

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:)

CASE NO. 11,863

APPLICATION OF DUGAN PRODUCTION)
CORPORATION FOR SURFACE COMMINGLING AND)
OFF-LEASE MEASUREMENT, SAN JUAN COUNTY,)
NEW MEXICO)

ORIGINAL

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

EXAMINER HEARING

BEFORE: MICHAEL E. STOGNER, Hearing Examiner

RECEIVED

October 23rd, 1997

1997

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Oil Conservation Division

This matter came on for hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, MICHAEL E. STOGNER, Hearing Examiner, on Thursday, October 23rd, 1997, at the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Porter Hall, 2040 South Pacheco, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Steven T. Brenner, Certified Court Reporter No. 7 for the State of New Mexico.

* * *

STEVEN T. BRENNER, CCR
(505) 989-9317

I N D E X

October 23rd, 1997
 Examiner Hearing
 CASE NO. 11,863

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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By: W. THOMAS KELLAHIN

* * *

1 WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had at
2 8:16 a.m.:

3 EXAMINER STOGNER: Call Case Number 11,863.

4 MR. CARROLL: Application of Dugan Production
5 Corporation for surface commingling and off-lease
6 measurement, San Juan County, New Mexico.

7 EXAMINER STOGNER: Call for appearances.

8 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, I'm Tom Kellahin of
9 the Santa Fe law firm of Kellahin and Kellahin, appearing
10 on behalf of the Applicant, and I have one witness to be
11 sworn.

12 EXAMINER STOGNER: Any other appearances?

13 Will the witness please remain standing to be
14 sworn in at this time?

15 (Thereupon, the witness was sworn.)

16 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, my witness is Mr.
17 John Roe. Mr. Roe is a petroleum engineer; he resides in
18 Farmington, New Mexico. He's appearing on behalf of Dugan
19 Production Corporation.

20 JOHN D. ROE,
21 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn upon
22 his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. KELLAHIN:

25 Q. Mr. Roe, for the record, sir, would you please

1 state your name and occupation?

2 A. My name is John Roe. I'm an engineering manager
3 for Dugan Production in Farmington, New Mexico.

4 Q. On behalf of your company, have you prepared the
5 administrative Application in this case, which was
6 subsequently docketed for hearing before Examiner Stogner
7 this morning?

8 A. Yes, sir, I have.

9 Q. As part of your preparation for that Application,
10 have you been involved in the management, the construction
11 and the proposed operation of this surface-commingled
12 facility?

13 A. Yes.

14 MR. KELLAHIN: We tender Mr. Roe as an expert
15 engineer.

16 EXAMINER STOGNER: Mr. Roe is so qualified.

17 Q. (By Mr. Kellahin) Mr. Roe, if you'll turn to the
18 exhibit packages that you have compiled, let's take a
19 moment and look at Exhibit 1, which is a diagram outlining
20 the facility, and let's describe for the Examiner the
21 various pieces of the project.

22 Let's start, first of all, with the overall
23 purpose of the project. What are you trying to accomplish?

24 A. Okay, what we're trying to do with our central
25 gathering system is, we're -- we have six wells that would

1 be included in the system.

2 Of those six, three wells have produced for some
3 time and have been shut in also for some time. They
4 produce from the Harper Hill Fruitland Sand-PC. They were
5 shut in because of low rates of production and uneconomical
6 volumes of water.

7 In addition to those three, we've recently
8 redrilled the Harper Hill Fruitland Sand well, our Federal
9 I 5R. It also is expected to produce large volumes of
10 water from the Fruitland Sand-PC Pool.

11 We also have recently completed two Fruitland
12 Coal wells, our Camp David Number 1 and O'Henry Number 1.
13 Both of those produce from the basal Fruitland Coal. This
14 coal is being mined within about a mile of these wells;
15 it's being strip-mined in conjunction with the power-
16 generation plant.

17 All six wells, we anticipate production to be
18 marginally economical. We've put in a gathering system in
19 order to share equipment and restore production to the
20 three old wells and place the three new wells in a
21 producing status.

