April 6, 1989

APR - 7 1989

OIL CONSERVATION C

Energy and Minerals Department Oil Conservation Division P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Re: Bajillo Draw State No. 4 Well

Township 7 South, Range 23 East, N.M.P.M.

Section 28: SW/4 Chaves County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Yates Petroleum Corporation has decided to drill the well which is the subject of the captioned application in Unit M. The well was advertised as being in Unit L. Yates Petroleum Corporation wishes to put on the hearing as scheduled on April 26. If you consider that this change necessitates readvertisement, please do so.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

DICKERSON, FISK & VANDIVER

Chad Dickerson

CD:pvw Enclosures

cc w/enclosure: Mr. Cy Cowan

DICKERSON, FISK & VANDIVER

Chad Dickerson

John Fisk

David R. Vandiver

James W. Catron



HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

APR 25 1989

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

April 24, 1989

Oil Conservation Division State Land Office Building P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088

Attn: April 26, 1989 Docket Examiner

Re: CASE 9657

Examiner Hearing - April 26, 1989

Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation

for compulsory pooling -

Township 7 South, Range 23 East, N.M.P.M.:

Section 28: SW4

Chaves County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

In reference to the captioned case, Ronadero Company, Inc. is owner of an oil and gas lease covering the 100% or full interest under the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the captioned Section 28 (being a 40 acre tract) located within the captioned proposed 160-acre spacing unit (copy of recorded lease attached).

Attached is a copy of our 4/20/89 letter to Yates Petroleum Corporation in which we offered to sell the oil and gas lease in question. Also enclosed is a copy of a letter from Yates Petroleum Corporation to Ronadero Company, Inc. dated 4/21/89 which furnishes certain information but does not elude to whether or not they are interested in acquiring the oil and gas lease as submitted in Ronadero Company, Inc.'s 4/20/89 letter.

Should the captioned application be approved, then Ronadero Company, Inc. would request the minimum risk penalty allowed because of the following factors:

Telephone: 505/623-0747 • El Pueblo Building • 114 East Fourth Street

- 1) The proposed test well is a field development well.
- 2) The proposed well is a very low-risk venture.
- 3) The direct offsetting well has produced approximately 300 MMCFG being one of the top producers of 9 producing wells within 1 mile radius of the proposed well.
- 4) Ronadero Company, Inc., in its opinion, has made a reasonable offer to the applicant in an attempt to avoid being a party to a force pooling action.

Very truly yours,

RONADERO COMPANY, INC.

Robert G. Hanagan

RGH/drs

Enc.

