of our acreage. We employ an  
23 environmental firm called Tetra Tech. It is their  
24 belief that there is a freshwater zone located between  
25 75 feet and 110 feet below the surface in this area.

1 Q. In this area?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. And what is the depth of -- you said 75 to 110  
4 feet?

5 A. That's correct.

6 Q. What is the depth of your injection zone?

7 A. The top of our injection zone is an average of  
8 1,850 feet.

9 Q. And between the two, you have that 800 feet  
10 of --

11 A. Well, between the two, we have 1,740 feet of  
12 rock section, of which at least 800 feet will be these  
13 inter-bedded dense dolostones, embedded anhydrites and  
14 embedded salts, which would serve to confine the water  
15 down low.

16 Q. Then let me ask you the next question: Did you  
17 find any evidence of open faults or hydrogeologic  
18 connections between your injection interval and the  
19 potential sources, if they exist, of potable water?

20 A. No, we did not. And given the high-evaporite  
21 content of that 800 feet, we do not expect a fault, even  
22 if it ever were present, to be open. It's sealed.

23 Q. So in your opinion, does this proposed  
24 waterflood operation pose any risk to any potable water  
25 that may be in this region?



1 A. No, no risk.

2 Q. In your opinion, are there sufficient geologic  
3 impediments to prevent migration of the injected water  
4 out of zone?

5 A. Yes. I believe that the sandstone is bounded,  
6 top and bottom, immediately by those dolostone layers,  
7 and laterally -- the sandstone is to the north -- is  
8 bounded by that evaporite flow sandstone boundary. So  
9 we're closed on at least three sides.

10 Q. Did your analysis also include a structure map  
11 for the unitized area?

12 A. Yes, it did.

13 Q. And if I go back to Exhibit Number 1 and I flip  
14 over to page 54 -- so Exhibit Number 1, page 54, that's  
15 part of your geologic summary, correct?

16 A. Yes, that's correct.

17 Q. And is that the structure map of the area?

18 A. Yes, it is.

19 Q. What does it show?

20 A. This is a geologic map on the top of the  
21 Penrose interval, which is shown on the type log. The  
22 Alamo acreage is shown in yellow for the High Lonesome  
23 Queen Unit. The red dots indicate historical and  
24 current Penrose producers in this area. The red dots  
25 with the slash through them are plugged producers. So

1 they would be historical. But without slashes, those  
2 are currently active.

3           The blue triangles with red outlines  
4 indicate wells that were drilled as dedicated original  
5 water injection wells in the Penrose interval. Over on  
6 the west side of the map, there are many wells that -- a  
7 red dot surrounded with an open purple triangle, those  
8 wells were originally producing wells in the Penrose,  
9 which, at some point in their history, were converted to  
10 water injection wells in the Penrose.

11           The contour interval here is 25 feet. It  
12 dips gently from the northwest down to the southeast.  
13 We lose about, oh, 135 feet of structural elevation from  
14 northwest to southeast. There is no closer [sic]  
15 associated with this production.

16           Along the top -- the top of our acreage is  
17 a green-dashed line. North of that green line are  
18 numerous dry-hole symbols. Looking at the logs,  
19 studying the scout tickets, my interpretation is that  
20 those wells are sandstone that were plugged with  
21 evaporite minerals, specifically anhydrite and halite.  
22 Those are basically nonreservoir sandstone up to the  
23 north of that green line.

24           To the south of the green line, the  
25 sandstone continue to have porosity, and they are

1 productive of oil.

2 Q. Now, does your analysis here -- do you see any  
3 structural impediments to a waterflood operation in this  
4 particular zone?

5 A. No, I do not.

6 Q. Is this interval that's at issue here currently  
7 subject to similar waterflood projects in the immediate  
8 area?

9 A. It is. There are at least three large  
10 historical and current waterfloods flanking our acreage.

11 Q. And if I look at an example on page 54 of  
12 Exhibit 1, directly to the west there are a number of  
13 wells and symbols there. Is that part of the existing  
14 waterflood operation?

15 A. Yes, it is. That's part of the West High  
16 Lonesome Penrose Sand Unit Waterflood.

17 Q. Now, if we continue within this exhibit to page  
18 55 -- page 55 of Exhibit Number 1, does it provide a map  
19 of the surrounding waterflood operations in the same  
20 zone?

21 A. Yes, sir, it does.

22 Q. Why don't you orient us as to the zone in  
23 question and then the existing waterflood in the  
24 offsetting units?

25 A. Okay. The Penrose is a productive -- I believe

1 it's -- well, it's a high-energy beach that extended at  
2 least eight miles from west to east. The updip limit  
3 that would have been to the north, beyond the green  
4 line, I think it's some sort of an evaporative title  
5 flat. All four of these waterfloods are bounded on the  
6 north by evaporite-plugged sandstone. So they're all  
7 the same environment. They're all on trend.

8           There have been four historical waterflood  
9 projects in the Penrose as shown on this map. And the  
10 first one -- if I go through it chronologically, the  
11 first one was actually partially on our High Lonesome  
12 Queen Unit. It was a waterflood pilot project that was  
13 initiated in 1957, and it lasted until 1959. It was  
14 partially to the east.

15       Q.   And where is that reflected on here?

16       A.   That is shown in the very center of the map, by  
17 the black triangles with the plug symbols through them,  
18 on the light-green High Lonesome Queen Unit acreage.  
19 And then on the uncolored acreage, heading off to the  
20 east, there are 160 acres that shows a similar plugged  
21 injector.

22           That well -- we went through the old data  
23 records, the monthly production records. We went all  
24 the way back into the '40s to and document response to  
25 the injection, and what we found was there was excellent

1 response in oil production to water injection. And that  
2 graph is shown to the south of our High Lonesome Queen  
3 Unit. It's connected with a red arrow. What we've got  
4 on there, on that production graph, is -- we show a  
5 little red line, a vertical line, that says on top:  
6 "Start water injection 6/1957.