22 Q. Will it be economic to produce these wells in any
23 other fashion, other than the method you're proposing for
24 approval today?

25 A. It's our opinion this is the only way to produce

1 these wells. As mentioned, three of the wells had earlier
2 production with wellhead connections to El Paso Natural
3 Gas. Primarily because of the water and low gas rates,
4 they've been shut in as -- in some cases, several years --
5 as not economical. And with the shallow depth, the fact
6 that the coal is being surface-mined within a mile, our
7 experience with the coal in this area is that we also
8 expect rates into the 30- to 100-MCF a day, at best.

9 Q. What's your understanding of the reason that your
10 Application could not be approved administratively?

11 A. The primary issue, it's my understanding, is,
12 with six wells and seven different leases involved, we have
13 a dissimilar ownership. With the fact that we've got the
14 dissimilar ownership, and our plans are to not measure
15 production at any one well site, we're going to connect the
16 wells, bring all production from each well to a central
17 battery location, and the gas and water will be separated
18 in one facility, the gas sold through a central delivery
19 that currently serves as the Federal I well sales meter,
20 that will be converted to a central-delivery gas-delivery
21 meter.

22 Q. Where is that shown on Exhibit 1?

23 A. That would be located in the northwest quarter of
24 Section 1, Township 29 North, Range 14 West. We have that
25 identified with a little arrow and the label, "sales

1 meter". It's -- I said northwest quarter. It's actually
2 in Unit C, the northeast of the northwest quarter.

3 Q. Of Section 1 here?

4 A. Of Section 1. And we've further identified that
5 location at the bottom on the label there, just to be sure
6 that it's clear where we have our central-delivery gas
7 meter.

8 And that will also be the location of the central
9 battery facilities, is at our Federal I 1 well site.

10 Q. Let's look at the legend on Exhibit 1. It has a
11 lease name, a lease number, and then each of those are
12 coded to a letter.

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. When we look at the plat, for example, let's find
15 lease F, which is the Federal I, and describe for the
16 Examiner how he would know what acreage is involved in
17 lease letter F.

18 A. Okay. As you've indicated, lease -- the Federal
19 I lease, which we've identified with our label F, is --
20 also on the label there, that would be Federal Lease
21 SF-078110, and that is contained within the -- Each lease
22 is outlined with a different type of a marking. For
23 instance, the Federal F is the long-dashed and the short-
24 dashed lines. It is around the perimeter of Section 1 of
25 Township 29 North, Range 14 West, and that particular lease

1 includes all of Section 1, as you can see with the
2 outlining of the long- and short-dashed lines.

3 Q. All right. Let's do one more so that we can
4 illustrate it. Up in 36 there's lease C. Lease C is
5 subdivided in the section to be in three different
6 locations in 36; is that not true?

7 A. Yes, that's true. Lease C is a state lease. It
8 is in three separate parcels. Each parcel is a 40-acre --
9 or an approximate 40 acres. Section 36 has some odd lots
10 in it.

11 The pieces of lease C are identified with solid
12 dotted perimeters. One would be the northeast of the
13 northeast quarter, the second part would be the southwest
14 of the northwest quarter, and the third part would be the
15 southeast of the southwest quarter, all in Section 36, 30
16 North, 14 West.

17 Q. All right. Within Section 36 you have identified
18 WDW. That is the saltwater disposal well?

19 A. Yes, that is. And its importance to this project
20 is, it is how we're able to handle the water volumes
21 economically. Its involvement in this project is only to
22 receive the water that is produced by these wells.

23 Q. And that has already been approved by an
24 administrative order, has it not?

25 A. Yes, we have from the OCD --

1 Q. It's SWD-595, I think. It's --

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. -- June 7th of 1995?

4 A. That's correct. And we also have received from
5 the State Land Office -- that's on a state lease -- a
6 water-disposal easement for that. That would be SWD-173.
7 And also the necessary right of ways that were part of the
8 State Land Office's stipulation and their approval of our
9 project.

10 Q. Has your proposed central gathering system for
11 this project been approved by the Commissioner of Public
12 Lands?