OIL & GAS LEASE

OIL & GAS LEA	13E
THIS AGREEMENT made this <u>15th</u> day of <u>April</u>	19 89 , between
William E. Corn, a single man	
ATTITUM E. OOTIIS & STRINGTO MAIN	
	_{of} Roswell, New Mexico
D 1 0 T	(Post Office Address)
herein called lessor (whether one or more) and Ronadero Company, In	
 Lessor, in consideration of TEN AND OTHER DOLLARS in hand paid, receipt of of the agreements of the lessee herein contained, hereby grants, leases and lets exclusively ur 	nto lessee for the purpose of investigating, exploring, prospecting, drilling
and operating for and producing oil and gas, injecting gas, waters, other fluids, and air into sub phone lines, and other structures and things thereon to produce, save, take care of, treat, pro-	osurface strata, laying pipe lines, storing oil, building tanks, roadways, tele ocess, store and transport said minerals, the following described land ir
ChavesCounty, New N	Mexico, to-wit:
Township 7 South, Range 23 East, N.M.P.M.	•
Section 28: NE ₄ SW ₄	
For the purpose of calculating the rental payments hereinafter provided for, said land is esti	imated to comprise 40.0 acres, whether it actually com
prises more or less. 2. Subject to the other provisions herein contained, this lease shall remain in force for a	one (1)
thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land or land with which said land is pooled. 3. The royalties to be paid by lessee are: (a) on oil, and on other liquid hydrocarbons saved:	one-fourth (1/4)
The royalties to be paid by lessee are: (a) on oil, and on other liquid hydrocarbons saved a delivered at the wells or to the credit of lessor in the pipe line to which the wells may be connected;	at the well, conjugatio n that produced and saved from said land, same to be ; (b) on gas, including casinghead gas or other gaseous substance produced
delivered at the wells or to the credit of lessor in the pipe line to which the wells may be connected from said land used off the premises or used in the manufacture of gasoline or other products, the sold on or off the premises the royalty shall be WANTY of the amount realized from such sale;	e market value at the well of XXXXXXXX of the gas used, provided that on gas (C) and at any time when this lease is not validated by other provisions hereof
and there is a gas and/or condensate well on said land, or land pooled therewith, but gas and/or co or after production therefrom, then on or before 90 days after said well is shut in, and thereafter at	ondensate is not being so sold or used and such well is shut in, either before t annual intervals, lessee may pay or tender an advance annual shut-in rovalty
equal to the amount of delay rentals provided for in this lease for the acreage then held under this leave royalty is paid or tendered this lease shall not terminate and it will be considered under all clauses	s hereof that gas is being produced from the leased premises in paying quan
titles. Each such payment shall be paid or tendered to the party or parties who at the time of such paths lease if the well were in fact producing, or be paid or tendered to the credit of such party or paid or tendered to the credit of the cr	arties in the depository bank and in the manner hereinafter provided for the
payment of rentals. The amount realized from the sale of gas on or off the premises shall be the privand gas purchaser for such term and under such conditions as are customary in the industry. 'Pri	ice' shall mean the net amount received by Lessee after giving effect to an
plicable regulatory orders and after application of any applicable price adjustments spec 4. If operations for drilling are not commenced on said land or on land pooled therewith on	
ties, unless on or before one (1) year from this date lessee shall pay or tender to the lessor a commencement of such operations for a period of twelve (12) months. In like manner and upon like	rental of \$ 40.00 which shall cover the privilege of deferring
be further deferred for successive periods of twelve (12) months each during the primary term. Pay	yment or tender may be made to the lessor or to the credit of the lessor in the
UNITED NEW MEXICO BANK AT ROSWELL	Bank
at P. O. Box 1977, Roswell, New Mexico 88202 for the lessor and lessor's heirs and assigns. If such bank (or any successor bank) shall fall, liquid accept rental, lessee shall not be held in default until thirty (30) days after lessor shall deliver to less of payment or tender, and any depository charge is a liability of the lessor. The payment or tender	, which bank, or any successor thereof, shall continue to be the agent
accept rental, lessee shall not be held in default until thirty (30) days after lessor shall deliver to less	pate, or be succeeded by another bank, or for any reason shall fall of refuse to see a recordable instrument making provision for another acceptable method
- Dank Or lessor, or any lessor it more than one. On or defore the rental daving date. Any urnery davin	ient di tender di rental di Silut-in rovalty which is made in a nona fina affambi
to make proper payment, but which is erroneous in whole or in part as to parties, amounts, or depos the same manner as though a proper payment had been made; provided, however, lessee shall cor	rrect such error within thirty (30) days after lessee has received written notice
thereof by certified mail from lessor together with such instruments as are necessary to 5. Lessee is hereby granted the right and power, from time to time, to pool or combine this le	
lease, leases, mineral estates or parts thereof for the production of oil or gas. Units pooled hereur Mexico Oil Conservation Commission or by other lawful authority for the pool or area in which	nder shall not exceed the standard proration unit fixed by law or by the New said land is situated, plus a tolerance of 10%. Lessee shall file written unit
designations in the county in which the premises are located and such units may be designated for operations on or production from any part of any such unit shall be considered for all purposes, exce	from time to time and either before or after the completion of wells. Drilling
the land described in this lease. There shall be allocated to the land covered by this lease included wells in the unit, after deducting any used in lease or unit operations, which the number of surface	d in any such unit that portion of the total production of pooled minerals from
number of surface acres in the unit. The production so allocated shall be considered for all purpose pooled minerals from the portion of said and covered hereby and included in said unit in the same r	es, including the payment or delivery of royalty, to be the entire production of
pooled unit designated by lessee, as provided herein, may be dissolved by lessee by recording an after the completion of a dry hole or the cessation of production on said unit.	
6. If prior to the discovery of oil or gas hereunder, lessee should drill and abandon a dry hol	
should cease for any cause, this lease shall not terminate if lessee commences reworking or additions same, or (If it be within the primary term) commences or resumes the payment or tender of rentals.	s or commences operations for drilling or reworking on or before the rental
paying date next ensuing after the expiration of three months from date of abandonment of said primary term oil or gas is not being produced but lessee is then engaged in operations for drilling	ng or reworking of any well, this lease shall remain in force so long as such
operations are diligently prosecuted with no cessation of more than 60 consecutive days. If durin junks the hole or well and after diligent efforts in good faith is unable to complete said operations the	en within 30 days after the abandonment of said operations lessee may com-
mence another well and drill the same with due diligence. If any drilling, additional drilling, or rewo in full force so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced hereunder.	orking operations nereunder result in production, then this lease shall remain
Lessee shall have free use of oil, gas and water from said land, except water from lessor puted after deducting any so used. Lessee shall have the right at any time during or after the expira	ition of this lease to remove all property and fixtures placed by lessee on said
land, including the right to draw and remove all casing. When required by lessor, lessee will bury a be drilled within two hundred feet (200 ft.) of any residence or barn now on said land without lessor.	all pipe lines on cultivated lands below ordinary plow depth, and no well shall or's consent. Lessor shall have the privilege, at his risk and expense, of using
gas from any gas well on said land for stoves and inside lights in the principal dwelling to 8. The rights of either party hereunder may be assigned in whole or in part and the provision	thereon, out of any surplus gas not needed for operations hereunder.
assigns; but no change or division in the ownership of the land, or in the ownership of or right to re enlarge the obligations or diminish the rights of lessee; and no such change or division shall be bin	eceive rentals, royalties or payments, however accomplished shall operate to
ed by certified mail at lessee's principal place of business with acceptable instruments or certifie	ed copies thereof constituting the chain of title from the original lessor, if any
such change in ownership occurs through the death of the owner, lessee may pay or tender any re depository bank until such time as lessee has been furnished with evidence satisfactory to lessee	as to the persons entitled to such sums. In the event of an assignment of this
lease as to a segregated portion of said land, the rentals payable hereunder shall be apportioned as of each, and default in rental payment by one shall not affect the rights of other leasehold owners here.	rereunder. An assignment of this lease, in whole or in part, shall, to the extent
of such assignment, relieve and discharge lessee of any obligations hereunder, and, if lessee or as proportionate part of the rentals due from such lessee or assignee or fail to comply with any other control to the such lessee or assignee or fail to comply with any other such lessee.	er provision of the lease, such default shall not affect this lease in so far as it
covers a part of said lands upon which lessee or any assignee thereof shall so comply or make such ty.	
Should lessee be prevented from complying with any express or implied covenant of this producing oil or gas hereunder by reason of scarcity or inability to obtain or use equipment or ma	iterial, or by operation of force majeure, or by any Federal or state law or any
order, rule or regulation of governmental authority, then while so prevented, lessee's duty shall be this lease shall be extended while and so long as lessee is prevented by any such cause from o	conducting drilling or reworking operations on or from producing oil or gas
hereunder; and the time while lessee is so prevented shall not be counted against lesses 10. Lessor hereby warrants and agrees to defend the title to said land, and agrees that lesses	• • •
and in the event lessee does so, it shall be subrogated to such lien with the right to enforce same Without impairment of lessee's rights under the warranty, if this lesse covers a less interest in the	e and apply rentals and royalties accruing hereunder toward satisfying same
ple estate (whether lessor's interest is herein specified or not) then the royalties, shut-in royalty, recovers less than such full interest, shall be paid only in the proportion which the interest therein, if a	ntal, and other payments, if any, accruing from any part as to which this lease
therein. Should any one or more of the parties named above as lessors fail to execute this lease, i	it shall nevertheless be binding upon the party or parties executing the same.
 Lessee, its/his successors, heirs, and assigns, shall have the right at any time to surrassigns by delivering or mailing a release thereof to the lessor, or by placing a release thereof of release thereof. 	record in the county in which said land is situated; thereupon lessee shall be
relieved from all obligations, expressed or implied, of this agreement as to acreage so surrendere reduced in the proportion that the acreage covered hereby is reduced by said release or i	
Executed the day and year first above written.	[1] 11. 0 1
	flellian & Com
	William F Corn

