1 BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2 OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING 3 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO Wednesday, October 31, 1973 5 6 7 IN THE MATTER OF: 8 Application of Skelly Oil Company for a Case No. unit agreement, Lea County, New Mexico. 5086 Myers Langlie-Mattix Unit Area, Townships 23 and 24 South, Ranges 36 and 37 East,) 10 Lea County, New Mexico. 11 12 BEFORE: RICHARD L. STAMETS 13 Examiner 14 15 16 17 18 19 TRANSCRIPT OF EXAMINER HEARING 20 21 22 23 24

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209 SIMMS BLDG.4 P.O. BOX 10924PHONE 243-66914ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103 1216First national bank bldg. East-albuquerque, new mexico 87108 MR. DERRYBERRY: Case 5089, Application of Coquina Oil Corporation for an unorthodox oil well location, Lea County, New Mexico.

MR. STAMETS: Call next Case 5089.

MR. STAMETS: This case will also be dismissed at the request of the Applicant.

* * * * *

CERTIFICATE

I, JOHN DE LA ROSA, a Court Reporter, in and for the County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me; and that the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

COURT REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete receif of the proceedings in the Examiner nearing I have No. 1000 heard by me on 1000 heard b

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MR. STAMETS: Call next Case 5086. MR. DERRYBERRY: Case 5086, Application of Skelly Oil Company for a Unit Agreement, Lea County, New

MR. STAMETS: At this point, I would like to state that Caso 5088, the Amini Case, will be heard after the coffee break this morning. Call for appearances in Case 5086.

MR. BLODGETT: C. E. Blodgett, Tulsa, representing Skelly Oil Company, and I believe you have heretofore been given an Entry of Appearance, copy of it, from Louis White, L. C. White.

MR. STAMETS: Mr. Blodgett, I notice Case 5087 concerns the same area, would you like those consolidated?

MR. BLODGETT: Yes, we would like to have those consolidated for purposes of hearing.

MR. STAMETS: Cases 5086 and 5087 will be consolidated for purposes of testimony. Are there any other appearances in these cases?

(No response.)

MR. BLODGETT: We have two witnesses.

MR. STAMETS: They may stand and be sworn, please.

FRANK D. MCATEE,

a witness, having been first duly sworn according to law, upon

200 SIMMS BLDG.0 P.O. BOX 10920-PHONE 243-66010-ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 67109 1216-First National Bank Bldg. East-0albuquerque, new mexico 67109

his oath testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. BLODGETT:

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MR. BLODGETT: Before we get into the formal part of this hearing, I would like to note that in Application 5087 we had listed 84 wells as injection wells, and we wanted to add one, delete one, in our listing.

MR. STAMETS: Is that in the form of an exhibit or just an Application?

MR. BLODGETT: It's in the Application and it will go the same way. I've made the ink notation on one of the exhibits that I will hand to you, but we will add it-

MR. STAMETS: You do have an exhibit that reflects this?

MR. BLODGETT: Yes.

MR. STAMETS: We will just take it up at that time.

(By Mr. Blodgett) All right. Will you please state your name, your occupation, and by whom you are employed?

Frank D. McAtee, employed by Skelly Oil Company in its West Central District Office at Midland, Texas. I'm

a Senior Production Engineer for Skelly.

Mr. McAtee, have you testified before this Commission

a previous time and your qualifications been accepted?

Yes, they have.

What are your duties and responsibilities of your 25

2	A	My principal duties are handle unitization work for
3		Skelly Oil Company in Texas and in New Mexico. I act
4		as the expeditor where Skelly is going to operate the
5		unit and I act as the company's representative in all
6		instances where other companies will operate the units.
7	Q	Are you familiar with the Unit Agreement which is proposed
8		for the Langlie-Mattix Unit Area, Meyers Langlie-Mattix
9		Unit?
10	A	Yes, I am.
11	Q	Was it prepared by you or under your direction and
12		supervision?
13	A	Yes, sir.
14	Ω	Should the Commission approve that Unit Agreement, what
15		kind of operation will be conducted with respect to the
16	1	Langlie-Mattix formation?
17	A	Initially, it would be a water injection project for
18		additional recovery of oil in the Langlie-Mattix
19		Reservoir.
20	Q	Now, in your position with Skelly, are you familiar with
21		that agreement that is being proposed in the unitization
22		project?
23	A	Yes, sir, I am.
24	Ω	Was this Unit Agreement prepared specifically for this

Meyers Langlie-Mattix Unit?

position with Skelly Oil Company?

