

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

CASES 10,763, 10,794

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for a
unit agreement, Lea County, New Mexico

Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for
approval of a waterflood project, Lea County, New
Mexico

ORIGINAL

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE: DAVID R. CATANACH, EXAMINER

STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

August 12, 1993

A P P E A R A N C E S

FOR THE DIVISION:

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FOR THE APPLICANT:

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JANET RICHARDSON

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CAROLYN BULOVAS YATES

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* * *

E X H I B I T S

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Exhibit 6

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1 WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had
2 at 10:16 a.m.:

3 EXAMINER CATANACH: Call the hearing back to
4 order at this time, and we'll call Case 10,763, which
5 is the Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for a
6 unit agreement, Lea County, New Mexico.

7 Are there appearances in this case?

8 MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner, my
9 name is William F. Carr with the Santa Fe law firm,
10 Campbell, Carr, Berge and Sheridan.

11 I represent Yates Petroleum Corporation in
12 this case.

13 Mr. Examiner, in this case Yates seeks
14 approval of a voluntary unit agreement.

15 Case 10,794 on your docket is the Application
16 of Yates for a waterflood project in the same area.

17 Accordingly, we would request that the two
18 cases be consolidated for the purpose of hearing, Case
19 10,763 and 10,794.

20 EXAMINER CATANACH: Okay, at this time let me
21 call Case 10,794, Application of Yates Petroleum
22 Corporation for approval of a waterflood project, Lea
23 County, New Mexico.

24 Are there additional appearances in either
25 one of these cases?

1 MR. CARR: I have two witnesses to be sworn.

2 (Thereupon, the witnesses were sworn.)

3 JANET RICHARDSON,

4 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn
5 upon her oath, was examined and testified as follows:

6 DIRECT EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. CARR:

8 Q. Would you state your name for the record,
9 please?

10 A. Janet Richardson.

11 Q. Where do you reside?

12 A. Artesia, New Mexico.

13 Q. By whom are you employed?

14 A. Yates Petroleum Corporation.

15 Q. And in what capacity?

16 A. As a landman.

17 Q. Have you previously testified before this
18 Division and had your credentials as a landman accepted
19 and made a matter of record?

20 A. Yes, I have.

21 Q. Are you familiar with the Application filed
22 in each of these cases?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And are you familiar with the proposed Sanmal
25 Queen Unit?

1 A. Yes.

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

4 EXAMINER CATANACH: They are.

5 Q. (By Mr. Carr) Ms. Richardson, would you
6 briefly state what Yates seeks with this Application?

7 A. Yes, we'd like to seek approval of the Sanmal
8 Queen Unit agreement. It's a voluntary secondary
9 recovery unit which contains about 440 acres of State
10 land in Lea County, New Mexico.

11 And we also seek approval of a waterflood
12 project in this unit.

13 Q. Have you prepared exhibits for presentation
14 here today?

15 A. Yes, I have.

16 Q. Would you identify and review for Mr.
17 Catanach what has been marked Yates Number 1?

18 A. Yes, Exhibit Number 1 is the unit agreement
19 for the development and operation of the Sanmal Queen
20 Unit area.

21 This is a state form for voluntary unit.

22 The Queen horizon is being unitized within
23 this unit agreement, and that is in the Sanmal Queen
24 Pool.

25 All wells are drilled so it's not exploratory

1 exhibit or and exploratory unit.

2 Q. All right. Let's go to what has been marked
3 Yates Exhibit 2. It's also Exhibit A to the unit
4 agreement. Would you identify and review that for Mr.
5 Catanach?

6 A. Yes, Exhibit A to the unit agreement is the
7 plat showing the area which we propose to unitize. It
8 contains three state leases, and you can tell by the
9 different cross-hatching that they're three different
10 leases.

11 Q. Let's move now to Yates Exhibit Number 3.

12 A. Exhibit Number 3 is a schedule of the
13 ownership.

14 The first page shows the working interest
15 owners and royalty owners, and the second page shows
16 the same three tracts, only as to how it's been
17 proportioned out due to the formula which is in the
18 unit agreement.

19 Q. All tracts are leased to Yates Petroleum
20 Corporation?

21 A. Yates Petroleum Corporation and its co-
22 owners.

23 Q. Has all acreage been committed to the unit?

24 A. Yes, it has.

25 Q. Has the Commissioner of Public Lands given

1 his preliminary approval to the unit agreement at this
2 time?