7 Q. Let me stop you right there. It's pretty  
8 small, right?

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. You put this together in this fashion to make  
11 it easy to present. Is there -- and I don't know that  
12 we need to pull it out, unless you tell me otherwise.  
13 Is Alamo Exhibit Number 9 a much larger version of this  
14 particular page 55 of Exhibit Number 1?

15 A. Let's see. Yes, it is.

16 Q. So if the Examiner feels the need to see a  
17 larger copy of this, he can take a look at that exhibit?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. With that said, why don't you continue with  
20 your discussion of page 55 of Exhibit Number 1?

21 A. All right. The injected water on all the  
22 curves will be shown in purple. The injected water is  
23 shown on the injection graph in purple, and it extends  
24 1957 to 1959. The oil production is shown in green. At  
25 this scale, it's a little hard to see, but the

1 production, prior to waterflood, was on a pretty fair  
2 decline. The injection flattened that out. And it  
3 produced at a flat rate for several years as a result of  
4 that.

5 In fact, we've done extensive work on  
6 trying to document pre-water injection versus water  
7 injection. What we found is that prior to waterflood,  
8 that field of that area was making 310 barrels of oil  
9 per month. At maximum peak rate, due to water  
10 injection, it climbed to 620 barrels of oil per month,  
11 so very successful.

12 Q. So that's what you're hoping to duplicate --

13 A. We're hoping to do better than that.

14 Q. -- in the proposed unit?

15 What about the other units in the area?

16 A. That was the first one, 1957 through '59. It  
17 really was a pilot, we think.

18 The two waterfloods to the east, the purple  
19 one is called High Lonesome Penrose Unit. The  
20 grayish-yellow one is East High Lonesome Penrose Sand  
21 Unit. Both of those, again, produce out of the Penrose  
22 sandstone. They both initiated waterflood operations in  
23 1962.

24 Q. Are they still active?

25 A. One is still active, the East High Lonesome

1 Penrose Unit. The very easternmost is currently active.  
2 The High Lonesome Penrose Unit, the one shown in purple,  
3 became inactive in 1998.

4 Again, the start of water injection is  
5 shown with little vertical red lines, and the response  
6 is excellent in the oil curve, which is the green curve.  
7 Both of them climb significantly. What we found was for  
8 the High Lonesome Penrose Unit, the next unit over from  
9 us, went from a 718 barrels of oil per month pre-water  
10 injection to 7,894 barrels a month, peak rate, so 11  
11 times better. The East High Lonesome Penrose, the one  
12 on the east, went from a pre-injection rate of 7,461  
13 barrels of oil per month to a peak rate of 40,508  
14 barrels. Again, immensely successful. That one, again,  
15 is currently active.

16 The latest flood shown on this map is the  
17 West High Lonesome Penrose Sand. That's dark green, and  
18 it's shown immediately to the west of our High Lonesome  
19 Queen Unit. That waterflood was initiated in 2002, and,  
20 again, the curves show a very, very successful response.  
21 What we have documented is that field went from 300  
22 barrels of oil per month pre-injection to 8,816 barrels  
23 per month, which is almost a 29-to-1 [sic] response. So  
24 extremely responsive to injection.

25 Now, the reason we're excited about this

1 opportunity is our High Lonesome Queen Unit has many  
2 things in common with these other successful floods.  
3 First of all, same stratigraphic zone. Second, all of  
4 these are bounded by that evaporative-plugged layer to  
5 the north, that boundary, so it's confined equally to  
6 the other floods.

7                   They have several things in common, also,  
8 including our pilot; that being that all four  
9 waterfloods showed an initial response to water  
10 injection of about two to three months. So two to three  
11 months after initializing water injection, we're seeing  
12 a response in oil. Oil rates are coming up. Also, all  
13 of these showed a 36- to 40-month time period from  
14 initial water injection to peak rate of oil production.

15           Q. Now, you testified that these waterfloods are  
16 all in the same Penrose sand zone that you seek to  
17 initiate waterflood operations in the High Lonesome  
18 Queen Unit?

19           A. Yes, I have [sic].

20           Q. With that in mind, I want you to turn to page 6  
21 of Exhibit Number 1. Now, on page 6 of Exhibit Number  
22 1, which is page 5 of 9 in the application itself, the  
23 company sets forth its requested maximum volume for  
24 injecting, correct?

25           A. Yes, it does.



1 Q. And it also sets forth the requested maximum  
2 surface injection pressure?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Of 1,100 psi?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What is the basis for seeking that surface  
7 injection pressure?

8 A. That is the maximum water injection pressure  
9 that was approved by the Commission for the West High  
10 Lonesome Penrose Sand Unit Waterflood, which is -- on  
11 our last map, it was the waterflood directly to the west  
12 of our unit.

13 Q. And it's been an extremely successful  
14 waterflood operation, in your opinion?

15 A. It has been, extremely. Uh-huh.

16 Q. And they're injecting into the same Penrose  
17 sandstone formation?

18 A. Yes, they are.

19 Q. Did you create for the Examiner a cross section  
20 that would show the similarity between the West High  
21 Lonesome Queen Unit and the unit area that you seek to  
22 waterflood?

23 A. Yes, I did.

24 Q. And is that contained on Alamo Exhibit Number  
25 10?

1           A.    Yes.  The line of that cross section is Exhibit  
2   10.

3           Q.    So this identifies the wells that you utilized  
4   for your cross section that we'll review in a minute?

5           A.    Yes, it does.  I picked five wells from our  
6   unit and four wells from the West High Lonesome Unit.  
7   They are representative of the wells in both of those  
8   units, both injectors and producers.

9           Q.    And then if I go to Alamo Exhibit Number 11,  
10   this is a pullout, but it's a little smaller and it's a  
11   little more manageable?