I hand you a copy or call to your attention an instrument

that has been marked Exhibit Number 1, and I ask you

Exhibit Number 1 is the Unit Agreement for the Meyers

dearnley, meier & associates

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	6		Langlie-Mattix Unit, an instrument to which we've
	7		previously made reference.
	8	Q	Did all of the Lessees who have committed their interest
	9		to the plan do so by ratifying this unit Agreement?
	10	A	Yes, sir.
	11	Q	I call your attention to what has been marked as Exhibit
2010	12		Number 2 and ask you what that is?
11CO 87	13	A	Exhibit Number 2 is a map showing each individual tract
NENICO 8710	14		within the area of the proposed unit, along with the
	15		schedule showing the percent of working interest and
1002 - PIONE 249-660 - ALBUQUERQUE. Iank blog, east - Albuquerque, new	16		the percent of royalty interest in each tract that's
	17		been assigned and committed to this unit.
43-660 15T • AL	18	Q	That percentage is outlined what, on the right-hand side
HONE 2	19		of that exhibit?
1092 e P.	20	A	That's right.
P.O. BOX	21	Q	Was this exhibit prepared by you or under your direction
LDG P.C	22		and supervision?
SIMMS BLC 1216 FIRST	23	A	Yes, it was.
209 SIM 121	24	Q	What percentage of the Lessees of record on the surface
	25		acreage basis have signed or ratified the Unit Agreement?

Yes.

what that is?

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We've secured signature of 97 one-half percent of the

Lessee ownership of the surface acreage and this would

What percent of the royalty owners have signed this

There are 82, and each of these tracts are shown and

represent 32 percent of the unit participation as of this

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or ratified this Unit Agreement? 7 A We have both Federal, State, and additional fee land in 8 the unit; 45 percent are Federal lands, 16 percent are 9 State lands, and the agencies responsible for those 10 lands have extended preliminary approval subject to 11 final approval after approval of the unit by this 12 Commission. The remaining 28 percent of acreage is 13 owned in fee and we have secured approximately 88 percent 14 of the signatures for the fee royalty. 15 Does that Unit Agreement designate the area that is 16 covered thereby? 17 Yes, the Unit Agreement has an exhibit marked Exhibit A, 18 which is a plat showing the unit boundary and the area within the boundary. Exhibit B in the Unit Agreement 19 describes each of the separately owned tracts in the 20 unit area and the entire area outlined by the proposed unit boundary comprises 9,923.68 acres. 22 How many separately-owned tracts are covered by the 23 Unit Agreement? 24

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1		numbered on Exhibits A and B of the Unit Agreement.
2	۵	Will all of these tracts that are included in Exhibit A
3		and B be qualified for inclusion on the effective date of
4		the unit?
5	A	No, they will not.
6	Q	Will this adversely affect the unit operations?
7	A	No, we don't anticipate that it would do so. In those
8		areas where nonjoinder could have an adverse effect on
9		our operations, we have secured indication from each of
10		the working interest owners there that they are willing
11		and would like to execute lease line injection agreements
12		and compensating objections.
13	Ω	Does the unit provide for such agreement?
14	A	Yes, that provision is made in Section 40 of the Unit
15		Agreement.
16	Q	How will the operations of the unit be managed?
17	A	The actual operations in the unit area will be carried
18		on by the unit operator who will be under the
19		supervision of the working interest owners in the unit
20		at all times.
21	Q	Who has been designated in the Unit Agreement as the
22		initial unit operator?
23	A	Skelly Oil Company.
24	Q	What authority will the working interest owners have over
25	L	the unit operator?

