MONTHLY STAFF REPORT – March 14, 2001

I. <u>STATISTICS</u>

Our monthly statistics report is attached. (Page 1, Page 2, Page 3)

In February 2001, the COGCC processed 193 drilling permits (2,516 annual equivalent). In comparison, from 1995 to 1999 the COGCC processed an average of 1,035 permits per year, and last year the permit processing level increased dramatically from 1,010 permits in 1999 to 1,529 permits in 2000. Recent permitting numbers indicate an even greater increase for calendar year 2001 to approximately 2400 permits.

The COGCC has been redirecting staff resources to address the increasing permit processing workload. Some of our inspection and enforcement goals have been cut back in order to keep up with increased permitting and drilling-related inspection workloads.

II. NORTHWEST COLORADO

Northwest Colorado Oil and Gas Forum

The last meeting of the Forum was held on February 21 in Rifle. The meeting was attended by approximately 70 people, most of whom were primarily interested in the presentation about the upcoming Barrett Resources Corporation ("Barrett") 3D seismic project. Representatives from Barrett and seismic contractor WesternGeco provided excellent informational presentations describing the purpose of the 3D seismic survey, how the survey is conducted, the equipment to be used and a discussion of the limited impacts of such a survey. The presentations utilized actual cable and geophone equipment as well as a videotape of a seismic survey recently conducted in San Miguel county in similar terrain and vegetation which showed vibroseis and shot hole drilling equipment. The presentations were received positively, with the public gaining a much better understanding of the project. A discussion about how seismic activities are regulated was provided by the COGCC's Bob Chesson and the BLM's Dan Sokal. A presentation on local citizens' and landowners' concerns about the project was given by Mary Ellen Denomy on behalf of Joan Savage and the Grand Valley Citizen's Alliance. The group distributed a pamphlet before the meeting urging landowners to not sign any seismic operations agreements without including an extensive list of mandatory requirements to address planning, landowner protection, reclamation, water quality, safety, and other concerns.

Other agenda items during the meeting included updates on northwest Colorado oil and gas activity by the COGCC, the BLM, and various oil and gas operators, a discussion of oil and gas tax and federal royalty distributions by Jim Evans with Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado, and an update on the Department of Natural Resources' proposed oil and gas legislative package.

The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled for Thursday, May 10 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Rifle City Hall. The Forum, which consists of representatives from federal, state and local government, the oil and gas industry and all interested citizens, is co-chaired by Brian Macke and Garfield County Commissioner Larry McCown. Please contact Brian Macke at 303-894-2100 x122 or brian.macke@state.co.us to submit agenda topics for the next meeting. Attached are newspaper articles about the Barrett seismic study project and presentation and other items of interest for Garfield County and northwest Colorado. ("Seismic testing details..", "Seismic testing fears..", "Parachute area land owners unite..", "Garfield County wins big..", "Rockies are growing target..", "Gas prices expected to rise..")

Barrett Increased Well Density Application

COGCC staff continues to work with Barrett to process Applications for Permit-to-Drill ("APDs") for

•••

••

new wells within lands subject to the Commission order adopted during the October 2000 hearing for 20-acre density in Garfield County. To date, the COGCC has received 17 APDs submitted by Barrett for the increased well density area.

Since the February hearing, the COGCC has received three APDs for the newly adopted 20-acre infill area. One of the applications is for a vertical well that is a new second location in a 40-acre parcel north of the Colorado River. The remaining two wells, also north of the Colorado River, are vertical wells on the first new surface locations in the 40-acre parcels. One of these locations required an onsite inspection due to its proximity to riparian vegetation along Parachute Creek. None of these three new locations is within the "specified surface wellsite lands". Permit approval is pending.

COGCC staff has been working closely with Barrett permitting staff and Garfield County to ensure that the requirements of the 20-acre density order are met in an efficient manner.

Barrett 20-Acre Density Application for Federal Lands

Barrett has filed an application for the April 2001 hearing for 20-acre well density on approximately 13,000 acres of Federal lands in the Grand Valley/Naval Oil Shale Reserve area in Garfield County. The COGCC rules providing for public participation on the surface impacts are not applicable since the application does not include any private surface lands; therefore, a COGCC Local Public Forum will not be held. Public participation in the matter is addressed through the BLM processes, including the 1999 Glenwood Springs Resource Area Plan Amendment for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development, opportunities for public comment on Applications for Permits to Drill, and possibly an informal public open house. Under the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between the BLM and the COGCC, the technical merits of the application will be addressed during a COGCC administrative hearing to be held on April 12, 2001. The BLM office in Glenwood Springs is currently soliciting input to determine if there is sufficient public interest to provide an informal open house to answer questions. The BLM contact in Glenwood Springs is Dan Sokal at (970) 947-2810. Attached is a press release and newspaper articles about the application. (*BLM Press Release Page 1, Page 2, "Barrett expected to..", "BLM wants 20-acre..."Page 1, Page 2*)

III. SOUTHWEST COLORADO

La Plata County Gas & Oil Regulatory Team (GORT)

The next GORT meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2001 from 8:30 to noon at the La Plata County Fairgrounds.

" Archuleta County Commission Meeting

On March 7, Operations Manager Morris Bell made a presentation about the COGCC to the Archuleta County Commissioners and approximately 50 residents. The presentation was requested by the County Commissioners due to three Fruitland Coal drilling permits in the county. Mr. Bell answered questions from the audience at the end of the presentation.

La Plata County/San Juan Basin 3M Project – Update

Weather and ground conditions have necessitated the rescheduling of monitoring well installation. It is anticipated that fieldwork will resume in early summer.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Statewide Integrated Ground Water Quality Protection Program

The next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2001 in the COGCC conference room.

V. ORGANIZATION

<u>Staff Organization</u>

Our *<u>current organization chart</u>* is attached.

VI. <u>PLANNING/ADMINISTRATION/OTHER</u>

Well Log Imaging

The division's open hole well log electronic imaging project, approved for the fiscal year 2000/2001 budget, has been started. The goal of this project is to image all of the estimated 66,000 plus well logs and make them available to all COGCC data users. Ultimately, the log images will be accessible through the Internet.

Colorado Division of Central Services has begun scanning the well logs and saving them to disk for transfer to the imaging system. Issues with scanners, custom software, storage capacity, contracts and procedures have been resolved and the project is now in production. Currently there is one full time workforce shift prepping, scanning and indexing the logs. Another shift is planned for the near future, allowing for twelve hour days of production. The process is still being streamlined to address all of the customized routines necessary to deal with the document shape and file size. There will be an update included in each staff report on the progress and projected completion date.

As the logs are stored in the imaging system they will be immediately available to the public on the Internet. Internet viewing of the logs follows the same procedure outlined in the "Tiff Image Viewing Information" document on the COGIS main menu (http://cogccweb.state.co.us). Additional information will be added to the document as we gain experience. Viewing the log images is very memory intensive. Therefore, it may work best to save the document to your hard disk and then open it later.

The imaging system is being reconfigured to provide better access time and additional storage capacity. The necessary equipment has been ordered and installation is anticipated to take place later this month. This conversion should reduce the time required for Internet retrieval and is crucial for storage of all of the well log images.

Form Revision

••

With the current oil and gas prices, we are seeing an increase in drilling and completion activities. Additionally, the 1999 production reporting requirements significantly changed the volume of data submitted. In order to facilitate faster turnaround time of approvals and earlier access to submitted data, all operators have been encouraged to submit their production and levy reports electronically. In order to meet the current data entry and processing requirements the COGCC is ready to begin implementation of alternatives to manual data entry by COGCC staff. One of these alternatives requires a revision to the existing paper forms.

The COGCC, with the State's Pueblo Data Entry Center (PDEC), has created a version of the COGCC Form 7, Operator's Monthly Report of Operations, that will allow for the Optical Character Recognition (OCR) conversion of the imaged data into digital character data. The PDEC form is attached to this report for your review. This form has reference blocks on the four corners which allow the software to grab, align and resize the form to allow for accurate positioning of the data spaces so they may be read by the OCR data conversion application. There is a small bar code on the form called a Digital Form I.D. This I.D. provides the information needed to select the correct application to process the form. The Form 7 included with this report is a final draft version that has been fully tested and

accepted by the COGCC staff. There may be one last version with some changes to the header; these changes may be necessary on the forms that are laid out in a portrait view instead of landscape like the Form 7. (*Form 7 page 1, page 2*)

The COGCC will scan the production reports and transfer the images to PDEC. PDEC will run the OCR application on the imaged files, review the converted data and correct any improperly converted characters. In order to implement this, there will be a requirement to use the new form. Operators that are currently reporting production will be sent the new form with an instruction letter. The eight operators that are reporting one hundred or more wells must report electronically. Operators with fewer than 100 wells will preferably report electronically but otherwise must use the new form. Any operator may use the new form to report revisions if not reporting these revisions electronically. Computer generated reports will no longer be accepted as they do not allow for OCR capture of the data.

