

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING)
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION)
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF)
CONSIDERING:) CASE NO. 10775

APPLICATION OF SANTA FE ENERGY
OPERATING PARTNERS, L.P.

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

EXAMINER HEARING

BEFORE: David R. Catanach, Hearing Examiner

October 7, 1993

Santa Fe, New Mexico

This matter came on for hearing before the
Oil Conservation Division on October 7, 1993, at
Morgan Hall, State Land Office Building, 310 Old Santa
Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Deborah O'Bine,
RPR, Certified Court Reporter No. 63, for the State of
New Mexico.

ORIGINAL

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Examiner Hearing
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A P P E A R A N C E S

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FOR THE APPLICANT: HINKLE, COX, EATON, COFFIELD
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BY: JAMES G. BRUCE, ESQ.

FOR TEXACO, ENRON,
and READ & STEVENS: CAMPBELL, CARR, BERGE &
SHERIDAN, P.A.
P.O. Box 2208
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
BY: WILLIAM F. CARR, ESQ.

1 EXAMINER CATANACH: Let's call the hearing
2 back to order, and at this time we'll call Case 10775.

3 MR. STOVALL: Application of Santa Fe
4 Energy Operating Partners L.P. for an unorthodox
5 infill gas well location and simultaneous dedication,
6 Eddy County, New Mexico.

7 EXAMINER CATANACH: Are there appearances
8 in this case?

9 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, my name is Jim
10 Bruce from the Hinkle law firm in Santa Fe
11 representing the Applicant. I have three witnesses.

12 EXAMINER CATANACH: Additional
13 appearances?

14 MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner, my
15 name is William F. Carr with the Santa Fe law firm,
16 Campbell, Carr, Berge & Sheridan. I'm entering an
17 appearance on behalf of Texaco Exploration &
18 Production, Inc., for whom I have two witness; Enron
19 Oil & Gas Company, for whom I have one; and I'm also
20 entering an appearance for Read & Stevens, Inc.

21 MR. STOVALL: For whom you have none?

22 MR. CARR: For whom I have none.

23 EXAMINER CATANACH: Okay. Let's get the
24 six witnesses to stand up and be sworn in.

25 (Witnesses sworn.)

1 CURTIS SMITH,
2 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn
3 upon his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. BRUCE:

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

8 A. My name is Curtis Smith.

9 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, if Mr. Carr has
10 no objection, Mr. Smith was previously sworn in and
11 qualified as an expert petroleum landman earlier
12 today, and I'd move his admission as an expert
13 landman.

14 EXAMINER CATANACH: Any objection, Mr.
15 Carr?

16 MR. CARR: No objection.

17 EXAMINER CATANACH: The record shall so
18 reflect.

19 Q. (BY MR. BRUCE) Briefly, Mr. Smith what is
20 it Santa Fe Energy seeks today?

21 A. Santa Fe seeks permission to drill its
22 Malaga "1" No. 2 well to test the Atoka formation at
23 an unorthodox location 1980 feet from the south line
24 and 660 feet from the east line of Section 1, Township
25 24 South, Range 28 East, Eddy County, New Mexico.

1 Santa Fe seeks to simultaneously dedicate
2 the No. 2 well together with its existing Malaga Fed
3 "1" No. 1 well located in the southwest quarter of
4 Section 1 to the south half of Section 1.

5 The No. 1 well is currently producing from
6 the Atoka formation.

7 Q. Would you identify Exhibit 1 for the
8 examiner?

9 A. Exhibit 1 is a land plat marking the
10 location of the existing No. 1 well and the proposed
11 No. 2 well. The offset operator that's shown on the
12 plat, and they are also listed on the second page of
13 the exhibit. The primary offset operator is Texaco to
14 the east and Enron to the north.

15 Q. To the north is the proposed well location
16 encroaching on Enron's acreage?

17 A. No. We are standard 660 feet from the
18 north half of the unit or 660 feet from our side
19 boundary.

20 Q. Were the offset operators notified of this
21 application?

22 A. Yes, they were. And Exhibit 2 is my
23 affidavit of notice containing my notice letters and
24 certified return receipts.

25 Q. Now, this application was originally set

1 for the July 29th hearing, was it not?

2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. And it was continued several times?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. One last question, Mr. Smith, what is the
6 cost of Santa Fe's proposed well?

7 A. The anticipated cost of the well is \$937
8 for a dry hole and \$1,321,000 for a completed well.
9 Santa Fe is willing to invest a substantial sum to
10 recover the reserves our geologist and engineer
11 believe are under the southeast quarter of Section 1.

12 Q. I believe I omitted one exhibit. What is
13 Exhibit 2A?

14 A. Exhibit 2A is our letter to Kaiser Francis,
15 requesting a waiver of the 20-day notification period,
16 which I believe ultimately was unnecessary since we
17 continued the hearing, and they were given a 20-day
18 notification after all, but regardless of that date,
19 they've given us the waiver.

20 Q. Were Exhibits 1, 2 and 2A prepared by you
21 or under your direction or compiled from company
22 records?

23 A. Yes, they were.

24 Q. In your opinion, is the granting of the
25 application in the interest of conservation and the

1 prevention of waste?

2 A. Yes, it is.

3 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I tender Santa Fe
4 Exhibits 1, 2, and 2A.

5 EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 1, 2, and 2A
6 will be admitted as evidence.

7 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Carr?

8 MR. CARR: No questions.

9 EXAMINATION

10 BY EXAMINER CATANACH:

11 Q. Mr. Smith, the only party being crowded by
12 the unorthodox location is Texaco in Section 6?

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. But you did notify everybody that surrounds
15 the spacing unit?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. Due to the infill well?

18 A. That's correct.

19 EXAMINER CATANACH: I have nothing further.

20 MR. BRUCE: Call Mr. Goldstein to the
21 stand.

22 LOUIS GOLDSTEIN,
23 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn
24 upon his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

25 EXAMINATION

1 BY MR. BRUCE:

2 Q. Would you please state your name for the
3 record.

4 A. My name is Louis Goldstein.

5 Q. Who do you work for and in what capacity?

6 A. I'm a geologist employed by Santa Fe Energy
7 Resources in Midland, Texas.

8 Q. Have you previously testified before the
9 Division?

10 A. No, I have not testified before this board.

11 Q. Would you please outline for the Division
12 your educational and employment background.

13 A. Yes. I got my bachelor's of science degree
14 in geology in 1980 from the State University of New
15 York College at Fredonia. I've spent the last 12-3/4
16 years employed as a geologist, from 1981 to 1985 with
17 Samson Resources Company in Tulsa, Oklahoma; from
18 February '85 through April '87 with Energy
19 Acquisitions, Inc., in Tulsa, Oklahoma; August '87
20 through April '90 with Texas Oil & Gas Production
21 Corporation in Oklahoma City; and April '90 to present
22 with Santa Fe Energy Resources, first in Houston and
23 now in Midland, Texas.

24 I've also testified and been a qualified
25 witness before the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

1 Q. Are you familiar with the geological
2 matters involved in this case?

3 A. Yes, I am.

4 Q. Have you conducted geological study and
5 prepared certain exhibits for presentation today?

6 A. Yes, I have.

7 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I would tender
8 Mr. Goldstein as an expert petroleum geologist.

9 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Goldstein is so
10 qualified.

11 Q. (BY MR. BRUCE) Mr. Goldstein, would you
12 please refer to Santa Fe Exhibit 3 and identify it for
13 the examiner.

14 A. Yes. Exhibit 3 was prepared by me. It's a
15 structure map on the Top of the Lower Atoka
16 formation. It was prepared and shows that the
17 structure dips to the east at approximately 120 feet
18 per mile.

19 It shows our location, our unorthodox
20 location in the southeast of Section 1. It also shows
21 production from all wells producing at or specifically
22 the AD member of the Atoka formation.

23 In this particular area, the Malaga Pool
24 and this area in general, there are a number of
25 different Atoka sands and limes which produce, some of

1 which are the AB, AC, AD, Atoka bank limestone, and AE
2 sands. Our primary objective is the Atoka AD sand.

3 And one other thing about this exhibit is
4 the yellow-colored wells are all wells that have
5 perforated the AD member. The AD may not be the main
6 contributing member in the well, but if the well was
7 perforated in the AD, it is reflected in yellow on
8 this exhibit, and production is given for all the
9 zones that are produced in that well.

10 It also shows the outline of cross-section
11 A-A' and B-B', which are parallel cross-sections,
12 which will be introduced as a later exhibit, Exhibit
13 No. 5, I believe.

14 Q. Okay. Let's move on first to Exhibit 4.
15 Would you identify that for the examiner and tell the
16 examiner what it shows?

17 A. Yes. Exhibit No. 4 is an Atoka AD sand net
18 isopach, density porosity greater than or equal to 10
19 percent. What it attempts to do is identify the
20 reservoir-quality rock within the AD member of the
21 Atoka formation.

22 This exhibit illustrates subparallel
23 fluvial systems, which I interpret to be braided
24 channels. As such, you have limited bars along each
25 river system.

1 The dashed line indicates the river limit
2 or depositional limit, if you will, of each of these
3 systems. All the well control outside the dashed
4 lines, you won't have any gross or any net Atoka AD
5 sand of any kind. Within the dashed limits of the
6 channel systems, you can have silty rock, tight rock,
7 or reservoir-quality rock. Since that is net porosity
8 isopach, what I've delineated here is what I've
9 interpreted to be the reservoir quality rock within
10 these channel systems.

11 Our main objective in drilling and
12 attempting to locate our well at an unorthodox
13 location in the southeast of Section 1 is so that we
14 can drill a well which is more or less on depositional
15 strike with the Enron Malaga well drilled in the
16 southeast of Section 36.

17 On the eastern trend of production, if you
18 will, the Enron well in the southeast of 36 is the
19 only economic AD producer by itself of all the colored
20 wells. And so we want to be basically on strike yet
21 in a separate pod with that -- with the deposition in
22 the section southeast of 36.

23 That's what we're attempting to do, and that's
24 why we need to go ahead and crowd to the east in
25 Section 1 in order to optimize our geologic location,

1 to find our own discrete reservoir within the system.

2 Q. And, once again, your primary zone is the
3 AD Atoka itself?

4 A. That's correct, AD zone is our main
5 objective.

6 Q. Would you identify Exhibit 4A for the
7 examiner and tell us what it shows?

8 A. Exhibit 4A is a map of our secondary
9 objective. It is a map of the net density porosity
10 sand greater than or equal to --

11 MR. STOVALL: What's 4A look like, just so
12 we're --

13 THE WITNESS: 4A looks not very pretty.

14 MR. STOVALL: Is that it?

15 MR. BRUCE: It's marked in the upper left-
16 hand corner.

17 MR. STOVALL: So it is.

18 THE WITNESS: Kind of hard to tell with the
19 way that beautiful drafting is done.

20 Q. (BY MR. BRUCE) First, before you begin, is
21 this a secondary objective?

22 A. Yes. This is our secondary objective in
23 drilling our test well. As you can see by looking at
24 the location compared to the thick on the net isopach,
25 we are not optimized to encounter the thickest

1 possible AC. We just think it will be a zone that we
2 encounter on the way down, and we would like the right
3 to produce that zone as well in our wellbore.

