

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

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

ORIGINAL

APPLICATION OF BOPCO, L.P.
FOR REVOCATION OF THE INJECTION
AUTHORITY GRANTED UNDER
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SWD-542,
EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 15231

Consolidated with:

APPLICATION OF BOPCO, L.P.
FOR REVOCATION OF THE INJECTION
AUTHORITY GRANTED UNDER
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SWD-1073,
EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 15219

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

EXAMINER HEARING

December 9, 2014

Santa Fe, New Mexico

BEFORE: PHILLIP GOETZE, CHIEF EXAMINER
WILLIAM V. JONES, TECHNICAL EXAMINER
GABRIEL WADE, LEGAL EXAMINER

This matter came on for hearing before the
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, Phillip Goetze,
Chief Examiner, William V. Jones, Technical Examiner,
and Gabriel Wade, Legal Examiner, on Thursday,
December 9, 2014, at the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and
Natural Resources Department, Wendell Chino Building,
1220 South St. Francis Drive, Porter Hall, Room 102,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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1 (8:26 a.m.)

2 EXAMINER GOETZE: The two remaining cases
3 will be consolidated. There will be Case 15231,
4 application of BOPCO, L.P. for revocation of the
5 injection authority granted under Administrative Order
6 SWD-542, Eddy County, New Mexico, and Case 15219,
7 application of BOPCO, L.P. for revocation of the
8 injection authority granted under Administrative Order
9 SWD-1073, Eddy County, New Mexico.

10 Call for appearances.

11 MR. LARSON: Gary Larson for BOPCO,
12 Mr. Examiner. And the gentlemen next to me is Mr. Steve
13 Noyce, who is the vice president of engineering for
14 BOPCO.

15 EXAMINER GOETZE: Any other appearances?

16 MR. FELDEWERT: Mr. Examiner, Michael
17 Feldewert and Jordan Kessler of Holland & Hart appearing
18 on behalf of OXY USA and Chevron USA.

19 EXAMINER GOETZE: You both have several
20 witnesses?

21 MR. FELDEWERT: We have two witnesses.

22 MR. LARSON: We have three witnesses.

23 EXAMINER GOETZE: Would the witnesses
24 please stand, tell your name to the court reporter and
25 be sworn in, please?

1 MR. MORRISON: Hugh Andrew Morrison.

2 MR. PREGGER: Brian Herman Pregger.

3 MR. MCGREGOR: Cary McGregor.

4 MR. SPARKS: William Jarrod Sparks.

5 MR. CLIFFORD: Thomas Clifford.

6 (Mr. Morrison, Mr. Pregger, Mr. McGregor,
7 Mr. Sparks and Mr. Clifford sworn.)

8 EXAMINER GOETZE: Either attorneys have an
9 opening statement?

10 MR. LARSON: I do not.

11 EXAMINER GOETZE: Do you have an opening
12 statement?

13 MR. FELDEWERT: I do.

14 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good. Proceed.

15 OPENING STATEMENT

16 MR. FELDEWERT: Gentlemen, OXY has produced
17 water into the Bell Canyon since 1993, and that's the
18 upper interval of the Delaware Formation.

19 Chevron has been injecting into the Bell
20 Canyon and the Upper Cherry Canyon since 2007. That,
21 again, is a higher interval than the producing interval,
22 which is the Brushy Canyon, and they have been injecting
23 since 2007 and 1993 without incident. In fact, they've
24 been injecting through the perforations that are
25 isolated by cement bond logs, cast-iron plugs and

1 retrievable bridge plugs and injection pressures that
2 have been examined three times by the Division in which
3 they increase the injection pressures, finding no
4 problems with the injection operations.

5 BOPCO's here today because they filed an
6 application to revoke this long-standing injection
7 authority only because Mesquite, who you heard about in
8 the first case, chose to go out and inject in a zone
9 1,000 -- at least 1,100 feet lower than the lowest
10 perforation on a Chevron well.

11 There is no debate. You look at their
12 pleading that Mesquite was injecting into the Brushy
13 Canyon, the producing formation through an open hole,
14 not perms. Mesquite was injecting into the same
15 formation as BOPCO's Poker Lake Unit wells, and BOPCO
16 experienced the pressure increase at one of its Poker
17 Lake Unit wells apparently at a time when Mesquite
18 decided to increase -- did dramatically increase their
19 injection operations in April and May.

20 BOPCO then filed -- they not only filed
21 their application against Mesquite, but about three or
22 four months later, they filed their application against
23 OXY and Chevron.

24 So they meet in October. BOPCO notes the
25 Mesquite incident, but there is nothing analogous

1 between the Mesquite issue and OXY and Chevron. OXY and
2 Chevron are not disposing into the Brushy Canyon but the
3 shallower of the Bell and Cherry Canyon Formations.
4 Their injection is with isolated perfs, not by open
5 hole, and it's a completely different injection
6 environment. And we're going to have our witnesses walk
7 you through that today, totally different from what's
8 involved with Mesquite.

9 And that separate Lower Brushy Canyon
10 Formation, with the Poker Lake Unit wells, located where
11 they have their production, it's separated from where
12 OXY and Chevron are injecting not only by the distances
13 but also by limestone barriers.

14 So BOPCO, at the October meeting -- and I
15 don't know if they've got any here today; I guess we'll
16 find out -- did not present any direct evidence that
17 this long-standing injection authority into the
18 shallower zones is causing any issues with their Poker
19 Lake Unit. Instead, they're asking you to suddenly shut
20 in this long-standing injection authority simply because
21 Mesquite started injecting large volumes by open hole
22 into the same formation where they were producing.
23 That's a totally different case.

24 We're not injecting via open hole into that
25 formation, in the Brushy Formation. They have never

1 injected -- Chevron and OXY have never injected into
2 that formation, and they're not connected to Mesquite's
3 disposal environment. Our witnesses are going to show
4 you that here today. Okay?

5 So when BOPCO goes up there with their
6 witnesses, ask them -- you guys ask them: Where's the
7 evidence of any hydraulic connection between the
8 Mesquite wells and the OXY and Chevron shallower
9 injections? There is no connection here.

10 Ask them: Where's the evidence that
11 Mesquite is somehow in the same disposal environment as
12 OXY and Chevron? There's no evidence of that.

13 Ask them for the evidence indicating that
14 OXY or Chevron's saltwater disposal wells are sending
15 water into the Lower Cherry Canyon -- the Lower Brushy
16 Canyon. There's no evidence of that.

17 Ask them for evidence indicating that OXY
18 and Chevron are injecting into some fractured network.
19 They haven't presented any evidence of that, and our
20 witnesses are going to show you that we're not injecting
21 into any fractured network.

22 And ask them for any evidence indicating
23 any impact on the Poker Lake Unit by OXY and Chevron's
24 injection operations in these lower shallower zones as
25 opposed to what Mesquite was doing, which is completely

1 different. Because without establishing here today that
2 there is any actual or current impairment of the Poker
3 Lake Unit production from Chevron and OXY's
4 operations -- not Mesquite's, but from Chevron and OXY's
5 operations, if they don't have any evidence of any
6 actual impairment, then there is no basis for you to
7 consider their application here today.

8 But we're going to put two witnesses on the
9 stand; we've paired it down to two. And we're going to
10 show you we're in a different injection environment than
11 Mesquite was in. We're at a shallower zone. There's no
12 hydraulic connection between our wells and the Mesquite
13 wells, and, therefore, there is no and there could not
14 be any connection with the Poker Lake Unit.

15 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good. That's it?

16 MR. FELDEWERT: That's it.

17 EXAMINER GOETZE: Okay. Mr. Larson,
18 proceed with the case. Call your first witness.

19 MR. LARSON: Call Mr. Morrison.

20 HUGH ANDREW "ANDY" MORRISON,
21 after having been previously sworn under oath, was
22 questioned and testified as follows:

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. LARSON:

25 Q. Good morning, Mr. Morrison.

1 A. Good morning.

2 Q. Where do you reside?

3 A. I reside in Fort Worth, Texas.

4 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

5 A. BOPCO, L.P. as a division landman.

6 Q. And what is your educational background?

7 A. A bachelor's degree from SMU, 2005.

8 Q. And would you please summarize your experience
9 in the oil and gas business?

10 A. I started as an independent field landman
11 working the Fort Worth Basin in 2007, in January. In
12 August of that year, I went to Bass as an in-house
13 landman, and in 2012, I was promoted to division
14 landman.

15 Q. And Bass is connected to BOPCO?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Do you have responsibility for land issues
18 pertaining to BOPCO's operations in southeastern
19 New Mexico?

20 A. I do, land contract negotiations, oversight of
21 regulatory filings, partner relations for joint
22 ventures, clearing the title for drilling, lots of the
23 primary contacts for the Bureau of Land Management, the
24 State Land Office and for the OCD.

25 Q. And do you have personal knowledge of the

1 matters addressed in BOPCO's applications that are the
2 subject of today's hearing?

3 A. I do.

4 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move for
5 Mr. Morrison's qualification as an expert in land
6 matters.

7 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert?

8 MR. FELDEWERT: No objection.

9 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good. He is so
10 qualified.

11 Q. (BY MR. LARSON) I'd direct your attention to
12 the large map that is marked as BOPCO Exhibit Number 1,
13 and could you identify this document?

14 A. Yes. This is a map of all three of our federal
15 drilling units in Eddy County from north to south. It's
16 the Big Eddy Unit, James Ranch Unit and the Poker Lake
17 Unit. And the Bass acreage is shown in yellow, and the
18 producing wells are shown on this map in green.

19 Q. And did you prepare this document?

20 A. I did.

21 Q. And would you describe generally the nature of
22 BOPCO's horizontal drilling program in the areas
23 exhibited on Exhibit 1?

24 A. Our horizontal program really started in
25 earnest in 2009. Since that time, we've drilled 191

1 horizontal wells in these three units in the Bone Spring
2 and the Delaware-Lower Brushy Canyon Formations. Of
3 those 191, 138 were in the Poker Lake Unit, with 66
4 being Delaware-Lower Brushy Canyon and 72 being Bone
5 Spring. James Ranch, we drilled 25 Bone Spring, 2
6 Delaware, and Big Eddy, 20 Bone Spring and 2 Delaware.

7 Poker Lake, which is going to be the unit
8 we're talking about today, the Delaware wells are shown
9 on a 45-degree angle, and wells that you see with a
10 north-south or east-west orientation are going to be
11 primarily Bone Spring.

12 Q. And in terms of the horizontal wells that are
13 shown with an angle, the target zone for those wells is
14 the Lower Brushy Canyon?

15 A. Yes. All of the angled wells are
16 Delaware-Lower Brushy Canyon.

17 Q. And does BOPCO currently have any saltwater
18 disposal wells that inject produced water into the
19 Delaware Mountain Group in the Poker Lake Unit?

20 A. No, we do not.

21 Q. And does BOPCO currently have any plans to
22 develop any additional horizontal wells in the Lower
23 Brushy Canyon in the Poker Lake Unit?

24 A. Yes, we do.

25 Q. Currently what plans are on the table for

1 BOPCO?

2 A. In terms of horizontal drilling in Poker Lake?

3 Q. Yes.

4 A. We've got the Delaware-Lower Brushy Canyon
5 horizontal program and the Bone Spring program both
6 ongoing with one rig committed to each.

7 Q. And how does BOPCO currently dispose of water
8 from the Poker Lake operations?

9 A. Devonian saltwater disposal wells. Over the
10 past three years, we've invested \$100 million -- over
11 \$100 million in a Devonian saltwater disposal system.
12 It consists of five disposal wells in Poker Lake, one
13 each in Big Eddy and James Ranch, and a pipeline to
14 interconnect all the wells like a loop system.

15 Q. And when did BOPCO first identify what it sees
16 as a problem with injected -- produced water injected
17 into the Delaware Mountain Group?

18 A. We had seen evidence of it before, but 2012 was
19 when it was really identified as a serious issue that we
20 needed to address, and that's about the time when we
21 started moving away from Delaware saltwater disposal and
22 building a Devonian system.

23 Q. I'll next direct your attention to the document
24 marked as Exhibit 2, and would you identify this
25 document, please?

1 A. It's a zoomed-in map of the northeast corner of
2 our Poker Lake Unit.

3 Q. Did you also prepare this document?

4 A. I did.

5 Q. Would you identify the wells that are
6 highlighted in the shaded area to the left-hand corner
7 of Exhibit 2?

8 A. That would be our Poker Lake Unit 392H, 393H
9 and 401H, so they're all Delaware-Lower Brushy Canyon
10 producing wells.

11 Q. And are these the BOPCO wells that BOPCO's
12 contending have been adversely impacted by injection by
13 Chevron and OXY?

14 A. Yes, they are.

15 Q. And BOPCO's application also identified the PLU
16 #394H as the well that has experienced the water
17 intrusion. Why haven't you highlighted that one?

18 A. At the time of the application, the most recent
19 well test that we had indicated the 394 was starting to
20 show the same effects that the other three wells had.
21 Those results were not confirmed by subsequent tests, so
22 we're no longer making any claim related to intrusion
23 issues on the 394.

24 Q. I'll next ask you to identify the wells
25 identified by green triangles in the upper, right-hand

1 corner of Exhibit 2.

2 A. Oh, those are the group of saltwater disposal
3 wells, the Chesapeake Littlefield #1, the OXY SDS 11
4 Federal #1, the Mesquite Bran SWD #1, Mesquite Heavy
5 Metal 12 #2 [sic], and the Chevron Lotos 11 #1.

6 Q. And what is the current status of the
7 Chesapeake Littlefield #1?

8 A. That was P&A'd in 2011.

9 Q. And BOPCO asserted claim against Mesquite with
10 regard to Mesquite's Heavy Metal 12 #1 and Bran SWD #1
11 disposal wells?

12 A. Yes, we have.

13 Q. And directing your attention to well PLU 401H,
14 when did this well go on production?

15 A. It came on in December of 2012.

16 Q. And was it a successful well?

17 A. It was. Initial production was between 4- and
18 500 barrels a day, and to date it's at least about
19 70,000 barrels of cum oil.

20 Q. And when did BOPCO discover that the 401H was
21 no longer producing oil?

22 A. We discovered it on April 28th of this year.
23 Those wells are only tested monthly after they're put on
24 production. The last test showing oil was on March
25 24th, and by the next test on April 28th, there was no

1 oil being produced and an increased amount of water.

2 Q. And what did BOPCO do initially to address this
3 issue?

4 A. Initially the well was inspected to make sure
5 that it was sound and that there weren't any mechanical
6 issues that were causing -- production in the well and
7 increase in water.

8 Q. And did BOPCO's management task its engineers
9 and geologists to look at the possible cause of the
10 water intrusion?

11 A. They did. I think a water sample analysis was
12 done in an effort to determine if the extra water being
13 produced was coming from the Delaware-Lower Brushy
14 Canyon or another source, and our geologists also
15 started studying the natural and induced fracture
16 orientations in the area and the Poker Lake Unit and
17 tried to determine if there was an intrusion what
18 direction it might be coming from.

19 Q. And directing your focus back to Exhibit 2,
20 what's the approximate distance between BOPCO's 401H
21 producing well and the SWD wells operated by Chevron and
22 OXY?

23 A. It's approximately three miles.

24 Q. And what was the end result of BOPCO's analysis
25 of the potential cause of the watering out of the 401H?

1 A. The water sample analysis showed that there was
2 water coming from a formation other than the
3 Delaware-Lower Brushy Canyon, so we were able to
4 determine if the water was not coming from the PLU 401H
5 wellbore. And the fracture orientation study showed
6 that water intrusion was most likely coming from the
7 northeast, at specific angles that you'll hear about
8 later.

9 Q. Mr. Pregger will address that?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And at that point, did BOPCO request a
12 third-party evaluation of its analysis?

13 A. We did.

14 Q. And who performed that?

15 A. Platt Sparks out of Austin, Texas.

16 Q. And Platt Sparks is a consulting firm?

17 A. Yes, an engineering consulting firm.

18 Q. What was Platt Spark's reaction to the analysis
19 that BOPCO performed?

20 A. They -- they concluded that our analysis was
21 correct. They agreed with what we had come up with.

22 Q. And Mr. McGregor with Platt Sparks will be
23 testifying today?

24 A. Yes, sir.

25 Q. Did BOPCO send a notice letter to Mesquite

1 regarding what it had determined was produced water
2 intrusion from Mesquite's wells?

3 A. We did. We sent a notice letter to Mesquite on
4 July 23rd of this year.

5 Q. And what did Mesquite do upon receiving that
6 letter?

7 A. Immediately upon receiving the letter, Mesquite
8 shut in both wells. That evening, actually.

9 Q. And BOPCO filed that by filing the application
10 the next day?

11 A. Yeah, the 24th.

12 Q. And have the issues raised by BOPCO in its
13 application against Mesquite been resolved?

14 A. Yes, they have. We -- on September 11th, we
15 executed a stipulation with Mesquite, that you heard
16 about earlier, wherein they agreed not to oppose our
17 application, not to appear at a hearing and that they
18 would agree to an order revoking their injection
19 authority for the Mesquite and the Bran wells.

20 Q. And subsequent to filing the application
21 against Mesquite, did BOPCO have communication with
22 Chevron and OXY regarding what BOPCO viewed as the cause
23 of the produced water intrusion?

24 A. We did. We communicated with Chevron, as
25 they're our partner out here in the Bone Spring

1 Formation, prior to filing the application and sending
2 notice to Mesquite, and then we met with both parties in
3 October. I believe Chevron was October 8th, and OXY was
4 on the 14th.

5 Q. And did BOPCO share all the information that it
6 had regarding that issue with Chevron and OXY?

7 A. We did.

8 Q. Much of that information is shown in the
9 exhibits today; is that correct?

10 A. Yes. Yes, sir.

11 Q. And what has been the effect of Mesquite
12 shutting in its wells on BOPCO's production of oil from
13 the 401H?

14 A. We have not been able to fully recover
15 production on any of the three wells.

16 Q. That would be the 401H, 392 and 393?

17 A. Yes, sir.

18 Q. And in your opinion, would continued injection
19 of produced water into Chevron's Lotos 11 #1 well and
20 OXY's SDS 11 #1 well impair BOPCO's correlative rights
21 and result in waste?

22 A. Yes.

23 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I'd move
24 admission of BOPCO's Exhibits 1 and 2.

25 EXAMINER GOETZE: Exhibits 1 and 2 are so

1 entered.

2 (BOPCO Exhibit Numbers 1 and 2 were offered
3 and admitted into evidence.)

4 MR. LARSON: Pass the witness.

5 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert?

6 CROSS-EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

8 Q. Mr. Morrison, you're aware that OXY has been
9 injecting into the Bell Canyon interval of the Delaware
10 Mountain Group since 1993, correct?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Do you have the exhibits in front of you?

13 A. I do.

14 Q. Do you have an exhibit that shows the three
15 intervals of the Delaware Mountain Group?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Which exhibit would that be?

18 A. It's Exhibit 3.

19 Q. Let me catch up with you.

20 EXAMINER GOETZE: Aren't we getting a
21 little ahead of the exhibits that have not been admitted
22 yet?

23 MR. FELDEWERT: I'm not going to ask for
24 the admission.

25 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

1 MR. LARSON: You're not going to object,
2 though, are you?

3 MR. FELDEWERT: I'm just going to take a
4 look.

5 EXAMINER GOETZE: We are talking about a
6 landman here, so --

7 MR. FELDEWERT: Understood.

8 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

9 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) You're aware that the Bell
10 Canyon is much shallower than the Lower Brushy Canyon,
11 correct?

12 A. You can see that from the exhibit, sir.

13 Q. And have you analyzed how much it's grown?

14 A. I'm not a geologist. I'll defer any questions
15 related to the depth or distance to our other witnesses.

16 Q. Why don't you look at BOPCO Exhibit Number 4.
17 Have you ever reviewed anything like this previously?

18 A. I've seen well logs. It's not part of my job
19 description to analyze them or review them.

20 Q. Okay. But this gives the approximate -- if I'm
21 reading this correctly -- you tell me if I'm wrong --
22 this gives the approximate depths of the Delaware
23 Mountain Group in this particular area, correct? Is
24 that how you would read that?

25 A. Again, from a landman's position, yeah, that

1 looks like what it says.

2 Q. All right. So you're aware that OXY's been
3 injecting into the Bell Canyon member since 1993?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And you're aware that Chevron has been
6 injecting into the Upper -- the Bell and the Upper
7 Cherry Canyon since 2007?

8 A. Yes. I've read their injection orders. That's
9 about the extent of my knowledge on it.

10 Q. And the Poker Lake Unit is way down there in
11 the -- you've got it marked here as the Lower Brushy
12 Canyon. Do you see that?

13 A. I do.

14 Q. Below 8,000 feet?

15 A. Uh-huh.

16 Q. You're not suggesting, are you, Mr. Morrison,
17 that OXY or Chevron has been negligent in operating
18 these long-standing injection wells?

19 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I have to object
20 to that. He's already said this is outside of his area
21 of expertise, that these questions are more properly
22 asked of the geologist for BOPCO.

23 EXAMINER GOETZE: I am getting a little
24 concerned here. We do have a landman, and he has
25 expressed his opinion.

1 MR. FELDEWERT: He did express an opinion.
2 That's why I'm asking him.

3 EXAMINER GOETZE: He can have an opinion
4 here.

5 MR. FELDEWERT: Okay.

6 EXAMINER GOETZE: Doesn't necessarily make
7 it fact.

8 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) You're not suggesting that
9 they've been negligent in operating their wells, are
10 you, since 1993 and 2007?

11 MR. LARSON: I object to that question as
12 well.

13 EXAMINER GOETZE: Could we try another line
14 of questioning?

15 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) Mr. Morrison, you gave an
16 opinion that you thought that the continued injection by
17 OXY into the Bell Canyon area and the Upper Cherry
18 Canyon was going to have a negative impact on the Poker
19 Lake Unit. Is that the opinion I heard from you?

20 A. That is the opinion you heard from me based on
21 the evaluation of the BOPCO team and the information
22 I've been given from people.

23 Q. Okay. So you don't have anything to offer to
24 substantiate an opinion like that?

25 A. Only what's been offered by the rest of the

1 BOPCO team. That's where I get the information, and
2 you'll hear from them directly.

3 Q. Based on the information that you got from the
4 rest of the BOPCO team, okay, is it your contention here
5 that OXY and Chevron have somehow been negligent in
6 operating their wells in this area?

7 MR. LARSON: I object to that, too. We're
8 not talking about a negligence standard here,
9 Mr. Examiner.

10 EXAMINER GOETZE: I'm going to have to
11 support Mr. Larson's statement.

12 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) When you met -- were you
13 part of the team that met with OXY and Chevron in
14 October --

15 A. I was.

16 Q. -- about these matters?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. In fact, you had separate meetings, correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Two separate meetings?

21 A. Yes. Chevron was on the 8th, and I believe OXY
22 was the next week, the 14th.

23 Q. And I was looking at the response that was
24 filed to our motion for consolidation. It expresses in
25 there the purpose of the meeting was to share data that

1 BOPCO had gathered during its investigation to determine
2 the cause of the water intrusion. Was that the purpose
3 of the meetings?

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 Q. And did you review with OXY and Chevron all the
6 data that you had on what you considered to be the cause
7 of the water intrusion?

8 A. To my knowledge, we did, yes.

9 Q. And is that the same information that you're
10 going to present here today?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Is there anything different that you're going
13 to present here today?

14 A. I can't tell you if there is any different
15 minutia that's changed between October and now as far as
16 what the technical guys are going to present. It's
17 substantially the same data and the same presentation,
18 yes.

19 Q. Do you recall informing Chevron and OXY during
20 those meetings that you did not know the source of the
21 water that you were seeing at the Poker Lake Unit?

22 A. I don't recall that, but I wouldn't have been
23 the one attesting to the source of the water.

24 Q. Do you recall having any conversation with
25 representatives of Chevron and OXY that you didn't know

1 the source of the water that you saw at the Poker Lake
2 Unit?

3 A. No, I do not.

4 Q. Is Mesquite a commercial disposal operation?

5 A. Yes, they are.

6 Q. Which means the water source injected by
7 Mesquite comes from different sources, correct?

8 A. Uh-huh.

9 Q. Are you aware that OXY and Chevron dispose
10 water produced from the Delaware Mountain Group?

11 A. I'm not aware specifically what they're
12 injecting into their wells.

13 Q. But you're aware they're not a commercial --

14 A. I'm aware, yes.

15 Q. Are you the -- who is the individual that is
16 going to testify about the impact that the company saw
17 on its well that it saw in April or May?

18 A. I believe that will be Mr. Cary McGregor.

19 Q. You mentioned briefly that you saw no oil in
20 your 401H?

21 A. In the well test on April 28th, yeah.

22 Q. And at that point, then, had you shut in the
23 401H?

24 A. I know it was shut in at some point. Again,
25 I'm a landman. I'm not the one to ask about the

1 technical aspects of what we did as far as operating the
2 well. There are two other individuals that will be much
3 more qualified to answer those questions than myself.

4 Q. But essentially you saw -- you saw -- you
5 decided to shut in the 401H in April or May? Is that
6 about right?

7 MR. LARSON: Objection. He's misstating
8 the testimony.

9 EXAMINER GOETZE: Let's revisit this again.
10 Where are we going?

11 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) So essentially you saw no
12 oil in April of 2014 in the 401H?

13 A. Yes. The April 28th well test showed no oil.

14 Q. At what point did you shut in the 401H?

15 A. Again, that date is not something I know.
16 There are other witnesses that are more qualified to
17 answer that question. You'll hear that date in
18 subsequent testimony.

19 Q. You said the water -- you testified the water
20 sample was not Brushy Canyon water?

21 A. To my knowledge, yes. The water sample showed
22 that there was water coming from somewhere other than
23 the Lower Brushy Canyon.

24 Q. You'd be relying on others for that opinion?

25 A. Yes. Again, I'm a landman. This is my -- my

1 knowledge as being part of the team that's been looking
2 into this matter.

3 Q. So you said the 401H has not been able to fully
4 recover. Are you talking about fully recover since
5 Mesquite shut in its wells?

6 A. I don't -- we have not been able to fully
7 recover. We have not fully recovered oil production to
8 the point where it was in March when they had the last
9 positive oil test.

10 Q. It is recovering, though, correct?

11 A. We've seen some production but nothing
12 significant.

13 Q. What about your other wells?

14 A. Again, I think there's been some rebound, but
15 I'm not the person to testify as to flow rates or the
16 quality of the production of the well.

17 Q. But you've seen some -- in your words, some
18 rebound since Mesquite shut in its well -- disposal
19 wells?

20 A. I'm not sure of the time, but there has been
21 some production recovered.

22 Q. Do you recall when Mesquite shut in its
23 disposal wells?

24 A. Mesquite shut in their wells, as I said
25 earlier, on July 23rd.

1 Q. And you said there's been some rebound since
2 they shut in their disposal well?

3 A. I believe it would have been since that date.
4 Again, I'm not the -- not the person who is going to
5 have the most knowledge on that matter.

6 Q. Who will be testifying, Mr. Morrison, about the
7 condition of your Poker Lake Unit wells since Mesquite
8 shut in its well?

9 A. I'm sorry. Can you --

10 Q. Who will be testifying about the conditions of
11 your Poker Lake 401 and the other three wells since
12 Mesquite shut in its injection --

13 A. I believe that will be Mr. Cary McGregor.

14 Q. Mr. McGregor.

15 Now, is Mr. McGregor an employee of BOPCO?

16 A. He's not. He's a consultant.

17 Q. He's a consultant with Platt Sparks?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Is there anyone from the company who is going
20 to be testifying about the condition of the disposal
21 wells in the Poker Lake Unit since Mesquite shut in its
22 wells?

23 A. I don't believe so. He's conducted a thorough
24 review. He's been involved in the issue since prior to
25 the filing of the application against Mesquite. He's

1 very knowledgeable on the subject.

2 Q. Have you provided any production records of
3 your four wells?

4 A. He's an engineer. I'm a landman. I'm not
5 going to testify to what specific data he was given.

6 Q. That's all the questions I have.

7 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

8 Any redirect?

9 MR. LARSON: I have one follow-up question.

10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. LARSON:

12 Q. From the exhibits and testimony presented
13 today, will there be factual information that BOPCO's
14 gathered since it met with OXY and Chevron in October?

15 A. Yes, there will be.

16 MR. LARSON: That's all I have.

17 EXAMINER GOETZE: Follow-up with you,
18 Mr. Feldewert?

19 RECROSS EXAMINATION

20 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

21 Q. What's the additional factual information?

22 A. There's been none to my two exhibits, but I'm
23 certain that in the two months since we've had that
24 meeting, there have been some additional facts that our
25 technical guys will be adding.

1 Q. Do you know what they are?

2 A. Not specifically.

3 Q. Do you know generally?

4 A. No. I know there's been some additional facts.
5 They've been doing ongoing studies. I know some things
6 have changed. I'm not in a position to testify as to
7 what technical issues have changed in the last two
8 months.

9 Q. They didn't share that information with you
10 generally? I'm not asking specifically, but generally.

11 A. I don't think the scope of our presentation or
12 the scope of our assertion of what's going on here has
13 changed. There may have been some factual issues and
14 other things that have come up that we weren't aware of
15 at the time of the October meetings.

16 Q. Do you know what they are?

17 MR. LARSON: Objection. Asked and
18 answered.

19 EXAMINER GOETZE: Let us proceed. No, not
20 with your question, but going down the road and actually
21 hearing people testify. We've taken the landman as far
22 as we can go.

23 MR. FELDEWERT: All right. That's all the
24 questions I have.

25 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

1 And just to clear up a formality, you have
2 no objections to Exhibits 1 and 2 being entered?

3 MR. FELDEWERT: No, I do not.

4 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

5 Mr. Jones, would you like to ask questions?

6 EXAMINER JONES: I would.

7 CROSS-EXAMINATION

8 BY EXAMINER JONES:

9 Q. Mr. Morrison, I know you can't say what
10 Mesquite thought and what Mesquite said --

11 A. Uh-huh.

12 Q. -- but were you there talking to Mesquite about
13 the settlement with Mesquite?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. So you know what you heard in the meeting?

16 A. Uh-huh.

17 Q. So why didn't Mesquite choose a more
18 intermediary solution than just totally giving up their
19 ability to inject? In other words, run pipe and
20 perforate the upper portion instead of down in the lower
21 portion?

22 A. Mesquite had a Ph.D. geologist that was present
23 at the meeting and saw the presentation and saw the data
24 presented. And I can't speak for what was going on in
25 Mesquite's mind, but I believe they understood what we

1 were claiming and understood that it was what was
2 actually happening, that they were adversely affecting
3 our production. And in order to not cause any further
4 damage, they agreed to shut in their wells.

5 Q. Totally shut in? Not just modify?

6 A. No. They shut their wells in and agreed -- the
7 day we sent the letter, on July 23rd -- it was
8 hand-delivered on July 23rd to them. They shut their
9 wells in that evening, and they never resumed operations
10 on those wells. We met with them twice, once on July
11 28th in Roswell and then again on August 18th in Fort
12 Worth. And after those two meetings, during that time,
13 we were negotiating stipulation that's attached to the
14 motion for entry of order to revoke the authorization to
15 inject, and they signed that stipulation at a separate
16 settlement agreement as well on September 11th.

17 So I can't speak to their motivations, but
18 clearly they thought that it was in their best interest
19 to not harm our production anymore.

20 Q. And you don't want the settlement to be part of
21 the order? You're attorney said that, but do you say
22 that also? You want it to be fixed?

23 A. Yes, with the stipulation as attached as an
24 exhibit to the order, and everything else relevant I
25 think is in the order as it's currently drafted.