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A The unit operator at all times will be acting under the supervision and direction and subject to the approval of the working interest owners. Does the Unit Agreement establish a method for allocations of unit production among and to the separately-owned Yes, the method of allocating unitized substances is described in detail in Section 16 of the Unit Agreement. Are the tract participation percentages shown in the Percentages of tract participation are expressed in Exhibit C to the Unit Agreement and this exhibit will be revised to account for those tracts that may not qualify on the effective date. We will revise those participation factors using the same factors and the same formula that was used to arrive at the present How will the unit production allocated to the separatelyowned tract be distributed to the individual owners of the royalty and the Lessees in that tract? Unit participation allocated in any separately-owned tract will be distributed among the various interest owners in that tract on the same basis as if the allocated production were actually produced from that

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1	Q	Who pays the cost and expenses of the unit?
2	A	All unit costs and expenses will be borne solely by the
3		working interest owners.
4	Q	Under the terms of the Unit Agreement, is the owner of
5		the normal royalty interest obligated to pay any part of
6		the unit or expenses?
7	A	No.
8	Q	When will the Unit Agreement become effective if the
9		Commission issues an order approving it?
10	A	On the first day of the month next following the date
11		when final approval has been secured from the Commissione:
12		of Public Lands and from the United States Geological
13		Survey.
14	Q	Does the Unit Agreement provide for a method by which the
15		unit shall or may be dissolved and its affairs wound up?
16	A	Yes, provision is made for that in Section 24 of the
17		Unit Agreement.
18	Q	Are you familiar with the formula for allocating unit
19		production for the separately-owned tracts within the
20		unit?
21	A	Yes, I am.
22	Q	Would you explain that formula, please?
2	A	Phase I Tract Participation percentages represent 100
2	•	percent of the ratio which is oil and gas income

attributed to each tract during the year 1968, bears to

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the oil and gas income attributed to all the tracts during the year 1968. Nowever, the term of Phase I has not expired and Phase II will be effective on the effective date of the unit. Phase II Tract Participation percentages represent the sum of 85 percent of the ratio which the ultimate primary oil volume attributed to all tracts, or to each tract, bears to the total for all tracts, plus 10 percent of the ratio which accumulative oil production, attributed to each tract as of July 1, 1966, bears for the accumulative oil production to all tracts as of July 1, 1966, plus five percent of the ratio which tract acreage bears to the acreage of all the tracts in the unit.

Does that formula which you have just explained give weight and take into account, either directly or indirectly, all the factors that should be considered? Yes, the formula gives consideration and weight to the contribution of each tract to the unit in relation to the contribution made by all other tracts in the unit. And will the formula that you have explained apportion and allocate to each separately-owned tract within the unit that tract's fair, equitable, and reasonable share of the unit production or the benefits from the unit production?

Yes, in my opinion, the formula will allocate to each

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tract its fair, reasonable, and equitable share of the 2 unit participation. 3 Mr. McAtee, in your opinion, will this Unit Agreement protect the correlative rights of all parties concerned, 4 5 and the operators, and the operations, in accordance therewith, increase the recovery of the oil from the 6 7 properties covered? In my opinion, it will. 8 MR. BLODGETT: We move the admission of Exhibits 9 1 and 2, and we pass the witness. 10 MR. STAMETS: Without objection, these exhibits 11 will be admitted. Are there any questions of this 12

(No response.)

witness?

MR. STAMETS: He may be excused.

CHARLES W. DEER,

a witness, having first been duly sworn according to law, upon his oath testified as follows:

MR. BLODGETT: We also have an Entry of Appearance by Mr. White in this case as local counsel. I believe you have the original in your files.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. BLODGETT:

Would you please state your name, your occupation, by whom you are employed?

