

DOCKET: EXAMINER HEARING - THURSDAY - OCTOBER 7, 1993
8:15 A.M. - MORGAN HALL, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Dockets Nos. 31-93 and 32-93 are tentatively set for October 21, 1993 and November 4, 1993. Applications for hearing must be filed at least 23 days in advance of hearing date.

The following cases will be heard before David R. Catanach, Examiner or Michael E. Stogner, Alternate Examiner:

CASE 10812: (Continued from September 23, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Giant Exploration & Production Company for compulsory pooling, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool, underlying the N/2 of Section 33, Township 26 North, Range 11 West, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 320-acre spacing within said vertical extent, which presently includes only the Basin Fruitland Coal Gas Pool. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard location thereon in said Section 33. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well, and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located near the Huerfano Boarding School.

CASE 10833: (Continued from September 23, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Giant Exploration & Production Company for an unorthodox infill coal gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval of an unorthodox coal gas well location 1850 feet from the South line and 790 feet from the East line of Section 29, Township 25 North, Range 12 West, Basin-Fruitland Coal (Gas) Pool. Further, the applicant seeks an exception to the requirements of Rule No. 4 of the Special Rules and Regulations for said Basin-Fruitland Coal (Gas) Pool as promulgated by Division Order No. R-8768, as amended, to allow the drilling of a second well on a standard 320-acre spacing and proration unit comprising the E/2 of said Section 29. Said unit is located approximately 8 miles south of Chaco Plant.

CASE 10711: (Reopened)

In the matter of Case No. 10711 being reopened upon the application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for a new well location in the waterflood project approved for its Creek "AL" Federal Lease by Division Order No. R-9896, issued in Case 10711 on May 18, 1993. Applicant also seeks the establishment of an administrative procedure for the approval of additional well locations within this project. The Creek "AL" Federal Lease is located in the E/2 SE/4 of Section 23, the NW/4 SW/4 and S/2 S/2 of Section 24, and the NW/4 and E/2 NE/4 of Section 25, Township 18 South, Range 30 East, which is located approximately 6 miles east of Walters Lake.

CASE 10836: Application of Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P. for an unorthodox oil well location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval to drill its Kachina "5" Well No. 5 at an unorthodox oil well location 660 feet from the South line and 990 feet from the West line (Unit M) of Section 5, Township 18 South, Range 33 East, to test the Wolfcamp formation, South Corbin-Wolfcamp Pool. The S/2 SW/4 of said Section 5 will be dedicated to the well forming a standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration unit for said pool. Said well is located approximately 7 miles southeast of Maljamar, New Mexico.

CASE 10837: Application of Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P. for an unorthodox gas well location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval to drill its North Pure Gold "9" Fed. Well No. 2 at an unorthodox gas well location 660 feet from the South and West lines (Unit M) of Section 9, Township 23 South, Range 31 East, to test the Atoka and Morrow formations, Undesignated Los Medanos-Morrow Gas Pool, West Sand Dunes-Atoka Gas Pool, and Undesignated West Sand Dunes-Morrow Gas Pool. The S/2 of said Section 9 will be dedicated to the well forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool(s). Said well is located approximately 11 miles southeast of Lindsey Lake.

CASE 10775: (Continued from September 9, 1993, examiner Hearing.)

Application of Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P. for an unorthodox infill gas well location and simultaneous dedication, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval of an unorthodox well location 1980 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the East line (Unit I) of Section 1, Township 24 South, Range 28 East, Malaga-Atoka Gas Pool. Further, the applicant seeks an exception to Division General Rule 104.c(2) to allow the existing 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit comprising the S/2 of said Section 1 to be simultaneously dedicated in the Malaga-Atoka Gas Pool to the proposed well and to the existing Malaga Federal 1 Well No. 1 located at a standard gas well location 660 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the West line (Unit N) of said Section 1. Said unit is located approximately 2 miles northeast of Malaga, New Mexico.

CASE 10829: (Continued from September 23, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Mewbourne Oil Company for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Morrow formation, underlying the following described areas in Section 32, Township 18 South, Range 34 East, and in the following manner: the E/2 forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 320-acre spacing within said vertical extent; the SE/4 forming a standard 160-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 160-acre spacing within said vertical extent; and the W/2 SE/4 forming a standard 80-acre oil spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 80-acre spacing within said vertical extent, including the EK-Bone Spring Pool. Said unit is to be dedicated to the applicant's Larica 32 State Well No. 1, to be drilled at an orthodox location within said E/2 proration unit. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well, and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said unit is located approximately 7.5 miles west of Arkansas Junction.