3 A. We have a verbal approval from the State Land
4 Office.

5 They have requested additional information,
6 which we are providing. We have submitted a
7 preliminary approval letter, and as soon as we get it
8 approved by the State, we will submit it to the OCD.

9 Q. Is Yates requesting to be designated operator
10 of the unit?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Does the unit agreement provide for periodic
13 filing of plans of development --

14 A. It --

15 Q. -- or plans of operation?

16 A. Yes, it provides for a plan of operation to
17 be filed periodically.

18 Q. And at the time these plans are filed with
19 the Land Office, will they also be filed with the Oil
20 Conservation Division?

21 A. Yes, they will.

22 Q. Will Yates also call an engineering witness
23 to review the portion of the Queen Formation involved
24 in this case and also explain the waterflood portion of
25 the case?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Were Exhibits 1 through 3 either prepared by
3 you or compiled under your direction?

4 A. Yes.

5 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Catanach, we
6 move the admission of Yates Petroleum Corporation
7 Exhibit 1 through 3.

8 EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 1 through 3 will
9 be admitted as evidence.

10 MR. CARR: And that concludes my direct
11 examination of Ms. Richardson.

12 EXAMINATION

13 BY EXAMINER CATANACH:

14 Q. Ms. Richardson, does the unit agreement state
15 that it's only the Queen formation being unitized?

16 A. Yes, it does.

17 On the first page, after the -- On the first
18 page down, it's Section 2, paragraph (d), and it
19 describes the unitized formation.

20 Q. Okay. Have all of the working interest
21 owners executed a copy of -- executed the working
22 interest -- I mean, the unit agreement?

23 A. The copy that I have submitted is executed by
24 all except John A. Yates and S.P. Yates, and I believe
25 that they have that executed now. It wasn't when I

1 came up yesterday, but they were getting the original
2 signed.

3 Q. John A.?

4 A. Yes, Yates.

5 Q. And S.P.?

6 A. S.P. Yates.

7 Q. Will you be submitting that as an additional
8 exhibit whenever you get that?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Who have you talked to with the State Land
11 Office?

12 A. I believe they've been talking with Pete
13 Martinez.

14 Q. Okay. You mentioned that you had a verbal.
15 Is that verbal from Mr. Martinez?

16 A. Yes, with the conditions that we would submit
17 the extra information they wanted.

18 Q. Do you anticipate the State Land Office will
19 approve the unit?

20 A. Yes.

21 EXAMINER CATANACH: I have nothing further,
22 Mr. Carr.

23 MR. CARR: That concludes my examination of
24 this witness.

25 At this time we would call Carolyn Yates.

1 CAROLYN BULOVAS YATES,
2 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn
3 upon her oath, was examined and testified as follows:

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. CARR:

6 Q. Would you state your name for the record,
7 please?

8 A. Carolyn Bulovas Yates.

9 Q. How do you spell your middle name?

10 A. B-u-l-o-v-a-s.

11 Q. By whom are you employed?

12 A. By Yates Petroleum.

13 Q. And in what capacity?

14 A. As a petroleum engineer.

15 Q. Have you previously testified before this
16 Division?

17 A. No, I have not.

18 Q. Could you summarize your educational
19 background for Mr. Catanach?

20 A. Yes, I received a BS in chemical engineering
21 from Texas A&M University in August of 1982.

22 Q. Following that, could you summarize for the
23 Examiner your work experience?

24 A. Immediately after graduation, I started work
25 for Shell Oil Company in Houston, Texas, and that would

1 be in August of 1982. I worked for them until December
2 of 1987.

3 While I was there, I was in two capacities as
4 -- one being a chemical engineer, which was followed by
5 doing petroleum engineering work, about half and half,
6 two and a half years or so in each capacity.

7 And then I started work for Yates Petroleum
8 in May of 1988, as a petroleum engineer.

9 Q. Does the geographic area of your
10 responsibility for Yates include the portion of
11 southeast New Mexico that's involved in this case?

12 A. Yes, it does.

13 Q. Are you familiar with the Applications filed
14 in each of these consolidated cases?

15 A. Yes, I am.

16 Q. And are you familiar with the proposed Sanmal
17 Queen Unit and the waterflood project that is proposed
18 for that unit?