It will be mandatory for all paper reports to be submitted on the new form with the March 2001 report period. Until that time, staff will be looking for a volunteer operator or two to report their production using the new form.

PDEC is currently revising the Form 10, Certification of Clearance and/or Change of Operator; Form 26, Source of Produced Water for Disposal; and the Form 2, Application for Permit-to-Drill. As these forms are developed, alternative reporting methods such as online Internet forms and electronic data transfers will also be developed. The COGCC will utilize the staff report and direct communication to keep operators abreast of these changes.

Production Reporting by E-mail

There are currently more than 80 operators reporting production electronically which accounts for 80.6 percent of the production reported in the month of October. This is an increase of twenty operators and 7.3 percent of the production reports since June of this year. This significantly helps reduce the manual data entry volume. Thank you to all of the operators who are reporting electronically. A <u>list of these operators</u> is attached to recognize their efforts.

Sharon Tansey has been distributing an Excel spreadsheet that lays out the electronic format for the production report. Electronic submission may be made by e-mail attachment to ogcc.eforms@state.co.us or by mailing a 3.5-inch diskette or CD. To assist operators in understanding the new production reporting form, the codes used on the form, and the data format for reporting electronically, COGCC staff have prepared a document titled "Monthly Report of Operations, Form 7 Specifications". This document is available on the COGCC Website at http://cogcc.state.co.us /documents/form%207%20specs.html, or from the COGCC office. Questions should be directed to Sharon Tansey at (303) 894-2100 x128.

Electronic Levy Reporting

There are several levy payors submitting their Conservation Levy reports electronically. These reports account for 2,522 of 17,222 total leases reported in a single quarter or fifteen percent (15%) of the total. While this is a big help it is a small amount of the total percentage and the data entry volume is very significant.

Sharon Tansey has been contacting Levy payors directly and urging them to submit their reports electronically. She will also be working on creating an Excel spreadsheet to help with the data format. The specifications are detailed in the document titled "Oil and Gas Conservation Levy, Form 8, Specifications" which can be found on the Internet under the same title at http://cogcc.state.co.us/documents/form8specs.htm. Electronic filing of levy data will help reduce the data input requirements and data entry errors thus enabling faster turnaround time of all documents. Electronic submission may be made by e-mail attachment to ogcc.eforms@state.co.us or by mailing 3.5-inch diskette or CD. Questions should be directed to Sharon Tansey at (303) 894-2100 x128.

Digital Well Logs

During last month's hearing, Commission Chair Sonnenberg requested that staff conduct a study determining the feasibility of collecting and providing well logs in a digital format through its web enabled information system. Initial studies indicate it would definitely be technically feasible to provide this service. Still to be determined are the costs to the COGCC and its customers related to purchasing and/or modifying hardware and software to process, store and view the digital log data. Staff is currently contacting vendors and oil and gas agencies in other states to determine these costs and will report the results of these contacts to the Commission.

Colorado Oil and Gas Information System (COGIS)

The information system for COGCC has been named the Colorado Oil and Gas Information System (COGIS). COGIS is made up of the database management system, the Geographic Information System (GIS) and the document imaging system. All of these systems are available on the Internet and in the Public Room.

The database application consists of a forms processor that stores entered data for review by appropriate technical staff for quality control and compliance. Data access is provided by an online query application to view individual records on the computer screen. Reports are being developed to provide access to multiple record data sets.

The GIS is made up of two parts. The plat mapping tool spots wells, pits, and other associated facilities. The Internet available GIS tool is the Autodesk Mapguide application that displays statewide data including wells, pits, land ownership, spacing, surface water, surface geology, municipalities, roads, etc. Autodesk Mapguide allows for zooming, panning, printing and redirection to the database queries.

The document imaging system contains digital images of all paper records of the COGCC. The historical records, including cement bond logs and oversize hearing exhibits, have all been scanned. The images are available on the Internet.

The impact of these new systems substantially affects the processes that COGCC staff uses to complete its work. Work continues on program fixes (bugs), training, documentation, and modifications to the workflow to fit the new methods of data processing. As these issues are worked through, delays in form approvals and data distribution experienced by COGCC customers should be resolved. Data migration and cleanup continues, although this will be a long-term project. The results will be well worth the effort.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

The current GIS project involves inputting spacing orders to show the cause number, unit size and well density of any given area, accurate to the section level. This will enable a reviewer to know which orders should be reviewed for more detail. This is a large project that will take quite a while to complete. The data will begin showing up on the Internet as each spaced area is finished, beginning in southwest Colorado and working clockwise around the state.

COGCC on the Internet

The COGCC continues to expand its Internet presence. Access to the COGIS database is now available via the "Info Systems" button on the COGCC homepage. The GIS and Document Images are available via the same selection. The COGCC searchable orders are available from either the homepage or the Info Systems page.

••

••

The GIS has been modified to return the well data query when a well spot is double clicked to display the well data. Active undrilled permits are now available on the GIS.

We continue to redesign our web pages to provide improved customer service. The public is invited to leave comments or suggestions for improvements of the COGCC Internet site. Our e-mail address is <u>dnr.ogcc@state.co.us</u>.

Customer Feedback on Web Site

The comments we receive are encouraging and continue to deliver the message that we are on the right track to provide our customers with the right product. Our goal is to continue to improve the website and the data contained within. With the constructive and positive feedback that we continue to receive we hope to improve on the product.

NGPA Well Determination Process Resumed

On October 1, 2000, the COGCC began accepting applications for determination of coal seam gas and tight formation gas for wells spudded after December 31, 1979 and before January 1, 1993 for which determinations were never requested. In addition, applications may be filed for determination for wells recompleted for coal seam gas and tight formation gas commenced after January 1, 1993, in wells drilled after December 31, 1979 and before January 1, 1993 for which determinations were never requested. Further, gas producers may wish to file applications with the COGCC seeking designation for new tight formation areas previously undesignated.

Operators must submit FERC Form 121 and the COGCC Form along with the required materials to the COGCC for processing for well determinations. FERC Form 121 is available in hard copy at the COGCC. The COGCC form is available digitally on the website by clicking on "Natural Gas Category Determination". Additional information is available on the website including a list of tight formation area designations and a list of all previously approved well determinations provided by the FERC.

To date, 561 applications have been filed with 463 processed and sent to FERC recommending approval. A regularly updated listing of all applications received and their status is available on our website at http://cogcc.state.co.us/info/NGPA/ngpa_determination.htm. For additional information, contact Tricia Beaver at (303) 894-2100 x115 or tricia.beaver@state.co.us/.

Penalties Status

Attached is a <u>revised table</u> showing the status of penalties paid and penalties pending collection. COGCC staff is working closely with State Central Collections to attempt more timely collections.

April Hearing Docket

A preliminary docket for April has been provided. Hearing dockets are updated on the COGCC website and can be accessed at http://cogcc.state.co.us/2001HearingSchedule.htm.

VII. VARIANCES

Markus Production, Inc. was granted a variance to COGCC Rule 1004.a., Final Reclamation of Well Sites and Associated Production Facilities requirements. The surface owner has requested that the lease road accessing both wells be left in place after final abandonment for his use in ranching operations.

Mesa Hydrocarbons was granted a Rule 502.b. variance to COGCC Rule 603.a.(1), requirement of 150 feet or one and one-half times the height of the derrick setback from a property line for the Buzzard Creek 14-11 Well. The well is to be a directional well located on an existing well pad and is located 178

feet from the property line of a county road. A spokesperson for Mesa County stated the county had no objections to the location but the county would not execute a waiver.

Mesa Hydrocarbons was granted a Rule 502.b. variance to COGCC Rule 603.a.(1). requirement of 150 feet or one and one-half times the height of the derrick setback from a property line for the Buzzard Creek 14-1 Well. The well is to be a directional well located on an existing well pad and is located 131 feet from the property line of a county road. A spokesperson for Mesa County stated the county had no objections to the location but would not execute a waiver.

