STATE OF NEW MEXICO



ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION



BRUCE KING GOVERNOR

ANITA LOCKWOOD CABINET SECRETARY

POST OFFICE BOX 2088 STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504 (505) 827-5800

January 26, 1994

CAMBELL, CARR, BERGE & SHERIDAN
Attorneys at Law
P. O. Box 2208
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

RE:

CASE NOS. 10869 and 10881

ORDER NO. R-10050

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of the above-referenced Division order recently entered in the subject case.

Sincerely,

Sally E. Martinez

Administrative Secretary

cc:

BLM Carlsbad Office

Tom Kellahin James Bruce Karen Aubrey

Rick Brown - OCD

Donna McDonald - OCD

CAMPBELL, CARR, BERGE & SHERIDAN, P.A.

LAWYERS

MICHAEL B. CAMPBELL
WILLIAM F. CARR
BRADFORD C. BERGE
MARK F. SHERIDAN
WILLIAM P. SLATTERY

PATRICIA A. MATTHEWS MICHAEL H. FELDEWERT DAVID B. LAWRENZ TANYA M. TRUJILLO

JACK M. CAMPBELL OF COUNSEL JEFFERSON PLACE

SUITE 1 - 110 NORTH GUADALUPE
POST OFFICE BOX 2208

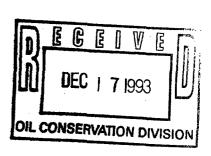
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2208

TELEPHONE: (505) 988-4421
TELECOPIER: (505) 983-6043

December 17, 1993

HAND-DELIVERED

Mr. David R. Catanach
Hearing Examiner
Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Department of Energy,
Minerals and Natural Resources
State Land Office Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503



Re:

Case No. 10869:

Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for Amendment of the Special Rules and Regulations for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

Case No. 10881:

Application of Conoco Inc. to Amend Rule 5(b) and Rule 6 of the Special Rules and Regulations for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool (Division Order R-5353), and for the Extension of Said Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

Dear Mr. Catanach:

Pursuant to your request, enclosed is a copy of the initialization deck for the simulation study of part of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool which Yates offered as its Exhibit 5 in the above-referenced consolidated cases. By copy of this letter, this information is being provided to Conoco, Inc., Marathon Oil Company and Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P.

Mr. David R. Catanach
Hearing Examiner
Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Department of Energy,
Minerals and Natural Resources
December 17, 1993
Page 2

If you need any additional information from Yates for your consideration of these applications, please advise.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM N. CARR

WFC:mlh Enclosure

cc:

Mr. Pinson McWhorter (w/enclosure)

W. Thomas Kellahin, Esq., (Conoco, Inc.)(w/enclosure)

Karen Aubrey, Esq., (Marathon Oil Corp.)(w/enclosure)

James Bruce, Esq., (Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P.)(w/enclosure)

