•	Page 1
1	STATE OF NEW MEXICO
2	ENERGY, MINERAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
3	OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
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6	April 28, 2016 ORIGINAL 9:13 a.m.
7	Wendell Chino Building Porter Hall
	1220 S. St. Francis Drive
8	Santa Fe, New Mexico
9	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
10	
11	CASE NO. 15485
12	APPLICATION OF COG OPERATING, LLC, FOR A NON-STANDARD
13	OIL SPACING AND PRORATION UNIT AND COMPULSORY POOLING, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
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17	BEFORE: WILLIAM JONES, Lead Examiner  SCOTT DAWSON, Examiner
	DAVID K. BROOKS, Legal Examiner
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21	REPORTED BY: DEBRA ANN FRIETZE PAUL BACA COURT REPORTERS
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23	Albuquelque, New Mexico 0/102
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                        APPEARANCES
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     For COG Operating, LLC:
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 6
          BY: GARY W. LARSON
 7
     WITNESSES
                                                  PAGE
                                                    3
       David Michael Wallace
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                                                   16
       Karen Martin
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     EXHIBITS
                                              ADMITTED
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     1 through 7
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13
     REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
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- 1 capacity?
- 2 A. COG Operating, LLC.
- 3 Q. And what is your capacity at COG?
- A. I'm a landman for Southeast Lea County,
- 5 New Mexico.
- Q. And are you familiar with the land matters
- 7 pertaining to COG's application in this case?
- 8 A. I am.
- 9 Q. And would I be correct to say you've testified
- 10 on a number of occasions at examiner hearings?
- 11 A. I have, yes.
- 12 Q. And in each of those hearings, were your
- 13 qualifications accepted as an expert in land matters?
- 14 A. Yes.
- MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move that
- 16 Mr. Wallace be qualified as an expert in land matters
- 17 for this hearing.
- 18 EXAMINER JONES: He is so qualified.
- 19 Is your first name David?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, David.
- Q. (By Mr. Larson) Mr. Wallace, I'll direct your
- 22 attention to Exhibit Number 1 and ask you to identify
- 23 it.
- A. This is our C-102 plat for our Coachman Fee
- 25 Com, Number 14H.

- 1 Q. And is Exhibit 1 a true and correct copy of the
- 2 C-102?
- 3 A. It is.
- 4 O. And does it identify the project area of COG's
- 5 proposed Coachman Fee Com Number 14H?
- A. Yes, it does.
- 7 O. And what formation is COG seeking to pool?
- A. We seek to pool the Delaware formation.
- 9 Q. And are there any depth exceptions involved
- 10 here?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. And what pool would the Coachman 14H produce
- 13 from?
- A. It's be a Wildcat Delaware Pool, WC-025 G-05
- 15 S253523H.
- 16 O. And has COG previously sought to pool
- 17 uncommitted interests in the west half; west half of
- 18 Section 21?
- 19 A. Yes, we did.
- 20 Q. And what formation was that application
- 21 addressing?
- 22 A. It was for the Bone Spring formation.
- Q. And did the Division approve that application?
- A. Yes, it did.
- Q. I'll next ask you to identify the document

- 1 marked as Exhibit 2.
- 2 A. This is our land tract map or plat for the
- 3 Coachman Fee Com, Number 14H. It shows the interest
- 4 owners in our proposed project area.
- 5 Q. And did you prepare this document?
- 6 A. I did.
- 7 Q. And directing your attention to page 2, what
- 8 parties is COG seeking to pool?
- 9 A. We seek to pool Ohio State University and the
- 10 Estate of Thomas W. Butler.
- 11 Q. And what about Chisos Limited, which is
- 12 identified on page 2 of Exhibit 2?
- 13 A. They are not a pooled party. They executed an
- 14 operating agreement in a prior pool which covers this
- 15 acreage.
- 16 Q. Would you next identify the document marked as
- 17 Exhibit 3?
- 18 A. This is an example of the well proposal letter
- 19 that was sent to the interest owners in our project
- 20 area, and it also has the green card showing receipt.
- 21 Q. And did you draft and sign this letter?
- 22 A. I did.
- Q. And what documents did you enclose with your
- 24 well proposal letters?
- 25 A. An AFE and our form of operating agreement.