CASE 10838: **Application of Harvey E. Yates Company for an unorthodox oil well location, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks authorization to drill its Young Deep Unit Well No. 21 at an unorthodox oil well location 1330 feet from the South and West lines (Unit K) of Section 3, Township 18 South, Range 32 East, to test the Undesignated Young-Wolfcamp Pool. The NE/4 SW/4 of Section 3 is to be dedicated to the above-described well forming a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit for said pool. Said well is located approximately 6 miles south of Maljamar, New Mexico.

CASE 10839: **Application of Harvey E. Yates Company for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Morrow formation underlying the E/2 of Section 28, Township 18 South, Range 34 East, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any Morrow Pools within said vertical extent which presently includes the Undesignated West La Rica-Morrow Gas Pool. Said unit is to be dedicated to its Ekay 28 State Well No. 1, to be drilled at an orthodox location within Unit J of said E/2 proration unit, 2050 feet from the South line and 1800 feet from the East line of said Section 28. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling and completing said well. Said unit is located approximately 12 miles southeast of Maljamar, New Mexico.

CASE 10840: **Application of Harvey E. Yates Company for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Morrow formation underlying the W/2 of Section 28, Township 18 South, Range 34 East, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any Morrow Pools within said vertical extent which presently includes the Undesignated West La Rica-Morrow Gas Pool. Said unit is to be dedicated to its Ekay 28 State Well No. 4, to be drilled at an orthodox location within Unit K of said W/2 proration unit, 1980 feet from the South and West lines of said Section 28. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as the operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling and completing said well. Said unit is located approximately 12 miles southeast of Maljamar, New Mexico.

CASE 10841: **Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Canyon formation underlying the SW/4 SW/4 of Section 1, Township 14 South, Range 33 East forming a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 40-acre spacing within said vertical extent which presently includes the Undesignated Saunders Permo-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool. Said unit is to be dedicated to its Childress "AKV" Well No. 1 to be drilled at a standard location 990 feet from the South line and 330 feet from the West line (Unit M) of said Section 1. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling said well. Said area is located approximately 20 miles southeast of Caprock, New Mexico.

CASE 10842: **Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for an unorthodox gas well location, Eddy County, New Mexico.** Applicant seeks authorization to drill its Hickory "ALV" Federal Well No. 3 at a location 2166 feet from the South line and 2253 feet from the West line (Unit K) of Section 17, Township 22 South, Range 24 East, to test the Upper Pennsylvanian formation, Indian Basin-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool. The W/2 of Section 17 is to be dedicated to said well forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit. Said unit is located approximately 8 miles southeast of Carlsbad, New Mexico.

CASE 10772: (Continued from September 9, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Barber Oil Inc. for salt water disposal, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to utilize its Stovall-Wood Well No. 5 located 880 feet from the North line and 1580 feet from the West line (Unit C) of Section 20, Township 20 South, Range 30 East, to dispose of produced salt water into the Rustler Lime formation through the perforated interval from approximately 195 feet to 255 feet. Said well is located 2 miles northeast of the National Potash Company Mine.

CASE 10843: Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project, an unorthodox oil well location, a non-standard oil proration unit, a special project allowable, and special operating rules therefor, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks to initiate a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project in the Gallup formation, Horseshoe Gallup Oil Pool, underlying the E/2 of Section 18, Township 30 North, Range 15 West. Applicant proposes to drill its Black Diamond Com 18 Well No. 1 by commencing at a standard well location in Unit B of Section 18, then kicking-off from vertical in a southeasterly direction commencing to build angle at an appropriate rate to vertically and horizontally traverse the proposed producing area. Applicant further seeks the adoption of special operating provisions and rules within the project area including the designation of a target window such that the horizontal or producing portion of the wellbore shall be no closer than 330 feet to any boundary of a non-standard spacing and proration unit consisting of the E/2 of said Section 18, an unorthodox oil well location, and for a special project allowable. Said project is located approximately 4-1/2 miles north-northeast of Waterflow, New Mexico.