1 Q. In the draft order?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Thank you.

4 A. They were not asked to plug their wells. They
5 were just asked to shut them in.

6 EXAMINER GOETZE: No questions, Counselor?

7 EXAMINER WADE: No.

8 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

9 CROSS-EXAMINATION

10 BY EXAMINER GOETZE:

11 Q. Just one concerning future activity here: Now,
12 Big Eddy Unit is also being developed for Delaware; is
13 that correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And so you'll also be following the same
16 potential through the Brushy Canyon Formation?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And then this is also true of your smaller
19 units, the Little Eddy and the James Ranch?

20 A. Little Eddy is actually operated by Chevron
21 despite the fact we own a lot of acreage.

22 But James Ranch already has 25 producing
23 Delaware-Lower Brushy Canyon wells. And as you'll see
24 from subsequent witnesses, we have seen issues with
25 intrusion on Lower Brushy Canyon operations from

1 Delaware injection from third-party operators that we
2 were able to handle outside of -- handle privately.

3 EXAMINER GOETZE: No further questions for
4 this witness.

5 MR. LARSON: Can I follow up with a couple
6 of questions?

7 EXAMINER GOETZE: You may.

8 MR. LARSON: Thank you.

9 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. LARSON:

11 Q. Following up on Mr. Jones' question about the
12 meeting with Mesquite, did Mesquite indicate to BOPCO
13 where it was going to inject produced water into in the
14 future?

15 A. They have multiple other injection wells in
16 Eddy County, but actually the scope of the August 19th
17 meeting in Fort Worth was to educate Mesquite on the
18 information data we gathered on Devonian saltwater
19 disposal. And the last discussion we had with them,
20 they were planning a Devonian saltwater disposal well to
21 replace the Bran and the Heavy Metal in the same area.

22 Q. Thank you.

23 MR. LARSON: That's all I have.

24 EXAMINER GOETZE: Well, Mr. Feldewert, any
25 more?

1 MR. FELDEWERT: No.

2 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good. Then we're
3 done with this witness. Bring your next witness,
4 please.

5 MR. LARSON: Mr. Pregger.

6 BRIAN H. PREGGER,
7 after having been previously sworn under oath, was
8 questioned and testified as follows:

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. LARSON:

11 Q. Good morning, Mr. Pregger.

12 A. Good morning.

13 Q. Where do you reside, sir?

14 A. Fort Worth, Texas.

15 Q. And by whom are you employed and in what
16 capacity?

17 A. BOPCO, L.P. as a geologist.

18 Q. And what is your educational background?

19 A. I have a bachelor's degree in geology from
20 Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio and a
21 master's in geology from Northern Arizona University.

22 Q. And could you briefly summarize your experience
23 in the oil and gas business?

24 A. I've been a petroleum geologist for 32 years,
25 working for Unocal for 14 years, for Fina for nine years

1 and BOPCO for nine years. I've worked the Permian Basin
2 and south Texas.

3 Q. And are you familiar with the geological
4 aspects of BOPCO's development in the Poker Lake Unit
5 and the other units that it's developed in southeastern
6 New Mexico?

7 A. Yes, I am.

8 Q. And do you have personal knowledge of the
9 matters addressed in BOPCO's applications of Chevron and
10 OXY?

11 A. Yes, I do.

12 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move for the
13 qualification of Mr. Pregger as an expert on petroleum
14 geology.

15 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert?

16 MR. FELDEWERT: No objection.

17 EXAMINER GOETZE: He is so qualified.

18 Q. (BY MR. LARSON) When BOPCO discovered in April
19 of this year that the PLU 401H was no longer producing
20 oil, did BOPCO's management call on you to evaluate the
21 potential cause of the water --

22 A. Yes, they did.

23 Q. And how did you approach your analysis?

24 A. I used -- or I constructed maps and cross
25 sections to analyze the relationship between the

1 offending saltwater disposal well and the producing
2 wells that had been affected.

3 Q. And I'll ask you to identify the document
4 that's been marked as BOPCO Exhibit Number 3.

5 A. Okay. This exhibit is a generalized structural
6 cross section east-west across a portion of the Delaware
7 Basin in southeastern New Mexico.

8 Q. And did you prepare this document?

9 A. Yes, I did.

10 Q. And what does the box in the lower, right-hand
11 corner of Exhibit 3 depict?

12 A. That box represents the line of cross section
13 across the Poker Lake Unit that we're looking at here on
14 the cross section.

15 Q. And would you please go through your
16 illustration of lithological structures and --

17 A. Okay. What I want to show on this exhibit is
18 just the various formations that are present in the
19 19,000-foot thick sedimentary column above the basement.
20 The cross section is from surface to basement, and
21 various formations are marked. I want to highlight the
22 Delaware, which is the formation in blue, because this
23 is the formation that we will be concentrating on today.

24 Q. Did you say blue?

25 A. Did I say blue? It's in yellow. Sorry. I'm

1 sorry.

2 I've also put on a cross section three
3 representative well types that will be apropos to the
4 discussion today.

5 On the right, I've got a Delaware saltwater
6 disposal well showing the typical disposal perfs in the
7 Bell Canyon and Cherry Canyon Formations from 4,000 to
8 6,000 feet. In the middle, we've got a Delaware-Lower
9 Brushy Canyon horizontal producing well with the perfs
10 at 8,000 feet, and on the left, I've put in a Devonian
11 saltwater disposal well with the injection interval down
12 between 16,000 and 18,000 feet.

13 Q. Now, I'll next direct your attention to a
14 document marked as BOPCO Exhibit 4 and ask you to
15 identify this exhibit.

16 A. Okay. This is a type log of the Delaware
17 section in the area of the Poker Lake Unit.

18 Q. Did you prepare this document?

19 A. Yes, I did.

20 Q. Please describe the lithologic sequence you've
21 depicted in Exhibit 4.

22 A. The Delaware in this area -- and this is from
23 the Poker Lake 123, which is the northeastern corner of
24 the Poker Lake Unit. The Delaware section consists of
25 3,800 feet of interbedded deep-water sands, fine sands

1 and siltstones, with very minor interbedded carbonates.
2 The section sits between the impermeable anhydrites
3 and tall [sic] to the Castile formation at the top and
4 the carbonates and shales of the Bone Spring Formation
5 at the base.

6 Q. And what do you interpret the lithologic
7 characteristics of the Delaware Mountain Group to be?

8 A. It's a remarkably uniform section and has
9 really little in the way of contrasting lithologies
10 throughout the section.

11 Q. And in your opinion, does this type log
12 appropriately represent the Delaware Mountain Group in
13 Eddy County?

14 A. Yes, it does.

15 Q. And in your opinion, are there any affected
16 frack barriers between the top of the Bell Canyon and
17 the bottom of the Lower Brushy Canyon sections of the
18 Delaware Mountain Group in Eddy County?

19 A. In my opinion, no.

20 Q. I'll next direct your attention to Exhibit
21 Number 5. And would you identify this document, please?

22 A. Yes. This is a map of the fracture propagation
23 direction in the Delaware Mountain Group in the Poker
24 Lake Unit.

25 Q. And did you prepare this document?

1 A. Yes, I did.

2 Q. And what do the red arrows on Exhibit 5
3 represent?

4 A. Okay. Those red arrows represent the direction
5 of the propagation of induced and then open fractures
6 that have been seen in nine wells identified on FMI
7 image logs.

8 Q. And would those all be BOPCO horizontal wells?

9 A. They would be, yes.

10 Q. And what do the blue arrows represent?

11 A. The blue arrows represent the direction of
12 propagation of induced fractures in three wells that
13 have been fracked, and the fracks were observed through
14 microseismic.

15 Q. So the blue areas represent induced fractures?

16 A. That is correct.

17 Q. And what data did you rely on in creating this
18 document?

19 A. This was -- I relied on third-party analyzed
20 FMI data and microseismic data.

21 Q. And that data was requested by BOPCO?

22 A. That is correct.

23 Q. And what is the fracture orientation that
24 you've indicated on Exhibit 5?

25 A. The fracture orientation --

1 And I'd like to go back and say that each
2 arrow on each well represents the average of all the
3 fractures along that wellbore. So the average of these
4 fracture directions is, as you can see, strongly
5 northeast-southwest and ranges from North 43 East to
6 North 65 East.

7 Q. And in your opinion, do you have sufficient
8 data to support your consideration [sic] of the fracture
9 orientation?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. I'll next ask you to identify the document
12 marked as Exhibit 6.

13 A. This is a map showing all saltwater disposal
14 wells in and around the Poker Lake and James Ranch
15 Units.

16 Q. And did you personally prepare this document?

17 A. Yes, I did.

18 Q. And what is the blue circle intended to
19 illustrate?

20 A. The blue circle encompasses five saltwater
21 disposal wells in the Section 11 and Section 12 area
22 that we've been discussing -- or that we will be
23 discussing that we believe have adversely affected the
24 production from the Poker Lake 401, 392 and 393 wells.

25 Q. And are the volumes of produced water injected

1 into those five wells identified on this exhibit?

2 A. Yes, they are.

3 Q. And what are the red circles?

4 A. The red circles indicate areas where we have
5 actually seen evidence of offset SWD wells affecting
6 production or drilling from our producing wells.

7 Q. And how about the red circles with broken
8 lines?

9 A. The ones with the broken lines -- and there are
10 two of them to the southern part of the section,
11 southern part of the unit there -- these are areas where
12 we suspect we're seeing the same thing, but it's too
13 early to tell yet.

14 Q. And would it be fair to say BOPCO has
15 encountered problems with produced water injection into
16 the Delaware Mountain Group throughout the Poker Lake
17 Unit?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And referring you to the upper, right-hand
20 section of the shaded area which identifies the three
21 wells that are subject of the hearing today, did you use
22 BOPCO's history with these other red-circled areas as
23 part of your analysis of the cause of the watering out
24 of those wells?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Next I'll have you identify the document marked
2 as Exhibit 7.

3 A. Okay. This exhibit is a map of the southeast
4 corner of the James Ranch Unit.

5 Q. And did you prepare this document?

6 A. Yes, I did.

7 Q. And what are you trying to show with this
8 exhibit?

9 A. Well, this exhibit shows a number of things.
10 First off, we have FMI data in four of the Lower Brushy
11 Canyon lateral wells that we have drilled in this area,
12 and they are shown again as the red arrows. The red
13 arrows indicate the average of the fracture directions
14 that we saw in these wells from FMI analysis. As in
15 Poker Lake, they are oriented northeast-southwest.

16 The other thing I'm showing on this
17 illustration are the effects we've seen from offsetting
18 SWD on drilling wells in this area. To begin with, the
19 James Ranch #120H, which is located just north of the
20 line of cross section there, when we were drilling in
21 the vertical well or vertical portion of this well, we
22 saw evidence of an influx of saltwater while we were
23 drilling. That's marked by the blue dot on the east end
24 of the wellbore.

25 Moving down to the James Ranch 121, we

1 drilled this well out into the lateral. When we reached
2 a depth of 8,911, also marked by a blue dot, we took a
3 significant water flow and had to shut the well in and
4 recorded pressure on the drill pipe.

5 Moving down to the 124H south of that, the
6 FMI analysis indicated an area of several rather large
7 open fractures in the area of the blue dot on the
8 wellbore there.

9 Now, when you line these up, the
10 orientation of the alignment of the influence that we
11 saw here point directly to the northeast where Devon has
12 saltwater disposal.

13 Q. And did BOPCO inform Devon about the water
14 issues it was encountering with these four wells
15 indicated on this exhibit?

16 A. Yes, we did. When we were drilling the 121
17 well and we took the water flow, we shut the well in,
18 and we communicated with Devon about that.

19 Q. And what did Devon do after you communicated
20 these issues to them?

21 A. Well, when we were talking to them, we
22 requested that they shut their well in, and they did
23 shut the well in for the remainder of the -- of the
24 well.

25 Q. And what happened when Devon shut in its SWD

1 well?

2 A. The water flow in the 121 stopped, and we were
3 successful in drilling the rest of the well in.

4 Q. So you were able to successfully complete the
5 well?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. I'll have you move on now to Exhibit Number 8
8 and have you identify that.

9 A. This is a structural cross section that goes
10 along the line of the James Ranch 120H.

11 Q. And did you prepare this exhibit?

12 A. Yes, I did.

13 Q. And what are you illustrating with this
14 exhibit?

15 A. What this shows is the relationship
16 between where the injection perfs in the Devon well are
17 and where we saw influence in our wells of water influx
18 or water flows. The injection perfs on the Devon well
19 are marked in blue. The areas where we've seen evidence
20 of water coming into our wells are marked in the blue
21 dots on the 120. As I said, we saw water influx in the
22 vertical part of the well. It's actually up in the
23 Brushy Canyon 200 feet above the perfs that Devon has in
24 the Lower Brushy Canyon. In the 121, we took the water
25 flow in the Lower Brushy Canyon. It is the same

1 formation that they are injecting into, but it is at a
2 distance of 4,000 feet from that well.

3 Q. So even though there was a 4,000-foot distance,
4 your conclusion was there was communication between the
5 saltwater disposal well and the well that BOPCO was
6 drilling?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Let's move to BOPCO Exhibit Number 9. Would
9 you identify this, please?

10 A. This is a map of the area of the Poker Lake
11 347H well in the central part of the Poker Lake Unit.

12 Q. And did you prepare this document?

13 A. Yes, I did.

14 Q. And similar to questions I asked you of a
15 previous exhibit, what are you illustrating with this
16 document?

17 A. What I want to show here are the adverse
18 effects that we've seen from offset SWD on drilling and
19 producing Lower Brushy Canyon wells. We drilled the
20 347H in 2011. The surface location is located to the
21 southeast. It was drilled to the northwest, as is shown
22 by the well pad. When we reached a measured depth of
23 10,170, which is noted by the blue dot on the wellbore,
24 we took a significant saltwater flow. We shut the well
25 in, and again we recorded pressure on the pipe.

1 We were able to eventually get back to
2 drilling this well and drilled it out with some
3 difficulty. We were never able to take it out to the
4 originally planned TD.

5 After we finished drilling the well, we ran
6 an FMI in the well, and one of the results of that is
7 shown by the Rose diagram at the top of the map. This
8 represents the analysis of the induced fractures from
9 this well, and, again, it's showing, just like we've
10 seen in every other Poker Lake well, a very strong
11 northeast-southwest orientation. And it's interesting
12 that the average in this well of North 56 East, where
13 these induced fractures are, is almost the exact same
14 orientation of the line from where we got the water
15 inflow to the Poker Lake 127. The Poker Lake 127 was an
16 active SWD well at the time. I've also shown on this
17 map a picture from the FMI of a large open fracture that
18 was very close to where we got the water inflow.

19 Q. And the 127 was a BOPCO disposal well?

20 A. That is correct.

21 Q. And because circumstances like this, BOPCO went
22 ahead and shut in all of its Delaware Mountain Group
23 disposal wells?

24 A. This was really the well that prompted us to
25 say, Hey, this isn't just a one off [sic] kind of issue;

1 this is a pervasive issue; we've seen it in a couple of
2 different areas. This one -- we had such strong
3 evidence that if it -- if it was a problem here, that
4 this was really what spurred us to get out of the
5 Delaware and to direct all of our disposal into the
6 Devonian.

7 Q. And we'll next move on to Exhibit Number 10.
8 Would you identify this, please?

9 A. This is a structural cross section that goes
10 along the well path of the Poker Lake 347, and it shows
11 the relationship between the injection perfs and where
12 we took the water flow. And the interesting thing about
13 what we're seeing here is that the 127 well was not
14 injecting into the Lower Brushy Canyon. It was
15 injecting not in the Brushy Canyon. It was injecting
16 into the Cherry Canyon 2,000 feet above where our
17 lateral wellbore was.

18 Q. And did you prepare this document?

19 A. Yes, I did.

20 Q. And does this exhibit support your conclusion
21 that you believe there are no effective frack barriers
22 in the Delaware Mountain Group?

23 A. Yes, it does.

24 Q. I'll next ask you to identify Exhibit Number
25 11.

1 A. This is a map of the northeast corner of the
2 Poker Lake Unit focusing on the area that we are talking
3 about today.

4 Q. And did you prepare this document?

5 A. Yes, I did.

6 Q. And I'm going to move on to Number 12 and ask
7 you to identify this, because these are basically tandem
8 exhibits. Would you identify Exhibit Number 12, please?

9 A. Okay. This is a stratigraphic cross section of
10 the Delaware section from the area of the saltwater
11 disposal wells in Sections 11 and 12 down through the
12 401H well.

13 Q. Okay. And did you prepare this exhibit as
14 well?

15 A. Yes, I did.

16 Q. Now we'll go back to Exhibit Number 11. Is the
17 pinkish line called, quote, "line of cross section"
18 referring to the cross section depicted in Exhibit 12?

19 A. Yes, that's correct.

20 Q. Now I'll shift you back to Exhibit 12. What is
21 the total depth of Mesquite's Bran SWD disposal well?

22 A. That well is open to a depth of 6,740.

23 Q. And what is the total depth of Mesquite's Heavy
24 Metal 12 SDS?

25 A. That well is open to a depth of 6,140 feet.

1 Q. And how far are the total depths of those two
2 wells from the pay zone for BOPCO's 401H?

3 A. The Mesquite well is 1,400 feet above the Lower
4 Brushy Canyon pay zone, and the Mesquite well is 2,100
5 feet above.

6 Q. And next I'll have you look at your last
7 exhibit, which is Number 13. Did you prepare this
8 document?

9 A. Yes, I did.

10 Q. And at first glance, it looks very similar to
11 Exhibit Number 6. What's the difference between Number
12 6 and Number 13?

13 A. It is the same map with the exception that all
14 wells -- all saltwater disposal wells that were shut in
15 by the time we saw the water flow in the 401H have been
16 marked with a black X.

17 Q. And when did BOPCO shut in the SWD wells that
18 are marked with Xs on Exhibit 13?

19 A. It was -- I have to refer to my notes. It was
20 on March 17th, 2014.

21 Q. In your professional opinion, what is the
22 avenue of communication of the injected produced water
23 that has impacted BOPCO's 401H, 392H and 393H producing
24 wells?

25 A. In my opinion, it is through a fracture or

1 swarm of fractures from the area of the SWD wells in
2 Sections 11 and 12, down to the southeast, down the
3 section to our 401 well.

4 Q. In your opinion, can Chevron continue to inject
5 produced water without adversely impacting the three
6 BOPCO producing wells identified on Exhibit 13?

7 A. In my opinion, no.

8 Q. Can OXY continue to inject produced water
9 without negatively impacting the three BOPCO producing
10 wells?

11 A. In my opinion, no.

12 Q. And in your opinion, would continued produced
13 water injection by Chevron and OXY impair BOPCO's
14 correlative rights and result in waste?

15 A. In my opinion, yes.

16 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move the
17 admission of BOPCO Exhibits 3 through 13.

18 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert?

19 MR. FELDEWERT: No objection.

20 EXAMINER GOETZE: Exhibits 3 through 13,
21 inclusive, are so entered.

22 (BOPCO Exhibit Numbers 3 through 13
23 were offered and admitted into evidence.)

24 MR. LARSON: Pass the witness.

25 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

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BY MR. FELDEWERT:

Q. Mr. Pregger, are you -- are you aware of the typical permeability that you see in the Lower Brushy Canyon in the Poker Lake area?

A. I am.

Q. What is that?

A. I would not want to give you numbers at this point in time, but I do know it is lower in the Lower Brushy Canyon than it is in the upper part of the Delaware.

Q. Okay. What is the permeability in the Brushy -- in the lower part of the Brushy Canyon than you have in your Poker Lake Unit producing wells?

A. I would refer to our engineer at this point.

Q. Do you know it? You said you know it. I asked you: Do you know the permeability? You said yes. What's the permeability?

A. I cannot tell you at this point.

Q. I thought you told me you did know the permeability. Can you not tell me, or you don't want to tell me? Which one? You're under oath.

A. I cannot tell you at this point.

Q. Do you know the permeability in the Lower Brushy Canyon in the Poker Lake producing area? Do you

1 know it?

2 A. No.

3 MR. LARSON: Objection. Asked and
4 answered.

5 EXAMINER GOETZE: Let's continue,
6 Mr. Feldewert.

7 MR. FELDEWERT: Okay.

8 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) Has the company made any
9 attempt to determine whether there is a fractured
10 network in the Lower Brushy Canyon for the Poker Lake
11 Unit area?

12 A. I'm sorry. Could you repeat the question?

13 Q. Has the company made any attempt to determine
14 whether there is a fractured network in your Lower
15 Brushy Canyon and where your Poker Lake area is?

16 A. We have analyzed, like I said, FMI image data
17 from wells, and we have seen evidence of a fracture.

18 Q. In the Lower Brushy Canyon?

19 A. In the Lower Brushy Canyon.

20 Q. And what's the estimate of your permeability
21 there?

22 A. I do not have an estimate of the permeability
23 at this time.

24 Q. Now, is it your testimony here today -- let me
25 have you take a look at what's been marked as BOPCO

1 Exhibit Number 4. Have you prepared this?

2 A. Yes, I have.

3 Q. And is it your opinion, Mr. Pregger, that there
4 is no geologic barrier between the Bell Canyon and the
5 Cherry Canyon?

6 A. No geologic barrier?

7 Q. Yeah.

8 A. I would say there is no effective frack
9 barrier.

10 Q. Is there a limestone geologic barrier?

11 A. There are thin limestones at the top of the
12 Cherry Canyon and the base of the Bell Canyon.

13 Q. I'm sorry. Run that by me again.

14 A. There are thin limestones at the top of the
15 Cherry Canyon and the base of the Bell Canyon.

16 Q. And then is there also a limestone barrier
17 between the bottom of the Cherry Canyon and the top of
18 the Brushy Canyon?

19 A. No.

20 Q. That's your opinion?

21 A. That's my opinion.

22 Q. Are you aware of a study done by the University
23 of Texas Jackson School of Geosciences called the
24 "Middle Permian Basinal" -- oh, boy, how do you say
25 this? -- "Siliciclastic Deposition in the Delaware

1 Basin: The Delaware Mountain Group"? Have you looked
2 at that study?

3 A. I believe I have. I can't say for sure.

4 Q. When was that study done?

5 A. I do not know.

6 Q. You've looked at it?

7 A. I believe I have. I can't say for certain.

8 Q. So if it's the one you're thinking of, is it a
9 reliable study?

10 A. Well, if it's done by -- who is it done by?

11 Q. University of Texas.

12 A. University of Texas. I would say so, yes.

13 Q. Jackson School of Geosciences. They have
14 a pretty good reputation.

15 A. Yes, they do.

16 Q. There are a lot of geologists who take stuff
17 like this and come to a conclusion?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you're aware that they have, in this area,
20 said that these zones are genetically and hydraulically
21 separate?

22 A. "In this area." Which area?

23 Q. In the Delaware Mountain Group in this area.

24 A. In which area?

25 Q. "Deposition of regionally extensive

1 fine-grained sediments during third-order sea-level rise
2 recorded progressive basin starvation and produced top
3 seals genetically and hydraulically separate the three
4 Delaware Mountain Group formations." That's what they
5 concluded. Do you agree with that?

6 A. In which area? In which area was this done,
7 does the study encompass?

8 Q. In the Delaware Basin.

9 A. The entire Delaware Basin? Well, if they say
10 so, I would have to agree with them.

11 Q. What's that?

12 A. If they say so, I would have to agree with
13 them.

14 Q. Now, let me ask you another question. Are you
15 familiar with something called Hall Plot analysis?

16 A. I have seen a Hall Plot analysis in the past,
17 yes.

18 Q. Why do you do a Hall Plot analysis?

19 A. I cannot tell you at this time.

20 Q. Why do you say "at this time"? Do you know why
21 you do a Hall Plot analysis?

22 A. No, I do not.

23 Q. What about an injectivity analysis? Do you
24 know anything about that?

25 A. No. That is not in my purview.

1 Q. Now, as I understand it, keeping in mind
2 Exhibit Number 4, you gave us two examples of where the
3 company has observed water migration as a result of
4 injections?

5 A. That is correct.

6 Q. One was the James Ranch example --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- involving Devon's Pure Gold disposal well?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And the second one was your -- what do you call
11 the next one? Poker Lake --

12 A. 347H.

13 Q. -- 347H; is that right?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. If I look at Exhibits 11 and 12, I think they
16 relate to what you call the Poker Lake Unit 347H
17 circumstance; is that right?

18 A. Do I have the wrong exhibits? They're 9 and
19 10.

20 Q. I'm sorry. You're right, 9 and 10. Thank you.

21 Okay. Now, in this example that you gave,
22 Exhibit 10 shows your well diagram?

23 A. It's a cross section.

24 Q. And then it has -- it looks like it has the
25 BOPCO PLU 127 --

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. -- showing, right?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. That's a BOPCO saltwater disposal well?

5 A. That is correct.

6 Q. So that's one that BOPCO drilled and BOPCO
7 decided to dispose into this area?

8 A. That's correct.

9 Q. And if I'm understanding it, eventually you saw
10 some water flow into your 347H?

11 A. That is also correct.

12 Q. How far away was the PLU 127 from the PLU 347H?
13 In other words, how far away from the saltwater disposal
14 well in terms of horizontal distance from your producing
15 well, PLU 347H?

16 A. 1,100 feet.

17 Q. So less than a mile?

18 A. That would be less than a mile.

19 Q. Is that less than a half mile? That's less
20 than a quarter mile, isn't it? That's pretty close.

21 A. (Indicating.)

22 Q. And Chevron and OXY's disposal wells are, what,
23 three, three-and-a-half miles away?

24 A. That is correct.

25 Q. You also show here that -- in terms of a

1 geologic depth difference, you show, what, roughly 2,000
2 feet?

3 A. 2,000 feet from the injection perms to the
4 water inflow of the lateral.

5 Q. That's assuming, is it not, that the cement
6 plug was held and provided a good seal, that you show
7 there at 61 -- 6,010, right? 6,200 feet? Do you see
8 that?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Did you check that cement plug?

11 A. I have not checked that cement plug.

12 Q. Do you know if anybody at BOPCO checked that
13 cement plug?

14 A. I do not know if anybody has.

15 Q. If that cement plug didn't provide a good seal,
16 isn't there concern that the water would have moved down
17 the wellbore into the Brushy Canyon member?

18 A. That would be a hypothesis, yes.

19 Q. It's my understanding, is it not, that you
20 determined that interference was caused by the BOPCO PLU
21 127 -- or as part of the process, that you did some
22 tracers of the water? Do you recall doing that?

23 A. We did do tracers, yes.

24 Q. How many tracers? Two?

25 A. I cannot tell you that. I would defer to the

1 engineers who will talk about that.

2 Q. You're not familiar with the tracers?

3 A. I'm not familiar with the operation above and
4 beyond the fact that we did run them and that we did see
5 them show up at the 347H wellbore.

6 Q. Aren't you aware that one tracer never showed
7 up?

8 A. I am not.

9 Q. Isn't that what you told Chevron and OXY at
10 your meeting?

11 A. I did not tell them that, no.

12 Q. Someone with your company told them that?

13 A. I do not recall.

14 Q. Now, the second example you gave was the James
15 Ranch example dealing with Devon's Pure Gold saltwater
16 disposal well?

17 A. That is correct.

18 Q. And that involves Exhibits 7 and 8?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Is that correct?

21 A. That is correct.

22 Q. Now, in terms of distances, that Devon Pure
23 Gold well, again, looks like, what, less than a mile
24 from your producing wells?

25 A. It's less than a mile from the top two. It's

1 probably about a mile from the 124.

2 Q. And if I look at -- if I look at Exhibit 8,
3 this particular well -- this saltwater disposal well
4 operated by Devon was injecting directly into the Lower
5 Brushy Canyon; was it not?

6 A. As I said in my testimony.

7 Q. So it was injecting into the same zone that
8 you're producing from?

9 A. That is correct.

10 Q. As opposed to a circumstance that we have with
11 OXY and Chevron. We're looking at Exhibit Number 4.
12 OXY's injecting into the Bell Canyon; is that right?
13 Are you aware of that? I'm just looking at your Exhibit
14 Number 4.

15 A. Exhibit 4 does not show where OXY is injecting.

16 Q. Are you aware of where OXY is injecting?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. They're injecting into the Bell Canyon?

19 A. Yes, that is correct.

20 Q. Here we go. Look at your Exhibit Number 12.

21 A. Okay. Hold on.

22 Okay.

23 Q. OXY's injection by perforations is up in the
24 Bell Canyon. The lowest perf is, according to the map,
25 5,212 feet; is that correct?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. And the lower producing zone of the Brushy
3 Canyon, according to Exhibit Number 4 -- I'm sorry I'm
4 flipping back and forth -- is over 8,000 feet; is that
5 right?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. So there is a 3,000-foot difference there
8 through the limestone of the Bell Canyon that the Texas
9 study said existed and the limestone barrier of the
10 Cherry Canyon that the Texas study said existed; is that
11 correct?

12 A. That is correct.

13 Q. You have those separations.

14 And you have here the Chevron perf. Their
15 lowest-most perf being in the upper part of the Cherry
16 Canyon, 5,600 feet, right?

17 A. That is correct.

18 Q. Lower Brushy Canyon being over 8,000. So what?
19 Roughly 1,500, 2,000-foot difference in depth? 5,632
20 versus somewhere below 8,000?

21 A. If you say so.

22 Q. Isn't that what these maps, Exhibits 4 and 12,
23 indicate?

24 A. (No response.)

25 Q. Well, do the math for me.

1 A. Okay. Restate your question, please.

2 Q. Chevron's Cherry Canyon disposal, the lowest
3 perf -- and these are perfs. This is not open hole like
4 Mesquite.

5 A. That's right.

6 Q. The lowest perf is 5,632? That's what you
7 measured.

8 A. That is correct.

9 Q. If we look at Exhibit Number 4 --

10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. -- you show the -- your horizontal Delaware
12 program.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What depth is that?

15 A. It's about 8,000 feet.

16 Q. It's 8,000 what? Read that for me, Exhibit
17 Number 12.

18 A. 8,200.

19 Q. Okay. So what's the distance, then, between
20 Chevron's lowest perf, 5,632 and 8,300?

21 A. It's about 2,500 feet.

22 Q. 2,500 feet. Okay.

23 And then in addition, we have that
24 limestone barrier between the Cherry Canyon, Lower
25 Cherry Canyon and the Upper Cherry Canyon that the Texas

1 study says exists, correct?

2 A. That is correct.

3 Q. And the only other example we have of any
4 interference you have seen was Mesquite's open-hole
5 injection shown on your Exhibit Number 12, correct?

6 A. That is correct.

7 Q. And you're aware that there is no disagreement
8 here that Mesquite, like Devon, was injecting directly
9 into the Brushy Canyon by open hole?

10 A. That is correct.

11 MR. FELDEWERT: That's all the questions I
12 have.

13 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.
14 Any redirect at this point?

15 MR. LARSON: Couple of questions,
16 Mr. Examiner.

17 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. LARSON:

19 Q. Mr. Pregger, are you familiar with the
20 approximate size of the Delaware Basin?

21 A. Familiar, yes. I can't give you a number, but
22 it is very large.

23 Q. So it's found in southeast New Mexico; is that
24 correct?

25 A. That's correct.

1 Q. And also in Texas?

2 A. That is correct.

3 Q. I'll refer you to Exhibit Number 12. Are the
4 OXY and Chevron SWD wells completed originally in the
5 Lower Brushy Canyon?

6 A. Yes, they were.

7 Q. And are there plugs, like the 127 plug,
8 isolating the Lower Brushy Canyon completions from the
9 SWD zone?

10 A. Yes, there are.

11 MR. LARSON: That's all I have,
12 Mr. Examiner

13 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

14 Mr. Jones?

15 CROSS-EXAMINATION

16 BY EXAMINER JONES:

17 Q. Can I ask you to spell your name?

18 A. Brian, B-R-I-A-N, Pregger, P-R-E-G-G-E-R.

19 Q. Thank you. I have a card from you somewhere.

20 These FMIs that were run, you said they
21 were third-party FMIs?

22 A. They were third-party FMIs, and the analysis
23 was done through a third-party consultant.

24 Q. It costs a lot to do FMI analysis; does it not?

25 A. It does. It's a relatively expensive logging.

1 Q. Logging and the processing?

2 A. And processing, right.

3 Q. At what depth were these FMIs?

4 A. Most of the FMIs that I show, out of the nine,
5 some of them were in the horizontal of the Lower Brushy
6 Canyon, and two of them were in vertical portions of the
7 wells up through the Cherry Canyon.

