

Dockets Nos. 31-90 and 32-90 are tentatively set for October 31, 1990 and November 14, 1990. Applications for hearing must be filed at least 22 days in advance of hearing date.

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 17, 1990

8:15 A.M. - OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION CONFERENCE ROOM,
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

The following cases will be heard before Michael E. Stogner, Examiner, or David R. Catanach or Jim Morrow, Alternate Examiners:

- ALLOWABLE:
- (1) Consideration of the allowable production of gas for November, 1990, from fourteen prorated gas pools in Lea, Eddy, and Chaves Counties, New Mexico.
 - (2) Consideration of the allowable production of gas for November, 1990, from four prorated gas pools in San Juan, Rio Arriba, and Sandoval Counties, New Mexico.

CASE 10103: (Readvertised)

Application of Sage Energy Company for a waterflood project, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a waterflood project on its proposed North Vacuum (Abo) North Unit located in all or portions of Sections 35 and 36, Township 16 South, Range 34 East and Sections 1, 2, and 12, Township 17 South, Range 34 East, by the injection of water into the North Vacuum-Abo Pool through 19 certain wells to be converted as injection wells. Said area is located approximately 4 miles north by west of Buckeye, New Mexico.

CASE 10114: Application of Meridian Oil, Inc. for an unorthodox coal gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for an unorthodox coal gas well location for its Frost Well No. 500 to be located 2510 feet from the North line and 790 feet from the East line (Unit H) of Section 26, Township 27 North, Range 10 West, the N/2 of Section 26 to be dedicated to the subject well, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool. Said location is within the Angel Peak Recreation Area.

CASE 10066: (Continued from October 3, 1990, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Matador Petroleum Corporation for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Morrow formation or to a depth of 13,600 feet, whichever is deeper, underlying the following described acreage in Section 5, Township 20 South, Range 34 East, and in the following manner: Lots 3 and 4, the S/2 NW/4, and SW/4 (W/2 equivalent) to form a standard 320-acre, more or less, gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 320-acre spacing within said vertical extent (which presently includes but is not necessarily limited to the Undesignated Quail Ridge-Morrow Gas Pool); Lots 3 and 4 and the S/2 NW/4 (NW/4 equivalent) to form a standard 160-acre, more or less, gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 160-acre spacing within said vertical extent; and the SW/4 NW/4 to form a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 40-acre spacing within said vertical extent (which presently includes but is not necessarily limited to the Undesignated South Quail Ridge-Bone Spring Pool). Said units are to be dedicated to a single well to be drilled at a standard 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit underlies the area underneath Mile Marker No. 77 on U.S. Highway 62/180.

CASE 10105: (Continued from October 3, 1990, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Anadarko Petroleum Corporation for compulsory pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the top of the Wolfcamp formation to the base of the Pennsylvanian formation, or to a depth of 11,500 feet, whichever is deeper, underlying the W/2 of Section 28, Township 17 South, Range 30 East, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 320 acres within said vertical extent, which presently includes but is not necessarily limited to the Undesignated Loco Hills-Atoka Gas Pool, Undesignated Cedar Lake-Morrow Gas Pool, Undesignated Loco Hills-Morrow Gas Pool, and Undesignated South Loco Hills-Morrow Gas Pool. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is approximately 1 mile south of Loco Hills, New Mexico.

CASE 10115: Application of Marathon Oil Company for the assignment of a special depth bracket oil allowable, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks a special depth bracket oil allowable, pursuant to General Rule 505(d), of 460 barrels of oil per day for the Tamano-Bone Spring Pool in Township 18 South, Range 31 East, which is located approximately 8 miles southwest by south of Maljamar, New Mexico.

CASE 10116: Application of BTA Oil Producers for directional drilling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authorization to directionally drill its proposed Pardue "C", 8808 JV-P Well No. 1-Y from a surface location 611 feet from the South line and 1504 feet from the West line (Unit N) of Section 11, Township 23 South, Range 28 East, to a standard bottomhole oil well location in the Undesignated East Loving-Delaware Pool. Said well is to be dedicated to the 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit comprising the SE/4 SW/4 of said Section 11, which is located approximately 1/4 mile southwest of the Harroun Dam.

