| 1 | STATE OF NEW MEXICO |
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| 2 | ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT |
| 3 | OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION |
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| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | EXAMINER HEARING |
| 8 | |
| 9 | IN THE MATTER OF: |
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| 11 | Application of Meridian Oil, Case 10042 |
| 12 | Inc., for six nonstandard |
| 13 | gas proration units, Rio |
| 14 | Arriba County, New Mexico |
| 15 | · |
| 16 | |
| 17 | TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS |
| 18 | |
| 19 | BEFORE: MICHAEL E. STOGNER, EXAMINER |
| 20 | |
| 21 | STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING |
| 22 | SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO |
| 23 | September 5, 1990 |
| 24 | |
| 25 | ORIGINAL |

CUMBRE COURT REPORTING (505) 984-2244

A P P E A R A N C E S

FOR THE DIVISION:

ROBERT G. STOVALL Attorney at Law

Legal Counsel to the Divison State Land Office Building

Santa Fe, New Mexico

CUMBRE COURT REPORTING (505) 984-2244

| 1 | HEARING EXAMINER: Call next case, No. |
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| 2 | 10,042. |
| 3 | MR. STOVALL: Application of Meridian Oil, |
| 4 | Inc., for six nonstandard gas proration units, Rio |
| 5 | Arriba County, New Mexico. |
| 6 | HEARING EXAMINER: This case was heard by |
| 7 | me at the August 8, 1990, hearing. This case, |
| 8 | however, had to be readvertised because of the wrong |
| 9 | county being listed. |
| 10 | At this time I'll call for additional |
| 11 | appearances or testimony? There being none, this case |
| 12 | will be taken under advisement. |
| 13 | |
| 14 | |
| 15 | |
| 16 | |
| 17 | I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in |
| 18 | the Examiner hearing of Case No. 10042. heard by me on Sept. 5 19 10. |
| 19 | Mahal Estayon, Examiner |
| 20 | Oil Conservation Division |
| 21 | |
| 22 | |
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| 24 | |
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| 2 | STATE OF NEW MEXICO) |
|-----|---|
| 3 |) ss. |
| 4 | COUNTY OF SANTA FE) |
| 5 | I, Deborah O'Bine, Certified Shorthand |
| 6 | Reporter and Notary Public, HEREBY CERTIFY that the |
| 7 | foregoing transcript of proceedings before the Oil |
| 8 | Conservation Division was reported by me; that I |
| 9 | caused my notes to be transcribed under my personal |
| L 0 | supervision; and that the foregoing is a true and |
| 11 | accurate record of the proceedings. |
| L 2 | I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative |
| L 3 | or employee of any of the parties or attorneys |
| L 4 | involved in this matter and that I have no personal |
| L 5 | interest in the final disposition of this matter. |
| 16 | WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL September 14, |
| L 7 | 1989. |
| 18 | Jeborah UBine |
| 19 | DEBORAH O'BINE CSR No. 127 |
| 2 0 | |
| 21 | My commission expires: August 10, 1990 |
| 22 | |
| 23 | |
| 2 4 | |
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

| 1 | STATE OF NEW MEXICO |
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| 2 | ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT |
| 3 | OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | EXAMINER HEARING |
| 7 | |
| 8 | IN THE MATTER OF: |
| 9 | |
| 10 | Application of Meridian Oil, Inc. |
| 11 | for 11 non-standard gas proration Case 10041 |
| 12 | units, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico Case (10042) |
| 13 | |
| 14 | |
| 15 | |
| 16 | TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS |
| 17 | |
| 18 | BEFORE: MICHAEL E. STOGNER, EXAMINER |
| 19 | |
| 20 | |
| 21 | STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING |
| 22 | SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO |
| 23 | August 8, 1990 |
| 24 | |
| 25 | |