13 A. Yes, sir, it has, and that has -- his approval is
14 included as Exhibit 7.

15 Q. And has this project been approved by the Bureau
16 of Land Management?

17 A. Yes, sir, it has. And evidence of that approval
18 is included in Exhibit Number 8.

19 Q. You have state and federal approval. Are there
20 any fee leases in here?

21 A. Yes, we have three types of leases: state, fee
22 and federal.

23 Q. If we look at the legend on Exhibit 1, we can
24 identify lease D as the only fee lease?

25 A. That is correct.

1 Q. Okay. Have you made an effort to contact all the
2 interest owners, royalty and overriding owners, that would
3 share in the production from these wells?

4 A. Yes, we have, and we've been able to contact all
5 ownership involved in five of the wells. We do have one
6 well. It's our O'Henry Number 1. There are five
7 overriding royalty interest owners that we have not yet
8 located. Their combined interest equals 1.3 percent.

9 Q. You're still searching for the location of those
10 individuals?

11 A. Yes, we are, primarily as any revenues that would
12 be derived from production from that well will need to be
13 distributed to those people. So we will locate them. It's
14 just -- We haven't yet --

15 Q. A hundred percent of the working interest is
16 controlled by Dugan Production Corporation?

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. All right. Attached to Exhibit 1 is some
19 additional information. Without going through it in great
20 detail, Mr. Roe, summarize for us what we're seeing in the
21 additional attachments.

22 A. Well, I would like to think Exhibit 1 includes
23 everything you need to know about this project.

24 On the second page it's nothing more than a
25 tabular listing of the wells, their location, the lease

1 number, type of lease, the pool, the date the well was
2 completed. It identifies their respective spacing units
3 and gives you an idea of what we would anticipate future
4 production to be at the time we were making our
5 Application.

6 Q. If it had produced, you show the cumulative
7 production, you show a test and what you anticipate to be
8 its estimated rate once you hook it into the system?

9 A. Yes, sir. Those would be presented under the
10 remarks. You will notice that as of the date of the
11 Application, none of the wells were producing.

12 Q. All right. The third page is what?

13 A. The third page is just nothing more than a
14 listing of all ownership, both working royalty and
15 overriding royalty, in all six wells. And as I've already
16 indicated, we've received return receipts, from our initial
17 request for administrative approval and also for the notice
18 of the hearing, from all ownership with the exception of
19 the five owners that I've highlighted in blue on this, and
20 those five overriding royalty owners total 1.32 percent.

21 Q. All right. And finally, the last attachment to
22 Exhibit 1 is what, sir?

23 A. The last attachment would present -- Initially,
24 this was included in our August 19th Application for
25 administrative approval as our proposed allocation

1 procedure. The BLM asked for some modifications. We made
2 those modifications and revised it in our -- on September
3 17th.

4 And this pretty much presents the method that we
5 would allocate production from the central delivery, the
6 gas sales and water, back to the individual wells, for
7 proper accounting and royalty distribution.

8 Q. Let's turn now to Exhibit Number 2. Would you
9 identify Exhibit Number 2 for us?

10 A. Okay. Exhibit 2 is a complete copy of our August
11 19th Application. This Application was submitted to the
12 OCD, the State Land Office and the Bureau of Land
13 Management, and it was requesting that this project be
14 approved administratively.

15 As we've already indicated, the State Land Office
16 approved this on August 26th. Their approval is Exhibit 7.

17 The BLM approved this on September 22nd. Their
18 approval is included in Exhibit Number 8. And the OCD has
19 asked that because of the lack of well-site measurement,
20 that this be addressed at this hearing. Notice of that
21 hearing is included as Exhibit Number 6.

22 Q. All right. Let's turn to the second page of
23 Exhibit 2, and let's describe for the Examiner the method
24 you propose to use to test the producing rate of each of
25 the six wells and then how we are going to account to the

1 owners for their appropriate share of that production once
2 it is accumulated at the sales point within the project.