19 A. Yes, I am.

20 Q. Have you made an engineering study of the
21 area involved in this case?

22 A. Yes, I have.

23 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Catanach, we
24 tender Mrs. Yates as an expert witness in petroleum
25 engineering.

1 EXAMINER CATANACH: Ms. Yates is so
2 qualified.

3 Q. (By Mr. Carr) Could you refer to what has
4 been marked as Yates Exhibit 2, which was previously
5 referred to by Mrs. Richardson, and using this exhibit,
6 review generally what Yates is proposing as a
7 waterflood project for the unit area.

8 A. We're proposing to unitize the area that's in
9 the darker hatched area, and there are ten wells in
10 that area. We propose to use three of the wells as
11 injectors and seven as producers.

12 Currently, the wells in this area, in this
13 proposed unitized area, produce 1020 barrels of oil per
14 month.

15 The three wells we propose to use for
16 injectors are on the southeast portion of this proposed
17 unit.

18 The reason we're doing that is because we
19 have a water leg to the southeast, and we plan on
20 injecting water so that we would flood the oil to the
21 other portions of the field where the producers are, in
22 a downdip water injection.

23 And the trapping mechanism is basically
24 stratigraphic on the other three sides with the water
25 leg being on the southeast side.

1 Q. Now, the pool that we're talking about is
2 actually larger than the project area, is it not?

3 A. The field itself is. We are only
4 encompassing the ten wells which you see.

5 There are six additional wells, three of
6 which are operated by Mack Energy and three by Yates
7 Petroleum, which are not in the area of the unit.

8 Q. And Mack Energy was given an opportunity to
9 voluntarily participate in this effort, were they not?

10 A. Yes, in 1991 we made an effort to unitize the
11 larger -- the complete field. At that point they did
12 not care to enter into a unit.

13 We offered to buy their interest. They were
14 not interested in doing that.

15 So we're trying to proceed with developing
16 the reserves in this area by forming this unit.

17 Q. And Mack Energy is aware of Yates' plans to
18 waterflood in this pool?

19 A. Yes, they have been alerted.

20 Q. Now, this Application addresses two injection
21 wells. There are three indicated on Exhibit 2. Could
22 you explain why there is that discrepancy?

23 A. Yes, the well that's in the northeast of the
24 southeast of Section 1 is an existing disposal well.
25 It's been approved for injection by SWD-402.

1 Q. And the way you will operate that well as
2 part of the project is consistent with the approval
3 previously obtained by SWD-402; is that correct?

4 A. That is correct.

5 Q. Could you identify what has been marked as
6 Yates Petroleum Corporation Exhibit Number 4?

7 A. Yes, it's the completed C-108 form with all
8 its attachments.

9 Q. Exhibit Number 4?

10 A. I'm sorry, Exhibit Number 5.

11 Oh, 4, excuse me. That is the actual
12 administrative order, SWD-402.

13 Q. And that approved the one well that is not
14 covered by the C-108?

15 A. That is correct.

16 Q. And the C-108 is what is marked Exhibit
17 Number 5?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. All right. Let's go to that now, and I would
20 ask you first of all to just identify for Mr. Catanach
21 the formation into which you propose to inject, and I'm
22 talking here about the actual injection interval.

23 A. The actual injection interval is from about
24 3762 to 3782.

25 Q. Okay, let's go to what is numbered pages 9

1 and 10 in Yates Exhibit Number 5, and I'd ask you to
2 identify what is shown on those pages and then review
3 the information for the Examiner.

4 A. The information is -- it shows -- It's a
5 leased ownership, and it shows -- The larger circle
6 shows the two-mile radius surrounding each injection
7 well.

8 The smaller circle would be a half-mile
9 radius around each proposed injection well, which would
10 be considered the area of review for both proposed
11 injection wells.

12 Q. Does this exhibit identify all the wells
13 within the area of review which have in fact penetrated
14 the injection zone?

15 A. Yes, it does.

16 Q. And where is that located in Exhibit 5?

17 A. The area of review?

18 Q. The wells that are within the area of review.

19 A. It's in the smaller circle.

20 Q. And are pages 11 through 13 a tabular
21 presentation of information on each of the wells within
22 either of the areas of review indicated in this
23 exhibit?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And this contains all the information

1 required by OCD Form C-108 for each of these wells?