| 1 | | АРР | EARANCES |
|----|--------------------|-----|--|
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | FOR THE APPLICANT: | | W. THOMAS KELLAHIN Kellahin, Kellahin & Aubrey |
| 4 | | | Post Office Box 2265 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 |
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- 2 HEARING EXAMINER: We can move on to the next page
- 3 and call next case, No. 10041; is that correct?
- 4 MR. STOVALL: Application of Meridian Oil, Inc. for
- 5 five non-standard gas proration units, San Juan County, New
- 6 Mexico.
- 7 HEARING EXAMINER: Call for appearances.
- 8 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, I am Tom Kellahin of
- 9 Santa Fe law firm of Kellahin, Kellahin & Aubrey appearing on
- 10 behalf of the Applicant, and I have two witnesses to be sworn.
- 11 HEARING EXAMINER: Are there any other appearances
- 12 in this matter? Will the witnesses please stand to be sworn.
- 13 ALAN ALEXANDER,
- 14 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn upon his
- 15 oath, was examined and testified as follows:
- 16 HEARING EXAMINER: Mr. Kellahin.
- MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, Case 10041 as well as
- 18 Case 10042 deal with the same subject matter. The non-standard
- 19 gas proration spacing units that result from irregular size
- 20 sections. And for our convenience in presenting the testimony
- 21 today we'd request that Case 10042 be consolidated for hearing
- 22 purposes.
- 23 HEARING EXAMINER: Are there any other appearances
- 24 besides the Applicant in Case 10042 which is the application of
- 25 Meridian Oil, Incorporated for six non-standard gas proration

- 1 units in San Juan County, New Mexico? There being none these
- 2 cases will be consolidated for purposes of testimony.
- 3 Mr. Kellahin.
- 4 MR. KELLAHIN: Thank you, Mr. Examiner.
- 5 EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. KELLAHIN:
- 7 Q. Mr. Alexander, for the record would you please state
- 8 your name and occupation.
- 9 A. Yes. My name is Alan Alexander. I am employed as a
- 10 senior land adviser by Meridian Oil, Inc. in their Farmington,
- 11 New Mexico, office.
- 12 Q. Have you on prior occasions testified as a petroleum
- 13 landman before the division, Mr. Alexander?
- 14 A. I have.
- 15 Q. Pursuant to your employment as a landman have you
- 16 made a study of the landman issues involved in each of these
- 17 two applications?
- 18 A. I have.
- 19 MR. KELLAHIN: At this time, Mr. Examiner, we tender
- 20 Mr. Alexander as an expert petroleum landman.
- 21 HEARING EXAMINER: Mr. Alexander is so qualified.
- MR. KELLAHIN: For purposes of the presentation,
- 23 Mr. Examiner, we have prepared separate exhibit books for each
- 24 of the two cases. And I'll ask Mr. Alexander to address
- 25 himself first of all to Case 10041. This exhibit book is put

- 1 together with Exhibits 1 through 6, I believe.
- Q. (BY MR. KELLAHIN) Mr. Alexander, let me have you
- 3 turn to that exhibit package and let's have you go through the
- 4 exhibits starting with Exhibit No. 1. Would you identify and
- 5 describe that for us, please.
- 6 A. Yes. Exhibit No. 1 is the application of Meridian
- 7 Oil, Inc. to establish 11 non-standard spacing units which
- 8 would include both cases 10041 and 10042.
- 9 Q. The application then was divided into two separate
- 10 cases, some of the wells were set in one case and others were
- 11 in another case?
- 12 A. Yes, sir, that's correct.
- 13 Q. Identify for us the wells that are the subject -- or
- 14 the spacing units that are the subject of Case 10041.
- 15 A. Those would be the spacing units that are described
- 16 and would be the third page of Exhibit 1 under the style of
- 17 application and would include those non-standard spacing units
- 18 that we were requesting that are located in Township 30 North,
- 19 Range 6 West, and are the first five non-standard spacing units
- 20 listed on that page.
- Q. Let me have you turn to the plat, it's a fold-out
- 22 plat that's attached to the application behind Exhibit No. 1.
- 23 Do you have that, sir?
- 24 A. Yes, sir.
- 25 Q. When we look at this plat there is an area that's

- 1 shaded in gray on the right-hand margin of the display and then
- 2 there is another area with the same type of shading on the
- 3 left-side margin of the display. Describe for us the two
- 4 different areas in terms of the cases that are the subject of
- 5 this application.
- 6 A. The area that is shaded on the east side of the
- 7 display, which is located in Township 30 North, Range 6 West,
- 8 comprises those non-standard spacing units that are the subject
- 9 of Case 0041.
- 10 Q. When we look for the non-standard spacing units for
- 11 Case 0042 how are they shown on this display?
- 12 A. They are the shaded approximate half sections that
- 13 are located on the west side of this land plat.
- Q. What is the basis for your request, Mr. Alexander,
- 15 that these non-standard proration units be approved for
- 16 Basin-Fruitland Coal gas wells?
- 17 A. The basis for your request results from the fact
- 18 that these sections, which are the subject of these cases, are
- 19 irregular, and do not contain 640 acres. Therefore particular
- 20 portions of those sections developed on a one-half section
- 21 basis would not meet the current field rules. And we would
- 22 need the non-standard spacing units approved therefore.
- Q. Have you attempted to include as many non-standard
- 24 spacing units as possible in order to provide a comprehensive
- 25 solution to the irregular-sized sections that occur within