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WORKBENCH
                        RELEASE 01.00.04
                  INITIALIZATION DECK FOR SIMBEST II
                   PROJECT: strip3d
                   CASE:
                   DATE:
                             15-Nov 93
                   TIME:
                             12:22:01
        Dagger Draw Canyon Reservoir (3-D Strip Model)
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 3556.57 3596.03 3635.55
                           3675.76
                                     3712.02 3733.01
                                                        3746.99 3758.04
 3771.81 3790.11
                   3809.11
                             3824.57
                                      3842.67
                                               3858.82
                                                        3877.00
                                                                 3890.52
  3911.88 3926.55 3937.87 3953.24
                                     3974.00
                                               3993.24
                                                        4008.95
       *HTOP
                FOR LAYER 1 J =
                                     2
  3552.86 3591.51 3637.12 3677.62
                                     3711.94
                                               3731.12
                                                        3746.50
                                                                 3759.80
  3772.55 3791.62 3811.62
                                               3857.13
                                                        3873.23
                             3826.69
                                      3842.30
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 3915.18 3926.37 3938.28
                           3953.87
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      *HTOP
               FOR LAYER
                            1 J=
                                      3709.45
  3550.61 3590.09
                   3635.75
                                               3730.74
                             3677.13
                                                        3745.88
                                                                 3760.38
  3774.33 3794.23
                   3815.82
                             3831.98
                                      3846.65
                                               3860.27
                                                        3874.79
                                                                 3892.35
  3910.34 3924.50 3936.57 3950.99
                                      3972.03
                                               3989.87
                                                        4005.08
;C
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        *VALUE
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      *TH
               FOR LAYER
                            1 J=
                                      1
  18.1135 19.5943 21.3519
                             22.9132
                                      25.5034
                                               27.9415
                                                        29.7152
                                                                 30.9986
  31.7228 32.0396
                   32.1322
                             32.5299
                                               33.9239
                                                        34.0207
                                      33.3998
                                                                  32.7306
 29.6072 26.9096 26.3845
                                                        46,9060
                            27.1066
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                                               39.1631
C *TH FOR LAYER 1 J =
                                      2
  25.1961 28.5361 31.8968
                             34.5739
                                      36.6734
                                               38.2431
                                                        38.6439
                                                                 39.4113
                   41.9386
  39.9009 40.3787
                             43.8195
                                      44.6558
                                               45.3603
                                                        45.2604
                                                                  46.2544
  44.7860 41.0580 36.8010
                                      40.5376
                                               43.9581
                            37.2664
                                                        46.9620
C *TH FOR LAYER 1 J =
                                      3
  38.1070 40.7770 42.5664
                            44.0339
                                      43.8229
                                               43.7853
                                                        44.5416
                                                                 44.4444
  44.0506 43.7317 44.2358
                            44.0062
                                      44.2224
                                               47.4334
                                                        48,4007
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  47.7839 46.0270 43.7296
                             42.7195
                                                        44.7441
                                      43.2435
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  28.1572 31.0979 33.3150
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                                               44.1978
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  46.2297 46.4831 46.3535
                             45.9267
                                      45.0046
                                               43.8813
                                                         42.4280
                                                                 41.4482
  40.4032 40.2601 41.1638
                             42.8647
                                      43,2376
                                               41.9672
                                                        40.9892
     *TH
                 FOR LAYER
                            2 J=
  23.0863 23.5508 25.3200
                            26.4814
                                      29.7563
                                               32.3473
                                                        35.3658
                                                                 36.4259
  37.0521 37.4334 37.2985 36.8195
                                      36.1919
                                               35.1592
                                                        33.3530
                                                                  31.2045
  30.2522 28.5219 26.2915
                            28.7179
                                      34.9535
                                               40.7496
                                                         44.5652
               FOR LAYER
                            2 J=
  33.8701 31.9585 30.1824
                             28.2330
                                      28.6434
                                               28.5541
                                                         28.1821
                                                                  27.8590
  27.3865
          27.6892
                    28.3162
                             28.4839
                                      27.3595
                                               23.3339
                                                         26.8452
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  27.7849 20.1904
                    16.6224
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  40.3601 40.7612 41.5214
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                                      42.7391
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                                                         42.2288
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  42.0466 41.9637 41.5105
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40.4703	41.9574 42.8121	42.3204	38.6452	36.4317	34.9154				
	TH FOR LAYER	3 J =	2						
30.0795	30.3639 32.8747	34.1420	34.7437	35.0989	35.3724	34.9692			
34.5531 26.1770	31.9840 30.7642 31.8054 34.3334	29.3233 32.6460	26.2395 27.6748	23.0632 24.9687	20.5503 26.6208	22.5428			
C *		3 J =	3						
19.4517	19.3686 19.1290	19.2908	19.4560	19.8735	20.3476	20.6291			
20.7482	19.4500 17.9365	17.8470	17.5034	17.4692	17.5858	18.8185			
23.3813 C	27.3015 28.1247	29.8639	30.8695	31.0339	31.9849				
	TH FOR LAYER	4 J=	1						
	83.81 83.47	84.18	85.35	87.09	88.06	88.58			
88.58		87.04	87 . 75	86.26	83.88	80.56			
76.94 C		70.20 4 J=	65.17 2	59.19	54.15				
64.53		67.09	68.64	71.91	74.15	75.99			
77.21		79.31	79.36	77.95	75.21	70.80			·
67.36		74.35	71.02 3	62.49	56.25				
°C 3.71		4 J = 1 66.57	3 67.83	67.65	68.09	68.61			
69.22		69.19	68.99	68.75	68.07	67.41			•
68.06	67.17 69.13	71.17	65.65	60.47	57.02				
*C '	*TH FOR LAYER	5 j=	1						
	45.42 44.73	44.82	44.78	45.17	46.30	47.90			
49.33	50.30 53.24	59.74	63.06	59.17	46.80	46.19			
52.76		58.94	56.91	55.85	56.37				
*c 55.88		5 J = 55.17	2 55.29	55.60	55.79	55.86			
55.97		61.49	63.45	60.55	55.89	60.83			
66.66		45.07	43.53	43.14	46.06				
		5 J=							
66.39 64.57		66.79 62.39	66.85 61.82	66.55 62.57	65.88 63.26	65.05 64.99	•		
64.78			38.52	40.07	42.83	04.77			
*C									
*C		6 J = 60.61		41 70	42.45	(2.2°			
58.36 61.57			60.89 47.89	61.28 50.67	62.15 57.77	62.25 61.04			
64.69	78.76 91.00	99.42	106.91	114.06	119.13				
*C			2						
46.13 50.74			51.16 45.89	51.90 50.57	53.70 55.62	53.10 56.83			
61.94			105.30	111.23	115.35	20.03	•		
*C	*TH FOR LAYER	6 J=	3						
45.77			47.07	47.27	47.74	47.64			
47.32 57.37			46.87 103.19	48.37 109.19	49.72 110.18	51.86			
*C			,,,,,	,,,	110110				
	*TH FOR LAYER		1						_
	40.6231 40.3255 46.8670 50.4714		40.1444 47.9960	40.6172 42.7720	41.7758 40.1444	43.3695			,
	33.7610 28.2372		20.5297	16.7068	15.4587	41.0355			
*C	*TH FOR LAYER	7 J=	2						
	32.5008 31.7976		32.1316	32.1274	34.1572				
	40.2619 43.8835 33.9806 27.4436		45.4481 19.6847	40.9698 17.9663	38.1613 21.1564	40.7377			
	*TH FOR LAYER	7 J=	3		~1.1504				
26.1029	25.9065 25.8443		26.8104	27.3313	27.9768	29.9453			
	35.6101 40.3340		43.4027		38.3261	40.4221			
40.3979 *C	37.4496 31.9534	25.2150	20.3483	24.1774	33.7209				
*C	*TH FOR LAYER	8 .l =	1						
37.44			47.75	48.98	49.75	49.26			
48.52				34.89	32.49	28.81			
29.33	31.03 32.48	28.62	27.79	29.96	29.51				