8 Q. So they went all the way up to the top of the
9 Cherry?

10 A. Not necessarily to the top of the Cherry, but
11 we had intermittent data through the Cherry down to the
12 Brushy.

13 Q. I should ask the most important ones first.
14 What do you think the geologic reason is for these
15 fractures swarms?

16 A. It's the pervasive overall stress pattern that
17 is seen in the Delaware at this time. It's -- it's
18 pretty pervasive across the area. We actually see it
19 down into the Bone Spring, but the Bone is not at issue
20 here. It's just that the latest structural movement in
21 the area has produced a stress field which has produced
22 this directed orientation.

23 Q. When was that? Was that Laramide, or when was
24 it?

25 A. I believe it's Miocene.

1 Q. Miocene --

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. -- stress compression from northeast to
4 southwest?

5 A. An actual uplift in the Miocene.

6 Q. What about cement in your porosity -- I mean,
7 as far as brittleness of the rock, was there -- some
8 rocks are more, obviously, ductal than others.

9 A. It's a big sand dump. It's cemented sands, but
10 they're not highly cemented. So you do get -- it's not
11 like a chert, which will just fracture or just shatter,
12 but it has enough -- it's cemented enough that it will
13 sustain fractures.

14 Q. So it's ~~that~~ but it seems that you're making a
15 case here for the whole Cherry Canyon to be -- or the
16 whole Delaware Mountain Group to be connected through
17 fracture forms vertically and extensively horizontally.

18 A. That is correct.

19 Q. So there must be a geologic reason for that, I
20 mean besides just a stress direction.

21 A. Well, it's the stress direction, and it's
22 actually not as much a geologic issue as it is -- and
23 we'll get into that in the next part of the
24 presentation -- an overpressuring due to saltwater
25 disposal, which is creating fractures along the

1 prevalent stress direction.

2 Q. Did you look at any of the microseismic done on
3 your wells?

4 A. I have seen some of it, yes.

5 Q. What can you see from that, those frack jobs on
6 your Lower Brushy?

7 A. What it's showing is that the fractures -- at
8 least during the last -- on those wells are very clean,
9 very strongly oriented in this direction.

10 Q. Okay. So you see -- you see a plan view? Is
11 that what you see?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So you don't really know how far they extend
14 vertically, do you?

15 A. Actually we do have data on how far vertically
16 they extend. And with the frack jobs, they extend on
17 the order of a couple hundred feet; depending on the
18 frack job itself, probably a couple hundred feet in each
19 direction vertically. Now, that's not as much as we're
20 talking about with -- you know, talking about 2,000 feet
21 of fracture rope [sic]. But a frack job is a very
22 time-limited event, and to propagate a frack, one of the
23 more important things is the time it takes to propagate
24 that fracture. So a fracture and a frack job is an
25 almost instantaneous event that is not going to

1 propagate your frack for very much height growth.

2 Q. And the proppant that you use, is that propping
3 the whole affected area that the microseismic shows, or
4 is it --

5 A. We hope to obviously prop most of the frack,
6 but I don't know for sure.

7 Q. But you can't tell that from --

8 A. Right.

9 Q. Water flow -- you talked about water flows in
10 these wells.

11 A. Uh-huh.

12 Q. That would connected with a good -- good
13 saltwater disposal interval; would it not?

14 A. Well, what we believe is happening is that the
15 pressure from the water injection in these wells is
16 opening fracks -- opening fractures, and these fractures
17 are intersecting the wellbore as we drill through them.
18 And so what we're seeing is when [sic] our wellbore
19 intersects one of these fracks that has been opened by
20 the pressure from the saltwater disposal well.

21 Q. Okay. You were talking about the lithology and
22 just a little bit of limestone in the Bell and some on
23 the Cherry, correct?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. How are you so sure about the lithology out

1 . here?

2 A. In the -- well, we do run sample logs, mud logs
3 when we drill our logs, but we also run a -- we run a
4 log that -- it's called a PE curve on our logs that
5 gives us what the lithology is, and you can pick out
6 thin little carbonates within the sand section.

7 Q. So you do have some PE curves?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And so that means you have open-hole logs when
10 you log through --

11 A. Yes. We have actually a great number of
12 open-hole logs through the Delaware in this area.

13 Q. And that would be on the horizontal wells that
14 were drilled through the Brushy?

15 A. It would be on both older vertical wells and on
16 the vertical portion of the horizontal wells, yes.

17 Q. So there has been a lot of vertical production
18 out here in the Brushy Canyon?

19 A. Yes, that's correct.

20 Q. So the pressure has drawn down in the
21 reservoir?

22 A. In some areas.

23 Q. Okay. I guess your engineer can talk about
24 that.

25 A. Right.

1 Q. And so your Lower Brushy is right on top of the
2 Dela- -- Bone Spring?

3 A. Bone Spring. That's correct.

4 Q. But you don't want to get down in the Avalon?
5 How come? Is it --

6 A. Well, there are a number of reasons that we
7 don't want to get into the Avalon. But the Bone Spring
8 limestone that sits at the very top of the Bone Spring
9 we have found to be an effective frack barrier when we
10 frack our Lower Brushy Canyon wells.

11 Q. Okay. So you've got a barrier below you --

12 A. Right.

13 Q. -- for the frack jobs, but not much barrier
14 above you?

15 A. That is what we have found, yes.

16 Q. Did you study the type of water that you
17 encountered with these water flows?

18 A. I did not. That would be something for the
19 engineer to answer.

20 Q. Okay. And he would talk about the equipment
21 and the cement jobs?

22 A. Yes.

23 EXAMINER JONES: That's all my questions.

24 EXAMINER WADE: No questions.

25 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

2 BY EXAMINER GOETZE:

3 Q. In general, your target rock for the Lower
4 Brushy, is this a siltstone -- organic-like siltstone,
5 or what are we looking at?

6 A. It's a fine-grain sandstone; it's a siltstone.

7 Q. And it's pretty uniform through the area?

8 A. Pretty uniform. It's -- it's layered. You
9 have thin -- a little bit more organic-rich siltstone
10 separating individual -- individual sand beds. For
11 instance, in the Lower Brushy Canyon section, which is
12 approximately 250 feet thick, we've got seven individual
13 sand beds that we've actually named. But as far as
14 being an effective ^{fracture} frack barrier, there is nothing in
15 between them, and we don't see any influence of anything
16 between the individual sand beds in this area.

17 Q. So for this occurrence, what's your capping
18 mechanism? Is there a change in lithology? Are we
19 looking at just a diagenetic event?

20 A. I'm sorry. I didn't hear you.

21 Q. Okay. What's keeping the oil in place?

22 A. Oh, the oil is being kept in place by just the
23 fact that it is very tight -- a relatively tight
24 reservoir. From a conventional standpoint, the Lower
25 Brushy Canyon is much tighter than the upper portions of

1 the Delaware.

2 Q. Okay. Let's go to Exhibit Number 4, please.
3 Can you give me what your marker was to do your picks
4 for the Cherry and Brushy tops? Is this something you
5 selected, or is this a BOPCO interpretation?

6 A. This is -- this is taken from what we at BOPCO
7 have been picking for a long time, and it's a
8 correlation on a couple marker beds that we have picked
9 and that we have used.

10 Q. And for the Brushy, what kind of marker we're
11 looking at, is that something you have named or
12 identified out of this area or just in your area?

13 A. Well, the top of the Brushy Canyon I picked as
14 being -- it's the first sand below, what we identify as
15 the Lower Cherry Canyon. The Lower Cherry Canyon is
16 something that we have picked and correlated across the
17 area because it does produce a number of our wells. And
18 so the sand below that we consider the top of the Brushy
19 Canyon.

20 Q. And then for the Cherry?

21 A. For the Cherry Canyon, we picked a gamma ray
22 marker on top of the sand. And I believe back in the
23 history of BOPCO, that had originally come from a BLM
24 regionwide analysis of where the top of the Cherry
25 Canyon was. It's something that we've used -- something

1 that I've used ever since I've been with BOPCO.

2 Q. Very good.

3 Now to -- let's see -- the experience of
4 the Poker Lake Units 347H area. Well, excuse me. Let
5 me take that back. We're looking at the Delaware. I'll
6 take that back. It's the 121H area; the two horizontals
7 go east-west.

8 A. Right.

9 Q. You stated that Devon had injected and then at
10 the request of BOPCO had shut in?

11 A. That is correct.

12 Q. Has there been any injection after that
13 request?

14 A. Yes. When we finished drilling the well,
15 they -- they resumed injecting into that well.

16 Q. And have we seen any impacts on --

17 A. No, we haven't. Because during the completion
18 of the wells in questions here, those -- that part of
19 the well where we saw those water effects, we did not
20 complete. In fact, in the 121, where we took the water
21 flow, that locality is behind seven inches of cemented
22 casing.

23 Q. But we have not seen any impacts in any other
24 part of the lateral after reinjection started?

25 A. Not definitively, no.

1 EXAMINER GOETZE: Well, I have no further
2 questions for this witness.

3 At this point let's take a 15-minute break.

4 MR. FELDEWERT: Mr. Examiner, I do have two
5 more questions, if I may.

6 EXAMINER GOETZE: We're getting questions
7 on questions on questions. We've got to stop at some
8 point. Let's see what you have to say.

9 RECROSS EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

11 Q. Just following on Mr. Goetze's question about
12 the Devon well resuming injection, that's at 8,000 feet
13 in the Lower Brushy Canyon?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. Are you also aware, Mr. Pregger, that -- are
16 you aware of BOPCO's Poker Lake Unit #98?

17 A. #98?

18 Q. Which is a saltwater disposal well operated by
19 BOPCO?

20 A. I'm not, right off the top of my head.

21 Q. You're not familiar with the injection
22 operations of that well?

23 A. No, I'm not.

24 Q. All right.

25 MR. FELDEWERT: That's all the questions I

1 have.

2 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good. Let's take a
3 break. Come back in 15.

4 (Break taken, 10:00 a.m. to 10:18 a.m.)

5 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Larson, you ready?

6 MR. LARSON: I'm ready, Mr. Examiner.

7 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert, ready?

8 MR. FELDEWERT: Yes, sir.

9 EXAMINER GOETZE: We're back on record.

10 And we're going to do a little bit of
11 procedural difference here. Once you've done your
12 directs, we will ask questions and then come back for
13 your redirects, give the opportunity for our questions
14 to be included in this discussion. Going back and forth
15 is just getting to be too much of a carry-on.

16 MR. FELDEWERT: Okay.

17 EXAMINER GOETZE: We'll let you folks have
18 the final say.

19 At this point I think we're done with this
20 witness.

21 MR. LARSON: Actually, I think I have a
22 couple on the follow-up questions.

23 EXAMINER GOETZE: Well, let me see --
24 (laughter).

25 MR. LARSON: You'll have your chance.

1 EXAMINER GOETZE: So are we revisiting this
2 witness again?

3 MR. LARSON: Just for a couple of questions
4 on Exhibit 13.

5 EXAMINER GOETZE: Okay. The witness is
6 under oath.

7 Mr. Larson, continue.

8 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. LARSON:

10 Q. Mr. Pregger, I direct your attention to the
11 Cotton Draw Unit there in Section 2 on Exhibit 13.

12 A. Uh-huh.

13 Q. Were there several Devon saltwater disposal
14 wells in that area?

15 A. Yes. Devon had two Delaware saltwater disposal
16 wells in that area.

17 Q. And did BOPCO file an application against Devon
18 regarding water intrusion from those wells?

19 A. Yes, they did.

20 Q. And how has that case revolved?

21 A. That case was revolved by a meeting with Devon
22 and talking to them about the effects that their wells
23 were having on our wells on the east side of the Poker
24 Lake Unit there.

25 And we brought to -- we brought this

1 subject to their attention particularly in light of the
2 fact that they had drilled a Lower Brushy Canyon
3 horizontal well between these two disposal wells that
4 never made anything but water. Even though it's
5 surrounded by our productive well, their well in between
6 those two disposal wells made nothing but water. We
7 talked to them, and we showed them the influence that
8 their wells were having on our wells and that we would
9 like to see them get out of the Devonian -- excuse me --
10 get out of the Delaware injection in that area. And
11 based on the conversation we had with them, they decided
12 to go and drill Devonian saltwater disposal wells in
13 that area and plug those two Delaware disposal wells.

14 MR. LARSON: That's all I have.

15 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert?

16 RECROSS EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

18 Q. Mr. Pregger, with respect to that Cotton Draw
19 area, where were Devon's saltwater disposal wells?

20 A. They were in Section 2.

21 Q. No. I mean in terms of depth.

22 A. In terms of depth, they were in the Cherry
23 Canyon.

24 Q. What portion of the Cherry Canyon?

25 A. I do not have that information with me at this

1 time.

2 Q. Where were your producing wells that were being
3 impacted?

4 A. They are on the east side of the Poker Lake
5 Unit.

6 Q. What formation?

7 A. Lower Brushy Canyon.

8 Q. In the Lower Brushy Canyon?

9 A. That is correct.

10 Q. What was the distance between the two wells?
11 Less than a mile, wasn't it?

12 A. Which two wells?

13 Q. What's that?

14 A. Which two wells?

15 Q. Between the disposal wells and your producers.

16 A. Depending on which ones you pick, it's about a
17 mile to a mile and a half.

18 Q. Is there someone that's going to be here today
19 that can talk about your Poker Lake Unit 398, which was
20 BOPCO's saltwater disposal well?

21 A. I would say if -- if there was someone, it
22 would be the engineer, who would be speaking next.

23 Q. Do we know if he's going to testify -- I ask
24 your knowledge about that because apparently we don't
25 have an employee, unless you know something about it.

1 A. I do not know the specifics about that well at
2 this point in time.

3 Q. You know that it was disposing into the Lower
4 Brushy Canyon, correct?

5 A. I cannot tell you that.

6 MR. FELDEWERT: That's all the questions I
7 have.

8 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good. We're done
9 with this witness.

10 Thank you.

11 Your next witness?

12 MR. LARSON: Call Mr. McGregor.

13 CARY A. MCGREGOR,
14 after having been previously sworn under oath, was
15 questioned and testified as follows:

16 DIRECT EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. LARSON:

18 Q. Morning, sir. Would you please state your full
19 name for the record?

20 A. My name is Cary McGregor.

21 Q. And where do you reside?

22 A. Austin, Texas.

23 Q. And what is your business affiliation?

24 A. I'm a managing director with FTI Platt Sparks
25 in Austin.

1 Q. And what is your educational background?

2 A. I graduated from the University of Texas with a
3 bachelor of science in petroleum engineering in 1984.

4 Q. And what's been your experience in the oil and
5 gas business since you got your P.E. degree?

6 A. Well, since I've had my P.E. degree, prior to
7 graduating, I worked with Platt Sparks and have worked
8 at Platt Sparks for the last 30 years.

9 The general categories of the type of
10 studies we do are reservoir engineering studies, field
11 development studies, studies of secondary recoveries.
12 Waterfloods is a lot of our work. We move from reserves
13 to evaluations, evaluations for acquisitions,
14 divestitures for other -- for other entities and other
15 reasons. A large part of my experience is I've worked
16 with the Texas Railroad Commission for the last 30
17 years, which involves, you know, recommendations for the
18 appropriate field development rules, unitizations,
19 recoveries associated with those.

20 There are many applications that are
21 related to -- that's this type of work or related to
22 injection wells. So there are very many
23 injection-for-disposal-well applications that I've been
24 involved with over the years both to recommend injection
25 and to protest injection in certain areas of the

1 formations. Another part of the practice involves all
2 of that type of work, but very often it can be a
3 lease-related issue or a lease dispute.

4 Q. And did you hear Mr. Morrison's testimony about
5 BOPCO hiring a third party to evaluate their analysis of
6 the cause of the water intrusion that's the subject of
7 this case?

8 A. Yes, sir.

9 Q. And did you take the lead on that with Platt
10 Sparks?

11 A. I did.

12 Q. And you mentioned doing work with the Railroad
13 Commission. Have you ever testified at an examiner
14 hearing in front of --

15 A. I have testified at well over 100.

16 Q. And have you ever been qualified as an expert
17 witness in a state or federal court proceeding?

18 A. Yes, I have, many times.

19 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move for
20 Mr. McGregor's qualification as an expert in petroleum
21 engineering.

22 MR. FELDEWERT: No objection.

23 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good. You are so
24 qualified.

25 Proceed.

1 Q. (BY MR. LARSON) Mr. McGregor, I first direct
2 your attention to a document marked as Exhibit 14.
3 Could you identify it for the record, please?

4 A. Exhibit 14 is a well test versus time chart.
5 This is for the Poker Lake Unit 401H well. On the
6 vertical axis; we have the daily rates, barrels of oil
7 per day, barrels of water per day, and we also show psi.
8 Those three entries go with the legend that's on the
9 horizontal axis.

10 The horizontal axis is time. And the green
11 is the barrels of oil per day. The blue is the barrels
12 of water per day, and the purple diamonds, those are the
13 pump inlet pressures for the submersible pump. So those
14 are the three data parameters that I have plotted on
15 this chart for the 401H well, which is a Lower Brushy
16 Canyon completion.

17 Q. And was Exhibit 14 prepared at your direction
18 and under your supervision?

19 A. Yes, sir.

20 Q. And would you summarize the timelines of the
21 well tests performed on the 401H well from the date the
22 well went on production until the date it stopped
23 producing oil?

24 A. Well, if you start on the leftmost portion of
25 the chart, in December of 2012, the 401H well began

1 production, approximately 450 barrels of oil per day,
2 around 2,000 barrels of water per day. And you can see
3 from the pump inlet pressure, it was approximately in
4 the range of 2,500 to 3,000 psi.

5 As we now move forward in time, the well --
6 you can see that the well, from December 2012 through
7 March of 2014, produced for approximately 16 months, and
8 the trend that you see -- you can see oil declining from
9 450 barrels of oil per day to 87 barrels of oil per day
10 in March of 2014. And that's also on one of the
11 callouts. It's the very first callout on the vertical
12 axis where it shows March 24th. So we've moved from 450
13 barrels of oil per day to 87 barrels of oil per day over
14 those 16 months.

15 Similarly, you see a decline in the water
16 production from, you know, 2,000-plus barrels of water
17 per day down to 1,000 barrels of water per day. And
18 similarly, the pump inlet pressure, you can see that
19 that trends from around 3,000 pounds to, on March 24th,
20 800 pounds.

21 So the purpose of all that is this is a
22 depletion type reservoir, the Lower Brushy Canyon. This
23 is a typical trend that you would expect to see. You
24 can see just prior to March 24th that the oil had begun
25 flattening out in that 87-, 90-barrel-a-day range. And

1 the important part -- one important part of this plot is
2 if you just look forward at the rest of the history for
3 the well, that after March 24th, 2014, none of these
4 parameters are on trend anymore. The oil collapses to
5 zero. The well goes to 100 percent water. You can see
6 the water production. Rather than declining, it now
7 begins to increase up to -- if you look at the very --
8 from March 24th all the way to the end point, you know,
9 it's up around -- up to 3,000 barrels of water per day.

10 And also significantly on the pump inlet
11 pressure, we've gotten it down over that 16-month period
12 to 800 pounds, and you can see a significant reversal in
13 trend on pump inlet pressure. So there has been an
14 extraneous source of energy that this well has
15 encountered that has stopped all of its oil production.
16 It's gone to 100 percent water, and the pressure in the
17 wellbore has increased significantly.

18 Q. And what is the significance of the April 28th,
19 2014 date you have as a callout on this exhibit?

20 A. Well, the first -- the first two callouts that
21 are, you know, down in the -- the March 24th showing 87
22 barrels of oil per day and then the next callout of
23 April 28th, 2014, in the yellow box where it says "100
24 percent water rate," those are the two tests that we
25 have. The 87 barrels of oil per day is the last test we

1 have showing oil, and then about a month later, on April
2 28th, that's the first test that we have that shows 100
3 percent water. Because this graph is not allocated
4 production. What I asked for on this graph is actual
5 well-test data for the 401H well.

6 Q. And what did BOPCO do after it received the
7 April 28 well test?

8 A. Well, there are a number of things. I mean,
9 obviously you have a -- you have a very good Lower
10 Brushy Canyon oil well that's gone to 100 percent water.
11 So there was a lot of, you know, team effort and thought
12 beginning to try to understand the problem.

13 So once that well test was made, there
14 was -- they kept the well on test from April 28th until
15 May 13th, at which time the well was shut in. So during
16 that window, what they did is they continued producing
17 the well during that week or two. They saw the
18 bottom-hole pressure continued increasing. They saw
19 that the well continued on a 100 percent water
20 production. So they were confirming that well test
21 during the next two -- you know, is this -- is that day
22 representative of what's happened to our well?

23 So it was, in part, to do that. And then
24 during that period, they also began gathering water
25 samples to help understand the fluid production that was

1 being experienced in the well during that period of
2 time.

3 Q. After the water samples were taken, what was
4 the next step that BOPCO took?

5 A. Well, the next step is they shut the well in on
6 May 13th, pulled the pump. And they ran into the hole
7 throughout the vertical section to do an MIT, a
8 mechanical integrity test, to determine is there a hole
9 in the casing somewhere that would be the inflow or
10 potential source for extraneous water, and there was
11 not.

12 The next effort they made was on May 21st,
13 they ran a production log survey. And this is a very
14 long lateral -- it is a very difficult process to run a
15 production log, you know, in a lateral well that's, you
16 know, close to 8,000 foot of lateral. So they ran the
17 production log, and the purpose of the production log
18 was to identify where's the water coming from.

19 The results of that analysis showed that
20 the water entry point was very close to the toe, about
21 four sleeves back. I believe it's 13,191. And the
22 results of that analysis, which we'll also cover, shows
23 there were exit points. There was significant
24 cross-flow -- subsurface cross-flow identified in the
25 well, because the well was shut in.

1 So after the production log was run and
2 they identified where the water inflow was occurring
3 within the wellbore, their next step was to isolate it.
4 The original -- the attempts were -- they wanted to
5 isolate stage four, which is the stage that was
6 identified from the production log as being the entry
7 point, and produce it and obtain some water samples and
8 understand the character of that portion of the
9 wellbore.

10 However, they weren't able to do that after
11 a number of attempts, so what was done is they isolated
12 stages four and five, which would also -- you know,
13 basically one through five, those were isolated, and
14 returned the well to production to try to reestablish
15 the oil production from the remaining portion of the
16 wellbore from stage five on through stage 19. There are
17 19 stages.

18 Q. And what results did BOPCO get after it put the
19 well back on production?

20 A. Well, that is the area -- if you look at the --
21 if you look at the chart, the most southern callout,
22 where it says "July 11th of 2014" and it's pointing to a
23 vertical line, this -- from July 11th, 2014 until, as
24 you can see in the next callout as you move to the
25 right, on October 26th, 2014. So during -- during those

1 three months, stages four and five had been isolated.
2 And you can see from the well-test data that all it
3 produced was water. They continued producing 100
4 percent water during those three months.

5 At the end of that time period, being
6 October 26th, what you can see is -- so during that time
7 period, the pressurized water, disposal water -- the
8 pressurized disposal water had nowhere else to go. It
9 couldn't cross flow. So during that period of time,
10 that interval is isolated.

11 From October 26th, 2014 forward and
12 thereafter, BOPCO went back into the well, drilled out
13 all of the plugs to return the entire well to production
14 and effectively began to dewater or capture -- act as a
15 capture well the pressurized disposal water that had
16 watered out the well.

17 Because during -- during this time
18 period -- and we have exhibits for that. During this
19 time period, the breakout water continued to move to the
20 south and to the west and impacted their 392H well next
21 in sequence and then the 393H well in sequence. And
22 because of that, in part, it was a very deliberate
23 action to go drill out those plugs and begin capturing
24 as much of that water as they could to try to, you know,
25 keep that water from further impacting the next two

1 wells down the line and see if they could reestablish
2 oil production in the 392 and 393.

3 Throughout this entire time period, from --
4 basically from the point of the callout of April 28th of
5 2014 when the well went to 100 percent water, Bass has
6 moved more than 150,000 barrels of water since that
7 period of time and spent on the order of \$1.6 million in
8 order to try to study this problem, understand this
9 problem and try to reestablish oil production in the
10 401H, the 392H and the 393H.

11 Q. Did you hear Mr. Morrison's testimony that the
12 well had rebounded somewhat in terms of oil production?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Now, we show here on this Exhibit 14 that there
15 was zero oil produced as of October 26th. Are there
16 more recent tests that show oil production?

17 A. Yes.

18 And actually on that callout as far as --
19 the current oil rate is shown in the same box with the
20 October 26th, but October 26th is when they drilled out
21 the plug to return the well -- the entire wellbore to
22 production. And the current oil rate in November of
23 2014, the last one I had, until just yesterday, was no
24 oil. The well was still producing 100 percent water,
25 but as of literally this weekend, on December 4th, the

1 well began to produce oil.

2 MR. FELDEWERT: I'm sorry. Which well was
3 that?

4 THE WITNESS: The 401H well.

5 So since April, for the last nine months,
6 we have not produced any oil. But as of this weekend,
7 the well began producing oil, and the well has remained
8 on test. So from December 5th, 6th and 7th, which are
9 the three days -- actually four days. December 4th,
10 5th, 6th and 7th, the oil has ranged from 21 to 30
11 barrel of oil per day now in the 401H well and producing
12 an associated amount of water ranging from 2,011 to
13 almost 2,400 barrels of water per day. So currently,
14 the well is producing, based on the last four days that
15 we have, 25 barrels of oil per day, almost 2,200 barrels
16 of water per day at a water-oil ratio of 87 to 1.

17 So, you know, the good news is the efforts
18 have led to some reestablishment of oil production in
19 ~~the 401H well.~~ As you can see from the data itself, the
20 well is still producing significantly more volumes of
21 water than it had prior to the water breakout. It's at
22 significantly higher pressure than prior to breakout and
23 at a significantly higher water-oil ratio.

24 Q. (BY MR. LARSON) Is there anything further you'd
25 like to relate with regard to Exhibit 14?

1 A. Well, you know, \$1.6 million is, you know, a
2 lot of effort and a lot of time in order to bring this
3 well on as a capture well to try to remediate the next
4 two wells down the line. You know, it is incurring, you
5 know, great expense to move this much water. To
6 continuously move this much water even as they're
7 establishing the oil production, there is significant
8 volumes of water that are having to be moved in order to
9 reestablish the production that has been established to
10 date.

11 Q. And just following up on that, did BOPCO put a
12 new pump on the well?

13 A. Yes. When they made the -- took the action to
14 drill out all the plugs in the well and bring the well
15 back on to production, as part of that, they -- they
16 utilized a much larger pump that they put in the well,
17 so they could capture and move large volumes of
18 pressurized water.

19 Q. And was the cost of the pump included in your
20 \$1.6 million figure?

21 A. I believe so.

22 Q. And are there ongoing costs, as you said, in
23 terms of all that water?

24 A. Yes. There are ongoing costs. I mean,
25 certainly 25 barrels a day and moving 2,200 barrels a

1 day is not an economic proposition.

2 Q. I'd next direct your attention to the document
3 marked as Exhibit 15. Could you identify that for the
4 record, please?

5 A. Exhibit 15 is a four-page exhibit. These are
6 water samples taken by Martin Water Laboratories, Inc.
7 It's an independent -- they're independent of BOPCO, and
8 they do all or a majority of the water sampling that's
9 done in this area for BOPCO.

10 The water analysis -- the dates -- the
11 dates are shown. You know, if I do kind of a layout
12 here, the purpose of this exhibit, what we're going to
13 show, is I've culled out the 401H well on each of these
14 pages so that it could be contrasted to the other wells
15 that show up on this analysis, and the other wells are
16 Lower Brushy Canyon wells, also. So it was to -- it was
17 to have, you know, a metric -- a standard with which to
18 compare these water analyses we're now getting for the
19 401 well.

20 So the 401 well has been culled out either
21 with yellow highlighting and then a red box around it.
22 And any other wells that aren't under that are our
23 standards for Lower Brushy Canyon.

24 So in this particular exhibit, if we look
25 at the first page, the upper portion of the exhibit

1 where it shows number one, number two, number three and
2 number four, those were the four samples that were
3 taken. And then they lay out, as you move from left to
4 right on the exhibit in the lower portion, each one of
5 those. Number one, number two, number three, number
6 four correspond with the legend right above it. So the
7 sample number one is for a sample taken on May 2nd,
8 2014, which is after -- if you recall in the prior
9 chart, the well had gone to -- had already gone to 100
10 percent water, the 401H well had. And as for the 401
11 well -- the other three samples are for the PLU's Poker
12 Lake Unit, for the 409, the 411 and the 412 wells.

13 Q. And did Martin Water Laboratories analyze the
14 water samples at BOPCO's request?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And to the best of your knowledge, is this
17 document a true and correct copy of Martin Water
18 Laboratories' water sampling data?

19 A. Yes, it is.

20 Q. And could you go into a little more detail
21 about what these comparisons of the water samples tell
22 us?

23 A. The two primary markers that I was looking at
24 is the specific gravity, which is the very first line
25 item, you know, on the chart of the analysis. And the

1 specific gravity for samples number two, number three
2 and number four -- those are the Lower Brushy Canyon
3 wells, 409, 411 and 412 -- is 1.182 to 1.1865. That is
4 Lower Brushy Canyon water. That is a very identifiable
5 and significant signature for Lower Brushy Canyon water.

6 That is in contrast to the water specific
7 gravity for the 401 well, which is lower, much lower,
8 1.15. And when we flip through the exhibits, we'll see
9 that relationship will hold that Lower Brushy Canyon
10 water generally ranges from 1.8 to 1. -- a little less
11 than 1.21. And that is much different than the waters
12 above and actually below the Lower Brushy Canyon, so
13 it's a good signature.

14 I also looked at the total dissolved
15 solids, which is about two-thirds down the page. And
16 for the baseline wells, samples two, three and four, you
17 can see it's 300,000 plus in total dissolved solids.
18 And for the 401 well, it's, you know, much less than
19 that. It's 247,000. So it's lighter in specific
20 gravity. Its chlorides are lower. It is not native
21 Lower Brushy Canyon water that's being produced and
22 sampled from the 401 well.

23 Similarly, the next pages of the exhibit,
24 we're moving forward in time. The second page, those
25 are all for the 401 well, taken July 19th through July

1 22nd. You can see the specific gravities, 1.145, in
2 that range, total dissolved solids around -- less than
3 250,000. And if you just contrast that with our first
4 page, we're 300,000 plus for the native LBT wells, and
5 1.18 plus for the specific gravity. You can see that
6 it's not changing.

7 Third page -- yeah. Third page, we have
8 the 401 well sample taken September of 2014 versus
9 another Lower Brushy Canyon for the Poker Lake Unit 422,
10 which is at 1.195. You know, higher than the 1.85,
11 closer to 1.2. That's native Lower Brushy Canyon water
12 versus what we're experiencing in the 401 well, 1.67 in
13 this instance. The total dissolved solids in this
14 particular sample is up. It's very close to 300,000.
15 The 422 is at 350,000.

16 The last page, similar comparisons. We
17 have 1.2 versus samples three and four, 1.16. The total
18 dissolved solids for the 401 well on these late October
19 samples are down more in the range of 250,000 versus,
20 you know, 300,000 plus. So throughout this period of
21 time, the 401 well water characteristics have not
22 changed. They still show that they are -- it is not
23 native Lower Brushy Canyon water.