- 1 these two townships?
- 2 A. Yes, sir, that's correct.
- 3 Q. When we look at Case 10041, those five non-standard
- 4 proration units, in what county are we located?
- 5 A. We are located in Rio Arriba County.
- 6 Q. I note the bottom of this display says San Juan, but
- 7 it should be Rio Arriba County?
- 8 A. Yes, sir. I have marked through that hopefully and
- 9 indicated that it is Rio Arriba County.
- 10 O. When we look at the wells for 10042, are those in
- 11 San Juan County or Rio Arriba County?
- 12 A. Those are also located in Rio Arriba County.
- 13 Q. Can you show the Examiner the county line that
- 14 separates San Juan County from Rio Arriba County.
- 15 A. Yes, sir. Basically the county runs -- the county
- 16 line runs north and south, and it runs between townships -- or
- 17 I am sorry, Ranges 7 and 8 until it gets into Township 30
- 18 North, Range 7 West, where it meets the lake and the San Juan
- 19 River, and then it follows a course northeasterly along that
- 20 river.
- 21 Q. So the western boundary of those six non-standard
- 22 proration units for Case 10042, that western boundary then is
- 23 also the western boundary of Rio Arriba County?
- 24 A. That is correct.
- Q. Has Meridian used this same solution in terms of the

- 1 configuration of these non-standard units for any other pools
- 2 or any other production?
- 3 A. Yes, sir, we have. They are the solution for the
- 4 Mesa Verde and Dakota pools in this area.
- 5 Q. Is there any reason from your perspective to
- 6 continue that solution for the Basin-Fruitland Coal gas wells?
- 7 A. Yes, sir, there is. The proposed non-standard
- 8 spacing units do have producing Mesa Verde and/or Dakota wells
- 9 on them where we have already established a line of ownership
- 10 and we have division orders in existence that would -- and in
- 11 keeping with those spacing units we would stay with units that
- 12 are familiar to our partners and working interest owners in
- 13 this immediate area.
- 14 Q. Let's turn now to the information behind Exhibit
- 15 No. 2, in Case 10041, and have you identify and describe that
- 16 display.
- 17 A. Exhibit No. 2 is an offset operators plat which
- 18 shows the units we are requesting. It also indicates who would
- 19 be the offset operator or owner.
- 20 Q. Can you identify for us on that display which of the
- 21 spacing units currently have been drilled with Basin-Fruitland
- 22 Coal gas wells?
- 23 A. Yes. If you will notice on the plat you will see a
- 24 triangle-shaped symbol. As an example in Section 12 of 30
- 25 North, 6 West you will see a triangle symbol up in the

- 1 Northeast Quarter. Those are Fruitland Coal symbols. You will
- 2 also see a symbol in Section 13, and a symbol in Section 36
- 3 indicating that coal wells have been drilled in those sections
- 4 also.
- 5 Q. What was the basis for drilling the wells before the
- 6 approval of the non-standard units?
- 7 A. These wells were drilled prior to the November 1,
- 8 1988, effective date of the order for the San Juan
- 9 Basin-Fruitland Coal pool. And they were drilled under
- 10 statewide rules of that time, except for the well that is
- 11 located down in Section 36, the No. 443 well. And it was
- 12 drilled after those rules.
- And I would like to at this point bring to the
- 14 attention of the trial examiner that in my research for this
- 15 case today I have discovered that we do have an existing order
- 16 for that well. And therefore we will not need that included in
- 17 this particular application.
- 18 Q. Can you give us the order number that references
- 19 what amounts to the east half of Section 36 so that the
- 20 Examiner will have that available.
- 21 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. What is that number?
- 23 A. The order number is R-8868-A.
- Q. And that approves what, sir?
- 25 A. That approves both a non-standard location and a

