UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Investigation of:	*
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HOUSE EXPLOSION IN FIRESTONE, COLORADO, APRIL 17, 2017	* Accident No.: DCA17FP005
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Interview of: SCOTT OLEY

Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District Business & Education Center
Longmont, Colorado

Tuesday,
May 13, 2017

APPEARANCES:

RAVI CHHATRE, Investigator in Charge
National Transportation Safety Board

MATTHEW McKENZIE, Attorney
National Transportation Safety Board

GBENGA AJIBOYE, General Engineer
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

MICHAEL LEONARD, Quality Assurance Professional
Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission

MATTHEW LEPORE, Director
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DOUG PRUNK, Fire Investigator
Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District

DAVID PUCCETTI, Fire Investigator
Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District

DAVID McBRIDE, Vice President of Health, Safety & Environment
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

ROB BLUME, Esq.
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
(On behalf of Mr. Oley)

I N D E X

I N T E R V I E W

MR. CHHATRE: Good afternoon, today is Saturday, May 13, 2017. We are currently at Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District Business & Education Center, located at 8426 Kosmerl Place, Longmont, Colorado. We are meeting, regarding the investigation of the explosion of a home located at 6312 Twilight Avenue, Firestone Colorado, that occurred on April 17, 2017.

My name is Ravi Chhatre. I am with the National Transportation Safety Board, located in Washington D.C., and I am investigator in charge of this accident. The NTSB investigation number for this accident is DCA15FP005 [sic].

I would like to start by notifying everyone present in this room that I will be recording this interview, and we may transcribe it at a future date. Transcripts will be provided directly to the interviewee for reviewing and identifying any typos or errors. The transcripts may be posted in NTSB's public docket.

Also, I would like to inform Mr. Scott Oley that you are permitted to have one other person present with you during the interview. This is a person of your choice -- your supervisor, friend, family member or, if you choose, no one at all. Please state for the record your full name, the spelling of your name, organization that you work for and your title, business contact information such as billing address, email, phone; and whom you have chosen to be present with you during your interview.

MR. OLEY: My name is Scott Oley, that's S-C-O-T-T, O-L-E-Y. I am a field coordinator for Anadarko Petroleum, and my business contact email is [redacted], which is A-N-A-R-D-A-R-K-O. I might have gotten that wrong, sorry. I use my personal phone as business as well, and it is at [redacted]. I do not know Anadarko's present address.

MR. CHHATRE: Okay.

MR. OLEY: Sorry.

MR. BLUME: My name is Rob Blume, B-L-U-M-E with Gibson Dunn, and Crutcher, representing Mr. Oley.

MR. CHHATRE: Okay. Thank you for that. Now, I'll go around the room and have, and have each person introduce themselves. Please state your name, spelling of your name, your title, and the organization that you represent, and your business contact information, starting from my left.

MR. AJIBOYE: My name is Gbenga Ajiboye, G-B-E-N-G-A, A-J-I-B-O-Y-E, I'm an engineer with US DOT, PHMSA. My office is in the Lakewood office in the Western district. My contact phone number is [redacted], and my email address is [redacted]

MR. LEONARD: Mike Leonard, first name common spelling, last name L-E-O-N-A-R-D, I'm with the Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission as the Quality Assurance Professional. My email address is [redacted], business cell phone [redacted].

MR. PRUNK: Doug Prunk, Frederick-Firestone Fire Department, Division Chief of (indiscernible) safety, it's [redacted], sorry, [redacted], area code [redacted].

MR. BLUME: Again, Rob Blume, B-L-U-M-E with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, representing Mr. Oley.

MR. CHHATRE: Contact information.

MR. BLUME: My office telephone number is [redacted], my email is [redacted]com.

MR. McBRIDE: David McBride, M-C-B-R-I-D-E, I'm Vice President of Health, Safety, and Environment for Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. It's [redacted].

MR. CHHATRE: Thank you for that.

INTERVIEW OF SCOTT OLEY

BY MR. CHHATRE:

Q. Mr. Oley, for the record, tell us your educational background, formal, informal education, and related work information, you know, how many years you had with the company, stuff like that.

A. I have no prior education. I started in the field 10 1/2 years ago, with Merit Energy in northern Colorado, here, and I was with them for 5 years, and then PDC Energy bought us out, and I worked with -- and they brought us on, and I worked with them for a year and a half as operator in both companies, in both companies. And then I moved over to Anadarko Petroleum 3½ years

ago, 3 years ago.
Q. As?
A. As an operator.
Q. Okay, and as operator, what are your duty hours, and what do you do?
A. I was, I would, once the wells were drilled, I would take care of them. So, I would be production.
Q. So, you're an Anadarko employee?
A. Correct.
Q. I know it means a lot to you, but tell me what you would take care of them? What did you do?
A. I make sure that they run properly, in order to get the oil and gas out of the ground, and make sure that there are no issues, I mean, whether --
Q. Did you have to learn how to change the settings?
A. Yeah, I can change settings on a well, I can do minor maintenance, I can, if -- basically it was just to make them run properly, so that way there were no leaks, no this, no that. I mean, there were no issues. I try to make them run as safely as possible.
Q. Okay. So, where is the well that is near the accident scene? Was that your well? Did you work on that well?
A. I did not work --
MR. BLUME: He's no longer an operator.
A. I'm not -- I'm sorry. I went --

MR. BLUME: His current position is something else.
A. Is, yeah, I'm no longer an operator. I moved from an operator about a year ago, to a rover, which would be like a lead for operators. And then, January 23rd I got promoted to field coordinator.
Q. Okay, okay, okay, so you're a field coordinator, now?
A. Correct.
Q. Now, because, as your previous experience, you only stopped at operator, so that's where I am.
A. Yeah, I apologize for that.
Q. Okay, so, tell me what a field coordinator does, and what a rover does.
A. I get direction from my foreman who is right above me, and I filter it down to my team. I have a team of anywhere between 6 to 12 people, as we have split north and south under my current foreman. And make sure they have what they need. They have, if there's a major incident, they can give me a call. I go out for spills and such, or kind of keep -- make sure they're on the up and up, like, are you guys being safe, what do you need, so on and so on. If I need to, I can just kind of, like I said, just make sure they're all safe.
Q. Okay, so you are a field coordinator for couple of, 3 months now?
A. Correct.
Q. As a, as a rover, what were your responsibilities?

A. I would help out where needed. So, if an operator came to me and said, Hey, I need to do this. I need you to help me out with this., then I would go and help them out, whether it be in training or if they said that, I don't understand how this is really working right now, we would go out there and figure it out together. And if the field coordinator asked me to go do something, then I would, that would be my responsibility to go take care of that as well. So, it's a field lead.

Q. It's a field lead, so would you be in the office, or would you be in the field?

A. As a field, as --

Q. As a field coordinator.

A. As a field coordinator, it just depends on my daily duty, whatever I needed to do. I tried to get out in the field as much as possible, but sometimes it wouldn't allow it.

Q. So, on a, on a typical average day, what is your, 50/50, 60 in the office?

A. Probably be 60/40, 70/30, in the office.

Q. So, 70 percent in the office, 30 percent in the field, roughly.

A. Roughly.

Q. Okay, and as a rover, what was, what was your percentages that way?

A. Oh, that would be more like 80 percent in the field. In the morning, we would come in and meet with the operators, and we

would talk to them and say, Hey, how do you -- what do you think about this?, look at settings so forth, look at settings on the wells. And say, Hey, you know, maybe we can tweak this over here, and whatnot, Okay, we see this, let's go ahead and take a look at it whatnot.