24 And if you look back at the first page, you
25 know, not so much the absolute values, but if you look

1 at the sulfate, which is about four line items above the
2 total dissolved solids, just the character you can see
3 is significantly different, also.

4 Q. I'll next direct your attention to the
5 document marked as Exhibit 16, and would you please
6 identify that for the record?

7 A. Exhibit 16 is a chart of Lower Brushy Canyon
8 water specific gravity for a large group of wells. On
9 the vertical axis, we have specific gravity going from
10 1.14 to 1.22. And then we have time on the horizontal
11 axis from December of 2012, and the last samples shown
12 on this are November of 2014.

13 The wells that the samples are taken from
14 are shown in the legend on the right-hand side. And the
15 way this exhibit is set up is we have three wells that
16 have been impacted. We have the 401, and then it --
17 sequentially then it moved to the 392 and 393. So those
18 are the first three on the legend on the right-hand
19 side, and those are all red. If you see a red marker,
20 that's one of the three wells that have been impacted.
21 And so what we're going to see is the character, how it
22 has changed in each of those wells over time. The
23 remaining wells are all within the same peer group.
24 They're all Lower Brushy Canyon producers. They're all
25 BOPCO producers, and I believe -- if you refer back to

1 Mr. Pregger's Exhibit Number 11, which was the Poker
2 Lake Unit 401H injection area location map, all of these
3 Lower Brushy Canyon laterals are the wells -- the 401
4 well is where I'm pointing in the map (indicating), and
5 it's the northeast portion of the Poker Lake Unit.
6 Those are the peer group that these water analyses are
7 taken from that are shown on this chart.

8 Q. Mr. McGregor, was Exhibit 16 prepared at your
9 direction?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. And under your supervision?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. I just wanted to get that in for the record.
14 Please continue.

15 A. So the red box that's shown on here -- it's
16 shown on the top -- identifies the range of specific
17 gravities from 1.18 to 1.205. And the reason for that
18 is that is a very good marker for the range of native
19 Lower Brushy Canyon water. And if we start the most --
20 the earliest one we have is the red square, which was
21 December 18th of 2012. That is the 392 well. It's one
22 of the wells, as we'll see here shortly, that was
23 impacted. But it was producing native Lower Brushy
24 Canyon water early on in its life.

25 Similarly, the next red we see is the red

1 triangle. That's for the 393 well. It came above 1.18.
2 That's also one of the wells that has been impacted by
3 the disposal water operations. And it was showing
4 native Lower Brushy Canyon water.

5 And then significantly, on January 17th of
6 2014, the Poker Lake Unit 401H well, which is the well
7 we looked at its history, for that well, it's red, but
8 we also did a black outline around the diamond so it's
9 easier to see. That was prior to the 100 percent water
10 that we identified in April of 2014. And you can see
11 that well was also producing native Lower Brushy Canyon
12 water with a specific gravity above 1.19.

13 The callouts that are shown, there are
14 three of them in the lower portion. We show -- the
15 first one is April of 2014, April 28th, 2014, and that
16 was the first test that we had that showed 100 percent
17 water for the Poker Lake Unit 401H well. So we've shown
18 that as a benchmark.

19 You can see that right -- you know, when I
20 said part of what they did -- the reason they kept
21 producing is so they could gather additional data, and
22 part of that data was water samples. You can see there
23 are three water samples taken just after the April 2014
24 date, and all of those are significantly out of the
25 range for native Lower Brushy Canyon water.

1 So we have an oil well that went to 100
2 percent water. We have water samples that both prior to
3 the -- prior to the event showing that it was producing
4 native Lower Brushy Canyon water above specific gravity
5 at 1.19, and then subsequently the water samples were
6 telling us it's no longer native Lower Brushy Canyon,
7 down to the 1.15 to 1.16 range.

8 The next callout is the Mesquite, when
9 Mesquite shuts in their injection. That's July 23rd of
10 2014. And there you start seeing -- that's when you
11 start seeing the red squares, which is the Poker Lake
12 392H well, and the red triangles, which is the Poker
13 Lake 393H well. And you can see -- if you compare those
14 to the early test that we had for those two wells back
15 prior to September 2013, both of those were, you know,
16 well above 1.18. Now the water samples are being
17 obtained from those wells, and we see their production
18 has been impacted, is down 1.15.

19 As we move forward to the next callout --
20 so between July 23rd of 2014 and the next callout of
21 October 26th 2014, that callout is when the 401H, they
22 drilled out all the plugs, put in a bigger pump and
23 began using it as a well to dewater the pressurized
24 disposal water in the area.

25 Between those two periods of time, you can

1 see that as water samples were continued to be taken on
2 both the 392 and 393 -- and we'll show those wells have
3 reestablished some of their original production -- that
4 the water samples started cleaning up, also. And so
5 right around November 2014, we're now seeing specific
6 gravities for those two wells well within the range of
7 what appears to be Lower Brushy Canyon water, although
8 the wells still produced a lot more water than they ever
9 did prior to the breakout in those wells.

10 Q. Now I'll next direct your attention to the
11 document marked as Exhibit 17. Would you identify that
12 for the record, please?

13 A. This is a portion of the production log that
14 was made on the 401H well. This was after the well had
15 been shut in on May 13th of 2014, and this production
16 log was run on May 21st. And I've pulled four pages
17 from the report to show the key events, the key analysis
18 that I take away from this log.

19 Q. Would it be fair to say that the full report is
20 voluminous?

21 A. It's more than four pages.

22 Q. And do you know if this analysis was done at
23 BOPCO's direction?

24 A. Yes. I do know that it was done at BOPCO's
25 direction as part of their resources in trying to

1 determine where's the water coming from. Since the well
2 has gone 100 percent water, this is part of that water,
3 in trying to understand and then remediate the problem.

4 Q. And to the best of your knowledge, is this a
5 true and correct copy of the portion of the analysis
6 that you selected?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And did you prepare the annotations that appear
9 on Exhibit 17?

10 A. I did.

11 Q. What purpose are your annotations, sir?

12 A. One, to help me remember dates and for the rest
13 of the group to remember dates."

14 But it was -- it was important, the results
15 of this, to show when the well had been shut in. That
16 wasn't a date that showed up in the report itself. It
17 just shows the date of the survey as May 21st. And then
18 the analysis summary that was shown in this exhibit, I
19 took that verbiage and annotated it onto the plot so
20 that we could associate it with the production log
21 profile on the last page of the exhibit.

22 Q. Was the 401H shut in when the production log
23 was run on May 21st?

24 A. Yes. It had been shut in for over a week at
25 the time that log was run.

1 Q. And looking at page 3 of Exhibit Number 17,
2 there is a heading there, "Analysis Summary." How did
3 ProTechnics summarize its analysis of the log data?

4 A. Well, ProTechnics, this is one of their
5 subsidiaries. They're related to CoreLab. And they run
6 these type of tests. And as part of that, you know,
7 they have a group of experts that analyze these things,
8 and they put a summary. And so what this summary
9 shows -- there are two points to it.

10 The first is -- what the production log
11 shows is there was a major inflow at 13,169 feet to
12 13,173 feet. And based on the spinner, that flow is
13 1,520 barrels per day. So we're talking about a shut-in
14 well that's producing ^{some} 1,520 barrels per day. And when I
15 say producing, I should say cross-flow. It's a
16 subsurface cross-flow. It's moving from this inflow
17 (indicating), and then as shown in point number two in
18 this summary, it's saying where that is exiting.

19 So we have -- we have high-pressure water
20 that's moving into the wellbore and then invading or
21 cross-flowing into other portions of the lateral,
22 because the lateral had been depleted over the last 16
23 months, invading other oil-bearing portions of the well.
24 And they identified three exit ports from the log, and
25 the last one was at 10,148, 10,152, where 1,270 barrels

1 per day had exited. So at that point -- from that point
2 forward on the lateral, there was -- there was no
3 additional flow. And those points, those specific
4 intervals and the rates, are shown what's on the last
5 page. I brought over -- those are my callout boxes to
6 point those out.

7 Q. I'll next ask you to direct your attention to
8 the document marked as Exhibit 18, and would you
9 identify that for the record?

10 A. Exhibit 18 is a fracture orientation map. This
11 was taken from Mr. Pregger's --

12 Q. Is it Number 5?

13 A. -- Exhibit Number 5. So this is the same map
14 that Mr. Pregger showed, which has -- there are 12
15 samples on here that was part of that analysis. There
16 were nine of the red FMI data, and then there were three
17 samples of microseismic data that were done by Pinnacle.

18 And on this map, we have collectively taken
19 the information from -- these FMI data and microseismic
20 data, those numbers are posted on here, but the range of
21 those -- we know that the range was north -- 45 degrees
22 east to north, 65 degrees east, that that's the range we
23 saw from those analyses on the direction of fracture
24 propagation.

25 From the production log, we're able to fix

1 where the pressurized disposal water was entering the
2 wellbore, so that gave us a fix at 13,171 to begin from.
3 So at that point, what I've added to Mr. Pregger's
4 exhibit is a range of fracture propagation, so it's a
5 cone, if you will, of where fracturing -- the direction
6 of the fracture should be or fracture network.

7 And, you know, what that shows is from that
8 point, as we move back to the Section 11 and Section 12
9 group of injection wells, they certainly fall in line
10 with the direction of fracture propagation that you
11 would expect from the stress orientation analysis that
12 we have, which is significant.

13 So that group of wells shows up as being
14 not only an identifiable source of water injection and
15 pressurized water, but it also fits with the point of
16 the entry into the 401H well.

17 Q. I'd next direct your attention to the
18 exhibit -- holding on to Exhibit 18 for a second, you
19 mentioned that the blue area of your cone points to the
20 401H?

21 A. It begins at the 401H, that's correct.

22 Q. Is it going the other direction? What's the
23 distance of those lines?

24 A. As we move to the south and to the west, the
25 significance is that the performance data, it fits a

1 sequence. So in other words, the next well that was
2 impacted by the disposal water is the 392, which falls,
3 you know, within that line of fracture propagation, and
4 then the 393 well was impacted, which -- so they fall in
5 line with the fracture propagation orientation. And
6 that is the sequence of events. That's actually how it
7 occurred in our wells. And I'll have the other two
8 production plots which we'll talk about, in addition to
9 the 401, and we can see from the well tests when each of
10 these events happened in each of the wells. So it fits
11 timing and sequencewise with the direction of fracture
12 propagation.

13 Q. If we look at the well designated as 393H, if
14 we were moving to the west and south there, what would
15 be the next BOPCO well -- horizontal well in that
16 progression?

17 A. After the 393H?

18 Q. Yes. Do you understand my question?

19 A. Well, it's more can I read the well?

20 Q. Would it be the 394?

21 A.. I believe -- I believe the 394 is the well that
22 was next in line. I was just looking to see if I could
23 actually see that.

24 Yes. If we look back at Mr. Pregger's
25 Exhibit 11, the 394H well is the next well that you

1 would be watching for as the next well in line to
2 potentially be impacted by the extraneous water.

3 Q. Now we'll move on to Exhibit 19. Was this
4 document prepared at your direction or under your
5 supervision?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And what is this document intended to depict?

8 A. Similar to the Poker Lake 401H chart, this is
9 the same format. It is the production well test versus
10 time. Again, on the vertical access, we have the daily
11 oil, water and pressure measurements from the pump inlet
12 pressure. You can see the well originally came on
13 December 2012 at around 650 barrels of oil per day,
14 roughly around 1,500 barrels of water per day and around
15 3,000 pounds pump inlet pressure.

16 The trend that we see now, over the next 16
17 months, is similar. This is what you would expect of a
18 Lower Brushy Canyon. Your oil is declining. It begins
19 to flatten out as you get around March of 2014. You can
20 see it begins to flatten out. Similarly, your water
21 production is decreasing, from 1,500 barrels a day to,
22 you know, well below 1,000, and the pump inlet pressure
23 from 3,000 pounds down to, looks like, around 200
24 pounds. And so that was -- that's what you would expect
25 from a typical Lower Brushy Canyon decline. And this is

1 the next well on our map. It's the next one after the
2 401H well that's in line.

3 The callouts that are shown -- if you look
4 at the tan one up at the top, we have the oil rate prior
5 to breakout, about 61 barrels of oil per day, and then
6 in November of 2014, we're at 57. So we've
7 reestablished oil production in this well to similar --
8 you know, hopefully it's going to be similar or better.
9 The water production is still significantly higher. So
10 if you look at the -- the callouts, again, these are
11 benchmarks. The first one on the left we show -- in the
12 401, the last oil on that one was at 87 barrels of oil
13 per day on March 24th, 2014. And you can see at that
14 point in time, the 392 had not been impacted yet. It
15 was still continued -- from that point forward, it was
16 still continuing its typical decline.

17 The next callout we show when the Poker
18 Lake Unit well was shut in on May 13th. We're still
19 continuing decline. You can see the pump inlet pressure
20 is still declining. The water is still declining.

21 And then, you know, I think it's
22 significant that once the -- the next callout, which is
23 in the upper portion, on July 11th of 2014, that's when
24 they set the bridge plug to isolate stage four
25 primarily. That was the purpose. It ended up being

1 isolated. So now that high-pressure water has nowhere
2 to go. It can no longer cross-flow into the other
3 portions of the lateral.

4 And very shortly after that, you can see
5 that there is a reversal in all of our established
6 trends. The oil which is shown in green, you know,
7 collapses down less than ten barrels per day. Your pump
8 inlet pressure begins to increase quite rapidly
9 associated -- correlating with that, as does your water
10 production. And you can see that since -- and that
11 occurred in pretty rapid fashion.

12 And then the last callout, that's when
13 Mesquite shut their disposal wells in. And those are --
14 two of the five wells are up in Sections 11 and 12.
15 They shut that in in July 23rd of 2014. And you can see
16 that as they continued to produce this well, they were
17 producing it at a high -- high pump inlet pressure, high
18 water rates. The oil rate is recovering, and it was
19 able to turn the corner. In other words, we can see
20 that we've -- we've arrested -- the pump inlet pressure
21 increased, the increased water. But since the Mesquite
22 well shut-in, it was able to turn a corner, which is
23 another -- I think another important piece of evidence
24 that there is a correlation between that area and this
25 well.

1 Q. Is the pressure still elevated in the PLU 392?

2 A. The pressure should be around 200 pounds, and
3 it's very elevated. It's still up around -- probably
4 around 600 psi, and they're still producing very
5 significant volumes of water.

6 Q. And does that indicate to you that there is
7 still high-pressure extraneous water coming into that
8 well?

9 A. Yes. I believe there is.

10 Q. Even after the Mesquite wells were shut in on
11 July 23rd of this year?

12 A. I believe so. I mean, it's still recovering.
13 This well is not back to trend at all. And it's been
14 on, you know, since -- since July through November, you
15 can see what the trend is, and it's still at an elevated
16 pressure. It doesn't just stop and drop back down to
17 200 pounds, which is where it had been prior to being
18 impacted.

19 Q. Moving on to Exhibit Number 20, was this
20 document prepared at your direction and under your
21 supervision?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And it looks very similar to the previous
24 exhibits we've seen which address the 401H and the 392H.

25 A. Yes.

1 It's the same format well test. This well
2 is better than 392. This is a well that came on around
3 800 barrels of oil per day. We have the same -- the
4 same decline trends that you would expect of a Lower
5 Brushy Canyon. Then you see the reversal in those
6 trends, when you had the water breakout into the well
7 and the collapsing of the oil production.

8 This well was producing 160 to 170 barrels
9 of oil per day prior to the breakout, and currently it's
10 around 90 barrels of oil per day. So it has recovered
11 some of its prior oil production. It's still
12 significantly underachieving where it was prior to
13 breakout, but it has reestablished oil production.

14 Q. And do we still see elevated pressures after
15 the Mesquite well shut-in?

16 A. You see elevated pressures and elevated water
17 production, yes, you do, and then lower oil production
18 than what had been occurring prior to the breakout.

19 Q. Anything else you'd like to tell us regarding
20 Number 20?

21 A. It has a water-oil ratio. The well originally
22 was around 4 to 1, and now, currently, it's 136 to 1 as
23 a water-oil ratio.

24 Q. And I'm next directing your attention to
25 Exhibit Number 21. Was this document also prepared at

1 your direction and under your supervision?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And what are you intending to illustrate with
4 this graph?

5 A. Exhibit 21 is a graph of the disposal rate in
6 barrels of water per day on the vertical axis, on the
7 left, versus time. This is an aggregate of all five
8 wells up in Sections 11 and 12 that covers the entire
9 time period. It begins in 1994, and it goes through --
10 the data it goes through is July of 2014, that we found
11 had been filed to date.

12 So we run through the callout boxes. The
13 first one shows from 1994 through August 1st of 2014,
14 because our data goes through July, that within those
15 two sections, within that area, there's been 22.9
16 million barrels of water cumulative injection. And
17 during the most recent 12 months that we have on here,
18 they were injecting close to 15,000 barrels of water per
19 day.

20 The other annotations in the lighter yellow
21 color are annotations for various wells. So, for
22 example, the first one, October 24th of 2006, that's
23 when the SDS 11-1 well was applied for and was approved
24 for a pressure increase as a surface injection pressure,
25 from 902 pounds to 2,200 pounds. And you can see that

1 that has occurred for all of the wells in Section 11 and
2 Section 12. At some point in time, the formation would
3 not take the amount of water they were trying to dispose
4 of at those surface-injection pressures, which led to a
5 request to increase those.

6 The timing of all of those increases -- at
7 the very bottom of the exhibit, we show when the Poker
8 Lake Unit 401H comes on production, in December of 2012,
9 compared to those dates. And you can see that really
10 for four of those wells, they all just -- right after
11 that date or just a month prior to that or September of
12 2012 in the Lotos, all of those wells had gone in and
13 were changing their injection operations by getting and
14 achieving increased surface-injection pressures.

15 Notably the very last one that was approved
16 here was October of 2013, and in that one, they allowed
17 up to 3,170 pounds as a surface-injection pressure.

18 Q. And what is the cumulative total of produced
19 water injected into the Delaware Mountain Group by the
20 Chesapeake, Mesquite, Chevron and OXY SWD wells since
21 1994?

22 A. It's 22.9 million barrels of water.

23 Q. And on to your final exhibit, which is Number
24 22, would you please identify this document?

25 A. Exhibit 22 is a well configuration,

1 well-completion exhibit for each of the saltwater
2 disposal wells in Sections 11 and 12 that were shown on
3 the total injection plot on the prior exhibit. And it
4 shows for each well what its -- the interval that was
5 being injected into, when the pressure increases were
6 approved. And then for each well -- so, for example, on
7 OXY's Federal #1, which is the first well on the list,
8 in the very last line, it shows that that well has
9 cumulatively produced -- injected 9.1 million barrels of
10 water, and over the last 12 months, it has averaged
11 around 1,510 barrels of water per day.

12 Because there are only two of those
13 injections wells that are still injecting, the other one
14 being the Chevron, which is the third item on here, the
15 cumulative injection for that well was 2.8 million
16 barrels of water. And its average over the most recent
17 12-month period that we have is 1,364 barrels of water
18 per day. So we don't really know what they're currently
19 injecting after July of 2014, but that's what they're
20 currently injecting based on the data that we have.

21 Q. So based on that 12-month average ending in
22 July, what would be the cumulative total for Chevron and
23 OXY on a monthly basis?

24 A. Well, the cumulative would be around 12 million
25 barrels. The total injected water over the 12-month

1 average would be around 3,000 barrels of water per day.

2 Q. That's what I meant, those two --

3 A. Around 3,000 barrels of water per day.

4 Q. And how many barrels of non-native water is
5 BOPCO currently producing from the 401H?

6 A. Approximately 2,200 barrels of water per day is
7 the total production for the 401H. As of this weekend,
8 the last four days that we have, it's around 2,200
9 barrels of water per day.

10 Q. And directing your attention back to Number 22,
11 are the perms for the Chevron and OXY SWD wells higher
12 than the bottom depths of the Mesquite injection zones?

13 A. Yes. The perforated intervals are higher than
14 the open-hole intervals in the Mesquite wells.

15 Q. And does that fact have any significance to
16 your opinion that water injected from the OXY and
17 Chevron wells has impacted and continues to impact
18 BOPCO's 401H, 392 and 393?

19 A. Well, the answer is -- the answer is I believe
20 that injection in this Delaware Group from the wells on
21 Section 11 and Section 12 are impacting the production
22 operations of the 401H, the 392H and the 393H.

23 Q. And based on all the data you've analyzed, are
24 you able to designate a specific well in Section 11 and
25 Section 12, the cone area that you had on your

1 exhibit -- a specific well that's impacted BOPCO's
2 producing wells?

3 A. No. We cannot point to a single well. What we
4 know is that there has been fracture propagation from
5 this group of wells (indicating) through the 401H to the
6 392H and through the 393H. So there's a fracture or a
7 fracture network that the door is open. It's a path,
8 and I don't believe that path -- it won't go away once
9 it's been opened up.

10 Q. In your opinion, can Chevron and OXY continue
11 to inject water into their SWD wells in Sections 11 and
12 12 without continuing to negatively impact BOPCO's 401,
13 392 and 393 wells?

14 A. No. I don't believe they can.

15 Q. And in your opinion, would continued water
16 injection by Chevron and OXY impair BOPCO's correlative
17 rights and result in the waste of the hydrocarbons?

18 A. Yes.

19 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I'll move the
20 admission of Exhibits 14 through 22.

21 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert?

22 MR. FELDEWERT: No objection.

23 EXAMINER GOETZE: Exhibits 14 through 22
24 are so entered.

25 (BOPCO Exhibit Numbers 14 through 22 were

1 offered and admitted into evidence.)

2 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert, would you
3 be adverse to a break at this time for lunch and
4 continuing with your cross after lunch?

5 MR. FELDEWERT: I would not be adverse to
6 that.

7 EXAMINER GOETZE: Okay. Let's take a
8 break. Let's try to get back here by 1:00, seeing how
9 this is Santa Fe and the service is always good and it's
10 this time of the year.

11 (Break taken, 11:29 a.m. to 1:03 p.m.)

12 EXAMINER GOETZE: Let's go back on the
13 record.

14 Upon departure, I was going to
15 leave the opportunity for questions with Mr. Feldewert
16 and falling back into old habits. We're going to go
17 ahead, as Examiners, and do our questions, and then give
18 you the opportunity, and then we can do the full circle
19 and get done with this witness.

20 We'll start with Mr. Jones. If you have
21 questions, fire away.

22 CROSS-EXAMINATION

23 BY EXAMINER JONES:

24 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. McGregor.

25 A. Good afternoon.

1 Q. This sort of seems like one of these types of
2 reservoirs that if you exceed a certain pressure, then
3 you get communication through the fractures. Do you see
4 it that way?

5 A. I think I may view it a little more, that once
6 you exceed frack pressures, you start creating geometry.
7 You start creating a fracture that will begin to
8 propagate and then potentially, you know, a network.
9 I'm sure it's not linear. But that's how I would
10 visualize it.

11 Q. So these disposal wells, are they seeing frack
12 pressure? Did you look at those step-rate tests that
13 were run for the injection-pressure increases on those
14 wells? And do you have any comments about that?

15 A. Yes. I could make a few comments on those
16 step-rate tests. You know, I've looked at a number of
17 the vast well records, and the instantaneous shut-in
18 pressures generally seem like they were 800 pounds after
19 a fracture simulation, fresh water. And my estimate for
20 the fracture gradient would be about .54, .55, you know,
21 somewhere in that range.

22 And then on the step-rate tests, there was
23 one for Mesquite. Subject to check, I think maybe it
24 was for the Bran well, where they went from 0 to 7,000
25 barrels of water per day plus but only had 11 psi

1 pressure increase over that. So I have some cause for
2 concern it wasn't already above frack gradient from the
3 get-go. Eleven pounds doesn't seem to fit with that
4 range of injection unless you have fractures you're
5 fracturing.

6 The most recent one, the OXY one which was
7 on my Exhibit 21, on that step-rate test, which was
8 October of 2013, what was ultimately approved was a
9 surface-injection pressure of 3,170 pounds. So I look
10 at that as being on the extreme end. It's well above
11 .54.

12 You know, when I make an estimate of that,
13 if I assume 1.1 specific gravity or 1.2 specific gravity
14 for the type of fluids that are going to be disposed of,
15 that would give me a head, a range, from 2,357 to 2,580.
16 So that's a head. And that was to -- I went to the top
17 of their interval of 4,962 for that calculation. And
18 then I added to that 3,170 as the permitted
19 surface-injection pressure, and that gives me 5,651 psi.
20 Divide that by the 4,962, and that gives me a gradient
21 of 1.14 psi per foot. And I'm not sure how you go
22 above, basically, 1.0, which is your lithostatic
23 gradient.

24 So I think maybe the analysis of that
25 step-rate test, there is -- something, I believe, is

1 wrong. But at the end of the day, I think 1.14 is -- is
2 above fracture gradient. That would be how I would, you
3 know, visualize that one on that extreme.

4 And very likely the reason, you know, for
5 all these increases in recent times is because they
6 couldn't take the normal fluids that they've been
7 injecting over this time, so they had to move those
8 fluids. They had to increase their pressures because
9 the formation wouldn't take it.

10 Q. So this area that you looked at is -- this
11 phenomena would be limited to this area, or from what
12 you saw, would this condemn injection into the whole
13 Delaware Mountain Group or for areas where production is
14 in the lower part of the Mountain Group?

15 A. That's a pretty -- pretty broad question, you
16 know. But I guess the way I would start framing that
17 answer is it certainly should be a consideration and a
18 concern of the Commission. The number of incidences
19 that we've seen just in this area -- and there is a lot
20 of research and science, but there were a number of
21 breakouts. And I think it was Exhibit 13 of
22 Mr. Pregger's. That would show -- you know, all the red
23 outlined areas, all of those were some form of an
24 incident of breakouts. The examples that we've seen, we
25 saw Lower Brushy Canyon to Lower Brushy Canyon. We saw

1 up in the upper portion of the Delaware Group coming
2 down 2,000 feet into the Lower Brushy Canyon. You know,
3 we see the kicks. So, you know, there's not just a
4 single instance. It's a number of instances that give
5 you pause. The formation -- there is no confinement.
6 There is no confinement being recognized.

7 The other thing that was at least apparent
8 to me is from BOPCO's point of view, which I agree with,
9 you can see they made their analysis -- I don't know how
10 large the area is, though, Mr. Examiner, when you say
11 the whole Delaware Group, but in this range, they spent
12 about \$100 million to move to Devonian. You know, we
13 have to protect the oil reserves here. They've made a
14 significant investment.

15 My experience with injection, you know,
16 whether it's an operator or a commercial operator, they
17 want to go as shallow as possible, you know, as least
18 expensive as possible, and all that makes sense. But
19 here we have a number of instances that we see that the
20 Delaware Group, there doesn't appear to be confinement.
21 And I think the case that, you know, I went over, that's
22 a large distance, you know, the three miles, but that
23 doesn't surprise me. I've seen large distances before.
24 Just in one of the examples here, it was 4,000 feet.
25 The vertical interval, you know, we've shown 2,000 feet.

1 But there is no doubt we've experienced
2 that, you know, right here. It's not even a
3 hypothetical. It went over a long distance from east to
4 west, and it traveled -- because the rates they're
5 injecting at are above the fracture gradient, pathways
6 are being created, and that pressurized water wants
7 somewhere to go. And it goes along the fracture
8 propagation direction. So that's a long way of
9 saying there's -- well, and there are a number of
10 operators, I guess, that would add to that, also. On
11 that exhibit,
12 Mr. Examiner, on the particular instance down here which
13 has been referred to as the Devon, even Devon looked at
14 the data, and they shut their Delaware wells in and
15 moved to the Devonian. They're also moving to the
16 Devonian. Mesquite looked at the data, and they shut
17 their wells in.

18 So there's a lot of -- besides the science
19 and other people reviewing the science, there's a lot of
20 acknowledgment that injection in the Delaware Group is
21 something that needs to be -- if not stopped in this
22 area, it needs to be reconsidered carefully.

23 Q. With the pressure limited -- would you say
24 limiting the pressure in these wells would be adequate
25 instead of just having injection authority revoked only?

1 A. That would certainly be the right direction,
2 Mr. Examiner, but the way I visualize this is there's
3 been a fracture network. It's already been created, and
4 there is already a pathway down onto the Poker Lake
5 Unit.

6 And then if you refer back to Mr. Pregger's
7 Exhibit 12, which is the cross section that runs through
8 all of the injection wells and over to the 401 well, you
9 can see that the Mesquite wells are open-hole
10 completions. The Heavy Metal is open hole, Bell Canyon,
11 Cherry Canyon, Upper Cherry Canyon. And the Bran well
12 is open hole from, you know, mid-Bell Canyon into just
13 the uppermost portion of the Brushy Canyon, and also
14 it's TD.

15 And there is hydraulic communication
16 between this whole group of injection wells, you know,
17 laterally. I mean, there is lateral communication into
18 the Mesquite wells because they're open hole. So I
19 think -- I don't think you can allow continued injection
20 in this area.

21 Q. Have you worked on Delaware waterfloods like
22 down in Loving County, some of those drilling-core type
23 waterfloods? Obviously, you wouldn't recommend a
24 waterflood in the Delaware out here, I take it?

25 A. Well, you know, if you're doing a managed

1 waterflood, a certain spot where you're putting in
2 certain volumes and taking out equivalent volumes to
3 stay -- so that you have sweeps and stay below a
4 fracture gradient, then yes, I would recommend --

5 Q. You might get a lot of water through the
6 gradient?

7 A. You might, or you might have to move in
8 relatively low volumes, you know, stay within the
9 fracture gradient pressure, .54, so you can have 300
10 pounds at the surface.

11 Q. You said this was a depletion drive reservoir.
12 And in that water breakthrough, you didn't see any oil
13 swept in front of that at all through that -- that seems
14 to imply that that big fracture was there from the
15 get-go and it was saturated with water from the
16 beginning.

17 A. The truth is I don't know. I don't know
18 whether it was induced and created or it enhanced an
19 existing fracture. I don't know that I could say one
20 way or the other. I think that's certainly plausible,
21 but I don't know that that's the answer, Mr. Examiner.

22 Q. Okay. So you've got this production log, and
23 it's showing coming in about four feet an interval
24 there, an incredibly short distance that it's invading
25 that wellbore. And even the exit area's in the

1 shallower -- at least measured depth portion or kind of
2 small fracture area is also maybe -- so there's no
3 cement issues here, then? You've looked at -- it's your
4 cement on the BOPCO wells, and you also looked at the
5 cement on the OXY-Chevron wells and the TD of their
6 wells inside were plugged -- inside plugged? Did they
7 give you information like that?

8 A. I can't say that I asked for that information,
9 Mr. Examiner. I did not look at cement tops, do any
10 kind of volume factors to make a calculation and look at
11 cement. I did not do that work.

12 What I will say, on the 401H well, it's an
13 open-hole packer log with sleeves. And you're correct.
14 It almost seems like there's definitely a fault or a
15 fracture network that hit right there in the range of
16 that sleeve, and then over the next, you know -- it went
17 about 2,000 -- 3,000 feet until it started cross-flowing
18 over the next 800 feet into the various --

19 Q. The water qualities that you compared with were
20 native Brushy Canyon, Lower Brushy waters. What do the
21 waters in the Cherry Canyon look like? In other words,
22 does this -- do they look like what it was doing before?
23 I mean, after the sweep broke through, were you seeing
24 waters that looked just like Cherry Canyon waters, or
25 were you seeing waters that looked like a conglomeration

1 of what they were projecting?

