

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
State Land Office Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico

14 August 1985

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Southland Royalty Com- CASE
pany for pool creation, special 8676
pool rules, and the contraction of
this horizontal limits of the Scharb-
Wolfcamp Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

BEFORE: Michael E. Stogner, Examiner

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

A P P E A R A N C E S

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Division:

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1
2 MR. STOGNER: Call next Case
3 8676.

4 MR. TAYLOR: The application of
5 Southland Royalty Company for pool creation, special pool
6 rules, and the contraction of the horizontal limits of the
7 Scharb Wolfcamp Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

8 MR. CARR: May it please the
9 Examiner, my name is William F. Carr with the law firm of
10 Campbell and Black, P. A., of Santa Fe, appearing on behalf
11 of Southland Royalty Company.

12 I have three witnesses.

13 MR. STOGNER: Are there any
14 other appearances?

15 Will the witnesses please stand
16 and be sworn?

17
18 (Witnesses sworn.)
19

20 JULIE J. STEVENS,
21 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon her
22 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:
23
24
25

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. CARR:

Q Would you please state your name and place of residence?

A Julie Stevens, Midland, Texas.

Q Miss Stevens, by whom are you employed and in what capacity?

A Southland Royalty, as a petroleum landman.

Q Have you previously testified before this Division?

A No, I have not.

Q Would you review your educational background and work experience for Mr. Stogner?

A Following graduation from the University of Texas with a BBA in petroleum land management, I took a position as a landman with Getty Oil Company.

After three years with Getty I took a position as a landman with Southland Royalty Company, where I've been employed for three and a half years.

Q Are you familiar with the application filed in this case on behalf of Southland?

A Yes, I am.

Q Are you familiar with the subject area?

1 A Yes, I am.

2 MR. CARR: Are the witness'
3 qualifications acceptable?

4 MR. STOGNER: When were you
5 with Getty?

6 A 1971 until 1982.

7 MR. STOGNER: In what office?

8 A I was initially in New Orleans and now
9 I've transferred to Midland, Texas.

10 MR. STOGNER: When were you in
11 Midland?

12 A I've been in Midland since 1981.

13 MR. STOGNER: She is so quali-
14 fied.

15 Q Miss Stevens, could you briefly state
16 what Southland seeks in this hearing today?

17 A Southland seeks pool creation and special
18 pool rules, including 80-acre spacing in the Scharb Wolfcamp
19 Area, Lea County, New Mexico.

20 There have been some questions raised
21 about the need for contraction of the Scharb Wolfcamp Pool
22 as stated on the docket. This is to be further addressed by
23 a geological witness.

24 Q Would you please refer to what has been
25 marked for identification as Southland Royalty Company Exhi-

1 bit Number One, identify this, and review the information
2 contained thereon?

3 A All right. The area covered by this plat
4 in outlined hachured marks is the subject of this
5 application.

6 The plat has been color coded to show
7 Southland's acreage position.

8 The arrows, you can see, identify
9 Southland's leasehold acreage. The red identifies the
10 acreage that we have controlled through farm-ins.

11 We've also completed, drilling, and
12 proposed wells within a proposed pool boundary.

13 Starting from the top, the People's State
14 32 No. 2 Well is a currently drilling well.

15 The People's State 33 No. 1 Well is a
16 recently completed well.

17 The People's State 32 No. 1 Well is also
18 recently completed.

19 The Forrest "B" Lea State is a proposed
20 well.

21 And the Smith 5 No. 4 is a proposed to
22 drill deeper well.

23 Q And these are all wells that are either
24 drilled into or projected to the Wolfcamp formation.

25 A That's right.

1 Q Are there any special rules in effect for
2 this portion of the Wolfcamp formation?

3 A No, there are not.

4 Q And so what would be the current spacing
5 requirements in the area?

6 A Statewide 40 acres.

7 Q Did you prepare Exhibit Number One?

8 A Yes, I did.

9 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr.
10 Stogner, we would offer into evidence Southland Royalty
11 Company Exhibit Number One.

12 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits One will
13 be admitted into evidence.

14 MR. CARR: That concludes my
15 examination of Miss Stevens.

16 MR. STOGNER: I have no
17 questions of Miss Stevens at this time.

18 MR. CARR: At this time we call
19 Mr. James.

20

21 A. DARRYL JAMES,
22 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his
23 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

24

25

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. CARR:

Q Would you state your full name, please?

A Arthur Darryl James.

Q Mr. James, where do you reside?

A Midland, Texas.

Q And by whom are you employed?

A Southland Royalty Company.

Q What is your position with Southland?

A I'm District Exploration Manager.