- 1 Q. And were you able to locate all the parties to
- 2 be pooled as identified on Exhibit 2?
- A. No. We were unable to locate the heirs of
- 4 Thomas W. Butler or the Estate of Thomas W. Butler.
- 5 Q. But you did make efforts to try to locate these
- 6 individuals?
- 7 A. I did. We did Google searches and LexisNexis.
- 8 We found possible heirs.
- 9 Q. And did you send the well proposal letters to
- 10 the potential heirs that you identified?
- 11 A. Yes, we did.
- 12 O. And backtracking a moment to the previous
- 13 pooling case for this acreage, wasn't there a
- 14 significantly larger number of interest owners that COG
- 15 sought to pool?
- 16 A. Yes, there were.
- 0. And what's the explanation for the much smaller
- 18 number of interest owners in this case?
- 19 A. We leased all the parties, with the exception
- 20 of these two that we're seeking to pool.
- Q. Would you next identify the document marked as
- 22 Exhibit 4?
- 23 A. This is a pooling party list and an example of
- 24 the notification letter that we sent to these parties in
- 25 our project area and the green cards that were returned.

- 1 O. And were those notice letters sent at your
- 2 direction?
- 3 A. They were.
- 4 O. And were they sent to the individuals you had
- 5 identified as potential heirs to the Thomas Butler
- 6 Estate?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And given the difficulty in locating those
- 9 heirs, did COG also publish notice of today's hearing?
- 10 A. Yes, we did.
- 11 Q. And would you identify the document marked as
- 12 Exhibit Number 5?
- 13 A. This is the Affidavit of Publication that
- 14 published in the Hobbs News-Sun newspaper.
- Q. And what date was this notice published?
- 16 A. April 7th.
- 17 Q. 2016?
- 18 A. 2016.
- 19 Q. And would you next identify the document marked
- 20 as Exhibit 6?
- 21 A. This is an offset operator and interest owner
- 22 list. It also has an example of the notification that
- 23 was sent to those parties, as well as green cards.
- Q. And did you generate this list of offset
- 25 operators and interest owners?

- 1 A. I did.
- 2 Q. And were notice letters sent to all of those
- 3 offsets?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And they were sent in your direction?
- A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Would you next identify the document marked as
- 8 Exhibit 7?
- 9 A. This uis the AFE that was sent to the interest
- 10 owners in the project area.
- 11 Q. And for the record, could you identify the
- 12 estimated well costs?
- 13 A. The estimated well costs are \$1,379,000 for
- drilling, \$3,644,711 for completion, for a total well
- 15 cost of \$5,023,711.
- 16 Q. And are the well costs indicated on Exhibit 7
- 17 similar to costs incurred by COG for other Delaware
- 18 horizontal wells?
- 19 A. They are.
- 20 Q. And do you have a recommendation for the
- 21 amounts COG should be paid for supervision and
- 22 administrative expenses?
- A. Yes. 7,000 a month for drilling and 700 a
- 24 month for producing.
- 25 Q. And are those cost amounts consistent with and

- 1 similar to those charged by COG for other Delaware
- 2 horizontal wells?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Do you also recommend that the rates for
- 5 supervision and administrative expenses be adjusted
- 6 periodically, pursuant to the COPAS Accounting
- 7 Procedures?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And is COG also requesting a 200 percent charge
- 10 for the risk of drilling and completing the well?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. In your opinion, will the granting of the
- 13 application serve the interest of conservation and the
- 14 prevention of waste?
- 15 A. Yes.
- MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move the
- 17 admission of COG Exhibits 1 through 7.
- 18 EXAMINER JONES: Exhibits 1 through 7 are
- 19 admitted.
- [Exhibits 1 through 7 admitted.]
- 21 MR. LARSON: And I pass the witness.
- 22 EXAMINER JONES: Scott?
- 23 EXAMINER DAWSON: I've got no questions of
- 24 Mr. Wallace. I may ask the geologist a few questions,
- 25 though.