My name is Charles Deer and I'm employed by Skelly Oil

Company as an Advance Petroleum Engineer in their West

Have you heretofore testified before this Commission and

those formations between the lower 100 feet of the

formation, and this is our primary proposed unitized

The proposed injection pattern is primarily

Seven Rivers formation and the base of the Queen

dearnley, meier & associates

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SIMMS BLD-3.4 P.O. BOX 1092-PHONE 243-8681-ALBUQUERQUE. NEW MEXICO 87103 1216-First national bank bldg. East-Albuquerque, new mexico 87108

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interval.

your qualifications been accepted? Yes, sir. 7 I call your attention to what has been marked Exhibit Number 3 and ask you what that is and what it shows. 8 9 Exhibit 3 is a map showing the proposed unit area. shows the Lessees, the location of the wells included 10 11 in the project, location of the proposed injection wells, and all other wells within a radius of two miles from the 12 proposed injection wells. This exhibit also shows the 13 formation from which these wells are producing or have 14 produced. The exhibit was presented with the Application 15 for Permit to inject into the 84 wells. 16 Skelly proposes to inject into the Langlie-Mattix 17 formation on a full-scale basis, to stimulate recovery 18 of secondary reserves. 19 New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission nomenclature 20 designates the limits of the Langlie-Mattix pool as 21

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an 80-acre five-spot which has been modified along the unit boundaries and the areas of decreased development.

I might mention that there are 36 undrilled locations within the proposed unit. The proposed pattern will require converting 84 wells into injection wells. The injection rate anticipated is 27,300 barrels per day or an average of 325 barrels of water per injection well. Maximum well head pressures of approximately 2,000 pounds are anticipated.

You might also include on this exhibit the waterflood projects in the area which have already been approved by the Commission and are currently in operation. In the southern portion of your map, you might note the George Buckles Knight-Jamison waterflood which was started back in April of 1964, and also the Shell Oil Company black waterflood in the Langlie-Mattix waterflood unit. This was also started in 1964. the northwestern part of your map is the Continental Oil Company's Langlie Lynn Queen Unit and this was initiated in August of this year. Also, the Samedan which is in the northern part of your map, the Samedan Langlie-Mattix, Penrose Queen San Andres Unit, and it was started in April of '73. Then, one other unit that borders the proposed unit is the Reserve Cooper Jal Unit, and this is the Jalmat Unit, and they are producing from

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Yes.

	l	-	and the second sec
	7		outlined in the Application and the 84 wells that
	8		are marked on this Exhibit Number 3?
	9	A	Yes, sir, there is three changes.
	10	Q	Would you outline those changes, please?
	11	A	Yes, the first one is the Continental Oil Company
88818ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87108 8418UQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87108	12		Strawn B Number 3, B-1 Number 3, excuse me. That should
	13		be included.
	14	Ω	That's added?
	15	A	That is added.
	16		MR. STAMETS: That's in Section 1 of 24,36?
	17		THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
E 243-6691 E AST + AL	18	A	Then, the Skelly Oil Company J. W. Cooper lease, that
HONE DG.	19		should be the Number 1 Well instead of the Number 2 Well,
1092 • P	20		and the unit on that is Unit K in the same section and
× = 1	21		township, range.
a F	22		MR. STAMETS: Then Number 1-K is substituted for
SIMMS BLDG.	23		Number 2-K?
20 9 \$ IM	24		THE WITHESS: Yes.
	25	A	And then one well should be deleted, and that's the

the Yates and Upper Seven Rivers formation.

Skelly filed in this case, are you not?

Now, Mr. Deer, you mentioned there would be 84 injection

Now, is there any difference between the wells that were

wells, and you are familiar with the Application that

SIMMS BLDG. & P.O. BOX 1092 & PHONE 249-86910 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87108 1216 First National Bank Bldg. East & Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108

Texas Pacific Oil Company Blinebry Federal-A Number 3, that's in Unit L of Section 29, Township 23 South, Range 37 East.

MR. STAMETS: The net result is you still have 84 wells scheduled for injection?

A Yes, sir.

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- Mr. Deer, I call your attention to what has been designated Exhibit Number 4. Would you outline what that is and shows?
- Yes, sir, Exhibit 4 is downhole diagramatic sketches of three typical proposed injection wells. The first sketch shows a typical injection well with an openhole completion. The second sketch is a typical injection well with a cased hole completion, and the third is a dually completed injection well with a Jalmat gas zone.