Q. So, you are which district, you're northern or southern?

A. I have the southern.

Q. Southern, and is the well in question near the ground zero, is that in your area?

A. It is.

Q. You're in the southern regions, the area, what is it called?

A. I'm sorry?

Q. What is the term, how do you do -- do you say, I'm in the southern area, I'm in the southern field?

A. Yeah, I'm the field coordinator for the south, under Ron Kern, that's how I would have said it.

Q. Yes, it is just the south?

A. Correct. I take over for the north when the other field coordinator is out or he is busy.

Q. Right, okay. So, that means, how many wells you are responsible for? Roughly, if you don't know exact number.

A. I don't. I can tell you in the north and the south we have roughly 850 wells.

Q. Together?

A. Together. Each operator averages about 85 wells.

Q. Okay. Each operator, 85.
A. And there's 10 operators.
Q. Okay. And how many operators are under you?
A. There's 10 operators, and there's two rovers. So, I actually, under me, I have five operators, and one rover.
Q. And the rover will have a separate 85 wells?
A. No, he is actually there to help the five operators.
Q. So, if 85, that would be 85 times five, are the number of wells in your area, is that reasonable?
A. That would be close.
Q. So, on a typical day, what happens, walk me through a typical day -- you come in to the office and just walk me through your 8:00 to 4:30, how it's -- how it's like.
A. I walk in, I've scheduled a room for our operators to be in from 6:00 to 7:00 in the morning. It's right around the corner from my cubicle. I share a cubical with the north field coordinator. I walk in, I say hi to the guys that are in there. Usually I'm in there anywhere between 5:15 and 6:00, okay?
Q. In the morning?
A. In the morning. My operators usually start at about 6:00, okay? I walk in, say hi, say hi to whoever's there, and then I go to my cubicle, get on my system, and I start going through emails, and kind of see what's out there. You know, I mean, it could be a direction from wherever, okay. And then, once I kind of go through some of the emails, I pop my head back into the guys and

say, Hey, if you need something, let me know. Are you guys good? You know, so forth and so on. It just takes 10 seconds. Then I go to my -- usually I go to my foreman, Ron Kern, and ask him what the day's plan is, is there anything going on, do I need to go to a meeting for you know, for our group, whatnot. And then, we'll get direction that way. Depending on what the direction is, I'll go back to my desk if I have to do reporting, or you know, look at somebody's area for production, because production was down. You want me to go take a look at it, settings, so forth and so on, I will. Other than that, I usually try to be out in the field at least to go between 10:00 and 11:00, to go ahead and get with the guys. I'll give them a call, say, Hey, how you looking, you feeling okay today? You know, because I mean, it's a stressful job at times. And, Do you guys need help with anything?, and if not, then I kind of check in all my guys, and I come back to the office, and then I start -- I'll find something like, I'll go through a route, and see if I can help out, or make notes, and then I'll go over it with them tomorrow. Or, I'll get with the engineer. You know, I mean, that's kind of what I do, it's just oversee.

Q. Okay, and where do you meet your rovers in the morning?

A. My rovers are with my operators, and yes, I will talk to them. And they, A=and the rover is supposed to come to me in the morning, if I'm not in a meeting, and I'll say, Hey, you know, how do we look? And he'll kind of give me a brief like, yeah, I

looked at this, I did this, I'm going to go with so and so, I'm going to help him out. I'm going to say, Well, okay, let me know if I can go out there to help you out. And then we'll coordinate that way. And then at the end of the day, we'll try to coordinate as well.

Q. So, what the operators know, how do they know what they are supposed to do that day, who tells them?

A. They go through, they have a specific route. They have their wells, they're assigned to them, and they get to go through our automation system, which is CygNet. And they can tell practically, I mean, they can tell quite a bit with the well. They can tell the downhole pressures, they can tell how many, what the runs -- I mean, if they're making runs, if, whatever they, most of the time, whatever they need to find out.

A. Honestly, I don't, I don't understand this answer at all. What they need to find out of what, how do they know what they need to find out?

Q. We train them to look at specifics, like a run time. So, a plunger is a run time, so the plunger comes from downhole, and brings the fluid, that plunger hits, and it creates -- it goes past an MSO, which is a magnetic sensor, it's a magnetic shut off, basically. And it triggers that MSO, and it counts as a run. And sometimes that plunger doesn't come up, so it won't count as a run. So, they all know to say, Okay, well what happened here?, and they can go ahead and look at it in the system. The system

will show pressure differentials, it will show gas made, it shows a lot.

Q. Do they have a standard sheet that they have -- If I am your operator, do I know what I'm supposed to be, or expected to do in a certain way, or they do have a problem always, I guess they have the problem, and maintenance? Am I correct or am I not correct?

A. I'm not understanding.

Q. Okay. If I'm your operator, and I show up in the morning, and you go and say hello to me, next, how do I know what I'm supposed to do, do I need to do?

A. We give training. So, they go into a trainer, before they come to us, and they learn how to use --

Q. No, I understand, I'm just saying, I am, I am your operator, and you and me have a number of wells, and I come in the morning, you say hello to me, then what do I know what I'm supposed to do then?

A. It's, they, that's just the way they're trained. There's no other -- we come in and we look at our specific areas. They know that they come in and they start with their highest producers, and move downward in the system, and they just look at them, screen by screen.

Q. And do they know what they're supposed to be looking at? Do they, do they have some kind of a sheet or checklist, that's what I'm asking you?

A. No, they don't have a checklist, we teach them on what they

should look at, and this will cause -- and this can cause this, this can cause this, you know, we want you to look at these things. Take your time and look, and if you have any questions, you have your teammates here, and you have your rover, and you have myself, you can have the foreman, you can go and ask anybody, we're all one team, ask questions.

Q. But if I forget something, I mean, granted, you taught me that during the training period, I got my training. And for whatever reason I forget to look at something, would you know that?

A. No, I will not.

Q. So, they aren't supposed to check off anything for each well.

A. No, there's no checklist.

Q. You don't give them the instruction that every time you go to a well, look for this, this, this, and this? There is no checklist on that?

A. No.

Q. So, if I forget to look at something, and something goes wrong, how do you or anybody will know that the production is low, or what is the right, I'm not familiar with the well operation. But if I'm supposed to check a certain valve, and I don't, is there any cross check that somebody can find, that the computer program tells you that, Hey, look, he's supposed to check. This thing is not checked, the setting is not correct, if I don't put the certain settings on? I mean, if you are responsible, then how

would you know that something was not done right, here?
A. The system can tell you certain specifics, so --
Q. Give me an example, give me an example.
A. If a -- we'll say a latch value. A latch valve is what opens up so gas can go through, gas and fluid can go through. We'll say that sticks open. When I come in, and I look at it in the morning, and we'll say it was cold last night, okay? And it stuck open. Then I would notice that my tubing pressure is way down, it's at line pressure, when it should be at x, okay? So, it will show me that, that hey, that's a possible, that's a possibility that, that was a problem. So, that's my first key is to say, okay, I'm going to look at my run times, I'm going to look at the, I'm going to look at my tubing and say, hey, I've got a big differential here, that's a red flag for me.
Q. That's if something is not working, right?
A. That is correct.
Q. Now, if I'm going to look at the well, I'm not going there only because something is not working there, right? I'm just going there to maintain them passively, I think that's what you told me. Am I correct, that the operators are, operators are supposed to maintain their number of wells, whatever the number they may be, or I'm getting it wrong.
A. The operators are supposed to maintain the running wells.
Q. Then, am I correct, or?
A. That is correct.

Q. So, if I go in there and the well's running smoothly, what do I do, how do I? I understand, I understand, I don't have --
A. You don't have to go to every well every day.
Q. Okay, that's what I'm asking, okay.
A. No, it would, you don't, you don't have to go to every well every day. The requirement for us is to look at it as often as possible, but at least once a week.
Q. Once a week?
A. That is correct, and we can tell if it looks like it's running decent, by our system, okay? So, if there's something that's a little off, then we note it down, we train to note it down, and go forward.
Q. So, you do a sign-up sheet at each well that when I come in once a week that I sign in, and then you would know, the supervisor, that I was there?
A. No. A sign-up sheet?
Q. Like if I, if I'm supposed to go to a well which is working smoothly, and I'm supposed to go to the same well again next week, right? Any time, right?
A. Okay.
Q. So, how do you, the supervisor, know that yes indeed, I went and saw that well once a week, how would you know that, how would your rover know that?
A. I wouldn't. That's a trust, that's a trust matter with the operators.