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EXAMINER JONES: Yeah.

southwest quarter to be federal.

24

25

- 1 EXAMINER BROOKS: Well, I don't know. I
- 2 wouldn't have any knowledge of that without doing some
- 3 research, so --
- 4 EXAMINER JONES: Can you check it one more
- 5 time?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Sure. I mean absolutely.
- 7 EXAMINER JONES: I mean you've been over it
- 8 before with the other well, too.
- 9 EXAMINER DAWSON: If that's all fee acreage
- 10 and you are communitizing those leases, the fee owners,
- 11 do they require a communitization agreement?
- 12 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure that they do.
- 13 We've filed a designation of the unit. I'm not sure
- 14 that needs to be a Com, but that's the way, you know, it
- 15 was originally done on the C-102.
- 16 EXAMINER BROOKS: Did you do a title
- 17 take-off on this?
- 18 THE WITNESS: I've got a title opinion,
- 19 yes.
- 20 EXAMINER BROOKS: Yeah. A title opinion
- 21 would tell you that the lawyer thought it was in a
- 22 particular category. It wouldn't tell you what he
- 23 relied on, so I asked you if he did a title take-off
- 24 that we might be able to get a recording reference for
- 25 the number -- recording reference and number for the

- 1 patent.
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 3 EXAMINER BROOKS: I don't know if this is
- 4 involved at all. I'm just thinking about something that
- 5 might be. I was also cautioned, in examining titles,
- 6 that if the patent does not reflect mineral reservation
- 7 in the county, that you should examine the patent in the
- 8 State BLM office to make sure that it was correctly
- 9 copied over from the federal record to the county record
- 10 to make sure that there isn't a mineral reservation in
- 11 the original.
- 12 That's just one way that a discrepancy of
- 13 this kind could occur. Other ways are that somebody
- 14 made an incorrect entry.
- 15 EXAMINER JONES: That's true.
- 16 EXAMINER BROOKS: Which is, in my opinion,
- 17 the more probable --
- 18 EXAMINER JONES: On federal acreage,
- 19 probably that could happen.
- EXAMINER BROOKS: Yes. Because one way, of
- 21 course, that would be shorter than -- and probably more
- 22 likely to reveal the actual issue than checking the
- 23 original patent would be to check the BLM's records and
- 24 see if -- you know, you can easily check the BLM's
- 25 Website and see if they show it as being federal.

- 1 If they show it as being federal, I would
- 2 be a whole lot more likely to think it really is.
- 3 EXAMINER JONES: Yeah, I didn't check the
- 4 BLM Website.
- 5 EXAMINER BROOKS: That's the only thoughts
- 6 on the subject. But we'll rely on you to -- we probably
- 7 need to take this case under advisement to rely on our
- 8 landman here to produce the appropriate documentation of
- 9 this.
- 10 EXAMINER JONES: Yeah, sounds good.
- 11 THE WITNESS: So we can do that.
- 12 EXAMINER JONES: And the Chisos, they're
- 13 under an operating agreement. But did they sign the AFE
- 14 to this well, or are you assuming they're going to?
- THE WITNESS: I have not proposed it to.
- 16 them yet because our spud date is a little bit later on.
- 17 I want to be within the time frame of the operating
- 18 agreement, so I'm in the process of proposing them.
- 19 EXAMINER JONES: Okay. But you're not
- 20 proposing them as a pooled party at this point?
- THE WITNESS: No, I'm not.
- 22 EXAMINER JONES: And Ohio State got it
- 23 from -- somebody granted it to them. Probably, there
- 24 was interest.
- THE WITNESS: That's my understanding.