Q Have you previously testified before this Commission or one of its examiners and had your credentials accepted and made a matter of record?

A Yes, I have.

Q And how were you qualified at that time?

A I was qualified as a geological witness.

Q Are you familiar with the application filed in this case on behalf of Southland Royalty Company?

A Yes, I am.

Q Are you familiar with the subject area?

A Yes, I am.

Q Have you made a study of the Wolfcamp formation in this area?

A Yes, I have.

1 MR. CARR: Are the witness'
2 qualifications acceptable?

3 MR. STOGNER: They are.

4 Q Mr. James, have you prepared certain
5 exhibits for indtroduction in this case?

6 A I have.

7 Q Would you refer to what has been marked
8 for identification as Southland Exhibit Number Two, identify
9 this, and review it for Mr. Stogner?

10 A Yes. Exhibit Number Two is an index map
11 of southeastern New Mexico. Note the state lines of New
12 Mexico and Texas for geographical orientation.

13 Geological provinces, the Central Basin
14 Platform, the Delaware Basin, the Northwest Shelf, and the
15 Tatum Basin are shown.

16 I'll be presenting maps of the area
17 highlighted in pink. With these maps I'll show the probably
18 limits and trapping mechanism of a new pool, which we
19 propose as the Scharb Lower Wolfcamp.

20 The mapped area is on the Northwest
21 Shelfl, close to the edge of the Central Basin Platform, as
22 shown. It is about 18 miles west of Hobbs, New Mexico.

23 Q Would you now go to Exhibit Three?

24 A Exhibit Three is a structure map
25 contoured on the base of a lower Wolfcamp chert zone. This

1 chert zone is present throughout the mapped area and over-
2 lies the new pool, the Scharb Lower Wolfcamp.

3 The chert zone is approximately 11,200
4 feet below the surface in this area. Later I'll point out
5 this mapping point on cross sections.

6 The contour interval of this map is 100
7 feet. The scale on this map, and all the maps I'll present,
8 are one inch equals 2000 feet.

9 Only 20 wells of the more than 200 wells
10 in the mapped area penetrate the Lower Wolfcamp chert zone.
11 All the deep control was utilized in constructing this map
12 and later maps.

13 Regional dip is to the southwest. Note
14 that the dip rate decreases from northeast to southwest.
15 The most -- the northeastern part of the map shows a 45 de-
16 gree slope dipping off a Lower Wolfcamp Shelf Edge, which is
17 farther to the northeast off the mapped area.

18 In the southwestern part of the map the
19 dip rate decreases to approximately 2 degrees as the deeper
20 plain of the basin is approached.

21 The structure map implies that the trap-
22 ping mechanism for the Lower Wolfcamp in this area is purely
23 stratigraphic. Structure plays no role in the trapping
24 mechanism. As you can see, there are no structural closures
25 or structural noses on this map.

1 Later exhibits will define the reservoir
2 limits of the Scharb Lower Wolfcamp.

3 Southland's acreage position is shaded on
4 this map and the subsequent maps. Our proposed proration
5 units for our two producing wells, our drilling well, and
6 our planned deepending well are shown as stippled rectangular
7 boxes.

8 Q Would you now go to Southland Exhibit
9 Number Four, your net dolomite Isopach, and review this for
10 the examiner?

11 A Yes. This is a net dolomite Isopach of
12 the Lower Wolfcamp pay zone. The contour interval is 20
13 feet. This map shows a north/south trending dolomite thick.
14 This thick is composed of two dolomite facies: A brown to
15 tan dolomite conglomerate that is not porous or permeable in
16 this area, and a white dolomite conglomerate with sucrosic
17 and vugular porosity, which is often fractured.

18 We have interpreted these sediments to be
19 turbidites, which were deposited in a submarine channel with
20 a deep marine environment from sources to the north.

21 The brown dolomite was deposited first
22 and the white dolomite was deposited on top of it in a cut-
23 and-fill relationship.

24 This map shows the presence and thickness
25 of both dolomite facies but does not define reservoir lim-

1 its. The next exhibit does.

2 Q Will you go to that exhibit, please?
3 That's Exhibit Number Five.

4 A Exhibit Five is actually two maps, a
5 porosity Isopach map of the pay zone, and a map showing
6 facies below the Lower Wolfcamp chert zone.

7 ✓ The white contoured area is the net ef-
8 fective porosity Isopach map of the Lower Wolfcamp pay zone.
9 This facies, as I mentioned earlier, is the white, highly
10 fractured, sucrosic dolomite. The Scharb Lower Wolfcamp Re-
11 servoir is restricted to this facies.