12          A.    Yeah.  I'm going to have to work on that  
13   (laughter).

14          Q.    Alamo Exhibit Number 11, is that the  
15   stratigraphic cross section that corresponds to the  
16   wells identified on Alamo Exhibit Number 10?

17          A.    Yes, it is.

18          Q.    And it goes from west to east?

19          A.    Yes, west to east.

20          Q.    Why don't you walk us through this exhibit?

21          A.    Okay.  This is a stratigraphic cross section.  
22   I'm hanging it on the top of the Penrose.  That's our  
23   injection and production interval that we're seeking  
24   approval for.

25                   On the west side, the first four wells are

1 wells from the West High Lonesome Penrose Sand Unit,  
2 operated by Beach. And then the remaining five wells on  
3 the east side, those are Alamo Permian wells. Both  
4 injectors and producers are shown on here.

5 I think what this cross section shows is,  
6 number one, we are definitely dealing with the same  
7 stratigraphic unit. I don't think there would be any  
8 other way to correlate it. The other thing is that just  
9 the character of the porosity, the shape and the  
10 magnitude of the porosity, is very similar looking in  
11 both units. Our sand looks just like their sand does  
12 both in shape and in magnitude of porosity.

13 Q. So you see the same thickness in the reservoir?

14 A. Yes, I do.

15 Q. Same porosity?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Do you also see on here the same geologic  
18 barriers that you testified to earlier that will confine  
19 the injectant into the reservoir?

20 A. I do. And these density neutron logs,  
21 especially on the left, they really -- they show the  
22 lithology much clearer, that there are numerous thick  
23 beds of anhydrite and halite extending all the way from  
24 the top of the Penrose up to the -- well, up to the  
25 Seven Rivers and even above. So basically this entire

1 cross section shows those bounding layers.

2 Q. So in your opinion, Mr. Fekete, is the West  
3 High Lonesome Queen Unit injecting into the same  
4 formation as what you seek approval for here?

5 A. Yes, it is.

6 Q. And does it -- does the West High Lonesome  
7 Queen Unit have the same geologic setting and the same  
8 geologic barriers that you see with respect to your  
9 proposed waterflood area?

10 A. Yes. I think they're exactly the same.

11 Q. And in your opinion, is there any reason not to  
12 allow the same injection pressure for your impact area  
13 as has been approved for the West High Lonesome Queen  
14 Unit?

15 A. No, I don't think so.

16 Q. Finally, in your opinion, does the proposed  
17 injection interval extend throughout most of your  
18 proposed unitized area?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And is the proposed injection interval  
21 adequately confined to prevent migration of the  
22 injection to any potable water zones that may exist?

23 A. Yes. Again, I believe that 800 or so feet of  
24 stacked evaporite and dolostone serves as more than an  
25 adequate boundary.

1 Q. And in your opinion, is this interval well  
2 suited for a waterflood project?

3 A. In my opinion, excellently suited for a  
4 waterflood.

5 Q. Were Alamo Exhibits 6 through 11 prepared by  
6 you or compiled under your direction or supervision?

7 A. Yes, they were.

8 MR. FELDEWERT: Mr. Examiner, I would move  
9 admission into evidence of Alamo Exhibits 6 through 11.

10 EXAMINER GOETZE: Exhibits 6 through 11 are  
11 admitted.

12 (Alamo Permian Resources, LLC Exhibit  
13 Numbers 6 through 11 were offered and  
14 admitted into evidence.)

15 MR. FELDEWERT: That concludes my  
16 examination of this witness.

17 CROSS-EXAMINATION

18 BY EXAMINER GOETZE:

19 Q. One question with regards to your C-108  
20 application. We do have Section 7, the affirmative  
21 statement for -- well, for disposal wells. "The  
22 applicants for disposal wells must make an affirmative  
23 statement that they have examined available geologic  
24 data, engineering data and find no evidence of local  
25 faults or any hydrologic connection between the disposal

1 zone and any underground sources of drinking water." I  
2 will take into testimony that you have made that  
3 statement?

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 Q. In this application, this is kind of not  
6 adequate, so we will take your testimony as a  
7 replacement for this item in the C-108.

8 A. Okay. Thank you.

9 Q. Okay?

10 The expected life of this project -- you're  
11 looking at two sets of wells being put in as far as  
12 injectors; is that correct?

13 A. We're looking at drilling an initial six  
14 injectors, three producers, and then as needed,  
15 additional drilling or additional conversion of existing  
16 producers to water injection should they water out. The  
17 waterflood will tell us, we think, what needs to be  
18 done.

19 Q. So under this waterflood, you would like to see  
20 the opportunity for administrative approval for changes  
21 and additions of various wells based upon what you see  
22 as a response in your waterfloods?

23 A. Yes, sir. Please.

24 EXAMINER GOETZE: We've got a reservoir  
25 engineer coming up?

1 MR. FELDEWERT: Yes, an engineer.

2 EXAMINER GOETZE: So I will save some  
3 questions for him.

4 I have no other questions. Very good  
5 presentation.

6 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

7 MR. FELDEWERT: We'll call our last  
8 witness.

9 H. PATRICK SEALE,  
10 after having been previously sworn under oath, was  
11 questioned and testified as follows:

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

14 Q. Please state your name, identify by whom you're  
15 employed and in what capacity?

16 A. My name is Patrick Seale. I'm employed by  
17 Alamo Permian Resources as senior vice president, and  
18 I'm a petroleum engineer.

19 Q. And how long have you been a petroleum  
20 engineer?

21 A. I'm sorry?

22 Q. How long have you been a petroleum engineer  
23 with Alamo?

24 A. Four years.

25 Q. And do your responsibilities include the

1 Permian Basin?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And, Mr. Seale, you have previously testified  
4 before the Division as an expert petroleum engineer,  
5 correct?

6 A. Yes, I have.

7 Q. Were your credentials accepted and made a  
8 matter of record?

9 A. Yes, they were.

10 Q. Are familiar with the application filed in this  
11 case?

12 A. I am.

13 Q. And did you assist in completing the Form C-108  
14 and conducting the area-of-review analysis that is part  
15 of that application?