- 1 non-standard spacing unit for the San Juan 30-6 No. 443 well.
- Q. All right. Let's turn now to the information behind
- 3 Exhibit No. 3 and have you identify and describe that
- 4 information.
- 5 A. The information located behind Exhibit No. 3
- 6 consists of regulatory forms C-102's and C-104's on the
- 7 existing wells that are located on the proposed spacing units
- 8 being the San Juan 30-6 unit No. 438 well, the San Juan 30-6
- 9 unit No. 435 well. And that is all. We have removed the
- 10 No. 443 well since we did not need a non-standard proration for
- 11 unit of proof for it today. It's been approved in the past.
- 12 Q. Within each of the proposed non-standard proration
- 13 units, except with the well that's been approved by this prior
- 14 order, has your company been able to locate locations for each
- 15 of the wells for those spacing units that will place those
- 16 wells at standard locations?
- 17 A. We have. The existing wells are, with the exception
- 18 of the 443 well which we are not talking about today, the
- 19 existing wells are at standard locations. And the wells that
- 20 we have not drilled yet we anticipate will be staked or have
- 21 been staked at standard locations.
- Q. Okay. Let's turn now, Mr. Alexander, to the
- 23 information behind Exhibit No. 4. If you'll identify and
- 24 describe that display for us.
- 25 A. There are two land plats included behind Exhibit

- 1 No. 4. They show the existing Mesa Verde and Dakota units in
- 2 the area of the application on one plat, and they show the
- 3 existing Fruitland Coal spacing units in the area of the
- 4 application on the other plat.
- 5 Q. Have you had any objection from any of the
- 6 offsetting operators to the approval of the proposed
- 7 application in either of these cases?
- 8 A. No, sir, we have not.
- 9 O. Direct your attention now, Mr. Alexander, to the
- 10 documentation shown in terms of exhibits for Case 10042. When
- 11 we turn to that exhibit book would you again identify the
- 12 information behind Exhibit No. 1.
- 13 A. The application that is behind Exhibit 1 is the same
- 14 application that we presented in the prior Case, 0041. And it
- 15 lists in this instance the non-standard spacing units that we
- 16 were requesting that are located in Township 30 North, Range 7
- 17 West and in Township 29 North, Range 7 West.
- Q. Okay. Now turn, sir, to Exhibit No. 2 and identify
- 19 and describe that exhibit.
- 20 A. Exhibit No. 2 is the offset operator owner plat for
- 21 the locations we were requesting in Case No. 0042. And it
- 22 indicates who the offset owner operators are and where they are
- 23 located.
- Q. Again have you received any objection from any of
- 25 those offset owners or operators?

- 1 A. No, sir, we have not.
- 2 Q. The reasons for the proposed non-standard units for
- 3 the wells involved in Case 10042, are they the same reasons
- 4 that you gave us for the wells in Case 10041?
- 5 A. Yes, sir, that's correct.
- 6 Q. And have you supplied the Examiner with maps showing
- 7 the solutions that have been used for other spacing units --
- 8 for these spacing units for other pools or formations?
- 9 A. Yes, sir. They would be included behind Exhibit
- 10 No. 3, showing both Mesa Verde and Dakota and the Fruitland
- 11 Coal existing spacing units.
- Q. When we turn to the information behind Exhibit No. 4
- 13 what are we looking at?
- 14 A. Exhibit No. 4 is a form C-102 and C-104 from State
- of New Mexico that references the San Juan 29-7 unit No. 511
- 16 well, which is a well that is drilled on one of the requested
- 17 non-standard spacing units.
- 18 Q. Have you drilled Fruitland Coal gas wells on any of
- 19 the other non-standard proration units that are the subject of
- 20 Case 10042?
- A. No, sir, we have not.
- Q. Do you have available in each of those spacing units
- 23 standard well locations for wells to be drilled in those units?
- A. Yes, sir, we do.
- 25 Q. And for well 511 which is shown on the Exhibit No. 4