CASE 10117: Application of Mesa Operating Limited Partnership for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying Lots 1 through 5, the S/2 NE/4, and SE/4 NW/4 (N/2 equivalent) of Section 6, Township 29 North, Range 11 West, forming a standard 288.18-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, said unit to be dedicated to its FC Fed. Com Well No. 19 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the NE/4 equivalent of said Section 6. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 1/2 mile north of the City of Bloomfield Nature Park.

- CASE 10118: Application of Mesa Operating Limited Partnership for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying Lots 1 and 2, the NE/4, and the N/2 SE/4 (E/2 equivalent) of Section 32, Township 29 North, Range 11 West, forming a standard 314.84-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, said unit to be dedicated to its FC Fed. Com Well No. 43 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the NE/4 of Section 32. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 2.5 miles southwest by south of Bloomfield, New Mexico.
- CASE 10119: Application of Mesa Operating Limited Partnership for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying Lots 1 through 4 and the N/2 S/2 (S/2 equivalent) of Section 36, Township 29 North, Range 11 West, forming a standard 314.43-acre, more or less, gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, said unit to be dedicated to its FC State Com Well No. 23 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the SW/4 equivalent of said Section 36. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 3 miles southeast of Bloomfield, New Mexico.
- CASE 10120: Application of Mesa Operating Limited Partnership for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the S/2 of Section 5, Township 29 North, Range 12 West, forming a standard acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, said unit to be dedicated to its FC Fed Com Well No. 41 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the SW/4 of said Section 5. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 2.5 miles south of the San Juan Country Club.
- CASE 10121: Application of Mesa Operating Limited Partnership for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the N/2 of Section 16, Township 29 North, Range 14 West, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, said unit to be dedicated to its FC State Com Well No. 35 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the NE/4 of said Section 16. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 2.5 miles east of Kirtland, New Mexico.
- CASE 10122: Application of Mesa Operating Limited Partnership for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the E/2 of Section 32, Township 30 North, Range 10 West, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, said unit to be dedicated to its FC State Com Well No. 29 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the NE/4 of said Section 32. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 5 miles northwest of Blanco, New Mexico.
- CASE 10123: Application of Mesa Operating Limited Partnership for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the E/2 of Section 36, Township 30 North, Range 11 West, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, said unit to be dedicated to its FC State Com Well No. 31 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the NE/4 of said Section 36. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 5 miles southeast by south of Aztec, New Mexico.
- CASE 10124: Application of Mesa Operating Limited Partnership for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the S/2 of Section 36, Township 30 North, Range 12 West, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, said unit to be dedicated to its FC State Com Well No. 24 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the SW/4 of said Section 36. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 2.75 miles southeast of Flora Vista, New Mexico.
- CASE 10125: Application of Mesa Operating Limited Partnership for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying Lots 1 through 5, the S/2 SW/4, and NE/4 SE/4 (S/2 equivalent) of Section 32, Township 31 North, Range 9 West, forming a standard 319.05-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, said unit to be dedicated to its FC Fed. Com Well No. 42 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location in the SW/4 equivalent of said Section 32. 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 10.5 miles east by north of Aztec, New Mexico.

CASE 10136: Application of Marbob Energy Corporation for an unorthodox oil well location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval of an unorthodox oil well location for its Holder "CB" Well No. 3 to be drilled 1295 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the West line (Unit D) of Section 17, Township 17 South, Range 30 East, Grayburg Jackson Pool. Said well is to be simultaneously dedicated, along with the Holder "CB" NCT-A Federal Well No. 2 located at a standard oil well location 660 feet from the North and West lines of said Section 17, to the existing 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit comprising the NW/4 NW/4 of said Section 17, which is located approximately 1.5 miles north-northwest of Loco Hills, New Mexico.

CASE 10137: (This case will be continued to November 14th.)

Application of C. W. Trainer for directional drilling and an unorthodox gas well location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to directionally drill from its existing Harris Federal Well No. 1 located 660 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the East line (Unit O) of Section 5, Township 22 South, Range 34 East, in such a manner as to bottom the well in the Undesignated Grama Ridge-Morrow Gas Pool at a target point that is no closer to the South and East lines (Unit P) of said Section 5 than 330 feet, which is an unorthodox gas well location for said pool. Lots 1 and 2, S/2 NE/4, and SE/4 (E/2 equivalent) of said Section 5 is to be dedicated to said well forming a 321.58-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool. Said unit is located approximately 19 miles west by south of Eunice, New Mexico.