Motary Public	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			My Commission Expires:
noitarogroo	в			of pehalf of said corporation.
President				рх
61 (day of	me this	scknowledged before	The foregoing instrument was
(Mew Mexico Short Form)	лои ускиомгерсив	СОКРОВАТ		County of
				STATE OF
Motary Public				My Commission Expires:
_				to on behalf of said corporation.
President	· (pλ
	lo Vab	me this	scknowledged before	The foregoing instrument was
NT (New Mexico Short Form)				County of
(and thods so no M mold) The	awbua imonaby noi:	LVaOaaoo		STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL AND GAS LEASE NEW MEXICO FROM	TO	Date, Township, Range No. of Acres	STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF Chaves I hereby certify that this instrument was filed for record on the Roll day of April	A. D., 19 89, at 10.017 vocace Am, and was duly redorded in Book of the Page 73 of the Records of said County. Rhoda Good loe Rhoda Good loe Rounty Clerk. By Ret#64442 \$7.00 Ronadero Co, Inc. Po Box 430
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T (New Mexico Short Form)			<u> </u>	STATE OF NEW MEXICO, COUNTY OF



April 20, 1989

Yates Petroleum Corporation 105 South 4th Street Artesia, New Mexico 88210

Attn: Cy Cowan, Assoc. Landman

Re: Oil and Gas Lease Submittal

Township 7 South, Range 23 East, N.M.P.M.:

Section 7: NE4SW4

containing 40.0 acres, more or less

Chaves County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Ronadero Company, Inc. is the owner of the above captioned oil and gas lease (copy attached) and hereby offers an assignment of same, subject to prior sale and withdrawal without notice on the following basis:

- 1) Full Bonus Consideration of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per net acre (40.0 acres x \$200.00 = \$8,000.00).
- 2) Delivery of a 75% net revenue lease.

Should Yates Petroleum Corporation have an interest in this proposal, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Very turly yours,

RONADERO COMPANY, INC.

Robert W. Hanagan

RWH/drs

ENC.

Telephone: 505/623-8747 • El Pueblo Building • 114 East Fourth Street

MARTIN YATES, III 1912 - 1985 FRANK W. YATES 1936 - 1986



105 SOUTH FOURTH STREET ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO 88210 TELEPHONE (505) 748-1471

S. P. YATES
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
JOHN A. YATES
PRESIDENT
PEYTON VATES
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
RANDY G. PATTERSON
SECRETARY
DENNIS G. KINSEY
TREASURER

April 21, 1989

Ronadero Company Inc. P. O. Box 430 Roswell, New Mexico 88202

Attention: Mr. Robert Hanagan

Re: Township 7 South, Range 23 East, NMPM
Section 7: NE¼SW¼
Chaves County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 1989, outlining your proposal for assigning the captioned acreage. In the event Mr. Corn did not furnish you with the documents I sent to him, enclosed please find:

- Operating Agreement for our proposed Bajillo Draw "WQ" State #4 well.
- 2. Two copies of the Authority for Expenditure.
- 3. One copy of the Compulsory Pooling Notice.

Please be advised the captioned acreage is scheduled for hearing on Wednesday, April 26, 1989 in Santa Fe.

Should you have any questions please contact me.

Thank you for your concern in this matter.

Very truly yours,

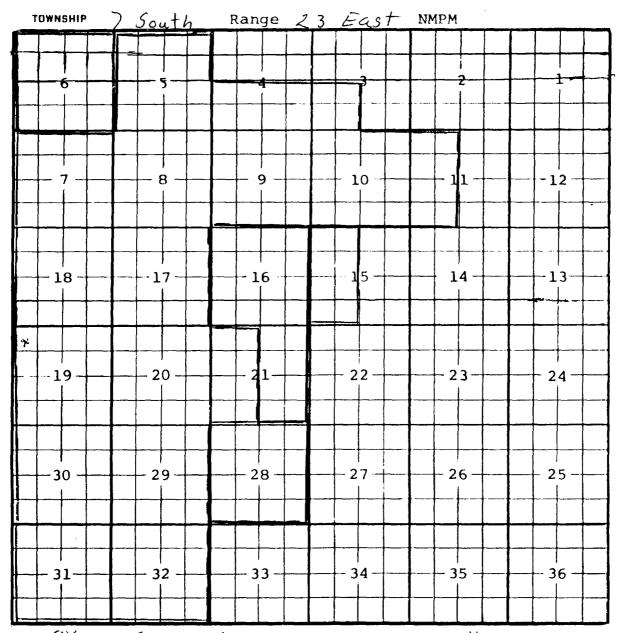
YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Cy Cowan

Associate Landman

CC/bp Enclosures

county Chaves pool West Peros Stope-Abricas



Ext: 544 Sec. 3, 5/2 Sec. 4, All Sec. 5, All Secs. > through 10, 4/2 Sec. 11,

All Se s. 17 through 20, 4/2 Sec. 21, All Secs. 29 through 32 (R-7131, 11-30-82)

Ext: All Sec. 16, E/2 Sec. 21 (R-7248, 3-30-83)

Ext: All Sec. 6, All Sec. 28 (R-7322, 8-1-83) Ext: 4/2 Sec. 15 (R-7351, 9-19-83)