2 A. Yes, it does.

3 Q. Are there plugged and abandoned wells within
4 either of the areas of review?

5 A. Yes, there are three plugged and abandoned
6 wells.

7 Q. And are there summaries and schematics on
8 these wells contained in Exhibit Number 5?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Are the schematics set forth on pages 14
11 through 16 of this exhibit?

12 A. Yes, they are.

13 Q. Have you also included tabular information on
14 these wells in the tables that are included on pages 11
15 through 13?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Have you reviewed this plugging data on these
18 wells, and can you confirm that they are adequately
19 plugged so that they will not become a cause of
20 migration out of the injection interval?

21 A. Yes, they all appear to be adequately
22 plugged.

23 Each schematic -- You can look at the LC
24 Harris State Number 1. It had -- Its TD is to 11,733,
25 but it's perforated at 11,654 to 11,653. Those

1 perforations have cement across them.

2 There are, in addition, three open-hole
3 cement plugs, 25 sacks each, and then there were
4 perforations in the 5-1/2-inch liner, and those
5 perforations also have cement across them, and then ten
6 sacks at the surface on that well. So it appears
7 adequately plugged to prevent migration of waters into
8 that well.

9 And on the Tex Gulf "AEN" State Number 1,
10 that well has a TD of 5270. It's got an open-hole plug
11 at 1520 to 1420. Then it's got a plug across the
12 casing, 13-3/8-inch casing, which should adequately
13 shut off any potential flow there, and then 25 sacks at
14 the surface. And I feel like that's enough to protect
15 that well from any flow.

16 And on the HL -- Well, the State B Number 2,
17 that well has a TD of 11,120. It has four open-hole
18 plugs of 30 sacks each at different vertical depths,
19 and it also has a cement retainer at 4655.

20 And then on this well, some of the 8-5/8-inch
21 casing was removed upon plugging, so a cement plug was
22 put on top of the existing 8 5/8, and then a plug also
23 where the 11 3/4 was set, and then an additional plug
24 at the surface.

25 Q. And each of these schematics sets out not

1 only the number of sacks but also the calculated cement
2 tops in different wellbores?

3 A. Yes, it does.

4 Q. Let's go to pages 6 and 8 of Exhibit Number
5 5, and I'd ask you to identify and review those,
6 please.

7 A. Six and 8 are the schematics of the proposed
8 injection wells.

9 The Billy "AES" State Number 2. The sketch
10 you see there is of the proposed injection well.

11 The only difference, what we propose to do
12 with this injection well and what is existing, is, we
13 plan on adding additional perfs to open up the rest of
14 the Queen, and those perfs would be from 3773 to 3782.
15 We plan on running internally plastic coated 2 7/8 inch
16 and set the packer in the tubing at about 3716.
17 Currently this well is shut in.

18 And on the Hoover "ADR" State Number 2, this
19 is an existing producer. What we would do, once again,
20 is take and open the additional Queen that we -- Right
21 now it only has two sand jet holes at 3762. We would
22 open the additional Queen and we would once again run
23 2-7/8-inch internally plastic-coated tubing and set a
24 packer here at about 3712.

25 Q. What is the source of the water Yates

1 proposes to inject in the subject wells?

2 A. We plan on using the produced water from the
3 wells in the Queen Formation and also to use additional
4 make-up water from the Ogallala Aquifer.

5 Q. And that is fresh water?

6 A. That is fresh water.

7 Q. Has the New Mexico State Land Office approved
8 the use of fresh water as makeup water for this
9 project?

10 A. Yes, it has.

11 Q. And is the approval for that use --

12 A. Well, the approvals -- the water rights, WR-
13 29 and the water-development easement, WD-29.

14 Q. All right. What volumes are you proposing to
15 inject?

16 A. We anticipate injecting an average of 500
17 barrels a day per injection well, and there will be
18 three injection wells.

19 Q. And what would be the maximum daily injection
20 rate?

21 A. We propose a maximum per well of 1000 barrels
22 of water per day.

23 Q. These volumes are consistent with the
24 previous approval for the one well that isn't covered
25 by this C-108; is that correct?

1 A. That is correct.

2 Q. Is this going to be a closed system?

3 A. Yes, it will.

4 Q. Will you be injecting under pressure?

5 A. Yes, we will.

6 Q. What is the injection pressure that you
7 propose to use?

8 A. We propose to use an average injection
9 pressure of 750 p.s.i. and a maximum of 950 p.s.i. at
10 this point.

11 Q. Do these proposed pressure limitations exceed
12 .2 pound per foot of depth to the top of the injection
13 interval?