CASE 10844: Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project, an unorthodox oil well location, a non-standard oil proration unit, a special project allowable, and special operating rules therefor, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks to initiate a high angle/horizontal directional drilling pilot project in the Gallup formation, Horseshoe Gallup Oil Pool, underlying the W/2 of Section 8, Township 30 North, Range 15 West. Applicant proposes to drill its Black Diamond Com 8 Well No. 1 by commencing at a standard well location in Unit D of Section 8, then kicking-off from vertical in a southeasterly direction commencing to build angle at an appropriate rate to vertically and horizontally traverse the proposed producing area. Applicant further seeks the adoption of special operating provisions and rules within the project area including the designation of a target window such that the horizontal or producing portion of the wellbore shall be no closer than 330 feet to any boundary of a non-standard spacing and proration unit consisting of the W/2 of said Section 8, an unorthodox oil well location, and for a special project allowable. Said project is located approximately 5-1/2 miles north-northeast of Waterflow, New Mexico.

CASE 10781: (Reopened - Continued from September 23, 1993, Examiner Hearing.)

Application of Marathon Oil Company for an unorthodox coal gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval of an unorthodox well location in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool for its proposed Schwerdtfeger Well No. 17-2 to be drilled at an unorthodox well location 1605 feet from the South line and 1135 feet from the East line (Unit D) of Section 17, Township 27 North, Range 11 West. Said well is to be dedicated to a 320-acre spacing unit consisting of the E/2 of Section 17. Said unit is located approximately 9 miles south of Bloomfield, New Mexico.

CASE 10845: Application of Phillips Petroleum Company for a unit agreement, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval of its Vacuum Glorieta East Unit Agreement for an area comprising 4,239.80 acres, more or less, of State lands in portions of Sections 26-34, Township 17 South, Range 35 East and in a portion of Section 5, Township 18 South, Range 35 East. Said unit is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Lovington, New Mexico.

CASE 10846: Application of Phillips Petroleum Company for approval of a waterflood project, and to qualify said project for the recovered oil tax rate pursuant to the "New Mexico Enhanced Oil Recovery Act", Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to institute a waterflood project within its Vacuum Glorieta East Unit by the injection of water into the Glorieta and Paddock formations, Vacuum-Glorieta Pool, in an area comprising portions of Sections 26-34, Township 17 South, Range 35 East and a portion of Section 5, Township 18 South, Range 35 East, through 48 initial injection wells. The applicant further requests that the Division establish procedures for amending injection or producing well locations within the unit area without the necessity of further hearings and the adoption of any provisions necessary for such other matters as may be appropriate for said waterflood operations. Applicant further seeks to qualify this project for the recovered oil tax rate pursuant to the "New Mexico Enhanced Oil Recovery Act" (Law 1992, Chapter 38, Sections 1 through 5). Said project is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Lovington, New Mexico.

CASE 10847: Application of Mitchell Energy Corporation for an exception to Rule (2) of the Special Rules and Regulations for the North Osudo-Morrow Gas Pool to allow a second well on a proration unit, or in the alternative, to establish infill drilling procedures for said pool, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an exception to Rule (2) of the Special Rules and Regulations for the North Osudo-Morrow Gas Pool, as promulgated by Division Order No. R-3305, to allow an existing 640-acre gas spacing and proration unit comprising Section 30, Township 20 South, Range 36 East, to be simultaneously dedicated to a proposed well to be drilled at a standard well location in the NE/4 SW/4 of Section 30 and to an existing well located in the NE/4 NE/4 of Section 30. In the alternative, applicant seeks to amend Rule (2) of the Special Rules and Regulations for said pool to provide that a second well may be drilled within a standard 640-acre spacing unit but on a governmental quarter section not containing the first well. The North Osudo-Morrow Gas Pool is located approximately 6 miles southwest of Monument, New Mexico.

CASE 10848: Application of Conoco Inc. and Marathon Oil Company for exceptions to Rule 5(b) of the special rules and regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool as promulgated by Division Order No. R-5353, as amended, or in the alternative, for the creation of a new pool with the adoption of special rules for said pool, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicants seek exceptions to Rule 5(b) of the Special Rules and Regulations for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool as promulgated by Order No. R-5353 as amended, thereby authorizing simultaneous dedication of acreage to both gas wells and oil wells within Sections 34, 35, and 36, Township 20 South, Range 24 East and Sections 34, 35, and 36, Township 20-1/2 South, Range 23 East. In the alternative, applicants seek the contraction of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool and the concomitant creation of a new pool comprising the above-described acreage with the adoption of special rules and regulations including those set forth in Order No. R-5353 but modified to allow simultaneous dedication of spacing units to multiple gas and oil wells and establishment of appropriate allowables therefor. Said area is located approximately 22 miles southeast of Hope, New Mexico.