- 1 display, is that well at a standard location?
- 2 A. Yes, sir, I believe that it is.
- 3 Q. In your opinion, Mr. Alexander, will approval of
- 4 this application afford to Meridian and its interest owners in
- 5 these non-standard proration units the opportunity to develop
- 6 these spacing units for Fruitland Coal gas production?
- 7 A. It will.
- 8 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes my examination of
- 9 Mr. Alexander. We would move the introduction of his Exhibits
- 10 1 through 5 in each of the two cases.
- 11 HEARING EXAMINER: Exhibits 1 through 5 in both
- 12 cases.
- MR. KELLAHIN: I am sorry, I misspoke, it's Exhibit
- 14 1 through 4.
- 15 HEARING EXAMINER: Exhibit 1 through 4.
- 16 MR. KELLAHIN: Exhibit 5 is for the engineer to
- 17 discuss.
- 18 HEARING EXAMINER: Okay. Exhibits 1 through 4 in
- 19 both cases 10041 and 10042 will be taken under advisement at
- 20 this time. I am sorry, will be admitted into evidence.
- 21 Mr. Kellahin, I've been looking here at the notice
- 22 and it appears that it's inadequate and it will probably have
- 23 to be readvertised.
- 24 MR. KELLAHIN: We were going to recommend that to
- 25 you, Mr. Examiner. It appears that --

- 1 HEARING EXAMINER: I am jumping ahead of myself
- 2 again. Why don't we go ahead and continue to your next witness
- 3 then.
- 4 MR. KELLAHIN: We'll discuss the corrections after I
- 5 present the engineering witness if that's all right.
- 6 HEARING EXAMINER: Okay. I do have one question for
- 7 this witness.
- 8 EXAMINATION
- 9 BY THE HEARING OFFICER:
- 10 O. The Blanco-Mesa Verde and Basin-Dakota non-standard
- 11 proration units that exist in these areas, were they approved
- on a well-by-well basis, or did they come in and have one of
- 13 the large exceptions done several years ago in which both of
- 14 those pools have both experienced?
- 15 A. I researched that fact and I will provide you with
- 16 the information that I did come up with. It appears that the
- 17 only orders that have been issued in the area of the
- 18 application are issued for the Basin-Dakota pool. And those
- 19 order numbers are R-3246 and Order No. R-2046. Those orders
- 20 did set Dakota non-standard proration units across all of the
- 21 area under the application in the 30 North, 6 West, they
- 22 encompassed the same spacing units we were requesting for the
- 23 coal. In 30 North, 7 West likewise encompasses the same
- 24 spacing units.
- However, when you get down into 29 North, 7 West the

- 1 spacing units that were approved by the orders that I just gave
- 2 you cross-sectionalize and involve more than just what would be
- 3 the west half of those sections. However, those orders were
- 4 not followed when those wells were drilled back in those days.
- 5 And from the research that I was able to do all of the Mesa
- 6 Verde wells and the Dakota wells in 29 and 7 were drilled under
- 7 administrative approval from the Aztec office.
- 8 More than likely because both of these units
- 9 provide in the Unit Agreement that all of the drilling block
- 10 shell comprised of either the east half or the west half, and
- 11 the thinking at that time was that since those orders were
- 12 signed by the regulatory agencies that in itself approved the
- 13 non-standard proration units.
- 14 However, during the development of the Fruitland
- 15 Coal we have decided to come to the Commission, at the
- 16 Commission's request, and get specific orders addressing that
- issue so there is not any confusion.
- 18 HEARING EXAMINER: Okay. Thank you very much,
- 19 Mr. Alexander.
- Mr. Kellahin.
- 21 MR. KELLAHIN: Nothing further with this witness,
- 22 Mr. Examiner.
- DAVID WANTUCK,
- 24 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn upon his
- 25 oath, was examined and testified as follows:

1 EXAMINATION

- 2 BY MR. KELLAHIN:
- 3 Q. Would you please state your name and occupation.
- 4 A. My name is David Wantuck and I am a reservoir
- 5 engineer with Meridian Oil in Farmington, New Mexico.
- 6 Q. Mr. Wantuck, for the court reporter would you spell
- 7 your last name, please.
- 8 A. It's W-a-n-t-u-c-k.
- 9 Q. Mr. Wantuck, have you on prior occasions testified
- 10 before the Division as a petroleum engineer?
- 11 A. No, I have not.
- Q. Would you summarize for the Examiner what has been
- 13 your educational background.
- 14 A. I graduated in 1987 from Texas Tech University with
- a bachelor of science in petroleum engineering.
- 16 Q. Subsequent to graduation would you summarize your
- 17 employment as a petroleum engineer.
- 18 A. I've worked for Meridian Oil since graduation for
- 19 two and a half years in reservoir engineering department.
- 20 Q. As part of your duties as an engineer for your
- 21 company are you familiar with the engineering aspects of the
- 22 coal gas development that's taking place by your company in the
- 23 San Juan Basin?
- 24 A. Yes, I am.
- Q. Have you made a specific study of the 11