H:Nicole/Misc/Staff Report/03-01

Colorado Oil Gas Conservation Commission
Monthly Statistics

Page 1 of 2

		Baker -				Perm	nits					Unedited				Well
YEAR	MO	Hughes	Drilli	ing	Recom	pletion	Injed	ction	Pi	ts	Active	Historic	P	ublic Visi	ts	Oper
		rig count	Apvd	Rcvd	Apvd	Rcvd	Apvd	Rcvd	Apvd	Rcvd	Wells	Records	Data	Office	Internet	Change
1998	Total		1157	1210	153	159	11	17	112	105			1935	2915	0	3344
1999	JAN	10	51	57	0	1	1	0	13	5	23925	15226	139	271	1263	159
	FEB	11	49	73	6	7	2	2	28	1	23905	15217	158	250	1540	216
	MAR	11	86	65	7	5	1	0	10	20	23889	15204	168	332	1232	38
	APR	8	76	112	7	6	0	0	28	15	23965	15196	145	361	1487	47
	MAY	11	92	82	0	0	0	1	11	7			116	321	1711	506
	JUN	13	95	95	1	1	0	0	19	19	24035	15182	145	234	1506	132
	JUL	10	82	78	6	8	1	1	0	3	24126	15178	150	326	2594	54
	AUG	13	73	81	6	6	1	1	0	2	24145	15176	155	212	1956	40
	SEP	14	90	124	7	13	1	1	14	18			130	132	1136	697
	OCT	15	133	110	13	16	0	0	2	33			146	120	NA	52
	NOV	17	96	90	24	16	3	1	10	5			65	162	NA	90
	DEC	18	87	90	9	8	0	0	23	18			107	119	814	155
1999	Total		1010	1057	86	87	10	7	158	146			1624	2840	15239	2186
2000	JAN	18	71	99	7	7	0	0	3	6			140	92	3025	287
	FEB	17	114	152	16	22	2	2	16	15			123	126	3432	210
	MAR	18	116	130	17	12	1	1	5	17			126	172	3611	190
	APR	18	103	133	4	3	2	2	5	54	21989		108	169	3219	358
	MAY	17	129	128	14	17	0	1	71	34	22098		131	218	3664	154
	JUN	16	122	198	14	20	0	0	18	10	22103		106	117	3391	373
	JUL	19	148	123	9	6	4	8	35	30	22190		100	172	3384	215
	AUG	16	107	154	7	16	1	0	22	40	22247		103	75	3759	195
	SEP	16	138	140	37	34	1	4	51	37	22175		66	208	4941	327
	OCT	19	155	145	11	13	0	0	42	22	22224		99	205	4863	276
	NOV	22	135	181	7	10	1	1	51	34			82	155	4704	163
	DEC	24	191	162	9	14	0	1	9	6	22228		80	135	4143	143
2000	Total		1529	1745	152	174	12	20	328	305			1264	1844	46136	2891
2001	JAN	26	203	217	47	40	1	1	26	8	22240		89	136	6974	
	FEB	29	193	177	5	10	0	0	16	16	22225		75	113	4900	
2001	Total		396	394	52	50	1	1	42	24			164	249	11874	0

Aprof = Approved, Rovd = Received, Ind = Individual, Binkt = Blanket, Apps = Application for Hearing, NOAV = Notice of Alleged Violation, AOC = Administrative Order of Consent, OFV = Order Finding Violation, Cmpt = Completed

Colorado Oil Gas Conservation Commission Monthly Statistics

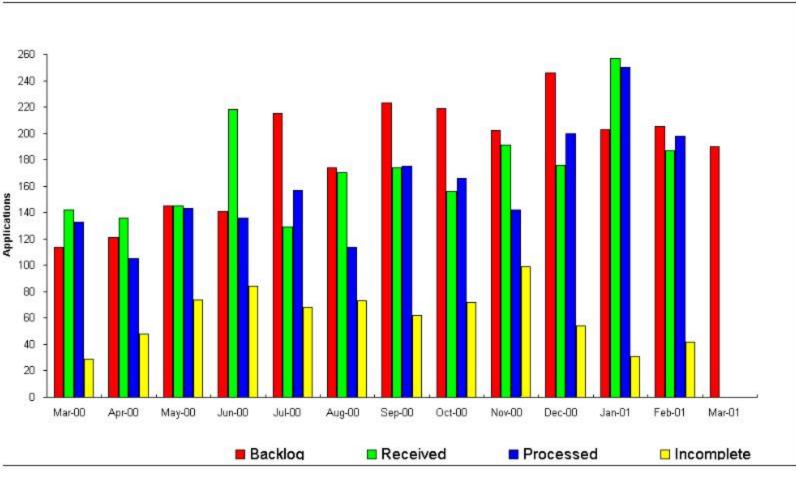
Page 2 of 2

						Bonds										Reme	diation	
YEAF	MO	Oper		Rele	ease		CI	aim		rings		iolations	5			Pro	jects	Field
		New	Inactive	Ind.	Blnkt	Replace	Ind.	Blnkt	Apps.	Order	NOAV	AOC	OFV	Cmplt	Spills	Rcvd	Comp	Insp
1998	Total	61	56	66	34	39	2	2	113	204	168	35	7	55	178	63	9	6990
1999	JAN	4	3	1	2	10	0	0	0	2	18	0	1	5	16	2	0	485
	FEB	5	4	3	1	9	0	0	1	1	11	0	0	7	17	1	1	582
	MAR	4	2	3	2	4	0	0	2	5	2	2	3	7	21	7	0	787
	APR	5	6	8	3	3	1	0	5	3	25	1	0	5	11	4	3	447
	MAY	4	3	5	1	6	0	0	NA	NA	18	NA	NA	7	17	0	0	729
	JUN	3	1	4	0	10	0	0	5	6	8	0	0	5	15	1	0	665
	JUL	4	2	3	1	1	0	0	4	3	9	1	2	28	19	8	1	900
	AUG	4	3	6	2	4	0	0	3	4	19	0	3	11	21	3	0	728
	SEP	6	7	4	5	2	0	1	4	3	19	1	2	18	22	7	0	609
	OCT	8	4	5	3	7	0	0		2	13	3	0	10	16	4	1	660
	NOV	3	4	1	4	1	0	1	NA	NA	14	NA	NA	5	15	12	14	486
	DEC	5	2	2	1	4	0	0	7	7	40	0	1	15	21	34	4	549
1999	Total	55	41	45	25	61	1	2	31	36	196	8	12	123	211	83	24	7627
2000	JAN	4	8	3	6	5	1	0	1	1	34	0	1	9	36	4	0	782
	FEB	7	5	7	0	6	0	0	1	3	10	6	4	39	22	7	2	732
	MAR	4	6	6	2	3	0	0	5	2	15	0	0	23	27	16	6	637
	APR	5	12	11	4	2	0	0	6	4	15	0	0	28	22	9	4	672
	MAY	7	11	10	4	2	0	0	1	1	45	0	0	23	22	8	6	847
	JUN	5	8	5	5	7	0	0	1	1	39	0	0	12	21	10	16	412
	JUL	10	7	6	3	5	0	0	5	7	26	2	0	11	26	10	11	738
	AUG	7	10	8	2	7	0	0	0	0	26	0	0	9	22	12	15	653
	SEP	10	7	3	7	2	0	0	0	0	15	2	0	10	17	15	26	588
	OCT	7	10	4	7	4	0	0	14	7	6	2	2	16	20	11	19	488
	NOV	6	5	2	5	6	1	0	NA	NA	8	NA	NA	12	34	10	13	628
	DEC	4	0	0	0	6	0	0	13	9	5	1	0	7	13	2	7	481
2000	Total	76	89	65	45	55	2	0.	47	35	244	13	7	199	282	21	125	7658
2001	JAN	7	8	6	3	10	0	0	12	8	13	1	0	8	31	12	7	717
	FEB	6	2	3	1	3	1	0	2	4	6	1	0	3	7	4	7	703
2001	Total	13	10	9	4	13	1	0	14	12	19	2	0	11	38	16	14	1420

Apvd = Approved, Rovd = Received, Ind = Individual, Binkt = Blanket, Apps = Application for Hearing, NOAV = Notice of Alleged Violation, AOC = Administrative Order of Consent, OFV = Order Finding Violation, Cmpl = Completed

Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission Monthly Breakout of Drilling and Recompletion Permits