- 1 EXAMINER JONES: Okay. Thanks,
- 2 Mr. Wallace.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.
- 4 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, before
- 5 Mr. Wallace steps down, would you give him some
- 6 direction on what you'd like him to provide to you
- 7 regarding that --
- 8 EXAMINER BROOKS: Well, what I would like
- 9 to see is a copy of the -- well, first of all, let's
- 10 check BLM's records. If BLM doesn't show it as federal,
- 11 I wouldn't be concerned about it.
- 12 If BLM shows it as federal and he's got a
- 13 title opinion that shows it is state, then what I would
- 14 like to see is a copy from the state office -- the
- 15 United States Land Office in Santa Fe of the patent as
- 16 recorded in the state records -- the state office
- 17 records.
- 18 Because there is always a possibility -- I
- 19 have never run into it, but I was told there's always a
- 20 possibility that when the county clerk copied the
- 21 patents, which wasn't by using a Xerox machine in the
- 22 old days, that they forgot to write in mineral
- 23 reservations. So that's the only concern I have.
- I suspect you're going to find that BLM
- 25 does -- that it's just an error in entering it into

- 1. O. And what is the focus of your responsibilities
- 2 as a geologist at COG?
- A. All geological matters related to COG wells
- 4 within this area in Southeast Lea County, New Mexico.
- 5 O. And are you familiar with the geological
- 6 aspects of the proposed Coachman 14H well and the
- 7 matters addressed in COG's application?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Have you previously testified at a Division
- 10 hearing?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And did the Examiners in those cases accept
- 13 your qualifications as an expert in petroleum geology?
- 14 A. Yes.
- MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move for
- 16 Ms. Martin's qualification as an expert petroleum
- 17 geologist for purposes of this hearing.
- 18 EXAMINER JONES: She is so qualified.
- MR. LARSON: Thank you.
- 20 O. (By Mr. Larson) Would you identify the
- 21 document marked as COG Exhibit Number 8?
- 22 A. This is a location map of the Coachman Fee Com,
- 23 Number 14H. The proposed well is shown as a dashed line
- 24 in the area. There is also an offset-producing Delaware
- 25 well, the White Falcon 16 State, Number 1H, and it's a

- 1 horizontal well from north to south.
- 2 Q. And did you prepare this exhibit?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. And will the completed interval, the Coachman
- 5 Fee Com, 14H, comply with the Division setback
- 6 requirements?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Were you involved in COG's evaluation of the
- 9 prospects for this well?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Does COG have experience with any Delaware
- 12 horizontal wells in this area?
- 13 A. Yes. We are partners in the White Falcon, 16
- 14 State, Number 1H5, and drove by them.
- 15 Q. And has the White Falcon Well been productive?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Would you identify the document marked as
- 18 Exhibit 9?
- 19 A. This is a structure map on top of the Bone
- 20 Spring line, which is equivalent to the base of the
- 21 Delaware formation. This shows a 50-foot contour
- 22 interval that is dipping slightly to the southwest.
- 23 Q. And did you prepare this document?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And why did you focus on the top of the Bone

- 1 Spring formation?
- 2 A. The reason why I focused on the top of the Bone
- 3 Spring is because our target interval is in the base of
- 4 the Brushy Canyon, which is near the base of the
- 5 Delaware formation. So this is closer to the lateral
- 6 interval, rather than the top of the Delaware formation.
- 7 O. And what role did this structure map have in
- 8 your analysis of the prospects for the well?
- 9 A. The structure map shows that there's no
- 10 faulting in the area and no geological impediments to
- 11 drilling horizontal wells.
- 12 Q. And I know they're not all identified in this
- map, but did you look at other wells in this area?
- 14 A. Yes. I've looked at all wells that have public
- 15 data that have penetrated the Delaware formation in this
- 16 area.
- 17 Q. And just generally, what direction from the
- 18 proposed COG well?
- 19 THE WITNESS: Can you repeat the question?
- 20 O. (By Mr. Larson) Generally speaking, what
- 21 direction do those wells -- where are those wells
- 22 located relative to the COG well?
- 23 A. All the wells are located completely
- 24 surrounding this well.
- Q. Would you next identify the document marked as