2 A. In the 401 well and the 392 and 393?

3 Q. Yeah.

4 A. You could see that it was lighter. You know,
5 it dropped down from the 1.8 -- between 1.18 to 1.2, you
6 know, which is where they should be. So it's a mix. I
7 mean, there's been a lighter water, lower chlorides, you
8 know, which result in lower specific gravity, lower TDS.
9 And the samples that I've looked at, really there is --
10 above the Lower Brushy Canyon, you know, it's 1.0 to --
11 on specific gravity -- maybe to 1.1. Somewhere there is
12 a gradation, but when you get to the Lower Brushy
13 Canyon, it's, you know, 1.18 to 1.2. Then as you move
14 over -- I saw samples from Avalon and Bone Spring, and
15 it's lighter. So the signature for native Lower Brushy
16 Canyon I think is a pretty good signature. And I don't
17 know that -- I don't think the water -- you know, it
18 appears like a mix to me. It's a mix.

19 Q. While they were running that production log and
20 while they had their wells shut in or BOPCO wells, that
21 well shut in, did you see pressure at the surface that
22 would almost be equivalent to the pressures that were
23 going on in the disposal wells? In other words, some
24 kind of pressure communication. Can you say anything
25 about that? Do they have to run a lubricator when they

1 run their --

2 A. Actually, I don't know how that -- how that was
3 run. I mean, the well was shut in. Everything was
4 cross-flowing. I think the production log itself was
5 showing -- the pressure during the logging was 1,500 to
6 1,900 pounds, and we could see that the pressure did
7 increase significantly on each of the producers.

8 Q. But it was cross-flowing, so you wouldn't maybe
9 see it at the surface anyway?

10 A. Right. That was my point on that.

11 Q. What about vertical wells? Did they see any
12 breakthrough on vertical wells production that might
13 have been producing from any of the Delaware intervals?
14 And did this happen -- did anybody else complain that
15 came to you guys? Has this solely affected the BOPCO
16 horizontal wells?

17 A. Well, the Lower Brushy Canyon -- the
18 unconventional resources, that's only been a play from
19 2010, 2011 forward, so I wouldn't really expect people
20 to have lots of issues or, you know, breakthroughs on
21 wells -- a resource that wasn't being developed yet.
22 I'm not certain that that would be -- I'd have to ask
23 the team that has a little more experience on those type
24 of issues to answer your question.

25 You know, I do recall -- I know Mr. Pregger

1 talked about at least Devon recognized some -- no
2 production right around the two wells they were
3 injecting versus all the wells around there being
4 productive, but it doesn't answer your question of a
5 vertical well. I don't really know the answer to your
6 question other than I think timing is some consideration
7 of why you've only seen things more recently.

8 Q. The ramp-up in the volumes going into those
9 disposal wells was relatively recent, wasn't it?

10 A. Yes. And I think that ramp-up in the volumes,
11 which I believe it was -- Mesquite is the ramp -- I
12 don't think Chevron and OXY have really changed their
13 volumes much. But I think the -- like when we looked at
14 the cross section. There's communication -- hydraulic
15 communication. And because of the additional pressure,
16 you know, that was going into the formation, I think
17 that's why -- it's very plausible that's why they had to
18 come in. Even though they're trying to move the same
19 volumes, they're having to increase their pressure and
20 increase their pressures and get the pressure
21 exceptions.

22 Q. And this microseismic that Mr. Pregger was
23 talking about, can you comment any on that, on the
24 lateral distance that they measured on the frack job or
25 of the vertical distance, if they saw any kind of

1 movement of rocks while the frack job was going on?

2 A. I've looked at -- I've seen a lot of
3 microseismic and been involved in a lot of projects with
4 some really good teams that that's all they've looked
5 at.

6 Specifically here, I have only, in talking
7 to the team, asked those type of questions, because
8 microseismic, my experience has been generally it's
9 always going to show a much larger area than what you
10 can actually prop, you know, for your volumes. But I
11 really didn't look at that as part of the analysis. My
12 understanding was it was a couple hundred feet up and
13 down and maybe -- I don't know -- 300,000 feet or so.
14 But that would be a better question for Mr. Pregger.

15 Q. Okay. There is a reservoir out there of oil,
16 though, that is stratigraphically confined, and now the
17 confinement is broken. Is that what you're saying
18 basically? In other words, there's -- it's not -- it's
19 not isolated from some vast water? Almost analogous to
20 a waterdrive reservoir that if you produce it for a
21 while, here comes the water, and that's about all you
22 can do?

23 A. Yeah. I look at the unconventional resources.
24 Generally you drain what you can impact with your
25 fracture simulation and then what you're able to prop

1 above about .2 psi -- I mean two pounds per square foot.
2 That's kind of the range. You can prop that much, and
3 that's the effective rock volume that you're going to
4 drain.

5 You know, all of these wells, you know, the
6 three wells that I showed, there's mobile water from the
7 get-go, but I think you only drain what's being
8 impacted. And if it's a tight, unconventional resource,
9 that effectively whatever your effective prop length is
10 going to be, that's what you're going to drain.

11 I think what I'm trying to say is that the
12 injection -- with the amount of injection just in
13 Sections 11 and 12, I believe that it's exceeded the
14 fraction gradient, and, therefore, whether there was
15 already some natural fracture system there that has
16 allowed it to be enhanced, you know, because now your
17 high-pressure water is moving in, or whether it's all
18 induced, I don't know which it is, Mr. Examiner. But I
19 think that pathway is there for just the water to move.
20 It's going to seek out -- now that the pathway is there,
21 it's going to seek out a lower pressure, and Bass is
22 moving, you know, over 2,000 barrels of fluid per day to
23 try to dewater it. And so anything -- putting it back
24 in where you know there is a pathway, it's unwinding all
25 the resources and the effort that they're putting in to

1 try to reestablish the oil production.

2 Q. Could you see this fracture swarm or fault
3 through any kind of seismic -- 3D seismic? In other
4 words, could you have foretold what was going to happen
5 here before it actually happened with some sort of --

6 A. That's a hard question. I don't know. I don't
7 know. If it was -- and it's very plausible these are --
8 the majority are induced, and so I suspect until that
9 happened, you wouldn't have seen anything. But I don't
10 know the answer to that question, Mr. Examiner.

11 Q. Those are all my questions.

12 EXAMINER WADE: I don't have any questions.

13 EXAMINER GOETZE: No questions?

14 CROSS-EXAMINATION

15 BY EXAMINER GOETZE:

16 Q. A couple of questions on Exhibit 11. We have
17 the 400H horizontal. What is the situation with that
18 well, and why did we not include that in the discussion?

19 A. Well, that's a good question, Mr. Examiner.
20 You know, where the 401 is -- I mean, we've been
21 watching the 400 closely to see if it becomes impacted
22 to the extent of the other wells, so, you know, we could
23 bring that forward. That evidence is not there.

24 In the 401H, Mr. Examiner, it hit at 13,191
25 at the toe, on the fourth sleeve back. And the toe

1 is -- the black dots are the surface locations, the way
2 the map is structured, so the toe is up in the most, you
3 know, northwest portion almost touching the unit line up
4 there. And it appears that the fracture is just -- went
5 north of the 400 well, and it tied into the 401H well
6 there at the very end. Where it ties in at,
7 Mr. Examiner, if you look at the cone --

8 Q. Exhibit 18?

9 A. Yes.

10 The cone -- I mean, that's the point of the
11 water entry in the well, and so it is -- you know, it is
12 at the -- you know, it's running at the very toe, the
13 very end of the 400H well, and we just didn't see -- we
14 haven't seen it. So that's the answer.

15 Q. So are we stating that pretty much we have a
16 very finite fracture system that is appearing and
17 staying open? Are we looking at a synergistic effect of
18 having all these wells together in one location?

19 A. I think the synergistic effect may have just
20 been everyone's been bumping up their surface-injection
21 pressures and moving a lot of water, and that allowed
22 the movement to, you know, accelerate and go there.
23 It's very localized where it hit the 401H well, you
24 know. The production log tells us, you know, where it
25 hit, and it just passed -- we're watching the 400H but

1 haven't seen the evidence to bring it forward. That's a
2 good question. What I will say is where water is
3 entering the 401H is at the very toe of that well.

4 Q. And with regards to the 393H and 392H, we're
5 seeing more of a wide spread as opposed to finite
6 interaction as with the 401H?

7 A. There haven't been production logs around those
8 wells to know --

9 Q. Okay. So we don't have any information?

10 A. No. They've kept those -- we've taken water
11 samples, which on that analysis, you can see it has
12 recovered somewhat as the oil production has been
13 reestablished.

14 Q. And let's see. Your study didn't include
15 anything to the northeast of these clusters? I'm sure
16 that's out of your purview of your --

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. -- investigation.

19 Okay. And was any water sampling taken for
20 the Mesquite wells for background, just out of
21 curiosity?

22 A. I asked for that, and it's my understanding we
23 don't have any -- you're talking about for the disposal
24 water?

25 Q. Yes. Yes.

1 A. The team wasn't able to obtain any.

2 Q. And the testimony presented is that the two
3 other wells are producing -- the water being produced --
4 water being produced was re-injected, or are they from
5 other sources?

6 A. For the --

7 Q. The OXY.

8 A. We don't -- I'm sure we're going to hear that.
9 I don't know. But what -- what -- what I do know is the
10 water is lighter from the Delaware Group other than the
11 Lower Brushy Canyon. And similarly, for the Bone
12 Spring, the Lower Brushy Canyon is the 1.2. So other
13 than their water coming -- being injected into -- their
14 wells being only Lower Brushy Canyon, so it's 1.2 and,
15 therefore, couldn't have lightened up, the water samples
16 that we saw when we had the water breakthrough, then I
17 don't think it's going to -- it's going to matter. But
18 I don't know where their water is coming from.

19 Q. And one last question: With regard to open
20 hole versus cased perforated intervals in the Delaware
21 Mountain Group, is this a good indication or suggestion
22 that maybe open hole is not an ideal situation for this
23 type of completion for disposal?

24 A. I think it is certainly a consideration,
25 because you can see where -- you know, in this instance,

1 if there was a statement that, you know, our wells
 2 aren't creating any fractures, just those over there.
 3 But if they're open hole and you're in hydraulic
 4 communication with them -- I think that may be the point
 5 you're driving to -- then -- then yes. Case -- cased
 6 hole would probably be a better way to go about it and a
 7 grassroots well, also, versus a re-entry or a
 8 completion, a conversation of a well that was initially
 9 Lower Brushy Canyon and then came up the hole. I think
 10 that would be another consideration in this area where
 11 we can see the large number of breakouts that have
 12 occurred.

13 Q. That answers my question -- my last question.

14 EXAMINER GOETZE: I turn the witness over
 15 to you.

16 MR. FELDEWERT: Okay.

17 EXAMINER GOETZE: Proceed.

18 CROSS-EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

20 Q. Mr. McGregor, do you have Exhibit 12 in front
 21 of you?

22 A. I have all the exhibits. I don't know if --
 23 let me find it.

24 Q. This cross-section map (indicating).

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. I just want to ask a couple of questions on
2 this. Now, the Chesapeake well that they show on here
3 is open hole. That's not a factor. That's been plugged
4 for quite some time, right? I'm not sure why they show
5 it on here, but that's not an active well?

6 A. Well, we showed it on here because these are
7 all the injection wells in Sections 11 and 12. There is
8 a high concentration of wells.

9 Q. But that well seen there, that's not impacting
10 anything?

11 A. As of today, that's -- that's correct.

12 Q. Then as you look at this and you keep lumping
13 Chevron and OXY's well with Mesquite's well, there is a
14 difference as reflected on here, and that's that
15 Mesquite's Bran well is certainly going to be injecting
16 open hole into the Brushy Canyon, correct?

17 A. Well, we know that there is an open hole into
18 the very upper portion of the Brushy Canyon. That
19 doesn't necessarily -- that means, you know, all the
20 water or some portion of the water is going out that
21 portion --

22 Q. Did you analyze that?

23 A. -- but it's not --

24 I've looked at some of the records that are
25 associated with these wells.

1 Q. But it's completed into the upper portion of
2 the Brushy Canyon and has the open-hole injection?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. But it's now been shut in?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Now, with respect to the Mesquite well, did you
7 examine the wellbore diagram for that well?

8 A. I believe I've seen the wellbore diagram. I
9 don't know what you -- so I think maybe I've seen that.

10 Q. Are you familiar with -- let me ask you a
11 general question. In terms of cement plugs, which they
12 show here at 6,140 -- do you see that?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- did you examine the condition of that cement
15 plug?

16 A. In what way? What do you mean?

17 Q. Did you examine it in any way?

18 A. I think that's the way to ask the question for
19 sure.

20 No, I did not.

21 Q. So you don't know if it was good seal or a bad
22 seal in the -- injecting?

23 A. You know, seals can change over time.

24 Generally -- well, I shouldn't say generally. Sometimes
25 an operator will test that prior to converting the well

1 to injection, but I don't know if that was the case
2 here. So I don't know that answer.

3 Q. They can crack, right, cement plugs? They can
4 fail?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And if that plug was not holding when they're
7 injecting water, there is no barrier from 6,140 all the
8 way down to 8,300. Is that how you would read that, I
9 mean if we're trying to figure out where the water's
10 coming from?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. You have an open hole all the way down to 8,300
13 in the very zone in which the Poker Lake Unit is
14 producing?

15 A. Yeah. It would be -- there would a hole with
16 mud in it.

17 Q. Are you aware that the Division orders reflect
18 that Mesquite was injecting as deep as 7,050?

19 A. Which well?

20 Q. For the Heavy Metal well.

21 A. No. I would have to see those records, and we
22 would, you know --

23 Q. I want you to take a look at the package that I
24 put up there on the table and look at Exhibit Number 3.
25 And Exhibit Number 3, Mr. McGregor, is comprised of two

1 documents. The first one is Order IPI-435, which was
2 issued April 22nd, 2013 by the Division, and two pages
3 in, there is the original order for the Mesquite well
4 that was issued March 29th, 2011, SWD-1269. Do you see
5 that?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Have you looked at those before?

8 A. I have seen the orders. I don't know that I
9 saw these specifically, but --

10 Q. Did you ever look at the injection depths that
11 are referenced on these orders?

12 A. I believe we did and made a check, but if there
13 is a particular line item you want me to look at.

14 Q. Look at the first page, the most recent order
15 issued by the Divison, April 22nd, 2013. Again, after
16 analyzing all the data that's been submitted, the second
17 paragraph permits disposal by open hole from 4,415 down
18 to 7,050.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. That's signed by Jami Bailey on the second
21 page.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. So she's looking at this and injection is down
24 at 7,050.

25 If I go to the original order issued March

1 29th, 2011, under the first page: "It is therefore
2 ordered that" -- do you see that?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Second-to-the-last line: "Open hole from 4,415
5 to 7,050," signed by Mr. Dan Sanchez.

6 So at least according to the Division,
7 they're looking at records indicating injection down to
8 7,050.

9 A. I didn't see the second -- your second reading
10 of the interval.

11 Q. I'm sorry. If we go to the third page of the
12 exhibit, which is the first page of Order Number
13 SWD-1269 --

14 A. 1 of 3. Okay.

15 Q. -- see the heading: "It is therefore ordered
16 that"?

17 A. Yes. I was looking at the paragraph on the
18 next page that says "it is therefore ordered that."
19 Yes, I see it, and I see the depth.

20 Q. 7,050.

21 A. Yes, I see that.

22 Q. Let me ask you this: If they're injecting at
23 7,050, Mesquite, as the Division records reflect and I
24 look at your Exhibit Number 4, which is the type log --

25 A. Okay. That was Mr. Pregger's exhibit, 4. Is

1 that what you're referring to?

2 Q. Sure. You've read type logs before, right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. If they're injecting at 7,050, which is what
5 the Division records reflect or indicate, they're down
6 in the Brushy Canyon; are they not?

7 A. 7,050 feet, if they're injecting to that depth,
8 then yes, that would put them in the Upper Brushy
9 Canyon, similar to the Bran well.

10 Q. Okay. Actually lower than the Bran well?

11 A. Lower than the Bran well.

12 Q. And if I look at this Exhibit Number 12,
13 there's absolutely no barrier between 7,050 and 8,300?

14 A. Well, if this diagram needs to be corrected,
15 then we could always say this diagram doesn't show any
16 barrier. My experience -- I don't know New Mexico's
17 rules well enough to speak to it. I do know in my
18 practice that when a regulatory body will adopt
19 something, then they'd have some confinement somewhere
20 in the wellbore schematic that would say that they're
21 going to be able to confine the injection to that
22 interval.

23 I've also seen and experienced where they
24 will adopt an interval -- they'll allow adoption of an
25 interval that they could inject into, but the operator

1 doesn't utilize that entire interval based on where they
2 set a packer or set a plug.

3 Q. You don't know one way or another, do you?

4 A. What I'm saying is what I do know is you can't
5 just look at the sentences that you're reading to me and
6 know without an investigation into those other two
7 instances. But I would suspect that the Commission saw
8 some form of confinement before they would adopt this
9 interval or would have required it as a special
10 condition to the permit.

11 Q. Because they looked at the records, right, that
12 were submitted? They looked at the wellbore diagrams
13 that were submitted. They looked at the information
14 that was submitted twice, the Division did, and said
15 they were injecting down to 7,050.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. So maybe there is some kind of confinement. I
18 don't know. It's not reflected on your Exhibit Number
19 12. And you haven't looked at it, have you?

20 A. What I've said is if this exhibit is wrong, if
21 this cement plug should be 7,050, there should be a
22 packer there or some form of confinement, then I
23 would -- I'll research that.

24 Q. But we have no debate here that the Bran well,
25 unlike the Chevron and the OXY wells, is open hole down

1 into the Brushy Canyon?

2 A. It's in the very uppermost portion of the
3 Brushy Canyon. It is open hole from the middle of the
4 Bell Canyon to the Upper Brushy Canyon.

5 Q. Which would place that open hole in the Bran
6 well, if I did my math right, which is questionable,
7 over 1,000 feet below the lowest Chevron perf; is that
8 right? 6,740 --

9 A. Yes, over 1,000 feet.

10 Q. Okay. Now, did you analyze the wellbore
11 diagrams for the OXY or Chevron wells?

12 A. I have seen wellbore diagrams that were put
13 into the record and --

14 Q. Are you aware that they have two mechanical
15 plugs in their wellbores, each of these does?

16 A. Two mechanical plugs. This is the wellbore
17 schematic as I'm aware of it that you're looking at, the
18 cross section exhibit here.

19 Q. My question to you is: Are you aware' that OXY
20 and Chevron each have two mechanical plugs in their
21 wellbores to isolate their injection zone?

22 A. No. I'm not aware of that.

23 Q. Would you agree with me a mechanical plug, say,
24 for example, a cast-iron bridge plug, provides more
25 security than a cement plug?

1 A. Generally, yes.

2 Q. Would you agree with me that a retrievable
3 bridge plug generally provides more security than a
4 cement plug?

5 A. Generally, each of them would have to be tested
6 at different points in time because they can -- they can
7 all fail --

8 Q. Did you do --

9 A. -- depending on the injection pressure that
10 they're --

11 Q. Did you do you a Hall Plot analysis of the zone
12 reflected on Exhibit 12 in which OXY is injecting?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Did you do a Hall Plot for the zone as
15 reflected on Exhibit 12 in which Chevron is injecting?

16 A. They're injecting into two zones. The answer
17 is no.

18 Q. Did you do an injectivity analysis of either of
19 those zones?

20 A. No. That's -- I did not do that.

21 Q. Would you agree with me that those are tools
22 that are utilized to ascertain whether the fluids are
23 actually remaining within the injection zone, whether
24 there is confinement?

25 A. It's a tool that shows the change in

1 injectivity and the skin associated with the
2 injectivity. I don't know that it will tell you whether
3 you're confined or not.

4 Q. Aren't you -- aren't you familiar with the
5 different curves that have out of those --

6 A. You can have different --

7 Q. -- analyses?

8 A. You can have different shapes that might tell
9 you different things.

10 Q. And one shape will tell you if you've got a
11 leak, right?

12 A. It could.

13 Q. One shape will tell you if you've got a
14 fracture -- a fractured environment?

15 A. It depends upon the test -- the testing. What
16 were the conditions of the test? When they started the
17 test, were they already above the frack pressure
18 gradient? You know, it's dependent upon a lot of -- a
19 lot of items. I would have to see the data and the
20 analysis that was done that you're speaking to.

21 Q. But at least you and I can that agree that's a
22 tool that can be utilized?

23 A. Yes. That's a tool.

24 Q. Did you -- looking at your Exhibit 21 --

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. -- you show here -- you have an answer here
2 for -- I think you referenced it in your testimony. In
3 November of 2013, OXY's SDS well received approval for a
4 pressure increase up to 3,170?

5 A. Yeah. But that was in October of 2013.

6 Q. I'm sorry. Thank you. October 2013.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Why did you put that on there? Why is that
9 important?

10 A. That they're increasing -- it tells you that
11 the formation won't take the fluids that they're trying
12 to inject into the formation under the current permitted
13 pressures. I think it's a plausible answer. And also I
14 thought it was important that the actual increases that
15 were, you know, requested and approved, for example,
16 that one, 3,170, when you look at, you know, just
17 plausibility tests, what kind of gradient does that
18 result in. And it's one psi per foot. I thought that
19 was an important reason. And I also thought that it
20 was --

21 Q. You think that -- you think that --

22 A. I also thought that it was important --

23 MR. LARSON: Let him finish, please.

24 A. I also thought it was important because the
25 timing of when the Poker Lake Unit 401H well began

1 production, in December of 2012, and all of these
2 increase requests are after that.

3 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) Do you believe that that
4 pressure is above the fracture gradient?

5 A. Which one?

6 Q. The 3,170.

7 A. Yes, I do.

8 Q. What pressure would remain below the fracture
9 gradient?

10 A. Well, it depends upon the -- I believe the
11 fracture gradient is around .54 psi per foot. So you
12 pick a --

13 Q. What would that translate to for OXY's well,
14 roughly? You don't have to be exact.

15 A. If we assume it's 5,000 feet and do half of
16 that at .5, it would be 2,500 pounds.

17 Q. I'm sorry?

18 A. It would be 2,500 pounds at the bottom hole.
19 It would be -- for surface-injection pressure or for the
20 bottom hole? The bottom hole would be .54 psi per
21 foot --

22 Q. What would be the surface?

23 A. -- which would be around 2,500 pounds, and that
24 depends on the weight you have in there.

25 Q. Produced water -- what would -- you said 2,500

1 at the bottom hole?

2 A. It would be about a 200-pound surface-injection
3 pressure.

4 Q. 200?

5 A. Uh-huh, on the numbers that I used as
6 estimates.

7 Q. Are those your estimates?

8 A. (No response.)

9 Q. Did you look at the permeability of the Lower
10 Brushy?

11 A. No. I think I've inquired about it and know
12 that it's very tight. It's less than a millidarcy, I
13 believe. Maybe less than a half for the water
14 permeability.

15 Q. So less than 0.5 millidarcy?

16 A. .5.

17 Q. .5.

18 So 0.5, right?

19 A. Yeah. That would be -- that would be subject
20 to check. I didn't really look at that.

21 Q. But that's the permeability that you understand
22 to be in the Lower Brushy Canyon?

23 A. Well, that's what I just said. If I had to
24 give you a number off the seat of my pants, I would say
25 it's probably in that range, but I would need to

1 research that. It wasn't something that was part of my
2 direct analysis.

3 Q. Did they tell you how much time it took for
4 BOPCO to experience a pressure decrease at the 401H
5 following the shut-in of Mesquite's injection wells in
6 July of 2014?

7 A. I don't know if anybody told me that. That was
8 part of the reason that I plotted the performance data.

9 Q. Do you know how long it took for BOPCO to
10 experience a decrease in pressure -- or a difference in
11 pressure at its Poker Lake Unit 401H well following the
12 shut-in of Mesquite's injection operations on July 23rd,
13 2014?

14 A. Well, you can see from the 401 graph, if you
15 want to look at that one.

16 Q. No. I'm asking: Did they report to you how
17 long it took them to notice a pressure change at the
18 Poker Lake Unit 401H well following the shut-in of
19 Mesquite's disposal operations in July of this year?

20 A. I don't understand your question. I don't know
21 who would -- who would report it. I mean, the report
22 would have to be based on data.

23 Q. I mean, did it take 6 hours? Did it take 12
24 hours? Did it take 24 hours? Did it take 48 hours?
25 Did it take -- how long did it take to notice a change

1 in the pressure once Mesquite shut in its wells?

2 A. And a change in pressure, you know, that's
3 associated with a particular drawdown, particular
4 volumes of withdrawals. You can see that once they
5 turned the well back on after July 23rd, you can see
6 that just by moving volumes from the field, from the
7 reservoir, that the pump inlet pressure began to
8 decline. It declined from about 2,000 pounds to -- I'm
9 estimating a number -- maybe 1,200 pounds or so. And
10 then it looks like maybe it was -- maybe it was leveling
11 out. I don't know. So it was during that window, from
12 the time they shut in and they reactivated the well --

13 Q. What exhibit are you looking at, sir?

14 A. I'm looking at Exhibit 14.

15 You know, and at that point in time, that
16 pressure decreased. You know, it happened very, very --
17 it began declining in trend until it started to level
18 out at 1,100 pounds. But during that point in time, you
19 know, that pressure decrease that you're seeing, the
20 zone was isolated. Stages four and five were isolated
21 at that point in time. So that is the pressure decrease
22 that's -- you know, it's associated with the rest of the
23 entirety of the wellbore that was currently open at that
24 period of time.

25 Q. So if I look at your Exhibit Number 14, there's

1 a line that goes up from 7/2014. Do you see that?

2 A. Yes, I do see that.

3 Q. That is the date that Mesquite shut in its
4 injection operations?

5 A. Well, Mesquite --

6 Q. Right?

7 A. 7/23, is my understanding.

8 Q. Okay. 7/23.

9 And at that point, according to that line,
10 this reflects that there is an immediate drop in your
11 purple line, right?

12 A. When you turn these wells on and begin
13 producing them, that's -- you know, that's a natural --
14 natural decline you would expect to see. And during
15 that period of time, the decline you're talking about,
16 stages four and five were isolated. So you're not even
17 producing. That decline you're seeing isn't -- isn't
18 related to where the water-entry point is.

19 Q. So you don't see any significance in the fact
20 that you have a decline on your pressure line following
21 the Mesquite shut-in on 7/24/2014? Is that what you're
22 saying? You don't see any change?

23 A. I'm trying to answer your question. And you're
24 asking did it -- did it -- you know, how soon did it
25 decline? If you look at the data, it's declining. It

1 started to level out.

2 Q. But we have a decline almost immediately on
3 7/24/2014.

4 A. Well, generally that's what happens when you
5 put a well on production, is it's going to make a
6 decline.

7 Q. And there's also -- you don't deny that you had
8 some oil production occur at that point in time?

9 A. Well, what it shows is it was four days of oil
10 production that was reported from two barrels a day, and
11 there was one day where they reported a little bit above
12 20 barrels a day. So there was -- if there was oil
13 production, it was reported. And you can see that after
14 those four days, when they brought the well back on to
15 reestablish production from the remaining part of the
16 wellbore, that it wasn't isolated. The production went
17 to 100 percent water again other than those four tests.

18 Q. Now, with respect to the water that was seen
19 here in your PLU 401H, we look at Exhibit 12 and see
20 that Mesquite was injecting directly into the Brushy
21 Canyon. Are you aware, Mr. McGregor, that there was a
22 period of time in which BOPCO itself injected water
23 directly into the Lower Brushy Canyon area?

24 A. I know that BOPCO, like other operators, was
25 injecting into the Delaware Group, so yes, I know that's

1 true. And that was one of the examples that
2 Mr. Pregger showed, also.

3 Q. My question was, specifically, that they were
4 injecting over 8,000 feet into the Lower Brushy Canyon.
5 Were you aware of that?

6 A. BOPCO's injection?

7 Q. Uh-huh.

8 A. I know that they've injected into the Lower
9 Brushy Canyon.

10 Q. Did they share with you what was going on with
11 the PLU 498 SWD?

12 A. It's something that we've looked at.

13 Q. Let's move to your Exhibit Number 18.

14 A. 18?

15 Q. Uh-huh.

16 Now, keep 14 out, please, but I want you to
17 go to Exhibit Number 18 now.

18 A. Keep 14 out.

19 Okay. I have them.

20 Q. Mr. Goetze asked you about a couple -- or at
21 least one well that exists between -- the Poker Lake
22 Unit producing well exists between the Mesquite
23 injection well and that Poker Lake Unit 401H that he was
24 talking about and the Poker Lake Unit 400. Remember
25 that discussion?

1 A. Yes, I do.

2 Q. I want to go the other direction, and I want to
3 go down to Section 30, which is only a mile away. And
4 you see a little triangle in Section 30? It's kind of
5 hard to see. It's up in the northwest corner. Do you
6 see that?

7 A. I haven't seen it yet. I may have to get a
8 larger map.

9 Q. Well, I wish I had a larger map. I don't.

10 A. Or you could just point it out to me.

11 Q. I'll represent to you that on this map, in the
12 northwest quarter of Section 30, there is a triangle and
13 there is a number 98 above that.

14 A. Well, I know where the 98 well is.

15 Q. Okay. That's where it is, right?

16 A. The 98 well is -- yes. That's where it is.

17 Q. Okay. And that -- if you extend those lines
18 out, that's actually what you called your zone of
19 influence?

20 A. Yes. Yes.

21 Q. Particularly that 45 degrees to the northeast,
22 zone of influence?

23 A. I don't know about particularly. It would fall
24 in the cone. It would fall in that range.

25 Q. And were you aware that they alleged -- were

1 you aware, Mr. McGregor, that they were injecting
2 saltwater -- or water as deep as 8,000 feet --

3 A. I believe --

4 Q. -- from [sic] that well?

5 A. I believe for a period of time that's -- that
6 is likely true.

7 Q. Did they tell you the amount of water that they
8 had injected through that disposal well at 8,000 feet?

9 A. No.

10 Q. How about 9 million barrels? Did they tell you
11 that?

12 A. I have seen the injection history for the well,
13 and that probably sounds about the right order of
14 magnitude. And they also told me that the well was shut
15 in in August of 2013.

16 Q. I'm sorry. When was that?

17 A. August of 2013.

18 Q. Okay. So it was injecting over 8,000 feet
19 directly into the Lower Brushy Canyon at least until
20 August of 2013?

21 A. I don't know that it was always injecting in
22 the Lower Brushy Canyon. I know there was workovers on
23 the well, so I haven't allocated the volumes between the
24 two. But I have acknowledged to you that yes, there was
25 some -- I believe there was some injection in the Lower

1 Brushy Canyon, in addition to the Upper Delaware.

2 Q. Now, Mesquite is a commercial producer -- or a
3 commercial injection operator, correct?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And as I understand your testimony here today,
6 particularly on your Exhibit 15, is that BOPCO, at least
7 in their Poker Lake Unit 401 well --

8 A. Let me find Exhibit 15, please. Which one is
9 it?

10 Q. Exhibit Number 15 -- I'm sorry -- is your water
11 analysis.

12 A. All right. I've got it.

13 Q. Got it?

14 And your point here is that based on your
15 analysis, this is not what you saw in the Poker Lake
16 Unit wells, and that's your typical Brushy Canyon water?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Now, with respect to your analysis, it looked
19 to me like you did a spot sample of various wells in
20 2014?

21 A. Well, if you combine Exhibit 15 and Exhibit 16,
22 there was a lot more than a spot sample. There were 15
23 wells. They were all but peer grouped relating to the
24 401H. They were all Lower Brushy Canyon wells, and I
25 would not call that a spot sample check. It covered a

1 large period of time, also.

2 Q. And your point is that the water you were
3 seeing at that time before Mesquite shut in was not
4 Lower Brushy Canyon water -- or not Brushy Canyon water?