16 A. Yes, I did.

17 MR. FELDEWERT: Mr. Examiner, I would  
18 tender Mr. Seale, once again, as an expert witness in  
19 petroleum engineering.

20 EXAMINER GOETZE: He is so qualified.

21 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) Mr. Seale, if I look at  
22 Alamo Exhibit Number 1 --

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. -- and I go to page 2 --

25 A. Yes.



1 Q. -- that contains a legal description of the six  
2 initial injection wells for this project; does it not?

3 A. Yes, it does.

4 Q. And if I go to page 3 of this exhibit, which is  
5 page 2 of 9 in the C-108 application, does it discuss at  
6 the bottom your design plans for these six injection  
7 wells?

8 A. What page, again? I'm sorry.

9 Q. Page 3 of the exhibit?

10 A. Okay. It got stuck together.

11 Yes, it does.

12 Q. And do you have the same design plan for all  
13 six injection wells?

14 A. I do.

15 Q. And then corresponding to that, I believe  
16 beginning on page 11 -- or it starts at page 11. Is  
17 that a design diagram for your six injection wells that  
18 corresponds with your description on page 3?

19 A. Yes, it is.

20 Q. Why don't you just briefly outline for the  
21 Examiner the design requirements that you're going to  
22 utilize, focusing on the casing and cement?

23 A. Okay. Our plan is to drill a  
24 12-and-a-quarter-inch surface hole to a depth of  
25 approximately 400 feet. At such depth, we will set a

1 nine-and-five-eighths-inch casing string and cement it  
2 to the surface. We will then drill out that casing  
3 string and drill to a total depth, anticipated here, at  
4 2,000 feet below surface, and that will just be a  
5 seven-and-seven-eighths hole, which will be cased with  
6 five-and-a-half-inch casing to a total depth of 2,000  
7 feet. And once again, we will circulate cement to the  
8 surface.

9                   After such time after the cement has  
10 cured, we will run a CBL log, a cement bond log, along  
11 the entire length of that production casing string -- or  
12 injection casing string.

13                   Once we have logged the well and determined  
14 the injection interval, it will be perforated in the  
15 Penrose, four shots per foot. We will do an initial an  
16 acid breakdown job consisting of 15 percent non-NEFE  
17 hydrochloric acid, followed by a small gel-water frack  
18 job in those perforations of the size of approximately  
19 30- to 40,000 pounds of sand at a moderate rate.

20           Q.   Does your description on page 3 of this exhibit  
21 identify the type of tubing that will be utilized for  
22 the injection operation?

23           A.   Yes, it does. And we will run an internal and  
24 plasticcoated string of two-and-seven-eighths-inch tubing  
25 set within 100 feet of our top injection perforation on

1 a Model AD1 tension packer or equivalent, with the  
2 annulus filled with a noncorrosive -- or a  
3 corrosion-inhibited packer fluid.

4 Q. Will there be a gauge or some other  
5 leak-detection device attached to the annulus in order  
6 to detect if there is a leak in the tubing of the  
7 packer?

8 A. Yes, there will be.

9 Q. In your opinion, will the proposed design have  
10 sufficient casing and cement to prevent migration of the  
11 injected fluids out of the proposed injected interval?

12 A. Yes, it will.

13 Q. As designed, will the project propose an  
14 unreasonable threat to any groundwater or the  
15 environment in the area?

16 A. No, it will not.

17 Q. Does the company plan to conduct a mechanical  
18 integrity test prior to commencing injection?

19 A. Yes, it will.

20 Q. And will the company then comply with the  
21 Division's obligations to conduct a mechanical integrity  
22 test at least every five years?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. The Examiner asked this question. Does the  
25 company request authority to apply for additional

1 injection wells in the unit area as you move forward  
2 through the Division's administrative process?

3 A. Yes, we do.

4 Q. And will any additional wells follow the same  
5 design, unless modified by the Division?

6 A. If there are new drill wells, they will.

7 Q. If I then turn to page 6 of this application,  
8 this deals with some general data on your operations.

9 A. Page 6?

10 Q. Uh-huh.

11 A. All right.

12 Q. It notes that this identifies your requested  
13 injection rates and then your -- and average volumes,  
14 correct?

15 A. It does.

16 Q. It notes that this is going to be a closed  
17 system?

18 A. It'll be a closed system.

19 Q. And then it identifies the requested maximum  
20 surface injection pressure at 1,100 psi?

21 A. It does. Yes, it does.

22 Q. There was some discussion about the geologic  
23 basis for this request. What other additional reasons  
24 do you request this ~~municipal~~ surface pressure of 1,100  
25 psi?

maximum 

1           A. . Well, once again, it is the approved maximum  
2     surface pressure allowed by the Division for the West  
3     High Lonesome Unit, the West High Lonesome Penrose Sand  
4     Unit that sits directly west of our proposed High  
5     Lonesome Queen Unit.

6           Q.     And was that injection pressure approved by the  
7     Division back in 2003?

8           A.     Yes, it was.

9           Q.     And did you have an opportunity to pull and  
10    review the order that approved that injection pressure?

11          A.     Yes, I did.

12          Q.     If I turn to what's been marked as Alamo  
13    Exhibit Number 12, that is Order Number R-11674-A,  
14    correct?

15          A.     Yes, it is.

16          Q.     Is that the order that was issued by the  
17    Division in 2003 approving 1,100 psi for that adjacent  
18    waterflood?

19          A.     Yes, it is.

20          Q.     And you went through this order?

21          A.     Yes, I have.

22          Q.     What does it reflect?

23          A.     This order reflects the findings of fact and  
24    the conclusions of the Hearing Examiner for a hearing  
25    that was called by Beach Exploration, Inc., the operator

1 of the West High Lonesome Penrose Sant Unit. It was  
2 called on August 7th, 2003, and an order was issued on  
3 the 24th of November of the same year.