4 Q. Is your existing Malaga Fed "1" No. 1 well,
5 the one in the southwest quarter of Section 1,
6 perforated in this zone?

7 A. The existing well is perforated as shown by
8 Exhibit 4 and Exhibit 4A in the AD and the AC member
9 of the Atoka formation. It is also perforated in the
10 Atoka bank that as engineering testimony will show,
11 both the AD and AC member are not contributing to the
12 production in the Malaga Fed 1-1.

13 Q. And this map also shows that the Texaco
14 acreage to the east is not respective or the AC just
15 isn't there?

16 A. That's correct, not in the Malaga Harroun
17 Com 1-6 wellbore.

18 Q. And one final question on this, the Enron
19 well in the northwest quarter of Section 1 is
20 producing from the AC; is that correct?

21 A. Yes, that is producing out of the AC, and I
22 believe the bank as well.

23 Q. Let's move on to the cross-section, Exhibit
24 5.

25 A. Okay. This cross-section is somewhat big

1 and awkward. There's a reason why I put this exhibit
2 on one piece of paper instead of spreading it out.
3 That's so that comparisons can be made from A-A' to
4 B-B' which are basically running parallel to each
5 other.

6 What I'm attempting to do by this exhibit
7 is draw an analogy between what's going on up in the
8 north in Section 36 and what's going on in Section 1
9 further south.

10 Specifically, this was put together for the
11 AC sand. This cross-section also serves to show some
12 of the multiple zone productive within the Atoka in
13 this particular area in that these wells -- you can
14 see the AC sand discrete from the AD sand discrete
15 from the Atoka Bank. And you can see that Top Lower
16 Atoka in purple. This is what I made my structure map
17 on.

18 This interval is relatively uniform in this
19 area and the correlations relatively straightforward.
20 They all have discrete levels in which they sit.

21 With reference to the AD sand on the left
22 side of A-A', that well has 4 feet of type that is no
23 net, no net porosity greater than 10 percent in that
24 well, the Phillips Malaga 1-C. As such in the density
25 isopach, it's colored in yellow because it was

1 perforated, but there is no net pay in that well. So
2 it remains within the depositional fairways of the
3 trend yet outside of the productive pod, the
4 productive lens, if you will.

5 The Phillips Malaga 3-C, which is the
6 second well in on A-A', encountered 4 feet with
7 greater than 10 percent density porosity. It is on
8 the western edge of the productive member, productive
9 sand lens, if you will. It does show very thin
10 member. It is not yet completed. It is still in the
11 process of being completed as of right now, as of the
12 latest PR report out of perforations in the AC and AD.
13 And that well is making 2.2 million a day, but it has
14 not been finaled and reported to the state as of yet.

15 Obviously, the good well and the well we're
16 trying to drill a mirror to would be the Enron 1
17 Malaga 36 State. That well has 12 feet of well-
18 developed AC sand. It sits in the middle of that
19 productive sandbar and shows nice solid base, nice
20 fluvial deposit.

21 MR. STOVALL: What was that, what kind of
22 deposit?

23 THE WITNESS: Fluvial.

24 MR. STOVALL: You need to make sure you're
25 enunciating somewhat clearly for the court reporter to

1 get strange words.

2 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

3 The last well, the well furthest to the
4 east on A-A', is the Santa Fe Energy 1 Harroun Trust
5 31 Fed Com. That well has no net porosity greater
6 than 10 percent. It was perforated in the interval,
7 and you can see some zonal development, thick but
8 silty, in that well. So it would fall within the
9 channel system, yet not within a productive member,
10 not within a productive reservoir.

11 That all becomes more interesting when we
12 look at B-B' further to the south. The first well in
13 B-B', the Santa Fe Energy 1 Malaga 1 Fed Com, you can
14 see it has four feet, thin, tight AD sand, very much
15 like the Phillips Malaga 1-C on the left side of
16 A-A'. Those two are basically on strike with each
17 other. Very thin, tight sands.

18 The Phillips Malaga 3-C well has no
19 comparable well on this cross-section. I don't want
20 to drill a well that has just four feet of net sand.
21 I want to go ahead and optimize my location by moving
22 further east, similar to where Enron drilled their
23 Malaga State, further north.

24 Then I have -- I believe my sand pinches
25 out and then comes back into another thin bar in the

1 Getty Harroun Com 1-6. You can see there's porosity,
2 five feet of porosity developed in the Getty well, but
3 if you look at the character of that well and compare
4 it to the Santa Fe Harroun Trust, it simply looks like
5 it has cleaned up further south, if you will.

6 They're close to being on strike with each
7 other. This one is a little better developed. This
8 one is a little siltier. You can go ahead and look at
9 gamma ray on those two logs.

10 As such, I believe the strike orients
11 itself a little bit in this direction, a little bit
12 south to southeast in this direction. And so with
13 this on strike here, these two wells are on strike, in
14 order for us to be on strike with our well in Section
15 36, we need to move east in Section 1 in order to
16 optimize our geological opportunity.

17 This is a risky prospect. Each of these
18 sand lenses are relatively limited and discrete. In
19 order to optimize our geological possibility of
20 finding the zone, we need to drill in the most optimal
21 place we can in order to hopefully encounter maximum
22 sand thickness. That's the intent in coming in here
23 and getting the unorthodox location.

24 Let me make one other point while the
25 cross-section is out. And that's the Santa Fe Energy

1 Operating Partners' 1 Malaga 1 Fed Com with the
2 perforations as shown before in the AC and the AD and
3 the Atoka Bank, all shown on the west side of B-B'
4 cross-section.

5 The Atoka AD sand itself doesn't have any
6 reservoir-quality rock at all, just four feet tight.
7 The AC sand looks like it contributed seven feet of
8 greater than 10 percent density porosity, but as
9 engineering will testify, it did not contribute, and
10 there are the perforations in the limestone Atoka
11 Bank, which is the contributing horizon in the
12 wellbore.

13 Q. So looking at Exhibit 5 together with your
14 Exhibit 4, what you're saying is that the wells seem
15 to line up on a south-southeast basis?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. And as a result --

18 A. Kind of a north-northeast, south-southeast
19 strike.

20 Q. North-northwest to south-southeast?

21 A. Yes, that's correct.

22 Q. As a result, to place -- to emulate the
23 Enron well in Section 36, you're locating your well
24 south-southeast in Section 1?

25 A. That's correct.

1 Q. Looking at this, just from a geological
2 perspective, is there any need for any type of penalty
3 on production from the proposed well if the OCD grants
4 this application?

5 A. No. It is our intent to drill a reservoir
6 that hasn't been encountered by any other well. In
7 our economic evaluation of the area, it's not economic
8 for us to either try to get into the same sandbar with
9 the Enron well 36 or the Texaco well in Section 6, as
10 engineering will testify.

11 So we are trying to find our own sand body,
12 and it's risky, and we don't feel that any penalty
13 should be necessary.

14 Q. So as far as the AD zone goes, you're in a
15 different pod, if you will, than either Texaco or
16 Enron?

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. And so there's no need for a penalty?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. And as far as the AC zone goes, your
21 Exhibit 4A, there isn't any AC zone present in
22 Texaco's acreage?

23 A. That's correct.

24 Q. And Enron to the north already has a well
25 producing from that?

1 A. Yes. And our well in the south half of
2 Section 1 is not getting any contribution, any
3 production from that zone.

4 Q. So in order to produce that zone, you need
5 a second well?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. One final thing, looking, oh, say at your
8 Exhibit 4, are you aware that at one time Collins &
9 Ware had proposed a well in the southeast quarter of
10 Section 25?

11 A. Yes, I am. I spoke with a Collins & Ware
12 geologist about that several months ago or a month ago
13 or so. They had a similar application to ours whereby
14 they wanted to drill an unorthodox location 710 feet
15 from the south line and 710 feet from the east line of
16 Section 25 north of the Enron well and have
17 simultaneous dedication because their well is
18 producing at a different Atoka horizon than the AD.

19 Upon receiving pressure data from Enron,
20 which conclusively showed that the Enron well in
21 Section 36 was in a relatively small sandbar or
22 reservoir, they decided to dismiss their location in
23 the southeast of 25. They didn't want to run the risk
24 of drilling into the same reservoir with Enron in 36
25 because that one well would sufficiently drain that

1 reservoir, and they didn't want to take the geological
2 risk to go out there and try to identify the new
3 reservoir themselves.

4 Q. Were Exhibits 3 through 5 prepared by you?

5 A. Yes, they were.

6 Q. And, in your opinion, is the granting of
7 the unorthodox location in the interest of
8 conservation and the prevention of waste?

9 A. Yes, it is.

10 Q. In your opinion, will the unorthodox
11 location and simultaneous dedication adversely affect
12 the correlative rights of Enron or Texaco?

13 A. No, it will not.

14 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, at this time I'd
15 move the admission of Santa Fe Exhibits 3 through 5.

16 EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 3 through 5
17 will be admit as evidence. Mr. Carr?

18 EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. CARR:

20 Q. Mr. Goldstein, in preparing your geologic
21 exhibits, have you relied on well control?

22 A. Yes, I have.

23 Q. Have you integrated seismic information
24 into this interpretation?

25 A. No, I have not. There's no seismic in this

1 interpretation. It's purely a subsurface well control
2 study.

3 Q. If we look at Exhibit No. 3, this exhibit
4 basically shows that the proposed location will be in
5 the Lower Atoka structurally high to the Texaco well
6 in 6; is that right?

7 A. That's right.

8 Q. It will be low to the existing Santa Fe
9 well in the south half of 1?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. You've indicated that your primary zones of
12 interest are the AB member; is that right?

13 A. I'm sorry, AD is our main objective with
14 the secondary objective in the AC.

15 Q. Secondary is the AC?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. How many zones are there in the Atoka in
18 this area that might be productive?

19 A. There are potentially multiple zones that
20 might be productive.

21 Q. Are you intending to test all of the zones
22 that are encountered in the proposed well?

23 A. We are not intending to test anything that
24 we don't have the right to produce, such as the bank,
25 which is producing in our existing well in 1;

1 therefore, I don't believe it's our intention to
2 produce that well. We might test it to see if it had
3 different pressure, but it's not our intention to go
4 and drill for that objective.

5 Q. Are you telling us that if you have a
6 producing capability in the zone which is producing in
7 the existing No. 1 well, that Santa Fe will not
8 produce that zone in this well?

9 A. Santa Fe will come to the board and/or make
10 a decision to -- a well which we don't have the right
11 to have a simultaneous dedication, we will have to
12 either plug our well, plug the original well, or do
13 something so that both wells aren't producing out of
14 the same zone at the same time.

15 Q. So in terms of simultaneous dedication,
16 you're asking for authority for simultaneous
17 dedication, but at the same time you are committing
18 that you would not have the same zone producing in two
19 wells at once?

20 A. Not if it's contributing in that well,
21 that's correct.

22 Q. And the nomenclature out here and the
23 geology is clear enough that we would be able to
24 clearly establish whether or not we are in correlative
25 zones?