14 A. The 750 p.s.i. does not exceed it, the 950
15 does.

16 Q. Does Yates agree to run step-rate tests
17 witnessed by the Oil Conservation Division on each
18 injection well if a maximum pressure of more than .2
19 pound per foot of depth is needed, thereby assuring
20 that the formation parting pressure is not exceeded?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Now, let's go to pages 17 and 18 of Exhibit
23 Number 5. Would you identify those for the Examiner
24 and then review them?

25 A. All right. Pages 17 and 18 are a produced

1 water sample from an existing producer in the proposed
2 unit. It's the Sweet Thing "AEB" State Number 1.

3 The reason for this is to indicate that the
4 produced water has no scaling tendencies by itself or
5 calcium carbonate or calcium sulfate, and that's
6 indicated by page 18, which shows the stability index
7 and the solubilities.

8 Q. And this is water that you will be injecting?

9 A. This is indicated with the produced water we
10 would be injecting.

11 Q. Let's go to page 19 of Exhibit 5. What is
12 this?

13 A. Nineteen is an analysis of the fresh water
14 that we would be using from the Williams windmill.

15 It indicates that the fresh water itself has
16 only -- has little to no scaling tendencies for calcium
17 carbonate and none for calcium sulfate scale buildup.

18 Q. And does this water analysis report also
19 continue on page 20 of this exhibit?

20 A. Yes, page 20 is, once again -- It's where you
21 calculate the actual scaling tendencies for the water.

22 Q. Do you anticipate there will be any
23 compatibility problems with the waters you plan to
24 inject in the reservoir?

25 A. No, we don't. We did several analyses

1 combining different amounts of fresh and the produced,
2 one of which is on page 21 and 22, which is a 50-50
3 sample, and that also indicates we should have no
4 problems with scale, with our water.

5 Q. Are there freshwater zones in the area?

6 A. Yes, there are.

7 Q. And what formation does the fresh water come
8 from?

9 A. The Ogallala and about at 450 feet.

10 Q. Are there freshwater wells within a mile of
11 either of the proposed injection wells?

12 A. Yes, there are. There's the Williams
13 windmill, and we consider it the nearest freshwater
14 well, and it's in the northwest quarter of the
15 southeast quarter of Section 12.

16 Q. Could you identify what is marked -- or what
17 is page 23 of Exhibit Number 5?

18 A. Yes, that is a fresh water sample from the
19 well.

20 Q. And that's from the Williams windmill?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Are logs of wells that are involved in this
23 project on file with the Oil Conservation Division?

24 A. Yes, they are.

25 Q. Does Yates request that the order which

1 results from this hearing contain an administrative
2 procedure whereby additional wells can be converted to
3 inject without the necessity of further hearings?

4 A. Yes, we do.

5 Q. Have you examined the available geologic and
6 engineering data on this area?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And as a result of that examination, have you
9 found any evidence of open faults or any other
10 hydrologic connections between the injection interval
11 and any underground source of drinking water?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Now, Ms. Yates, this Application also seeks
14 qualification of this project under the New Mexico
15 Enhanced Oil Recovery Act.

16 Could you refer in that regard to what has
17 been marked as Yates Exhibit Number 6 and identify and
18 review that for Mr. Catanach?

19 A. Yates's Exhibit 6 is an economic summary of
20 our proposed project.

21 We show an investment of approximately
22 \$317,000. We anticipate additional oil reserves from
23 this project of 204,000 barrels. This would be a cost
24 to develop of \$1.55 per barrel.

25 Our profitability -- At 15-percent discount

1 rate, the present value would be \$509,000.

2 Our rate of return is anticipated to be 46
3 percent, with an income-over-investment ratio of 4.6.

4 Q. What are the total project costs?

5 A. \$317,000.

6 Q. And what is the estimated value of the
7 additional production that will be recovered as a
8 result of this project?

9 A. We anticipate 204,000 barrels of oil over
10 seven years.

11 Q. And the value of that production, is that set
12 forth anywhere on these exhibits?

13 A. Well, as part of the economics to determine
14 your profitability of your projects, how much you will
15 receive from your oil, minus your investment, your
16 operating costs, et cetera.