Q. So, even the rover would not know that, that I went to a certain well.
A. No.
Q. Okay.
A. Only by the notes in the system. If they put notes in the system.
Q. Right, that means if I'm not there, there are no notes in the system.
A. Correct, I have no idea.
Q. Say something minor goes wrong, let's suppose it is shut in, and I'm supposed to close all these valves. I did that, and maybe I have forgotten something. I guess what I'm asking is, if I don't do something that I'm supposed to be doing, how would the system know? I'm not saying you as the supervisor, there is no way of knowing?
A. Unless it creates a differential in something in the system, that is not normal, from what we're used to looking at, then there's no way to know, that I know of.
Q. So, deviation, small deviation would not trigger anything
A. We try to train them to look for the deviations.
MR. CHHATRE: Now, I want to look at it -- can he give me the drawing?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Drawing off the shelf?
MR. CHHATRE: Yeah, photo drawing.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Here you go, sir.

Q. This is the well, I guess, closest to the ground zero building.
A. Is this the 6-14? Okay.
Q. I think it is number 14, that drawing.
A. I am -- that's only how I know it is that --
Q. Sure, that's why I'm asking you. So, when you came to work for the company, did you look at this well any time at all during your tenure?
A. I don't recall.
Q. Okay, are you required to visit all the wells at least some time in your tenure as a -- visit each well that you're responsible for, or you are not, in terms of expectations by the company?
A. As a coordinator, or as a --
Q. No, as at your level, as a, as a coordinator, you're not expected?
A. No, I am not, as far as I know, I'm not expected to go out to these at all.
Q. Are your role -- no, not issue. I said, are you expected to visit the wells that you are responsible for, at least some time or during -- I'm not even saying once a year. Are you expected to visit what you are responsible for, at any time, by the company?
A. I don’t know. I do not know.
Q. Okay. Is your rover expected to --
A. I don't know that either.

Q. Okay.
A. I do know it's the operators, the operator is the one that should be going out to those wells.
Q. Okay, now that's strange, because the operator is supposed to contact the rovers, see if there is a problem, the rover is supposed to contact you. But if you haven't seen the well, how will you be able to help? That's what I was really trying to find out. If you haven't seen the well, and I'm a rover, or I'm an operator, a rover hasn't seen a well, how can you guys help that person, is I'm trying to understand?
A. And the operator is the boots on the ground. They are the ones that are our eyes and ears, and they let us know, and we'll ask. If they come to me with an issue, I'll say, Okay, is this set up, do you have -- did you shut the valves, did you do this, did you do that? And they go, Yes. Okay, well then let's go take a look at it, and then we'll go out and look at it, if it's necessary.
Q. Now, this is a setup, this thing, the lines, and I'm not even going to attempt to name all these components. But is this a pretty normal setup for this region of the wells that you're responsible for?
A. Yes. So, any, most all of our wells, most of our wells look like this. If you didn't point it out that this was near ground zero, I wouldn't have been able to tell you which well that was.
Q. Okay. Now with this photo here, do you know all the

different components, with your well experience?
A. I do know most.
Q. Good. Can you -- Can you --
A. No, I know how the operation works.
Q. Okay, great. So, can you tell me, kind of walk me through what these different components are, and how this kind of thing functions, and what you typically expect your operators to look for?
A. Okay, so you have right here -- I'm sorry.
MR. AJIBOYE: No, you can write on this.
Q. You can go ahead and write it on this.
A. You want me to write it for you?
Q. Yeah, write down these different component for me, because I'm, you know, I went through this many times, and I probably always (indiscernible) when somebody explains it to me. This will be nice to have.
A. No worries. So, this right here --
Q. You just can write, it's not really --
A. I might -- I am not a good writer, I write like a doctor. So, this right here is your casing, okay? This is your casing set up, okay?
Q. (indiscernible) okay.
A. Inside of this is your tubing, which is this right here, actually. So, this right here is a lubricator, okay, do you want me to write the whole thing down?

Q. Yeah, yeah, yeah.
A. All right. This right here is a lubricator, this right here is your master valve. This is actually an orbit master valve.
Q. And what is the function of that?
A. This right here is your main shut in, so you spin it, and it has, and it pushes it in, like this, okay? And it kind of gives a seal. Okay, so that way, nothing downhole in your tubing can come up, okay, from your tubing.
Q. Which is this, here?
A. Correct, which is this up here, so the tubing is what brings your flow to sales, to our separators and sales, okay? So, this right here is your casing line, I'm sorry I don't -- Okay, so, this right here, this whole part right here is your casing line.
Q. Maybe you should have used a pen, is what I really think. See if it writes better.
A. It will, I just used pencil, because I -- no, no, no.
Q. (Indiscernible) You can scratch it. No, see, this pen's not working now. Here, this, I think this will work better. (Indiscernible) Please go back and write down these, because I cannot see your writing on this.
A. But, it's a paper. Is that better?
Q. Oh, that's a lot better.
MR. PRUNK: (indiscernible) that's where I keep them. (Indiscernible).
A. So, this right here is your casing, that's this thing right

here, the whole thing, okay? This right here is your master valve. This right here is your lubricator. And this is the --

Q. Okay, okay. Tube, right?

A. Lubricator cap.

Q. Okay.

A. Okay. This right here, what we call a dual flow. This right -- do you want me to name every piece?

Q. No, no, no. The key pieces that if I'm your operator, just write down the pieces that I should be looking for, the pieces which are important for the operation of the well. When we shut in, am I to understand these terms?

A. Okay, well when I'm in the field, I have them name off every part.

Q. Don't name every single part, but okay.

A. So, this is an inner casing valve, the inner casing valve is the closest valve to the master valve.

Q. Okay, and what does that do?

A. Okay? This is also an inner casing valve. These are, these will shut the casing, okay? So, you can still, even though you shut the master valve, you can still get casing, and that's what supplies our latch valves to open.

Q. Okay, pneumatics. They are pneumatic?

A. It's gas-driven. There are pneumatic ones out there, but it's all still open to the air. It's just -- so, this right here, this set up is, this right here is a Meco, and this is a

regulator.
Q. Okay, that, write down.
A. This holds the casing pressure back, and then allow you, set it to what you want it to go to.
Q. Okay, so it's a regulator, right, write that, regulator.
A. This is a, sorry, Meco reg. I have it right there.
Q. Yeah, that's good.
A. This comes down to and supplies your 1-inch supply line. This supply line goes to the separator scrub pot, which allows the separator to stay up, which usually, it's 35 pounds, 40 pounds, something like that. This right here is an R67, or a 67R regulator. It's a lower regulator than the Meco, it's usually up to about 35 pounds, and we regulate how high we want our -- how much we want our latch valve to open, to allow the flow to go through.
Q. From zero percent to 100 percent open?
A. Correct. So, if this is backed all the way out, this doesn't open, because it doesn't get supply through here. And then, I don't know what really else you want me to do. This is, this whole thing is called a tree. This my, this is a tubing, these are transducers, they are basically electronic gages. So, a tubing transducer. Down here you have, this one right here is a casing transducer.
Q. Okay, so that's going to monitor or signal the casing pressures, and all that stuff?

A. These two are what we see in our CygNet, in our automation, and on our screen.
Q. Automation, okay.
A. So, when we see it, remember when I said the latch valve stuck open? It's going to allow this, that means this stayed open, and all that pressure in my tubing is all down line, and it will, it will keep going until it reaches a sales line level, so, sales line pressure level. Once they kind of hit each other, and this is still open, it'll just stay there, kind of like, they just equalize.
Q. And what does that do, no product flows out?
A. Well, yeah. Once there's -- I mean, unless there's a sales line drop, then the tubing will drop with the sales line, otherwise it will just stay there. The casing, the casing, we can -- well, we'll go from that. So, anyway, you can still have, you have your casing pressure and then downhole it makes it come up as a U-tube into the tubing. So, that's where it counts your -- you'll get differentials. If we see 120 pounds here, sales line's at 120 pounds, this is at 600 pounds, we know that's a problem. So, that's a trigger, anyway. So, any other parts you want me to rattle off? This is my electronics right here, my io-slave.
Q. No, no, no. Okay, so we understand that this will only operate 30 minutes or something like that a day?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's what they were guessing, yeah.
Q. Yeah, roughly. I mean, not, I'm not holding you to the exact

time. But only a very short time a day, is that correct or do you know the --

A. I couldn't tell you.

Q. Okay, that's fine. But when the well is shut in, what happens? There's no product comes out, but you said something like the casing still has the product?

