

**OIL AND GAS DOCKET NO. 08-0260277**

---

**THE APPLICATION OF EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION TO BALANCE THE OATES,  
NE. (DEVONIAN) FIELD, PECOS COUNTY, TEXAS**

---

**Heard by:** Donna K. Chandler, Technical Examiner

**Hearing Date:** January 23, 2009

**Appearances:**

**Representing:**

Tim George  
William T. Duncan

Exxon Mobil Corporation

**EXAMINER'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE**

Exxon Mobil Corporation requests that the Oates, NE. (Devonian) Field be balanced. This application was unopposed and the examiner recommends approval.

**DISCUSSION OF THE EVIDENCE**

The Oates, NE. (Devonian) Field was discovered in 1961 at a depth of approximately 14,500 feet. The field is a non-associated prorated gas field which operates under rules providing for 1,867'-3,735' well spacing, 640 acre density and allocation based on 100% acreage. There are five operators in the field with eleven wells. Exxon operates four of the wells.

Exxon Mobil's B. W. Vallat No. 1 is the only prorated well in the field. Through June 2007, this well was produced 52-54 MMCF/month and accrued no overage. In July 2007, production from the well declined to 24-26 MMCF/month for several months. The well accrued underage because allowable through October 2007 was being assigned based on a G-10 test of 1,706 MCFD. The underage was canceled under normal procedures in February 2008. In March 2008, production from the well was restored to previous rates. However, between November 2007 and May 2008, the well's allowable was being assigned based on a G-10 test of only 897 MCFD. The well accrued overage of about 100 MMCF in three months, until a more accurate G-10 test of 1,760 MCFD was filed in June 2008. The well now produces within its assigned allowable, but will not be able to make-up the

overage unless it is curtailed. Exxon Mobil requests that the overage be canceled with fieldwide balancing.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Notice was issued to all affected persons at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing. The hearing was unopposed.
2. The Oates, NE. (Devonian) Field is a non-associated gas field which was discovered in 1961 at a depth of approximately 15,500 feet.
3. There are 5 operators in the field with 11 wells. Exxon operates 4 of the wells. The B. W. Vallat No. 1 is the only prorated well in the field.
4. As a result of the decreased production and delayed filing of new G-10 tests, the B. W. Vallat No. 1 has accrued approximately 100 MMCF of overproduction.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Proper notice was timely issued to all persons legally entitled to notice.
2. All things have been accomplished to give the Commission jurisdiction in this matter.
3. Balancing the Oates, NE. (Devonian) Field will not harm correlative rights and will not cause waste.

**EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION**

Based on the above findings and conclusions of law, the examiner recommends that the Oates, NE. (Devonian) Field be balanced.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna K. Chandler  
Technical Examiner