CASE 10116: (Continued from October 17, 1990, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of BTA Oil Producers for directional drilling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authorization to directionally drill its proposed Pardue "C", 8808 JV-P Well No. 1-Y from a surface location 611 feet from the South line and 1504 feet from the West line (Unit N) of Section 11, Township 23 South, Range 28 East, to a standard bottomhole oil well location in the Undesignated East Loving-Delaware Pool. Said well is to be dedicated to the 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit comprising the SE/4 SW/4 of said Section 11, which is located approximately 1/4 mile southwest of the Harroun Dam.

CASE 10138: Application of Arco Oil & Gas Company for amendment of the special rules and regulations for the Empire-Abo Pressure Maintenance Project, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the amendment of the special rules and regulations for the Empire-Abo Pressure Maintenance Project Area, as promulgated by Division Orders No. R-4549 through R-4549-F, to permit the withdrawal of extraneous gas during winter months and the make-up of amounts withdrawn by injection of additional gas during the succeeding months. Said Pressure Maintenance Project Area is located in Townships 17 and 18 South, Ranges 27, 28 and 29 East.

CASE 10139: Application of Pacific Enterprises Oil Company (USA) for compulsory pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from 5000 feet below the surface to the top of the Mississippian Chester Limestone formation or to a depth of 11,200 feet, whichever is deeper, underlying the N/2 of Section 12, Township 17 South, Range 29 East, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 320-acre spacing which presently includes but is not necessarily limited to the Undesignated Grayburg-Morrow Gas Pool, said unit 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 3.5 miles northwest of Loco Hills, New Mexico.

CASE 10115: (Continued from October 17, 1990, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Marathon Oil Company for the assignment of a special depth bracket oil allowable, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks a special depth bracket oil allowable, pursuant to General Rule 505(d), of 460 barrels of oil per day for the Tamano-Bone Spring Pool in Township 18 South, Range 31 East, which is located approximately 8 miles southwest by south of Maljamar, New Mexico.

CASE 10140: Application of OXY USA, Inc. for a waterflood project, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a waterflood project on its State "BN" Lease underlying the SW/4 of Section 14, Township 10 South, Range 32 East, by the injection of water into the Mescalero-San Andres Pool, through a well to be drilled 1410 feet from the South line and 1405 feet from the West line (Unit K) of said Section 14. Said lease is located approximately 5 miles northeast of Caprock, New Mexico.

CASE 10066: (Continued from October 17, 1990, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Matador Petroleum Corporation for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Morrow formation or to a depth of 13,600 feet, whichever is deeper, underlying the following described acreage in Section 5, Township 20 South, Range 34 East, and in the following manner: Lots 3 and 4, the S/2 NW/4, and SW/4 (W/2 equivalent) to form a standard 320-acre, more or less, gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 320-acre spacing within said vertical extent (which presently includes but is not necessarily limited to the Undesignated Quail Ridge-Morrow Gas Pool); Lots 3 and 4 and the S/2 NW/4 (NW/4 equivalent) to form a standard 160-acre, more or less, gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 160-acre spacing within said vertical extent; and the SW/4 NW/4 to form a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 40-acre spacing within said vertical extent (which presently includes but is not necessarily limited to the Undesignated South Quail Ridge-Bone Spring Pool). Said units are to be dedicated to a single well to be drilled at a standard 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 a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit underlies the area underneath Mile Marker No. 77 on U.S. Highway 62/180.

CASE 10114: (Continued from October 17, 1990, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Meridian Oil, Inc. for an unorthodox coal gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for an unorthodox coal gas well location for its Frost Well No. 500 to be located 2510 feet from the North line and 790 feet from the East line (Unit H) of Section 26, Township 27 North, Range 10 West, the N/2 of Section 26 to be dedicated to the subject well, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool. Said location is within the Angel Peak Recreation Area.