1 A. I believe so. That would be supported by
2 pressure data as well.

3 Q. Now, in preparing your Exhibit No. 4, this
4 is on your zone that's the primary zone of interest;
5 correct?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. And, here again, we're working with well
8 control?

9 A. Yes, sir.

10 Q. What control do you have to separate the
11 pods between Section 1 and Section 6?

12 A. Well control, there is nothing to separate
13 the pods in Section 1 and Section 6. What does limit
14 the size of the pods is the drainage study done by our
15 engineer who will come up and testify to show limited
16 size of those pods.

17 Q. So we're going to have some volumetrics and
18 pressure information that establishes these are pods?

19 A. Establish these are discrete sand members
20 or pods or lenses, whatever you want to call them.
21 That will be presented.

22 Q. And that will be based on pressure
23 information strictly confined to these individual
24 zones?

25 A. I cannot answer that question.

1 Q. In breaking this into these individual
2 pods, what did you rely on to place them exactly as
3 you did with this north-south orientation?

4 A. In looking at -- I made the judgment when I
5 was looking at basically a braided stream depositional
6 environment. As such, the trend to the east is not
7 making any significant turns. And when looking in
8 that environment, this would be a reasonable
9 orientation for those sandbars to lie in.

10 Q. Is it possible if we look at the pod in
11 which you're proposing to locate your proposed well,
12 that in fact the limits of that pod might extend
13 further to the east than you've mapped them; isn't
14 that correct?

15 A. Further to the east. Yes, sir, it's
16 possible. I do not have the well control to say that
17 it definitely does not extend further to the east.

18 Q. What information do you have to tell us
19 that we've got ten feet of thickness in this area?

20 A. In looking at -- and this trend is not just
21 limited to the size of this map. It goes much further
22 north. When looking at all the well control on these
23 trends, there was only one well that had a gross of 16
24 feet, and the thickest well is the Enron well with 12
25 feet. I felt it presumptuous of me to draw anything

1 thicker than a 10 foot contour.

2 Q. Are there pods that in fact do not have a
3 10 foot thickness?

4 A. I believe the Texaco well in Section 6 is
5 such a pod that we know of right now.

6 Q. And it's possible, is it not, that the pod
7 that you're projecting in the southeast of 1 might not
8 have that thickness?

9 A. It's possible, but I believe based on my
10 geological interpretation, that if it was to thicken
11 up, that would be the optimum place for it to occur.

12 Q. If we look at this pod, it's also -- it
13 could be farther to the west of the boundary? It
14 could extend farther west; could it not?

15 A. That's true; however, when looking at the
16 Phillips 3-C Malaga well on cross-section A-A', and
17 that well is very thin with only four feet of greater
18 than 10 percent density porosity, in order to reduce
19 my geological risk, I thought if we move as far east
20 as possible, we can prevent hitting a five foot or
21 thinner zone and get a thicker well that has the
22 ability to capture the reserves within the reservoir.

23 Q. Actually, you could -- there are standard
24 locations available in the south half in this
25 particular AD sand where you could place a well and

1 intersect this zone, isn't that true, intersect this
2 sand?

3 A. The closest standard location is going to
4 be 1980 west of the east line. And I don't believe
5 there will be anything thicker than five feet that you
6 can encounter in that well. I don't feel that this
7 well could be economically drilled to hit a five- foot
8 zone. We need a thicker zone in order to be able to
9 make a significant well. This has high geologic
10 risk. We have to be able to capture the upside of the
11 project in order to warrant drilling the well.

12 Q. Your entire geological interpretation of
13 these two pods is actually based on the logs of the
14 Texaco well in 6 and the log of your well in 1?
15 That's the only control you actually have through all
16 this structure?

17 A. To limit the control, to say that I've only
18 looked at two wells or to try to imply that I've only
19 looked at two wells suggests that I haven't looked at
20 the regional geology in the area, and I don't want to
21 give that impression.

22 Q. I'm not intending to suggest that. I'm
23 just saying, the only two hard data points we have to
24 construct two pods, one ten feet in thickness and one
25 perhaps slightly over five are these two points?

1 A. Actually, the pod that I'm actually
2 drilling for has no net foot well control to show it
3 there other than just regional geological
4 interpretation.

5 Q. If I look at your cross-section, Exhibit
6 No. 5, you haven't connected as we go across this B-B'
7 cross-section the zones that are shaded in blue titled
8 Atoka Bank; that's correct, right?

9 A. I haven't connected them as in drawing a
10 correlation line through them? That's correct.
11 However, it will exist in our wellbore, if that was
12 the question.

13 Q. And that zone would exist across the zone?

14 A. Yes, I believe so. My geological
15 interpretation shows that the Atoka Bank will be
16 present in our well that we drill in Section 1.

17 Q. But Santa Fe is not going to produce that
18 zone in this well?

19 A. That is not our intent here at this
20 hearing, to produce that zone. We feel that that is
21 the one contributing zone within our existing well in
22 the south half, and, as such, we don't have the right
23 to produce that zone in our new well. We are not
24 requesting a simultaneous dedication in the Atoka
25 Bank.

1 Q. If that's the only zone that is productive
2 in this new well, are you telling us that you wouldn't
3 come back then and ask authority to produce it?

4 A. I cannot say that. I do not know. I
5 certainly hope that is not the case. I hope we can
6 count on more than that.

7 Q. Is there anything that you can point me to
8 that shows that the AD sand actually breaks between
9 your proposed location in the Getty Harroun Com No. 6
10 in just your interpretation on the --

11 A. On well control, you cannot show a thin
12 well control. That break is supported by engineering
13 evidence which we will put into testimony.

14 Q. If I look at this location, you could in
15 fact move it farther to the west and also have a
16 potential for picking up the Atoka AC sand; correct?

17 A. Actually, moving it further west would
18 optimize it more with regard to the Atoka AC.
19 However, our primary objective is the AD. To us, to
20 optimize to the AD is what really -- that's what
21 justifies the risk in drilling the well is being able
22 to encounter the thick AD. I don't think moving
23 further west and risking drilling a well like the
24 Phillips well in the southwest of Section 1, I don't
25 think that's what we're trying to do. We need to go

1 ahead and get the thickest zone. And that's why I
2 moved that location 660 off the east line.

3 Q. It's possible, however, your AC sand might
4 be present in this wellbore; correct?

5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. And at this time you're not asking for
7 authority to produce the AC sand in this well?

8 A. Yes, I believe we are.

9 Q. You are asking for authority to do that?

10 A. Yes, sir. Our engineering evidence will
11 show that in our Santa Fe Energy Malaga 1-1 Fed Com,
12 both the AD and AC sands, neither one are contributing
13 to production in that well. Simply, the Atoka Bank is
14 the one producing member that's perforated in that
15 well that's contributing to production, which is why
16 we're not asking for the simultaneous dedication in
17 the Atoka Bank, but we are asking for it in the AC and
18 AD members.

19 Q. And yet this is all classified as Atoka;
20 correct?

21 A. Yes. As far as I know this is considered
22 one common pool.

23 MR. CARR: That's all I have.

24 EXAMINATION

25 BY EXAMINER CATANACH:

1 Q. Mr. Goldstein, just this one question on
2 the -- do you have information on the productive
3 potential of the Enron Malaga 36 State No. 1?

4 A. We have production information which will
5 be brought into testimony and pressure data that was
6 provided by Enron specifically about their well in
7 Section 36.

8 Q. It will be presented later?

9 A. Yes, sir.

10 EXAMINER CATANACH: I have nothing
11 further.

12 EXAMINER CATANACH: Call Mr. Offenberger to
13 the stand.

14 RANDY M. OFFENBERGER,
15 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn
16 upon his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

17 EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. BRUCE:

19 Q. Will you please state your name for the
20 record.

21 A. Randy Offenberger.

22 MR. BRUCE: Once again, Mr. Examiner, Mr.
23 Offenberger was qualified as an expert petroleum
24 engineer earlier today and sworn in as such. If
25 there's no objection from Mr. Carr, I tender him as an

1 expert petroleum engineer.

2 MR. CARR: No objection.

3 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Offenberger is so
4 qualified.

5 Q. (BY MR. BRUCE) Mr. Offenberger, have you
6 conducted a study to determine the effect on
7 correlative rights if Santa Fe is allowed to drill its
8 well?

9 A. Yes, I have.

10 Q. And could you briefly state up front your
11 conclusions of your study?

12 A. The conclusions of my study are based on
13 production data and pressure data. I will refer you
14 to Exhibit 6A. It's a table that shows the
15 calculations that I performed on the three wells, 6A,
16 and on the second page is 6A also.

17 The three wells in this area, the first
18 well that we're looking at on the volumetric study is
19 the well in Section 6, the Texaco Malaga Harroun Trust
20 No. 1 in the northeast quarter of Section 6.

21 The other well that we looked at, or I
22 looked at, is the Enron Malaga 36 State No. 1 in
23 Section 36 in the southwest quarter.

24 The third well in this area that I looked
25 at is the Enron Malaga Well No. 1 in the northwest

1 quarter of Section 1. These three wells I looked at
2 from the AC and AD intervals and performed this
3 drainage study to further support the drilling of a
4 well in the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter
5 of Section 1.

6 Q. As to the AD zone, what is your conclusion,
7 just briefly?

8 A. The AD zone, based on this study, is that
9 we can demonstrate through the study that these
10 reservoirs in the AD are limited in size. And what we
11 expect anticipating in the east half of Section 1 is a
12 different and separate reservoir from what produced in
13 Section 6 and also what's producing up in Section 36.

14 Q. As a result, would there be any adverse
15 effect on Texaco or Enron from drilling this well in
16 the AD zone?

17 A. No, there will not.

18 Q. As to the AC zone, what is your conclusion?

19 A. From the AC zone, we've got production
20 currently in the south half unit of Section 1 in our
21 Santa Fe well currently, and what we're wanting to
22 demonstrate is that the AC zone in that particular
23 well, when we perforated it, made no contribution to
24 the production from that well which originally was
25 from the Atoka Bank.

1 Q. So in order to adequately produce the AC
2 zone in your acreage, you need a new well?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Let's look first at the Texaco well and the
5 Texaco reservoir, your Exhibit 6A and also Exhibit 6B,
6 and discuss your study a little bit more.

7 A. Okay. The Texaco Malaga Harroun Trust in
8 the northwest quarter of Section 6 originally was
9 perforated in the lower zones below the AD sand.

10 If you look at Exhibit 6B, I show a
11 production curve from 1990 through the current, May
12 1993, which incorporates the early life production of
13 the well in the first six months of 1990, which is
14 production from an AE member and possibly an A or
15 Atoka Bank.

16 What you see there is approximately eight
17 years of production out of the Bank, out of the AE
18 and possibly the Bank. Texaco went in and did a
19 workover during July 1990, and production increased
20 substantially up to approximately 54 million Mcf per
21 month.

22 Since that time -- the curve is not real
23 clear. There's some lines that did not xerox real
24 well. As you can see from the production curve, that
25 the production has dropped dramatically on that

1 particular well, which further indicates that we have
2 a limited reservoir.