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; *1	TH FOR LAYER	8 J=	2				
31.57	33.32 36.43	39.28	41.15	42.10	41.79	39.44	
36.47	33.12 30.85	30.30	30.56	31.10	31.50	31.21	
33.92	39.26 43.89	41.91	33.78	31.85	34.20		
; *1	TH FOR LAYER	8 J=	3				
25.34	28.24 30.51	32.71	34.60	35.50	34.96	32.21	
28.53	23.88 21.80	24.27	28.74	30.17	32.01	33.99	
39.41	43.89 44.94	44.07	41.75	41.02	45.63		
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	THNET FOR LAYER	1 J=	14	E 4/00	E 0/75	4 4000	
6.1170	5.7918 6.2655	5.6779	5.2481	5.1402	5.8635	6.6820	
7.0146	7.1754 7.1632	6.9860	7.1488	8.7388	9.7881	8.4928	
7.2106	5.2638 5.0920	7.9547	13.6082	19.9643	24.1370		
	THNET FOR LAYER	1 J=	15	44	44	48	
14.1953	15.1203 15.0022	13.8940	14.0574	14.2481	14.9359	15.3609	
14 6892	13.9940 13.2664	12.7500	13.1050	15.7715	20.5051	19.8226	
18.8398	18.2318 18.0534	20.0131	21.8934	22.5655	23.4149		
C	TUNET FOR LAVER	, ,	17				
	THNET FOR LAYER	2 J=	13	9 (00/	0.3400	0 0557	
8.0004	8.3959 9.4469	9.6056	9.4375	8.6096 10.558/	9.2198	9.8557	
10.1222	10.0631 10.0261	10.1530	10.2058 9.8952	10.5584 10.9696	11.2330	11.0825	
10.7667	10.0890 10.0808	10.0732		10.7070	11.7491		
C *		2 J =	14	0027	2 7/75	4 2/20	
3.3445	3.4789 7.2822 0.5773 0.4051	6.9970	5.1127	.8023		6.2429 7.5707	
9.2684	9.5773 9.6051	9.0468	6.9983	2.7433	2.6950	7.5797	
7.5871	8.1473 8.3531	8.5592	8.1731	8.9396	9.8425		
*C *	THNET FOR LAYER 9.6192 9.4214	2 J = 8.1147	15 5.9089	3.6151	3.5620	4.0039	
5.8640		6.2382		3.7418	5.5876	6.7336	
10.0835	6.5836 6.6950 13.6795 14.3753	13.4405	4.9918 13.4226	12.1118	10.1969	6.7336	
:C	13.0173 14.3133	13.4403	13.4220	12.1110	10.1707		
	THNET FOR LAYER	3 J=	13				
	10.3659 10.5405		12.9450	14.6070	21.0599	21.4945	
	20.9158 20.5404			18.2640	18.2650	18.9857	
	29.4186 31.0924	29.5728	23.0242	15.0632	8.8060		
	THNET FOR LAYER	3 J=	14				
	5.5220 6.8865	7.9155	9.7431	10.2018	12.0174	12,5977	
	10.4009 10.6423	8.8642	7.4149	7.4276	6.3784	6.6996	
	10.2070 11.8243	10.0704	6.2214	4.4616	2.9472	0.0770	
	THNET FOR LAYER		15	414010	217412		
		.0000	.0000	.0000	1.9466	1.6985	
	1.3981 1.5554	1.3119	1.2702	5.9128	4.1509		
	15.6926 21.0098	23.5132			28.6671	3.0309	
*C	13.0720 21.0070	23.3132	24.7427	20.7372	20.0071		
_	THNET FOR LAYER	4 1 -	13				
	52.47 55.36	57.42		61.24	63.24	65.42	
	68.95 70.27	71.67	72.52	72.48	70.02	65.36	
	64.51 63.28	71.67 58.91		39.53	32.33	05.30	
	*THNET FOR LAYER		52.44	39.73	32.33		
25.08			14	7/ 51		/7 57	
		31.73	33.74	36.51		43.53	
	50.26 52.57		54.51	53.97		48.20	
43.65 *C *	45.91 51.49 THNET FOR LAYER		50.04	38.74	31.24		
21.93				24 00	2/ 17	27 47	
		25.61	26.08	26.00	26.13	27.17	
27.53		32.85	34.45	35.45	37.10	38.50	
39.66 *C	37.55 38.40	40.30	38.54	31.64	25.36		
_	KTUMET FOR ' ''	.	47				
יי איי איי איי	*THNET FOR LAYER) J=	15	77 0-0-	7,	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
37.8599	37.2782 35.7392	54.4192	55.9456	55.8187	54.8174	36.2211	
38.0111	40.9949 45.3728	52.0660	55.8739	49.4504	37.1454	37.9320	

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		 .		4077	F/ 770/	FF F340			
		62.1566	56.1580	54.1037	54.3396	55.5210			
;		LAYER 46.9603	5 J = 46.5417	14 46.6345	46.2515	46.5446	47.3715		
		52.9391	55.8485	56.2746	51.2895	46.3551	53.3729		
	-	43.1779	42.2063	41.0916	42.0254	43.3791	3313727		
, 60		LAYER	5 j =	15	,				
50		59.0219	58.4606	57.7477	56.9953	56.4267	56.1769		
	=	55.1153	53.7538	53.2496	53.2454	55.6477	62.9310		•
	-	43.8646	36.0286	32.2893	32.1127	33.3462			
;									
:		LAYER	6 j=	13					
	26.16 30.58	39.42	41.81	45.06	47.87	47.17	47.24		
	47.04 45.13	42.69	41.50	41.61	50.67	57.77	61.04		
	64.69 78.76	88.61	97.40	103.46	106.66	108.30			
3		LAYER	6 J = 35.21	14 36.45	39.00	39.47	38.73		
	12.41 15.72 37.73 35.65	30.43 33.95	33.13	35.54	48.06	55.10	56.83		
	61.94 73.61	87.70	95.43	102.54	109.15	111.06	,,,,		
С		LAYER	6 J=	15					
	25.35 27.49	32.24	34.20	34.87	35.57	36:17	35.92		•
	35.79 34.91	34.11	34.09	35.66	38.99	46.73	51.86		
	57.37 72.33	84.96	94.03	102.60	107.33	106.96			
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	.4517 10.7537	22.7766	24.2276	20.5297	13.9475	9.1507			
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	1.1967 9.9171	21.0155	22.4340	19.2881	17.6218	21.0503	0000		
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	.0283 .0281	.0282			.0297		.0283		
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	.0418 .0406	.0397	.0396	.0406	.0416	.0418			
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3	*PHI			2	j =	14				
	.0345	.0348	.0385		,0435	.0576	.0607	.0438	.0381	•
	.0382	.0385	.0402		.0416	.0407	.0344	.0193	.0395	
	.0424	.0416	.0378	-	.0388	.0400 15	.0400	.0405		
3	*PHI	.0424	LAYER .0436	2	J = .0487	.0588	.0588	.0437	.0382	
	.0418 .0368	.0357	.0381		.0396	.0411	.0366	.0320	.0394	
	.0407	.0405	.0393		.0396	.0401	.0398	.0397	.0271	
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C	*PHI	FOR	LAYER	3	J =	13				
	.0608	.0623	.0712		.0581	.0529	.0515	.0476	.0495	
	.0519	.0539	.0549		.0545	.0543	.0570	.0635	.0496	
	.0428	.0409	.0404		.0409	.0395	.0399	.0404		
С	TH9*		LAYER	3	J =	14				
		.0315	.0465		.0478	.0467	.0463	.0460	.0492	
	.0536	.0577	.0598		.0585	.0550	.0488	.0480 .0359	.0429	
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	.0227	.0306	.0356		.0366	.0369	.0368	.0386		
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С	*PHI	FOR	LAYER	4	J =	13				
	.0987	.0801	.0787		.0669	.0626	.0572	.0562	.0573	
	.0587	.0611	.0636		.0641	.0624	.0593	.0545	.0507	
	.0507	.0515	.0511		.0488	.0584	.0556	.0487		
С	*PHI .0471	.0504	LAYER .0478	4	= l .0383	14 .0289	.0228	.0171	.0158	
	.0471	.0199	.0254		.0281	.0257	.0205	-0162	.0143	
	.0166	.0272	.0289		0438	.0545	.0520	.0502	••••	
·C	*PHI		LAYER	4	J =	15				
	.0250	.0328	.0313		.0259	.0170	.0115	.0058	.0026	
	.0038	.0082	.0192		.0244	.0205	.0089	.0068	.0152	
	.0186	.0192	.0197		.0344	.0468	.0496	.0523		
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	.0302 .0466	.0242 .0489	.0289		.0285 .0516	.0242 .0517	.0199 .0502	.0235	.0386	
-	.0472	0496	.0501		.0513	.0517	.0520	.0517	10500	
'C	*PH]		LAYER	5		14				
	.0493	.0474	.0463		.0459	.0451	.0443	.0466	.0495	
	.0504	.0510	.0512		.0512	.0497	.0500	.0434	.0487	•
	.0518	.0521	.0363		.0334	.0373	.0445	.0496		
,C	*PHI		LAYER				AF70	05/7	05/4	
	.0600	.0602	.0581		.0576	.0579	.0579	.0563	.0541	
	.0526 .0535	.0517 .0468	.0512 .0297		.0508	.0509 .0299	.0517 .0393	.0531 .0467	.0559	•
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	.0545	.0536	.0500		.0417	.0287	.0249	.0611		
*C		I FOR								
	.0412	.0412	.0457		.0480	.0493	.0501	.0502	.0500	
	.0494	.0482	.0467		.0449	.0414	.0356	.0301	.0398	
*C	.0503 *PH	.0533	.0504 LAYER		.0494 = J	.0376 15	.0322	.0720		
	.0400	.0401	.0428		.0452	.0469	.0481	.0482	.0476	4
	.0461	.0441	.0428		.0395	.0371	.0354	.0308	.0312	
	.0352	.0479	.0524		.0504	.0463	.0705	.1094	.0312	- -
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ALSO ADMITTED IN ARIZONA