12 The colored areas show facies distribu-
13 tions. The green area is a basin facies which consists of
14 dark limestone and shale. ✓ The brown area shows the distri-
15 bution of the brown to tan dolomite. The brown dolomite has
16 less than 3 percent porosity and is not a reservoir rock.

17 The distribution of these facies is
18 easier to see and understand by looking at the diagrammatic,
19 block diagram in the lower lefthand corner of the exhibit.

20 This block diagram was sliced along line
21 A/B, which is shown on the map as a red line. Along the A/B
22 face of the block diagram you can see the turbidite channel
23 and the presence of the white, detrital dolomite, which was
24 deposited after the brown dolomite.

25 The Lower Wolfcamp discovery well is the

discovery well

14

1 Southland Royalty Company People's State "32" No. 1. This
2 well is located in the southeast quarter of the southeast
3 quarter of Section 32 in Township 18 South, Range 39 East.
4 The well was completed on March 24th, 1985, for initial po-
5 tential flow of about 530 barrels of oil per day.

6 Since then this well has produced 40,051
7 barrels of oil and 25-million cubic feet of gas.

8 On June 30th it was flowing at a rate of
9 328.62 barrels of oil per day and 251.62 thousand cubic feet
10 of gas per day.

11 Southland next drilled its People's State
12 "33" No. 1. This well is located in the northwest quarter
13 of the southwest quarter of Section 33. It has 18 net feet
14 of porous white dolomite present, while the discovery well
15 has 44 net feet.

16 The SRC People's State "33" No. 1 was
17 completed on July 11th, 1985, for initial potential flow of
18 357 barrels of oil per day.

19 Yesterday it was producing at -- pumping
20 at a rate of 64 barrels of oil, 15 barrels of load water,
21 and 145,000 cubic feet of gas per day, and it's still
22 cleaing up after a treatment was recently given to it.

23 Southland is drilling a well in Section
24 32. This well is the SRC People's State "32" No. 2. It is
25 located in the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of

1 the section. It is drilling below 10,200 feet.

2 Forest Oil has announced a location in
3 the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 5
4 of Township 19 South, Range 35 East. This well is the For-
5 est "B" Lea State No. 1. This well will be drilled down to
6 the Lower Wolfcamp zone and should spud shortly.

7 Southland also has plans to deepen a well
8 in the Scharb Field to the Scharb Lower Wolfcamp zone. This
9 well is the Southland Royalty Company Smith 5 No. 4 and is
10 located in the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of
11 Section 5. This well is currently completed in the Upper
12 Bone Spring zone, where it is uneconomical to produce.

13 Q Would you now go to your cross section C-
14 C' and review that?

15 A This cross section is oriented west/east
16 and is datumed on top of the 1st Bone Spring Sand. This
17 cross section connects the two Southland producing wells in
18 the Lower Wolfcamp zone.

19 The orange colored zone on the cross sec-
20 tion shows the Upper Bone Spring pay interval, which is the
21 main producing interval of this area.

22 The top of the Wolfcamp is shown on the
23 cross section as a green line. Below it the Upper Wolfcamp
24 pay interval is shaded in green. The Upper Wolfcamp pay in-
25 terval consists of lenticular carbonates, which, as you can

1 see in the cross section, are variable and irregular in ap-
2 pearance and extent. The green shaded region of the cross
3 section approximates the gross producing interval of the Up-
4 per Wolfcamp.

5 The new pay zone, the Lower Wolfcamp,
6 lies deeper in the section. It occurs below a continuous
7 carbonate marker present on all the deep control in this
8 area. This marker defines the top of the Lower Wolfcamp and
9 is indicated by the red line on Exhibit Six.

10 The reddish brown area is a chert zone
11 which caps the Lower Wolfcamp pay zone and is present
12 throughout the mapped area.

13 The structure map I showed earlier was
14 mapped at the base of this chert zone.

15 The Lower Wolfcamp pay zone is shown in
16 purple on this cross section. The red areas on the wells
17 show the perforated interval.

18 Q Now, Mr. James, to be sure I understand
19 what you're talking about, the zone which is the subject of
20 this hearing has been present throughout the area.

21 A It's present in several wells throughout
22 the area, as indicated on the maps.

23 Q Okay. And it is producing in how many
24 wells in the area?

25 A Two wells.

1 Q And what you're talking about is just the
2 -- that limited zone that is -- and is it in the purple at
3 the bottom of the cross section?

4 A That's correct.

5 The Upper and Lower Wolfcamp zones are
6 clearly separate reservoirs. The Lower Wolfcamp pay inter-
7 val is separated from the Upper Wolfcamp pay interval by 300
8 to 600 feet of interbedded shales and carbonates. None of
9 the Upper Wolfcamp producing wells are deep enough to eval-
10 uate this new zone in the Scharb area.