3 Let's start first of all with what you propose to
4 do in terms of testing each well.

5 A. Okay. Dugan Production has what we call a
6 portable test unit. This is a unit that's manufactured and
7 was purchased by Dugan, and it's manufactured specifically
8 for a portable tester. It's intended to be a three-phase
9 -- handle three-phase production. For our wells, we will
10 only be testing for water and gas, but should there ever be
11 any oil produced for any reason, it would also handle that.

12 Q. What does the tester use to record its test
13 information?

14 A. Well, basically the gas -- It's got a
15 conventional three-phase separator. The gas stream comes
16 off of the separator, and it's recorded with a conventional
17 Barton Dry Flow Orifice Meter. It has a standard meter
18 run, and the gas is recorded in a conventional gas chart,
19 as you would have if you had a conventional meter run at
20 the well.

21 Q. Have you used this testing unit in other
22 operations to determine whether, in your opinion, it is
23 accurate and reliable?

24 A. We have, Mr. Kellahin. We've actually had this
25 test unit in operation for a little over two years, and at

1 the time we purchased it, it was operative at that time and
2 had been used many years by the previous operator.

3 Q. What do you propose for the testing intervals?

4 A. Because we have three wells that are well
5 established production histories -- and those production
6 histories were included in our initial Application -- we --
7 but in addition to those three wells, we have three wells
8 that are new wells.

9 Initially, because of the new wells and the
10 changing in production that typically occurs in a new well,
11 in the early stages of its production life, we would
12 propose that the wells be tested at least quarterly.

13 And then subsequent to the first year, we would
14 test it at least annually, or if we see at the central
15 battery a change in production, either water or gas, that
16 we cannot explain, we would retest the wells -- a testing
17 program would be -- a retest of all wells at the same time,
18 to establish each well's ability to produce.

19 This tester is actually connected directly at the
20 wellhead. All flow from the well is diverted through the
21 tester. Water, oil and gas is measured, and then the three
22 streams are recombined and sent on to the central battery.

23 Q. How will you use that test information to
24 allocate back to the individual leases their appropriate
25 share of the gas that is measured at the gas sales meter?

1 A. The exact procedure of that was presented in the
2 last page of Exhibit Number 1, but basically we would take
3 that individual rate that was tested during our test
4 effort, and that would be a constant rate during the period
5 that those tests are being used.

6 That test, in terms of MCF per day or barrels per
7 day, would be multiplied by the number of days that
8 individual well produced.

9 Q. How are you going to know what days the well had
10 produced?

11 A. Our field people will maintain a daily ledger of
12 whether the well's on or off. And so on a monthly basis we
13 will receive in the office an accounting of days produced.
14 That days produced will be then multiplied by the
15 individual test rates of gas and water, and those products
16 will be used to determine a percent of total production,
17 based upon the relation that that product bears to the
18 total of all wells. And then the gas through the central
19 delivery meter and the water sent to the water disposal
20 well will be allocated to individual wells.

21 Q. Are there pressure differentials among the wells
22 of such a magnitude that it would adversely affect your
23 ability to accurately measure and allocate back to
24 individual wells their appropriate share of the gas
25 production?

1 A. We anticipate that there might be some small
2 pressure differences in the two gas reservoirs. The Harper
3 Hill Fruitland Sand-PC has produced, so there has been some
4 pressure depletion, although it is a little deeper than the
5 Fruitland Coal. The Fruitland Coal is not a -- typical to
6 the pressure that you typically see in the Fruitland Coal,
7 primarily because within a mile of our wells it's being
8 surface strip-mined.

9 Q. Do you have plans to take action to minimize any
10 pressure differentials that might affect the production?

11 A. We plan to operate a compressor at the central
12 gas-gathering -- or at the central delivery meter. And
13 that would be our effort to keep the gathering system
14 pressure as low as possible for all wells.

15 Q. Is it economic to put a separate compressor at
16 each of these six wells?

17 A. No, it isn't. By having a central delivery
18 compressor, all six wells will be able to share one piece
19 of equipment.

20 Q. And this is the only feasible option available to
21 you in order to economically produce gas that would
22 otherwise be wasted?