5 A. I didn't correlate that to before or after
6 Mesquite shut in.

7 I mean, there's more than just the
8 water-sample data, you know. There is the performance
9 character, all the work that was done on the wells to
10 isolate and come to an understanding of this. But the
11 water-sample analysis just supports the whole
12 understanding of the water breakout.

13 And the point of the water analysis is
14 there is a bright line on what Lower Brushy Canyon
15 native water looks like from this peer group of wells.
16 And once -- once the water breakout was identified --
17 and when I say identified, I mean the oil production
18 went to zero. And when we began taking samples, the
19 water sample, you know, confirmed there was some form of
20 extraneous water that was entering and had lightened it.
21 The chlorides went down. The specific gravity went
22 down. The sulfates looked different than all of the
23 other Lower Brushy Canyon wells and looked different
24 than what this well was originally producing, which on
25 Exhibit 16, that's these first three red points, were

1 prior to water breakthrough.

2 Q. Let's go to that, Exhibit 16. You've already
3 been through this.

4 A. I was trying answer your specific question.
5 You said as a sample -- spot sample, and I was saying
6 no, it's not a spot sample.

7 Q. Gotcha.

8 Okay. So let's go to Exhibit 16. Do you
9 see the entry down there, "7/24/2014," at the bottom of
10 your axis?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. That's the date either on or after Mesquite
13 shut in their injection wells, correct?

14 A. It's not on. I mean, the yellow callout shows
15 the date the Mesquite well was shut in was July 23rd.

16 Q. If I'm looking at this, what I want to focus
17 on, if I understand it, are the red squares, right?

18 A. There are red squares, and those go with the
19 Poker Lake Unit 392H well, which was --

20 Q. And the triangles go with 393?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And then the PLU 401 is diamonds?

23 A. Red diamonds with a black outline, so red, red,
24 red.

25 Q. So if I'm looking at this and I see that

1 7/24/2014 timeline and if I'm reading this correctly,
2 what you're saying is that over a period of time the
3 water quality came back into what you call your normal
4 range?

5 A. I'm saying the specific gravity is moving back
6 into the normal range where it's heading in the right
7 direction. Specific gravity is indicating that those
8 wells are producing something that looks much more like
9 the Lower Brushy Canyon water that they initially were
10 producing.

11 Q. And you'll agree with me that you see that
12 trend after Mesquite shut in its saltwater disposal
13 well?

14 A. Yes. That does happen after the well is shut
15 in.

16 Q. Would you agree with me that, you know, the
17 terms of water flow from these type of injection wells,
18 that they will generally move downdip of the source?

19 A. No. I think I would look at the -- in a
20 general statement about that is in a conventional
21 reservoir, you'll have water underlying the oil, which
22 will underlie, you know, natural gas.

23 I think the more appropriate general
24 statement to make is that high pressure will seek out
25 low pressure and will move along the weakest minimum

1 stress to get there if it's creating a fracture, but
2 high pressure to low pressure.

3 Q. And if I go back to -- so will you agree with
4 me it will also move downdip?

5 A. Well --

6 Q. Water flows downhill, right?

7 A. Well, it has a higher potential, so it needs to
8 move down. It goes from high pressure to low pressure
9 whether it's updip or downdip.

10 Q. Did you look at any of the wells that were
11 offsetting the Chevron and OXY injection wells to see if
12 there were any -- immediate offsets to see if there were
13 any impacts from OXY and Chevron over time?

14 A. No.

15 Q. And going back to Mr. Goetze's point here about
16 the wells around the Poker Lake Unit 401H, you already
17 mentioned the 400H, and you indicated you hadn't
18 analyzed there. Isn't there also --

19 A. Whoa, whoa, whoa. Excuse me. You said I
20 didn't analyze it? Which well are you talking about?

21 Q. The 400H.

22 A. I don't think that's what I said.

23 Q. It's not in any of your analyses, is it?

24 A. Well, no. But if you heard what -- the
25 question I was asked is we haven't -- the well doesn't

1 appear to have been impacted based on its production
 2 characteristics such that we would have included it. So
 3 it's similar to -- I believe it's the 394, which is the
 4 next one in line, that they haven't been able to confirm
 5 the 100 percent saturation of water breakthrough in that
 6 well, so it's not part of the analysis that I'm putting
 7 forward right here. We're saying it's not impacted at
 8 this point in time.

9 Q. If I look at your Exhibit Number 5 --

10 A. Which number?

11 Q. The Delaware Mountain Group fracture
 12 orientation map.

13 A. And I apologize. I've been moving my exhibits
 14 around, and they're not in a stack.

15 Q. There's another well between the 401H and the
 16 Poker Lake Unit 392. Do you see that?

17 A. I haven't found the exhibit yet, but I'll find
 18 it in a minute.

19 Q. Or if it's easier, go to Exhibit 18.

20 A. Oh, yeah, Exhibit 18.

21 Q. See where you have the Poker Lake Unit 401H
 22 identified and then the Poker Lake 392?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And there is another well between there.

25 A. Between 392 and 393?

1 Q. Between 392 and 401H.

2 A. Yes. I see there's a well laid in there, and
3 it's just south of where the red lines cross, the 45, 65
4 degrees. Is that you're talking about?

5 Q. Yeah.

6 Have you seen any impact in that well?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Do you have an understanding, Mr. McGregor, of
9 what the current water-oil ratio is in the Poker Lake
10 Unit wells in the Brushy Canyon in general?

11 A. In the Lower Brushy Canyon?

12 Q. For the Poker Lake Unit producing wells in the
13 Lower Brushy Canyon, do you have any idea what the
14 typical water-oil ratio is for those wells?

15 A. Typical being before a water breakout? Is that
16 what you mean by typical? Or after the water breakout,
17 because we're over 100 now?

18 Q. What did you see before the water breakout?

19 A. All right. Well, early on, for example, in
20 392H, it was 3 to 1. 393 was at 2-and-a-half to 1.

21 Q. My question to you is: What is the typical
22 water-oil ratio in the Lower Brushy Canyon in the Poker
23 Lake Unit for the producing wells?

24 A. Well, between these three wells, it hangs from
25 2-and-a-half to 4.1 when they came on production.

1 Q. What are you looking at?

2 A. Exhibit 14, Exhibit 19 and Exhibit 20, which is
3 the well performance -- well deliverability production
4 test data for the 401H, the 392H and the 393H.

5 Q. Now, the 392H, which is Exhibit Number 19, I
6 don't see a line for the indication of the water-oil
7 ratio.

8 A. Well, no. I thought you were asking me what it
9 was. I didn't say there is a line on here. But there
10 is water production posted on here and the oil
11 production is posted, and you divide the two and that
12 gives you water-oil ratio.

13 Q. Did you plot the water-oil ratio?

14 A. I have seen plots of the water-oil ratio. I
15 can make the calculation for different points in time
16 right off of this thing.

17 Q. But you have not plotted it on here?

18 A. No. What's plotted on here is the daily oil,
19 daily water and the pump inlet pressure.

20 Q. And to put these two exhibits in perspective,
21 if I look at Exhibit 19, you have on here a red line,
22 7/24/2014. Do you see that? And you have a yellow box
23 that says --

24 A. No. I don't see the red line at 7/24/14.

25 Q. I'm sorry. You have a red line, I guess,

1 that's associated with the yellow box that says
2 "7/23/2014."

3 A. Yes, I see that.

4 Q. That's the Mesquite shut-in?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And immediately following the Mesquite shut-in,
7 you see a gradual increase in oil production?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And it's back on your typical productive trend
10 that you testified to for oil in this particular well;
11 is that right?

12 A. No. That's not what I said.

13 Q. Well, you see the trend on here?

14 A. I do. And that's why I was wondering if we're
15 looking at the same trend or not.

16 Q. You don't see that by October of 2014, it's
17 back on near the typical trend?

18 A. Which trend are you looking at? Are you
19 looking at the oil, the water or the pressure? I mean,
20 we've experienced -- we're producing a lot more water, a
21 lot higher pressure than we've ever had.

22 Q. I'm looking at the green triangles, which is
23 the oil.

24 A. Okay. Well, you didn't say that until just
25 now. And the answer to your question is it has -- it

1 has -- the oil production has been reestablished, and
2 I've pointed that out on the tan box on the upper,
3 right-hand corner.

4 Prior to the water breakout in the well, in
5 June of 2014, the average for the well was around 61
6 barrels of oil per day. As of November 2014, to your
7 point, since Mesquite shut their well in -- and it's a
8 combination of Mesquite shutting their well in and also
9 the dewatering that's gone on in the 401H. But during
10 that period of time, the oil has increased. The water
11 sample analysis has gone in the right direction on the
12 specific gravity, and they're within four barrels of oil
13 per day between the two. However, we're still at a very
14 high pressure and producing, you know, a lot of water,
15 so there is still a lot of work to be done on this well.

16 Q. Pressure is the purple line?

17 A. Uh-huh.

18 Q. And that's trending downward, correct, after
19 the Mesquite shut-in?

20 A. Yes, which was another point. For it to be
21 able to do that, that helps correlate the Section 11 and
22 12 area with this -- with this area, that when you shut
23 off production and you stop a flow, it helps tie the
24 relationship.

25 Q. And since the Mesquite shut-in, the water is

1 trending downdip [sic]?

2 A. It is.

3 Q. Now, do you know how much volume of water was
4 injected by Mesquite over a period of time between when
5 they came online in 2011 or 2012 and then ceased
6 injection in July of 2014?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. How much?

9 A. I think that's on my Exhibit 22, which is the
10 Sections 11 and 12 disposal well history. The Mesquite
11 well -- and it's in the first line, Mesquite Bran SWD
12 #1 -- it's the fourth well in the west -- has
13 cumulatively produced from August -- injected from
14 August 2012 to August 2014, which it was shut in prior
15 to that, 5.3 million barrels of water.

16 Q. That was the Bran?

17 A. Excuse me?

18 Q. That was the Bran?

19 A. Yes.

20 And the Heavy Metal well, 2.7 million
21 barrels of water.

22 Q. So that would be over 9 million barrels of
23 water?

24 A. No. No, it wouldn't.

25 Q. I'm sorry. 8 million.

1 A. It wouldn't be over 8 million either. It would
2 be 8 million on the dot.

3 Q. I'm sorry. 8 million.

4 Do you have any idea how long it would take
5 to recover from that large volume of water?

6 A. I don't understand your question.

7 Q. Well, I mean --

8 A. Who is recovering? What are we recovering?

9 Q. Well, I mean, you've seen some recovery in your
10 wells. Do you have any idea how long it's going to take
11 BOPCO to recover from that amount of water being
12 injected into the Brushy Canyon by Mesquite? It could
13 take a while, right?

14 A. Well, it's going to take them a lot longer if
15 they have to keep cycling 3,000 barrels a day that
16 continues to be injected up there. It's going to take
17 them a long time. I don't know how long. That's an
18 analysis that -- it's going to take -- it's in progress.
19 There's work going on. The model does things to address
20 those type of questions.

21 Q. But we've only had four months, essentially,
22 since Mesquite shut in their well, right?

23 A. Yes.

24 MR. FELDEWERT: That's all I have.

25 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Larson?

1 MR. LARSON: I would request a short break,
2 Mr. Examiner.

3 EXAMINER GOETZE: Let's go ahead and have a
4 break. Let's come back in about 15, and we'll pick it
5 up.

6 MR. LARSON: Thank you.

7 (Break taken, 2:21 p.m. to 2:38 p.m.)

8 EXAMINER GOETZE: We'll go back on the
9 record.

10 And, Mr. Larson, it's your witness.

11 MR. LARSON: I have a couple of questions
12 on redirect, Mr. Examiner.

13 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. LARSON:

15 Q. Mr. McGregor, you were questioned by
16 Mr. Feldewert about the PLU 98, BOPCO saltwater disposal
17 well. And remind us where that well is located.

18 A. If you look at my Exhibit 18, it's the --
19 actually -- it's to the west -- to the south and the
20 west of the 401, 392, and then go to 393 and then go
21 south and west of that, and that's where the 98 well is.

22 Q. And if I recall your testimony from this
23 morning correctly, it is your opinion that the flow of
24 water was from the northeast to the southwest?

25 A. Yes. That is -- the flow of the water is from

1 Sections 11 and 12, you know, into the northeast, and it
2 has moved on down to the south and west. So the
3 direction of flow is from the northeast to the
4 southwest.

5 Q. And the Hearing Examiner asked you a question
6 about the PLU Number 400. Can you venture a guess why
7 that well may not have been impacted, where the 401 well
8 right next to it was?

9 A. It's -- well, my answer -- what I hoped that I
10 expressed to the Examiner was that the end point -- I
11 believe it's an induced fracture system, and it is
12 narrow enough that it hit at the toe of the 401, so it's
13 just past the toe of the 400. And because of that --
14 because it's not a broad fracture network, it appears to
15 have gone from high-pressure disposal water from the
16 northeast, moved along the fracture propagation
17 orientation towards the southwest and hit at the toe --
18 the very toe of the 401H, and it missed the 400.

19 Q. Thank you, Mr. McGregor. That's all I have.

20 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very well. We're done
21 with this witness.

22 At this point do you have any other
23 witnesses?

24 MR. LARSON: I do not.

25 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert, this is

1 your opportunity to present your case. Who will be your
2 first witness?

3 MR. FELDEWERT: Call our first witness,
4 Mr. Jarrod Sparks.

5 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good. Thank you.

6 WILLIAM JARROD SPARKS,
7 after having been previously sworn under oath, was
8 questioned and testified as follows:

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

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

13 A. My name is William Jarrod Sparks. I work for
14 Chevron, and most recently I've been employed in the
15 capacity as a reservoir engineer and team lead for the
16 Delaware Basin.

17 Q. And how long have you been team lead in the
18 Delaware Basin?

19 A. I've been a team lead specifically for the last
20 two years, and I've been a reservoir engineer working
21 the Delaware Basin since January 2011.

22 Q. And you're talking about the Delaware Basin in
23 New Mexico here?

24 A. New Mexico and Texas.

25 Q. And how long have you been with Chevron?

1 A. I've been with Chevron since June 2008, right
2 out of school.

3 Q. Have you testified before the Division
4 previously?

5 A. I have not.

6 Q. Why don't you outline your educational
7 background, please?

8 A. So I have a bachelor of science in petroleum
9 engineering from the University of Texas at Austin, and
10 I have an MBA from the University of Houston, in 2012.

11 Q. So you received your MBA while you were working
12 with Chevron?

13 A. Yes. I did it at night.

14 Q. And you mentioned that you've been with Chevron
15 since you graduated. Before you became the reservoir
16 engineer in the Delaware Basin, what were your
17 responsibilities at Chevron?

18 A. I was a production engineer working the San
19 Juan Basin. I lived in Farmington for about eight
20 months doing workovers. I managed dewatering for the
21 coal bed methane fields that I operated. And I worked
22 there from -- I was there for eight months, then came
23 back to Houston and then still worked coal bed methane
24 type sands from June 2008 until October of 2010. And
25 then I had a small stint on a special project in the

1 Panhandle from October 2010 until January 2011.

2 Q. And since that time you've been focused
3 exclusively on the Delaware Basin?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. Are you a member of any professional
6 affiliations?

7 A. I'm a member of the Society of Petroleum
8 Engineers. I've been so since 2004 when I started in
9 college. And I'm awaiting the results of my
10 certification test for the Texas Board of Professional
11 Engineers.

12 Q. So you took the test?

13 A. Took it in October, eight to ten weeks.

14 Q. Are you familiar with the applications that
15 were filed in these consolidated cases?

16 A. Yes, I am.

17 Q. And have you conducted a study of the wells in
18 the area that's in question?

19 A. Yes, I have.

20 Q. Mr. Sparks, were you part of a team of
21 geologists and engineers with Chevron that worked with
22 the counterparts at OXY to examine BOPCO's allegations?

23 A. Yes.

24 MR. FELDEWERT: I would tender Mr. Sparks
25 as an expert witness in petroleum engineering, petroleum

1 production and petroleum reservoirs.

2 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Larson?

3 MR. LARSON: No objection.

4 EXAMINER GOETZE: He is so qualified.

5 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) Now, Mr. Sparks, I'm going
6 to cut down a little bit on what we were initially going
7 to do. I want to briefly introduce Chevron and OXY's
8 Exhibit Number 1. Is that a timeline of events that
9 were put together in preparation for this hearing?

10 A. Yes, it was.

11 Q. And a lot of this has already been addressed.
12 OXY's well has been producing since 1994 -- I'm sorry --
13 injecting since 1994?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And Chevron's well has likewise been injecting
16 since November of 2007?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And it wasn't until January of 2012 that
19 Mesquite began their injection into the much lower zones
20 that we're talking about here today; is that right?

21 A. Their disposal into the Bran and the Heavy
22 Metal began January 2012.

23 Q. And then this finally reflects that initially
24 BOPCO filed its application against Mesquite, and then
25 eventually filed an application in September to revoke

1 the authority of OXY and Chevron?

2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. If I turn to what's been marked as Chevron
4 Exhibit Number 2, it contains 48 slides. Does that
5 reflect the analysis that was conducted by the team that
6 you were a part of for this area in question?

7 A. Yes, it was.

8 Q. What analysis contained within these slides
9 will you be addressing here today?

10 A. So I'll discuss generally how the SWDs were
11 configured, how we came up with the disposal zones. We
12 have a structure map, a cross section, for the SWDs and
13 a regional cross section. I could also talk about the
14 wellbore construction for the OXY and Chevron wells,
15 including cement bond logs. And then we'll also have
16 the wellbore diagrams for the two Mesquite SWDs. And
17 then we'll also look at the production of the BOPCO
18 wells in question and some nearby Chevron wells that are
19 producing from the Brushy Canyon.

20 Q. Now, the first few slides is just kind of an
21 area of -- we can skip through that, right?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Slide four of Exhibit Number 2 is just an
24 outline of the zone we're talking about, and we've had
25 discussion about that already.

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. I'd like to go to slide number five. Does this
3 contain general information on the injection wells that
4 are at issue for the Examiners?

5 A. Yes, it does, the four wells in question in
6 Sections 11 and 12 of 24 South, 31 East.

7 Q. We've been through a number -- we've already
8 been through the injection intervals.

9 A couple of questions I've got on here is
10 that there's a lot of reference here to the pressure
11 that OXY -- the pressure increase that OXY obtained up
12 to 3,170. Do you recall that?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What has been the actual injection pressure
15 that has been utilized for OXY?

16 A. So the average injection pressure for 2014 has
17 only been around 1,250.

18 Q. With respect to the Chevron well, the Lotos 11
19 Federal, what has been the average injection pressure
20 for that particular well?

21 A. The average injection pressure has been about
22 1,000 psi.

23 Q. So both of these have been injecting their
24 pressure below that approved by the Division?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And the injection rates have actually been
2 amended twice by the Division for OXY and once for
3 Chevron; is that right?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. And each time did the Division examine the
6 wellbores in the area in question, and were there
7 step-rate tests to support those pressure increases?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Then we go down to the Mesquite wells. At the
10 bottom, we show the interval for the Bran saltwater
11 disposal well. Do you see that?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And you were here for the Bran testimony and
14 the debate about how deep that well has injected?

15 A. That's correct.

16 Q. Now, it shows here a pressure -- permitted
17 injection pressure of 1,450.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Were you able to ascertain from the filed
20 records what Mesquite was injecting -- what pressure
21 Mesquite was actually injecting for the Bran well?

22 A. We were not able to ascertain exactly, but
23 looking at the reported pressures to the NMOCD, the Bran
24 was reported at 325. But it has been reported at 325
25 since the very beginning and has never fluctuated.

1 Q. Do you have a familiarity with the volume of
2 water that was injected by Mesquite in its Bran well at
3 this low pressure?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And how does that relate to the volumes that
6 have been approved and that were injected by OXY and
7 Chevron corresponding to --

8 A. The rates at which Mesquite was injecting were
9 several thousand barrels a day above both Chevron and
10 OXY.

11 Q. Now, we also then have the information on the
12 Heavy Metal well, and, again, you show a question mark
13 by the average injection pressure?

14 A. Yes, sir. That's the same story as the Bran.
15 It's -- we don't know exactly what it is, but that's
16 what was reported to the NMOCD. And it's been a
17 constant 300 ever since day one.

18 Q. And you have reflected on here the injection
19 interval that Mesquite -- or that the Division approved
20 for the Heavy Metal?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. All the way down to 7,050?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And you also have -- then you have an area of
25 an additional open hole from 7,050 to 8,300. Do you see

1 that?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Is that what we talked about previously today
4 about the absence of any kind of apparent barrier
5 between the 7,050 lower injection zone in the bottom of
6 that Mesquite well?

7 A. Yes. It does provide the uncertainty as to why
8 7,050 was noted.

9 Q. Or the uncertainty as to how deep they're
10 actually injecting?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Or actually were injecting, I should say.

13 If we then go to the wellbore diagrams we
14 talked about, does that begin on slide six?

15 A. Yes, it does.

16 Q. We'll first address the OXY well. Does it
17 confirm the data that's shown on slide five?

18 A. Yes, it does.

19 Q. And does it identify the plugs that are in
20 place to confine the injection of the water to these
21 zones that are perfed?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What do we see here? What does RBP mean?

24 A. So an RBP is a retrievable bridge plug. OXY
25 went in during some well operations in February of 2010

Not in well file

1 and they actually found that retrievable bridge plug set
2 at 4,923, therefore abandoning or isolating out the
3 perforations below that.

4 Q. And in addition to that, did you also have an
5 opportunity to examine the cement bond log for this
6 particular well?

7 A. Yes, I did.

8 Q. Look at slide number seven. Does that reflect
9 the analysis?

10 A. Yes, it does.

11 Q. And what does it show with respect to the
12 cement bond log for this particular well?

13 A. So for this well, the cement bond log shows
14 good cement throughout the injection interval.

15 Q. And in your opinion as an expert in petroleum
16 engineering, are you confident that the water that OXY
17 is injecting through these perforations reflected on
18 Exhibit [sic] Number 6, is that water staying within
19 that zone?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Then if I go to slide eight, is that the
22 wellbore diagram for the Chevron well?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And it reflects the data, again, that we saw on
25 slide five --

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. -- where their lowest perforation is down to
3 5,632?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And does it reflect that there is a bridge plug
6 in place to isolate the perforations?

7 A. There are actually two cast-iron bridge plugs
8 that have been set to isolate the perforations of
9 injection from the Lower Brushy Canyon.

10 Q. That's reflected in the CIBP on this diagram?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Did you also look at the cement bond log
13 records for this well?

14 A. Yes, I did.

15 Q. Is that reflected on Exhibit [sic] Number 9?

16 A. On slide nine of Exhibit 2.

17 Q. Thank you.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And what's your conclusion having examined that
20 cement -- the cement bond log for this well?

21 A. This CBL shows good bond through the entire
22 injection zone.

23 Q. And based on your opinion as an expert in
24 petroleum engineering, are you confident that the water
25 that Chevron is injecting through the perforations shown

1 on slide eight are staying within those zones?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. We then move to slide ten of Exhibit Number 2.

4 That's the wellbore diagram for the Bran well?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. There's been a lot of talk about that. That's
7 the open hole down to 6,740?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Which is over 1,000 feet lower than the lowest
10 Chevron --

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. Then if I go to the Mesquite Heavy Metal well,
13 which is a slide 11, wellbore diagram, this is the well
14 that commenced injection in January 2012?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And you have identified in here the reported
17 injection interval based on the Division records?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. And you also indicate in here having examined
20 that there is an open hole down to 8,300?

21 A. So the well was originally drilled down to
22 8,543. They plugged back. This well was actually
23 abandoned and then re-entered by Mesquite, and they
24 drilled out all the way to 8,300.

25 Q. And there is nothing to indicate that there is

1 any kind of a cast-iron bridge plug or retrievable
2 bridge plug or anything else to isolate that zone?

3 A. There is no record of any kind of mechanical
4 plug.

5 Q. There's been some discussion here about the
6 potential of a cement plug in this well. And do you
7 recall a depth of about 6,140?

8 A. Yes, sir.

9 Q. First off, are you familiar with cement plugs?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Do they sometimes fail?

12 A. They can fail. And just as Mr. McGregor --
13 both -- both cement plugs and mechanical plugs can fail,
14 but cement plugs tend to have more failures than
15 mechanical plugs.

16 Q. And in looking to the well records here for the
17 Mesquite wells, did you observe any instances where the
18 cement plugs had actually failed in these open holes?

19 A. Yes. We have two indications. So on the
20 Mesquite Bran well, this was also an abandoned well that
21 Mesquite re-entered. When Bran tried to set the
22 original cement plug, they were unable to tag their
23 first plug. They did pump a secondary plug. They were
24 able to tag it at 3,970. When Mesquite came in to
25 re-enter the well, they expected to see that plug at

1 3,970. That plug did not exist at all.

2 Q. Is that reflected on slide 12 of Exhibit Number
3 2?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Under the "Notables"?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Now, this is for the Bran well, right?

8 A. That's correct.

9 Q. Then if you turn over to slide 13, what does
10 this reflect with respect to the well records of the
11 Mesquite Heavy Metal well?

12 A. So when Mesquite came in, they had drilled down
13 to 8,300. They tried to set a cement plug around 6,300
14 feet. They waited four hours, tried to tag it, but they
15 were unable to, just like they had seen -- or Bran Oil
16 had done with the previous saltwater disposal. They
17 pumped a second cement plug of only 50 sacks. Both were
18 only 50 sacks. They did tag it at 6,140. That's where
19 that's coming [sic].

20 The question I have, though, is -- you
21 know, the Bran well pumped 190 sacks for a cement plug,
22 and they were unable to find it when Mesquite re-entered
23 the well. How likely is -- a 50-sack plug in an open
24 hole that is already not tagged the first time, how
25 reliable is it that that cement plug is still there?

1 Q. So that's why you've depicted on slide number
2 13 a questionable cement plug?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. You heard the testimony earlier that nobody's
5 confirmed whether that cement plug actually exists or
6 not?

7 A. Unless Mesquite or BOPCO talked with Mesquite
8 that they actually went down and verified, upon the
9 breakthrough, that that plug was still in place, I would
10 question that it is still there.

11 Q. And if that's the case, that it's not there,
12 then we have an open hole in this particular injection
13 well all the way down to 8,300?

14 A. That is correct.

15 Q. But what we do know for sure, based on the Bran
16 well, is that that is injecting open hole down to 6,470
17 into the Brushy Canyon, correct?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. Below whatever limestone barrier exists between
20 the Cherry and the Brushy?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. And is there -- there was a question from the
23 Examiners about, you know, the distinction between
24 open-hole injection and perforated injection. What's --
25 what's the -- basically, what's the problem?

1 A. So one of the basic problems with injecting
2 open hole is you don't really have good isolation. You
3 can't necessarily tell exactly where your disposal is
4 going. You can run a production log and maybe get some
5 indications.

6 With the perforations, you have a
7 mechanical way to know your water is going through that
8 interval, unless you have a poor cement job that could
9 articulate water down the back side, but the cement logs
10 in this case indicate good bond. So I have no reason to
11 think the water is not injecting exactly where it's
12 supposed to be.

13 Q. Now, if I turn to slide 13 -- I'm sorry --
14 slide 14 of Exhibit Number 2, which is really a repeat
15 of slide five, it shows that there is a cross section
16 done, B to B prime. Do you see that?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. It's on the left-hand side of this exhibit.

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. These are the four disposal wells; is that
21 right?

22 A. That's correct.

23 Q. Go to slide 15 of Exhibit Number 2. Does this
24 depict the conditions of the various disposal wells
25 based on the information that you could glean from the

1 records?

2 A. Yes, it does.

3 Q. And it essentially identifies where each of
4 these disposal wells are producing or were producing
5 with respect to the three members of the Delaware
6 Formation, right?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Did you then have an opportunity to create a
9 more regional cross section that would show the
10 injection zones here in relationship to the producing
11 areas?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And if I turn to slide 16 of Exhibit 2, does
14 that contain the wells that were utilized to treat that
15 regional cross section?

16 A. Yes. That is our C to C prime.

17 Q. And that includes wells down to the Poker Lake
18 Unit?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. As well as wells between the Poker Lake Unit
21 and the Mesquite injection area?

22 A. Yes. We pulled in an additional well in
23 between one of the control points and one also because
24 it falls within the cone that BOPCO had presented to
25 Chevron and OXY at individual meetings.

1 Q. If we turn to what's been marked as slide 17 of
2 Exhibit Number 2 --

3 MR. FELDEWERT: And, again, Mr. Examiners,
4 the numbers are in the upper, left-hand corner of each
5 one of these slides, in case you missed it.

6 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) -- does this provide an
7 indication of the distances between various injection
8 zones and the producing area reflected in the Poker Lake
9 Unit?

10 A. Yes. Now, I will note that the Poker Lake Unit
11 401H is a horizontal well, so the production interval
12 that's noted there is actually the TVD of the lateral.
13 So they have stages along their lateral length, but
14 given that this is just a cross section, the TVD was the
15 best way to indicate where they were producing from.

16 Q. Now, this cross section that you've created,
17 does it also reflect the limestone barriers that were
18 discussed in the article we brought up when Mr. McGregor
19 was testifying?

20 A. Yes, it does.

21 Q. And does it show the barrier that exists
22 between the Bell Canyon -- Lower Bell Canyon and the
23 Upper Cherry Canyon?

24 A. It shows that there is some sort of a lime
25 noted with high resistivity, and that coincides with

1 what was presented in the report from the University of
2 Texas.

3 Q. And then does it also reflect a similar barrier
4 between the Lower Cherry Canyon and the Brushy Canyon?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And is that reflected in this cross section?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And does this indicate that both of Mesquite's
9 disposal wells, which are now shut in, actually
10 penetrated through that barrier?

11 A. The Bran most definitely penetrates into the
12 upper portion of the Brushy Canyon. You know, as we
13 noted before, the Heavy Metal, there is some question,
14 but based on what was reported, you know, on the most
15 recent regulatory papers, it's 7,050, which would be
16 into the upper portion of the Brushy Canyon.

17 Q. In your opinion, Mr. Sparks, are Chevron and
18 OXY's saltwater disposal wells potentially injecting
19 into the Brushy Canyon producing zone?

20 A. No.

21 Q. And why is that?

22 A. Because they are isolated through perforations
23 with good cement. The relative location of the two, the
24 OXY and the Chevron saltwater disposal well, they would
25 have to go three to three-and-a-half miles and then

1 down, over 2,000 feet, to get to the production interval
2 in the BOPCO well.

3 Additionally, to say they're connected to
4 the Bran and Heavy Metal would be counterintuitive given
5 that the preferred fracture orientation, as everyone has
6 communicated, is northeast to southwest. And these
7 wells are located northwest from those two disposal
8 wells, which would be perpendicular to that fracture
9 orientation.

10 Q. And in contrast, are the Mesquite wells -- or
11 were they potentially injecting into the Brushy Canyon
12 producing zone?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Primarily because they're below that limestone
15 barrier?

16 A. They do not have the same isolation that
17 Chevron and OXY do.

18 Q. Now, did you -- in light of BOPCO's
19 allegations, did you study the impact on the Poker Lake
20 Unit wells when Mesquite shut in these two injection
21 wells? I guess there is some debate on whether it was
22 July 24th or July 23rd. Do you know the date?

23 A. Well, so they -- the problem is understanding
24 that days are 24 hours. So the request was sent to
25 Mesquite on the 23rd. Mesquite did shut their wells in,

1 but as was reported by Mr. Morrison this morning, they
2 said it was late that evening, which means that you
3 wouldn't really see the effects until, essentially, the
4 24th, if you think of that as the end of the 23rd,
5 beginning of the 24th. That's probably where the
6 confusion is coming from.

7 Q. So we'll just say the end of July. Okay?

8 A. Sure.

9 Q. So I don't get crossways here.

10 If I turn to what is slide 19 of Exhibit
11 Number 2, does it identify the four Poker Lake Unit
12 wells that BOPCO raised the concern about when they met
13 with you in October?