11 Q Would you now go to Exhibit Number Seven
12 and explain the purpose of this exhibit and review what it
13 shows?

14 A Yes. Exhibit Seven is a production map
15 of the area. The various colors depict different producing
16 zones.

17 The orange area shows the area's main
18 producing interval, the Upper Bone Spring, which I showed
19 you on the cross section.

20 Another important producing zone is the
21 Middle Bone Spring, which is shown in blue, and this zone is
22 restricted to the outlined area.

23 The light green area is the Upper Wolf-
24 camp zone I discussed earlier and showed you on the cross
25 section. Wells completed in this area are colored in large

1 green circles in the Upper Wolfcamp. This zone in this area
2 is designated Scharb Wolfcamp in the annual report of the
3 New Mexico Oil and Gas Engineering Committee.

4 To date only Southland's two mentioned
5 wells are completed in this new zone, the Lower Wolfcamp,
6 and these wells are shown in Sections 32 and 33 by the large
7 purple circles.

8 Q So you have not depicted with a circle on
9 this map the zone which is the subject of today's hearing.

10 A That's right.

11 Q Would you now go to your Exhibit Number
12 Eight and review that?

13 A Exhibit Eight is a cross section, B-B',
14 and is oriented in the north/south orientation, and it's
15 colored in the same format as the previous cross section.

16 It compares the Lower Wolfcamp producing
17 zone in the Southland Royalty Company People's "32" No. 1
18 Well with the Wolfcamp and Bone Spring producing zones in
19 the Scharb area.

20 Clearly the Lower Wolfcamp is strati-
21 graphically separate from the Upper Wolfcamp completions to
22 the south.

23 The third well from the left on this ex-
24 hibit is Southland's People's Smith 5 No. 4. No, I'm sorry,
25 it's the Southland Smith 5 No. 4.

1 We plan to deepen this well about 1500
2 feet to complete in the Lower Wolfcamp pay zone.

3 In summary, the geological exhibits make
4 four points:

5 The Upper Wolfcamp and our new Lower
6 Wolfcamp zones are separate and are correlative.

7 The trapping mechanism for the Lower
8 Wolfcamp pay is stratigraphic.

9 The productive limits of this zone in-
10 clude Sections 28, 29, 32, and 33, of Township 18 South,
11 Range 35 East, and Sections 4 and 5 of Township 19 South, 35
12 East.

13 And four, the Lower Wolfcamp is a new
14 zone.

15 We request creation of a new pool, and
16 since we are dealing with a new and separate zone, we do not
17 need to contract horizontal limits of the present Scharb
18 Wolfcamp Pool.

19 Q Now other than the development plans that
20 you've discussed, does Southland have any further develop-
21 ment plans in the area at this time?

22 A We have contingent plans for next year
23 but these plans would be contingent on the success of our
24 drilling well, the planned well by Forest Oil, and our plan-
25 ned deepening to the south in the Scharb -- in the Scharb

1 area.

2 Q Were Exhibits Two through Eight either
3 prepared by you or compiled under your direction and
4 supervision?

5 A Yes, they were.

6 Q And can you testify from your own
7 knowledge as to their accuracy?

8 A Yes, I can.

9 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr.
10 Stogner, we would offer into evidence Southland Royalty
11 Company Exhibit Two through Eight.

12 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits Two
13 through Eight will be admitted into evidence.

14 MR. CARR: And that concludes
15 my direct examination of Mr. James.

16

17 CROSS EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. STOGNER:

19 Q Mr. James, so I understand it right,
20 you're not proposing to contract the horizontal limits of
21 the Scharb Wolfcamp. In other words, let the Scharb Wolf-
22 camp exist as it is.

23 A That's correct.

24 Q However, the Scharb Wolfcamp as it now
25 stands, would that not include your Lower Wolfcamp interval,

1 if I may call it that?

2 A I don't believe it would but I am not
3 certain of that.

4 Q The Scharb Wolfcamp, I believe, would
5 take in all Wolfcamp zones in a pool, so we may have to re-
6 advertise this --

7 MR. CARR: For some kind of a
8 vertical contraction.

9 MR. STOGNER: Yes.

10 MR. CARR: Also, it might be
11 appropriate even -- it might be appropriate to key the in-
12 terval in this new Lower Wolfcamp Pool to a particular -- a
13 particular well. I don't know -- Mr. James, do you have a
14 recommendation as to a well log or an interval that --

15 A Yes.

16 MR. CARR: -- could be used to
17 define the lower zone.

18 A I think we could define this zone accu-
19 rately with the Southland Royalty Company People's "32"
20 State No. 1 that I mentioned and the interval in this well
21 that's the new Lower Wolfcamp Pool would be at 11,124 feet
22 to 11,168 feet.