23 A. That's our belief.

24 Q. Any indications that any of the hydrocarbons are
25 incompatible?

1 A. No, the anticipated gas production from the
2 Fruitland Coal is very similar in composition. Those two
3 different gas analyses were included as attachment number 5
4 in our August 19th Application, which we've presented as
5 Exhibit 2.

6 So attachment 5 to Exhibit 2 presents a copy of
7 both anticipated gas analyses, and they're very similar in
8 composition. And the waters, as far as we know, are also
9 compatible.

10 Q. All right, let's go through and identify the
11 exhibits that you have not already addressed. Identify for
12 us what Exhibit 3 is.

13 A. Okay, Exhibit 3 is our copy of our September 16th
14 transmittal to the OCD. Basically, we were just providing
15 copies of our return receipts as evidence of notice of our
16 Application. At this time we had return receipts for all
17 ownership in five wells. There were at this time six of
18 the overriding royalty interest owners that we had not
19 located, and that represented 1.68 percent of the
20 ownership.

21 In addition, we provided the OCD with a copy of
22 the State Land Office approval, dated August 26th.

23 Q. All right, Exhibit Number 4, Mr. Roe?

24 A. Okay, this is a copy of our September 19th
25 submittal. We actually prepared this document at the

1 request of the Bureau of Land Management to provide
2 supplemental information to our August 19th letter
3 application, and we also provided copies to the OCD and to
4 the State Land Office.

5 And the primary purpose of this exhibit -- or I
6 mean of this supplemental application, was to modify our
7 proposed allocation procedure to incorporate days produced.
8 And again, this revised procedure that was included in this
9 transmittal is the current proposal for allocation of
10 production.

11 It also includes a very detailed schematic of the
12 facilities out there, including a diagrammatic sketch of
13 our -- the central battery location at the Federal I 4
14 well.

15 Q. Okay, Exhibit 5, Mr. Roe. Would you identify
16 that for us?

17 A. Exhibit 5 is nothing more than an update of our
18 interest owner notification. We, at this time, still had
19 five overriding royalty interest owners that we had not
20 located, but we had been able to locate one of the six that
21 we hadn't located already. It reduced our notice to --
22 1.32 percent of the ownership has not been notified. And
23 again, that's only in one well. A hundred percent of the
24 ownership in the other five wells has been notified.

25 In addition, we transmitted a copy of the BLM's

1 September 22nd approval to the OCD.

2 Q. Okay, identify for us Exhibit 6.

3 A. Okay, Exhibit 6 is our October 3rd notice to all
4 interest ownership involved. It's notice to them that we
5 would be having this hearing today, to address our
6 administrative -- our August 19th request for this project.

7 Q. All right, Exhibit Number 7. Would you identify
8 that for us?

9 A. Okay. Exhibit Number 7 is a copy of the August
10 26th approval from the State Land Office for our project
11 that was submitted in our August 19th Application.

12 Q. Exhibit 8?

13 A. Exhibit 8 is the BLM's approval of that same
14 letter application, their approval dated September 22nd,
15 and it's made effective August 1st.

16 Q. Okay, Exhibit 9?

17 A. Exhibit 9 is a copy of the C-104s that we
18 submitted on all six wells. At the time that we discovered
19 that this -- our project could not be approved
20 administratively by the OCD, we were in a position that we
21 were pretty much ready to start producing the wells. The
22 two Fruitland Coal wells had just been fracture-stimulated,
23 and we needed to place those wells on production.

24 So Mr. Chavez and Mr. Catanach agreed that we
25 could receive a temporary testing allowable for these wells

1 so that we could get them on production with the
2 stipulation that we have this hearing. And subsequent to
3 the hearing, we would produce the wells in accordance with
4 the findings of the Hearing Examiner.

5 Q. And then lastly, Mr. Roe, Exhibit 10, please?

6 A. Okay, Exhibit 10 presents information that Mr.
7 Chavez requested we accumulate during this temporary test
8 period. On the first page of Exhibit 10 -- There's eight
9 pages total. It's a summary of what's happened on this
10 system since our September 12th -- That was the first day
11 that the gas-gathering system was placed on production.
12 And I've identified how many wells are producing at any one
13 time.

