

Original

BEFORE THE
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

CASE NO. 469

Henrickson's Reporting Service
2224 - 47th Street
Los Alamos, New Mexico

BEFORE THE
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

JANUARY 15, 1953

- - - - -
In the Matter of:

The application of Neil H. Wills, et al, for
approval of a secondary recovery program (by
water flooding) in the Russell Pool, Eddy
County, New Mexico, in Sections 12, 13 and 14,
Township 20 South, Range 28 East, NMPM.

- - - - -

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

BEFORE:

Hon. Ed Mechem, Governor and Chairman
Hon. R. R. Spurrier, Secretary and Member
Hon. E. S. Walker, Member

NEIL H. WILLS

having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

WILLS - My name is Neil Wills. I am the operating partner in the lands in the Russell field of which we'd like to get permission from the Oil Conservation to flood.

The partnership owns all the lands in the field and possibly six or eight hundred acres of lands surrounding the field in almost all directions.

There are about fifty shallow wells in this field producing from the Yates Sand at a depth of oh, eight hundred to nine hundred feet.

And I have an engineering report prepared by the Cable Engineering Company of Wichita Falls, Texas which I'd like to submit to the Oil Conservation Commission and I think in this report, all the engineering facts are presented and I don't believe I can add any facts to the report. If there are any questions, I would be glad to try to answer them. I haven't very much of a case because we own all the lands and the lands, by the way, are all Federal lands.

The field is very small - - - -

WHITE - Then Mr. Wills, what you're asking the Commission to do is to read that report and issue their order based upon it?

WILLS - Yes, sir. That's right.

GRAHAM - Where will you obtain the water, Mr. Wills?

WILLS - We planned on obtaining the water from the top of the Capitan Reef Section, right below the Yates formation. It would be a very - I mean, that water would be very bad water, salty water but we

feel that it will be all right for flooding.

WHITE - What is the source of your water? And who will control it?

WILLS - Well, the water is from the wells we put into the Russell sand and it will be controlled by our engineer-in-charge.

GRAHAM - Is there underground water in that valley area?

WILLS - No, it's outside the area.

WHITE - What kind of packing are you going to use?

WILLS - Packing? Well, the present - the wells that will be incut wells, will be well packed. I don't understand the question. I'm not an engineer, I didn't do the engineering work on this.

WHITE - The answers to these questions will be in the report?

WILLS - I hope so.

MACEY - Mr. Wills, you are going to take the water out of the No. 5, is that correct?

WILLS - Or similar wells that we might obtain water from.

MACEY - They're all abandoned wells?

WILLS - That's right.

MACEY - You're going to perforate the strong section and then inject the - - -

WILLS - That's right. The water that we will obtain is about three hundred feet below the Russell Sand.

GRAHAM - What is the production of those wells, Mr. Wills? What do they do? They've failed, haven't they? What do you get out of them?

WILLS - We're making about two barrels per day per well. About 100 barrels a day for the field.

GRAHAM - What are your expectations? Will it materially increase?

WILLS - Well, the engineer says that if the flood is successful, we will get as much oil from the flood as we have already, which will be about a million barrels.

SPURRIER - Are there any other questions of this witness?

MACEY - What you plan to do is get a pilot program to start with -

WILLS - That's right.

MACEY - If it works out successfully, you intend to expand it?

WILLS - That's right. It will require about a year, according to the engineer to tell. This plat here shows, in red, the outline of the acreage that we own. And you see, the field is right in the middle of it. There's a thousand acres, at least the field is about four hundred acres.

MACEY - Was this Cable Engineering Company who made this survey for you, were they able to cut any cores yet or is that something - - -

WILLS - The last hole I drilled on Number 26 is the only hole which we cored. And that was about two years ago. That's the only core information we have at that one well.

MACEY - And that's what you're basing your proposal - - -

WILLS - That's right.

MACEY - upon the facts that you got from there?

WILLS - That's right.

MACEY - They say the continuity is pretty uniform down there, isn't it? I mean, it has characteristics.

WILLS - Well, it's very shaley. Whether it will be successful, we

don't know. It's very shaley and it's not the best type of sand probably. But it's - - so much oil remains in place, that it seems like we should try something to get additional oil out. There's oil there - there's no question about it.

MACEY - There's a lot of Yates fields down in that area that if this were successful, the same thing would probably be incorporated with them.

WILLS - This is the only Yates Sand field.

MACEY - And the rest of them are lime?

WILLS - That's right. The most of the production around Carlsbad is from the base of the Yates in the lime. There are some Yates fields in Lea County but not very close to Russell.

SPURRIER - Mr. Wills, do you offer this exhibit in evidence?

WILLS - Yes.

SPURRIER - Without objection, it will be received. Are there any further questions? If not, the witness may be excused and the case will be taken under advisement. The next case on the docket is Case 470.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached transcript of hearing on Case 469, before the Oil Conservation Commission, State of New Mexico, at Santa Fe, on January 15, 1953, is a true and correct record of the same to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

DATED at Los Alamos, New Mexico, this 16th day of January, 1953.


REPORTER