23 Q And that's on the People's Com -- or "32"
24 No. 1 Well.

25 A That's correct.

1 MR. STOGNER: And what were
2 those footage intervals again?

3 A 11,124 feet to 11,168 feet. That's the
4 top and bottom of the pay interval.

5 MR. STOGNER: Subsequent to
6 this hearing, would you submit to me a bigger copy of the
7 well log? It's difficult to see that on here.

8 A Yes.

9 MR. CARR: We can do that and I
10 agree with you, Mr. Stogner. I think it would have to be
11 readvertised for a vertical contraction of that upper pool.

12 A We could photocopy the log and present it
13 to you today, if you like.

14 MR. STOGNER: If you don't
15 mind, I would appreciate it. It would maybe speed things up
16 somewhat.

17 A Yes.

18 MR. STOGNER: I believe we can
19 hash that out later. Don't you agree, Mr. Carr?

20 MR. CARR: Yes, sir.

21 MR. STOGNER: Back to the exhi-
22 bits.

23 Q Let's first go to Exhibit Number Eight
24 and we'll work backwards. That's the B-B' --

25 A Yes, the cross section.

1 Q -- cross section. You had no other wells
2 that penetrated the Lower Wolfcamp -- well, let's call it
3 the Lower Wolfcamp for your new pool for all intents and
4 purposes.

5 That penetrated that area, is that right?

6 A Yes, sir. No wells to the south in this
7 area that penetrated this zone.

8 Q So the only two wells in this -- in your
9 exhibit that penetrated this particular zone would be your
10 People's State "33" Well No. 1 and your People's State "32"
11 Well No. 1, is that right?

12 Other than the C-C' -- other than what is
13 shown on your Exhibit Number Six, is that correct?

14 A Well, let me state it differently so it's
15 precise.

16 There are other wells that are drilled
17 deep enough to see this zone and there are other wells that
18 have this zone present but in a different facies. But there
19 are only two wells that are productive and only two wells
20 that have found the -- this white sucrosic dolomite facies
21 that is productive in this area.

22 Q Okay.

23 A As you can see from the maps, you'll be
24 able to see that there are other wells that have -- that
25 have control, that have drilled deep enough to either see

1 this well and it was not present or that the correct facies
2 wasn't present.

3 There are perhaps eight or ten wells that
4 are drilled deep enough in this entire mapped area.

5 Q Okay. Let's go to Exhibit, or map, Num-
6 ber Five, Exhibit Number Five, that shows the white dolomite
7 area.

8 Approximately in the wells that are in
9 Section 4, 5, and 8 and 9, for that matter, how many of
10 those wells would you say penetrated this Lower Wolfcamp
11 zone?

12 A None.

13 Q None? What did you use for the basis to
14 map the white dolomite section?

15 A We used the -- our environmental inter-
16 pretation and our conceptual model and the available con-
17 trol.

18 Exhibit Four, for example, is a map of --
19 of net dolomite and includes both facies, and from it we got
20 the -- using its control and given the model that we had,
21 the conceptual model, we got the outline. As you'll see,
22 this outline matches the brown and white outline for Exhibit
23 Number Five.

24 And within the dolomite thick, which is
25 composed of two facies, we have further restricted the pro-

1 ductive area based on, again, our model and the available
2 control. As I mentioned only two wells have found this cor-
3 rect facies, or found this productive facies. And, basical-
4 ly, that's how we did it. It's based on the control and our
5 interpretation of control.

6 There's one symbol on the map, let me ex-
7 plain in case you're reviewing these things later, you may
8 have a question.

9 The well in Section 1 of --

10 Q What map are you looking at?

11 MR. CARR: Exhibit Number Four.

12 A Either map; either Four or Five.

13 Q Okay. That being the American Petroleum?

14 A Yes, that well right there. The symbol
15 on that means we did not have that log available. That
16 means not available.

17 Q Okay.

18 A But it is -- it was deep enough to have
19 seen this, but it was not productive in this zone.

20 Q Were there any geophysical reports in
21 this area that you got information from?

22 A No.

23 Q So this was all essentially well control.

24 A Strictly subsurface work.

25 Q Yes. What's the difference between your

1 white dolomite and your brown dolomite?

2 A The brown dolomite has less than 3 per-
3 cent porosity in it. It is not generally fractured. It is
4 brown to tan in color. It is tight.

5 The white dolomite is sucrosic; generally
6 very porous; generally greater than 8 percent porosity, and
7 we do see, at least in our two wells that have found this
8 facies, extensive fracturing.