DOCKET: COMMISSION HEARING - THURSDAY - OCTOBER 14, 1993

9:00 A.M. - MORGAN HALL, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

The Land Commissioner's designee for this hearing will be Jami Bailey

CASE 10498: (De Novo - Continued from September 22, 1993, Commission Hearing.)

In the matter of Case No. 10498 being reopened upon application of Monty D. McLane to exempt certain working interests from the compulsory pooling provisions of Division Order No. R-9690, Lea County, New Mexico. Division Order No. R-9690, issued in Case 10498 and dated July 1, 1992, granted the application of Charles Gillespie to compulsorily pool all mineral interests from the surface to the base of the Strawn formation underlying Lot 3 of Section 1, Township 16 South, Range 35 East, forming a non-standard 51.08-acre oil spacing and proration unit. Said unit is to be dedicated to a well to be drilled at a standard oil well location thereon. At this time Monty D. McLane requests the Division enter an order reopening Case No. 10498 and declare that the working interests of Henry H. Lawton and Amanda K. Parks are not subject to said Order No. R-9690. Upon application of Charles B. Gillespie Jr., this case will be heard De Novo pursuant to the provisions of Rule 1220.

CASE 10849: Application of Amoco Production Company for amendment of the deliverability testing rules for the Prorated Gas Pools of Northwest New Mexico, (Blanco-Mesaverde, Basin-Dakota, Tapacito-Pictured Cliffs, and South Blanco-Pictured Cliffs Pools), Rio Arriba, Sandoval and San Juan Counties, New Mexico. Applicant seeks an order amending the General Rules for the Prorated Gas Pools of New Mexico (Order No. R-8170-H) and the Rules of Procedures for Northwest New Mexico (Order No. R-333-I) to exempt from deliverability testing those wells in marginal gas proration units which cannot produce the acreage portion of the monthly gas allowable assigned by the Division to the gas proration unit.

CASE 10719: (De Novo - Continued from September 22, 1993, Commission Hearing.)

Application of Anadarko Petroleum Corporation for directional drilling and an unorthodox bottomhole gas well location, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks authority to directionally drill its proposed Power Federal Com Well No. 2 from a surface location 1400 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the East line (Unit I) of Section 26, Township 17 South, Range 30 East, in such a manner as to bottom the well in the Cedar Lake-Morrow Gas Pool at an unorthodox subsurface gas well location within 75 feet of a point 660 feet from the South and East lines (Unit P) of said Section 26. The E/2 of said Section 26 is to be dedicated to said well forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool. Said unit is located approximately 3 miles east-southeast of Loco Hills, New Mexico. Upon application of Anadarko Petroleum Company, this case will be heard De Novo pursuant to the provisions of Rule 1220.

CASE 10796: (De Novo)

Application of Manzano Oil Corporation for an unorthodox gas well location, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant seeks approval of an unorthodox location in the Wolfcamp formation, Osudo-Wolfcamp Pool, for its Neuhaus Federal Well No. 2 which has been drilled 660 feet from the North line and 1650 feet from the East line (Unit B) of Section 14, Township 20 South, Range 35 East. Applicant further requests approval of the unorthodox location as to all prospective pools or formations including but not limited to the Wolfcamp, spaced on 320 acres. Said well is located approximately 17 miles southwest of Hobbs, New Mexico. Upon application of Manzano Oil Corporation, this case will be heard De Novo pursuant to the provisions of Rule 1220.

CASE 10653: (Continued from July 22, 1993, Commission Hearing.)

Application of Armstrong Energy Corporation for special pool rules, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an order promulgating special rules and regulations for the Northeast Lea-Delaware Pool including a provision for a special oil allowable of 300 barrels of oil per day. Said pool is located in portions of Townships 19 and 20 South, Range 34 East, located near the Warren Gas Company Compressor Station.

CASE 10773: (Continued from July 22, 1993, Commission Hearing.)

Application of Armstrong Energy Corporation for pool extension and abolishment, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, and in association with De Novo Case No. 10653, seeks to abolish the Quail Ridge-Delaware Pool comprising the SW/4 of Section 3, SE/4 of Section 4, NE/4 of Section 9, N/2 and SW/4 of Section 10, all in Township 20 South, Range 34 East and the concomitant extension of the horizontal limits of the Northeast Lea-Delaware Pool to include all of above-described acreage plus the SE/4 of said Section 3. This area is centered approximately 1.5 miles south of U.S. Highway 62/180 at Milemarker No. 79.