- 1 non-standard proration units that are the subject of these two
- 2 cases?
- 3 A. Yes, I have.
- 4 MR. KELLAHIN: We tender Mr. Wantuck as an expert
- 5 petroleum engineer.
- 6 HEARING EXAMINER: Mr. Wantuck is so qualified.
- 7 Q. (BY MR. KELLAHIN) Let me direct your attention,
- 8 sir, to exhibit book for 10041 and have you turn to the last
- 9 display found behind Exhibit No. 5. Is this the same display
- 10 that's also included as Exhibit No. 5 in the the other case
- 11 book, 10042?
- 12 A. No, it is not.
- 13 Q. Let me have you take each of the two maps then, one
- 14 for each case. When we look at these displays what are we
- 15 looking at?
- 16 A. We are looking at a Fruitland Coal net isopach in
- 17 the areas that we are talking about. For Case No. 10041 there
- is one map for Township 30 North, 6 West. And for Case No.
- 19 10042 there is actually two maps. One covering Township 30
- 20 North, 7 West and one covering Township 29 North, 7 West.
- 21 Q. In examining the isopachs do you as an engineer see
- 22 any reason that would preclude you from recommending to the
- 23 Examiner that he approve each of these 11 non-standard
- 24 proration units?
- A. No, I do not.

- 1 Q. Do you see any significant differences in the
- 2 thickness of the coal within each of the non-standard proration
- 3 units that might cause you to reconfigure the acreage within
- 4 any non-standard proration unit to some other solution?
- 5 A. No, I do not. They are fairly uniform thicknesses.
- 6 Q. Is Mr. Alexander correct that for each of the
- 7 non-standard proration units there appears to be a standard
- 8 location for the coal gas well that's either been drilled or
- 9 available to be drilled?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Do you find any problem in terms of locating a well
- 12 within the non-standard proration unit from which to give you a
- 13 location to effectively and efficiently develop that
- 14 non-standard proration unit?
- 15 A. No, I don't see a problem.
- 16 Q. Do you see any other combination as an engineer of a
- 17 way you would restructure the configured solution for this
- 18 non-standard acreage problem?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Do you see any potential for the violation of
- 21 correlative rights of any of the offsetting interest owners if
- 22 the Examiner approves these non-standard proration units?
- 23 A. No. sir.
- 24 Q. In the absence of approval of the non-standard
- 25 proration units do you see any way for these non-standard units

- 1 to have their acreage participate in coal gas production?
- 2 A. Could you restate the question.
- 3 Q. Yeah. If the non-standard units are not approved do
- 4 we have any other solution for putting that acreage into a
- 5 producing status with coal gas wells?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. This looks to be the best solution?
- 8 A. Yes, sir, it does.
- 9 Q. There appears to be enough acreage to support the
- 10 drilling of a well?
- 11 A. Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. Do you see any inconsistency in terms of your plans
- of development for coal gas wells if these are approved?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. It doesn't disrupt or disturb the plan of
- 16 development for coal gas production?
- 17 A. No, it does not.
- 18 Q. Is the coal thickness simply one of the criteria
- 19 that you as a reservoir engineer look at in analyzing coal
- 20 locations and putting together spacing units for coal gas
- 21 wells?
- 22 A. It's just one of the criteria. We look at gas
- 23 content, we look at lineaments.
- 24 Q. In terms of taking that entire package of
- 25 information do you see anything that's available to you

- 1 currently that causes you to believe that the Examiner should
- 2 not approve any of these non-standard proration units?
- 3 A. No, I don't.
- 4 MR. KELLAHIN: That concludes my examination of
- 5 Mr. Wantuck.
- 6 We would move the introduction of Exhibit No. 5 in
- 7 each of these two cases.
- 8 HEARING EXAMINER: Exhibit No. 5 in both cases will
- 9 be admitted into evidence at this time.
- I have no questions of Mr. Wantuck. Are there any
- 11 other questions of this witness?
- MR. KELLAHIN: No, sir.
- 13 HEARING EXAMINER: If not he may be excused.
- Mr. Kellahin.
- MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, we would at this time
- 16 also move the introduction of Exhibit 6 in each of the two
- 17 cases, which is simply our certificate of notification to the
- 18 offsetting operators.
- 19 They represent notifications taken from
- 20 Mr. Alexander's list from the exhibit book, I believe it's
- 21 Exhibit No. -- I believe it's Exhibit No. 2 in each instance,
- 22 shows his tabulation of the offsetting operators.
- 23 HEARING EXAMINER: I do have one question of
- 24 Mr. Alexander.
- Mr. Alexander, pursuant to the pool rules this