9 Q Within a mile to the west of your pro-
10 posed pool, specifically over in Section 30 and 31, there
11 exists the Airstrip Wolfcamp Pool. Did you take in those
12 subsurface --

13 A Yes, sir, we did. We only had one piece
14 of control and that was in Section 5, the Amoco 1 "FU" and
15 this well had limestone present at the correlative interval
16 where the dolomite should be present.

17 Q I'm talking about the Airstream Wolfcamp
18 Pool to the west.

19 A Yes, I'm talking about the well in Sec-
20 tion 25.

21 Q Oh, 25. I thought you said --

22 A I'm sorry.

23 Q -- I'm sorry.

24 A I may have said 5.

25 Q Okay, and that's on Exhibit Number Four,

1 you show that with a big zero.

2 A Right. That's the only deep control we
3 have in that area, in the Airstrip Field, or Airstrip Pool.

4 Most of those wells also did not pene-
5 trate this zone.

6 Q Do you know if that's on 40 or 80-acre
7 spacing?

8 A 40-acre spacing.

9 Q Okay, now to the north is the South Va-
10 cuum Wolfcamp Pool, which specifically takes in portions of
11 Section 16 and 21, and that seems to be off your map. Was
12 there any well control in that area?

13 A We did not -- we mapped a few miles fur-
14 ther north in our studies of this immediate area and didn't
15 have any additional deep control, but we didn't make region-
16 al maps that would go much farther than, say, three or four
17 miles further north.

18 Then we cut our maps off for purposes of
19 this hearing to the area that we thought was germane to the
20 request, but to answer your question, I know of no other
21 Wolfcamp wells producing from this zone in the immediate
22 area or in the area within several miles.

23 MR. STOGNER: I have no further
24 questions of Mr. James at this time.

25 Are there any other questions

1 of this witness?

2 If not, he may be excused.

3 A Thank you.

4 MR. CARR: At this time we call
5 Steve Palko.

6
7 STEVE PALKO,
8 being called as a witness and being duly sworn upon his
9 oath, testified as follows, to-wit:

10

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. CARR:

13 Q Will you state your full name, please?

14 A My name is Stefan E. Palko.

15 Q And how do you spell your last name?

16 A P-A-L-K-O.

17 Q Mr. Palko, by whom are you employed?

18 A Southland Royalty Company.

19 Q And in what office are you located?

20 A In the Ft. Worth Office.

21 Q And what is your current position with
22 Southland Royalty Company?

23 A Vice President of Reservoir Engineering.

24 Q Have you previously testified before this
25 Commission or one of its examiners?

1 A No, I have not.

2 Q Would you review your educational back-
3 ground and your work experience for Mr. Stogner?

4 A Okay. I have a Bachelor of Science in
5 electrical engineering from the University of Texas at El
6 Paso.

7 Following graduation from college I wor-
8 ked for a period of five years for Exxon Corporation in a
9 variety of engineering and supervisory situations.

10 Following that I worked a year for Inter-
11 comp Resource Development and Engineering as a consulting
12 engineer.

13 Following that I worked two years for
14 Shenandoah Oil Corporation as a Manager of Reservoir Pro-
15 jects.

16 My next assignment was with Energy Re-
17 serves Group, Incorporated, as Chief Engineer.

18 Following that I worked a year for
19 Kaiser-Francis Oil Company and for the past three years I've
20 been employed by Southland Royalty Corporation, initially as
21 Manager of Reservoir Engineering, and most recently as Vice
22 President of Reservoir Engineering.

23 Q Mr. Palko, are you familiar with the ap-
24 plication filed in this case on behalf of Southland Royalty
25 Company?

1 A Yes, I am.

2 Q And are you familiar with the area which
3 is the subject of the application?

4 A Yes, I am.

5 MR. CARR: We tender Mr. Palko
6 as an expert witness in the area of reservoir engineering.

7 MR. STOGNER: He is so
8 qualified.

9 Q Mr. Palko, have you prepared certain
10 exhibits for introduction in this case?

11 A Yes, I have.

12 Q Will you refer to what has been marked
13 for identification as Southland Royalty Company Exhibit
14 Number Nine, identify this, and review it for the examiner?

15 A Okay. Exhibit Number Nine illustrates
16 the production history of the People's State "32" NO. 1
17 Well. Indicated on the vertical axis is barrels of oil per
18 day and on the horizonatal axis is days.

19 In general this exhibit shows that the
20 well has produced on average approximately the top allowable
21 rate of 320 barrels per day. I've also indicated on here
22 two shut-in periods at which time we obtained bottom hole
23 pressure build-up information.