3 The cumulative production from the initial
4 sales of the well through -- up to the workover is 1.3
5 Bcf. From 7-90 through 5 of 93, the well has produced
6 424 million cubic feet. We have an estimated ultimate
7 recovery for that well of 844 million cubic feet.

8 With that estimated ultimate recovery,
9 coming back and keeping in mind that the AD is open
10 with the other intervals, and what I had done is made
11 the assumption that 100 percent of the production is
12 coming from the AD zone, which would give the largest
13 drainage area underlying that well for the AD zone.

14 Going back to Exhibit 6A, the first page,
15 and using an estimated ultimate recovery of 844
16 million cubic feet, we come up with an approximate
17 drainage area for that particular well of 156 acres
18 out of the Atoka AD sand.

19 Keep it in mind that some of the remaining
20 production is likely to come from the Bank and also
21 from the AE zone that was perforated earlier, which
22 would even give a smaller drainage radius for the
23 Atoka AD sand.

24 As shown earlier in the geological
25 information that was presented, the production pod or

1 the isopach pod --

2 Q. Exhibit 4?

3 A. Right, referring to Exhibit 4, looking at
4 the isopach, the Atoka AD sand density is greater than
5 10 percent isopach. Looking at the pod, the
6 geological interpretation has shown there, that volume
7 of reservoir indicated in the colored section there is
8 approximately 225 acres, which is clearly larger than
9 what my drainage study has uncovered, further
10 indicating that that reservoir could be slightly
11 smaller.

12 And the fact that we're over half a mile
13 away supports also that our location will not, with
14 the production data we have available, will not
15 penetrate the same AD reservoir.

16 Q. In short, Texaco's well is in a very small
17 pod of less than a quarter section in extent?

18 A. That's correct.

19 MR. BRUCE: Before you go on, Mr. Examiner,
20 I noticed one typo on Exhibit 6A under the Texaco
21 well. It says southeast quarter of Section 6. That
22 should be northwest quarter of Section 6, for future
23 reference.

24 THE WITNESS: There's one other typo on
25 section 6B at the bottom of the production curve,

1 where we show the scale for the cumulative production
2 from 7/90 to 5/93, that should be 424 Mmf.

3 Q. (BY MR. BRUCE) Let's then, looking at your
4 Exhibit 6A again, could you discuss the size of the,
5 if you will, the Enron pod in Section 36?

6 A. The Enron Malaga well in Section 36
7 produces also from the AD and produces from an
8 additional Lower Atoka member.

9 What I had done is gone in, with data
10 provided from Enron on this particular well, and did a
11 P/Z versus cum on that well and come up with 166 acres
12 of drainage underlying that well, which indicates that
13 we have a similar type reservoir as what's experienced
14 over in the Texaco well and forced Collins & Ware to
15 withdraw their drilling proposal up in Section 25.

16 Q. There is a bottom hole pressure data. That
17 is actual data from the Enron well?

18 A. We received actual data from Enron,
19 pressure data from that well, showing an initial
20 bottom hole pressure of 4781. And we got subsequent
21 pressure points on that particular well also from
22 Enron. With a P/Z showing a good linear relationship
23 on a P/Z versus cum plot, that clearly indicates that
24 that well will ultimately recover approximately 2.5
25 Bcf.

1 Q. And, once again, if you compare your
2 drainage calculation of about 166 acres with the
3 Exhibit 4 area, your calculations actually show a
4 smaller reservoir than is shown on Exhibit 4?

5 A. That's correct. The reservoir size shown
6 on the geological interpretation which is done prior
7 to the pressure data available is more on the
8 magnitude of 500 acres.

9 Q. Let's move on to your Exhibit 7 and discuss
10 production from your existing Malaga 1 Federal No. 1
11 well. Could you discuss production from that well,
12 please.

13 A. Yes, I'll discuss production from the Santa
14 Fe Malaga 1 Federal Com No. 1 in the southwest quarter
15 of Section 1. That well was drilled originally in
16 late '90 and production initiated in the first part of
17 '91.

18 Once production was initiated, we
19 recognized that there may be some additional potential
20 in the AC and AD intervals.

21 Q. So it was initially perforated only in the
22 Atoka Bank?

23 A. Initially only in the Atoka Bank, the well
24 was completed. At that time we had a test from that
25 well out of the Bank only of 542 Mcf per day at about

1 1,700 pounds of pressure, which caused us to take a
2 closer look at this well and see if there was any
3 additional potential.

4 We subsequently opened up two months later
5 the AC and AD intervals in that particular well.
6 After we had opened up those intervals, the production
7 rate from the well, which included the Atoka Bank, the
8 AC and the AD of 500 Mcf per day at 1100 pounds
9 flowing tubing pressure, which is a drop in production
10 from the original Atoka Bank completion.

11 This further supports that the AC and the
12 AD have essentially not contributed any production out
13 of this well.

14 Q. As a result, is there any engineering
15 basis, in your opinion, to deny simultaneous
16 dedication in the AD zone in the south half of Section
17 1?

18 A. No.

19 Q. And that would also apply to the AC?

20 A. That's correct.

21 Q. Now, discussing the AC zone, what is
22 Exhibit 8?

23 A. Exhibit 8 is a production curve from the
24 Enron Malaga well, which is located in the northwest
25 quarter of Section 1. That particular well tested in

1 10 of '90 from the Atoka Bank of 700 Mcf per day and
2 600 pounds flowing tubing pressure.

3 One week later, Enron went in and opened up
4 the AC zone and commingled it with the Bank and had a
5 production rate of 3300 Mcf per day at 1525 pounds
6 flowing tubing pressure. The well was IP'd for that
7 same rate and flowing tubing pressure on November 6 of
8 1990.

9 Turning back to Exhibit 6A --

10 Q. The second page of Exhibit 6A?

11 A. The second page of Exhibit 6A, and keeping
12 in mind the Enron production curve, which demonstrates
13 a big impact that the AC has had on the production
14 from that well, we estimated approximately 80 percent
15 based on IP's for initial test rates. That 80 percent
16 of the production is coming from the AC zone.

17 On Exhibit 6A, this is a drainage study
18 performed for only the AC interval. Keeping in mind
19 that it is producing from both the Bank and the AC,
20 the study suggests if you take 80 percent of the
21 cumulative production to date and assign it to the AC
22 zone and calculate what area that would drain, we come
23 up with 325 acres of drainage, which approximates the
24 north half proration unit.

25 Q. Considering that Santa Fe's existing well

1 isn't contributing, isn't having any production
2 contributed to it from the AC zone, does Santa Fe need
3 a second well in the south half in the AC to compete
4 with Enron's existing well?

5 A. Yes, it does.

6 Q. Once again, this location, although you are
7 moving to the east, you're not moving any closer to
8 Enron's acreage; is that correct?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. If the OCD decides to grant Santa Fe's
11 application, in your opinion, should a penalty be
12 assessed against production from the No. 2 well, the
13 proposed No. 2 well?

14 A. No, it should not, based primarily on the
15 reservoir size expected in the AD interval and also
16 the protection of correlative rights in the AC in the
17 south half of the unit.

18 Q. Once again, if you could summarize, you
19 believe that Santa Fe's location will be a separate
20 reservoir from either the Enron or the Texaco wells in
21 the AD?

22 A. Pressure data and production data and
23 calculations indicate that we will be clearly
24 separated from those two wells.

25 Q. In fact, if Santa Fe is right, it could --

1 there's a possibility it could help prove up Texaco's
2 acreage to the east, couldn't it?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. As to the AC zone moving toward Texaco,
5 there is no production from the Texaco well in the AC
6 zone?

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. Mr. Offenberger, were Exhibits 5 through 8
9 prepared by you or under your direction -- excuse me,
10 6 through 8?

11 A. Six through 8 were prepared by myself.

12 Q. In your opinion, is the granting of this
13 application in the interest of conservation and the
14 prevention of waste?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Will Santa Fe's correlative rights be
17 harmed if it cannot drill this second well on the
18 unit?

19 A. I believe they will in the AC interval,
20 particularly.

21 Q. Do you believe it's necessary to help drain
22 the AC reserves under your acreage?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Finally, in your opinion, will Enron's or
25 Texaco's correlative rights be adversely affected by

1 the drilling of the second well?

2 A. No, they will not.

3 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, I'd move the
4 admission of Santa Fe Exhibits 6 through 8.

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

7 EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. CARR:

9 Q. Mr. Offenberger, let's go to Exhibit 6A.

10 A. The first page or the second page?

11 Q. The first page. I need help with all the
12 pages, but we'll start with the first page. If I look
13 at this exhibit, you've got a column for the Texaco
14 Malaga Harroun Trust No. 1 in the southeast of 6.
15 That's the first column; correct?

16 A. We corrected that. It's in the northwest
17 quarter.

18 Q. I'm sorry, but it is the Texaco well in
19 Section 6?

20 A. In the northwest quarter.

21 Q. Right. And below that, you have Atoka AD
22 7/90. What is that date?

23 A. The Atoka AD was added, perforations on a
24 workover which I had indicated on Section 6B on that
25 graph where Texaco had gone in and opened up

1 additional pay in the AD interval.

2 Q. So that's just -- this information is on
3 the date when they recompleted in the AD section; is
4 that correct, or when they opened that up; correct?

5 A. That's correct.

6 Q. When you go over to the next column, the
7 Enron well, we've got Atoka AD. When in time is
8 that? Is that a comparable time, or when would that
9 be?

10 A. When that well came on production?

11 Q. Is that when the well was initially
12 produced or when the AD was added to it?

13 A. What production we've got there is strictly
14 the AD production.

15 Q. Was the AD always produced in this well?

16 A. No. It was added subsequently.

17 Q. Do you know approximately when?

18 A. I believe it was added in May of this year.

19 Q. Now, if I look at the pressure figures you
20 have, I think that's what they are, it's the 4781
21 pounds?

22 A. That's the initial bottom hole pressure
23 over Z.

24 Q. That was in the AD zone?

25 A. That is the pressure that was recorded with

1 the AD open.

2 Q. With the AD open. So we wouldn't know what
3 the pressure was actually in the AD zone alone?

4 A. Separately, no, we do not.

5 Q. Could it be higher than that? I just don't
6 know.

7 A. Based on 120-hour shut-in, I would suspect
8 not.

9 Q. Do you know, was the original pressure in
10 the AD zone higher than that?

11 A. The zone was not tested separately.

12 Q. If we go over to the next pressure, we get
13 4781, the same pressure again. Is that an actual --
14 that's the actual pressure in the well again with the
15 AD zone open? I'm trying to see what we're trying to
16 compare here. We have identical pressures on those
17 two. One is, I think, estimated, and the other is
18 actual. What are they? Are they the same things?

19 A. Yes, they are. The estimated pressure is
20 the assumption that we encountered a similar
21 reservoir, similar reservoir pressure.

22 Q. Are we talking just about the AD zone here?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. If I take these two, and I compare them to
25 the geological exhibit, Exhibit No. 4, it seems to me

1 that the Enron well is in 36, and it has the identical
2 pressure with the Texaco well in 6, and I can't
3 understand why you wouldn't draw the pods together if
4 that's the case?