4 What it sought was to increase the original  
5 injection pressure assigned under R-11674 for the West  
6 High Lonesome Penrose Sand Unit of 341 psi up to 1,100  
7 psi. And Beach Exploration, during the hearing,  
8 presented engineering testimony which showed that due to  
9 a tighter reservoir, conditions are less permeable in  
10 the Penrose sand -- in the Penrose sandstone  
11 anticipated, but they were only able to inject an  
12 average of 35 barrels a day at the currently allowed  
13 depth of 341 psi surface injection pressure. And they  
14 believed at that time that an injection rate of at least  
15 200 barrels per day was necessary to fill a four [sic]  
16 volume and reach peak waterflood response and achieve  
17 economics for the project.

18 In this hearing, Beach Exploration also  
19 relied on an offset unit of their own, the Red Lake  
20 Unit, which was an offset to the West High Lonesome  
21 Penrose Unit, same formation, same zones. And they  
22 showed -- they had run some tests in 1991 and 1992 in  
23 that unit, and they were able to increase the maximum  
24 injection pressure in the Penrose there to 1,500 psi.  
25 Beach, additionally, ran six step-rate tests in the West

1 High Lonesome Penrose Sand Unit in April and July of  
2 2003, with fracture pressures, they found, ranging from  
3 830 to 1,220 psi, an average bottom-hole pressure  
4 gradient of about 1.01 psi per foot.

5 And with this pressure data that they had  
6 from the step-rate test, they then showed, in 1992, that  
7 they had run -- with Halliburton's help, created a frack  
8 height log for the Penrose Sand Unit in the Red Lake  
9 Unit, which showed that at 200 psi over frack pressure,  
10 the wells would fracture vertically and would tend to  
11 fracture up only 35 feet and down approximately 135  
12 feet.

13 And additionally in 1992, in those wells,  
14 they presented evidence and testimony that four wells  
15 that -- they ran injection profiles logs on four wells  
16 in the Penrose, injecting 1,500 psi, and with the log  
17 depth of investigation, they could see migration of the  
18 injected fluids no more than six feet beyond the  
19 perforated area.

20 Q. So, Mr. Seale, in support of this order, they  
21 had actually run six step-rate tests in the West High  
22 Lonesome Queen Unit?

23 A. Yes, they did.

24 Q. And you were here for the geologic testimony  
25 indicating that it's the same geologic setting as you

1 have in your proposed unit?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And that it indicated that that pressure that  
4 was approved by the Division was necessary for them to  
5 conduct their unit operations?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. And does the company then seek the same  
8 injection pressure at the same rates that was approved  
9 by the Division in this order for the West High Lonesome  
10 Queen Unit?

11 A. Yes, we do.

12 Q. And do you ask that for that that not only does  
13 the Division take notice of this order but also the data  
14 from the step-rate tests that were done in the West High  
15 Lonesome Queen Unit?

16 A. Yes. I believe it's comparable in all  
17 instances.

18 Q. Have you had an opportunity to look at the well  
19 records to ascertain whether the operator of the West  
20 High Lonesome Queen Unit has actually been injecting at  
21 those approved pressures since 2003?

22 A. Yes. Yes, I have. In the OCD well history  
23 database on the Internet, you can see this on a monthly  
24 basis.

25 Q. As a result, have they been successful in that



1 waterflood operation?

2 A. Yes, they have.

3 Q. The wells that you utilize for injection in  
4 your unitized area, are they going to be equipped with a  
5 pressure-control device that will limit the maximum  
6 surface injection pressure to that sought under your  
7 application?

8 A. Yes, it will.

9 Q. What are your sources of water?

10 A. Our sources of water?

11 Q. Yes.

12 A. We have identified a source of water from  
13 Cimarex. It's from their -- I'll have to get -- the  
14 Spike -- hold on a second. Let me look through here.

15 The Spiketail battery of Cimarex's  
16 production is about six miles south of our proposed  
17 water injection station, and it's from primarily a  
18 production -- water produced from the Yeso Formation.

19 Q. So it is produced water?

20 A. It's all produced water.

21 Q. And are you intending to, as the unit moves  
22 forward, to not only use that alternate produced water  
23 but use captured produced water?

24 A. Yes, we will.

25 Q. So no fresh water is going to be used?

1           A.    We will use no fresh water.

2           Q.    Did the company run a compatibility of that  
3    alternate produced water with its proposed operations in  
4    issue?

5           A.    Yes, we did. We included it in the C-108  
6    package initially, the individual water analyses of our  
7    Skelly State battery production, which is the largest  
8    lease in our unit, and the water sample from the  
9    Spiketail battery operated by Cimarex.

10          Q.    And in addition to what you provided with your  
11    C-108, have you been able to do some additional analysis  
12    of the actual water that you intend to use?

13          A.    Yes, we have. We asked our chemical company --  
14    chemical treating company to help us, and they arranged  
15    to do water analysis by Mitchell Analytical Laboratory  
16    in Odessa, Texas, in which we looked at comparisons of  
17    combinations -- three combinations of water, 25 percent  
18    our water, produced water, 75 percent makeup water,  
19    50/50, and then 75 percent our water, 25 percent.

20          Q.    And are the results of those additional tests  
21    reflected in what has been marked as Alamo Exhibit  
22    Number 13?

23          A.    Yes, they are.

24          Q.    And that has a page for each of your mixes that  
25    you just went through?

1           A.    Yes, it does.  It's a comparability study of  
2   the various water mixes over the range in conjunction  
3   with the two we had filed previously that show 01 to 100  
4   percent, and likewise --

5           Q.    And this is arranged by -- the first page is 25  
6   percent, 75 percent, and the second page is 50 percent,  
7   50 percent, and the third page is 75 percent, 25  
8   percent?