14 A. These were the four wells that were identified
15 to us in our meeting and what was requested of us that
16 we were impacting in their motion.

17 Q. And when I look at what BOPCO filed in this
18 case before the hearing today and I look at their motion
19 to consolidate and for a continuance -- have you read
20 that?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Are you aware of the fact that in paragraph
23 five of that motion, they represented to the Division in
24 October and I quote, "BOPCO continues to experience a
25 precipitous drop in production from each and every one

1 of its Poker Lake Unit wells that have been impacted by
2 produced water intrusion." Do you remember that?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And it was after Mesquite had shut in their
5 saltwater disposal well?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And they went on to say: "Three months after
8 Mesquite stopped injecting produced water, the negative
9 impact on BOPCO's Poker Lake Unit producing wells
10 remains." Is that right?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. In your analysis, has there been -- does BOPCO
13 continue to experience -- to use their words -- "a
14 precipitous drop in production" with each and every one
15 of these four wells?

16 A. I would say that they have not seen a
17 precipitous drop in each of the wells. They have
18 noticed a precipitous drop in one well.

19 Q. That would be the 401H? ✓

20 A. That it is still -- it is still significantly
21 down.

22 Q. Now, if I look then at slide 20 -- work
23 backwards, shall we?

24 A. Sure.

25 Q. If I look at slide 19, they have their wells in

1 order. We'll go from the 394 and work backwards?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Did you analyze the data that was reported by
4 BOPCO about this well to the Division?

5 A. Yes. All of the production data here are the
6 monthly tests that were reported to the NMOCD.

7 Q. By BOPCO?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And you had available to you three months of
10 data, correct, since the Mesquite shut-in?

11 A. The last period of information that I had was
12 the production reported for September.

13 Q. And on slide number 20, you identify, as
14 they've done on some of their slides, a Mesquite shut-in
15 date?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And in looking at the parameters that you've
18 identified here, which is oil production, gas production
19 and water production, for the 394H, did you say any kind
20 of a precipitous drop either before or after Mesquite
21 shut in?

22 A. I do not see anything that is precipitous.

23 Q. Now, you also charted on here, did you not, a
24 water-oil ratio?

25 A. Yes. The purple triangles, those are noted as

1 the water-oil ratio, and just as McGregor had
2 identified, it is simply the water divided by the oil.

3 Q. And what has been, roughly, the water-oil ratio
4 of the Poker Lake 394H since it came online in July of
5 2014?

6 A. The water-oil ratio before Mesquite shut their
7 wells in was around 8 to 9 to 1, and even since the
8 injection has been stopped, it's still around 8 to 9 to
9 1.

10 Q. And is that consistent with the water-oil
11 ratios that Chevron and OXY have seen in their producing
12 wells in this area?

13 A. I can't speak to OXY's producing wells, but
14 Chevron's producing wells that are directly near the two
15 saltwater disposal wells in question, they have seen a
16 water-oil ratio hover around 10 to 1.

17 Q. With that in mind, if I then move closer to the
18 401H, I get to slide 21, Exhibit 2?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And that's the Poker Lake 393?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And, again, using the available data on the
23 Division's Web site reported by BOPCO, did you graph the
24 production of this well history since it came online in
25 April of 2013?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. What do you observe with respect to the
3 trending of the water production, the gas production and
4 the oil production in this particular well?

5 A. We do see the oil production start to decline.
6 It's hard to tell if it's a slightly higher decline than
7 what you would have normally seen. The gas definitely
8 dropped off, but the gas has been rebounding since
9 Mesquite has shut their wells in. You did see the
10 influx of water. Now, if that's -- remember, 393 was
11 partially caused by BOPCO setting the plug in their 401H
12 well, diverting some of that extraneous water to their
13 wells. But they are seeing the water fall back in line
14 with where I would expect it to be at this point.

15 Q. And you see a trend with respect to the
16 water-oil ratio?

17 A. Yes. The water-oil ratio did increase. It has
18 started to flatten off and actually started to fall back
19 on about 9 to 1, which is a little bit higher than it
20 had seen, but it falls in line with what I have seen in
21 other Lower Brushy Canyon wells.

22 Q. And I think it's intuitive for you engineers,
23 but not so much for anyone else in the room. The
24 water-oil ratio will gradually go up over time as you
25 produce more oil, right?

1 A. Yes. In the Lower Brushy Canyon, the longer
2 the well is online, you will see the water cuts
3 naturally increase.

4 Q. Then if I go to what's been marked as slide
5 number 22, is that the production here for the Poker
6 Lake Unit 392H well since it came online in November of
7 2012?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What do you observe with respect to the
10 trending of the oil production, the gas production and
11 the water production?

12 A. Again, the gas fell off considerably, but since
13 Mesquite has shut their wells in, their gas production
14 has climbed almost back to trend. Their water did
15 increase as you would expect, and it is declining as of
16 the last month's data. The oil also fell off, but since
17 Mesquite has shut in, that oil looks to be recovering.
18 And you can see that in the water-oil ratio in that it's
19 coming back down from the July 2014 date.

20 Q. And has there been any continuation of a
21 precipitous drop in production after the Mesquite
22 shut-in?

23 A. I don't see a continuance of precipitous drop.
24 I see that there was an effect and that it is
25 recovering.

1 Q. And finally, when I get to the Poker Lake
2 Federal #1 well, that's reflected on slide number 23?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And what does this show you over time since it
5 came online in November of 2012?

6 A. So you definitely see the oil, gas and water
7 following a pretty steady trend, and there was a
8 breakthrough of some sort between April and May. As the
9 last reported oil and gas for the well prior to
10 Mesquite's shut-in was April, you do see that after the
11 shut-in, there was some oil recorded and some gas, but
12 water-oil ratio is still considerably high. I think as
13 Mr. McGregor had pointed out, it was well over 100, and
14 I agree with that. But the last data point shows that
15 though the water is still high, it's moving in the right
16 direction.

17 Q. Now, did you examine what was going on in the
18 Mesquite wells in April and May when this drop is shown
19 here or this water volume [sic] is shown on slide 23?

20 A. I guess I don't understand your question.

21 Q. Was there any change in the rate of volume of
22 water that Mesquite was injecting into its wells in
23 April or May of 2014?

24 A. No.

25 Q. But this does reflect that something happened,

1 right?.

2 A. Yes. Something most definitely happened.

3 Q. And do all of these slides indicate that there
4 is an apparent -- appears to be some recovery in the
5 Poker Lake Unit wells since the Mesquite shut-in?

6 A. Yes.

7 I'm also excited to hear that over the
8 weekend it was reported that the oil is recovering in
9 the 401H. That would actually put it well above even
10 the most recent point that I had received from BOPCO's
11 submission to the NMOCD.

12 Q. Did you get an understanding of where that --
13 of the amount of oil that they were seeing?

14 A. I think what they reported earlier today, the
15 most recent, was about 20 to 30 barrels of oil today.

16 Q. If you put a dot -- when was that? Did they
17 say when that production occurred?

18 A. I can't remember exactly. They said over this
19 past weekend.

20 Q. So would that be in the November or December
21 production?

22 A. That would show up on the December production,
23 but there is usually a lag when that's reported and
24 received. So we probably won't see that show up for
25 December until probably February or March of next year.

1 Q. And that level of production, where would that
2 be on these lines that you have on here? Is it above
3 the 100 axis on the left-hand side?

4 A. Yes. These are monthly numbers. So if they
5 were at 30 barrels of oil a day for a 30-day month, that
6 would put them at 900 to 1,000 barrels of oil a day --
7 or 900 to 1,000 barrels for the month.

8 Q. So that would be a marker that could be drawn
9 in right below that 1,000 line?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Somewhere around November or December?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. As part of your study, did you also examine the
14 regional dip in this area?

15 A. Yes, I did.

16 Q. If I look at slide 24 -- I have to write that
17 in in the upper, right-hand corner.

18 So slide 24, does that reflect the wells
19 that are utilized in the cross section to determine the
20 regional dip in this area, the Delaware Formation?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And if I then turn to slide 25 of Exhibit
23 Number 2, is that the corresponding cross section over
24 this area of interest?

25 A. Yes, it is.

1 Q. And what does this reflect with respect to the
2 regional dip in this area for the Delaware Formation?

3 A. It shows that there is a small dip to the east,
4 so you are shallower to the west and deeper to the east.

5 Q. And if I then take a look at slide 26, does
6 that provide a structure map over this same area of
7 interest as reflected in slide 25?

8 A. Yes, it does.

9 Q. Confirming the shallowing as you move to the
10 east?

11 A. Yes. And it indicates that the saltwater
12 disposal wells in question are downdip from the -- for
13 the Brushy Canyon, it is downdip from the BOPCO
14 producing wells.

15 Q. Now, you also identify on here -- I'm sorry --
16 on the next slide, slide 27, keeping this in mind, you
17 identify some offsetting Chevron producing wells?

18 A. Yes, the Todd 2 State #3, and the Sotol A
19 Federal #3 and the Cactus 16 State #2. And they were
20 selected because of the general orientation that was
21 provided by BOPCO. Those are that same orientation from
22 the OXY and Chevron saltwater disposal wells.

23 Q. Now, these three wells that you identify here
24 on slide 27, are they producing from the Lower Brushy
25 Canyon?

1 A. Yes, they are.

2 Q. And do they offset your Chevron and OXY
3 producing wells 45 degrees to the northeast?

4 A. From the -- the Chevron and OXY SWD wells, but
5 not from the Heavy Metal and Bran SWD wells.

6 Q. And then you also have the availability of a
7 producing well to the southwest between your OXY and
8 Chevron saltwater disposal wells and the Poker Lake Unit
9 wells in question?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Why is the location of the offsetting Chevron
12 wells important? I mean, what would you normally see if
13 there was an issue?

14 A. Well, if the induced fractures are occurring
15 from Chevron and OXY at the orientation that has been
16 provided through the FMI and the microseismic, I would
17 expect to see some sort of water influence in our two
18 producing wells and the Chevron Cactus 16 State #2. And
19 I would expect to see it before I saw it at Poker Lake.

20 Q. Because two of the wells are downdip, right, in
21 the northeast?

22 A. They are downdip. And as Mr. McGregor pointed
23 out, water does tend to go downhill, but it is a
24 pressure. But these two -- these two wells to the
25 northeast, they've been online since the mid-'90s, so I

1 would expect that their pressure, relatively speaking,
2 is actually lower than what Poker Lake is seeing, the
3 BOPCO Poker Lake wells.

4 Q. And then with respect to the Cactus well, if
5 the well were creating an issue, you would expect to see
6 it first in the Cactus well because it's actually
7 between your disposal wells and the Poker Lake Unit?

8 A. I would expect that if there was an influence
9 from OXY or Chevron's SWD wells, I would see it in that
10 well.

11 Q. Has Chevron observed any impact to its
12 producing wells directly offsetting the Chevron and OXY
13 saltwater disposal wells?

14 A. I have not seen a noticeable impact.

15 Q. If I turn to slide 28 of Exhibit Number 2, is
16 this the production history since January of 2012 for
17 the first well to the northeast, the Todd State #3?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And what do you observe with respect to the
20 oil, the gas and the water and the water-oil ratio?

21 A. So what I see is the oil and gas seem to be on
22 trend. I wouldn't say that there is any negative
23 impact. The water-oil ratio is high, but it is not
24 anything higher than what we have actually seen
25 historically for this well in this area.

1 Q. And is what's reflected on here -- this well's
2 been producing for quite some time, right?

3 A. Since the mid-'90s.

4 Q. And it would be hard to put all that data on
5 here and show it, but is the data reflected on here
6 since January 2012 similar to what you see for prior
7 production years in terms of trending?

8 A. Yes. The trend does not seem to have changed
9 from the dates not represented here.

10 Q. And with respect to the water-oil ratio, for
11 this particular well, it appears to be on trend? Is
12 that what you said?

13 A. Again, when you have a well that's been online
14 for a long period of time, you do expect the water-oil
15 ratio to go up. The water-oil ratio that we've seen
16 historically, it fluctuates depending on when we do well
17 work, you know, getting the well back online, but it's
18 not anything higher than what I've historically seen.

19 Q. Then going to the second well to the northeast
20 reflected on slide 29, do you see -- what do you observe
21 here with respect to the trending of the oil and the
22 water and the water-oil ratio?

23 A. So what I see is that the oil is still on
24 trend, the water is on trend. The water-oil ratio is --
25 you know, it fluctuates. These are very low oil

1 volumes, so any little blip can really change your
2 water-oil ratio. That's why you see it oscillating, you
3 know, between four to ten. But historically, if you
4 look at where the water-oil ratio has oscillated, you
5 know, being between four to ten is very typical for this
6 well.

7 Q. And with respect to these wells to the
8 northeast, were they all producing before Chevron
9 commenced any injection operation in this area?

10 A. They have been producing since the mid-'90s,
11 and the Lotos well has been injecting since 2007. But
12 they were not producing before OXY's disposal in 1994.

13 Q. And finally, going to the Cactus well to the
14 southwest of the OXY and Chevron disposal area --

15 Let me ask you one other question back on
16 slide 29. You didn't have any gas line out here. Is
17 that because it's not recorded?

18 A. I'm not 100 percent sure. These are all wells
19 that we received from Chesapeake. The gas that was
20 reported early on in the life was very low, and very
21 likely it's just not being metered. But we have not
22 reported any gas on it.

23 Q. Then if I go to that well in the southwest on
24 slide 30, you have some data on gas here, but it's
25 limited, correct?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. What do you observe with respect to oil and
3 water and the water-oil ratio on this well southwest,
4 between the Poker Lake Unit and your injection well?

5 A. So you see that the water and oil are on trend,
6 except for September '13. You see we definitely lost
7 some oil and water. We lost our pump in the well. We
8 had to go do some well work. We have brought the well
9 back online. We did shorten the stroke length on the
10 pumping unit, which is why you have not seen the oil get
11 100 percent back to wherever it was at. Again, these
12 are very low volumes, so you're looking at around one to
13 two barrels of oil a day. But the fortunate part is
14 that the water-oil ratio is actually slightly better
15 than it was before the well downtime.

16 Q. So in these disposal operations, OXY's SDS and
17 Chevron's Lotos, if they were having some kind of an
18 impact on production in the Brushy Canyon, would you
19 expect the water-oil ratio in the Cactus State #2 to go
20 up?

21 A. I would expect it to go up just like we saw in
22 the Poker Lake Unit 401H, and I would also expect
23 that -- given the pressure that BOPCO saw in their
24 wells, at these low rates, I would expect my well to be
25 watered out.

1 Q. In your opinion, as an expert in petroleum
2 engineering, do you see any evidence of a negative
3 impact on Lower Brushy Canyon production from OXY and
4 Chevron's disposal operations in the Bell and Cherry
5 Canyon?

6 A. No, I do not.

7 MR. FELDEWERT: That's all the questions I
8 have.

9 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Jones?

10 CROSS-EXAMINATION

11 BY EXAMINER JONES:

12 Q. Hello, Mr. Sparks.

13 A. Hello.

14 Q. That well that dropped off on the water-oil
15 ratio, could that be due to some scaling?

16 A. We have not noticed any scaling, but we did
17 have paraffin in the well.

18 Q. And speaking of that water-quality rationale
19 that Mr. McGregor was showing, do you have any comments
20 about that?

21 A. So the comments I would have is we have taken
22 some water analysis in our wells, more specifically --
23 or most recently our disposal well, and the specific
24 gravity, the total dissolved solids, the chlorides, the
25 sulfates, they all fall in line with what BOPCO is

1 seeing before the breakthrough. In fact, the water that
2 Chevron is disposing, almost all of it is Lower Brushy
3 Canyon or Cherry Canyon water.

4 We did look at historical water analysis,
5 and, you know, it's hard to tell that -- I have this
6 disagreement on what native Brushy Canyon water is. I'm
7 not sure there has been an official study on what native
8 water is. We do see similar trends to what Mr. McGregor
9 provided. But the water that they introduced as native
10 Brushy water, there have been deeper wells than the
11 Brushy Canyon at the Poker Lake Unit that BOPCO has been
12 disposing water from. They themselves were disposing
13 water into the Lower Brushy and the Delaware sand
14 through the Poker Lake Unit. You could raise the
15 question that they may have already contaminated, and we
16 have no real indication of what native water is.

17 Q. Okay. So you're saying that the waters that
18 Mesquite was using were different than the waters that
19 you're disposing of?

20 A. Absolutely. With Mesquite being a commercial
21 disposal, they're disposing anything and everything. It
22 could be laced with completion fluids. It could be, you
23 know, very shallow water, very deep water. It could be
24 from all over the place, and it's most definitely
25 different than what Chevron's disposing.

1 Q. Isn't it true that it would be most likely Bone
2 Spring water?

3 A. There is a good indication it would be Bone
4 water just because that's what the primary development
5 has been in the Delaware Basin. Yes.

6 Q. If you draw a ten-mile circle around their
7 wells, considering they have to truck the water in, the
8 production from that ten miles, what is that?

9 A. It would more than likely be a majority of the
10 new water or the majority of the water being Bone
11 Spring. But there has been historical deep production
12 all around those two commercial disposal wells that
13 Mesquite has. So there could be some portion that is
14 from Morrow, Atoka, much deeper formations.

15 Q. I'm not seeing a hyperbolic decline or not a
16 real strong hyperbolic decline in those new horizontal
17 Brushy Canyon wells. So that indicates to me that
18 there's some issues about it not being such a highly
19 fractured reservoir. What do you think about that?

20 A. You know, I can't -- I can't speak to it
21 specifically since I'm not a geologist. All I can tell
22 you is the Lower Brushy Canyon has to be fracked, and
23 they have to pump prop in. If there were fracture
24 swarms, I would expect that you may not need to frack
25 it.

1 Q. Well, it does -- the profiles that Mr. McGregor
2 showed, there are obviously some big fractures down
3 there.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. So I guess my question is: Why isn't the
6 matrix more fractured to exhibit more of a hyperbolic
7 decline on the production plots? And that's
8 something --

9 A. I don't know. I could definitely look into it.

10 Q. Those gas wells that you're showing on this
11 cross section, some of those are old Morrow wells,
12 right?

13 A. Yes. They were used just as control points.

14 Q. And they have cement circulating across the
15 zone of injection, or are there any bradenhead issues
16 with those wells?

17 A. I did not look at those wells specifically for
18 that, but -- I can't answer that.

19 Q. And this stress direction you were talking
20 about earlier, do you agree with BOPCO's analysis of
21 stress direction in the Brushy?

22 A. I agree that we have seen, through
23 microseismic, that there is a preferred orientation
24 that's somewhere along a 45- to 65-degree angle. We've
25 seen that elsewhere in the Delaware Basin, so I can't

1 say I disagree with that.

2 Q. Do you think it extends up into the Cherry and
3 the Bell the same direction?

4 A. I don't know, but I would think that there is a
5 possibility that that could be the case.

6 Q. On your disposal wells, I saw on one of the
7 exhibits that there was a plug that was pushed down in
8 that well.

9 A. In which well?

10 Q. It would be either one of the -- the Chevron
11 well or the OXY well. It was a plug that was pushed
12 down, the Lotos 11 Federal #2. It says the cast-iron
13 bridge plug initially set, and then it was pushed down
14 to 6,793.

15 We usually try to write these disposal
16 permits to have a 200-foot interval between their
17 lowermost injection and your plug inside your wellbore,
18 but I noticed you don't have that here. It may not have
19 been written that way, because you could have corrosion
20 inside the casing and you didn't show a production
21 profile -- or an injection profile. Are you going to
22 show one later, or do you have one?

23 A. No. I was not planning to show one later.
24 Again, these were actually from Chesapeake. We acquired
25 this well in October 2012 from them. We have not gone

1 in and done any well work since then.

2 Q. What about any follow-up testing on these two
3 wells?

4 A. Chevron has not done any follow-up testing on
5 these.

6 Q. What about a Hall Plot?

7 A. We have done a Hall Plot, and that actually
8 will be presented later.

9 Q. Okay. That's all I have.

10 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

11 And you have no questions, Counsel?

12 EXAMINER WADE: No questions.

13 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert, are you
14 going to admit these later on, when you get through?

15 MR. FELDEWERT: I plan on it.

16 EXAMINER GOETZE: Okay. Very good.

17 CROSS-EXAMINATION

18 BY EXAMINER GOETZE:

19 Q. Who did the cross sections?

20 A. So I had one of my geologists do the cross
21 sections.

22 Q. So he's not here, so we won't ask any
23 questions.

24 But so far it looks comparable between
25 interpretations both by BOPCO and Chevron.

1 EXAMINER GOETZE: I have no further
2 questions for this witness, and I'll give it to
3 Mr. Larson.

4 CROSS-EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. LARSON:

6 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Sparks.

7 A. Good afternoon.

8 Q. I'm handing out Exhibit Number 23. Pardon my
9 handwriting. I know you're just now seeing it,
10 Mr. Sparks, but would you identify for the record what
11 that document is?

12 A. It looks like it is a sundry notice for the
13 Heavy Metal 12.

14 Q. And I direct your attention to page 4 of
15 Exhibit 23, and do you see some handwriting on there?
16 It says: "Called Daniel Sanchez on 6/12."

17 A. Uh-huh.

18 Q. And just above that, it says: "Saltwater
19 disposal commenced 1/23/2012. Injection to ... 6,140."

20 A. Yes. I see "plugged back TD 6140." Yes.

21 Q. Do you have any reason to disagree with that?

22 A. I don't have any reason to disagree with that
23 from this sundry. That 6,140, that's the questionable
24 cement plug.

25 Q. Have you tested the plugs in the OXY SDS

1 Federal #1? I know that's not your well, but I think
2 you're speaking for OXY here as well. Do you know if
3 those plugs have been tested?

4 A. I don't know to what extent they have fully
5 tested. I know that they have gone down and tagged that
6 plug. It is there. And they have to perform their MIT.

7 Q. How about Chevron? Have those plugs been
8 tested?

9 A. We have not done any well work to go in and
10 test the plugs, but we had to do an MIT in order to
11 convert to injection.

12 Q. Did Mesquite do the MIT?

13 A. They did.

14 Q. What do you consider to be an effective frack
15 barrier?

16 A. An effective frack barrier to me would be
17 anything that prevents -- it would prevent anything that
18 the rock possibly shifting, you know, something that you
19 might see in a microseismic. I would definitely think
20 an effective frack barrier would be anything that --
21 some type of seal that would prevent hydrocarbons from
22 naturally flowing through it. And that's about as much
23 as I could say to the seal itself.

24 Q. Can you speak to the issue of what stress
25 contrast we need to have to be an effective frack

1 barrier?

2 A. I cannot speak to that.

3 Q. Your attorney spoke about a study done by the
4 University of Texas.

5 A. That was a study that was referenced by our
6 geologist and the engineering group of OXY and Chevron.

7 Q. And was that the basis for their belief that
8 there are frack barriers within the Delaware Mountain
9 Group?

10 A. Yes. And that was -- we have every reason to
11 believe that it was a very good study. I think
12 Mr. Pregger also addressed that he believes if it came
13 from the University of Texas, that he believes it.

14 Q. Can you cite us to any particular part of that
15 study?

16 A. I can't remember exactly what page it is at
17 this point.

18 Q. Is it your opinion that the Mesquite open-hole
19 wells are not communicating with the OXY and Chevron SWD
20 wells?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And what's the basis for that opinion?

23 A. The majority of that analysis is because we
24 don't see -- as you'll see when we get to the Hall Plot,
25 we don't see any type of response from when Mesquite

1 shut their well in that we would expect to see if we
2 were communicating with them. I would also expect that
3 given that we're at a different orientation, it would be
4 odd that if they propagated the frack in the natural
5 stress fracture, that they also propagated the second
6 frack that was perpendicular to the preferred stress
7 orientation.

8 Q. Do you agree that the three BOPCO producing
9 wells, the 401, the 392 and the 393, have been
10 influenced by injection in Sections 11 and 12?

11 A. I believe that BOPCO has seen a negative impact
12 in the 401H. I believe that the negative impact they
13 saw in the 392 and 393 were both self-inflicted by
14 trying to isolate that water. That water, though, is
15 extraneous, and I believe it is coming solely from the
16 Mesquite SWDs.

17 Q. And you use present tense there. Mesquite shut
18 in those wells in July.

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. Where has that water come from in the last four
21 or five months?

22 A. Well, though they are not injecting, they
23 injected, I think, as Mr. McGregor pointed out, well
24 over 7 million barrels of water in only two years --
25 less than two years. Whereas Chevron, we've not even

1 injected 7 million barrels since we've injected, period.
2 It's a lot of water, and there's going to still be a lot
3 of water, especially when you're only pulling of the
4 extraneous water about 1,000 barrels.

5 Mr. McGregor pointed out that right now
6 they're seeing about 2,000 -- 200 barrels of water a
7 day, but the Brushy Canyon makes water. Before the
8 breakthrough, they were still making around 1,000
9 barrels of water a day. So the extraneous water is
10 really only 1,000 barrels if your ESP is only moving
11 2,000.

12 I believe you have -- Baca [sic] has gone
13 in to run a 4,000-barrel-a-day ESP. So if my math is
14 right, that would still be 3,000 barrels of water a day.

15 And if the two Mesquite wells were
16 injecting approximately 15,000 barrels of water a day,
17 that means that for every day they were injecting, BOPCO
18 would need to be producing five times as long to recover
19 that 40,000 barrels of water per day that's extraneous.
20 So I think if the math goes into it, as Mr. McGregor
21 addressed, it will probably take a long time for that
22 water to be removed from the system.

23 Q. Thank you, Mr. Sparks.

24 A. You're very welcome.

25 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert, any

1 follow-up?

2 MR. FELDEWERT: No.

3 We'll call our next witness.

4 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

5 THOMAS CLIFFORD,

6 after having been previously sworn under oath, was
7 questioned and testified as follows:

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. FELDEWERT:

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

12 A. My name is Thomas Clifford. I am a reservoir
13 engineer at Occidental Petroleum.

14 Q. How long have you been with Occidental
15 Petroleum?

16 A. I've been with OXY a little over four years
17 now.

18 Q. And have you had the opportunity to previously
19 testify before this Division?

20 A. No, I have not.

21 Q. Why don't you provide the Examiners with your
22 educational background?

23 A. I graduated with a bachelor's in petroleum
24 engineering from the University of Texas; graduated May
25 2010.

1 Q. And what has been your work history since you
2 started -- did you start with OXY in 2010?

3 A. Yes, I did.

4 Q. What has been your work history since you
5 started with OXY?

6 A. I was a production completion engineer for
7 three years, September 2010 through January of this
8 year. January of this year until now, I've been a
9 reservoir engineer.

10 Q. And when you were a production completion
11 engineer, what were your areas of responsibility?

12 A. Pretty much entirely the Delaware Basin in
13 New Mexico.

14 Q. And has that been the case for your entire
15 career at OXY?

16 A. Yes, aside from six months in Texas, Delaware
17 Basin.

18 Q. Are you a member of any professional
19 affiliations?

20 A. I am. I am a member of the Society of
21 Petroleum Engineers, have been so since August 2008, six
22 years.

23 Q. Are you familiar with the applications that
24 have been filed in these consolidated cases?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And were you part of a team of geologists and
2 engineers at OXY that worked with your counterparts at
3 Chevron to study BOPCO's allegations?

4 A. Yes, I was.

5 MR. FELDEWERT: We'd tender Mr. Clifford as
6 an expert witness in petroleum engineering and petroleum
7 production.

8 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Larson?

9 MR. LARSON: No objection.

10 EXAMINER GOETZE: The witness is so
11 qualified.

12 Q. (BY MR. FELDEWERT) Now, going back to Exhibit
13 Number 2, which is in front of you, what analysis
14 contained within these slides are you going to be
15 addressing today?

16 A. I'll be addressing the Hall Plot analysis and
17 the injectivity analysis.

18 Q. And I believe the Hall Plot analysis is slide
19 32 of Exhibit Number 2; is that right?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. First off, if I go to slide 33, does that
22 discuss the Hall Plot meaning and methodology that's
23 used?

24 A. Yes, it does.

25 Q. And what, essentially, does a Hall Plot

1 analysis do?

2 A. It gives you an idea, a snapshot of either
3 historical or current injection conditions in a
4 saltwater disposal well.

5 Q. Now, did BOPCO inform you when you met in
6 October that they had observed a pressure change at
7 their Poker Lake Unit well following the shut-in of
8 Mesquite's injection wells in July?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Did they tell you how quickly they had observed
11 a pressure change at their Poker Lake Unit?

12 A. I believe they told us six hours. ✓

13 Q. Six hours?

14 A. (Indicating.)

15 Q. Did you examine the injection characteristics
16 of Chevron and OXY's saltwater disposal wells before and
17 after Mesquite shut in its injection wells in 2014?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And did you observe any pressure or other
20 changes in your injection wells after Mesquite shut in
21 its injection wells?

22 A. No, we did not. ✓

23 Q. What does that tell you as an engineer?

24 A. That tells me that OXY and Chevron's wells are
25 not hydraulically communicating with either Poker Lake

1 or Mesquite.

2 Q. If I then turn to what's been marked as slide
3 34, is that the beginning of the Hall Plot analysis of
4 the OXY well?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And slide 35, does it provide the daily
7 injection rates and daily pressure rates from this well
8 since February of 2008?

9 A. Yes, it does.

10 Q. And would you just tell us what all the dots
11 and lines mean right here?

12 A. The blue dots are the daily injection rates.
13 The red dots are the daily injection pressures. The
14 dotted orange line, although it looks red on this
15 chart -- the dotted line is our permitted injection
16 pressure. You can see the uptick there in October of
17 2013 from 2,200 to 3,170 psi. The vertical line is the
18 Mesquite shut-in on July 24th, 2014.

19 Q. Now, this change in injection pressure that you
20 note on here in September -- roughly September 2013, was
21 that approved after you submitted certain information to
22 the Division?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did that include step-rate tests?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Do the orange dots on here reflect the actual
2 injection pressures that the company has been utilizing?

3 A. No, it does not.

4 Q. What does -- what does that show? That's the
5 surface [sic]?

6 A. Yes, the little red -- red-orange circles on
7 the plot.

8 Q. So it looks to me, based on the data, that the
9 company has always been injecting well below its
10 approved injection, right?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Have these injection rates been fairly
13 consistent over time for this well?

14 A. Yes. The trend doesn't appear to change over
15 the time periods shown here.

16 Q. And why is it that the company -- that the
17 pressure rates have not increased over time?

18 A. We didn't have the additional need. We've been
19 injecting all the water we need to in this SWD. So --

20 Q. In terms of the dateline here when Mesquite
21 shut in its well, did you observe any pressure changes
22 in your well following the shut-in of the Mesquite well?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Does the data indicate you have maintained the
25 previous trends that you had seen in this particular

1 well?

2 A. Yes, it does.

3 Q. If there was some kind of a fracture network
4 that connected OXY's disposal well with the Mesquite
5 disposal wells, what would you see on the right-hand
6 side of that July 24th dateline?

7 A. The blue dots would be in the same place. All
8 the red dots would come down. We would have the
9 injection rates because that's all the water we need to
10 dispose, but our injection pressure would drop because
11 we're no longer competing for hydraulic space
12 underground and on the subsurface. ✓

13 Q. In utilizing this data on here, on slide 35,
14 would you then conduct a surface oil plot analysis?

15 A. Yes, that's correct.


16 Q. And is that reflected on slide 36?

17 A. Yes, it is.

18 Q. Would you please -- before we get to the data,
19 would you explain the legend that is inserted on kind of
20 the middle, left-hand side of this? What does that tell
21 us?

22 A. So the solid line that you see here from little
23 A to capital A in the top right is an injector well
24 under normal conditions. It's injecting into a closed
25 tank, large reservoir but sealed, and you're eventually

1 increasing pressure over time.