KAREN AUBREY

ATTORNEY AT LAW
236 MONTEZUMA
SANTA FE. NEW MEXICO 87501

TELEPHONE (505) 982-4287 TELEFAX (505) 986-8349

December 16, 1993

HAND DELIVERED

DEC 7

Mr. David Catanach Hearing Examiner New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, NM 87501

Re: NMOCD Case No. 10881: The Application of Conoco Inc. for Amendment of Rules 5(b) and 6, Order R-5353, South Dagger Draw Pool, and to Expand the Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico

and

NMOCD Case No. 10869: The Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for Amendment of Rule 5(b), Order R-5353, South Dagger Draw Pool, Eddy County New Mexico

Dear Mr. Catanach:

I enclose a proposed Order submitted by Marathon Oil Company in each of the

above referenced cases.

/Kareń Aubrey

xc: William F. Carr, Esq.
James Bruce, Esq.
W. Thomas Kellahin, Esq.
Tom Lowry, Regional Counsel
Marathon Oil Company

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

DEC 17 1993

CASE NO. 10869 ORDER NO. R-

APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR AMENDMENT OF THE SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SOUTH DAGGER DRAW-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN ASSOCIATED POOL (DIVISION ORDER NO. R-5353), EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

PROPOSED ORDER OF MARATHON OIL COMPANY

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on December 4, 1993 at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this ___day of ______1993, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

- (1) Due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) The applicant, Yates Petroleum Corporation, is the operator of wells in the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool which was created by Division Order No. R-4637 entered October 1, 1973, and has been extended from time to time to include the following acreage:

Township 20 South, Range 24 East, N.M.P.M.

Section 9:	E/2
Section 10	S/2
Section 11	S/2
Section 12:	S/2
Sections 13 through 15:	All
Sections 22 through 26	All

NMOCD Case	10869
ORDER R	
PAGE 2	

Section 35: All Section 36: N/2

- (3) The applicant seeks to amend Rule 5(b) of Order R-5353 which precludes the simultaneous dedication of both oil and gas wells to the same unit.
- (4) Marathon Oil Company appeared at said hearing and presented testimony in support of the Application.
- (5) Conoco Inc. appeared at said hearing and presented testimony in support of the Application
- (6) Santa Fe Energy Partners, L.P. entered its appearance in this case, but presented no testimony.
- (7) Nearburg Producing entered its appearance in this case, but presented no testimony.
- (8) Chevron U.S.A., Inc., entered its appearance in this case, but presented no testimony.
- (9) There was no opposition by any operator or by any interested party to the subject application.
- (10) Marathon Oil Company is the operator of six wells located in Section 36, Township 20 South, Range 24 East, N.M.P.M., as follows:

NAI	ME	CLASSIFICATION	STATUS	LOCATION
Indian Hills	s St. Com #1	Gas	Shut-In	SW/NE
Indian Hills	s St. Com #3	Oil	Producing	NW/NW
Indian Hill:	s St. Com #4	Oil	Producing	SW/NW
Indian Hill	s St Com #6	Gas	Shut In	NE/SW
Indian Hill	s St. Com #7	Gas	Shut-In	SE/NW
Indian Hill	s St. Com #8	Oil	Producing	SW/SW