- 1 Exhibit 10?
- 2 A. This is a location of the cross-section that
- 3 will be shown in the next exhibit, AA prime. The
- 4 cross-section goes from north to south and goes through
- 5 the pilot hole for the producing Delaware in the area.
- 6 Q. And did you prepare Exhibit Number 10?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And I'll ask you to identify the last exhibit,
- 9 Number 11.
- 10 A. This is a cross-section -- stratigraphic
- 11 cross-section of AA prime. The cross-section is
- 12 flattened on top of the Bone Spring lime, which is the
- 13 base of the Delaware formation. It shows the lateral
- 14 interval to be in the basal part of the Brushy Canyon of
- 15 the Delaware formation.
- 16 Q. And did you also prepare Exhibit 11?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 O. And could you summarize the role that Exhibits
- 19 10 and 11 had in your analysis of the prospects for the
- 20 well?
- 21 A. The wells that are shown in these exhibits are
- 22 representative for wells in the Delaware formation.
- 23 They show that there is sufficient thickness for the
- 24 lateral interval and that the sands do not pinch out
- 25 across the lateral interval in this area.

- 1 O. And what was your overall assessment of the
- 2 prospects for the 14-inch?
- A. This shows that the area will be productive
- 4 with no faulting, no geological pinchouts and no
- 5 impediments to drilling horizontal wells.
- 6 Q. And in your opinion, will the well be
- 7 productive along the entire length of the completed
- 8 lateral?
- 9 A. Yes. On average, it will be productive across
- 10 the lateral length.
- 11 O. And would it be productive in each quarter
- 12 corner?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And in your opinion, will the granting of COG's
- 15 application serve the interest of conservation and the
- 16 prevention of waste?
- 17 A. Yes.
- MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I move the
- 19 admission of Exhibits 8 through 11.
- 20 EXAMINER JONES: Exhibits 8 through 11 are
- 21 admitted.
- [Exhibits 8 through 11 admitted.]
- MR. LARSON: And I pass the witness.
- 24 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Dawson?
- 25 EXAMINER DAWSON: Ms. Martin, on Exhibit

- 1 11, I'm looking at the cross-section. There are other
- 2 wells, the White Falcon, 16 State, Number 1H, and the
- 3 Fez Fee, 11H. Those are both Brushy Canyon wells also?
- 4 THE WITNESS: No. The Fez Fee is an Avalon
- 5 well, and this is a pilot hole in that area for that
- 6 well. And the White Falcon is a Delaware well that is
- 7 just north of the proposed Coachman well.
- 8 EXAMINER DAWSON: And that well is a
- 9 producing well?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 11 EXAMINER DAWSON: Can you tell me about the
- 12 production on that well, how much it's produced? Do you
- 13 know that amount?
- 14 THE WITNESS: I don't have any Kume
- 15 production at this point. There is a test date from
- their completion report that was done in January 2016.
- 17 It's made -- that test was 2,195 barrels of oil per day;
- 18 2,024 MCF of gas per day; and I think a little over
- 19 3,000 barrels of water per day. And it had a GOR of
- 20 922.
- 21 EXAMINER DAWSON: So it sounds like a
- 22 pretty good well, then?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 24 EXAMINER DAWSON: One other question I had
- 25 of you: In looking at your Exhibit 1, the C-102, well