1 2 3 4 5	STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 26 April 1989 EXAMINER HEARING
6	
7 8	IN THE MATTER OF:
9	Application of Yates Petroleum Corp- CASE oration for compulsory pooling, 9657 Chaves County, New Mexico.
10	chaves county, New Mexico.
11	
12	
13	BEFORE: David R. Catanach, Examiner
14	
15	TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING
16 17	
18	APPEARANCES
19	For the Division: Robert G. Stovall
20	Attorney at Law Legal Counsel to the Division
21	State Land Office Building Santa Fe, New Mexico
22	For Yates Petroleum Chad Dickerson
23	Corporation: Attorney at Law DICKERSON, FISK & VANDIVER
24	Seventh & Mahone/Suite E Artesia, New Mexico 88210
25	

3 ١ MR. CATANACH: At this time 2 we'll call Case 9657. 3 STOVALL: Application of MR. 4 Yates Petroleum Corporation for compulsory pooling, Chaves 5 County, New Mexico. 6 MR. CATANACH: Are there ap-7 pearances in this case? 8 MR. DICKERSON: Mr. Examiner, 9 I'm Chad Dickerson of Artesia on behalf of Yates Petroleum 10 Corporation and I have two witnesses. 11 MR. CATANACH: Any other ap-12 pearances? 13 Will the witnesses please 14 stand and be sworn in? 15 16 (Witnesses sworn.) 17 18 MR. CATANACH: Mr. Dickerson? 19 20 CY COWAN, 21 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his 22 oath, testified as follows, to-wit: 23 24 25

4 1 DIRECT EXAMINATION 2 BY MR. DICKERSON: 3 Q Mr. Cowan, will you state your full 4 name? 5 Α My name is Cy Cowan. 6 C-O-W-A-N? Q 7 That's C-Y C-O-W-A-N. Α 8 And how are you employed and by whom, Q 9 Mr. Cowan? 10 I'm employed by Yates Petroleum Corpor-11 ation as an associate landman. 12 And how long have you been employed in Q 13 that capacity? 14 Α For the last year. 15 And as part of your duties as a landman Q 16 Yates Petroleum Corporation do include the Township 7 17 South, 23 East area of Chaves County, New Mexico, which is 18 the subject of this hearing? 19 Yes, sir. Α 20 And have you familiarized yourself with Q 21 the land title situation regarding the ownership of various 22 interests within the well which is the subject of this 23 hearing? 24 Α Yes. 25 MR. DICKERSON: We tender Mr.

CATANACH: He is so qual-

1

Cowan as a landman, Mr. Catanach.

2

ified.

3 4

Mr. Cowan, will you summarize the pur-Q pose of Yates' application in Case 9657 for us?

MR.

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spacing.

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Yates Petroleum in the above Α Right. styled case seeks to -- seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the West Pecos Slope Abo Gas Pool, underlying the southwest quarter of Section 28, Township 17 South, Range 23 East, to form a standard 160-acre oil and gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and pools developed on 160-acre

Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard gas well location thereon.

Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as operator of the well and charges for risk involved in drilling said well.

All right, Mr. Cowan, identify what we submitted as Exhibit Number One and review this land plat for Mr. Catanach.

> Α Exhibit Number One is a land plat of

1 Township 7 South, 23 East, in Chaves County, New Mexico. 2 We are interested in Section 28 in the southwest quarter. 3 On the exhibit it shows Yates Petro-4 leum's lease in yellow in the southwest quarter of the 5 southwest; the red dot designating the location of the 6 proposed well. 7 The acreage in the northeast of the 8 southwest is owned by Mr. Corn. 9 He owns all the minerals under that 10 40-acre tract? 11 Α All the minerals under the 40-acre 12 tract, yes, sir. 13 And the balance of the 120 acres within Q 14 the spacing unit all owned and controlled by Yates Petro-15 leum Corporation or other of its related corporations? 16 Yes, sir. Α 17 Q What is the footage location of your 18 proposed well? 19 The proposed well is located 760 feet Α 20 from the south line and 990 feet from the west line. 21 MR. DICKERSON: Mr. Catanach, 22 Exhibit Number Two is an affidavit of mailing by my office 23 pursuant to Rule 1207, which shows that the application of 24 Yates in this case was mailed to Mr. Corn on March 22,

1989, and you'll note that the return receipt is signed by

25

him acknowledging acceptance of that delivery on March 2 24th, 1989.

Q Mr. Cowan, identify the packet that we have submitted as Yates Exhibit Number Three and review it for Mr. Catanach.

A Exhibit Number Three is correspondence between Yates Petroleum to Mr. Corn and other parties.

I'd like to start out with the letter dated January 23rd, which is at the back of the packet right before the operating agreement.

The letter is dated January 23, 1988, that is a typo. It should have been January 23rd, 1989, where I wrote a letter to Mr. Corn offering to take a lease from him on 3/16ths royalty and a 90-day lease term and asking him to contact me.

Q His interest in the minerals underlying the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter were unleased at that time?

A Yes, sir.

Q Have you had previous contacts with Mr. Corn in attempting to obtain an oil and gas lease covering that tract?

A Yes, sir. When I first hired on this job last May, I contacted Mr. Corn on the phone and I talked to him a couple of times.

After that I lost all contact with Mr. Corn. I tried to contact him several times over the last, you know, the months following. I got an answering machine. I left my name and number asking him to call.

Q Did he ever return your call?

A No, sir.

Q Approximately how many attempts by telephone prior to January 23rd had you made to contact Mr. Corn?

A Probably at least six. I also tried to contact relatives of the Corn family, maybe not direct relatives of Mr. Corn, a member of the Corn family, Mrs. Bronson Corn. I called before January 23rd asking her assistance in getting a phone number for Mr. Corn.

After -- after January 23rd I continued to call Mr. Corn leaving my name on his answering machine with his -- with my number and at one point again I called Mrs. Bronson Corn and also David -- Mrs. David Glenn Corn in an attempt to contact Mr. Corn asking him to get back with me.

Q But he never responded to any of those attempts?

A Never responded.

Q How many times approximately did you actually get to talk to the gentleman on the telephone?

A Two.

Q Did he express to you any indication of the -- that he had an objection to executing an oil and gas lease, the nature of that objection, or --

A He wanted different terms.