24 Q Would you now go to Southland Exhibit
25 Number Ten and review that, please?

1 A Okay. Southland Exhibit Number Ten sum-
2 marizes the results of the pressure build-up tests on the
3 People's State "32" No. 1 Well.

4 As indicated, on March 8th, 1985, we ob-
5 tained an initial drill stem test on the well. Following
6 an initial flow of 10 barrels of oil, the well was shut-in
7 for a period of an hour. The highest recorded pressure at
8 that time was 5620 psi.

9 Using the pressure build-up information
10 we obtained a calculated reservoir pressure of 5632 psi.

11 On April 25th, 1985, after production of
12 9,877 barrels, we shut the well in for a period of 67 hours,
13 obtained bottom hole pressure information with a bottom hole
14 pressure bomb.

15 Our highest recorded pressure at the end
16 of 67 hours was 4,177 psi.

17 Using the build-up data again, we ob-
18 tained a static, or calculated static reservoir pressure of
19 4,770 pounds.

20 On June 20th the well was again shut in
21 following cumulative production of 25,939 barrels.

22 We shut the well in for 71 hours, ob-
23 tained, again, pressure data with a bomb. Our highest re-
24 corded pressure at that time was 2,780 pounds and we deter-
25 mined a statis reservoir pressure of 3,160 psi from the

1 build-up calculation.

2 Q And in calculating these reservoir pres-
3 sures you used the Horner method, did you not?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q Would you now go to Exhibit Number Ele-
6 ven?

7 A Okay. Exhibit Number Eleven is an illus-
8 tration of the material balance equation, which we utilized
9 in order to determine from available production and pressure
10 information the original oil in place.

11 The material balance equation indicated
12 inside the box is basically for calculation of oil in place
13 above the bubble point, assuming no water influx, which we
14 believe to be the situation for this particular reservoir.

15 A continuation of this exhibit on the
16 next page, again we have summarized the date, cumulative oil
17 production, our estimate of static reservoir pressure, the
18 oil formation volume factor, which we're estimating, asso-
19 ciated with given pressure value, and the delta pressure
20 from original pressure.

21 Utilizing that information and the pre-
22 vious material balance equation, for the April 25th data we
23 calculated an original oil in place of 1,088,000 barrels.

24 Using the June 20th data we -- in the
25 equation, we calculate an original oil in place of 896,950

1 barrels.

2 The average of those two values is
3 992,697 barrels of oil, or original oil in place in communi-
4 cation with this well.

5 Q Would you now review the calculations of
6 the drainage area that are set forth on your Exhibit Twelve?

7 A Okay. On Exhibit Number Twelve we uti-
8 lized the calculated original oil in place from material
9 balance to determine the effective area in communication
10 with this well.

11 The top part of this exhibit illustrates
12 the reservoir properties which we derived from the well logs
13 on People's State "33" No. 1 and "32" No. 1.

14 From these well logs we determined aver-
15 age porosity to be 10 percent; average net pay to be 31
16 feet; and average water saturation to be 30 percent.

17 Entering those values into volumetric
18 equation for original oil in place, we back calculated 90
19 acres to be effectively in communication with the "32" NO. 1
20 Well.

21 Q And that's the acreage you would antici-
22 pate being drained?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q Will you now go to Exhibit Thirteen?

25 A Okay. Exhibit Number Thirteen shows a

1 Horner plot obtained from a drill stem test on the second
2 well on the reservoir, the People's State "33" No. 1.

3 As indicated on this exhibit, we have an
4 estimated static pressure obtained from this build-up pres-
5 sure information of 3003 psi, which indicates that signifi-
6 cant drainage has occurred in this reservoir as a result of
7 production from the first well, "32" No. 1.

8 In addition, this drill stem test was ob-
9 tained in close proximity to the last buld-up test on the
10 "32" No. 1 and the pressure values are relatively close in
11 both wells.

12 As a consequence we suspect these wells
13 to be effectively in communication.

14 Q Could you summarize the conclusions that
15 you can reach from the study you have made of this area?

16 A Okay. I believe that the engineering
17 data obtained from the two wells indicates that first of
18 all, approximately a million barrels of oil in place are in
19 communication with the People's State "32" No. 1; that this
20 represents a drainage area of approximately 90 acres; and
21 that the second well on the reservoir is effectively in com-
22 munication with the first well.

23 As a consequence we feel like these wells
24 will drain at least an effective area of 180 acres and as
25 such, we currently our request.

1 Q So you're recommending 80-acre spacing
2 for this pool.

3 A Yes, that's correct.

4 Q For what period of time are you seeking
5 the promulgation of temporary rules?

6 A For a period of time of two years.

7 Q In your opinion will granting this
8 applicaiton be in the best interest of conservation, the
9 prevention of waste, and the protection of correlative
10 rights?