- 1 location and acreage dedication plat, is there a reason
- 2 why you moved it over from the 3 -- roughly the 330 foot
- 3 off the line over to 580?
- 4 THE WITNESS: There is an existing Bone
- 5 Spring well right there at that surface hole, so we'll
- 6 have to move it over just slightly to avoid that
- 7 wellbore.
- 8 EXAMINER DAWSON: Okay. And that's a COG
- 9 well?
- 10 THE WITNESS: It is a COG well.
- 11 EXAMINER DAWSON: All right. Going back to
- 12 that White Falcon well, is that a one-mile-long lateral,
- 13 too?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 15 EXAMINER DAWSON: That's all the question I
- 16 have. Thank you, Ms. Martin.
- 17 EXAMINER JONES: Mr. Brooks.
- 18 EXAMINER BROOKS: No questions.
- 19 EXAMINER JONES: I quess I should -- the
- 20 structure map, it -- I always try to draw a strike and a
- 21 dip line in there because it's hard for me to just look
- 22 at these things and say, "Well, which way is it
- 23 dipping?"
- 24 THE WITNESS: It's dipping less than a
- 25 degree to the southwest.

- 1 EXAMINER JONES: Southwest, okay.
- I remember in college, in the old days, we
- 3 drew the strike and dip lines. But it seems the
- 4 industry doesn't do that on the --
- 5 THE WITNESS: So the strike line would be
- 6 northwest/southeast, and the dip line would be to the
- 7 southwest.
- 8 EXAMINER JONES: And the interval you're
- 9 going into, you're targeting in the Brushy, it's a
- 10 pretty clean interval, is that correct, on your gamma
- 11 rays?
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 13 EXAMINER JONES: So what is that? What is
- 14 that made out?
- 15 THE WITNESS: It's a very good
- 16 deep-water-system sand. It looks like a pretty massive
- 17 sand through this section.
- 18 EXAMINER JONES: And for the 14H pilot,
- 19 you're lucky to have a nice pilot hole here, I quess?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 21 EXAMINER JONES: That other plot over on
- 22 the right, is that an RT curve?
- 23 THE WITNESS: Yes. So we have a gamma ray
- 24 on the left, and on the right is the resistivity.
- 25 EXAMINER JONES: Okay, so there's no drift

- 1 on there at all. So it's the same water saturation,
- 2 probably?
- 3 THE WITNESS: It looks to be similar water
- 4 saturation, yes, across that sand interval.
- 5 EXAMINER JONES: Okay. So you're picking
- 6 this spot because of why, again? You probably told me
- 7 once before.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Part of the reason is because
- 9 of the White Falcon well that was drilled just to the
- 10 north.
- 11 EXAMINER JONES: Okay. And that was
- 12 drilled in the same general area?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Yes. So since we're partners
- 14 in that well, we know where they landed that well. And
- 15 it landed within that sand interval that we see in
- 16 the -- shown as the lateral interval in the Coachman Fee
- 17 Com, Number 14H.
- 18 EXAMINER JONES: Okay. You're going to
- 19 drill it probably north to south. Okay. So you'll be
- 20 fracking furthest away from the existing well?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 22 EXAMINER JONES: At the beginning, at
- 23 least. So hopefully your last frack job won't get
- 24 around into that well?
- THE WITNESS: Well, it'll be from north to

- 1 south. So yeah, I don't believe it'll interfere in any
- 2 way.
- 3 EXAMINER JONES: Yeah. Even if it does,
- 4 sometimes it covers more total oil anyway, I guess.
- 5 Can you tell about the gravity in the GOR
- 6 you're expecting?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Unfortunately, the oil
- 8 gravity was not published on that White Falcon well, but
- 9 the GOR was published, and it was 922.
- 10 EXAMINER JONES: Okay. Thanks very much.
- 11 EXAMINER DAWSON: I have one more question
- on that White Falcon well. If you'll look at the
- 13 lateral interval on your Exhibit 11 for your Coachman
- 14 well, that White Falcon, is that producing from roughly
- 15 8890 through 8950, that same lateral interval?
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes, it'll be from that same
- 17 lateral interval.
- 18 EXAMINER DAWSON: Okay. That's what I
- 19 figured. I just wanted to clarify that.
- 20 Thank you.
- 21 EXAMINER JONES: So you may have even
- 22 thicker porosity?
- 23 THE WITNESS: Yeah. Overall, the thickness
- of the zone doesn't change much, and the sands don't
- 25 seem to pinch out. So I think it's going to be