NMOCD C	ase 10869
ORDER R-	
PAGE 3	

- (11) Section 36 contains two 320 acre proration units being the N/2 and the S/2.
 - (12) The South Dagger Draw Pool has been drilled on 40-acre spacing.
- (13) The evidence shows that the S/2 of Section 36 contains one oil well, the Indian Hills St. Com #8 and one gas well, Indian Hills St. Com #6. The evidence further shows that without simultaneous dedication which is prohibited by Rule 5(b), either the oil well or gas well must be shut-in resulting in waste of oil or gas reserves.
- (14) The evidence shows that the N/2 of Section 36 contains four wells. The Indian Hills St. Com #3 and #4 are producing oil wells. The Indian Hills St. Com #7 was unsuccessfully completed as an oil well and only has potential as a gas well. Indian Hills St. Com #1 is a gas well that is currently shut-in. Neither the Indian Hills St Com #1 nor the #7 can be produced since there are producing oil wells in the proration unit, resulting in waste of gas reserves.
- (15) The evidence further shows that Marathon is unable to protect both its oil and its gas reserves from drainage by offset operators with the prohibition of simultaneous dedication. If Marathon chooses to produce the gas wells, it cannot protect its oil reserves when offset by an oil proration unit. Likewise, if the oil wells are produced, the correlative rights to the gas cannot be protected against an offset gas producer.
- (16) Further, the evidence shows that the ownership percentages are not identical between the N/2 and the S/2. In the N/2 of Section 36, Marathon Oil Company has a 50% ownership interest, Columbia Gas, has a 25% ownership interest, and Southwest Royalties has a 25% interest. In the S/2 of Section 36, Columbia Gas and Marathon each have a 50% ownership interest.
- (17) Under South Dagger Draw Special Pool Rules, Marathon Oil Company could shut-in its producing oil well in the S/2 of Section 36, or convert it to a gas well, produce gas from Indian Hills St. Com #6 and #8, and thereby drain gas reserves from the N/2 of Section 36. Since the ownership is not common, the correlative rights to gas would be impaired for the N/2 interest owners and the correlative rights to oil would be impaired for the S/2 interest owners. Conversely, if the oil wells were shut-in on the N/2 to allow gas production, the violation of correlative rights would be reversed.

NMOCD Case	10869
ORDER R	
PAGE 4	

(18) The evidence shows that the simultaneous dedication of proration units in the South Dagger Draw Associated Pool will not cause the premature abatement of reservoir energy, or reduce the ultimate oil recovery from the pool and will protect correlative rights and prevent waste.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- (1) Rule 5(b) of Order R-5353 is hereby amended to permit the simultaneous dedication of both gas wells and oil wells to the same 320-acre spacing and proration unit.
- (2) Jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

WILLIAM J. LEMAY Director

CAMPBELL, CARR, BERGE & SHERIDAN, P.A.

LAWYERS

MICHAEL B. CAMPBELL WILLIAM F. CARR BRADFORD C. BERGE MARK F. SHERIDAN WILLIAM P. SLATTERY

PATRICIA A, MATTHEWS MICHAEL H. FELDEWERT DAVID B LAWRENZ TANYA M. TRUJILLO

JACK M. CAMPBELL OF COUNSEL

JEFFERSON PLACE

SUITE I - IIO NORTH GUADALUPE POST OFFICE BOX 2208 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2208

TELEPHONE: (505) 988-4421 TELECOPIER: (505) 983-6043

December 15, 1993

HAND-DELIVERED

Mr. David R. Catanach Hearing Examiner Oil Conservation Division New Mexico Department of Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources State Land Office Building Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

DEC 1 5 1993

Re:

Case Nos. 10869 and 10881:

Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation for Amendment of the Special Rules and Regulations for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

Application of Conoco Inc. to Amend Rule 5(b) and Rule 6 of the Special Rules and Regulations for the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool (Division Order R-5353), and for the Extension of Said Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

Dear Mr. Catanach:

Pursuant to your request I am enclosing the proposed Order of Yates Petroleum Corporation in the above-referenced case.

If you require anything further from Yates to proceed with your consideration of this matter, please advise.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM F. CARR

WFC:mlh Enclosure

cc:

Mr. Pinson McWhorter (w/enclosure)

W. Thomas Kellahin, Esq. (w/enclosure)

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 Nos.	10869	and	10881
(Consolida	ted)		
Order No.	R		_

APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR AMENDMENT OF THE SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE SOUTH DAGGER DRAW-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN POOL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

APPLICATION OF CONOCO INC. TO AMEND RULE 5(b) AND RULE 6 OF THE SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE SOUTH DAGGER DRAW-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN POOL (DIVISION ORDER R-5353), AND FOR THE EXTENSION OF SAID POOL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION'S PROPOSED ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

These causes came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on December 3, 1993, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this _____ day of December, 1993, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

(1) Due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

Case Nos.	10869 and	10881	(Consolidated)
Order No.	R	_	,
Page 2		_	

- (2) Yates Petroleum Corporation ("Yates"), applicant in Cause No. 10869, seeks an order deleting Rule 5(b) of the Special Rules and Regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool thereby authorizing simultaneous dedication of both gas wells and oil wells in the same spacing unit.
- (3) Conoco Inc. ("Conoco"), applicant in Case No. 10881, seeks an order deleting Rule 5(b) of the Special Rules and Regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool thereby authorizing simultaneous dedication of both gas wells and oil wells to the same spacing unit. Conoco also seeks an order amending Rule 6 of the Special Rules and Regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool to reduce the limiting gas-oil ratio to 4,500 cubic feet of gas for each barrel of oil produced in said pool. Further, Conoco seeks the extension of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool to include the E/2 of Section 16, E/2 of Section 34 and all of Section 35, Township 20 South, Range 24 East and all of Sections 34 and 35, Township 20 1/2 South, Range 23 East, Eddy County, New Mexico.
- (4) These cases were consolidated at the time of hearing and Marathon Oil Company ("Marathon") appeared and presented testimony in support of an order deleting Rule 5(b). Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P. ("Santa Fe') also appeared in support of the deletion of Rule 5(b).
- (5) In support of its application for amendment of Rule 6 of the Special Rules and Regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool to reduce the limiting gasoil ratio to 4,500 cubic feet of gas for each barrel of oil produced in said pool, Conoco presented evidence that:
 - (a) The average gas-oil ratio for this pool for oil wells from January through June 1993 was approximately 4,500 to 1; and
 - (b) Gas withdrawals from this pool should be limited to prevent any adverse impact such withdrawals could have on oil recoveries.
- (6) Yates opposed the application of Conoco to reduce the gas-oil ratio for this pool and presented evidence which established that:
 - (a) The average gas-oil ratio for oil wells in this pool during July, August and September 1993, data was in excess of 4,500 to 1 (Yates Exhibit 3) and that the gas-oil ratio will continue to increase as the reserves in the pool are produced. See Testimony of McWhorter and Majcher;
 - (b) This reservoir consists of separate intervals of low vertical and horizontal permeability interspersed with zones of higher vertical and horizontal permeability. This results in low or restricted vertical communication between layers as evidenced by Reservoir, Inc.'s

Case Nos.	10869 and	10881	(Consolidated)
Order No.	R	_	•
Page 3			

analysis of the core from Conoco's Dagger Draw No. 12 Well. Testimony of McWhorter.