	Backlog	ReceivedPro	cessed W	ithdrawn	Rejected I	ncomplete	In-Process	Remaining
Drilling	80000000000				1447.151.549.5514			8
Mar-00	106	130	116	2	0	29	89	118
Apr-00	118	133	103	5	0	48	95	143
May-00	143	128	129	6	0	74	62	136
Jun-00	136	198	122	8	0	84	120	204
Jul-00	204	123	148	13	0	68	98	166
Aug-00	166	154	107	6	0	73	134	207
Sep-00	207	140	138	1	0	62	146	208
Oct-00	208	143	155	6	0	62	128	190
Nov-00	190	181	135	3	0	92	141	233
Dec-00	233	162	191	19	0	48	137	185
Jan-01	185	217	203	5	0	27	167	194
Feb-01	194	177	193	4	Ō	40	134	174
Mar-01	174	0	0	0	Ō	0	0	174
Recompletion								
Mar-00	8	12	17	0	0	0	3	3
Apr-00	3	3	2	2	0	0	2	3 2 5
May-00	3 2 5	17	14	0	0	0	5	5
Jun-00	5	20	14	0	0	0	11	11
Jul-00	11	6	9	0	0	0	8	8
Aug-00	8	16	7	1	0	0	16	16
Sep-00	16	34	37	2	0	0	11	11
Oct-00	11	13	11	2 1	0	10	2	12
Nov-00	12	10	7	2	0	7	6	13
Dec-00	13	14	9	0	0	6	12	18
Jan-01	18	40	47	0	0	4	7	11
Feb-01	11	10	5	0	0	2	14	16
Mar-01	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Total								
Mar-00	114	142	133	2 7	0	29	92	121
Apr-00	121	136	105	7	0	48	97	145
May-00	145	145	143	6	0	74	67	141
Jun-00	141	218	136	8	0	84	131	215
Jul-00	215	129	157	13	0	68	106	174
Aug-00	174	170	114	7	0	73	150	223
Sep-00	223	174	175	3 7	0	62	157	219
Oct-00	219	156	166		0	72	130	202
Nov-00	202	191	142	5	0	99	147	246
Dec-00	246	176	200	19	0	54	149	203
Jan-01	203	257	250	5	0	31	174	205
Feb-01	205	187	198	4	0	42	148	190
Mar-01	190	0	0	0	0	0	0	190



Backlog = Incomplete + In-process = Remaining permits from previous month

Seismic testing details revealed At recent oil and gas meeting RIFLE "CITTEEN TELEGRAM" EBRUARY 28, 2011 By Theresa Hamilton Landowners in Western Garfield use, no testing or surface use du

County received more information about a a 3-D seismic study that Barrett Resources has commissioned in the Rulison and Parachute areas

Although they feel better having more detailed information, they still have some reservations

"No, all of our fears are not alleviated, but I feel positive about (the meeting)," said Mary Ellen Denomy.

Denomy presented a laundry list of over 20 concerns generated by several area land owners to industry leaders at last week's Northwest Colorado Oil and Gas team meeting in Rifle, Wednesday, and posed questions to industry leaders about the program.

She explained after the meeting that negotiations with Barrett and the land owner are moving in the right direction.

"Steve Soychak (with Barrett Resources) said we would meet and discuss each of the items of concern," she said adding that each of the items they have detailed are rules in either the BLM or the COGCC rules.

Of paramount importance is insurithe safety of water resources, potential crops and hivestock, said Denomy. The group of land owners want Barrett to pay, for independent testing of water

sources to insure that there is a baseline "The key to drilling productive wells, is study before the assistic data is collected to drill wells in areas where there are a tot

they would like notification of Staat Wright geosupport manager for entering the property at least three days and no more than 14 days in advance so that live stock or horses can be available to the stock or horses can be available to the stock or horse can be available to the stock or hors that live stock or horses can be moved, and

Where applicable to individual landowner's use, no testing or surface use during calving, foaling, growing, irrigating and harvesting seasons

"This is a wonderful idea and will help with the drilling process. But we want to be sure that we as landowners don't need to pick up the costs if our property or our water is changed," said Denomy.

"You don't come into our house with muddy boots. You take them off. We're inviting you into our house in Garfield County. We just want to be sure that the muddy boots stay outside.

Officials from the Bureau of Land Management and Barrett presented details of the now scaled back, 39-acre project. The original project was scheduled for 68-

Doug Otsby, a geophysicist for Barrett explained that the project will be contained to the northern areas of Parachute and Rulison, with a little activity on the south side of the river, to demonstrate to land owners the minimal impact of the 3-D shoot.

Inspector me 3-D shot. It is a necessary study, he said to help Barrett drill productive wells, and not waste time with dry holes. The atudy will look for faults and highly fractured areas where the natural gas can be extracted easier from the region's tight sands formations.

Additionally, they want no testing done of natural fractures occurring," said Otsby, within a quarter of a mile from any natural "The 3-D tool will help us find the

GAS from page 1 the surface, and the information is collected, stored and analyzed to seismic study, added that the end product will help Barrett Resources "drill smart." determine what type of geologic substance caused the reflection

"Barrett is spending an excess of a million dollars for this study so they can drill smart and

drill with less impact," said Wright. "Three-D seismic is a zero or near zero impact process." The project, said Wright, will use sound

PAGE 6

waves to determine the make up of the make up of the subsurface in the area. Laying vibraphones, small motion sensors, on the ground vibrations are monitored and recorded. The information is sent back computers located in a mobile vehicle

The source of the vibration could be a Vibrosize truck, or a seismic dynamite shot. The sound source sends

vibrations through the sub surface where a portion of the energy is reflected off of the different types of rock like an echo. The geophones record the sound waves as they travel back toward

we will through the Vibrosize or the shots.," Stuart Wright The Vibrosize truck weighs

"Trains put way more

approximately 40,000 pounds and is about half the size of an 18wheeler, said Wright. It lowers a metal pad to the surface and shakes at a variety of frequencies. The truck rides on large, low impact tires that do not destroy the surface. In fact, Dan Sokal of the BLM said that months after a smaller scale study

in the area performed by Western Geco, he was unable to find traces of where the trucks were. In areas that are too difficult for the trucks to navigate through, seismic dynamite will be used,

although Wright said he didn't know how much or at what depths the charges would be released at.

THE CITIZEN TELEGRAM

"We want to do what is cientifically correct so that Barrett gets good information," he explained, but he believes the depths would be between 40 and energy into the ground than 60 feet.

He added that there would be minimal impact on the surface.

"If you were standing right over the hole, you might feel a little thump,"

said Wright of the charges. The geophones are so sensitive, said Wright, that the entire project will be put on hold as trains rumble through the valley.

Trains put way more energy into the ground than we will through the Vibrosize or the shots. We will be shut down by a train rolling through," Wright explained.

Western Geco emphasized that their company has not used bulldozers to clear timber or brush for years, and that they will find environmental friendly ways around difficult terrain.

Initially, a 20-person survey crew will lay out the areas to test, and a 70-person crew will lay out the equipment, gather the data, and do it all again. The main base will be in Rifle

and Wilson said that it is typically an economic benefit to the area's Laundromats, hotels, and restaurants. The smaller project is anticipated to take 6 to 8 weeks to complete.

Soychak said after the meeting that many of the guidelines asked for by the landowners Barrett can live with and agreed that many are existing rules, but that some could preclude the seismic activity.

Seismic testing impacts should be minimal

Seismic testing fears settled after **Q&A** discussion about western Garco

By Heather McGregor

Questions and answers on pro-Garfield County eased the fears of landowners Wednesday. "If we can come to an agree-

ment on these things, there's a good chance we will welcome you," said Mary Ellen Denomy, representing landowners on the south side of the Colorado River.

"But you don't come into our house with muddy boots. You take them off. We're inviting you into our home, into Garfield County," said Denomy, urging Barrett Resources and its contractors to meet landowners' requests.

Her comments came during the regular quarterly meeting of the Northwest Colorado Oil and Gas Forum held at Rifle City Hall, where industry staffers, government officials and residents meet to discuss current issues

Denomy presented a list of 25

concerns that landowners compiled at two meetings earlier this month. She has urged landowners not to sign a seismic access agreement unless the concerns are met in writing

Barrett originally contracted with Western Geco of Denver for seismic testing on 68 square miles between Rifle and Parachute, on both sides of the river.

But southside landowners questioned the procedure, and Barrett scaled back its 2001 testing to 30

square miles north of the river. Barrett staffer Steve Soychak encouraged southside residents to come over this summer and observe Western Geco's three-dimensional seismic testing up

Seismic testing will let Barrett Resources "drill smart" and avoid dry or unprofitable wells. That's because the testing will

reveal fractures deep underground in the gas-bearing tight sand forma-

"But you don't come into our house with muddy boots. You take them off. We're inviting you into our home, into Garfield County." - Mary Ellen Denomy,

landowner representative

"The key to drilling high-pro-

ductivity wells is to drill close to natural fractures," said Barrett geophysicist Doug Otsby. "The 3-D

Seismic continued on page 7

The Glenwood Springs Post Independent • Thursday, February 22, 2001 7 Seismic testing process very detailed

Seismic

continued from page 6

tool helps us find those productive sweet spots and eliminate drilling un-economic wells."

Stuart Wright, geosupport manager for Western Geco, offered a step-by-step explanation of the theory and

"Three-D seismic testing. "Three-D seismic is a zero or near-zero impact process," Wright said. Thumper trucks or underground

dynamite charges, specially formulat-ed for seismic testing, send out vibrations that bounce off buried rock layers.