14 For instance, on September 12th we've got one
15 well. The rate at the central delivery meter was 105 MCF
16 per day. Pipeline pressure was running 224 p.s.i. And you
17 can see the status of the six wells involved.

18 The one well that was on production was our
19 Federal I 5R. That's the well we recently drilled as a
20 replacement well in the Harper Hill Fruitland San-PC. That
21 well was placed on production at 330. The other wells, you
22 can see, were shut in.

23 If we drop on down to -- oh, the October 2nd,
24 we'll just go across that line. There were three wells
25 producing that day. The rate at the central battery was

1 264 MCF per day. The pipeline pressure is 211. We
2 basically had the Camp David Number 1 placed on production
3 at 8:30 that morning. The Federal I 4 was producing that
4 day. You can see that we have what I call test 1. That is
5 on the Federal I 5R. The Federal I 6 was shut in, as well
6 as the other two wells, the O'Henry and Winifred.

7 On the second page of this, I've presented a
8 tabulation of the results of those individual tests. In
9 other words, we just indicated that the Federal I 5R was --
10 had test 1 taken on October 2nd. At the top of the second
11 page you can see the individual test results. This is the
12 kind of information that we are able to acquire with our
13 portable test unit.

14 And you can see the Federal I 5R that particular
15 24-hour period averaged 6 MCF per day and .3 of a barrel of
16 water per day. And it did it with a system pressure of
17 about 81 p.s.i. Again remembering that we're -- got a
18 central gathering system compressor that's taking that 81
19 p.s.i. and compressing it to the pipeline pressure of over
20 200 pounds.

21 Q. Why are there zeros in the Federal I 6 and the
22 Winifred 2 columns?

23 A. Okay, if you're -- You're asking about the --

24 Q. The current test allocation factors.

25 A. Okay. Basically what I'm trying to present there

1 is just an example of how the allocations would occur,
2 having the test data for the wells up above. And for
3 instance, with the test data that we've accumulated so far,
4 the allocations would be as you would see them here.

5 For instance, the Camp David Number 1 tested a
6 rate of 130 MCF a day and 138 barrels of water per day.
7 And the total of all tests -- As you asked, Mr. Kellahin,
8 two of the wells have zero. And the reason they're zero is
9 because they're currently shut in and haven't been placed
10 on production, primarily for just field issues. Once we
11 get the wells physically connected and ready to produce,
12 they will also have numbers.

13 But if we were to develop these allocation
14 factors -- And again, we're not proposing these to be the
15 allocation factors. I'm just saying this is how we would
16 do it. The six wells with this test data have a combined
17 rate of 204 MCF per day and 273 barrels of water per day.
18 And just using those totals, if they all produced equal
19 time, they would have the allocation factors that we've
20 indicated here. In other words, 63 percent of the gas from
21 the CDP would go to the Camp David, 2.9 percent of the gas
22 would go to the Federal I 5R, and the water would be
23 allocated in a similar manner.

24 Q. For purposes of the hearing today, you're
25 specifically seeking from this Examiner approval under the

1 Division Rules for this surface commingling and the off-
2 lease measurement of production from these six wells, using
3 this plan of operation that you've presented this morning?

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, that concludes my
6 examination of Mr. Roe.

7 We move the introduction of his Exhibits 1
8 through 10.

9 EXAMINER STOGNER: Exhibits 1 through 10 will be
10 admitted into evidence at this time.

11 EXAMINATION

12 BY EXAMINER STOGNER:

13 Q. Mr. Roe, do you see in the near future or anytime
14 in the future of additional wells in either of these pools
15 in this general area to be tied up to the system?

16 A. That's certainly a possibility, Mr. Stogner,
17 especially with the Fruitland Coal producing in the Camp
18 David Number 1. It's much better than we envisioned,
19 although I will point to the fact that it's too early --
20 The Camp David 1, we've got one test at 229 MCF a day and
21 another test of 130 MCF a day.