17 So all that is reflected in the economics
18 itself.

19 Q. Okay. An actual dollar amount for the value
20 for the oil could be obtained by just multiplying the
21 barrels times an estimated oil price?

22 A. To get the up-front value of the oil, yes.

23 Of course, with economics, the oil price can
24 change from time to time. We anticipate a value of \$19
25 per barrel oil in our economics.

1 Q. Should approval of this Application and
2 waterflooding in this particular unit -- should this
3 result in an increase in the amount of crude oil
4 ultimately recovered from the project?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. In your opinion, has the project area been so
7 depleted that it is now prudent to implement a
8 waterflood project to maximize the ultimate recovery of
9 oil from the project area?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. In your opinion, is this project both
12 economically and technically feasible?

13 A. Yes, it is.

14 Q. In your opinion, has this Application been
15 filed prematurely?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Could you identify what has been marked as
18 Yates Petroleum Corporation Exhibit Number 7?

19 A. This is the cumulative primary production on
20 the ten wells we have proposed to be included in the
21 unit. And it basically just shows the production to
22 date.

23 Q. And in addition to carrying these trends out,
24 if the project is implemented you are anticipating
25 additional recovery of 204,000 barrels of oil?

1 A. That's what we're anticipating.

2 Q. In your opinion, will granting this project
3 be in the best interests of conservation?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Will it otherwise prevent waste and
6 protective correlative rights?

7 A. Exactly.

8 Q. What is the anticipated date for commencement
9 of waterflood operations?

10 A. January 1st, 1994.

11 Q. Has a copy of this Application been mailed to
12 all leasehold operators within a half mile of the
13 injection well --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- and to the owners of the surface of the
16 land on which the well is located?

17 A. Yes, we've sent out the C-108 to all those
18 people.

19 Q. And is Exhibit Number 8 an affidavit
20 confirming that notice of today's hearing has been
21 provided by certified mail as required by Division Rule
22 1207?

23 A. Yes, it is.

24 Q. Were Exhibits 4 through 8 either prepared by
25 you or compiled under your direction and supervision?

1 A. Yes, they were.

2 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Catanach, we
3 move the admission of Yates Petroleum Exhibits 4
4 through 8.

5 EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 4 through 8 will
6 be admitted as evidence.

7 MR. CARR: And that concludes my direct
8 examination of this witness.

9 EXAMINATION

10 BY EXAMINER CATANACH:

11 Q. Ms. Yates, can you tell me where the Mack
12 Energy wells are located?

13 A. Yes, if you look in Section 11, the three
14 wells, sort of a triangle shape closest to the bottom
15 of the unit, those three wells are the Mack energy
16 wells.

17 Yates Petroleum operates the two wells
18 directly to the west of those three and the one well
19 you see in Section 2 just to the west of the unit
20 boundary.

21 Q. You have talked to Mack Energy and they don't
22 want to participate in a waterflood project; is that
23 correct?

24 A. This water- -- This has been going on since
25 1991. An engineering study was presented to them and a

1 geological study. All the working interest owners got
2 together and tried to work out an agreement.

3 The working interest owners that were not
4 interested in actually entering into it, we bought out.
5 And actually Mack Energy is the only one left, and they
6 just -- They weren't interested in entering into the
7 unit. And we did try to buy their interest out, and
8 they did not want to do that. We actually attempted a
9 co-op with them, and things just never were worked out.

10 So in the event of proceeding with getting
11 the oil and gas out of this area, we drew up a slightly
12 different unit and proposed this unit.

13 And we told them when we first started, this
14 is what we were going to do, and if they had any
15 opposition to please let us know, and they've given us
16 no indication at all that it's against their wishes.

17 Q. What effect, if any, do you think your
18 injection is going to have on their producing well?

19 A. I don't think it will have much of any
20 effect. If anything, possible beneficial, because we
21 have a producer between our injector in Section 12, so
22 if anything -- They won't lose any oil, I don't
23 anticipate. Minimal if any effects from injection,
24 probably little. I really don't think it will have any
25 effect. That's why I don't anticipate that they have

1 any problem with this.

2 Q. They're the only other operator in the pool
3 at this point in time --

4 A. In --

5 Q. -- in the Sanmal Queen?

6 A. Yes, yes.

7 Q. Okay. Do you anticipate additional drilling
8 within the proposed unit?

9 A. Not at this time. And -- None that we're
10 planning.

11 Q. The ten producing wells within the unit you
12 said were averaging -- the production per month was --

13 A. 1040 or so. They're all less than ten
14 barrels of oil per day. In April it was like 1040
15 barrels of oil per month for those ten wells, one of
16 which is the disposal well, so that's not really fair.