All three of these sketches show all the casing strings, diameters, setting depths, quantity of cement used, tops of cement, perforated or openhole intervals, the tubing strings including the diameters and setting depths, and also the type and location of the packer. These sketches were presented with the Application for the permit to inject.

- Where will the injected fluid be confined?
- Injected fluid will be confined to the unitized interval. Injection will be down internally-lined tubing set on a

209 SIMMS BLDG. # F.O. BOX 1092 PHONE 249-8691 PALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103 1216 First National Bank Blog. East-Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108 packer approximately 50 feet above the casing seat or uppermost perforation. Periodic injectivity surveys will be run to monitor injection and check for channels behind the pipe. The spacing between the tubing and casings in the completed wells will be filled with inhibited fluid. Any mechanical failure that we note downhole will be promptly repaired when it is detected. I call your attention to Exhibit Number 5. Would you explain what that is, please?

Exhibit 5 is well completion data for wells in the unit area, and shown in this tabulation are the operator, the current operator, the lease and well number, completion date, location, elevation, well total depth, casing data, and their diameter and weight and setting depth, volume

We list here 198 proposed unit wells, and out of these, 139 are completed openhole intervals, 55 are completed through perforations, four are completed with both perforations and openhole sections. We anticipate that 29 of these wells will be dually completed with the Jalmat gas zone and 11 of these will be injection wells. I call your attention to what has been marked as Skelly's Exhibit Number 6. Would you explain what that is, please?

of cement used, top of cement, whether it's calculated or

whether it was actual measure, top of cement, present

completion intervals, and the type of well proposed.

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SIMMS BLDG. & P.O. BOX 1092 & PHONE 249-6691 • ALBUQUERQUE. NEW MEXICO 87109 1216 First national bank beldg. East-earbuquerque. New Mexico 87108 Exhibit 6 is the primary performance graph for the unit area. This graph shows average monthly oil production from the unit area for the years 1967 through 1972, and also actual oil production by months for January through July 1973.

Development history of the Langlie-Mattix Zone within the unit area began on March 1, 1936, with a completion of Crown Centrals, which was formerly M & G Carter, M. A. Herrin Number 1. A total of 206 wells have been completed in the Langlie-Mattix Zone in the proposed unit area. R. W. Cal Humber 2 was completed on March 9, 1966, and this was the last well drilled in the unit area.

of the 206 wells completed in the Langlie-Mattix interval, 87 wells are currently producing, 81 wells are shut-in or temporarily abandoned, 29 wells are producing from the Jalmat Gas Zone, one well is servicing as an injection well, and eight wells have been plugged and abandoned. The monthly oil production rate for the unit area for July of 1973 was 4,423 barrels, and this is an average of 1.6 barrels of oil per day per producing well. Primary recovery in the unit area is considered to be approximately 100 percent complete, ultimate primary was established at 8,691,311 barrels of oil by the Engineering Subcommittee Study in February

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PAGE 18
of 1966. Cumulative production from the unit area to
August 1, 1973, has been 8,732,391 barrels of oil, or
42,390 barrels per well.
You state, then, that this zone is in a state of
depletion at this time, is that correct, as far as
primary recovery is concerned?
Yes, sir.
I call your attention to Exhibit 7, what does that show?
Exhibit 7 is completion well data showing the completion
data, initial current producing rates, and cumulative
oil production to January 1, 1973, for all wells in the
unit area. Current daily oil production from producing
oil wells in the unit area ranges from zero to 6.5 with
an average of 1.6 barrels of oil per day per well.
This also shows the cumulative oil production to January
1 of 1973 to be 8,699,406 barrels.
I call your attention to what has been marked as Exhibit
8, and would you explain that, please?
Exhibit 8 is available well logs on the proposed
injection wells.
Have you made a tabulation of those wells?
Yes, sir.
I call your attention to what has been marked Skelly's
Exhibit Number 9. Would you tell us what those exhibits

Yes, the Exhibit 9 is an analysis of produced water from the unit area from the water supply source. The water supply source is Skelly's Jal Water System, and this system is presently delivering produced water from the Seven Rivers Formation and Capitan Reef Formation to several units and projects in the immediate area. The Seven Rivers water is produced in association with oil production from wells located in Section 3 and the Capitan Water Reef is produced from supply wells located in Sections 4, 9, and 16, and all these wells are located in Township 23 South, Range 36 East. The Jal Water System facility is located approximately four miles west of the proposed unit area.