CASE 10102: (Readvertised)

Application of Sage Energy Company for statutory unitization, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order unitizing, for the purpose of establishing a secondary recovery project, all mineral interests in the North Vacuum-Abo Pool, underlying 1763 acres, more or less, of State land comprising all or portions of Sections 35 and 36, Township 16 South, Range 34 East. Said Unit is to be designated the North Vacuum (Abo) North Unit. Among the matters to be considered at the hearing will be the necessity of unit operations; the designation of a unit operator, the determination of horizontal and vertical limits of the unit area; the determination of the fair, reasonable, and equitable allocation of production tracts in the unit area; the determination of the fair, reasonable, and equitable allocation of production and costs of production, including capital investment, to each of the various tracts in the unit area; the determination of credits and charges to be made among the various owners in the unit area for their investment in wells and equipment; and such other matters as may be necessary and appropriate for carrying on efficient unit operations, including but not limited to, unit voting procedures, selection, removal or substitution of unit operator, and time of commencement and termination of unit operations. Applicant also requests that any such order issued in this case include a provision for carrying any non-consenting working interest owner within the unit area upon such terms and conditions to be determined by the Division as just and reasonable. Said Unit Area is located approximately 4 miles north by west of Buckeye, New Mexico.

CASE 10103: (Readvertised) (Continued from October 17, 1990, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Sage Energy Company for a waterflood project, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a waterflood project on its proposed North Vacuum (Abo) North Unit located in all or portions of Sections 35 and 36, Township 16 South, Range 34 East and Sections 1, 2, and 12, Township 17 South, Range 34 East, by the injection of water into the North Vacuum-Abo Pool through 19 certain wells to be converted as injection wells. Said area is located approximately 4 miles north by west of Buckeye, New Mexico.

CASE 10099: (Readvertised) (Continued from October 17, 1990, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Samuel Gary Jr. and Associates, Inc. for a horizontal directional drilling pilot project and special operating rules therefor, Sandoval County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a horizontal directional drilling pilot project in the W/2 of Section 11, Township 20 North, Range 3 West, forming a standard 320-acre oil spacing and proration unit in the Rio Puerco-Mancos Oil Pool. The applicant proposes to commence a well to be located on the surface 450 feet from the South line and 1975 feet from the West line (Unit N) of said Section 11, drill vertically and kick-off in a northwesterly direction, build angle to approximately 90 degrees, and drill horizontally in the Mancos formation. Applicant further requests that special operating provisions be established for said project area including the designation of a prescribed area limiting the horizontal extent of said wellbore such that it can be no closer than 660 feet to the outer boundary of said spacing unit. Said project area is located approximately 6.5 miles south of New Mexico State Highway No. 44 at Mile Post 76.

CASE 10127: (Readvertised)

Application of Samuel Gary Jr. & Associates, Inc. for a non-standard oil proration unit, horizontal directional drilling project, and special operating rules therefor, Sandoval County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a horizontal directional drilling pilot project in Lots 2 and 3, S/2 NW/4, and SW/4 (W/2 equivalent) of Section 6, Township 20 North, Range 2 West, forming a non-standard 297.79-acre oil spacing and proration unit in the Rio Puerco-Mancos Oil Pool. The applicant proposes to commence its SGA Johnson "6" Well No. 14 to be located on the surface 500 feet from the South line and 2100 feet from the West line (Unit N) of said Section 6, drill vertically and kick-off in a northwesterly direction, build angle to approximately 90 degrees, and drill horizontally in the Mancos formation. Applicant further requests that special operating provisions be established for said project area including the designation of a prescribed area limiting the horizontal extent of said wellbore such that it can be no closer than 660 feet to the outer boundary of said spacing unit. Said project area is located approximately 7.5 miles west by south of Cuba, New Mexico.

CASE 10128: (Readvertised)

Application of Samuel Gary Jr. and Associates, Inc. for a horizontal directional drilling project and special operating rules therefor, Sandoval County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a horizontal directional drilling pilot project in the W/2 of Section 12, Township 20 North, Range 3 West, forming a standard 320-acre oil spacing and proration unit in the Rio Puerco-Mancos Oil Pool. The applicant proposes to commence its SGA San Isidro "12" Well No. 16 to be located on the surface 1200 feet from the South line and 1800 feet from the West line (Unit N) of said Section 12, drill vertically and kick-off in a northwesterly direction, build angle to approximately 90 degrees, and drill horizontally in the Mancos formation. Applicant further requests that special operating provisions be established for said project area including the designation of a prescribed area limiting the horizontal extent of said wellbore such that it can be no closer than 660 feet to the outer boundary of said spacing unit. Said project area is located approximately 9 miles west-southwest of Cuba, New Mexico.