- 1 authorization can be done administratively. Why didn't you not
- 2 do them on a case-by-case basis instead of coming in here today
- 3 and getting all of them like this. Is there an advantage over
- 4 that?
- 5 MR. ALEXANDER: We thought it would probably make a
- 6 more concise package for the Examiner to look at and cover it
- 7 with any questions that you might have. We didn't see any
- 8 preference one way or the other unless you had a preference to
- 9 do them one way or the other.
- 10 HEARING EXAMINER: I have no questions for either
- 11 witness at this time.
- Does anybody else have anything further?
- 13 MR. KELLAHIN: Mr. Examiner, we would like to have
- 14 your assistance in correcting and readvertising the docket call
- 15 for each of these two cases. It appears from
- 16 Mr. Alexander's research that the county should be Rio Arriba
- 17 County for each of the two cases, and not San Juan County. And
- 18 perhaps that's enough to cause it to be readvertised. I am not
- 19 certain.
- 20 HEARING EXAMINER: Yes, it should be readvertised
- 21 just for the publication purpose pursuant to the notification
- 22 rules and the general rule. So therefore these cases shall be
- 23 continued until examiner hearing scheduled for September 5. I
- 24 do not know of any reason why there needs to be any witnesses
- 25 at that time.

| 1 | MR. KELLAHIN: Thank you. |
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| 2 | There is one additional typo. It appears that in |
| 3 | Case 10042 the reference number to the spacing case should be |
| 4 | 8768 and not 8789. I think anybody looking would have seen |
| 5 | that that was not the right reference. And I can't imagine |
| 6 | anybody that would have not come because of that. But I think |
| 7 | that wrong county may be enough reason to have it readvertised. |
| 8 | So with your concurrence we would request that they be |
| 9 | readvertised and continued for the I guess it would be |
| 10 | September 5. |
| 11 | HEARING EXAMINER: Yes, sir. |
| 12 | MR. KELLAHIN: That's all we have, Mr. Examiner. |
| 13 | HEARING EXAMINER: Thank you, Mr. Kellahin. |
| 14 | Does anybody else have anything further in either of |
| 15 | these cases? Okay. |
| 16 | * * * * |
| 17 | |
| 18 | |
| 19 | I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete report of the processings in |
| 20 | the Examiner hearing of Case Nos 10841 and 10841 |
| 21 | heard by me on 8 fuguet 1990. |
| 22 | Oil Conservation Division |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | |

| 1 | CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | STATE OF NEW MEXICO)) ss. | | | |
| 4 | COUNTY OF SANTA FE) | | | |
| 5 | | | | |
| 6 | I, Diane M. Winter, Certified Shorthand Reporter and | | | |
| 7 | Notary Public, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing transcript of | | | |
| 8 | proceedings before the Oil Conservation Division was reported | | | |
| 9 | by me; that I caused my notes to be transcribed under my | | | |
| 10 | personal supervision; and that the foregoing is a true and | | | |
| 11 | accurate record of the proceedings. | | | |
| 12 | I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative or | | | |
| 13 | employee of any of the parties or attorneys involved in this | | | |
| 14 | matter and that I have no personal interest in the final | | | |
| 15 | disposition of this matter. | | | |
| 16 | WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL August 20, 1990. | | | |
| 17 | Ω γ γ γ γ | | | |
| 18 | Deare M. Winter | | | |
| 19 | DIANE M. WINTER CSR No. 414 | | | |
| 20 | CDIC TAO • = T. I. | | | |
| 21 | My commission expires: December 21, 1993 | | | |
| 22 | my Commitation expires. December 21, 1999 | | | |
| 23 | OFFICIAL SEAL | | | |
| 24 | | | | |
| 25 | DIANE M. WINTER NOTARY PUBLIC — STATE OF NEW MEXICO | | | |
| | My Commission Expires 12-21-93 | | | |

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