11 A Yes, it iwll.

12 Q Were Exhibits Nine through thirteen
13 prepared by you or compiled under your direction and
14 supervision?

15 A Yes, they were.

16 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr.
17 Stogner, we would offer into evidence Southland Royalty
18 Company Exhibits Nine through Thirteen.

19 MR. STOGNER: Exhibits Nine
20 through Thirteen will be admitted into evidence.

21 MR. CARR: That concludes my
22 direct examination of Mr. Palko.

23

24

25

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. STOGNER:

Q Mr. Palko, you show your average net pay to be 31 feet. What are the perforated intervals in both these wells?

A I probably need to defer to the geological witness in order to give you that. I don't have an exhibit with me that indicates exactly what those perforated intervals are.

MR. STOGNER: Mr. James?

MR. JAMES: Let's see, the perforated intervals are indicated in red graphically on the cross sections.

MR. STOGNER: I've got that here but I can't read them and --

MR. JAMES: I gave you the perforated intervals on the "32" No. 1 already.

Let me look at the log.

We'll furnish you that data before the end of the morning.

MR. CARR: If that's all right with you.

MR. JAMES: If that's okay with you.

MR. STOGNER: Yeah, it will be.

MR. STOGNER: If not, he may be

1 | excused.

2 Are there any other further
3 questions of any of these witnesses at this time?

4 If not, I don't either, so the
5 additional information we're waiting on, Mr. Carr, would be
6 perforations --

7 MR. CARR: In the two wells and
8 a --

9 MR. STOGNER: -- in the two
10 wells.

11 MR. CARR: ___section of the log
12 from the People's "32" No. 1.

13 MR. STOGNER: Right. Also I
14 will get with you subsequent to this hearing --

15 MR. CARR: Concerning a read-
16 vertisement.

17 MR. STOGNER: Yes. Now this
18 readvertisement won't get to go out until the Examiner's
19 hearing scheduled for September 11, 1985.

I should be around at that time. If there would be any additional testimony I will come in and hear it being as I am not the scheduled hearing examiner for that date, but I'll come around. I will be in here.

25 MR. MIERTSCHIN: Mr. Stogner.

1 MR. STOGNER: Yes, sir.

2 MR. MIERTSCHIN: William R.
3 Miertschin with Mesa Petroleum Co., Amarillo, Texas.

4 We would like to -- we have an
5 interest in this area and we'd like to enter an appearance
6 that we are in support of this application.

7 MR. STOGNER: How do you spell
8 your name, Mr. Miertschin.

9 MR. MIERTSCHIN: M-I-E-R-T-S-C-
10 H-I-N.

11 MR. STOGNER: And what is your
12 title?

13 MR. MIERTSCHIN: I'm the
14 Supervisor of Regulatory and Safety Information.

15 MR. STOGNER: Do you have
16 production within the Scharb Wolfcamp Pool?

17 MR. MIERTSCHIN: We have some
18 in that area and the People's State "33" No. 1 was drilled
19 as an option well on a farmout agreement from MTS Limited
20 Partnership, which Mesa is the general partner.

21 MR. STOGNER: Thank you. Is
22 there any additional appearances?

23 There being none, the record
24 will be kept open on Case 8676 pending the readvertisement
25 for September 11th, 1985.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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. 8676
heard by me on 14 August 1985.

Michael R. Stynes, Examiner
Oil Conservation Division

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
State Land Office Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico

11 September 1985

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Southland Royalty Com- CASE
pany for pool creation, special pool 8676
rules, and the contraction of the
vertical limits of the Scharb-Wolfcamp
Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

BEFORE: Gilbert P. Quintana, Examiner

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Oil Conservation	Jeff Taylor
Division:	Legal Counsel to the Division
	Oil Conservation Division
	State Land Office Bldg.
	Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

For the Applicant:

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MR. QUINTANA: We'll call Case 8676, the application of Southland Royalty Company for pool creation, special pool rules, and the contraction of the vertical limits of the Scharb-Wolfcamp Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

This case was readvertised to correct an error in the previous advertisement and was heard at the last hearing by Hearing Examiner Mike Stogner.

Is there anything further in Case 8676?

If not, Case 8676 will be taken under advisement.

(Hearing concluded.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SALLY W. BOYD, C.S.R., DO HEREBY
CERTIFY that the foregoing Transcript of Hearing before the
Oil Conservation Division 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. 8676
heard by me on SEPT. 11 1985.

Silbert P. Quintana Examiner
Oil Conservation Division