A. Yeah, you can shut --

Q. But that runs through your system?

A. You have, in this set up, I have one, this is a Balon ball valve, this is a ball valve, a half-inch ball valve, and then over here is, if I have a frontal, a back view on this --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There's the ball valve.

A. There is a ball valve right there, I do believe.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's showing them the ball valve.

A. So, you have three ball valves. There you go, that guy. You have one, two, and three valves off your casing. So, you shut this one, there's no casing that will go by. You shut this one, there's no casing that will go beyond this point.

Q. Okay. So, if all of this is open, then you are putting the product through 1-inch line?

A. Correct.

Q. According to.

A. Correct.

Q. But when I shut in the well, can I keep these open, if you are -- if I'm using your flow line, your one inch, what do you

call that line --
A. The supply line?
Q. Supply line. For a supply line product to go wherever it needs to be going to keep the system going on the separator, do these valves need to be open, or they can be closed?
A. No, the separator only needs to have a supply if it keeps going now and there's not enough runs on it. So, if it's not needed, it doesn't need to be open. The supply line is more like a backup.
Q. Okay, so I guess my question is, do you keep these open as a backup, or you keep those closed? It looks -- they look like a manual valve, see.
A. It is a manual valve. All three of those would be manual valves.
Q. So, if you need -- Right, so if for some reason you want to have the supply line provide the separator, or whatever, then somebody would have to come and open these?
A. Correct.
Q. So, you don't leave them open all the time?
A. No. Well your casing, in this sense, your casing should be open. Like, it should be open all the time, because you need to be able to get your pressure to here to open up your latch valve.
Q. Okay. So, which of these valves needs to be opened?
A. To do what, exactly?
Q. No, I mean the set up here you told me, you said this needs

to be kept open for this?
A. Correct. So, your casing, in order for your latch valve to open, you need pressure, so this comes from your casing, this ball valve would have to stay open, and it comes up here, and this valve would have to be open. This valve does not have to be open.
Q. Okay, okay, got it. So, those two at least, have to be open all the time.
A. Correct. In order for your latch valve to open.
Q. Open, right. But you can always override the automatic and go manually to open the latch valve, or you cannot do that?
A. One more time?
Q. Sure. For the latch valve, can, do they have a manual override, so even if --
A. We do have a manual override, and I don't have a --
Q. That's okay, I mean --
A. What they have right here, they have, right here there's thumb valves, we call them thumb valves, they're just little turning things, there. And what it is, is that there's a bypass. It has constant pressure on that bypass from this other line. Is that a better picture?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You can almost see it, behind that.
A. Yeah, it's this right here, okay? So, it's this right here, and here's both sides. So, one side comes from -- one side has constant pressure from this that line comes up and it goes over here, okay? The other side is this goes into what we call -- this

right here is your latch valve, basically your latch valve. This is -- when I'm saying latch valve. This is a motor valve, this is your latch valve, driven by pressure, when this says, hey, turn on it clicks, pops in there, and then this tells this to open, gives it the pressure, lets it flow through.

Q. And somebody at your -- what does it say directly here, now, CIO or whatever the station is will know -- if there's a signal?

A. Correct.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Io-slave.

Q. Yeah, io-slave.

A. This is a io-slave, and the term is input/output.

Q. Right, okay.

A. That's its job, it gets input from the RTU, and the RTU is a radio-transmitting unit back at the battery, and it sends it to here. It says, I want you to open, I want you to close, how long, so forth and so on.

Q. Okay, and this helps. Right now, I feel as if I understood. We'll see.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Maybe you could get out in the field, go ahead.

Q. So, especially this particular valve, because it operates so infrequently, is this reciprocal valves, they are, by your protocol or procedure, they are meant to be open, they are meant to be closed, what's your procedure? Or that's up to the operator?

A. A running well, these are open, okay? Because you have no way to open the latch valve without either one of these, whether the set-ups in here, or the set-ups out here, either way it's casing that's driving the latch valve opening, okay? With that closed, your latch valve won't open, so the well's not running. So, when we shut in our wells, we'll do that.

Q. Okay. But they'll be shut in without, only for 10 minutes, or something? When are they shut in, when would we shut in a well?

A. For a number of reasons. It could be because of nearby fracks, it could be that we, for a number of reasons. We wanted to, we're going to leave it shut in for 2 weeks to build pressure, it could be 100 reasons.

Q. Okay. So, a running well, so, what does a running well mean to you, then? If I were to keep the well closed for 2 weeks, this is shut in, but I'm using that well to pump my product out, do you consider that --

A. The well can't -- go ahead, sorry.

Q. No, no, that's it. Like I said, this well is putting gas out, but because, like the example you gave me, because there's no pressure built up, so you want to close this for 2 weeks, and get the pressure built up again, so you can put the gas out. Those 2 weeks, now, do you consider that well working well, or do you consider that well as not working well?

A. It's a non-working well for 2 weeks.

Q. Okay, so that time there for 2 weeks, do you close everything in this --
A. Not necessarily.
Q. Okay, that's what I'm trying to understand. These wells can't remain open, only this part of it.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).
Q. (Indiscernible), what is this component, I think he said pipe? He said casing, but tubing, I --
A. Yeah, tubing?
Q. Tubing, yeah. So, when you close, you, this valve, the tubing is closed, but the casing is open?
A. It depends on what the reason is for.
Q. That's what I'm asking. So, for 2 weeks, when you say, I want this shut in for 2 weeks, do you, I think you answered that question, that you don't keep all the valves closed.
A. It depends on what the reason is for. If there's nearby --
Q. I gave an example, like only for production, right?
A. Then no, I will, for production reasons --
Q. What would you do?
A. On shut-ins, I don't know what the operator is. We try to teach them to go ahead. And I would have shut the master valve in each valve.
Q. Okay, but leave the testing valves open, because you --
A. That, it just depends.
Q. So, that depends on the operator, how they want to do it, is

that (indiscernible) --
A. If they have a question -- if we say to go shut in the well, they'll shut a ground valve, and they can shut the master valve, and they'll shut the inner casing. Usually when they do it, there will be, it's a five-point system to shut a well in, to lock it out, and tag it out. And I will shut -- we have them, it's a five-point system. One, you have your inner casings, you have your ground valve, you have your master valve, and you have your 1-inch line, when you shut in a well.
Q. Everything is shut, okay. So, if you were to come back and start again, you open all this, five valves?
A. I would start, I would start it inch by inch. I have every valve closed, I open my master valve, make sure I don't have any leaks here, then I open these valves, and make sure I have no leaks up to this point. I make sure I have no leaks up to this point, and we just go piece by piece.
Q. Okay, and that's part of their training, so they don't really need a written instruction.
A. There is a written instruction out there for that, an SOP.
Q. Okay, and they are to carry that with them?
A. That is on their systems.
Q. Computer system?
A. Mm-hmm.
Q. Meaning, it's hard copy or computer, they, have it?
A. Right, it's in their Outlook.

Q. Outlook, okay, great. And that's all I have, thank you.

MR. AJIBOYE: This is Gbenga from --

MR. CHHATRE: Just one second, can you just mark down, and write down your name and today's date, signature, that way we can include that, write down exhibit one.

MR. OLEY: You want me to print and sign, or just sign and --

MR. CHHATRE: No, write down exhibit one, and your name, and sign it, so today's date. So, what will happen is, we'll attach that to your transcript.

MR. AJIBOYE: (Indiscernible) write here, on this.

MR. CHHATRE: You can mark any of that, we just want to give what he marked (indiscernible).

MR. OLEY: You would like today's date on it as well?

MR. CHHATRE: Yeah, pardon me?

MR. OLEY: Today's date?