Q The primary term of the lease?

A Right, he wanted to know the primary term of the lease and I told him I would get back with him on the term. I just started doing this and he wanted --

Q What primary term were you initially

proposing?

A Well, actually I didn't propose one.

I'm very green at this. This is my first actual job and I just went and discussed things but did not talk about a

primary term. He asked me to get with the Yates' and con-

tact him again.

Q So evidently he was interested in a relatively short primary term that would be ordinarily what a mineral interest owner would prefer, would it not, and in your January 23rd letter the primary term set forth that you proposed in that was for a primary term of 90 days.

A Yes, sir.

Q That's an indication that Yates Petroleum Corporation was proposing to drill a well within that 90-day period.

A Yes, sir.

Q All right, continue with Exhibit Number 3 and tell us what's contained in it.

5

A letter dated April 3rd, 1989, I wrote to Mr. Corn advising him that we'd filed a compulsory hearing and again asking him to -- telling him, asking him to let us have a lease, let us take a lease from him at the same 3/16ths and 90-day term and I also advised him that I would be sending him an operating agreement and an AFE under separate cover should he wish to join us in the drilling of this well and the last thing, I said, would you please contain me collect, with my phone number, at his

convenience.

Q And have you had any contact with him since that time?

O No, sir.

Q All right, what's the next letter in the packet?

A A letter dated April 10th I wrote to Mr. Corn and this is a letter in which I sent -- sent him the AFE and the operating agreement which I promised him earlier and I asked him once again to participate with us or let us take a lease from him and the last thing I said once again, please contact me collect, and my phone number, at your earliest convenience.

1 Q And was there any response from Mr. Corn 2 to that letter? 3 No, sir. Α 4 0 All right, tell us about the next cor-5 respondence you have with him. 6 I list -- had an opportunity to get to-Α 7 a signed signature page with all the Yates entities 8 on it; I sent it to Mr. Corn once again to get his atten-9 tion that we would like to take a lease from him or would 10 like him to participate with us. Therefore I sent him this 11 signature page to get his attention and the last thing I 12 said, would you please contact me collect, my phone number, 13 or by mail at the above address. 14 You're now referring to the letter dated Q 15 April 18th, 1989? 16 I'm sorry, yes, sir, April 18th, 1989. Α 17 All right. And what was the next cor-Q 18 respondence you had with anyone regarding this unleased 19 mineral interest? 20 On April 20th I received a letter from Α 21 Ronadero Company of Roswell, New Mexico. 22 Now, had -- prior to April 20th had you 23 contacted Ronadero for any purpose? 24 Α Yes. 25 And what was the nature of that contact? Q

1 Α The contact was going through an old 2 file we had I found a letter to Ronadero from another 3 landman at Yates Petroleum back in 1983. They were also 4 trying to lease from Mr. Corn at that time. As a last 5 ditch effort I called Ronadero to say, hey, could you put 6 me in contact with Mr. Corn? I understand he's at his 7 ranch a lot, maybe they had a phone number, another 8 address, some way to get in touch with Mr. Corn. 9 So approximately when was this that you 10 called Ronadero? 11 March 13th. Α 12 Q All right, and who did you speak with at 13 Ronadero? 14 Α Mr. Robert W. Hanagan. Well, excuse me, 15 I talked with the secretary that time. I'm sorry. 16 Hanagan was out of the office. 17 You left a message? Q 18 Α Yes, I did. I told her my plight. I 19 was interested in getting in touch with Mr. Corn. 20 asked the nature of the deal and I visited with her about 21 that. 22 Was there any response from Ronadero by Q 23 telephone to you? 24 Two weeks later Mr. Hanagan called me Α 25

and said he would try and put me in touch with Mr. Corn.

13 1 Robert Hanagan that you previously Q Mr. 2 mentioned? 3 Yes, Mr. Robert Hanagan. 4 Q So when would that have been that he 5 told you that? 6 Α It was before April 20th that I received 7 this letter, it was probably several days before that. 8 Q All right, identify the letter and tell us what it contains. 10 received a letter on April 20th from 11 Ronadero Company of Roswell, to my attention, saying that 12 Ronadero had become the owner of the captioned lease pre-13 viously owned by Mr. Corn and they were offering us a 14 chance to get an assignment of this lease. 15 For -- to purchase an assignment from Q 16 Ronadero. 17 To purchase, right. Α 18 And at a price of \$200 per acre, or Q 19 \$8000. 20 That's correct. Α 21 Is Yates Petroleum Corporation willing 0 22 to purchase the lease under these circumstances from Rona-23 dero for \$8000 covering that tract? 24 Α No, sir. 25 The oil and gas lease which is attached Q

to that letter dated April 20th of last week, it is dated April 15th, is it not?

A Yes, it is.

Q And it does show to be recorded in Chaves County on April 20th, 1989, doesn't it, Mr. Cowan?

A Yes, sir.

g So approximately one month after -- or actually in excess of two months after your first written attempt to obtain an oil and gas lease from Mr. Corn, and approximately one month after the notice of this hearing was signed for by him, Ronadero took the oil and gas lease that you'd been seeking to obtain?

A Yes, sir.

Q All right, and then attempted to sell to Yates Petroleum Corporation for \$8000?

A Yes, sir.

Q All right, and what is your last letter which is contained in Exhibit Number Three?

A Okay, my letter dated April 21st, 1989, to Ronadero, Attention Mr. Robert Hanagan. I advised him that this acreage was still up for the forced pooling hearing and I sent to Mr. Hanagan an operating agreement and two copies of an AFE and a copy of our compulsory pooling notice telling him when the hearing would be and asking him to contact me if he had any questions.