MR. BLODGETT: Mr. Examiner, we move the admission of Exhibits 3 through 8 and pass the witness.

MR. STAMETS: Without objections, these exhibits will be admitted.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. STAMETS:

- Mr. Deer, would it be possible for Skelly to furnish us with another listing of the proposed injection wells putting on there the unit name and the unit well number as well as the original name and number?
- A Yes, sir.
- Q Ckay. If you would furnish that to us as soon after the

TO THE PERSON TO DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PERSON	1215 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BLOG. RASTOALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 57106
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1		as possible, that would be very helpful. I believe you
2		stated where the packers would be set. Did you say
3		within 100 feet?
4	A	50 feet. That would be above the casing seat or the
5		uppermost perforation.
5	Q	Mr. Deer, if the Commission's District Supervisor was
7		not satisfied with the completion of any of these
8		particular wells as far as the casing and cementing goes,
9		would Skelly have any objections to working with him to
10		get the completion up to standards before starting
11		injection?
12	A	Yes, sir, we would certainly comply with what he
13		requested.
14	Ω	As far as you know, they are all in good shape, as you
15		have indicated here on your exhibits?
16	A	Well, all we know is just what their completion intervals
17		are and the cement that was used and this sort of stuff.
18	Q	Okay. Turning to your Exhibit Number 4, the first page
	-	of that does show a completion in a well with an
19		
20		openhole interval. In this case, you would have 2 and
21		3/8-inch tubing internally coated, the annulus would be
22		loaded, packer would be within 50 feet of casing shute?
23	A	Yes, sir.
24	Q	The second page of that shows with cased hole and this
25	;	is completed essentially the same way except for casing

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They would be available?

Yes, sir.

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	PAGE 21
	perforations and the annulus would be loaded in this
	hole as well?
A	Yes, sir.
Q	In the third instance, you show one that is dually
	completed. In this case, there would be no fluid in
	the annulus?
A	No, sir. In this particular case, it would produce
	from the Jalmat Gas Zone through the casing tubing
	annulus, which has been practiced in that particular
	area.
Q	And the leak would be detected in this case by finding
	water in your gas line?
A	Yes, sir, the well loading up or something like that.
Q	If that should happen, you would notify the District
	Office of the Commission?
A	Yes, sir.
Q	Now many of these injectivity surveys do you anticipate
	that you will be running in a normal year?
A	Well, initially, I'm sure that we will run injectivity
	profiles on every well that we convert to injection.
Q	Would it be possible to furnish a copy of this to the
	District Office of the Commission?
A	Yes, if they requested it.
l .	

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Q	The	maximum	pressure	you	exhibit	is	2,000.

2,000 pounds.

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MR. STAMETS: Are there any other questions of this witness?

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. BLODGETT:

- Mr. Deer, in your opinion, will the proposed waterflood project prevent waste by enabling the recovery of additional oil that would otherwise not be recovered?
- Yes, sir.
- Do you have any information or estimate of how much more oil would possibly be recovered by this waterflood project?
- The secondary oil reserves by waterflood of proposed Meyers Langlie-Mattix Unit have been estimated at 6.9 million barrels. These reserves assume that recoverable secondary oil will be close to 80 percent of the estimated primary recovery. Waterflood performance is estimated to yield a peak producing rate of 2,460 barrels of oil per day in three years after starting injection, and the life of the waterflood project is estimated to be 15 years.

MR. BLODGETT: I have no further questions.

MR. STAMBIS: Are there any other questions of

the witness?

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(No response.)

MR. STAMETS: Take the case under advisement. Is there anything further in this case? (No response.)

CERTIFICATE

I, JOHN DE LA ROSA, a Court Reporter, in and for the County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me; and that the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

New Mckico Oil Conservation Commission

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