MR. CHHATRE: Yes, today's date, yeah.

MR. OLEY: Can I have today's date, please?

MR. CHHATRE: 30, that's what, that I can tell you.

MR. OLEY: Oh, thank you. You think I'd know, since it was Tuesday, was a work day. Sir.

BY MR. AJIBOYE:

Q. So, this is Gbenga from PHMSA. Now, this well, you said is part of your asset, 0000, right?

A. In my area?

Q. Yeah, you as a supervisor, right, as a coordinator, are you

responsible? Is this well under what you supervise?
A. It is in my southern region, yes.
Q. And you are the supervisor -- coordinator for southern region?
A. Correct.
Q. And is this, does this well qualify for what you guys call STEM requirement?
A. STEM -- can you repeat, please?
Q. STEM, this is STEM, STEM program, right? What does that mean?
A. I know STEM. STEM is storage management. So, we can -- with the state, we had -- you can produce a certain amount of oil, and then once it reaches a certain point, then it's shut in.
Q. Okay, and is this, do you know if this well is part of, does it qualify for that, does it meet that requirement?
A. I can't tell you.
Q. Okay, okay, say for the purpose of conversation, say it qualifies, right?
A. Okay.
Q. And if it met that requirement, what do you do at that point?
A. We shut the well in.
Q. So, if you want to shut it in for STEM, what do you really shut off, here?
A. My personal opinion, I would do the five-point system.
Q. Which is?

A. I would have my, I would have my operator go out there and shut the master valve, the inner casing valves, the flow line, and make sure that the 1-inch is off.
Q. So, which way, say this is shut in for this time program, then it wouldn't be pressured for the casing?
A. It will not. And we blow down the wellhead.
Q. So, which way, if you do the automatic, for anything, for here?
A. It won't run. And then it's also put in manual mode in our system.
Q. Okay. And is that kind of shut down different from the regular shut down you do for say, 2 weeks, like he was talking --
A. It can be. Once again, the regular 2 week shut down could be for a number of reasons. It could be, like we said, a nearby frack, it could be for a number of reasons.
Q. So, which means the five-point shut down is actually more intensive than just regular shut down.
A. A five-point shut down is more intensive, yes.
Q. So, do you call your operator, and say, I need one point shut down, two point shut down, three point, you can --
A. No. Usually when it's a five-point shut down, it's a lock out tag out, which means we put locks on it, tag it out, we sign our names and phone numbers, and the reason why. So, that way, if a person comes over there afterwards, they can at least identify who, why, give them a call and say, I need your locks up, because

we're going to put it back under pressure, or whatnot. There is no one, two, three.

Q. Okay, so you also said that the supply line feeds the separate shrub, is that what you call it?

A. Scrub pot, we call it a scrub pot.

Q. Scrub? Can do you spell that?

MR. CHHATRE: S-C-R-U-B, probably.

A. That's what I'm going to go with.

Q. S-C-R-

A. P-O-T

Q. Okay, S-C-R-U-B pot, right?

A. Yes.

Q. But that's a backup, right? What really is the major, who has the primary feed to that separate scrub pot?

A. That would be your -- if I have a picture of a separator, I can help you with this.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We do not.

A. Then can I --

Q. So, what would be the main feed to that?

A. It would be, it would be a line that comes off of your, of your dry gas tower, on the separator. So, when a well runs, it produces gas, oil, and so forth and so on, it separates the water, the water, and the oil, but the gas goes up through a gas dryer, and it knocks out the fluids, and then it sends that dry gas to the scrub pot. That's your main source.

Q. On the main source, was that, is the 2-inch, can that be the main source to that scrub pot, your 2-inch supply line?
A. Okay, so my flow line?
Q. Yeah, flow line, is that where it gets the primary gas?
A. Correct. It comes up through here from the downhole it comes up through, down the flow line, and it supplies the separator.
Q. So, and then, the 1-inch supplements the system? Does the 1-inch supply line supplement the 2 inch to the scrub pot?
A. No.
Q. But you just mentioned that the 1-inch system, this one supply line goes to a scrub pot, that's where it came up, actually?
A. It comes up through the side of the scrub pot.
Q. In through the side, it doesn't supply it?
A. Correct, it comes in through the side of a scrub pot. It's only this far from the top of the scrub pot. Scrub pots are usually only about this big.
Q. Okay, so can that be a scrub pot? Oh, can you differentiate from a scrub pot that doesn't have a supply line input, is there, is there a way to tell that there's no 1-inch supply to that last scrub pot, in a separator unit, is there a way you can tell?
A. You can tell that there is no one inch supply coming into the scrub pot, from looking at the separator.
Q. Was there something specifically you have to look at?
A. Yes.

Q. And are the operators, are the operators, are they trained to know?
A. Yes.
Q. So, because in this configuration, right, it's a 1-inch, right?
A. Correct.
Q. But, will, but will the separator, will they have a differentiating characteristics from one without a one inch?
A. Yeah, so it will have a 1-inch line that comes up through the ground into what we call the dump house, and come down and in through the side of the scrub, that scrub pot.
Q. So, if you see, if you see a setup like this, with this one inch going into a particle separator, and you get to that separator, and there's no 1-inch, what would that normally tell you?
A. That I'd like to know where the 1-inch line goes.
Q. And has that been anything that has come up through your chain of -- so, nobody has ever had any problem with that, no concern about that?
A. I have not seen.
Q. For this particular setup? Okay, now the, okay, now the last thing. So, if this 1-inch line, for example, say let's, for the purpose of this conversation, right, say this one inch is supplying a separator, and there's a 1-inch riser, and there's a lid between the two 1-inch, is there a way, is there a trigger to

you guys to tell that this one inch is not supplying that separator what it should supply. Is there a trigger to do with that pressure as a problem?
A. Can you repeat it one more time?
Q. From what I'm learning from you, right, this 1-inch supply line should have a little riser at the separator?
A. It should have another line that comes out over by the separator, right.
Q. And there should be gas flow?
A. If this is open.
Q. If this is open. Now, if, what if that gas flow has not been supplied to that one, to that 1-inch riser, is there a way you guys can know?
A. If it's pulling, then it can be a block of ice.
Q. Well, is -- Okay, if there's a block of ice, is there a trigger to you guys to know that there is a problem?
A. Yeah, I mean that would say that hey, you know what, but that could be that this is turned up too high, your Meco. It could be that something was wrong with your, like a leaking valve at the separator, you know, as it was going in. It could be a number of things.
Q. So, would that be something that would give an operator a red flag to look at it again?
A. Correct, and that would have been to go ahead and shut the valve to see if it's shut, and then turn it. Once again, it could

have been here.
Q. Okay, and if such is done, would there be a work order to that effect?
A. I'm sorry?
Q. Would there be a work order to that effect, if --
MR. CHHATRE: Work, work order.
Q. A work order.
A. Oh. For the Meco freezing, or just --
Q. No, no, no, say we are assuming that I would say that there's a freeze in this one inch, would that trigger the system up to the point where there would be a work order to fix that problem?
A. I can't say. I mean, I would had to have looked at it first. I'd have had a rover go over there and look at it first.
Q. So, say that your rover comes to you now and says, hey, my operator told me that there's a freeze between this one inch, he's suspecting that. So, you as the coordinator, you would not require them to have a work order to do something on that, is that what you are saying?
A. No, because I can fix this up here. Now, if I get there and the valves are shut and I have something in here, downhole right here in this one inch, then yes, then there's a problem, and I'm having somebody come out. But right here, this I can take care of.
Q. So, how will you know that's it's something that -- So, how will you know that there's something downhole, how will you know,