1 And has he contacted you? Q 2 No, sir. Α 3 Has Ronadero given any indication of Q 4 not it intends to participate with its leased 5 mineral interest in this proposed Abo well? 6 No, sir. Α 7 But Yates continues to extend the option Q 8 recognizes that Ronadero has the option to participate with its 25 percent interest if it desires to do so? 10 Yes, sir. Α 11 Identify the joint operating submitted 0 12 Exhibit Number Four, Mr. Cowan, and review this for us, 13 briefly. 14 This model operating agreement Α Okav. 15 for the Bajillo Draw State No. 4 Well is our standard oper-16 ating agreement we use, APL Form 610, 1977. 17 All right, refer to Exhibit A towards 18 last of that operating agreement and review for Mr. 19 Catanach the ownership interest of the parties within the 20 spacing unit. 21 Exhibit A covers Section 28, the south-Α 22 Township 7 South, Range 23 East. quarter. It shows 23 the percentages under Item 2 of the different Yates enti-24 ties in the well, Yates Petroleum, Yates Drilling, Abo 25

Petroleum Corporation, Lilly M. Yates, and the Estate of

1 Martin Yates, III, and also Ronadero Company, Incorporated. 2 With its 25 percent interest as the 3 result of the oil and gas lease previously shown. Yes, sir. 5 All right, Exhibit C for that joint Q 6 operating agreement is a COPAS accounting procedure form, 7 Would you point out to Mr. Catanach the over-Mr. Cowan. 8 head supervision rates requested for Yates Petroleum Corporation's operations for the drilling of this well? 10 Our overhead rates requested for this 11 well are \$2900 per month for drilling well rate and \$290 a 12 month for a producing well rate. 13 Now, Yates Petroleum Corporation has Q 14 drilled numerous Abo wells that will be testified to by 15 another witness in this area, has it not, Mr. Cowan? 16 Α Yes, sir. 17 And are those rates consistent with the Q 18 rates Yates charges for overhead supervision in wells in 19 this area at the current time at this depth? 20 Yes, sir. Α 21 All right. Identify Exhibit Number Five 0 22 and tell us what it is and what it shows. 23 Exhibit Number Five is an Authority for Α 24 Expenditure covering the proposed Bajillo Draw WT State No. 25

4 Well and this prepared by our Engineering Department,

1 showing dry hole costs for this well at \$111,000 and a 2 completed well cost of \$102,000. 3 \$202,000. Q 4 Α Excuse me, \$202,000. 5 And again Ronadero's 25 percent inter-Q 6 est is reflected in that AFE? 7 Α Yes, sir. 8 Is this the same AFE that you had pre-9 viously furnished to Mr. Corn with the exception of his 10 interest and Ronadero's being switched and previously fur-11 nished to Ronadero, as well? 12 Yes, it is, but I had to revise it and Α 13 change the well location. It had the wrong well location 14 on it, but other than that it was the exact same AFE. 15 All right, and the cost reflected on Q 16 that AFE are those obtained by the Yates experience in 17 drilling Abo wells in this area? 18 Yes, sir. Α 19 0 And those costs are the reasonable and 20 necessary costs to drill an Abo well at this time in this 21 area from the Yates Engineering Department? 22 Α Yes, sir. 23 MR. DICKERSON: Mr. Catanach, 24 I would move the admission of Yates Exhibits One through 25

Five at this time and I have nothing further of Mr. Cowan.

1 MR. CATANACH: Exhibits One 2 through Five will be admitted as evidence. 3 I do have --MR. STOVALL: 4 it's -- it's in the form of a question, first I'll direct 5 to you, Mr. Dickerson --6 MR. DICKERSON: Uh-huh. 7 MR. STOVALL: -- a copy of a 8 received by the Division and ask if you received letter that? 10 MR. DICKERSON: No, sir, I did 11 not and I notice I have made a copy myself when I learned 12 13 MR. STOVALL: You have --14 you're aware of it? 15 MR. DICKERSON: Yes, sir, and 16 I have made a copy of it and I am aware of it now. I was 17 not until we came to this hearing this morning. 18 MR. STOVALL: That's really 19 all I have, to make sure he was aware of this and it will 20 part of the file but of course not presented as an exhibit. 21 MR. DICKERSON: Right. Yes, 22 that's satisfactory with us, Mr. Stovall. 23 MR. STOVALL: Let me -- let 24 me, excuse me, one thing further, Chad, just for the re-25 cord, Sally, let me identify this letter more clearly.

also

19 1 This is a letter from Rona-2 dero Company, Inc., signed by Mr. Robert G. Hanagan, dated 3 April 24th, 1989, addressed to the Oil Conservation Divi-4 sion and references this case. 5 6 CROSS EXAMINATION 7 BY MR. CATANACH: 8 Q Mr. Cowan, when did the Ronadero take 9 control of that lease, to your knowledge? 10 The lease was signed April 15th, 1989. Α 11 STOVALL: Mr. Examiner, if MR. 12 I may, a copy of that lease is attached to the letter which 13 I have just referenced. 14 is MR. DICKERSON: It. 15 attached as part of our Exhibit Number Three, Mr. Catanach, 16 and the acknowledgement to it was executed on April 15th, 17 It shows to have been recorded on April 20th, 1989, 18 and was furnished to Yates by a letter of that same date. 19 MR. CATANACH: I have no fur-20 ther questions.

21

22

23

24

DAVID BONEAU,

being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

25

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. DICKERSON:

Q Mr. Boneau, will you state your full name, your occupation and by whom you're employed?

A My name is David Francis Boneau. I work for Yates Petroleum Corporation in Artesia, New Mexico, as Engineering Manager.

Q Mr. Boneau, you have previously testified before this Division on numerous occasions but for the record will you briefly summarize your educational and employment background for Mr. Catanach?

A Yes. I have a BS in physics from the University of Notre Dame in 1962. I have a PhD in physics from Iowa State University in 1969.

I worked for 12 years for Phillips Petroleum in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and in Odessa, Texas.

Since 1980 I've worked for Yates Petroleum as Reservoir Supervisor and Engineering Manager.

Experience that is probably relevant to this case are things like I've written an SPE paper on Reserves in the Pecos Slope Abo Field. I was the engineering witness for the hearing where the tight gas designation for a large area in the Pecos Slope was presented before this commission several years ago, so I do have experience in the Pecos Slope Abo area.