9           A.    That's correct.

10          Q.    And are there any compatibility issues that  
11   should be of concern?

12          A.    No.  Our chemical contractor said that they saw  
13   no compatibility issues, except both of which are fairly  
14   high -- very salty water, very high in chloride.  And  
15   we'll have to treat that, and it won't be a problem.  We  
16   will have to eliminate the possibility of salt  
17   precipitation.  And both waters also exhibit a high  
18   calcium-sulfite scaling index.  We face this in all our  
19   produced water from this area, and we treat for it  
20   routinely.  So we have no trouble with compatibility of  
21   these two waters.

22          Q.    Now, I want to turn to the request for  
23   qualification of the tax rate under the New Mexico  
24   Enhanced Oil Recovery Act.  I think we can move through  
25   this fairly quickly by moving to the exhibit that's been

1 marked as Exhibit Number 14, which is actually,  
2 Mr. Seale, a copy of the application filed by the  
3 company?

4 A. Yes, it is.

5 Q. Have you had a chance to look at that?

6 A. I have.

7 Q. Do pages 2 through 4 of that application  
8 accurately identify the information on your proposed  
9 waterflood project?

10 A. Yes, they do.

11 Q. And if I look at page 3 --

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. -- does that accurately estimate the capital in  
14 total costs for this project?

15 A. It does, yes.

16 Q. And does it accurately reflect the additional  
17 oil production and the value of that oil production that  
18 the company expects from this project?

19 A. Yes, it does.

20 Q. Now, page 3 also indicates that the company  
21 hopes to -- or anticipates commencing injection  
22 operations in the third quarter of 2014. Is that still  
23 the case?

24 A. With expedited approval, we plan to be  
25 operational by the third quarter. If not, we'll slip

1 into the fourth quarter of 2014.

2 Q. How much time do you need? When do you expect  
3 injection to commence after you get an approved order?

4 A. Our current plans would suggest about three to  
5 four months after we begin operations.

6 Q. Then if I turn to what's been marked as Alamo  
7 Exhibit Number 15, is that a historical production  
8 graph?

9 A. It is.

10 Q. And is that the same graph that was submitted  
11 as attachment D, as in dog, to your application?

12 A. Yes, it was.

13 Q. And did you assist in preparing this graph?

14 A. I did.

15 Q. Why don't you tell us what it shows using the  
16 colors?

17 A. This graph -- the green on this graph -- first  
18 of all, it is a semi-log rhythmic production and  
19 forecast plot. Semi-log rhythmic along the production  
20 axis, vertical axis, and along the bottom are years.  
21 The green curves are oil production in barrels per  
22 month. The blue is water production in barrels per  
23 month. And as was previously pointed out, the little  
24 bit of purple over between 1957 and 1959 or so is water  
25 injection from the High Lonesome pilot project that was

1 conducted at that time.

2 This graph also contains a project of how  
3 we see the performance of our unit if approved. And if  
4 I can call your attention down to the bottom scale,  
5 you'll see there is the number ten down there, and then  
6 you'll see two division -- two tick marks. Well, the  
7 second tick mark after that is the beginning of 2014,  
8 and that's where our forecast begins. So everything  
9 left of that would be historical, and everything to the  
10 right of that is projection.

11 Q. And what do you project is the life of this  
12 project?

13 A. We project 38 years of life.

14 Q. And in your opinion, is the waterflood  
15 operation within this unit feasible and likely to result  
16 in the recovery of oil that would otherwise be wasted?

17 A. It is. I believe it is, yes.

18 Q. And will the estimated value of that additional  
19 oil to be recovered exceed the estimated cost of the  
20 waterflood operation?

21 A. Yes, it will.

22 Q. Now turn to the area of review. Okay?

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. And I think for that we'll go back to Exhibit  
25 Number 1. And first off, Mr. Seale, did you conduct an

1 area-of-review analysis?

2 A. Yes, I did.

3 Q. And what was the source of your data for your  
4 review of the wells within the area of review?

5 A. The principal source was, of course, the NMOCD  
6 database and online records. We also used our own Alamo  
7 Permian well records and well files where we had them  
8 for our wells. We then also employed information from  
9 the scout tickets from the Midland library, log library  
10 and subsurface library. And finally, we actually also  
11 found information on scout tickets and data from the his  
12 Petra database where it was available.

13 Q. First off, are there any freshwater wells  
14 within the area of review?

15 A. No. We found none.

16 Q. How many oil and gas wells exist within the  
17 area of review that actually penetrate the injection  
18 zone?

19 A. 42 wells.

20 Q. And how are the 42 wells broken down? How many  
21 are active? How many are inactive?

22 A. We found 16 active producing wells and 26  
23 plugged and abandoned wells.

24 Q. I want to start with your 16 active producing  
25 wells.

1 A. Okay.

2 Q. If I turn to page 4 of Exhibit Number 1 --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. I'm sorry. Page 13 of Exhibit Number 1. Is  
5 this four-page tabulation of those 16 active producing  
6 wells in the area of review?

7 A. Yes, it is.

8 Q. And how is it arranged?

9 A. Okay. Along the top -- it's in columns, 16  
10 columns, one for each well in what we found in the area  
11 of review. At the top of each column is a number which  
12 shows the number of the wells, and they are arranged in  
13 order by section and unit letter. So when you go  
14 through them, you start with like Section 8 to 9 to 10  
15 and on through.

16 The well name and number is shown at the  
17 top of the first line. The current or the last operator  
18 of the well is shown in the next line, and then the API  
19 number of the well is in the header.

20 The first section between the dark lines  
21 contains basic well information, which is location,  
22 type, status, the original well name and number and the  
23 original operator. And then the spud date, the date  
24 drilling ceased, the rig type used in the ground-level  
25 of their ovation [sic].