A series of geophones - T-shaped devices with a highly sensitive spool suspended at the joint — are connect-ed by cables in 220-foot intervals across the land. The cables relay data to computers in a recording truck, which the Geco crews call the "dog house

Wright said a 20-person survey crew will come through first to mark test spots. Then a 70-person seismic crew will lay out the equipment, run the tests, gather up the gear and move on.

The whole job is expected to take six to eight weeks, but the crews will be in and out of any particular piece of property in about seven to 10 days. The chief concern for many are the

underground dynamite charges, which will be used in rough areas the

thumper trucks can't get into. Small rigs will drill holes the diameter of a coffee cup. 40 to 60 feet diame

deep. When a charge is set off that far underground, all that's perceptible at the surface is a faint thump, Wright said

"The dynamite is formulated to produce shock energy, not to heave or break the rock," said Bob Levan, a salesman for dynamite manufacturer

Dyno Nobel of Salt Lake City. If the drill rigs hit water, the hole will be plugged with concrete, Wright noted.

And Joe Broussard, Western Geco's operations supervisor, prom-ised that his crews won't use bulldozers or cut down trees.

"We may have to trim some limbs, but we have no intention to remove

any trees whatsoever," he said. About 30 percent of the lands slated for testing this year are public, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management will conduct an environmental analysis before issuing a permit, said staffer Dan Sokal.

Strict conditions will govern public lands testing, he said.

Crews will have to use helicopters for much of the public land testing, since it is so steep. State officials will be watching the

testing closely as well. Bob Chesson of the Colorado Oil

and Gas Conservation Commission said his agency requires the company to meet standards for drilling, plugging holes, protecting groundwater, handling drilling fluids and cuttings, and reclaiming drill sites. The work must be backed by a per-

formance bond of at least \$25,000.

1 of 1

Rockies are growing target for drillers By Dennis Webb Staff Writer Barrett won't s(h)ell that cheap

Like a rig punching through the western Garfield County sub-stratum, Shell Oil's bid to buy Barrett Resources Corp. is drilling home a point to anyone in the energy industry or general public who didn't already know it: "If you want to have any strate-gic position in the North Ameri-

gic position in the North Ameri-can gas picture, you need to be in the Rockies," industry analyst Irene Ilaas said Friday. Increasingly, the Rockies are where the action is for oil and gas production. Rich Griebling, direc-tor of the Colorado Oil and Gas Commission, said maior produc-Commission, said major produc-ers tend to follow cycles, and up until recently they had been inter-ested in off-shore and international drilling areas.

Now we're seeing some of the majors move back into more typi-cal domestic oil and gas areas," including Colorado, he said.

Greg Schnacke, executive vice president of the Colorado Oil and Gas Assocation, an industry lob-byn g group, said Shell's bid "vallates what we've been saying for cars, that the Rocky Mountains is the emerging natural gas region for this part of the country and the United States

I think the major oil compacies are certainly interested in the Rocky Mountains," he said.

Residents in places such as sestern Garfield County, where the impacts of increased drilling are telt, may be less sure of what to make of Shell's interest.

"Ouite frankly, we don't know. It's almost one of those things where we wish there was some-body out there who could tell us what to think, but there isn't." said Janey Hines, president of the Grand Valley Citizens Alliance.

When it came to concerns al out the impact of drilling on the public and the environment, Bar-

The Associated Press DENVER — Barrett Resources Corp. on Thursday rejected Shell Oil Co.'s unsolicited \$1.8 billion bid for the natural gas and oil exploration firm, opting to seek new ofers from other compa-nies as well as Shell. Barrett's board of directors decided Shell's

offer to purchase outstanding shares at \$55 apiece was not high enough, the company said in a press release

Barrett stock closed at \$61.22 Thursday, up 18

percent. The company said Shell's proposal was The company said Shell's proposal was based only on public information about the company and that unreleased information about Barrett's natural gas potential in the Rocky Mountain region would prove it was worth more.

rett took the position that it could afford to do only the bare mini-mum, in order to still make a dollar, Hines said. Should Shell buy Barrett, "We hope that Shell will take advantage of a new start, hopefully, and some deeper resources, financial resources that rectify some of the things that Barrett neglected to do in the past.

But she said she doesn't know a lot about how Shell does things. "We would like to be opti-mistic, but on the other hand big-

ger doesn't necessarily mean bet-Gwen Lachelt, of the Durango-

based Oil & Gas Accountability Project, a national industry watch dog group, was pessimistic, pre-cisely because of Shell's size.

"I think residents have a right to be concerned about a very large, multinational corporation drilling in their backyards," she said.

Access to executives at such large companies becomes more difficult, and it becomes harder to

make them aware of the impacts they are having, Lachelt said.

stockholders.

From a state regulator's per-spective. Griebling speaks highly of Shell. Until recently, it operat-ed the nation's higgest carbon dioxide production field, near Cortez. There was little concern from the public or local govern-ments about Shell, Griebling

"They were a very responsible operator. ... We received very few complaints or concerns raised about that field."

Then again, what constitutes a responsible operator is relative. Griebling, unlike Hines, believes Barrett has been generally responsible as well. But in Shell's case, Haas -

investment analyst with Sanders Morris Harris in Houston, where Shell is based — also spoke highly of its environmental track record.

"I think Shell is very, very careful. They're very sensitive to environmental issues and they have to be. They operate all

around the world. They need to be cooperative and be sensitive to issues

The company said the information would be available to bidders. "We are inviting Shell to par-ticipate in this process," said Peter A. Dea, chair-man and chief executive officer of Barrett.

A Shell spokeswoman would not comment on whether the company would go directly to Barrett

stockholders. "We're disappointed, We're considering our options," Kitty Borah said. Houston-based Shell, a subsidiary of the Royal Dutch/ Shell Group, notified Barrett's board of its bid on March 1. Shell offered to assume about \$400 million of Barrett debt.

Barret is involved in gas gathering as well as exploration and production. Most of its properties are in Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, the mid-conti-nent area of Kansas, Oklahoma and in the Gulf of

Mexico off Texas and Louisiana.

Barrett rejected Shell's offer in order to consider other offers as well. Haas said she doesn't know who Barrett's likely buyer will be, if it sells. But with the purchase expected to cost more than \$2 bil-lion, "the question is, who has the cash?" who Barrett's likely buyer will be.

Shell does, for one, Also in Shell's favor is that it has promised to keep Barrett's employees. Haas said

Like Griebling and Schnacke, she sees high interest by energy companies in the Rockies, particularly in coal bed methane production, due to its relatively low operating cost and geological risk. Though gas production in Garfield County's Piccance Basin is not centered around coal bed methane, it is also a hotbed of activity and interest, she said.

Drilling

continued on page 7

Parachute area land KIFLE TRLEGOMM owners unite to Feb. 7,200%

negotiate with Barrett

Seismic study area reduced to show low impacts

By Theresa Hamilton BATTLEMENT MESA - A seismic survey proposed by Barrett Resources Corporation has created a rumble in the Battlement Mesa The prospect of dynamite blasts, heavy equipment and helicopters

The prospect of dynamice blasts, heavy equipment and helicopters to be used in creating a three-dimensional image of the areas sub-surface has many land owners reluctant to grant Denver based scismic firm Western Geco access to their property. At the regular meeting of the Grand Valley Citizen's Alliance (GVCA) last Thursday night, approximately 60 local land owners and concerned citizens met to discuss the proposed seismic study and pose questions they would like to see answered. As a result of the meeting, 'a dozen land owners and interested citizens have volunteered to serve on a committee to develop a list of

citizens have volunteered to serve on a committee to develop a list of concerns and negotiation points. The indent, said organizers, was twofold: first, to provide just one contact for Barrett and Western diceo to work with, rather than dozens, and second, to provide more leverage when negotiating. Barrett Resources, due to land owner input, has agreed to scale back the initial scope of the project from 68 square miles between

Rulison and Parachute to 30 square miles on the north side of the Colorado River near Rulison. The smaller scale project, said Barrett Resources officials, would

Please see LAND on page 14

Local landowners voice concerns over proposed testing

THE CITIZEN TELEGRAM

LAND from page 1

PAGE 14

provide an opportunity to demonstrate the minimal impacts associated with the acquisition of

seismic data. But with additional information about the seismic information about the seismic study to be presented at the Northwest Colorado Oil and Gas Team meeting on February 21, land owners were urged to be sure their questions were immende before seismic. red before signing answ

answered before signing "Before you sign that document allowing access to your land, you have a right to have as much information as possible," explained Janie Hines, president of the GVCA. More: Ellen Descent: an Mary Ellen Denomy, an assistant to Joan Savage, raised a dozen concerns that she and Mrs.