5 A. It's the same depositional environment, and
6 very common you have similar reservoir. You may have
7 plus or minus 100 pounds. In this case here, we made
8 the assumption that we're encountering the same
9 pressure because we did not have what we felt was
10 accurate pressure data on the Texaco well. So we made
11 the assumption that we encountered 4781 pounds.

12 Q. So from a geological point of view with
13 these two data points, we're assuming pods, and we're
14 confirming them with engineering where we're assuming
15 the pressure; is that right?

16 A. We're making one assumption on the
17 pressure.

18 Q. Let's talk about some other assumptions.
19 If we look at the Texaco Malaga Harroun Trust No. 1,
20 you've assumed at the bottom that 100 percent of the
21 production shown is from the AD; is that right?

22 A. Like I had stated earlier in my testimony,
23 that if we're making a drainage study, if you make 100
24 percent of the production since the workover
25 attributed to that zone, you'll get a larger drainage

1 area. Keep in mind that a portion of that production
2 is coming from other intervals. Subsequently, a
3 calculation would yield a smaller drainage area. So
4 at maximum, under that well, we would experience 156
5 acres drainage.

6 Q. So you're assuming 100 percent from the AD
7 zone, but you do acknowledge that three zones open in
8 the well?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. Now, on the Enron Malaga, again we have the
11 same situation. Are you assuming that all this
12 production is from the AD?

13 A. I am not.

14 Q. Do you think it is all from the AD?

15 A. I think a large portion of it is from the
16 AD.

17 Q. But there are two zones open in that well
18 also?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. And so this is the largest drainage area
21 you can come up with; is that fair to say?

22 A. On these two pods, that's correct.

23 Q. And that the actual drainage area would be
24 something smaller?

25 A. Providing the AD is not contributing 100

1 percent of the production of that well, then your
2 drainage area would be smaller.

3 Q. Didn't I understand the comparison of these
4 figures to the geology to be that in fact the
5 geological pods are being drawn larger than the
6 engineering figures?

7 A. What I had stated earlier in my testimony
8 was that the geological pods were prepared prior to
9 production and pressure data and in this drainage
10 study performed, and it was interpretive only.

11 Q. So the geological pods are larger than your
12 figures on 6A which you think, again, are larger than
13 the actual size of the pod?

14 A. The data supports that.

15 Q. Now, the information you have on the Texaco
16 well shifts down to an estimated ultimate recovery of
17 844 -- what is that, 844 --

18 A. That's million cubic feet, .8 Bcf.

19 Q. So you take this, and you apply it to the
20 geology, and that's actually the volume that's being
21 drained; isn't that right, that will be taken?

22 A. The volume that is being drained?

23 Q. Yes. It doesn't tell you anything about
24 the shape of the pod. That just gives you a volume
25 figure?

1 A. That gives you a volume, a drainage radius.

2 Q. And if subsequent information to the 1990
3 workover shows that the Texaco Malaga Harroun Trust
4 No. 1 can produce at a substantially higher rate, then
5 again that would affect this entire calculation, would
6 it not?

7 A. We feel that three years of production
8 data, as indicated on Exhibit 6B, is pretty good data
9 to utilize in estimation of ultimate recovery.

10 Q. There's a well in Section 31. That's a
11 Santa Fe well, is it not?

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. What zones does that produce from?

14 A. I believe that produces from the AC.

15 Q. Have you examined the log on that well?

16 A. I have not looked at a log on that well.

17 Q. I have a copy of a log I'd like you to look
18 at, which I believe is on that well. Correct me if
19 I'm wrong. 31? Can you confirm to me exactly what
20 zone that well is producing from?

21 A. Let me look at the cross-section. I prefer
22 to look at our interpretation, if I might.

23 Q. Fine.

24 A. It's producing from what we classify as the
25 AD and AC sands.

1 Q. And if I look at Exhibit No. 4, this is a
2 plat of AD pods, is it not?

3 A. Pardon?

4 Q. If I look at your Exhibit No. 4, it says
5 Atoka AD Sand, and that's where the pods are drawn.
6 My question is, if it's producing from the AD, why
7 don't you have a pod that includes that?

8 A. That's not a very substantial producer.
9 And I also made a drainage analysis today on that
10 well, a preliminary, indicating that if you take 100
11 percent of the production and apply it to an AC
12 interval, you're only looking at approximately 100
13 acres also.

14 Q. So although it produces from the AD, you
15 think it's too small to include in the pod?

16 A. Yes.

17 MR. CARR: That's all I have. Thank you.

18 EXAMINATION

19 BY EXAMINER CATANACH:

20 Q. Mr. Offenberger, earlier in your testimony
21 you mentioned a few things about correlative rights
22 and specifically about the AC interval being more
23 important than the AD. Can you kind of briefly go
24 over that again? I believe you said that the
25 inability to produce the AC would be a real detriment

1 to Santa Fe Energy.

2 A. From our geological mapping of the area
3 indicates that there is pay covering a substantial
4 part, if not all, of the south half of the proration
5 unit.

6 Q. The south half of Section 1?

7 A. Yeah, excuse me, south half of Section 1 in
8 our proration unit. That well, as we have shown, has
9 not contributed any production or significant
10 production to the well in 1, and we feel that, due to
11 the results of that, there's additional reserves in
12 the south half that, in conjunction with the mapping,
13 indicate that could be recovered with an additional
14 well.

15 Q. In terms of the Enron well that was brought
16 into that picture also, in terms of -- that Enron well
17 is producing from the AC as well?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. Your Exhibit 6A is essentially saying that
20 these pods, the Texaco pod is 156 acres large; is that
21 correct?

22 A. My calculations indicate that that's the
23 largest pod that you can possibly see in the AD
24 interval. Keeping in mind the assumption of several
25 zones are open and we made the most conservative

1 estimate and assigned all remaining production to that
2 interval.

3 Q. And the Enron pod is actually 166 acres or
4 so large?

5 A. Yes. Excuse me, did you say larger?

6 Q. No. Just that's how big it is, 166 acres.

7 A. Oh, okay.

8 Q. On your Exhibit No. 7 where you show the
9 production from your No. 1 well, what do you attribute
10 the drop in the production to after the --

11 A. The nature of the Atoka reservoirs.

12 Q. Is it possible that the Bank could have
13 been affected by any kind of workover in here?

14 A. It's a possibility. I have not researched
15 that thoroughly to make a statement one way or the
16 other.

17 EXAMINER CATANACH: I don't think I have
18 anything further, Mr. Bruce.

19 MR. BRUCE: Let me just clarify one thing,
20 Mr. Examiner.

21 FURTHER EXAMINATION

22 BY MR. BRUCE:

23 Q. Mr. Offenberger, Mr. Carr asked you a
24 question about the Santa Fe well in Section 31. That
25 well is perforated in the AD; is that correct?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. But the geology presented, if you will
3 recall, does that show any porosity in that zone?

4 A. There is no net pay in that well.

5 MR. BRUCE: Thank you.

6 EXAMINER CATANACH: Let's take a
7 five-minute break here.

8 (Thereupon, a recess was taken.)

9 EXAMINER CATANACH: Call the hearing back
10 to order and turn it over to Mr. Carr at this time.

11 MR. CARR: May it please the Examiner, at
12 this time I would call Allen R. Spelman.

13 ALLEN R. SPELMAN,
14 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn
15 upon his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

16 EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. CARR:

18 Q. Will you state your name for the record,
19 please.

20 A. My name is Allen R. Spelman.

21 Q. Where do you reside?

22 A. I live in Wheatridge, Colorado, which is a
23 suburb of Denver, Colorado.

24 Q. By whom are you employed?

25 A. I'm employed by Texaco.

1 Q. And in what capacity?

2 A. I'm an exploration geologist.

3 Q. Mr. Spelman, have you previously testified
4 before this Division?

5 A. I have not.

6 Q. Could you summarize for Mr. Catanach your
7 educational background and then briefly review your
8 work experience?

9 A. I received a degree of geological engineer
10 from the Colorado School of Mines in 1957, an M.A. in
11 geology from the University of Wyoming in 1959. I
12 completed a Ph.D. in geology from the Pennsylvania
13 State University in 1964. I was hired by Texaco in
14 January of 1965, and I have worked continuously for
15 Texaco since that time.

16 My first assignment was in New Orleans. I
17 worked two and a half years as exploration geologist
18 offshore Louisiana.

19 I was transferred at that time to our
20 research laboratory in Bellaire, Texas, where I worked
21 in carbonate studies and organic geochemistry.
22 Following that, I was transferred to Denver, Colorado,
23 as supervisor of the geology lab, responsible for
24 petrographic studies and carbonate and clastic rocks;
25 also, supporting palynological and ALGOL studies in

1 carbonate reservoirs.

2 For the last 12 years, I have been an
3 exploration geologist for Texaco, working primarily in
4 the Rocky Mountain area but also involved in several
5 foreign assignments.

6 Q. Mr. Spelman, are you familiar with the
7 application filed in this case by Santa Fe Energy
8 Operating Partners?

9 A. Yes, I am.

10 Q. Have you made a geological study of the
11 Atoka formation in the area of the Malaga-Atoka Gas
12 Pool?

13 A. Yes, I have.

14 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Catanach, we
15 tender Allen R. Spelman as an expert witness in
16 petroleum geology.

17 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Spelman is so
18 qualified.

19 Q. (BY MR. CARR) Could you briefly state what
20 Texaco seeks by appearing in this case?

21 A. Texaco seeks a penalty on the Malaga 1
22 Federal Com No. 2 to offset the advantage gained on
23 Texaco as offsetting operator to an east half unit in
24 Section 6.

25 Q. Does Texaco also object to the request for

1 simultaneous dedication in the Atoka formation?

2 A. Yes, Texaco does object to the request for
3 a simultaneous dedication in the south half of Section
4 1 of the proposed No. 2 well.

5 Q. Mr. Spelman, by way of background, could
6 you identify and briefly review the history of
7 Texaco's Getty Harroun Com 6 No. 1 well in the
8 northwest of Section 6?

9 A. The well in Section 6 was drilled by Getty
10 Oil. It was spud by cable tool in June of 1981 and
11 then spud by rotary rig in December of 1981. In March
12 of 1982, it was TD'd at a depth of 13,300 feet in
13 Morrow clastic section.

14 In April of 1982, it was completed in the
15 Morrow in six separate zones over a gross interval of
16 12,557 feet to 13,226 feet. The calculated open flow
17 was 1.46 MM cubic feet of gas per day.

18 In February of 1984, the well was plugged
19 back to a depth of 12,195 feet, and it was recompleted
20 from a Massive Atoka carbonate. The perforation
21 interval was 12,144 to 12,150 feet. It had a
22 calculated open flow of 14,630 Mcf of gas per day.

23 In August of 1984, the Ivanovia Bank or
24 Atoka Bank interval was perforated. That interval was
25 from 12,019 feet to 12,032 feet. In July of 1990, the

1 Lower Atoka sand was perforated. This is referred to
2 informally as the Texaco C sand. Perforation interval
3 for the C sand was 11,981 to 11,991 feet. That
4 interval was potentialed with 10 barrels of oil, 3
5 barrels of water, and two, 2,078 Mcf gas per day.