1           The next three sections below that are  
2   pertaining to casing and cement jobs, type of cement  
3   and, for the surface, the intermediate casing and the  
4   production casing. And each one contains the hole size  
5   that was drilled that we found, the size and depth of  
6   casing that was run and the grade if it was available,  
7   the number of sacks of cement pumped, the top of cement  
8   as we determined it and then how it was determined. And  
9   here the cement tops were determined either by if they  
10   were circulated to surface, in the records, from the  
11   cement bond logs that were run in the wells, if they  
12   were available, temperature logs, and then finally,  
13   calculated by me using a 75 percent safety factor to  
14   determine the top of cement.

15       Q.   Let me ask you about that. So if I look at,  
16   for example, page 13 of Exhibit Number 1, about halfway  
17   down, on the surface casing, and I see, for example, the  
18   second well, the Davis Federal, calculation of 75  
19   percent SF, what does that mean?

20       A.   "75 percent safety factor." That means I use  
21   the volume -- the annular volume factors between casing  
22   strings or hole -- casing and hole. And then, for  
23   example, if that calculation from the volume of cement  
24   pumped would be say it would rise 100 feet in the  
25   annular space, well, my factors would reduce that to 75

1 feet. It's a factor -- it's a calculation we've done  
2 before and presumed before the Commission.

3 Q. So you were conservative in your estimates?

4 A. Try to be. Try to be.

5 Q. And in your opinion, is that an appropriate  
6 approach in circumstances where you don't have all the  
7 information to determine the top of cement?

8 A. Yes, it is. It's appropriate.

9 Q. And you said you utilized that before with the  
10 Division?

11 A. Yes, I have.

12 Q. In conducting your analysis of the 16 active  
13 and producing wells, did you find any issues associated  
14 with any of these wells?

15 A. No, I did not.

16 Q. In your opinion, are these 16 active wells  
17 within the area of review sufficiently cased or cemented  
18 to prevent migration of the injected fluids out of the  
19 proposed interval?

20 A. Yes, I believe they are.

21 Q. If I then turn to the remaining wells within  
22 the area of review -- I think you said there were 26.

23 A. 26.

24 Q. P&A'd wells?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And if I go to page -- I believe it's page --

2 A. It's page 17.

3 Q. Of Exhibit Number 1?

4 A. Uh-huh.

5 Q. Is that, then, a similar analysis and

6 formatting for your review of those wells?

7 A. Yes. It contains seven pages, and it's the  
8 same basic format. I failed to cover the rest of the  
9 sections on this exhibit, on the last one. It also  
10 shows the completion intervals and the zones perforated  
11 and then the date of any initial -- whatever initial  
12 potential tests were available and then the total depth  
13 and plug-back depth.

14 And unlike the exhibit before this on  
15 produced wells, you will note a P&A'd date toward the  
16 bottom with comments shown.

17 Interestingly enough, 8 of the 26 wells  
18 that are included in these 26 wells were water injection  
19 wells that were drilled specifically for that original  
20 High Lonesome Penrose pilot.

21 Q. Pilot project?

22 A. Yes, they were.

23 Q. Did you also, then, include a diagram for each  
24 of these wells?

25 A. Yes, I did.

1 Q. And that begins on page 24 of Exhibit Number 1?

2 A. Yes, it does.

3 Q. And does it follow in order?

4 A. They are. They're in order. The same order as  
5 the wells are ordered in the exhibits.

6 Q. Okay. Now, what did you find? Were you able  
7 to determine sufficient plugging records for all of  
8 these wells?

9 A. I was able to find plugging records on 25 of  
10 the 26 wells.

11 Q. And those plugging records, what did they  
12 indicate with respect to the operations?

13 A. They indicate they had been plugged properly.

14 Q. In your opinion, do they pose any issues?

15 A. No, they do not.

16 Q. What is the one well that you had difficulty  
17 finding a plugging rate?

18 A. The one well, which is shown on the first page  
19 of the table, is well number four, which is the Davis  
20 Federal #1 well.

21 Q. So that would be the fourth diagram in?

22 A. Yes. It would be the fourth diagram in. I  
23 believe it's page 27, I believe, if I'm not mistaken.  
24 Yes, 27.

25 Q. Page 27 of Exhibit Number 1?

1           A.    Yeah.

2           Q.    Now, what did you find with respect to this  
3 particular well?

4           A.    This particular well, we found all of the  
5 records on the OCD database for the drilling, the  
6 casing, the cementing of the two casing strings, its  
7 completion data, why it was -- we also learned from the  
8 data it was originally intended to be Penrose well. And  
9 they were going to do a conventional core in the Penrose  
10 from below the production casing, which is set at 1,902  
11 feet. When they got in there with a core barrel, they  
12 dropped it and it jammed, and they could never recover  
13 it. And so they, at that time, back in 1955, they just  
14 abandoned the bottom part of the hole and completed it  
15 as a Seven Rivers completion at approximately 1,219 to  
16 1,388 feet.

17                   All the well files were there. I mean, all  
18 the sundries within the well file, except when it came  
19 to the sundry that pertained to the plugging and  
20 abandonment operations, and that record was completely  
21 illegible. I was able to determine that it was plugged  
22 by Moab Drilling in 1958, but then nothing else was  
23 available from there. We even looked and checked in  
24 other sources and could not find a copy of that sundry.

25           Q.    Did you see any letters or notices or any other

1 indications in the file that the plugging was done  
2 improperly or had any issues associated with it?

3 A. There were no letters or notices ahead [sic] of.  
4 the plugging operations to call any special problems or  
5 situations into light. And subsequently, after this  
6 illegible page, there were no subsequent notices of any  
7 problems.

8 Q. Now, you were able to determine that the  
9 plugging had been done by a company called Moab?

10 A. Moab Drilling Company.

11 Q. Were you able to ascertain whether that company  
12 had done any similar plugging operations in wells in  
13 this area at about that time?

14 A. Yes. Three years prior, they had drilled and  
15 plugged two wells on our Skelly State lease, the Skelly  
16 State #2 and the Skelly State #4, and P&A'd those.  
17 Those records are a part of this 26.