Savage do not believe have been adequately addressed by either Barrett or Western Geco as they go door to door discussing plans with landowners. Items including the lease

status of the sub-surface minerals, details - in writing - of

"At one time, this area was at 640 acre spacing. They divided it in half, and half, and half and people sat there so polite, trying to work things out. Folks, how many wells are being drilled in Pitkin County? How long would Goldie

Hawn tolerate a gas well in her back yard?" Scott Brynildson

Denomy added that land

"Just say no," said Scott

mereased spacing was going on in areas that were too polite to

640 acre spacing. They divided

it in half, and half, and half and nle sat there so polite, tryin

FEBRUARY 7, 2001

It in fait, the days we set the people sat there so police, trying to work things out. Folks, how many wells are being drilled in Pitkin County? How long would Golde Hawn tolerate a gas well in her back yand?" While everyhody in the room had been impacted by the natural gas development industry, many continued to see the value in the resource, but wanted to be sure that the best situation was worked out for all. "No question, property

situation was worked out for all. "No question, property values - as far as resale - have already been hurt badly (by natural gas development)," said Joan Savage a land owner in the area. "We are trying to keep it so that we can live here. ... Its more of a question of how they do it, rather than if they do it. do it, rather than if they do it. This is an opportunity to make agreements with Barrett stating what you expect the m to do." She added that the seismic study is a double edged sword. "Two things could hannes"

"Two things could happen:

One, it could save your property One, it could save your property from being drilled on if they see that it is not worth drilling on; or two the survey may provide information that would prompt Barrett to insist on 10 acre or 5

acre spacing." Garfield County Commissioner John Martin Commissioner John Martin reminded the crowd that Colorado was built on the back of extractive industries. "Colorado was founded on the extraction of minerals. If the

minerals are there, they have a minerals are there, they have a right to extract them. The minerals are the number one priority, Farming is number two. Unfortunately, we are in the rank of the farmers and we take a back seat," said Martin. The Neutrons College of the second coll-

a back seat," said Martin. The Northwest Colorado Oil and Gas Team will meet at Rifle City Hall from 10 AM to 2 Pm on February 21. Barrett Resources is expected to have a presentation addressing the nie study

could be how many land owners opted to sign agreements.

what will happen on the land what will happen on the land owner's property, baseline testing of springs, wells and water sources, impacts to livestock, dust abatement, reclamation, and impacts to fields during haying season, were just a few of Denomy's concerns.

Denomy told the crowd that if the minerals are leased, Barrett Resources has the right to enter their property with or without a signed agreement; however, Steve Soychak, with Barrett had previously indicated to The Citizen Telegram that one of the

Brynildson, who has an interest in 370 acres of property involved inthe study area.

Brynildson, who said he used Denomy acues was a second of the quality and the former should definitely obtain a to work on drilling rugs, and the fore of the survey and the increased drilling. The survey and the increased drilling. The sortext should be survey and the increased drilling. The sortext should be survey and the increased drilling the sortext should be survey and the increased drilling. The sortext should be survey and the increased drilling the sortext should be survey and the increased drilling. The sortext should be survey and the increased drilling the sortext should be sortext and the sortext should be sortext should be sortext should be sortext and the sortext should be sortext should be

speak up. "At one time, this area was at

Gas prices expected to rise this summer

Drilling continued from page 1

Griebling said Colorado has seen cycles of centralization and decentralization in terms of major producers' involvement in oil and gas here. Most of the major companies had sizable operations in the state in the 1960s and 1970s, and though they were based out of state, tney often had field offices in Colorado. Technological changes and trends helped trigger consolidation of operations and a reduction in field offices in the late '70s, including Shell's closure of its Denver office.

However, now Phillips Petroleum is opening a Denver office. BP Amoco has been active in coal bed methane production in the Durango area, and Shell is interested in resetablishing a Colorado presence through Denver-based Barrett. Phillips has bought coal bed methane assets in Utah and Wyoming and is exploring for the resource in Routt and Moffat counties, Griebling said.

Griebling said the increase in natural gas prices and growing demand for the resource are among the reasons for the renewed interest by major producers. Those factors have combined with continually improving technology to turn some previously marginal prospects into potentially lucrative ones.

Haas said this increasing interest in the Rocky Mountain region is coming during a time of decline in activity in the Gulf of Mexico.

Griebling said he doesn't think that Shell's move is tied in with California's electricity crisis. Reports indicate it has been eyeing Barrett for at least half a year, going back to before that crisis began.

Haas said the Barrett buyout process is probably dragging out longer than Shell would like. But she believes Barrett is prudent to seek multiple bids, and share confidential information with bidders to help establish a fair bidding price.

That process also buys all parties involved some time "to think about the whole process," she Janey Hines said **GVCA** can only take a wait-andsee approach toward Shell's interest in Barrett and Garfield County. "None of this stuff is concrete and we're just as clueless as anybody else," she said. ... If they're worse than Barrett, "Well, we'll just cross that bridge when we get there," she said.

said.

Barrett additionally could benefit from increasing natural gas prices this summer. Haas anticipates such an increase because gas storage is 30 percent below normal and new gas turbines for power plants are coming on line.

Griebling said prices have moderated and stabilized some after hitting record levels this winter.

Nevertheless, "These are still high prices," still good for drillers, and more than double what they were a couple of years ago, he said.

But the high prices aren't welcomed by consumers being hit with whopping winter heating bills. And Schnacke said drillers would be just as happy to see prices lower but more stabilized. Volatile pricing makes it difficult to plan for and finance production

tion. In the meantime, whether or not more major producers are involved, the public is going to have to get used to drilling as a fact of life, in the Rocky Mountains and elsewhere, in order to meet the increasing energy demand that their lifestyles are creating, Schnacke believes.

Because of increased demand for electricity due to such trends as a growing Internet-computer economy and increasing summer air conditioning, "There's no getting around it. There's gonna have to be more wells drilled, here and around the country," he said.

Hines said GVCA can only take a wait-and-see approach toward Shell's interest in Barrett and Garfield County.

"None of this stuff is concrete and we're just as clueless as anybody else," she said.

When it comes to dealing with major producers, Hines does know that residents in the Durango area found BP Amoco no easier to deal with than smaller energy companies. And she worries about Shell's political and legal clout, in places such as the Colorado legislature, where oil and gas reform efforts have been undertaken with what the GVCA considers to be limited success.

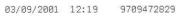
"They're obviously very powerful and have a lot of resources we don't have," Hines said of Shell.

If they're worse than Barrett, "Well, we'll just cross that bridge when we get there," she said

Griebling said that from the Oil and Gas Commission's standpoint, it wouldn't matter if it were regulating Barrett or Shell — each would be treated the same.

While Barrett pales in comparison to size and resources to Shell, Schnacke said it's still a big company for Colorado, and strong from an economic perspective.

"They're the quintessential Rockies company, if you will. It's a credit to Barrett that Shell is interested."



BLM

BLM





PAGE 02

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

GLENWOOD SPRINGS FIELD
OFFICE
50629 HIGHWAY 6 & 24

PO BOX 1009

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, CO

DATE: March 9, 2001 FOR RELEASE: Monday, March 12, 2001

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Sokal for BLM (970) 947-2810 Brian Macke for COGCC (303) 894-2100, ext, 122

COGCC and BLM REVIEWING 20 ACRE SPACING PROPOSAL

Barrett Resources Corporation has filed an application with the Colorado Oil and Gas Corporation Commission (COGCC) for 20 acre well density on Federal lands in the Grand Valley/Naval Oil Shale Reserve (NOSR) area in Garfield County. Barrett's proposal was filed in response to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) concerns that proper reservoir management of the Federal minerals involved should be the same downhole well density as adjacent private minerals. The spacing order does not commit or allocate surface use on public land.

Under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the BLM and COGCC, the technical merits (subsurface mineral potential and development) of the application will be addressed through the COGCC hearing process. An administrative hearing will be held at the COGCC office in Denver, Colorado on April 12, 2001 unless a valid protest on the technical merits of the application is received.

The COGCC rules governing public participation are not applicable since the application does not include any private surface lands. There are federal laws and regulations that address environmental, public health, safety and welfare issues on public land.