- (c) Even if there were vertical communication between the producing zones around the wellbores, the bulk of the gas cap is located west and south of the oil in the reservoir. This hydrodynamically displaced gas cap does not provide effective pressure support for oil production because of reduced horizontal and vertical permeability over the distances involved.
- (d) There are dramatic differences in the pressure encountered in the oil and gas zones which confirms the absence of good communication between these portions of the reservoir. Yates Exhibit 4.
- (7) Yates also presented a Reservoir Simulation Study using a 3D cross sectional model of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool which confirmed that changes in the rate of gas production have little effect on oil recoveries from the pool. (Yates Exhibit 5).
- (8) Yates also presented an economic analysis which established that the production from this reservoir has a higher present net worth with an accelerated gas production rate than with gas production curtailed. Yates Exhibit 6.
- (9) The evidence presented by Yates demonstrates that a gas-oil ratio of 10,000 to 1 in the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool does not permit production practices which result in waste and that a reduction of the gas-oil ratio as requested by Conoco will not increase the ultimate recovery of oil produced from the pool or otherwise prevent waste or protect correlative rights and should therefore be <u>denied</u>.
- (10) In support of the applications to eliminate Rule 5(b) of the Special Rules and Regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool the evidence presented by the parties showed:
 - (a) There are transition zones in the south and western portions of this pool where, due to structure, the oil column no longer exists;
 - (b) Because of the transition zones and general entrapment characteristics of this reservoir elsewhere in this pool, operators have spacing units from which they cannot produce the gas from this pool because of existing oil wells and the limitation of Rule 5(b). See Yates Exhibit 2, and Testimony of McWhorter, Majcher and Kent).;

Case Nos.	10869 and 10881 (Co	onsolidated)
Order No.	R	
Page 4		

- (c) The gas that cannot be produced because of Rule 5(b) is drained by offset operators and the correlative rights of certain operators are thereby impaired.
- (11) Amendment of the Special Rules and Regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool by the deletion of Rule 5(b) thereby permitting the simultaneous dedication of oil wells and gas wells to a spacing unit will protect correlative rights and should be approved.
- (12) The evidence presented by Conoco established that the transition zone in this reservoir includes the E/2 of Section 16, E/2 of Section 34, and all of Section 35, Township 20 South, Range 24 East, and all of Sections 34 and 35, Township 20 1/2 South, Range 23 East, Eddy County, New Mexico and the application of Conoco to extend the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool to include this acreage should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- (1) The applications of Yates Petroleum Corporation (Case 10869) and Conoco Inc. (Case 10881) for deletion of 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 are hereby granted.
- (2) The application of Conoco Inc. (Case 10881) for extension of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool to include the E/2 of Section 16, E/2 of Section 34 and all of Section 35, Township 20 South, Range 24 East, and all of Section 34 and 35, Township 20 1/2 South, Range 23 East, Eddy County, New Mexico is granted.
- (3) The application of Conoco Inc. (Case 10881) for Amendment of Rule 6 of the Special Rules and Regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool to reduce the limiting gas-oil ratio to 4,500 cubic feet of gas for each barrel of oil produced in said pool is <u>denied</u>.
- (4) Jurisdiction is hereby retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

WILLIAM J. LeMAY Director

KELLAHIN AND KELLAHIN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

EL PATIO BUILDING

117 NORTH GUADALUPE

POST OFFICE BOX 2265

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2265

*NEW MEXICO BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION RECOGNIZED SPECIALIST IN THE AREA OF NATURAL RESOURCES-OIL AND GAS LAW

JASON KELLAHIN (RETIRED 1991)

W. THOMAS KELLAHIN*

December 13, 1993

HAND DELIVERED

DEC

TELEPHONE (505) 982-4285

TELEFAX (505) 982-2047

Mr. David R. Catanach Hearing Examiner Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Re: NMOCD Case 10881: Application of Conoco Inc. to Amend Rules 5(b) and 6 for South Dagger Draw Pool and to Expand said Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

NMOCD Cases 10869: Application of Yates Petroleum Corporation to Amend Rule 5(b) for South Dagger Draw Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

Dear Mr. Catanach:

In accordance with your request at the hearing of the referenced cases held on December 3, 1993, and on behalf of Conoco Inc. please find enclosed our proposed order for your consideration.

W. Thomas Kellahin

cc: William F. Carr, Esq.

(Yates Petroleum Corporation)

(Chevron USA Inc.)

cc: James Bruce, Esq.

(Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P.)

(Nearburg Producing Company)

cc: Karen Aubrey, Esq.

(Marathon Oil Company)

cc: Jerry Hoover (Conoco-Midland)

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. 10881

APPLICATION OF CONOCO INC. TO AMEND RULE 5(B) AND RULE 6 OF THE SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE SOUTH DAGGER DRAW-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN ASSOCIATED POOL, (DIVISION ORDER R-5353), FOR THE EXTENSION OF SAID POOL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 10869

APPLICATION OF YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION FOR AMENDMENT OF RULE 5(B) OF THE SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE SOUTH DAGGER DRAW-UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN ASSOCIATED POOL, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

Order R-5353-L-3

CONOCO INC.'S PROPOSED ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on December 2, 1993, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this ____day of December, 1993, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

- (1) Due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) The Applicant in Case 10881, Conoco Inc. ("Conoco"), seeks to amend the Special Rules and Regulations of the South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool ("South Dagger Draw Pool") and for the extension of said pool, as follows:
 - (a) to amend Rule 5(b) so as to allow simultaneous dedication of a spacing unit to both gas and oil wells;
 - (b) to amend Rule 6 to reduce the current limiting gas-oil ratio in South Dagger Draw Pool from 10,000 to 1 to 4500 to 1.
 - (c) to expand South Dagger Draw Pool to include the "transition area" which currently exists between South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool and Indian Basin Gas Pool.
- (3) The Applicant in Case 10869, Yates Petroleum Corporation ("Yates") seeks to amend Rule 5(B) of the South Dagger Draw Pool to allow simultaneous dedication of gas and oil wells to a spacing unit <u>BUT</u> opposes Conoco's request to lower the current limiting GOR for South Dagger Draw Pool.