2 Any deflection to the north, or vertically,
3 such as capital B would be wellbore plugging or
4 hydraulic communication with possibly another injector.
5 It's resistance to injection. So it could also be
6 considered as, you know, subsurface hydraulic
7 communication with another injector well. 

8 Any deflection to the right would indicate
9 either a fracture or injection out of zone. As seen on
10 the legend in the top, left-hand side of the chart,
11 capital B, or you could even say C, would be a fracture.
12 The well's been -- you know, you've induced the fracture
13 network or induced the fracture, and it's becoming
14 easier to inject one barrel of water or the volume of
15 water specified.

16 Q. Okay. So this provides your benchmark to this
17 analysis in looking at the curve and the data, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Then on the left-hand side of this exhibit,
20 have you plotted the trending line for the OXY well?

21 A. Yes, we have.

22 Q. And on the right-hand side of this exhibit, is
23 this a close-up of the trending line using just the data
24 from 2014?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And what do you observe with respect to the
2 data line here that you've got both in the left and the
3 right?

4 A. The shape of the curve is concave upward, which
5 reflects either capital D or capital A in the legend.
6 It's either injection into a normal container or a
7 normal reservoir, or it's a wellbore that's plugging up.

8 Q. So you would have reduced injectivity over
9 time?

10 A. Yes. Yeah, because you'd expect that with a
11 typical injector well.

12 Q. Is that what this concave upper thin line
13 reflects?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. If you had a fractured network or were
16 connected to some fractured network, what would that
17 trending line be doing?

18 A. You'd see an inflection point to the right, so
19 it would have a -- at some point in time, you would have
20 a shallower slope. It would fall off to the right.

21 Q. And you also plot on here the Mesquite shut-in
22 date?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Do you see any change in your trending line
25 following the Mesquite shut-in date?

1 A. I don't see any significant change. It's
2 following a concave up trend.

3 Q. And if you were somehow hydraulically connected
4 to the Mesquite injection zones, what would that line be
5 doing to the right of the dateline?

6 A. It would look similar to capital B in the
7 legend. It would fall off to the right because we would
8 no longer be hydraulically communicating and competing
9 for space -- for space in the reservoir.

10 Q. Now, if I then to turn to slide 37, is this
11 downhole plot analysis using the same data that we saw
12 on slide 35?

13 A. Yes, it is.

14 Q. What's the difference between your surface-hole
15 plot and your downhole plot?

16 A. The only -- the primary difference is you
17 assume a reservoir pressure, or if you have -- in the
18 downhole pressure gauge, you obtain a reservoir
19 pressure, and you take the delta pressure as on the
20 vertical axis versus on the surface-hole plot, it's just
21 surface-injection pressure.

22 In this case we corrected for down hole,
23 and it becomes your pressure drop across the
24 perforations, essentially. It's your inside the
25 wellbore injection pressure minus your reservoir

1 pressure outside the perforations.

2 Q. So you have a different vertical axis, then,
3 correct?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Where did you obtain your average pressure?

6 A. The average pressure was taken from the Sandia
7 report, which we'll refer to in a couple of slides.
8 It's a report done by a company called Sandia out of
9 Farmington, I think, and it was done by the Department
10 of Energy. And the WIPP [sic] site is about 12 miles
11 further northwest of here. And they obtained some
12 reservoir pressures from the Bell Canyon, so we used the
13 same hydraulic gradient to come up with a reservoir
14 pressure for OXY's well.

15 Q. And then looking at the insert on the left-hand
16 side of slide 37, does that provide your benchmark for
17 analyzing the slope of the data line here?

18 A. Yes. We're taking the last portion of the
19 data, which would reflect the current injection
20 conditions, and calculating an injectivity that is based
21 on the slope of that line, and that's how our well is
22 injecting at this current point.

23 Q. And using that index here as a benchmark, that
24 would indicate to you whether you have a fracturing near
25 the well or a normal disposal environment, right?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. In analyzing the data, what did you observe
3 with respect to the trending line for this downhole Hall
4 Plot?

5 A. It's the last six years of history we have here
6 showing primarily the linear trend. There is no clear
7 deflection to the right. If anything, there is a slight
8 deflection steeper -- a steep slope, which indicates
9 what we're plugging.

10 Q. So does that indicate that there is any leak in
11 the reservoir in the area you are injecting?

12 A. It does not.

13 Q. Does it indicate there is any fracturing in the
14 area -- in the part of the reservoir you are injecting?

15 A. No, it does not.

16 Q. Then you also, on the right-hand side -- in
17 both of these, you also had the Mesquite shut-in
18 dateline. Do you see that?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Did you observe any change in the slope of your
21 line following the Mesquite shut-in?

22 A. No. It's primarily a linear trend.

23 Q. And if you were hydraulically connected, again,
24 would that line drop off?

25 A. Yeah. The slope would become more shallow. It

1 would be a lower slope.

2 Q. Before we leave this particular slide, as part
3 of your analysis here that you're going to get into
4 next, your injectivity analysis, did you create -- or
5 did you develop the injectivity index for the OXY well?

6 A. Yes, I did.

7 Q. And which number on slide 27 will you be using
8 later?

9 A. We'll be using 0.92 barrels of water injected
10 per day per psi as the injected index on the OXY SDS
11 Federal well.

12 Q. And that's the data for 2014?


13 A. Yes. That's current conditions.

14 Q. Now, OXY's well has been injecting into this
15 particular zone since 1994; is that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. In your opinion, is there any evidence of a
18 hydraulic communication between OXY's saltwater disposal
19 well and Mesquite's recent SWD wells in nearby Poker
20 Lake Unit?

21 A. No, there is not.

22 Q. If I then go to slides 38 through 41, is that
23 the same type of analysis for Chevron's saltwater
24 disposal well? 

25 A. Yeah, it is.

1 Q. I think we can move through these a little more
2 quickly.

3 Slide 39, is that historical data for the
4 Chevron well?

5 A. Yes, Chevron injection data.

6 Q. And did you observe, based on the data, any
7 change in the injection pressures following the shut-in
8 of Mesquite's wells in July of 2014?

9 A. No.

10 Q. When using this data, did you create your
11 surface Hall Plot as reflected on slide 40?

12 A. Yes, I did.

13 Q. And do you see the same results that you called
14 out for the OXY disposal?

15 A. Yeah. It's a concave up trend. It either
16 indicates capital D [sic] or capital A in the insert,
17 which is typical injection in normal conditions or while
18 we're plugging.

19 Q. So no indication of a leak in the injection
20 zone or some kind of a fracture network?

21 A. No indication from this plot.

22 Q. And did you see any change in your trajectory
23 line after Mesquite shut in in July?

24 A. No major -- no change. It's continuing a
25 concave upward trend.

1 Q. Does slide 41 reflect the downhole plot
2 analysis?

3 A. Yes, it does.

4 Q. And do we see a similar result as we saw for
5 the OXY disposal well?

6 A. Yes. It's a linear trend. It's either a
7 typical injection under normal conditions or -- yeah.
8 It's a linear trend the last two -- two to three years
9 of injection history.

10 Q. And do you see any impact on that linear line
11 following the shut-in of the Mesquite well in July of
12 2014?

13 A. I do not. It's linear. If anything, it's
14 slightly continuing in a somewhat concave upward trend,
15 which, according to the insert, indicates wellbore
16 plugging, which you -- also going back to the surface
17 Hall Plot -- plugging.

18 Q. Now, Chevron has been injecting in this
19 particular zone that you've analyzed here since 2007?

20 A. Yes, that is correct.

21 Q. And do you observe any evidence of a hydraulic
22 communication between Chevron's injection zone and
23 Mesquite's recent saltwater injection wells there by
24 Poker Lake Unit?

25 A. No, I do not.

1 Q. There was some discussion during BOPCO's case
2 about existence of non-native water in the Brushy
3 Canyon.

4 A. (Indicating.)

5 Q. Were you here for that?

6 A. Yeah. I heard that.

7 Q. Are you familiar with the water that Chevron
8 has been and OXY have been injecting into their disposal
9 wells?

10 A. Yes, I am.

11 Q. What's the source of that water?

12 A. Brushy Canyon. We have -- Chevron has one
13 Morrow well. OXY has two Bone Spring well and one
14 Morrow well. Aside from that, it's 90 to 95 percent
15 Brushy Canyon wells.

16 Q. So is there any way, if that's the case, that
17 Chevron or OXY could be contributing to the non-native
18 water that BOPCO claims it sees in the Poker Lake Unit
19 well?

20 A. It would be hard to understand the differences
21 in water as seen at the Poker Lake Unit after the
22 breakthrough. If OXY and Chevron are both injecting
23 Brushy Canyon water, why would it look any different at
24 Poker Lake than it does a mile or two northeast?

25 Q. Okay. Now, before I leave slide 41, you also

1 calculated the injectivity index for Chevron's well,
2 correct?

3 A. Yes, I did.

4 Q. And you did that for 2014?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Is that 1.67?

7 A. 1.67 barrels of water injected per day per psi.
8 Is the Chevron Lotos 11 Federal #2 SWD injected index.

9 Q. And are you going to use that number in your
10 injectivity analysis?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Let's go to the second portion of your case,
13 which the cover on that is slide 42.

14 And does slide 43 provide us with kind of
15 an overview of what an injectivity index analysis does?

16 A. Yes, it does.

17 Q. Essentially, what does it do?

18 A. It's a ratio of the volume of water injected
19 over the pressure drop or the delta pressure. It's a
20 relative measure. You can compare SWDs right next to
21 one another and see which ones are doing better than
22 others, which ones have better injectivity.

23 Q. And can you identify the permeability of the
24 injection zone doing this kind of analysis?

25 A. Yes. You can rearrange Darcy's equation and

1 back out a permeability estimate.

2 Q. You get to do that Darcy's analysis, Darcy's
3 law?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. If I then go to slide 44, does that contain the
6 injectivity index analysis for OXY's disposal well for a
7 period of time since March of 2008?

8 A. Yes, it does.

9 Q. And it provides, essentially, the historical
10 injectivity?

11 A. Yes, over the last six years.

12 Q. What does the yellow line reflect on here?

13 A. The yellow line on the plot is a rolling 50-day
14 average, so it's just to try and correlate a trend
15 through all the data points. Each data point is
16 representative of one day of injection over the last six
17 years.

18 Q. Now, if that yellow line is going up or that
19 yellow line was trending up, what would that mean?

20 A. If the yellow line is trending up, that means
21 you're getting more injectivity. You're injecting more
22 barrels per day per psi than were given -- permitted to.
23 So for every one psi, if you have an injectivity index
24 of one, it's one barrel of water per psi. If your
25 yellow line is increasing to two, that means you've got

1 two barrels of water injected per psi, so it's
2 increasing injectivity.

3 Q. Did you observe any change in that yellow line
4 in that 50-day average after Mesquite shut in?

5 A. It fluctuates, as you can see in the history
6 over the last four years. It's cyclical. And it's
7 following the same trend. It's been decreasing over --
8 it indicates that it's a closed reservoir.

9 Q. And if it wasn't a closed reservoir and somehow
10 connected to the Mesquite SWD well, would you expect
11 that yellow line would start trending up after Mesquite
12 shut in its well?

13 A. It would, because we're not competing for core
14 space. We're not competing for hydraulic space in the
15 reservoir. So we would, therefore, be able to inject
16 more, so your injectivity index would be higher.

17 Q. Did you utilize, then, this data to calculate
18 the permeability of the zone into which OXY has been
19 injecting since 1993?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Turn to slide 45. Does that contain your
22 analysis of the permeability of OXY's injection zone?

23 A. Yes, it does.

24 Q. What did you conclude from this analysis?

25 A. The apparent reservoir permeability is 2.29

1 millidarcies based on this calculation and the
2 current injection --

3 Q. And what does that indicate in terms of the
4 type of system into which you were injecting?

5 A. It appears to be matrix permeability.

6 Q. Is there any evidence, given this permeability,
7 of a fractured system or a fractured network?

8 A. No.

9 Q. It's kind of a benchmark. If you were -- if
10 OXY was injecting into a fractured network, what type of
11 permeability would you see from your analysis?

12 A. You'd see about 150 millidarcies of
13 permeability.

14 Q. And you're seeing 2.29?

15 A. That's correct.

16 Q. Does slide 46, then, provide the same type
17 of -- the beginning of slide 46 -- provide the same type
18 of analysis for Chevron's injection rate?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. Again, you have your historical data on slide
21 46?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And you have your yellow line that tracks your
24 historical trend?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And did you observe any change in that
2 historical trend following the shut in of Mesquite's
3 well?

4 A. No. It's following -- it's within range of the
5 total history that we have here since 2012.

6 Q. And did you then utilize this data in the
7 injectivity index of 1.67 to calculate the permeability
8 of the zone in which Chevron is injecting?

9 A. I did.

10 Q. Is that reflected on slide 47?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And what did you conclude from your analysis?

13 A. We came up with 2.40 millidarcies for reservoir
14 permeability over the injection interval.

15 Q. I'm sorry?

16 A. Over the injection interval.

17 Q. And, again, what does that indicate in terms on
18 the nature of the interval in which Chevron has been
19 injecting since 2007?

20 A. It appears Chevron is injecting into matrix
21 permeability.

22 Q. Is there any indication of a fractured system?

23 A. No.

24 Q. If I go to slide 48, does the first half of the
25 top part of this slide identify the Sandia report that

1 you referenced for purposes of determining your average
2 reservoir pressure?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And the bottom part of this, does it provide
5 the Examiners with some benchmarks with which to weigh
6 the permeability of the OXY and Chevron injection zones
7 with other types of injection zones?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. You talked about if you were tied to a
10 fractured system, you would see 150 to 155 millidarcies?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. As opposed to the 2.29 and 2.4 that you
13 calculated for Chevron's well?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Now, you did a calculation here based on the
16 permeability that would have to be in effect for BOPCO
17 to see a quick response to the Mesquite shut-in?

18 A. That's correct. Uh-huh.

19 Q. What type of permeability did you calculate
20 would have to exist for BOPCO to receive such -- see
21 such a quick response in its Poker Lake Unit well from
22 the shut in of the Mesquite well?

23 A. Based on the distance, for a 24-hour time
24 period, you've got to see the pressure drop and the pump
25 intake pressure zone for the Poker Lake 401, it would be

1 a permeability of 900 millidarcies in that fracture
2 system. If they're talking six to eight hours, you can
3 increase that factor to well over one darcy permeability
4 within that fracture system.

5 Q. In your opinion, are the zones into which OXY
6 and Chevron are injecting through perforations, is that
7 the same type of zone as to which Mesquite was injecting
8 via open hole?

9 A. Absolutely not.

10 Q. In your opinion, is there any indication that
11 OXY and Chevron's saltwater disposal wells are
12 hydraulically connected to Mesquite's recently shut-in
13 disposal wells?

14 A. No.

15 Q. And in your opinion, is there any indication
16 that Mesquite's recent injection activities have created
17 a conduit by which OXY and Chevron's operations are
18 somehow impacting the Poker Lake Unit?

19 A. Based on the Hall Plot, no.

20 Q. That's all the questions I have.

21 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Jones?

22 CROSS-EXAMINATION

23 BY EXAMINER JONES:

24 Q. So on those Mesquite wells, does anybody really
25 know what the injection pressure is that we're under?

1 A. We asked them for the data, and we never got
2 around to obtaining it from them.

3 But, you know, if you wanted to assume that
4 they're actually injecting at 325 psi, you estimate
5 bottom-hole pressure based on frictional calculations
6 and hydrostatics, and then you know their
7 surface-injection rates. Their injectivity index is 15
8 or higher relative to ours.

9 So based on the data that we have from the
10 NMOCD Web site, it appears that their injection is much
11 higher than ours, and they've got a much higher
12 injectivity index than us, which indicates there's
13 something different. It's a totally different system
14 than what OXY and Chevron are injecting into.

15 Q. We know they've got more wellbore exposed,
16 right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Can you tell us again how much disposal volume
19 they were putting in? You're putting in around 3,000 in
20 one of these wells, right, one of these Chevron wells?

21 A. Yeah. In the OXY, we're putting in about 2,000
22 a day, and Chevron, I think it's about 1,000 a day.

23 Q. And how much was Mesquite putting in?

24 A. Combined, they were putting in 15,000 a day.

25 Q. 15,000?

1 A. I believe so.

2 Q. Total for both wells?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. I didn't see where anybody put an injection
5 time clock for all saltwater disposals together and
6 showed them on the same plot, but you just answered that
7 question, I guess.

8 But your well did require a pressure
9 increase?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. So you just had more volume you needed to put
12 in, or is it just reaching the -- just naturally going
13 to need it?

14 A. We figure we may need it sometime in the
15 future, but we've still got almost 1,000 psi buffer room
16 with the previous approved permanent pressure of 2,200.
17 We asked for it thinking that we're going to have an
18 aggressive drilling program moving forward, and this
19 would help us handle the water injection. But at this
20 point, we don't really see much need for it.

21 Q. What kind of pump do you have on these two
22 wells, the OXY and the Chevron well?

23 A. I believe we have an H pump on the OXY well. I
24 would have to defer to Chevron for the Chevron well.

25 Q. H pump, you said, or what kind?

1 A. Or not an H pump. I'm sorry. A --

2 Q. Triplex?

3 A. -- triplex pump. Yes.

4 Q. And how do you limit the pressure on it? Do
5 you have a Murphy switch, or do you have some -- on your
6 well to keep it from overpressuring? It's not
7 overpressuring, right, at the volume you're putting in?

8 A. No.

9 Q. And are you trucking in your volume to -- for
10 these wells?

11 A. I believe -- I believe some is piped, and some
12 is also trucked in.

13 Q. From remote -- remoter -- further-away wells
14 that's being trucked in, I take it?

15 A. Yeah, from 45 miles or so.

16 Q. I didn't see a site security diagram for the
17 well site. Do you have a chart -- do you keep charts on
18 these two wells to show the pressure behavior with time?

19 A. I don't have them with me, and I haven't --

20 Q. But you do keep them?

21 A. I believe so. I believe we show [sic] it out
22 in the field.

23 Q. When's the last time that TD was checked on
24 these two wells, somebody gone in and -- dipped in and
25 checked the plug -- where the plug's at?

1 A. On OXY's well, we ran a wireline tag and an
2 injection log a week before Thanksgiving, so it must
3 have been November 22nd, November 21st, somewhere around
4 there.

5 Q. So you ran an injection log?

6 A. Yes. And all of our injections show we went
7 shallower, and there is no injection going deeper, and
8 there is a plug there.

9 Q. Why did these two wells -- both of them, I
10 think, if I'm correct, show the lower zone was plugged
11 back. Why was that?

12 A. I wouldn't be able to speak for it because it
13 appears that happened before OXY acquired from Pogo in
14 2008. Our first work or operation was February 5th,
15 2010, where we ran into figure out what was in the well,
16 and we found that plug there at 4,923, I believe it was.
17 So we have no record of how that plug got there. It was
18 something Pogo had done prior to OXY. And then in our
19 system we have the perforations listed, and they are --
20 they do agree with our injection log.

21 Q. Do you keep a Nolo [sic;phonetic] analysis
22 program? You're a production engineer now, right?

23 A. I'm a reservoir engineer now.

24 Q. I can tell from this (indicating) that you're a
25 reservoir engineer. But even as a reservoir engineer,

1 do you have a Nolo [sic] analysis program on hand that
2 you keep your reservoir or your perfs, your well
3 wellbore or your --

4 A. Yeah. We keep track of them in LOWIS, which is
5 life-of-well information system.

6 Q. Oh, okay.

7 A. I believe that's the acronym for it.

8 Q. And the scaling tendency -- you see a scaling
9 tendency in these waters?

10 A. We see -- as for injection water, we see
11 typical values that BOPCO's claiming prior to the
12 Mesquite invasion.

13 Q. Calcium carbonate or --

14 A. We haven't really had any scale issues that I
15 know of, that I'm aware of, but we have -- we have
16 sulfates. We have chlorides. But we don't have any
17 other components, really, that cause, you know, any
18 issues for us.

19 Q. Do you filter the water, what goes in?

20 A. I believe so, but I do not know the answer to
21 that.

22 Q. You graduated pretty recently from school. You
23 probably had a lot of rock mechanics; is that correct?

24 A. Yes, sir.

25 Q. This stress direction that everybody was

1 talking about from the FMIs and I guess from the results
2 of microanalysis -- microseismic, I think, from those
3 frack jobs confirming that, do you agree with the
4 azimuth of the fractures?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What about the dip?

7 A. I don't know. I haven't seen the microseismic
8 data, so I don't know, really, the orientation of the
9 fractures. I just know from a vertical standpoint the
10 direction of the -- between 65 and 45 degrees, but I'm
11 not aware of the dip.

12 Q. Is the dip -- is the dip a function of the
13 properties, or is it a function of your pressure
14 regimen?

15 A. I would have to defer that question to a
16 geologist.

17 Q. No more questions.

18 EXAMINER WADE: No questions.

19 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good.

20 CROSS-EXAMINATION

21 BY EXAMINER GOETZE:

22 Q. On your downhole Hall calculations, you assume
23 a skin factor of zero. Is that reflective of what the
24 well is right now as far as being cleaned out and -- you
25 state we don't have any type of accumulation. That's

1 been verified, correct?

2 A. At this point we don't have any way to
3 correlate, so to keep OXY and Chevron on par with one
4 another, we just left the skin factor at zero.

5 Q. Then your calculation for the 900 millidarcy,
6 is that a summation of both Mesquite wells injecting
7 cumulatively?

8 A. No. That's -- it was independent of rate. We
9 took the data point between the two Mesquite wells and
10 then calculated the distance -- or from a map, the
11 distance of the Poker Lake 401, and that was one of the
12 inputs in the calculation.

13 Q. Very good. Thank you. I have no more
14 questions.

15 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Larson?

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. LARSON:

18 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Clifford.

19 A. Good afternoon.

20 Q. You rendered an opinion about the water in the
21 injection zone. Have you done any sampling of that
22 water? Do you have any test data to look at?

23 A. For OXY and Chevron?

24 Q. Yeah.

25 A. We have it, but we don't have it with us. We

1 have done tests. And as Jarrod alluded to, we've done
2 some tests on our saltwater disposal historically. We
3 also have tests from around our field, water that is --

4 Q. And how would you define the term "hydraulic
5 communication"?

6 A. I guess the easiest way for me to define that
7 would be if you increase -- it would be connection
8 between two points via some kind of conduit, basically a
9 straw [sic]. If you have two balloons on either side
10 and you squeeze one balloon, you have a balloon in place
11 and vice versa. However, you just translate that
12 into --

13 Q. And the two open hole Mesquite wells, were they
14 open in the Cherry and Bell Canyon Formations?

15 A. Yes, I believe so.

16 Q. And are the Chevron and Mesquite wells
17 injecting into the Cherry and Bell Canyon? I'm sorry.
18 I misspoke. OXY.

19 A. OXY and Chevron?

20 Q. Yes. It's late in the day.

21 A. Was that also in your previous question, OXY
22 and Chevron?

23 Q. No. This is a separate question. Are Chevron
24 and OXY injecting into the Cherry and Bell Canyon
25 Formations?

1 A. OXY is injecting into the Bell Canyon. Chevron
2 is injecting into the Bell and Cherry.

3 Q. Do you know what Darcy's law is?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Would you explain that, please?

6 A. I haven't looked at it in a couple of years.
7 It's a relationship between pressure and rate. It's a
8 function of viscosity. It's a function of formation
9 volume factor. It's a function of your wellbore radius
10 and the formation radius or your radius investigation.
11 It's a function of skin and your reservoir height. And
12 it's a calculation.

13 Q. Does it also include formation permeability?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And can water from Chevron and OXY's injection
16 flow, via Darcy's law, to Mesquite's wells through a
17 fracture that has been created?

18 A. Will you repeat the question?

19 Q. Sure. Can the water that's been injected by
20 Chevron and OXY's flow, via Darcy's law, to Mesquite
21 open-hole wells or a fracture of Mesquite's wells has
22 been created?

23 A. You could say that the water could flow in any
24 direction. So it could flow to the northwest. It could
25 flow to the southeast. It could flow to the northeast.

1 It's the preferential direction of flow, which according
2 to the fracture analysis by BOPCO, it appears to be
3 northwest to southeast based on the fracture
4 orientation.

5 Q. Could we not say there is a hydraulic
6 connection between the water injected into the Bell and
7 Cherry by OXY and Chevron -- open hole Mesquite wells?

8 A. Not at this point. We haven't seen any change
9 in the Hall Plots to validate that. We have four months
10 of data prior to Mesquite shutting in, and we haven't
11 seen any change in the slope of our charts.

12 Q. What about Darcy's law? That doesn't apply?

13 A. Over time.

14 Q. So what you're saying is you don't have enough
15 data at this point to say?

16 A. I guess you can say that. We don't have enough
17 data at this point. We have four months of data. We
18 haven't seen any change. BOPCO had one day and they saw
19 change.

20 Q. Is it possible that there is a hydraulic
21 connection?

22 A. Not at this point, not from the evidence we've
23 seen from the Hall Plots.

24 Q. Do you know what the frack gradient is in the
25 Delaware Mountain Group?

1 A. It appears to be .54, .55.

2 Q. Are you familiar with the step-rate test that
3 was done on the SDS 11 SWD well?

4 A. I'm familiar.

5 Q. And what was the bottom-hole pressure that was
6 shown on the step-rate test?

7 A. I haven't seen the actual report itself in
8 quite sometime, so I couldn't answer that question.

9 Q. Would it surprise you if I said it was in the
10 range of 3,200?

11 A. You'd expect the pressure to increase with
12 time.

13 Q. What's the depth of injection on the OXY SWD
14 well?

15 A. Let me go back to one of the exhibits.

16 MR. FELDEWERT: Exhibit 5 -- slide five.

17 THE WITNESS: Slide five? So.

18 OXY's SDS 11 Federal well injected 4,510
19 and 4,822.

20 Q. (BY MR. LARSON) What gradient is that?

21 A. I'm sorry?

22 Q. What gradient is that?

23 A. What do you mean?

24 Q. I'm sorry. Could you repeat the depth you
25 said?

1 A. 4,510 to 4,822. It's on slide five.

2 Q. What is 3,200 divided by 4,822?

3 A. I don't have a calculator up here.

4 Q. Less than one?

5 A. 32 divided by?

6 Q. 4,822.

7 A. 4,822? Yes, less than one.

8 Q. Is it greater than .54? And I understand you
9 don't have a calculator.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. I can't do that in my head either.

12 A. It appears that it is.

13 Q. That's all I have, Mr. Clifford. Thank you.

14 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert?

15 MR. FELDEWERT: I'd move the admission of
16 OXY and Chevron Exhibits 1, 2 and 3.

17 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Larson?

18 MR. LARSON: No objection.

19 EXAMINER GOETZE: Exhibits 1 through 3 are
20 entered.

21 (OXY and Chevron Exhibit Numbers 1 through
22 3 were offered and admitted into evidence.)

23 EXAMINER GOETZE: And we also have a late
24 BOPCO entry exhibit? Are you going to enter that?

25 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Examiner. I

1 move the admission of BOPCO Exhibit Number 23.

2 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert?

3 MR. FELDEWERT: No objection.

4 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very good. Exhibit 23 by
5 BOPCO is also entered.

6 (BOPCO Exhibit Number 23 was offered and
7 admitted into evidence.)

8 EXAMINER GOETZE: Any closing statements by
9 you gentlemen?

10 MR. LARSON: I would request a short break
11 to huddle with my team, and when I say short, I mean
12 short.

13 EXAMINER GOETZE: Well, let's give you
14 until -- give you 12 minutes.

15 MR. LARSON: Very good. I appreciate it.

16 (Break taken, 4:27 p.m. to 4:38 p.m.)

17 EXAMINER GOETZE: Let's get back on record,
18 and let's go ahead and do closing statements, if you so
19 wish.

20 We'll start with you, Mr. Larson.

21 CLOSING STATEMENT

22 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Examiner.

23 In BOPCO's applications, we're not arguing
24 that OXY and Chevron have acted in violation of their
25 SWD permits or the OCD's regulations. What we are

1 alleging is that three of BOPCO's producing wells have
2 been impacted by water injected by Mesquite until July
3 of this year and currently Chevron and OXY.

4 I believe we've put on substantial evidence
5 that there is a communication between the open-hole
6 Mesquite wells and the Chevron and OXY wells, that there
7 is no fracture barrier that would prevent water from
8 flowing northeast to southwest, as Mr. Pregger
9 established with his fracture orientation.

10 And we would ask that the Division enter an
11 order revoking the injection authority granted to OXY
12 and Chevron.

13 We've worked out a deal with Mesquite.
14 Mesquite has agreed to the revocation of their
15 authority, and Devon, on the other side of the Poker
16 Lake Unit, has also agreed to no longer dispose in the
17 Delaware Mountain Group and dispose in the Devonian.

18 And given BOPCO's plans for continued
19 horizontal well development in the Lower Brushy Canyon,
20 we think the days of the injecting produced water into
21 the Delaware Mountain Group should end.

22 EXAMINER GOETZE: Mr. Feldewert.

23 CLOSING STATEMENT

24 MR. FELDEWERT: Here's what we know:

25 Mesquite was injecting into the Brushy Canyon. Could be

1 as low as 8,300 feet, depending if that cement plug held
2 or not, something we don't know.

3 We do know that OXY and Chevron are not
4 injecting into the Brushy Canyon. They're injecting
5 into the Bell Canyon and the Upper Cherry. Period.

6 What we do know is that Mesquite has agreed
7 that they're the problem. They've agreed to shut in
8 their well, their two injection wells. What we also
9 know is that we've seen recovery at the Poker Lake Unit
10 wells since the Mesquite shut-in. Given the volumes
11 that they injected, Mesquite injected, it's going to
12 take a while. It's going to take a while, but we're
13 seeing recovery.

14 What we don't see -- remember I asked at
15 the beginning? We don't see any evidence of any
16 hydraulic connection between those deeper Mesquite
17 injection wells and OXY and Chevron's shallower disposal
18 wells. None. We don't see any evidence that Mesquite
19 is in the same disposal environment as OXY or Chevron.
20 In fact, we see just the opposite. OXY and Chevron are
21 in a different disposal zone. We don't see any
22 evidence -- no direct evidence whatsoever that OXY and
23 Chevron are sending the water into the Lower Brushy
24 Canyon that is somehow impacting the native water.
25 They're not sending any water into the Lower Brushy

1 Canyon. And we don't see any evidence that OXY and
2 Chevron are injecting into a fractured network.

3 I don't know how you get around the Hall
4 Plot analysis or the injectivity analysis. That's what
5 those things, as I understand it, are supposed to do,
6 give us an indication of whether we have a problem.

7 So I don't see any evidence of any impact
8 on the Poker Lake Unit from the OXY or Chevron injection
9 operations and absolutely no basis to even consider
10 suddenly revoking this injection authority that they've
11 had since 1993 for OXY and 2007 for Chevron. It's just
12 not there.

13 EXAMINER GOETZE: Very well, gentlemen.
14 With no additional testimony or exhibits to be entered,
15 Case 15231 and Case 15219 are taken under advisement.

16 And this is the end of Docket 37-14,
17 Examiners Hearing today, December 9th.

18 Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen.

19 (Case Numbers 15231 and 15219 conclude,
20 4:42 p.m.)

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25

~~and~~ I hereby certify that the foregoing is
a complete record of the proceedings in
the Examiner Hearing of Case No. _____
heard by me on _____

_____, Examiner
Oil Conservation Division

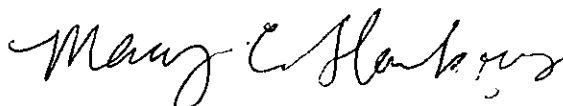
1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO
2 COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
3

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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
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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
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