6 In June of this year, responsibility for
7 southeast New Mexico was transferred from Midland,
8 Texas, to Denver, Colorado. Since that time, the
9 Denver office has been reviewing producing properties
10 and acreage holdings that we have in southeastern New
11 Mexico. As a result of the review of the Getty Malaga
12 well, the Denver office recommended to the Hobbs area
13 that that well should be recompleted and acidized.

14 As a result of that recommendation, on or
15 about the 1st of October, the well was reperforated
16 and acidized. The reperforations and acidizing took
17 place over all three zones that were open in the
18 well. As a result of that work over, the well flowed
19 at a rate of 1.3 million cubic feet of gas per day at
20 a flowing tubing pressure of 700 psi.

21 The Texaco or Getty Malaga well is located
22 at a standard location for a stand-up west half Atoka
23 gas unit. It is located 1980 feet from the north line
24 and 1880 feet from the west line.

25 Q. This is a standard unit in the Atoka?

1 A. This is a standard unit in the Atoka.

2 Q. Before we get into the geological
3 testimony, could you identify for Mr. Catanach the
4 property in the area which is actually operated by
5 Texaco?

6 A. If you will refer to the map, Figure 2, the
7 area that is shown in yellow identifies Texaco's
8 acreage interest in the area.

9 Q. This exhibit also contains a trace for a
10 cross-section A-A', does it not?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. That's Exhibit 1?

13 A. Exhibit 1 is a stratigraphic cross-section
14 that connects the Santa Fe well in the south half of
15 Section 1 to the Getty well in the northwest quarter
16 of Section 6. And it would pass through approximately
17 the proposed location of Santa Fe's well in the
18 southeast quarter of Section 1.

19 MR. STOVALL: Mr. Carr, I do want to
20 interrupt one thing. I think I heard you say a minute
21 ago that the Texaco Malaga well is located at a
22 standard location?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 MR. STOVALL: Is that clear, which one is
25 the Malaga well?

1 THE WITNESS: We are using the name Texaco
2 and Getty.

3 MR. STOVALL: I understand that.

4 MR. CARR: That well is at a 1980 from the
5 north line, 1980 from the west line location in
6 Section 6.

7 MR. STOVALL: Oh. Is that the same as the
8 Harroun Com State No. 1.

9 MR. CARR: That is the same well. If you
10 put the whole name on it, it's the Texaco Getty Malaga
11 No. 1 Federal Com No. 2 --

12 THE WITNESS: No, No. 1.

13 MR. CARR: We will refer to it from this
14 point on as the Texaco well. It is the well in the
15 northwest quarter of Section 6. All right?

16 MR. STOVALL: I was reading Texaco's notes
17 here that were part of the exhibit and looking at the
18 thing, and then he referred to a different name. So I
19 wanted to make sure we're on the same well.

20 MR. CARR: It's the Harroun well, but it is
21 the well in the northwest of 6.

22 MR. STOVALL: Okay.

23 Q. (BY MR. CARR) Mr. Spelman, let's go now to
24 Exhibit No. 1. Would you review that, please, for Mr.
25 Catanach.

1 A. Exhibit No. 1 is a stratigraphic
2 cross-section connecting the Santa Fe well in Section
3 1 to the Texaco well in Section 6. These are portions
4 of neutron density logs.

5 On the right-hand side, I've shown the
6 informal terminology of Texaco where we have
7 identified the Texaco B, the Texaco C, and the Texaco
8 D. If I'm correct in looking at the exhibits
9 presented earlier, the Texaco D is equivalent to Santa
10 Fe Atoka Bank. The Texaco C would be equivalent to
11 the Santa Fe AD. And the Texaco B would be equivalent
12 to the Santa Fe AC members.

13 Looking at the Texaco well, in the depth
14 column, I've shown perforation intervals in three
15 zones, all within the Atoka formation. The lower zone
16 is in the Massive Atoka, what we refer to as the
17 Massive Atoka. The middle zone is in the Atoka Bank
18 or the D, and the upper zone is in the Atoka C.

19 On the left-hand side, a portion of the
20 neutron density log from the Santa Fe well in Section
21 1. Perforation intervals are shown in the depth
22 column, and our information was that the Atoka D had
23 been perforated, and it was the producing zone in that
24 well.

25 I've also shown two intervals that were

1 drill stem tested. This information came from the
2 bottom, the resistivity log that was available to us
3 on microfiche from MJ Systems. That indicated that in
4 the upper test, a test that would have gone through
5 the AC and the AD zones, that that test did recover a
6 small amount of gas in the sample chamber.

7 In looking at the AD zone or RC zone, the
8 blue horizon, it looks as though that there is some
9 crossover of the neutron density log, suggesting that
10 there is the potential for gas in that unit.

11 Also shown on this cross-section would be
12 the location of the proposed No. 2 well in Section 1.
13 In dashed line adjacent to that would be the boundary
14 line between Section 1 and Section 6.

15 What we would like to emphasize in this
16 cross-section is the fact that we strongly believe
17 that there is actually lateral continuity in these
18 reservoirs. There would be continuity especially in
19 the D that we will try to display to you in the maps
20 that we will present, and we feel that there is also
21 continuity in our Texaco C or the AD, as well as in
22 the Texaco B units.

23 So the primary purpose of this
24 cross-section is to emphasize the proximity of the
25 proposed location to the boundary between our leases

1 and to show what we believe is continuity of the
2 reservoirs between these wells.

3 Q. Mr. Spelman, how far from the proposed
4 location are either the Santa Fe well in Section 1 or
5 the Texaco well in Section 6?

6 A. The proposed Santa Fe well is approximately
7 2,500 feet northeast of the Santa Fe No. 1 well, and
8 it would be about 2,800 feet to the southwest from the
9 existing Texaco well.

10 Q. Let's go now to your Exhibit No. 2, the
11 structure map on the top of the -- I guess it's the D
12 sand?

13 A. The D Bank.

14 Q. The D Bank. And I would ask you to review
15 that for Mr. Catanach.

16 A. Figure 2 is a structure map drawn on the
17 top of the Ivanovia Atoka Bank or the Texaco D Unit.
18 The mapping that is shown on this exhibit and all my
19 other maps is based entirely on subsurface control.
20 No geophysical data was used in drawing these maps.

21 This map shows that the regional dip in
22 this area is to the east at approximately 100 to 150
23 feet per mile to the east. The importance of this
24 cross-section is to emphasize the fact that the
25 proposed Santa Fe well is located structurally higher

1 than the existing Texaco well, which would give
2 advantage to the Santa Fe well in drainage of reserves
3 in Section 6.

4 Q. Let's move on to Texaco Exhibit No. 3.
5 Would you identify and review that?

6 A. Texaco Exhibit No. 3 is an isopach map of
7 the Ivanovia Atoka Bank Unit. This isopach map shows
8 that there is regional thickening of the Ivanovia Bank
9 to the east.

10 Also, it shows what we have interpreted
11 possible carbonate build-ups that trend in a more or
12 less north-south direction. These carbonate build-ups
13 could also be described as carbonate mounds. There
14 are thicks in Section 31, and there is again the
15 potential of a thick buildup in Section 6 and in
16 Section 7 as well.

17 So what we hope to show in this figure is
18 that we do have in fact continuity of this reservoir
19 between Section 6 and Section 1.

20 Q. Let's move on now to Exhibit No. 4, the
21 isopach map. Would you review that for Mr. Catanach?

22 A. Exhibit No. 4 is a isopach map of the feet
23 of neutron density crossover within the Atoka Bank.
24 Oftentimes, neutron density crossover in a reservoir
25 could indicate the potential for gas production.

1 So on the basis of the contouring we're
2 showing here is that we have a considerable amount of
3 potential pay represented in the isopach, and in fact
4 in the color code that we're using here, production
5 from the Ivanovia Bank is shown by the blue
6 coloration. So that, as you can see in Section 6, the
7 Texaco well produces from the Ivanovia.

8 In Section 1, the Santa Fe well in the
9 south half produces from that unit. In the north half
10 of Section 1, the Enron well produces from that unit.

11 If you'll go down to Section 7, the two
12 wells that have been drilled in Section 7, Range 29
13 East, also produce from that unit, and the well in the
14 south half of Section 12 also produces from that
15 unit. So we feel that there is excellent evidence for
16 the continuity of that reservoir.

17 Q. Let's move on now to the Texaco exhibits on
18 the Lower Atoka sand, the C sand, and I'd ask you to
19 refer to Texaco Exhibit No. 5 and identify and review
20 that, please.

21 A. Figure 5 is a structure map drawn on the
22 top of the Lower Atoka sand. I believe this would
23 correlate with the Santa Fe AD sand member.

24 The purpose of the structure map is to
25 demonstrate again, the regional dip is to the east,

1 and that by drilling the proposed No. 2 well in
2 Section 1, Santa Fe would be structurally high to the
3 Texaco well and gain a significant advantage in
4 draining the reserves in Section 6.

5 Q. Let's move now to Texaco Exhibit No. 6.

6 A. Figure No. 6 is an isopach map of the Lower
7 Atoka sand. What I have tried to do is look at the
8 sand unit as an entire unit and not isolate out only
9 that portion which is porous. So that on the basis of
10 the electric log character of the well and the
11 thicknesses of the unit, I would interpret that the
12 geology suggests that what we have is something on the
13 order of a distributary channel.

14 The thickest interval that is recognized in
15 that channel would be in the Enron well in Section
16 36. We would trend that channel more in a southeast-
17 northwest direction.

18 The interpretation would be that that sand
19 in Section 1 is part of that same sand system but is
20 something of an overbank type of unit.

21 The boundaries I have shown as a channel is
22 only there to sort of highlight the interpretation of
23 the channel. Where the actual boundaries of the
24 channel would be could fluctuate a little bit in
25 either direction, but I think I would argue

1 geologically that this interpretation would be a valid
2 interpretation based on the well control that is
3 available to us in this area.

4 So, again, the point of this diagram would
5 be to argue that the sand, the Texaco C sand or the AC
6 sand, would be part of the same continuous reservoir
7 system.

8 Q. If we could go now to the isopach map
9 showing the neutron density crossover, Exhibit No. 7,
10 would you explain to Mr. Catanach what that exhibit
11 shows?

12 A. Exhibit No. 7 would be an isopach map of
13 the feet of neutron density crossover within the Lower
14 Atoka sand. What we are showing again is a
15 configuration that suggests that the main reservoir
16 quality would be along the trend of the channel, but
17 that reservoir quality exists outside the limit of
18 that channel into Section 1, and that the Santa Fe
19 well, in fact, does have the potential to be
20 productive in that well.

21 I would like to point out that based on the
22 color code that we used, the green color indicates
23 production from that Lower Atoka sand or the AD sand.
24 So that the two wells in Section 36 are perforated and
25 produce from that sand. The well in Section 31 is

1 perforated in that sand, and we assume produces from
2 the sand. And the well in the north half of Section
3 12 is perforated and produces from that sand. And
4 that well is located to the south of the proposed
5 Santa Fe well.