how will the operator know, how will somebody know?
A. If after it's shut, and this is still frozen, that would tell me that there's a problem. Here.
Q. But you don't know if that's, but you don't know if that problem has come up on this asset, you don't know?
A. No.
Q. Okay, okay, that's the end of my question.
BY MR. LEONARD:
Q. You sure? It's Mike Leonard. So, you said that your operators look at their records every day, who looks at them when they're on days off?
A. We have either our rover or myself, another operator can help, the other field coordinator can help, the other rover can help, from the north.
Q. But there's somebody that looks at them?
A. We're all one team, yes. It can go all the way to the foreman, who can look, which is not normal.
Q. And would that person necessarily know if there's a problem? Can you look back far enough to see if there's, I mean, do you look back? Do you see just back the day before, or do you see a week before?
A. You can see, you can see back, usually you can see it from the life of the well, I can go back --
Q. But would you, I mean, would you look? How far back would you look? Like, so, let's just back up, this well didn't get

turned on until January whatever, you wouldn't look back a year, but you'd look back a week, week, and a half, probably, is that correct?
A. Yeah, give or take, sure. Depends on how long they're out. If they're only out a day, I would take a look at the last 2 days.
Q. Sure, okay. So, on this particular well, did you ever look, look at the records on it?
A. I don't recall.
Q. You don't recall? Okay.
A. It was a lower producer, they're -- it was down towards the bottom of the list.
Q. Sure, so it wasn't one of your high-priority wells?
A. Correct.
Q. Thank you. How much pressure does it take to fully open your latch valve?
A. About 25 to 30 pounds, 25 pounds.
Q. What happened if, what would happen if you didn't get that 25 to 30 pounds?
A. It would just creep open to about what it would allow -- as much pressure as it would allow to --
Q. So, it wouldn't fully open?
A. Correct.
Q. Would that potentially be a cause for loss of production?
A. It would slow it down, and it would stop, maybe stop the plunger from coming up on a regular run, yes.

Q. Okay, so, what's your typical, and I know every one of them's different, but your typical downstream pressure for your Mecos regulators?
A. I usually keep mine between about 40, about 45 to 50 pounds.
Q. So, downstream 45 to 50 pounds?
A. Correct.
Q. But it only takes 30 pounds to open your latch valve?
A. That's from the 67R regulator.
Q. Oh, I'm sorry, you're right, okay, that goes to -- all right, (indiscernible), thanks. So, when you said, back on the picture, you can fix this, and I, and I was sitting over here, but if you're talking about a freeze up in the stainless tubing, and things like that --
A. Correct.
Q. So, what would you do to fix that?
A. So, in turn, I'm shutting, I'm shutting, and I'm relieving the pressure that's in here, okay, from here to here, via the blowdown right here, or whatnot. Get my bucket underneath, make sure I have no fluids, whatnot. This will usually, I've pulled up on many of these, and it's a block of ice. And sometimes, they're turned all the way in. So, throughout time, and operator came in, it could have been a number of people that did this, okay? I would either get a heating blanket, I'd put it around, I'd use from my tailpipe, I'd go ahead and have a hose, and I'd heat it up, melt it off. I'd take it apart. I'd take out the cube on the

bottom. I mean, I would take this apart, I'd clean out all my lines, make sure they were good. I'd put it back, and make sure, piece by piece from here to here I'd make sure that I, it held pressure, and then I'd go ahead and make sure that I set it to where I want it.

Q. So, I mean, so just for everybody here's education, what kind of tools would it take to do that? Are we talking, is this --

A. Crescent wrench, no, crescent wrench, screw driver. It's a pretty simple procedure.

Q. The heating blanket you would have to -- how is that heating blanket operated?

A. So, it's like a thermal blanket. And all you do is it just velcros on the outside, so I would wrap it up in here, put a 2-inch heater hose to --

Q. Close enough.

A. Yeah, and I'd put it in here, and I'd let the heat from my exhaust go ahead and heat up inside the blanket. So, it will make everything pretty hot.

Q. Okay, so back it up just a little bit. You'd open the blowdown before you ever got to the heater? I mean, if you didn't see any indication of ice or anything? And so, if you, if you did -- how are you going to know that there's an ice block in there?

A. This will be an ice block.

Q. That will be an ice block?

A. On the outside. To the, I've seen them to the point, because

it may have leaked out of here, whatnot, and it will be to where I can only see -- you can see the formation, I mean, the form of it, the shape of it, but it will be, it will be, you know, a quarter inch of ice all the way around here.
Q. So, at that point in time, you would have to have your heater -- you would help it (indiscernible) --
A. You're right. I would make sure I've alleviated -- what I would do is blow it all down, okay? And this piece right here, specifically, to make sure I didn't have anything in here. And then I would make sure that I've shut everywhere I need to be, taken care that there -- the safe route. I don't have -- I don't want any gas present.
Q. Don't want any pressure?
A. Correct. And in turn, then I will go ahead, and I will take this apart, and then I will fix it accordingly.
Q. But, I guess, what I'm saying is that if you didn't, but if for some reason, you weren't able to get your heater blanket in there, how far would you go, just blow it down?
A. I would shut it --
Q. Let's say, I'm going to give you a hypothetical. Let's say it's muddy, and you can't get your well -- your well. The well all the way to your truck. Your truck all the way to the well for your heater hose, would you go ahead and blow it down?
A. That's, it just -- honestly at that point, I would probably have just shut it, and then I would have waited and come back to

it.
Q. Okay, all right. So, and you said you don't recall if you've ever seen this well?
A. Prior to this, I saw GPS, and I was there as a drive around in February, but I don't remember seeing -- I don't remember even what I did.
Q. Okay, a drive around, so you were just touring the field, basically?
A. Yeah.
Q. Just kind of getting a feel for where the wells were?
A. I went there for a reason on a weekend, and I don't remember the reason in that, to the separator.
Q. You went to the separator on the weekend?
A. Mm-hmm. I don't remember the exact reason why I was going there. But when I arrived --
Q. And obviously, you probably don't remember when, I mean, an estimate date?
A. Only from the GPS, which was my weekend, which I do believe was in February. I don't remember the exact date of it.
Q. Yeah, that's cool. We can look at those GPS records. And you went to the separator at the well?
A. Yeah, and I went there, and I noticed the 613 well, which is next to the separator, and that had a fence that was pushed in. There's an access road that goes from the main road, through to the residential area, and I had been passed there from residents a

few times. But that one, I noticed that the fence had been pushed, and so --

Q. At the well to the west, not this well?

A. Correct, yeah, this was, yeah.

MR. AJIBOYE: Okay, I have a follow up, can I?

MR. CHHATRE: Yeah, whatever you need.

MR. AJIBOYE: Okay.

MR. PRUNK: No.

MR. CHHATRE: Go ahead.

MR. AJIBOYE: Okay, this is Gbenga, again.

MR. OLEY: Can I get a water? I'm sorry. Wow, like five jumped -- can I get $100?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, no.

MR. OLEY: Just kidding. Thank you very much.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The water's pretty bad from the faucet.

BY MR. AJIBOYE:

Q. This is Gbenga again, from PHMSA, I just want to quickly do this for the log, before I forget. You said you went to the separator, physically?

A. No, I drove into, when I say the separator, I drove into the battery area.

Q. Well did you get into it? Did you look inside?

A. I do not recall.

Q. But you went to that vicinity?

A. Correct. What I saw that caught my eye upfront was the fence on the well 30 feet to the right.
Q. Okay, and you don't know the exact date that you went?
A. I don't remember the exact date.
Q. Okay, that's fine.
A. It was on my weekend to work in February.
Q. Okay, okay, and that's -- I just realized you gave that. Right, okay.
A. And I didn't even remember that until I saw, until somebody showed me the GPS, and I didn't even remember being there, it was minor.
BY MR. PRUNK:
Q. Prior to the event of --
MR. CHHATRE: (Indiscernible).
Q. Oh sorry, Doug Prunk. Prior to the event of the house explosion on the 18th, or 17th of April, did you know of any maintenance issues with this well?
A. No, just other than what, the 11th, when he had, when Stephen had approached me and said, Hey, I had, I had a freeze. And I said, okay. He said, I couldn't get in there. I said, okay. I said, let's go take a look at it, and we met. I said, I'll call you in a little bit, and we'll go ahead and meet out there. And that's the only time I remember being out there.
Q. Okay, so you've said a couple times that you hadn't been there except for February, but then now we're back there on the