All of the public lands within the spacing order have been leased for oil and gas development. The existing leases do not prescribe or control the downhole spacing to develop the oil and gas resource. Federal leases are issued with the right to fully develop the lease consistent with the rights granted and modified by laws, regulations and the local resource management plan. The recent 1999 Glenwood Springs Resource Area Plan Amendment for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development did provide for extensive public participation and addressed the local environmental, public health, safety and welfare issues on public land. Future Applications for Permit to Drill (APD) for both downhole and surface use on 20 acre spacing must be found in conformance with this land use plan and account for current local issues prior to authorization. This means that even though the federal minerals may be approved for 20 acre downhole development, the surface use will still be dependent on the federal approval process for involving the public and completing a site specific environmental analysis to develop and apply mitigation. At the time an APD is submitted, BLM's level of mitigation and authority could require relocation of a proposed surface well site up to 200 meters (656 feet) under 43 CFR 3101.1-2 which in affect would result in the use of existing 40 acre surface well sites for directional drilling of 20 acre downhole locations.

03/09/2001 12:19 9709472829

BLM

PAGE 03

The BLM acknowledges that this application for 20 acre subsurface development increases local concern and may create a misunderstanding of the effect that this spacing order would have on managing oil and gas development on public lands. The local BLM office in Glenwood Springs is interested in knowing if there is enough public interest to provide an informal open house to answer questions. The office is also providing opportunity for individuals to express questions and concerns up to April 9th by calling Dan Sokal at 947-2810. Downhole technical questions and comments should be directed to Brian Macke, Deputy Director, COGCC at 303-894-2100, ext. 122. If the demand for an open house is not sufficient, the BLM is willing to meet with groups or communities upon request to address concerns and questions. It should be noted that the BLM posts all APDs in the Glenwood Springs Office, the Grand Junction BLM Office, and the State BLM office for 30 days for public notification and comment. In addition, the Glenwood Springs Office submits news releases to local newspapers on all APDs requesting public comments and will continue this effort. Comments and concerns regarding oil and gas issues can also be raised at the quarterly Northwest Oil and Gas meetings conducted jointly by the COGCC, Garfield County and the BLM at the Rifle town hall. The next scheduled meeting is tentatively May 10, 2001 at 10:00 am.

GRAND JUNCTION "DAILY SENTINEL" FEB 28, 2001

Around the Region

Barrett expected to seek 20-acre spacing for wells

By MIKE McKIBBIN The Daily Sentinel

RIFLE — Barrett Resources Corp. is expected to file an application by Monday to use directional drilling to reach 20-acre spacing of natural gas wells on an undetermined number of federal acres in western Garfield County.

The application is an outgrowth of last year's 20-year spacing request on some 9,000 privately owned acres between Rulison and Parachute. After a nearly yearlong hearing process, the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission required Barrett to drill directionally from existing well pads on some 1,400 acres. The 20-acre spacing was allowed on the remaining 7,000 acres, the closest gas well spacing in Colorado.

The Bureau of Land Management originally intervened in Barrett's application as well, because it did not include federal lands.

The agency withdrew its inter-vention when Barrett promised to

seek 20-acre spacing on federal lands

seek 20-acre spacing on federal lands at a later date. The BLM property included in the anticipated request lies general-ly in the same area, said Natural Re-source Specialist Dan Sokal in the BLM's Glenwood Springs office. "It's very likely they will apply, we've been working with them," he said "hut until we see the applica.

said, "but until we see the application, we can't say exactly where."

Steve Soychak, Barrett's Parachute district manger, also had not seen the application, which was be-ing prepared by officials in the company's Denver offices.

"I can't guarantee we'll apply, but I know they're planning to do so next month," Soychak added.

A significant difference with this density application and Barrett's previous one is that the company plans to drill directionally from 40acre well pads to achieve 20-acre downhole spacing to more effectively drain the underground natural gas reservoir.

During last year's hearings, company officials often claimed directional drilling was too costly compared to drilling vertically

Soychak noted that federal lands are often more topographically challenging than privately owned lands, "and that sometimes makes them more suitable for directional drilling. There are usually steep slopes involved, and you can't drill on a lot of those slopes."

Also unlike last year's proceedings, the oil and gas conservation commission's public intervention process will not apply, since the lands are federally owned.

Surface issues will be addressed by the BLM under the National Environmental Policy Act provisions, Sokal said.

"We will provide an opportunity for public involvement," he emphasized, "either through news releases or maybe an open house to discuss the application and potential actions.

Mike McKibbin can be reached via e-mail at mmckibbin@gjds.com.

×		Wednesday, March	n 14, 2001
FRONT PAGE (HOME) >>> VALL	EY NEWS INDEX >>> YOU ARE HERE	×	
BLM wants 20	acre gas well spacing to	0	1
By Heather McGregor			
Staff Writer			
Contraction of the second s	cre gas well spacing, the federal o, according to the U.S. Bureau of Land	d	
-	st, Barrett Resources has applied to the Il spacing on about 16,000 acres of pub Parachute.		
	ll allow BLM to maximize production ls, said Dan Sokal, gas drilling manage unty.		
But BLM's environmen spacing on the surface, S	tal rules will likely limit wells to 40-ac Sokal said.	cre	
Barrett would be require acre downhole wells.	ed to use directional drilling to tap the 2	20-	
That's the most practica Barrett's Parachute field	l approach anyway, said Steve Soychal l manager.	k,	
neighboring private land	pographically more challenged than the ls. That's why we'd be looking at said. "It would be much more difficult 40-acre parcel."		
and Barrett would use th	wells already exist on the federal lands nose pads to drill a second directional parcels, Barrett would drill a vertical a a single new pad.		
	ar to double gas well density on 9,000 sed a firestorm of controversy.		
most dense gas drilling	ic opposition over what would be the in Colorado, BLM protested the rett didn't also seek 20-acre spacing fo	ЭГ	
and that's the applicatio	he doubled density for BLM lands later n that was filed March 5 with the Gnservation Commission	r,	

colorado on ana ous conservation commission.

Much of the 16,000 acres is slated for testing this summer in a seismic program sought by Barrett. It will reveal the prime sites for drilling, and those that aren't worth the expense.

Drilling on the federal lands will still be controlled to avoid wildlife conflicts, steep slopes and other environmental problems, Sokal said.

In addition, Barrett is preparing a two- to three-year plan of development for the center portion of the 16,000 acres.

Sokal said the company would have to submit similar plans in order to drill on the east or west sides of the federal lands.

BACK TO TOP OF PAGE

D FRONT PAGE | VALLEY NEWS | SPORTS | COMMENTARY | CLASSIFIED ADS | REAL ESTATE | OPTIONS (A&E)

 $\stackrel{-}{_{\scriptstyle \mbox{\rm O}}}$ All content on this site copyright O 2000 The Glenwood Independent \bigcirc

Month of Yea	ir									- Andrewski - Andr	ve Date	
OGCC Operator Number Name of Operator Check if data is revised.				Phone	9 <u> </u>	9			Zip		mmercial ntral Dis t	Dispos
her males and	Formation		1		0	IL			0	Water	Surf. I	nj.(ps later
API Number	Code	QQ	Sec	BOM	Produced	Sold	Adj	EOM	Grav	Production/ Injection	TBG	CS
Well Name	Well Days				G	AS			-	Water	Surf. I	
and Number	Status Prod	TWP	Range	Produced/ Injected	Flared	Used	Shrink	Sold	BTU	Disposal Code*	TBG	CSC
									1			
			-									_
			-									-
			-						-			-
			-									-
			-									
				this form	are to th	hest o	f mr kno	wledge t		prrect and con	mlete	

Year ____



Month of _____

State of Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission 1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801, Denver, Colorado 80203 (303)894-2100 Fax: (303) 894-2109 FORM 7 Rev 10/00 OPERATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT OF OPERATIONS Continuation Page

____OGCC Operator Number ____



	FOR	OGCC	USE	ONLY	
					1
1					

*WAI	ER	DI	SPC	SAI	L C	OD	ES	ģ
1000	-				-		6.183	

API Number	Format			Sec		o	IL			Grav	Water	Surf. Ir Wa	nj.(psig ater	
API Number	Code		QQ	sec	BOM	Produced	Sold	Adj	EOM	orut	Production/ Injection	TBG	CSG	
Well Name	Well Status	Days	TWP	Range		G	AS	1 1		BTU	Water	Gas		
and Number	Status	Prod	1.001	lange	Produced/ Injected	Flared	Used	Shrink	Sold	Bro	Disposal Code*	TBG	CSG	
						3								
			_											
			_											
		_												
			-											
					-									