18 Q. And were those wells properly plugged?

19 A. I believe they were, yes.

20 Q. And so is there any indication, given this  
21 history, that there is any issue associated with  
22 plugging of this Davis Federal #1?

23 A. No. I saw nothing in the records that ever  
24 showed that Moab was not a good operator, and I have no  
25 reason to believe that this well was not plugged

1 properly either.

2 Q. If I look at the diagram on page 27, that's  
3 based on the Division records that you had, correct?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. Does the cement, as calculated accurately,  
6 cover the producing formations?

7 A. Yes. We determined a top of cement of 474 feet  
8 from the 250 sacks that were plugged, on  
9 75-and-a-half-inch [sic] spacing. That would cover the  
10 producing formations.

11 Q. And does the cement in this well cover whatever  
12 freshwater zone may exist out here, as estimated by  
13 Tetra Tech, at that depth?

14 A. Yes. We calculated, once again, with a 75  
15 percent safety factor, that the 150 sacks pumped, in  
16 setting the eight-and-five-eighths-inch casing at 375  
17 feet would reach a top of 15 feet and would cover the  
18 fresh water.

19 Q. So in your opinion, Mr. Seale, are the 26 P&A'd  
20 wells within the area of review sufficiently cased or  
21 cemented to prevent migration of the injected fluids out  
22 of the proposed injected interval?

23 A. Yes, that would be my opinion.

24 Q. And in your opinion, do any of these wells pose  
25 an unreasonable threat to groundwater or the environment

1 if Alamo proceeds with its proposed waterflood  
2 operation?

3 A. No, they do not.

4 Q. In your opinion, will the granting of this  
5 application prevent waste and protect correlative  
6 rights?

7 A. Yes, it will.

8 Q. Were Alamo Exhibits 12 through 15 prepared by  
9 you or compiled under your direction or supervision?

10 A. Yes, they were.

11 MR. FELDEWERT: Mr. Examiner, I would move  
12 the admission into evidence Alamo Exhibits 12 through  
13 15.

14 EXAMINER GOETZE: Exhibits 12 through 15  
15 are so admitted.

16 (Alamo Permian Resources, LLC Exhibit  
17 Numbers 12 through 15 were offered and  
18 admitted into evidence.)

19 MR. FELDEWERT: And that concludes my  
20 examination of this witness.

21 CROSS-EXAMINATION

22 BY EXAMINER GOETZE:

23 Q. Roughly for the area-of-review wells, how many  
24 of them did you have to calculate cement pour, just  
25 ballpark?



1 A. On the production string?

2 Q. Yeah, please.

3 A. I count 17.

4 Q. And that's reflective of their age --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- the older wells?

7 A. Yes. You know, the records on those older  
8 wells that were drilled in the '40s and '50s and  
9 probably the mid-'60s, they generally do show the volume  
10 of pump. For the newer wells, I have CBLs. Some of  
11 these are deeper wells, and I have CBLs, and I got the  
12 actual -- or they circulated those wells to surface,  
13 which is a much more prudent operation.

14 Q. Sometimes prudent is not economical, so there  
15 is always that problem.

16 How would you describe this waterflood for  
17 Mr. Ezeanyim? Is this sort of a spot? Driveway?

18 A. It's designed initially -- I mean, we have  
19 designed it as a peripheral waterflood. And there,  
20 again, we took -- a lot of input in our design -- as we  
21 were looking at our acreage, we were looking at what had  
22 occurred in the West High Lonesome Penrose Sand Unit  
23 just to our immediate west for several reasons. One,  
24 you know, it was a direct offset -- but the others had  
25 records that were much older. This one we could look at

1 all the records and look at all the injection histories  
2 and had all the information and had access to all the  
3 hearing documents and such and look at how -- and it  
4 made perfect sense, and we saw that it was very  
5 successful. So we raised our initial six wells.

6 And like Mr. Fekete -- in answer to your  
7 question, down the line, as we continue injection in  
8 this project, as the wells next to our injectors water  
9 out, we will continue to convert -- if they're  
10 mechanically sound at that time and we get  
11 administrative approval to do so, we will convert them  
12 to water injection wells. We will then force the oil  
13 into the center max line.

14 Q. That's good. That's what we like to hear.

15 EXAMINER GOETZE: I have no further  
16 questions. This has been a very thorough presentation,  
17 and it paid you well to come in and discuss this with us  
18 ahead of time. And you have a very good attorney who  
19 walks you through these things.

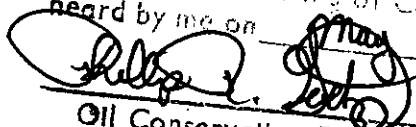
20 So I'm done with this witness.

21 MR. FELDEWERT: We have nothing more to  
22 present. Thank you for your time.

23 EXAMINER GOETZE: And at this point, we  
24 will go ahead and take Case Number 15116 under  
25 advisement, and that is the end of today's hearing.

(Case Number 15116 concludes, 11:20 a.m.)

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I do hereby certify that the foregoing is  
a complete report of the proceedings in  
the Examiner hearing of Case No. 15116,  
heard by me on May 1 2014.  
 , Examiner  
Oil Conservation Division

1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
2 COUNTY OF BERNALILLO

3

4 CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

5 I, MARY C. HANKINS, New Mexico Certified  
6 Court Reporter No. 20, and Registered Professional  
7 Reporter, do hereby certify that I reported the  
8 foregoing proceedings in stenographic shorthand and that  
9 the foregoing pages are a true and correct transcript of  
10 those proceedings that were reduced to printed form by  
11 me to the best of my ability.

12 I FURTHER CERTIFY that the Reporter's  
13 Record of the proceedings truly and accurately reflects  
14 the exhibits, if any, offered by the respective parties.

15 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither  
16 employed by nor related to any of the parties or  
17 attorneys in this case and that I have no interest in  
18 the final disposition of this case.

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*Mary C. Hankins*  
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