11th?
A. No, short of -- and I apologize. I thought you meant, had I been there previous of this, okay, of the 11th. So, I was there in February as a drive around, as whatever was my weekend. I was there on the 11th, I don't recall the exact date, that's just what I was shown in the, in the notes from Stephen. In turn, yes, it was a -- he told me about it, and I was there. That's when I physically went to the well.
Q. Okay, so what, what type of, what did he explain it was, or what did he say he was having trouble with?
A. He told me at the office that he goes, I have a freeze. And I said, Okay. And so, I said, Did you close the valves? He goes, Yes, that I recall. And he said -- I said, I'll go ahead and meet you out there, I've got a few things to do, then I'll go ahead and give you a call, and I'll meet you out there. I called him, we met up at the separator, I noticed that the fence on the 613 was messed up again, and then I said, Okay, where's it at? And he said, It's over here. We went down Twilight, and I looped around. And I said, Where's it at? He said, It's across here. I said, Okay. We stopped, we each walked out there. I took -- He opened up the gate, or I did, either one, I don't remember. Quickly looked. I did not see any freeze. I said, Okay, you isolated it. My mind was on now, that you isolated it, my mind is on the access. I went around the south side of the well, I looked, I saw the walkway, and I said, well, where's your access? And I said,

Okay, I'm going to have to get with land. And I said, And we'll let you know. I said, I'm going to drive around the other side and see if I can get some access. And he goes, Okay. So, and that was the extent of my stay.

UNIDENTIFIED: You got in?

Q. So, just we understand a little bit, so can you explain what the access issues were with this, just for the record, so that --

A. There's construction to the south, of condos and such, and I think if I had a picture, I could show you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, no, we all, everybody --

Q. We understand, just --

A. You go down Twilight, they put grass, they put grass, and the well is, I do believe about 40 yards away from Twilight, the road, something like that. And that used to, from what I understood, that used to be our -- and that's what I was going to look at is that was going to be, that was our access road to get into that well. There was no way to get into the well unless you walked. Stephen said I have to walk, and I said, Well, let me go around here to find out. So, I went down and back to the west, and I don't remember if I went, where I went, if I went to county road 13 and back up and around, or whatnot. But I tried to get into where they were building the condos. The only access into the condos that I knew of. There was two construction trucks, one parked one way, the other parked the other, and there was a couple guys there. I said, okay, well maybe I'll go to the south. That

was going to the north, okay? And I said, well maybe I'll go to the south. I saw construction people down here, I said, I don't, I'm not going to pop a tire, because nails and such. And so, I went back, I sat here for a second to watch these guys and said, okay, well am I going to go through. I said, let me just go ahead and I'll find land, so I went on my way from there.

Q. So, basically in a nutshell, your land access that has been denied because of construction?

A. Correct.

Q. I mean, or somehow it got acquired by the construction (indiscernible) when they --

A. Correct, and usually when that happens, and we've had it happen many a time. Usually we'll go out there and the super out there will go ahead and go, Look, I need you to go this way to get there, or whatnot, and I was never notified of any other way in there.

Q. Had any of the operators, either the current one at the time, or the one before, ever made mention that they had a land issue, and it needed to be taken care of?

A. I don't recall.

Q. Okay. So, on the 10th or 11th, we'll go with whatever he, the pumper, Stephen, right, or Steve?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Stephen.

Q. Stephen, yes. So, he notifies you that it's froze up. Go back out the next day, meet him out there to go take a peek at it.

It's not froze up. How come there wasn't an attempt to either make those adjustments that we had talked about, previous, you know, that you said, If it's anything up here, I can kind of take care of that.? Or why, what else would we be needing, if we didn't need to have a truck blanket tailpipe scenario, we're not froze up, is it, is it standard to just leave it inoperable for a while until we've got the land agreement (indiscernible)?
A. On a lower, on a lower producing well, yes. I have to prioritize my area, and that is, that was a lower producing well.
Q. How long is, just by nature, I understand this is a lower producing well, how long is a, is it kind of an industry acceptable or maybe just Anadarko acceptable to leave a well not producing like that? Is there like a time? You know, even if it's low producing, money is money, right? So, is there a timeframe of going, well, we should really have any repairs try to be corrected within 7 days, or 5 days, is there a timeline that you shoot for, to get something going back in service?
A. Depending on the priority of the well. We are, once again, they're supposed to look at them once a week, if they can get there. And in turn they're -- I don't have timelines on these, we just take them case by case.
Q. Got you. Got it. You said that the only way to track physical interaction with the well is not, you know, eyes on, not just the computer interaction, is through notes, right, as a supervisor? Were there notes created before or after the freeze

up?
A. I just remember the one on the 11th that's in CygNet.
Q. So, I guess, is it the operator's job to try to get the land management figured out, or where, how does that fall in the hierarchy?
A. No, that would have been, that would have been me contacting either my foreman to help me out, or to go to land.
Q. Okay, and you would do that, or --
A. I unfortunately did not.
Q. Okay. So, even with, like, would, or did the operator put any notes for the 12th saying, Me and the boss were here, and we let it go, because of land management. Or was there any notes of the day that you guys went?
A. Honestly, I just remember him saying that he had to talk to the field coordinator, that's the note I remember reading.
Q. That he had to. So, that was --
A. He was going to get with the field coordinator to discuss.
Q. Okay. Do they make -- since it is -- just a real quick kind of follow up of the note thing, eyes on. Do they usually, if they've made it to a well, do they go, checked out okay, and just keep moving? Like, do they make a note every time they look at a well? Or can they do a drive by, they look at it, they check their thing, did exactly what their job is, but they just don't, there's no -- They don't give themselves credit for it, I guess is what I want to say?

A. Right. Some operators do, do that, and some don't. They might keep their own notes for that. It's kind of operator to operator.
Q. It's not policy to do that?
A. We try to ask them to put the best notes they can, if you've been there, it checks out, great. If you fixed this, tell somebody, because it shows that you are doing something.
Q. Doing something, yeah, it's giving them credit for their good work, okay.
A. Correct.
Q. But it's not a standard, it's not a requirement, or anything like that?
A. No, and I don't look at what they do on their everyday list.
Q. Okay, sorry one last one.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, you're good.
Q. You spoke about you know, you knew by GPS that you were there in February at the battery?
A. Correct.
Q. So, do we have a GPS system for all the operator trucks, or how do you --
A. As far as I know, Anadarko.
Q. Anadarko owns, so, Mr. Kern said that we have, what, 9 out of 10 operators are contract, so none of those vehicles are GPS, or you don't know for a fact, or you do know for a fact?
A. I don't know that they have GPS. Not through my system, I

can look at Anadarko employees. And I do believe he's right, there is one, one operator.

Q. Okay, all right, thanks.

MR. LEONARD: So, I've got a couple of follow-ups.

MR. CHHATRE: Okay, go ahead. So --

MR. PRUNK: Mike Leonard.

BY MR. LEONARD:

Q. Yeah, I'm Mike Leonard. I'm still going back to the, you went out there and you didn't see a freeze, and that's, I mean, okay, you didn't see anything frozen up, there wasn't a thought to try and cycle that well? I mean, bear with me, I mean, I've been in the field before, Hey, it's not like what I saw before, should we give it a shot? Should we try and see if it will run? Or should we try and see if we're getting gas? Should we see real quick if there's not an ice block, open the blowdown? Help me out, here.

A. On the 30 seconds to a minute at best that I was there, I looked, I remember looking here. I did not see any problems here. As for this, as far as, as far as I've seen, that he isolated it. And in turn, I don't remember, I don't remember the actual, if the, if the well could run, if it was low. I don't remember any of that, but I just --

Q. But there was never any discussion of, Well, hey, let's give it a shot?

A. We were going to revisit everything, because it was a low

producing well, we were going to revisit this, after we took care of land. So, once he isolated it, and then we would come back to it. Once I saw that it was isolated, I was like, Okay, I don't see any frost. I'm closed.