M = Commercial Disposal C = Central Disposal P = Pit I = Injected

COLORADO OPERATORS ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTING MONTHLY REPORT OF OPERATIONS

44 CANYON LLC ACEITE ENERGY CORP AMOCO PRODUCTION CO. ANSCHUTZ EXPLORATION CORP BALLARD PETROLEUM LLC BARRETT RESOURCES CORP BATAA OIL, INC. **BAYLESS* ROBERT L BENCHMARK OIL & GAS CORP** BEREN CORPORATION BONNEVILLE FUELS CORP **BOULDER OIL COMPANY BURLINGTON RESOURCES OIL & GAS** CALPINE NATURAL GAS COMPANY CHEMCO INC CHESAPEAKE OPERATING INC CHEVRON U S A INC COASTAL OIL & GAS CORP D & G ROUSTABOUT SERVICE **D J PRODUCTION SERVICES INC** DIAMOND OPERATING, INC. DOHENY* PATRICK A DUNCAN OIL INC EVERGREEN OPERATING CORP EXCO RESOURCES INC FLYING J OIL & GAS INC FOUR STAR OIL & GAS COMPANY HALEY/HUGHES OPERATIONS HALLWOOD PETROLEUM INC HOLCOMB OIL & GAS INC HS RESOURCES INC J-W OPERATING CO **K P KAUFFMAN COMPANY INC** KCS RESOURCES INC KOCH EXPL CO LEWIS & CLARK EXPLORATION CO LOCIN OIL CORPORATION LONE MOUNTAIN PRODUCTION CO LUFF EXPLORATION CO MARKUS PRODUCTION, INC

MARKWEST RESOURCES INC MATRIX ENERGY LLC **MCELVAN OIL & GAS PROPERTIES** MERIT ENERGY COMPANY MULL DRILLING CO INC **MURCHISON OIL & GAS** NORTH AMERICAN RESOURCES CO OCEAN ENERGY RESOURCES INC PATINA OIL & GAS CORPORATION PEACOCK OIL CO INC PETRA OLEUM CORP PETROGLYPH OPERATING CO INC PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT CORP PLAINS PETROLEUM OPERATING CO POZO RESOURCES, INC PRIMA OIL & GAS COMPANY PRIME OPERATING COMPANY QUESTAR EXPL. & PROD. CO RIM OPERATING, INC **RIO MESA RESOURCES INC RITCHIE EXPLORATION INC** ROSEWOOD RESOURCES INC SAMEDAN OIL CORP SAMSON OIL CO SG INTERESTS I, LTD SHENANDOAH ENERGY INC SOUTHWESTERN PRODUCTION CORP SOVEREIGN ENERGY LLC STELBAR OIL CORP INC STEWART PETROLEUM CORP STRACHAN EXPLORATION, INC TEXACO E & P INC **TWIN ARROW INC** UNIOIL UNITED STATES EXPLORATION INC VALLEY OPERATING INC WALSH PRODUCTION INC WBI PRODUCTION WHITING PETROLEUM CORP WIEPKING-FULLERTON ENERGY LLC

Develtion	es Assessed/	Data						
Penantie	Number of	S Amount of	Number of	\$ Amount of	Number of	\$ Amount of	Number of	
			Orders Paid	Penalties Paid		Penalties Waived		
iscal Year	Orders Issued	Penalties Assessed	Orders Paid	Penalities Paid	Orders vvalved	Penalties Walved	Orders Paid Through Collections	
90-91	4	\$32,300	4	\$32,300	0	\$0	n/a	
91-92	0	SO	0	\$0	0	\$0	n/a	
92-93		\$11,500	2	\$6.500	ō	so	n/a	
93-94		\$152,608	7	\$105.000	0	so	n/a	
94-95		\$181,552	4	\$21,805	4	\$139.000	n/a	
95-96		\$252.250	19	\$154.000	3	\$20,750	n/a	
			8	\$29,500	0	\$20,750 \$0		
96-97		\$79,500			0		n/a	
97-98		\$140,500	22	\$74,750	0	\$0	n/a	
98-99		\$62,000	17	\$46,500	1	\$13,000	n/a	
99-00		\$110,500	12	\$59,460	0	\$3,000	2	
00-01	13	\$81,500	11	\$21,500	0	\$6,000	0	
Totals	150	\$1,104,210	106	\$551,315	8	\$181,750	2	
Denela	an Danding C	allastics						
. Penalti Order	es Pending C		ate	Violating	Penalty			Referred to
						V Geletiere	Children	
Number		Issu	ied	Entity	Assessed	Violations	Status	Central Collections
1V-58		03/15	102	Gear Drilling Company	\$2,000	Rule 305, 319 a (2)		Yes
1V-00 1V-73		08/23		Western Oil Company	\$2,500	Rule 317 a.8.	Work completed per order	Yes
1V-82		06/19		Joseph V. Dodge	\$14,000	Rules 210.b., 305., 307., 317.b (3), 604.a (4)	Bond forfeited	Yes
1V-02		05/21		Kana Resources, Inc.	\$3.500	Rules 303.a., 306., 317.b.1.	AOC negotiated	Yes
1V-114		09/04		Mr. Jim Snyder	\$10,000	Rules 308., 317.i., APD	District Court decision entered/\$10,000 bond claimed 12/96/	Yes
1V-122		05/20		McCormick Oil & Gas Co.	\$32,000	Rule 317.g.	Cash bond to be posted by 9/1/97/in litigation-secured by deed of trust.	Yes
1V-124		07/01	/97	Nerdlihc Company Inc.	\$9,000	Rules 326.b.1., 319.b., 210.b.	Fine not paid	Yes
1V-167		01/05	/99	Pacific Midland Production	\$1,000	Rule 326.b.	Bond to be claimed.	Yes
1V-170		03/25		Allen Oil & Gas, LLC	\$12,000	Rules 904, 905, 603.g.,906, 909 b.(2) &(5), 910	Work to be completed by July 1, 1999.	Yes
1V-173		07/12		J. Magness, Inc.	\$9,000	Rules 207.b., and 326 b.	Bond to be claimed if work not completed.	Yes
1V-175		08/19		McCormick Oil & Gas Co.	\$18,000	Rules 1004, 319.b.(3), 326.b., 206., 309.	McCormick in Bankruptcy.	Yes
1V-177		08/19		Faith Energy Exploration, Inc.	\$3,500	Rules 308A , 308B , 326 b	Pull Plugging Bond.	Yes
1V-183		12/02		Gopher Drilling Company	\$2,000	Order No. 1C-3	Bond to be claimed if work not completed.	Yes
1V-191		02/15		Cascade Oil	\$1,000	Rule 326.b (1)	Bond to be claimed if work not completed	Yes
1V-201		10/30		Texas Tea, LLC Robert Ziegler	\$4,000 \$2,000	Rule 319.b.(3), 326.b. Rule 326.b.	Payment plan arranged 01/19/01	No
1V-202 1V-204		11/30		Allen Oil & Gas. LLC	\$60.000	Rule 326.b., 324A.a., 904., 905., 906.b.(1), 906.e.(1	007 a (0)	No No
1V-204		01/08		Amoco Production Co.	\$2,000	Rule 303 a.), 907.c.(2)	No
17-206		01/00		s pendina collection	\$187 500	Rule Subla		INO
				1				
I. Penalt	ies Uncollect	able						
Order		Date	Date	Violating	Penalty			
Number		Issued	Entered	Entity	Assessed	Violations	Status	
1V-56		07/20/92	08/25/92	The Meyer Oil Company	\$1,500	Rule 329, 323, 604	Penalty included in Order 1-186	
1V-62		11/22/93	12/14/93	Richmond Petroleum Inc.	\$47,608	Rules 317 r., 902 g 1., 908 b., Order #112-85	District Court entered judgement. Referred to State Central Collections who	recommends write-off
1V-75		08/23/94	09/23/94	The Meyer Oil Company	\$18,247	Rules 317 a.8., 305., 308., Order #1-132 & 178	No Action Taken/Penalty discharged in bankruptcy	
1V-93		11/21/95	12/15/95	Tipps Drilling Co.	\$60,000	Rules 604.a.4., 902.e.&f.	\$30,000 bond claimed 11/96/penalty unpaid/No assets. State Central Collect	tions recommends write-off
1V-123		05/20/97	05/30/97	Planet Associates, Inc.	\$4,000	Rules 319.b., 326.b.	\$10,000 bond claimed 5/97/ penalty unpaid/Company no longer exists	
1V-127		08/04/97	08/13/97	Point Lookout Drilling	\$28,750	Rules 210., 308., 312 et al	\$30,000 bond claimed 9/97. State Central Collections recommends write-off	
1V-132		11/24/97	12/17/97	Eros, Inc.	\$24,000	Rules 319.b., 326.b.	\$30,000 bond claimed 5/98/penalty unpaid/Company no longer exists	
1V-134		02/09/98	03/10/98	Centennial Petroleum Inc.	\$2,000	Rules 1004., 1103.	\$30,000 bond claim commenced 3/98. Bonding co. did work/ State Central C	collections recommends write
1V-161		10/19/98	11/19/98	Black Thunder Marketing, Inc.	\$2,000	Rule 326.b.	Bond claim underway. State Central Collections recommends write-off	