17 Q. You mentioned something about the State
18 having approved your proposed injection of fresh water.
19 Did that approval come from the State Land Office?

20 A. We have copies of -- Yes, we have copies of
21 such, if you would like them.

22 Q. I know that it was an issue with the State
23 Land Office --

24 A. Right.

25 Q. -- earlier on, and I don't know if it's still

1 an issue with them.

2 MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner, I have
3 copies of both the approval of water rights and also
4 the water disposal approval, and I'll be happy to
5 provide you with copies.

6 They specifically reference this particular
7 unit, but they were executed by the State Land Office
8 in October of 1992.

9 EXAMINER CATANACH: Okay, I guess it would do
10 me good to have copies of those, Mr. Carr.

11 Q. (By Examiner Catanach) Ms. Yates, I notice
12 in one of your injection wells, the Queen and the -- I
13 mean the Grayburg and San Andres had been perforated.
14 Is that also productive in this area?

15 A. No. That's what -- I guess you might say it
16 was a drilled -- it was drilled to see if it was, and
17 it wasn't, and that's when we went uphole.

18 I guess they anticipated at that time they
19 might find something. But to my knowledge, no.

20 Q. In the Billy "AES" State Number 2 well, would
21 you anticipate that -- Well, you don't have it shown,
22 but you don't plan on squeezing those perforations in
23 the Grayburg and the San Andres?

24 A. No, we felt like the bridge plug was
25 sufficient.

1 Q. Ms. Yates, as far as qualifying the
2 waterflood project as a certified EOR project, you
3 would seek to include all of the acreage and all of the
4 wells within the project area?

5 A. That's correct.

6 Q. In your opinion, the way the operation is
7 proposed at this point, each of the producing wells
8 will have a benefit -- will be benefitted from
9 injection?

10 A. Yes, I do.

11 Q. On your Exhibit Number 7, your decline curve
12 for the producing wells, it looks like the decline on
13 these wells was somewhat arrested during 1992. Do you
14 know what happened during that time?

15 A. I was wondering that myself. Not exactly. I
16 think in general we had some mechanical problems, and
17 we more or less made the pumping units a little more
18 efficient, is what happened, is what I can come up
19 with.

20 Q. How long would you anticipate response to the
21 waterflood to be?

22 A. To peak response or just initial response?

23 Q. Just initial response.

24 A. Initial response, six months.

25 Q. Six months. And so far as the Hoover

1 injection well, you're just asking for that to be
2 reclassified as an injection well?

3 A. Exactly.

4 EXAMINER CATANACH: I believe that's all I
5 have of the witness.

6 MR. CARR: We have nothing further of this
7 witness, nor in these consolidated cases.

8 EXAMINER CATANACH: Okay. There being
9 nothing further, these cases, Case 10,763 and 10,794,
10 will be taken under advisement.

11 (Thereupon, these proceedings were concluded
12 at 11:07 a.m.)

13 * * *

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16
17 I do hereby certify that the foregoing is
18 a complete record of the proceedings in
19 the Examiner hearing of Case No. 1063, 10794
heard by me on August 12 19 93.
20 David R. Catanch, Examiner
Oil Conservation Division
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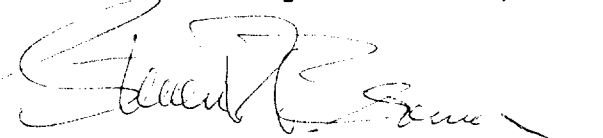
1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

2
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
4) ss.
5 COUNTY OF SANTA FE)

6 I, Steven T. Brenner, Certified Court
7 Reporter and Notary Public, HEREBY CERTIFY that the
8 foregoing transcript of proceedings before the Oil
9 Conservation Division was reported by me; that I
10 transcribed my notes; and that the foregoing is a true
11 and accurate record of the proceedings.

12 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative or
13 employee of any of the parties or attorneys involved in
14 this matter and that I have no personal interest in the
15 final disposition of this matter.

16 WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL September 8th, 1993.

17 

18 STEVEN T. BRENNER
19 CCR No. 7

20 My commission expires: October 14, 1994
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