- (4) Marathon Oil Company appeared in support of amending Rule 5(B) to allow for simultaneous dedication but took no position concerning the GOR issue.
- (5) Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L. P., Nearburg Producing Company, Chevron USA Inc, each appeared through counsel but took no position on any issue.
- (6) South Dagger Draw Pool is the middle pool of an extensive dolomite fairway hydrocarbon reservoir in Eddy County, New Mexico, currently subdivided into three pools, the southern portion of which is structurally the highest and is classified as a gas pool being designated as the "Indian Basin Upper Pennsylvanian Gas Pool." The northern-most portion, which is structurally the lowest part of this extensive continuous dolomite reservoir, is classified as an oil pool and is designated as the "North Dagger Draw Upper Pennsylvanian Oil Pool."
- (7) The middle portion of this continuous reservoir declines structurally from southwest to northeast and represents an extensive transition area from the gas pool to the south (Indian Basin) and the oil pool to the north (North Dagger Draw). This transitional area is classified as an associated oil-gas pool and is designated as the "South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool."
- (8) This middle, transitional pool ("South Dagger Draw Pool") presents special reservoir management problems associated with the inclusion of gas wells on the southern and western periphery of the pool, oil wells on the northern and eastern side, and a mixture of high GOR oil wells and gas wells through the middle of the pool, which cannot be resolved with traditional rules for either gas or oil pools.

- (9) The South Dagger Draw Pool is currently defined as including 6720 acres in Township 20 South Range 24 East as updated by Order No. R-9837, February 1, 1993.
- (10) Conoco proposes that the current South Dagger Draw Pool boundaries be expanded to other acreage which contains wells that either have or are currently producing hydrocarbons that are being attributed to the South Dagger Draw production statistics by the Oil Conservation Division consisting of the E/2 Section 16, E/2 Section 34, all of Section 35, S/2 Section 36, Township 20 South, Range 24 East and all of Section 34 and 35, Township 20-1/2 South, Range 23 East.
- (11) There was no opposition to Conoco's requested expansion of South Dagger Draw Pool.
- (12) South Dagger Draw Pool should be expanded as requested by Conoco in order to provide appropriate regulatory rules for the "transition area" between South Dagger Draw Pool and the Indian Basin Gas Pool.

THE RULE 5(B) ISSUE:

- (13) The current rules for the Indian Basin Upper Penn Gas Pool provide for 640-acre gas spacing and proration units with the option for multiple gas wells in a single such unit.
- (14) The current rules for the North Dagger Draw Upper Pennsylvanian Oil Pool provide for 160-acre spacing and proration units with the option for multiple oil wells in a single such unit.

- (15) The current rules for the South Dagger Draw Pool provide for 320-acre proration and spacing units with the option for multiple oil wells or multiple gas wells <u>BUT</u> preclude the simultaneous dedication of both oil and gas wells to the same unit. (See applicable Rule 5(b) of Associated Pool Rules (Order R-5353).
- (16) Precluding the simultaneous dedication of both oil and gas wells to the same unit, providing for limiting gas-oil ratios, and setting limits on gas allowables in an associated pool are regulatory conservation methods imposed to minimize gas production from the gas cap, to avoid the premature abatement of reservoir energy and thereby avoid the reduction in ultimate oil recovery from the pool.
- (17) The evidence presented by Conoco, Yates, and Marathon demonstrated that the application of Rule 5(b) of Order R-5353 for South Dagger Draw Pool has and will continue to be an obstruction to the orderly and efficient development and proper depletion of the South Dagger Draw Pool thereby causing waste and violating correlative rights.
- (18) Rule 5(B) may be deleted as one of the regulatory conservation methods imposed to minimize gas production from the gas cap in the Pool provided that an appropriate limiting GOR is established to protect the conservation of reservoir energy.

THE RULE 6-GOR ISSUE:

(19) The current MAXIMUM GAS ALLOWABLE for the Indian Basin Upper Penn Gas Pool provide for 6,000 MCFPD per 640-acre gas spacing and proration unit.

- (20) The current maximum gas allowable for the South Dagger Draw Pool provide for 14,000 MCFPD per 320-acre spacing unit (GOR of 10,000 to 1 times the top oil allowable of 1,400 BOPD).
- (21) The current actual maximum producing rate from any spacing unit in South Dagger Draw Pool is approximately 9,000 MCFGPD from the Yates' operated spacing unit consisting of the W/2 of Section 15, T2OS, R24E.
- (22) In support of its request to reduce the GOR to 4500 to 1, Conoco provided expert geologic evidence which demonstrated that:
- (a) the South Dagger Draw Pool is a brittle, vugular dolomite with good vertical permeability. This combination of vugs, fractures and vertical permeability provide the necessary flow channels to permit gas-cap gas to reach the perforations in wells which would otherwise normally be limited to production from the oil column;
- (b) the oil column is overlain by a gas column of varying thickness regardless of structural position within the South Dagger Draw Pool. (See Conoco Exhibits 6 and 7);
- (c) many wells in the South Dagger Draw Pool have been routinely perforated in the overlying gas column as evidence by completion and producing records;
- (d) Even wells that have been completed only in the oil column, as exhibited by Conoco's completions in Section 35, T2OS, R24E, require stimulation treatments such that it is virtually impossible to prevent communication with the overlying gas column and the production of gas-cap gas from oil well completions.

- (23) In support of its request to reduce the current limiting 10,000 to 1 GOR to a new limiting 4500 to 1 GOR, Conoco provided expert petroleum engineering evidence which demonstrated that:
- (a) the South Dagger Draw Pool is a complex reservoir with a combination of gas-cap expansion, solution-gas drive and weak water influx drive mechanism;
- (b) the "gas-cap" in the South Dagger Draw Pool is in pressure communication with the oil column and extends throughout the pool as demonstrated by Conoco's initial pressures in the recently drilled Preston Nos. 5, 8 and 9 oil wells as compared to the 20-year old producing Preston No 1 gas well. These three wells confirm this pressure communication between the oil and gas columns over a 1-1/2 mile area extending across the reservoir;
- (c) production data demonstrates that the current producing GOR for the pool is nearly 5 times greater than the original solution gas-oil ratio of 911 SCF/STB as documented by PVT data;
- (d) under current rules, the South Dagger Draw Pool is being produced such that approximately 80% of the gas produced from the oil wells in the pool is free gas-cap gas;
- (e) under current rules, ten wells in the pool currently account for 42% of the total pool gas production;
- (f) the current limiting 10,000 to 1 gas-oil ratio is causing the premature depletion of the gas cap which results in oil being left unrecovered in the reservoir which otherwise would be recoverable and thereby causing waste;