- 1 productive across the whole --
- 2 EXAMINER JONES: So the same gross
- 3 interval, but similar net thickness, also?
- 4 THE WITNESS: I believe so.
- 5 EXAMINER JONES: Thanks very much.
- 6 MR. LARSON: Mr. Examiner, I have nothing
- 7 further.
- 8 I'd request that COG's application be
- 9 granted and the case taken under advisement.
- 10 EXAMINER BROOKS: Well, because of the
- 11 issue about the land status, I think we need to give it
- 12 a -- we need to continue it for supplementation on that
- 13 issue.
- 14 EXAMINER JONES: Okay. We'll go ahead and
- 15 do that, continue it for two weeks. That should be
- 16 adequate.
- 17 EXAMINER BROOKS: Now Mr. Wallace, on that
- 18 subject, I do not actually know where the originals of
- 19 the patents are recorded. I know that historically,
- 20 they were recorded in the United States Land Office in
- 21 Santa Fe, which I might be saying the exact title of it
- 22 incorrectly, but I'm not at all sure that office even
- 23 exists now. And I don't know where the originals of the
- 24 patents are actually recorded. So I would like to find
- 25 that out because that's something I ought to know, but

- 1 it's not something I do know. So I just mentioned that.
- 2 The first place I would go would be the
- 3 BLM's Website. And if you find the BLM does not show
- 4 this as federal land, I'm not really concerned about the
- 5 original patent because I think the BLM would seldom be
- 6 wrong about that.
- 7 But if the BLM shows it as federal land and
- 8 you have a title opinion showing it is state land, then
- 9 I want to see a certified copy of the original patent.
- 10 EXAMINER JONES: And if you could present
- 11 that as an exhibit at the next hearing, either through
- 12 an affidavit --
- EXAMINER BROOKS: You can identify it by
- 14 affidavit. If it says a certificate -- it's
- 15 self-authenticating if it has a certificate from an
- 16 appropriate federal agency.
- 17 EXAMINER JONES: Okay. I was just striking
- 18 out there. If that's okay with you, we'll do it that
- 19 way.
- 20 EXAMINER BROOKS: Well, that's provided in
- 21 the Rules of Evidence. The Rules of Evidence for
- 22 District Courts, anyway, which we don't have to follow
- 23 them. But if we follow them -- when we're following
- them, we can be fairly confident we're doing what we
- 25 ought to be doing.

	Page 29
1	MR. LARSON: So if I understand correctly,
2	I could present it through affidavit and save
3	Mr. Wallace another trip over from Midland?
4	EXAMINER BROOKS: Absolutely.
5	EXAMINER JONES: Unless he likes to come to
6	Santa Fe. He's here a lot.
7	EXAMINER BROOKS: Well, I've lived both
8	places. And my view is it's a lot more fun here than it
9	is in Midland.
10	[Discussion held off the record.]
11	EXAMINER JONES: Okay. Let's continue Case
12	Number 15485 until May the 12th.
13	[The proceedings concluded at 9:45 a.m.]
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8	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
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10	I, DEBRA ANN FRIETZE, New Mexico Certified Court
11	Reporter No. 251, do hereby certify that I reported the foregoing proceeding in stenographic shorthand and that the foregoing pages are a true and correct transcript of
12	those proceedings and was reduced to printed form under my direct supervision.
13	
14	I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither employed by nor related to any of the parties or attorneys in this case
15	and that I have no interest in the final disposition of this case.
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19	1) Long Contraction
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21	DEBRA ANN FRIETZE Certified Court Reporter No. 251
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