22 But if these are anywhere near -- If they hold up
23 anywhere close to these rates, we for sure would look at
24 additional Fruitland Coal development. We would intend to
25 make application and get permission to add those wells

1 prior to adding, though. In other words, that would be a
2 requirement of the OCD and the BLM. So we wouldn't add
3 wells without first having obtained that approval.

4 And I might point out too that to offset our
5 excitement of the performance of the Camp David Number 1,
6 the O'Henry Number 1, the one test that we have from that
7 Fruitland Coal well was 23 MCF a day, and that's more the
8 area we expected.

9 Q. From the sales meter there in unit C of that
10 section, does that go right into a main feeder line to El
11 Paso Natural, or is that just an additional connection on
12 to an existing Dugan trunk line or feeder?

13 A. No, that would actually connect directly to El
14 Paso Natural gas. And up until this point, that meter has
15 been the well-site meter for the Federal I 4, and that is
16 on the El Paso system. And in fact, the El Paso San Juan
17 River plant is just about two miles to the west, just off
18 the map here.

19 Q. If additional wells are put on to this line,
20 would that possibly include additional acreage not shown
21 here? You've got two sections and then part of 160 acres
22 in Section 35. Is there additional lands out there
23 available for Dugan to tie on?

24 A. Mr. Stogner, we have a lot of leasehold interests
25 in this area, so it's conceivable we could propose the

1 addition of leases in addition to this at some time in the
2 future.

3 Q. Okay. Now, you said you were given a temporary
4 allowable. Were you actually assigned a given amount that
5 you couldn't produce from these wells, or were you given a
6 certain amount of time by the District Office to get some
7 sort of a relief from the Division?

8 A. It was a time -- Initially, Mr. Chavez said 60
9 days, but he later said that we would have approval until
10 there's a decision from this hearing.

11 EXAMINER STOGNER: Hmm. So I take it there's
12 nothing holding us back from issuing an order at any time
13 soon, is there, Mr. Kellahin?

14 MR. KELLAHIN: I see no reason you can't do that.

15 EXAMINER STOGNER: Okay. So you're not asking
16 for expedition I guess?

17 MR. KELLAHIN: No, sir. You have a number of
18 things to do. We'll wait our turn.

19 Q. (By Examiner Stogner) Did the BLM or the State
20 Land Office have any particular questions about your
21 testing -- or your time between tests?

22 A. No, sir, the BLM initially questioned the
23 allocation procedure that we submitted with our August 19th
24 -- In other words, Attachment 4 in the August 19th
25 Application did not include a provision for number of days

1 produced per month. And so that was fixed with our
2 September 19th revision.

3 And so incorporating the producing time each
4 month, that satisfied the BLM's concerns. And again, their
5 approvals were given without any -- The BLM only stipulated
6 that we pressure-test the system and operate consistent
7 with their onshore orders. The State Land Office's only
8 stipulation was that the OCD also approve this, along with
9 the BLM.

10 EXAMINER STOGNER: Are there any other questions
11 of Mr. Roe?

12 MR. KELLAHIN: No, sir.

13 EXAMINER STOGNER: You may be excused. Thank
14 you, Mr. Roe.

15 Is there anything further in Case Number 11,863?

16 MR. KELLAHIN: No, sir.

17 EXAMINER STOGNER: This matter will be taken
18 under advisement.

19 (Thereupon, these proceedings were concluded at
20 8:58 a.m.)

21 * * *

22 I hereby certify that the foregoing is
23 a correct and true copy of the proceedings in
24 the Examination of Case No. 11863,
25 heard by me on Oct. 23, 1947.
_____, Examiner
Oil Conservation Division

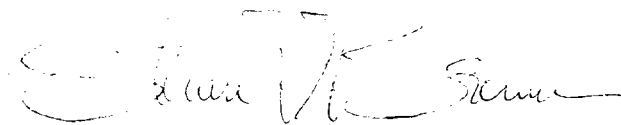
CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
) ss.
COUNTY OF SANTA FE)

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

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

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL October 24th, 1997.



STEVEN T. BRENNER
CCR No. 7

My commission expires: October 14, 1998