- (g) a new limiting 4,500 to 1 gas-oil ratio is needed for South Dagger Draw Pool to prevent the premature depletion of the gas cap which will preserve the ability to maximize oil recovery from this associated pool thereby preventing waste;
- (h) the oil is approximately 6 times more valuable than the gas on an equivalent reservoir volume basis and therefore the pool rules and limiting GOR should be geared toward protecting the oil reserves;
- (i) since the intent of a limiting GOR is to control gas production to maximize more valuable oil production, the limiting GOR should be based upon the current producing GOR of those wells that are or should be classified as oil wells;
- (j) the current producing GOR for the oil wells is 4,500 to 1 which is equivalent to 6,300 MCFGPD per spacing unit;
- (k) by allowing the operator of each 320-acre spacing and proration unit to produce gas up to a maximum gas limit of 6,300 MCFPD which would provide the necessary flexibility to produce the oil in preference to the gas.
- (24) In support of its request to maintain the current 10,000 to 1 GOR, Yates introduced a reservoir simulation which concluded that the withdrawals from the gas cap would not adversely affect oil production.

- (25) Yates' reservoir simulation was based upon the following:
- (a) the geologic assumption that there was a significant restriction to vertical flow in the reservoir;
- (b) the geologic interpretation that the gas cap was located only along the western edge of the South Dagger Draw Pool and not distributed over the pool as interpreted by Conoco.
- (c) the assumption that the limited area simulated in an east-west direction across portions of sections 13, 14 and 15, T36S, R2OS, NMPM is representative of the entire South Dagger Draw Pool which all parties agree is an extremely heterogeneous reservoir;
- (d) the assumption that the pressure differential between certain selected wells demonstrates limited pressure communication between the gas cap and the oil column;
- (e) The engineering assumption that adjustment of porosity and height parameters in the simulator in order to achieve a "history match" for 8 select wells represented a "unique combination" which is characteristic of the performance of all 56 wells in the pool.
- (26) The Division finds that the Yates' reservoir simulation does not constitute substantial evidence on the GOR issue because:
- (a) it failed to demonstrate that the physical picture of the reservoir(for example, permeability, porosity distributions) described in the simulator was accurate and typical of the entire pool;

- (b) the area of simulation was too small and too localized to be characteristic of the performance of the other areas of the pool;
- (c) that the simulation results are inconsistent with known production data, including producing GORs, from other areas of the South Dagger Draw Pool.
- (d) Yates' geologic model of a vertically isolated oil and gas column is not supported by pressure and production data;
- (e) Yates' geologic model of a vertically isolated reservoir is incompatible with their contention that oil/water and gas/water contacts have been tilted due to a dynamic aquifer.

(27) The Division finds that:

- (a) based upon current production and pressure data and engineering and geological reservoir evaluations, the current maximum gas allowable for a spacing unit in the South Dagger Draw Pool is probably not achievable by a single gas well and will result in the waste of oil reserves if applied to multiple gas wells in the same spacing unit.
- (b) An amendment to Rule 5(b) of Order R-5353 authorizing the simultaneous dedication of both gas wells and oil wells to the same 320-acre spacing and proration unit is appropriate provided an amendment is also made to Rule 6 of Order R-5353 reducing the limiting GOR and thereby reducing gas allowables for proration and spacing units in the South Dagger Draw Pool.

- (c) Rule 6 of Order R-5353 should be amended to establish a limiting GOR of 4,500 to 1 which matches the current average producing GOR of all wells that qualify to be classified as oil wells in the Pool in order to prevent excessive premature drainage of the gas cap and the waste of significant oil reserves.
- (d) The current average producing GOR of all wells that qualify to be classified as oil wells under current pool rules in the South Dagger Draw Pool is approximately 4,500 cubic feet of gas for each barrel of oil produced. Amendment of Rule 6 of Order R-5353 to include a new limiting GOR of 4,500 to 1 would in effect establish a new maximum gas allowable of 6,300 MCFGPD per standard 320-acre proration and spacing unit and will afford the opportunity to adequately recover both oil and gas reserves without causing undue waste.
- (e) Rule 5(b) and Rule 6 should be amended for the South Dagger Draw Pool to include appropriate language to accomplish the following:
 - (1) A maximum combination of eight oil and gas wells, each located on a separate 40-acre tract, may be simultaneously dedicated to a 320-acre spacing and proration unit;
 - (2) A new limiting GOR of 4,500 to 1 should be set for each standard 320-acre proration and spacing unit to avoid undue adverse affect on ultimate oil recovery;
 - (3) The combined gas production from both oil and gas wells in a standard 320-acre spacing and proration unit in the Pool shall not exceed the maximum casinghead gas allowable of 6,300 MCFGPD as established by the new limiting GOR for the Pool.

(28) The conservation objectives of the Division to prevent waste and protect correlative rights are best accomplished by approving the Conoco application and by denying the Yates' application.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- (1) The application of Yates is hereby denied.
- (2) The application of Conoco in Case 10881 is hereby granted.
- (3) The Special Rules and Regulations for the South Dagger Draw- Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico, as amended by Division Order Nos. R-5353-L and R-5353-L-1 and R-5353-L-2, are hereby amended effective as of January 1, 1994, as follows:
 - Rule 5(b) A maximum combination of eight oil and gas wells, each located on a separate 40-acre tract, may be simultaneously dedicated to a 320-acre spacing and proration unit;
 - Rule 6. The limiting gas-oil ratio shall be 4,500 cubic feet of gas for each barrel of oil produced.
- (4) The South Dagger Draw-Upper Pennsylvanian Associated Pool is hereby expanded to include the following additional acreage: the E/2 Section 16, E/2 Section 34, all of Section 35, S/2 Section 36, Township 20 South, Range 24 East and all of Section 34 and 35, Township 20-1/2 South, Range 23 East, NMPM.

(5) Jurisdiction is hereby retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

WILLIAM J. LEMAY Director.

SEAL