6 So we feel on the basis of our geologic
7 interpretation, on the basis of the geologic control
8 available, that that is in fact a continuous sand body
9 and that a well in the northeast -- in the southeast
10 quarter of Section 1 would in fact drain Texaco's well
11 in Section 6.

12 Q. How would you generally describe the Atoka
13 formation in this area?

14 A. The Atoka formation is a series of sands
15 that are isolated by impermeable shales. And at the
16 base of that interval would be the massive Atoka
17 carbonate, which also is isolated by a shale sequence.

18 Q. With the data available to you, Mr.
19 Spelman, do you see anything that would support
20 characterizing the formation as a number of
21 disconnected pods within these particular sand
22 channels?

23 A. I believe that on the basis of our
24 interpretation, in this limited area, the sand members
25 are continuous in this area.

1 Q. Could you generally summarize for Mr.
2 Catanach the conclusions you've reached from your
3 geologic study of the area?

4 A. We feel that the two primary zones of
5 production in this area are from the Atoka Bank and
6 from the Lower Atoka sand, the Texaco C sand.

7 We feel that the B sand and the C sand and
8 the Atoka Bank are continuous bodies across in the
9 area of Section 6 and extending into Section 1 and in
10 this general area.

11 We feel that at the proposed unorthodox
12 location, Santa Fe gains an advantage on Texaco's
13 acreage in Section 6. We feel that they will
14 encounter the same reservoir that is being produced in
15 the Texaco well and is also being produced in their
16 well. That well will be structurally high to Texaco;
17 so it will have an opportunity to drain Texaco's
18 acreage in that fashion.

19 We feel that the reservoirs that they will
20 encounter will be as thick or possibly thicker than
21 Texaco's wells, gaining an advantage on Texaco. And
22 we feel that that well, because it is closer than
23 Division rules allow, should not be permitted to be
24 drilled, or if it is drilled, a significant penalty
25 should be assessed to that well.

1 Q. Mr. Spelman, will Texaco call an
2 engineering witness to present its penalty
3 recommendation?

4 A. Yes, it will.

5 Q. Were Exhibits 1 through 7 prepared by you?

6 A. Yes, they were.

7 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Catanach, we
8 move the admission of Texaco Exhibits 1 through 7.

9 EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 1 through 7
10 will be admitted as evidence.

11 MR. CARR: That concludes my direct
12 examination of Mr. Spelman.

13 EXAMINER CATANACH: Mr. Bruce?

14 MR. BRUCE: Just a few questions, Mr.
15 Examiner.

16 EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. BRUCE:

18 Q. Just to clarify something, Mr. Spelman, and
19 I believe we agreed, Texaco's B sand is equivalent to
20 Santa Fe's AC sand?

21 A. That would be my understanding.

22 Q. And the C sand is equivalent to the AD?

23 A. That would be my understanding based on
24 your displays.

25 Q. And Texaco's D sand is equivalent to Santa

1 Fe's Atoka Bank?

2 A. Yes. We call it the D. It's a carbonate
3 bank.

4 Q. Now, your first exhibit, is there any
5 production from the AC sand, Texaco's B sand in the
6 Getty Malaga Harroun well?

7 A. To my knowledge, that interval has not been
8 perforated.

9 Q. Looking over at the Santa Fe Malaga 1 No. 1
10 well, do you have any data which would counter Mr.
11 Offenberger's assertion that the AC and the AD zones
12 are not contributing to production in that well?

13 A. My only data would be the fact that that
14 interval of those sands was drill stem tested, and
15 that gas was recovered in the sample chamber during
16 the course of that drill stem test.

17 Q. I think you said small amounts?

18 A. A small amount, right. I would also say
19 that on the basis of the log character and the fact
20 that there is neutron density crossover within that C
21 interval, that that further indicates the potential
22 for production. It does not ensure production.

23 Q. Looking at your, I think it's your last
24 Exhibit, Exhibit 7, this is the Texaco C sand; is that
25 correct?

1 A. Yes, it is.

2 Q. What is your porosity cutoff?

3 A. Porosity cutoff would be at approximately 8
4 percent.

5 Q. 8 percent?

6 A. It will be somewhere between 6 and 8
7 percent.

8 Q. 6 to 8 percent?

9 A. Right.

10 Q. And that's lower than what Santa Fe uses?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Santa Fe used a 10 percent figure?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. If you use the Santa Fe, what would you
15 show as far as net or Santa Fe's existing well?

16 A. On here, I'd probably -- I would show zero.

17 Q. Do you use that same porosity cut off in
18 the bank, Texaco's D zone?

19 A. The Texaco D zone is a carbonate unit, as
20 opposed to the C, which is a sandstone. So these are
21 entirely lithologically different kinds of bodies.

22 The D zone is a carbonate bank, typically
23 shows a very low porosity, generally in the range of 3
24 percent. 3 percent is sufficient for production in
25 this area. So we're asking about two entirely

1 different kinds of bodies, lithologies.

2 Q. So you really can't equate the two?

3 A. No.

4 Q. One final question. On your Exhibit 7, you
5 show just one huge, continuous reservoir here in the
6 Santa Fe AD zone, the Texaco C zone?

7 A. This is the isopach of what I've
8 interpreted as neutron density crossover. And I've
9 shown footages of what I interpret in each of those
10 wells. So on the basis of that interpretation, I'm
11 showing that as one continuous sand body.

12 Q. Extending for -- looking at the Texaco
13 well, it looks like it would continue for a couple
14 miles to the northwest and a couple of miles to the
15 southeast?

16 A. Yes. It would extend down to the next
17 section, one mile to the next section.

18 MR. BRUCE: I don't have anything further,
19 Mr. Examiner.

20 EXAMINATION

21 BY EXAMINER CATANACH:

22 Q. Just a couple. You said you've looked
23 geologically just at this one small area. Have you
24 looked at the depositional environment on a regional
25 or more regional basis?

1 A. I've relied on work that has been done by
2 Texaco geologists in Midland who have given us all of
3 their files in the area. So as a part of the overall
4 regional study we're doing on evaluating our
5 properties, we are using the framework that has been
6 established previously by Texaco for this area. And
7 the interpretation I have shown does follow fairly
8 closely to the interpretation that Texaco uses for
9 this area.

10 Q. In this general area, do you show the
11 existence of pods?

12 A. No, we do not. We're talking about the AD
13 now?

14 Q. Right.

15 A. Right. No, we do not.

16 Q. Do you show them on a more regional basis?

17 A. I think part of the differences in some of
18 our displays, what I have tried to focus on is the
19 entire sandstone unit to understand its depositional
20 environment.

21 If you take a sandstone unit, it will not
22 be, have the same reservoir character over the entire
23 unit. So that if you were to only map what you think
24 is porosity, you may come up with a pod-like map, but
25 if you look at the sand as a whole and try to

1 understand its depositional environment, you may not
2 see the pod-like appearance. You may see a more
3 blanket-like appearance.

4 So the difference, I think, in part of our
5 displays is I've tried to look at the sand as a
6 depositional unit so that I could indicate what we
7 believe is continuity of reservoir.

8 If you only focus on what you think is
9 porous versus nonporous, you are very limited to your
10 well control. Once you get a few feet beyond your
11 well control, you could go to zero porosity. So when
12 you start drawing pods that are two miles long based
13 on one well control point, you're getting out in the
14 reaches of -- geologists like to conceptualize, and
15 that's certainly conceptualization to the ultimate.

16 EXAMINER CATANACH: I have nothing further.

17 MR. CARR: At this time we call Mr. Jim
18 Dore.

19 JIM DORE,
20 the witness herein, after having been first duly sworn
21 upon his oath, was examined and testified as follows:

22 EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. CARR:

24 Q. Would you state your name for the record,
25 please.

1 A. My name is Jim Dore.

2 Q. Where do you reside?

3 A. In Denver, Colorado.

4 Q. By whom are you employed and in what
5 capacity?

6 A. By Texaco as a petroleum engineer.

7 Q. Have you previously testified before this
8 Division?

9 A. I have not.

10 Q. Would you briefly summarize for Mr.
11 Catanach your educational background and review your
12 work experience?

13 A. I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in
14 mechanical engineering from Oklahoma State University
15 in 1968. I've been employed by Texaco since June of
16 1981 and have been working in the southeast New Mexico
17 area for the last two and a half years.

18 Q. Are you familiar with the application filed
19 in this case by Santa Fe?

20 A. Yes, I am.

21 Q. Have you made an engineering study of the
22 area surrounding their proposed well?

23 A. Yes, I have.

24 MR. CARR: We tender Mr. Dore as an expert
25 witness in petroleum engineering.

1 EXAMINER CATANACH: He is so qualified.

2 Q. (BY MR. CARR) Mr. Dore, could you tell us
3 how much has the Texaco well produced to date?

4 A. The well has produced 1.73 Bcf so far.

5 Q. What was its most recent producing area?

6 A. The most recent producing rate prior to
7 this test that Mr. Spelman mentioned was 287 Mcf per
8 day.

9 Q. Mr. Spelman indicated you just recently
10 received some new information on the well?

11 A. Yes, sir. The Hobbs area office worked
12 over and reperforated the C, D zones in the Massive
13 Atoka and acidized these zones. Their initial reports
14 indicate an production rate of 1.3 million cubic foot
15 a day and a flowing tubing pressure of 700 pounds.

16 Q. This is substantially better than the
17 information you had on the well prior to this
18 workover?

19 A. That is correct.

20 Q. Prior to receiving this information, had
21 you attempted to calculate the estimated ultimate
22 recovery from your Texaco well?

23 A. Yes, I have. The production history of
24 this well is very erratic, and I used three different
25 methods to estimate the ultimate recovery. Normally,

1 an ideal situation, you have nice smooth curves, and
2 it makes it easy to estimate these reserves. My No. 1
3 -- correction, the No. 8 figure is a P/Z cum gas
4 method for these calculations.

5 Figure 9 is the rate versus cum gas.
6 Figure 10 is the rate versus time with a hyperbolic
7 decline. And Figure 11 is the rate versus time with
8 exponential decline rate.

9 These methods indicate that the remaining
10 reserves prior to this latest workover was somewhere
11 between a quarter and-a-half of a Bcf of gas. That's
12 as certain as I can be because this well not only has
13 an erratic production history, it also produces from
14 more than one zone.

15 Q. Have you compared this to the estimated
16 ultimate recovery for other Atoka wells in the Malaga
17 field area?

18 A. Figure 12 shows the range of estimated
19 ultimate recoveries for the other Atoka wells in the
20 area. And the Swanson's mean is about 2.5 Bcf. And
21 this well is certainly within that range.

22 Q. This was before you received the new
23 information on the well?

24 A. That is correct.

25 Q. What does this new information do to these

1 calculations?

2 A. In my opinion, it makes these calculations
3 invalid and also would indicate to me that the
4 remaining reserves would be substantially higher. At
5 this time I do not know what that figure would be.

6 Q. What had you originally estimated as the
7 remaining reserves?

8 A. The remaining reserves would be somewhere
9 in the range of about 2 Bcf, 2.25 Bcf.

10 Q. In your opinion, what would be the impact
11 on Texaco if Santa Fe's well was drilled at the
12 proposed unorthodox location and permitted to produce
13 without penalty?