- -

Q All right, and specifically with regard to the southwest quarter of Section 28, 7 South, 23 East, have you made an engineering evaluation of the wells drilled and producing in that area for the purpose of testifying with respect to a proposed risk penalty here today?

A Yes, sir, I have done that.

MR. DICKERSON: Tender Mr.

Boneau as an expert reservoir engineer.

MR. CATANACH: He is so qual-

ified.

Q Mr. Boneau, will you identify what we have submitted to the Examiner as Yates Exhibit Number Six and review this for him?

A Exhibit Six is a land map of the area around the proposed Bajillo Draw State No. 4 Well. The purpose is to call your attention to a 25-section area centered on Section 28 where the proposed well will be drilled.

The numbers that are under the well locations are the ultimate reserves in millions of cubic feet for the wells within that 25-section area.

Q All right, specifically direct our attention to the southwest quarter of Section 28 and review the closest wells for the Examiner as regarding their cumu-

1 lative reserves as you have calculated them.

A Okay. There is another exhibit which has all these reserves listed in a tabular listing.

- Q That is Exhibit Number Seven?
- A That's Exhibit Number Seven.
- Q All right, review that for us.

A The average reserves of the 38 wells around the proposed location are 243-million cubic feet of gas.

The average reserves are 282-million cubic feet of gas in a smaller 9-section area that's -- that's more central to -- to the location we're talking about.

The reserves range from zero for the one dry hole to a maximum of 730-million.

The point is that you're not going to get many dry holes. You're not going to get 1-to-2 BCF. You're not going to get super wells. You're going to get these quarter to half BCF wells in this -- in this region. The expected reserves from the well that we're proposing to drill, I estimate to be 243 to 282 or maybe 300-million cubic feet of gas. That's the kind of reserves that we're looking at in this well. That's pretty much the purpose of Exhibits Six and Seven.

Q All right, identify Exhibit Number Eight

and tell us what calculations you have made on that exhibit.

A Exhibit Number Eight is a computer printout of an economic calculation and there are very many numbers there. I'd like to point out a couple of them I consider significant.

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Exhibit Eight is for the case of 243-million cubic feet of reserves. The -- that well, if we drill and get that well, we will make a rate of return of 6 percent, less than you get when you put your money in the bank.

The -- the revenue, the total revenue from the well would be, it says \$444,000 at the bottom of column 2, 4, 6, Column 8, I believe. I'm not asking anyone to really follow this. I'd like to point out that there are some -- some numbers in there.

The main one, or the rate of return, will be 6 percent, barely an economic well. The absolute income from the well will be \$444,000, of course less expenses, drilling costs, operating costs, taxes, et cetera, royalties.

This well is barely a break-even well.

- Q The average --
- A The average well --
- Q -- but your assumed reserves of the

 average well in the area shown on Exhibit Number Eight?

A It is a break-even well and also Exhibit Seven shows that you've really got less than half a chance of getting a break-even well. I think 21 out of these 38 numbers are -- show reserves of less than 243-million cubic feet.

Q How does that fact bear on the risk penalty that should be imposed in this proceeding?

A The risk -- we admit the risk of getting a dry hole is low but there -- the risk -- there is a large risk in getting an economic well at this location and so the risk penalty should be high.

Q Are you ready to review Exhibit Number Nine, Mr.Boneau?

A Yes, I am.

Q Review that for us, please.

A Exhibit Nine is the similar economic printout for the case where the reserves are 282-billion cubic feet and this is the range of a kind of well that we're hoping and expecting to get. A well with those reserves will give us a rate of return of 15 percent on our money, which is at the low range of acceptable. It's a project that we would do.

The total revenue from the project is about \$510,000. When you take away all the operating

costs, et cetera, our net cash flow is going to be \$98,000 and that simply is not enough to support purchasing the leases for, well, \$32,000, if you had to purchase all 160 acres at \$200 an acre, you could not do it even for this, what I'm calling an economic well.

All right, based on your study that you have described, Mr. Boneau, what conclusions do you draw and what recommendation would you make to the Examiner as an appropriate risk penalty factor to be imposed upon the interest of Ronadero in this proceeding?

A The testimony has addressed what I would call economic risk, mostly in the area of reserves. There simply is a large risk that the required 300-million cubic feet of reserves will not be there.

There are other risks involved, in prices, the prices in the area have fallen from \$6.00 to (not clearly understood) of the State because of the presence of small amounts of arsenic in the gas from the Pecos Slope Abo. The field was totally shut in for six months in 1988. The arsenic problem was a unique problem and there's not a standard way to treat it, so the gas is being treated now but the technology really isn't yet proven and so there's a risk that problem may pop up again.

There's some mechanical risk in drilling the well. There's some geological risk in finding a

	20
1	channel sand that will produce. All those are additional
2	considerations but just the economic risk that I've de-
3	scribed tells me that the penalty should be high; should be
4	the 200 percent.
5	Q The maximum 200 percent permitted by our
6	statute?
7	A Yes, sir.
8	Q And that would be your recommendation to
9	Mr. Catanach?
10	A Yes, sir.
17	MR. DICKERSON: Mr. Catanach,
12	I would move admission of Yates Exhibits Six, Seven, Eight
13	and Nine at this time. I have no further questions of Mr.
14	Boneau.
15	MR. CATANACH: Exhibits Six,
16	Seven, Eight and Nine will be admitted as evidence.
17	
18	CROSS EXAMINATION
19	BY MR. CATANACH:
20	Q Mr. Boneau, is geology a factor in de-
21	termining reserves under this in these wells? Is is
22	the sand thickness a factor?
23	A Yes, surely. Yes, it is.
24	Q You don't have any evidence that shows
25	the geologic end of this in your reserve calculations. Do

 you know how much sands that you might encounter at your -- at your location?

A These are -- these are river sands deposited in meandering channels and all of the geologists, geologists who -- is to estimate these things, it's always a guess to estimate. I thought it would be more appropriate in this case to give you a statistical picture of a bigger area rather than trying to guess where this river channel went.