14 A. It would impair our ability to drain the
15 remaining gas in the west half of Section 6.

16 Q. Do you recommend in fact that a penalty be
17 imposed on this well if it is approved?

18 A. Yes, I do.

19 Q. What is your penalty recommendation?

20 A. Exhibit No. 13 shows the recommendation
21 based upon the variance of the well location from the
22 established footage marks.

23 Q. And you are recommending the 67 percent
24 penalty?

25 A. Yes, I do.

1 Q. And that is because the well is 67 percent
2 closer than the nearest standard location; is that
3 correct?

4 A. Yes, that's correct.

5 Q. If the well location was approved and this
6 penalty was imposed, in your opinion, would Texaco's
7 correlative rights be protected?

8 A. Yes, it would.

9 Q. Against what would you recommend this
10 penalty be imposed?

11 A. Against the new well's deliverability.

12 Q. How frequently do you believe the well
13 should be tested?

14 A. Semi-annually. And I would hope that we
15 get a notice to both Texaco and OCD so we could send a
16 witness.

17 Q. Does Texaco also object to the simultaneous
18 dedication of wells in the south half of Section 1?

19 A. Yes. The rules provide for only one Atoka
20 well per 320-acre spacing unit. All the Atoka wells
21 are classified as one pool. Therefore, we should
22 recommend that Santa Fe is not permitted to produce
23 more than one well in this spacing unit.

24 Q. Were Exhibits 8 through 13 prepared by you?

25 A. Yes, they were.

1 MR. CARR: At this time, Mr. Catanach, we
2 move the admission of Texaco's Exhibits 8 through 13.

3 EXAMINER CATANACH: Exhibits 8 through 13
4 will be admitted.

5 MR. CARR: That concludes my direct
6 examination of this witness.

7 EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. BRUCE:

9 Q. Mr. Dore, let me clarify something in
10 response to a question by Mr. Carr. I didn't know if
11 you said we were talking about remaining reserves or
12 ultimate reserves in the Texaco well, but you used the
13 figure 2 to 2-1/2 billion.

14 A. Those are the estimated ultimates.

15 Q. Estimated ultimates?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And it's already produced how much?

18 A. 1.73.

19 Q. So your figure is that there's remaining
20 about .8 Bcf, roughly, or .3 to .8 Bcf?

21 A. .3 to .5 Bcf.

22 Q. Isn't that roughly equivalent with Mr.
23 Offenberger's calculations?

24 A. That's correct. And these calculations
25 were done prior to this workover that we just did.

1 Q. Have you done a study on how much acreage
2 the Texaco well drains?

3 A. No, I have not because I cannot determine
4 from which zone the gas is being produced.

5 Q. Have you reviewed the data from the Enron
6 well?

7 A. Just their production history, yes.

8 Q. Have you done a study on that well to
9 determine what it's drained?

10 A. No, I haven't. I've primarily worried
11 about the Texaco well and the fact that it might be
12 drained by an unusual location by your new well.

13 Q. So you haven't calculated Enron's -- the
14 drainage area of Enron's well?

15 A. I have not. And I cannot do that either
16 because I don't know which zones they are producing
17 from either.

18 Q. I don't know if you have it in front of
19 you, but it was Mr. Spelman's final exhibit, Exhibit
20 7. Based on that exhibit, would you anticipate
21 Enron's well having a substantial drainage area?

22 A. That would be supposition. I would have to
23 make that study. I can't answer that question.

24 MR. BRUCE: I don't have anything further,
25 Mr. Examiner -- could I ask just one question, Mr.

1 Examiner?

2 Q. Your figure 10?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Right on the graph where you have economic
5 limit, there is a production that goes down to -- it's
6 right above the figure 100 or the level 100.

7 A. Right.

8 Q. What was occurring during that time period,
9 as far as production from that well?

10 A. I have no idea.

11 MR. BRUCE: That's all I have, Mr.

12 Examiner.

13 EXAMINER CATANACH: The witness may be
14 excused.

15 MR. CARR: Mr. Catanach, at this time I
16 think I will, in lieu of calling an Enron witness,
17 request permission to read a brief statement from
18 Enron and provide a very short closing and not call an
19 additional witness.

20 EXAMINER CATANACH: That suits me.

21 MR. STOVALL: I recommend you accept that,
22 Mr. Examiner.

23 MR. CARR: If I could do that now, then Mr.
24 Bruce as the Applicant can close.

25 EXAMINER CATANACH: That would be fine. Go

1 ahead.

2 MR. CARR: Texaco and Enron are here today
3 because they're concerned about their correlative
4 rights. Texaco is concerned they're going to be
5 drained from a well drilled too close to them
6 immediately to the west of the spacing unit dedicated
7 to their well in Section 6.

8 Enron and Read & Stevens are concerned that
9 what is being requested here is a new approach to
10 Atoka production where you have one pool but the
11 Division is going to start determining which zone
12 within the Atoka can be produced, and if you have
13 different zones, you can drill additional wells in the
14 pool, and we're concerned about that, and we oppose
15 it.

16 Texaco has presented to you what we submit
17 is a sound and appropriate geological presentation for
18 a case of this kind. And on that we base our concern
19 that we are going to be drained.

20 On the other hand, we have Santa Fe's
21 interpretation where we have a number of pods based on
22 extremely limited control. We have a geologic
23 interpretation where the pods are larger, and the
24 engineering exhibits and the engineering witness says
25 yes, and the engineering interpretation is larger than

1 reality.

2 We confirmed the geology with engineering
3 that assumes pressures, and then it assumes that all
4 production is from one zone when in fact we know
5 multiple zones are open.

6 We have engineering interpretations
7 presented by Santa Fe that don't accurately reflect
8 the current information on the Texaco well. They
9 don't have the results of the recent workover. What,
10 in fact, they're trying to do is come in here with
11 unusual interpretation, leap through hoops, and ask
12 you to find all sorts of compartmentalization in this
13 reservoir so they can drain production from the east
14 and tie into the Enron reservoir to the north.

15 We submit to you that all they're trying to
16 do is take liberty with a technical case so that you
17 will authorize drainage and depart from what is
18 established procedure for developing the Atoka
19 reservoir. And in so doing our correlative rights
20 will be impaired.

21 We ask you to first consider denying the
22 application, and if you do not, we ask you to impose a
23 penalty equal to two thirds of the production, very
24 simply because they are two thirds too close in
25 continuous reservoirs.

1 I also have a statement from Enron that I
2 have to read, and it is short. It is addressed to Mr.
3 LeMay, and it is signed by Gary Thomas, Vice President
4 and General Manager of Enron.

5 Please be advised that Enron Oil & Gas
6 Company protests Santa Fe Energy's application for
7 unorthodox location and simultaneous dedication on
8 their Malaga 1 Federal No. 2.

9 Enron is the offset operator to the north
10 and thereby is affected by the application. Enron
11 supports Texaco, Inc., as offset operator to the east
12 in their request for a penalty of 67 percent, 33
13 production limitation, if said well is completed from
14 a formation requiring a 320-acre spacing unit.

15 Enron believes that the geologic and
16 engineering data supports such penalty. Enron also
17 believes that the lesser penalty will not protect
18 Enron's or Texaco's correlative rights.

19 Thank you, Mr. Catanach.

20 EXAMINER CATANACH: Thank you Mr. Carr.

21 Mr. Bruce?

22 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, let's take these
23 one at a time.

24 As to Enron, the undisputed evidence
25 presented by Santa Fe is that the Enron well in

1 Section 36 is a very small reservoir, a very small
2 pod. Furthermore, Santa Fe is not moving closer to
3 that well. Therefore, we think Enron's disputes or
4 protest should be dismissed out of hand.

5 Now, Enron does have a second well, the one
6 in the northwest quarter of Section 36. Once again,
7 -- I mean northwest quarter of Section 1 producing
8 from the AC zone. Santa Fe does not have a well
9 producing from the AC zone in that section. We think
10 the only way Santa Fe can effectively compete against
11 that well is to drill the second well, the No. 2 well
12 in the southeast quarter of Section 1.

13 As to the AD zone and as to Texaco's
14 claims, we believe Santa Fe has presented sufficient
15 data to show that Texaco's well is in a small pod by
16 itself. This is consistent with the regional
17 geology.

18 Texaco has presented an exhibit that shows
19 just a huge AD reservoir. That does not comport with
20 the facts. It doesn't comport with the drainage
21 radius calculated by Santa Fe's witness.

22 We believe, as a result, that Santa Fe's
23 geologic interpretation is the correct one; that there
24 are small, specific pods; and that Texaco is in a
25 separate one from Santa Fe. Furthermore, Santa Fe's

1 well is a good half mile away from the Texaco well.
2 We don't think that based on that alone, that using a
3 straight footage penalty formula, as both Enron and
4 Texaco propose, is reasonable. Yes, we're 660 feet
5 away from the east line of the section, but we are not
6 encroaching on Enron, and we are more than a half a
7 mile away from the Texaco well.

8 Furthermore, looking at the AC zone, Texaco
9 doesn't even have that in its well. So what is the
10 effect on correlative rights? We think none.

11 As to the simultaneous dedication, Santa Fe
12 recognizes that this is all under the OCD's rules.
13 The Atoka is one pool. We recognize that. We've
14 tried to state our case to limit any adverse effect.
15 And we've said we would be happy to accept
16 simultaneous dedication in the AC and AD zones alone.
17 Santa Fe's current well, the No. 1 well in the
18 southwest quarter of Section 1, is not producing from
19 those zones, is not capable of producing from those
20 zones, and therefore we think we need this well to
21 effectively compete against the offset operators.

22 As to the Atoka Bank, we said we really
23 don't want to produce that at the same time. The fact
24 of the matter is, that well is producing about 175 Mcf
25 a day. It's not exactly a prolific well. We will

1 leave that to the discretion of the Division.

2 In short, we believe we have shown that
3 there will be no effect on the offsets. Santa Fe
4 needs this well to effectively drain its acreage in
5 the Atoka. And we do not believe any penalty is
6 necessary. Thank you.

7 EXAMINER CATANACH: Thank you, Mr. Bruce.

8 Is there anything else in this case?

9 Gentlemen, rough draft orders, please.

10 And there being nothing further, this case
11 will be taken under advisement.

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
) ss.
 COUNTY OF SANTA FE)

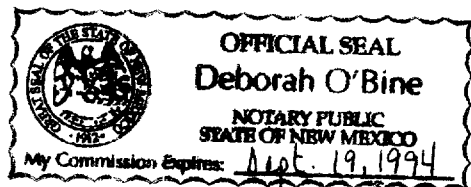
I, Deborah O'Bine, Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public, HEREBY CERTIFY that I caused my notes to be transcribed under my personal supervision, and that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings of said hearing.

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

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL, October 16, 1993.

Deborah O'Bine

DEBORAH O'BINE
 CCR No. 63



I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a complete record of the proceedings in the Examiner hearing of Case No. 10775, heard by me on October 7, 1993.

David R. Catant, Examiner
 Oil Conservation Division