Obviously, you know, if you look in Section 29 on my Exhibit Six, and you see there are three wells with 441, 415, 432 in a north-south direction, there's a pretty good channel there.

In Section 28 the reserves are lower numbers, 176, 54, 142.

The geological question is does the channel in Section 29 bend over by our location or not, you know. I could give you my opinion on that, I could give you a geologist's opinion on that, but it's an opinion. I think that a statistical picture of the numbers is a more, you know, objective way to approach the question and that's why I came with that kind of argument.

MR. DICKERSON: Mr. Catanach, if you're interested in pursuing it, I do have Ms. Leslie Bentz here, who is the geologist for Yates and she is fami-

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1
    liar with this area, if you desire to ask her any ques-
    tions.
3
                                 MR. CATANACH: But you don't
    have any evidence to put on, as far as the geologic data.
5
                                 MR. CATANACH No, sir.
6
                                 MS.
                                      BENTZ: I have a map that
7
    will be included in another case today covering this area.
8
                                 MR. CATANACH: Let's go ahead
9
    and do that, Mr. Dickerson.
10
                                 MR. DICKERSON:
                                                All right.
11
                                 She needs to be sworn, Mr.
12
    Catanach.
13
14
                        (Ms. Bentz sworn.)
15
16
                           LESLIE BENTZ,
17
    being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon her
18
    oath, testified as follows, to-wit:
19
20
                        DIRECT EXAMINATION
21
    BY MR. DICKERSON:
22
                       Ms. Bentz, will you state your name,
             Q
23
    your occupation, and by whom you're employed, please?
24
                              My name is Leslie Bentz.
             Α
                       Yes.
                                                            I'm
25
    employed by Yates Petroleum Corporation of Artesia, New
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1 Mexico, as a petroleum geologist. 2 And you have previously testified as a 3 geologist here many times, have you not? Yes, I have. Α 5 As a geologist are you familiar with the Q 6 geological data available in the subject area? 7 Yes, I am. Α 8 How about if we mark your exhibit Number 9 Ten. Let's mark it on there. 10 Α Would it be possible to keep this exhi-11 bit until after the -- we do our other cases? It's my 12 personal copy. 13 Q We've got other copies, though, and we 14 could --15 Not with all these --Α 16 What I'd like to do is hand this to 17 David so that could see it and you review it for him, if 18 you would. 19 Α Or could we give him another copy and 20 get mine back? Mine has numbers and stuff written on it 21 that are not on --22 MR. DICKERSON: Mr. Catanach, 23 what I would propose, we have not made sufficient copies 24 and so forth to use it, but if you will admit it into 25 evidence, return it to Ms. Bentz for her use in the subse-

1 quent cases, we will then submit copies to you but you 2 might as well go ahead and admit it. 3 CATANACH: That will be fine. 5 Bentz, review the map that we have Q Ms. 6 submitted to Mr Catanach as Yates Exhibit Number Ten, 7 please. 8 Okav. Exhibit Number Ten is a net iso-9 lith map of channel sandstones within the Abo formation. 10 The contour interval used is 10 feet. 11 The circles show the datum points, the 12 circles that are colored in red show the producing Abo 13 wells surrounding this well. 14 I don't have my map right in front of me 15 but it shows that you -- we are expecting somewhere between 16 30 and 40 feet of net sand. 17 Review the other wells in the area as to 18 the net pay that you encountered, if you have that informa-19 tion, Ms. Bentz. 20 In Section 28 the well in the northwest Α 21 guarter encountered 41 feet of sand. The well in the 22 northeast quarter encountered 14 feet of sand. The well in 23 the southeast quarter encountered 31 feet of sand. 24

encounter, or hopefully encounter, somewhere between 30 and

25

suspect at this location that we will

40 feet of sand but as proven by the section to the north and Section 28, in the section to the north you've gone from 38 feet in the southwest quarter to 8 feet in the northwest quarter.

From Section 28 to 27 the well in the southwest -- southeast quarter encountered 31 feet of sand. The well in the diagonal 160 encountered 7 feet of sand and was a dry hole.

We do not have very much control to the south except the well in Section 33 and it did encounter 53 feet of sand.

Q What about the wells in the east half of Section 29 immediately adjoining the spacing unit to the west?

A That is not presented on this map. This is -- the map is made for a different purpose.

Q So with -- comparing your net sand figures, Ms. Bentz, to the cumulative reserves previously calculated by Mr. Boneau, the well in the northeast quarter of Section 28 with 41 net feet of sand, he calculated as containing 176-million feet of reserves, which was below the average well in the area, was it not?

A Yes, it was.

Q And then you anticipate obtaining between 30 and 40 net feet of sand in your projected well,

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1
   which would be roughly comparable to the offset in the
   southwest or the southeast quarter of Section 28.
3
                       Right.
                       Which Mr. Boneau calculated contained
             Q
5
    142-million net feet of --
6
             Α
                       That's correct.
7
             0
                       -- reserves, somewhat more than --
8
    slightly more than half of the average reserves of the
   wells in the entire area.
10
                       That's correct.
11
                                 MR. DICKERSON: Mr. Catanach,
12
    I have no further questions of Ms. Bentz.
13
                                 MR. CATANACH: I have no ques-
14
    tions of the witness.
15
                                 That will be Exhibit Ten?
16
                                 MR. DICKERSON: Yes, sir.
17
                                 MR. CATANACH: Exhibit Ten will
18
    be admitted into evidence.
19
                                 MR. DICKERSON: That concludes
20
    our case, Mr. Examiner.
21
                                 MR.
                                       CATANACH:
                                                   There being
22
    nothing further, this Case 9657 will be taken under advise-
23
    ment.
24
25
                       (Hearing concluded.)
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CERTIFICATE

I, SALLY W. BOYD, C. S. R. DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Transcript of Hearing before the Oil Conservation Division (Commission) was reported by me; that the said transcript is a full, true and correct record of the hearing, prepared by me to the best of my ability.

Sally W. Boyd CSR

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. 9657, heard by me on 1985.

David Latanach, Examiner

Dil Conservation Division