Q. Just real quick, when you say, isolated what valves did he close?

A. I don’t recall.

Q. You don't recall, okay. All right.

BY MR. AJIBOYE:

Q. This is Gbenga, again, not for long, because I was asking earlier, did you physically get to that well before the explosion? Because your clarification --

A. Yes.

Q. -- indicated you got there physically.

A. I did walk out there with Stephen, and I did look, quick glance, we opened it up. I saw that there was -- I remember that there was no freeze down here.

Q. Okay. So, which means that we can see Stephen saw a problem, that is what escalated him to the field coordinator, with this particular well, is that, would that be a right assumption for me to make?

A. Can you say it one more time, I'm sorry?

Q. That Stephen did see a problem with this well, that is significant enough to take it up to the field coordinator.

A. He did ask me about it, yes.

Q. And it was significant enough for you to be there, physically?
A. He just said to come out and take a look at it.
Q. And when you got there, you went to the separator, as well?
A. No.
Q. I thought that was --
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).
A. We met at the battery. So, the separator is fenced in, everything is fenced in. We met --
Q. Okay, okay. Oh, you didn't go inside, that was just, that was your meeting point, okay, that's okay.
A. No, no, correct.
Q. Then, so you were on this facility pre-11th, is that correct?
A. I don't recall, I'm just going off of what the notes were.
Q. Okay, and aside from trust, say you have a x number of foreman, and field operators, that are contracted out. They are required to visit these wells. What if these operators are making up, they are sitting there in their living room, making up notes. How do you hold them accountable, as Anadarko, aside from saying you trust them? Say they're just making up this note that, I visited this well, and they do not, how do you know? Because you're paying them, right, to do this job, right? So, is there a accountability issue with -- who's making sure your operators are physically on that facility?
A. It's, I can't answer that, honestly. I am looking at it as

trust.
B. So, but if you have to make a decision to address this trust issue, what will you do to address it? Potentially now, you guys just depend on trust, right now. So, if you have to put one more layer to their accountability to you, aside from trust, what would you think that should be as a field coordinator? How do you think you can hold your people more --
A. I want the notes in the system saying you were there.
Q. Every day, right?
A. When you went somewhere, you tell, you put in the system, so everybody can see it. Because if you don't know if you're going to be here tomorrow or not.
Q. So, regardless of whether or not you did something?
A. Even if you walked up and said, I just went, did a walk around, looks good, no leaks, no whatever., and you put that in the system, that tells me that you were there.
Q. So, but that's not even a requirement right now as it is, right?
A. We ask them to, but it doesn't always happen.
Q. Okay, anyway, that will be the end of my question.
MR. CHHATRE: David (indiscernible), you?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No questions for me, thanks.
BY MR. CHHATRE:
Q. Couple quick questions, going back to just the freezing, or icing, or whatever it may be. If nobody paid any attention to it,

and it just stayed, what consequences it could have, eventually? Probably (indiscernible), I mean, I'm not saying it would happen, I'm saying, what would that will entail as a problem for that well?

A. Usually if it freezes over, it does not let any gas go through, because it's frozen inside. So, the consequences could be that the well didn't run, because the latch valve didn't open, or something like that. That's the first thing that I noticed, that if the Meco is frozen, there's no gas going through.

Q. And will the system then get alerted that something is not going through?

A. It will show in the sense that the well did not open and close like it's supposed to.

Q. But that should be -- I guess what I'm saying is, will the computer get some kind of alarm, saying, problem here? So, unless somebody goes and looks at the system themselves, they will not even know that there is no problem going or -- I just don't understand why so much focus on icing, what can cause the problem? Or what the problem will result into, eventually?

A. There's a number of them. But my first thought is that the Meco could be, it could have been turned in too far, it was pulling from one side --

Q. No, I'm not asking why, though. I'm saying it's frozen, but you don't correct the problem, what that will result into?

A. Honestly, I haven't had any issues like that in the past,

that have done any more than just freeze and stop gas from flowing, so I couldn't tell you.
Q. So, even if you, I guess, I'm just trying to understand some of these problems here with this frozen line, or frost on the line, if you are not to do anything to it, the problem will eventually go away, or will it, or will it have no effect on the well? I'm just trying to understand what would happen if I don't take this action, what will happen? Did I answer the question correctly, or you're not sure?
A. If it's isolated, then there shouldn't be much of anything that happens. If it's not isolated, I still have a freeze, and it's not going through. So, I don't know the consequences after that, because I would see that it's frozen, there's no gas going through, I haven't --
Q. The gas is not going through, what could happen to the well, I guess maybe that's a better --
A. The latch valve will not open, because this is what's supplying this, in turn supplies this. It won't open.
Q. Okay, so the latch doesn't open
A. So, it will show us in the system that there's no run --
Q. Meaning what?
A. We won't see a drop in pressure, we won't see anything. That will tell us to go to the well.
Q. No run means no gas is getting pushed from the well?
A. That your valve is not opening, therefore it gives us a

reason to go to the well.
Q. Okay, and how will that get flagged in your -- and I forget -- in your system? I think -- I guess what I'm saying is, how will the operator, you, or somebody at Anadarko will know that there is a problem at this particular well, the gas is not going through? Audible alarm, electronic alarm?
A. No, at that point there's no telling that, that is a freeze, or anything. All I'm seeing is that my flag is in the system, that says that I don't see a run, I don't see a drop in pressure, when it's supposed to run, so forth and so on.
Q. No, I understand that. But if you don't -- let's just say you're on vacation, or you are busy. If you don't look at that system, physically, how will the system contact you, saying, hey, hello, that kind of thing? Or there's no system like that?
A. I don't -- I'm not going to get an alarm on that. It's just looking at my screen and noticing.
Q. Okay, so if you don't look at the screen you will, you will not know that nothing is coming out.
A. No, yeah, if you don't look at the screen, no.
Q. I mean, there is no alarm, is I'm saying, okay. But I guess on the extreme end, nothing harmful would happen to the well, except it stops producing for you?
A. Yeah, there's no -- I wouldn't see any issues. But I haven't had anything like that happen, I've just had them freeze, and no, the well sits. It just sits idle. It keeps building pressure in

the casing.
Q. I understand. Yeah, that's all, today. I just wanted to make sure what would happen.
BY MR. AJIBOYE:
Q. You want to do it? So, Gbenga again, but not for long. Are you familiar with this document?
A. Your gas total, casing pressure.
Q. Are you familiar with this reading?
A. I've seen this recently.
Q. So, is this part of, as a field coordinator, are you required to, as a field coordinator, are you required to be able to interpret this, if you see it in the office?
A. On a screen?
Q. Yes.
A. Yes, I can, I can read it.
Q. Okay, if you read it, can you interpret it into some green hat guy, who doesn't know, some new hire that just comes and asks you, Hey, can you walk me through the significance of this thing?
A. I can tell you the days that it made gas, the days it didn't, and the pressures.
Q. Okay, can you walk me though what was going on, say, I don't know, I don't know your system, but start from 3/21, right? Can you walk me through a trend from -- is there something I can read into any of this, that you can explain to me?
A. Well, I can tell, I can tell you that, if this is me looking

at it, I'd say that right here, it would have probably been something. Right here, it's running maybe one time a day, maybe twice a day, and then right here it missed. I don't know, I don't see the screen, I'm just giving, this is a 10,000-foot overview.
Q. Okay, so on the 4th, you think it missed, right?
A. It might have missed. It didn't run for one reason or another.
Q. Okay.
A. However, it happened, it could be loaded, it could be anything. Tried to run again, did it again. As far as I'm concerned, this is a normal run. These two would be normal runs.
Q. So, that's the second, and the --
A. Again, this is just an overview, I'm not, I don't know. So, it looks good. In turn, these could be settings, the reason they're off, it could have been put in manual mode by the operator, it could have, a number of reasons.
BY MR. LEONARD:
Q. Okay, what -- So, this is Mike Leonard. So, you say it could have been put in manual. When is it -- I know you can't tell, but on the 1st, or --
MR. AJIBOYE: When do you think that --
A. This is a date, this would be, so on the 4th, this would have been put in manual. Usually it's 6:00 AM to 6:00 AM is the run times, it depends.
Q. Yeah, we understand that there's a different allocation.

A. Yeah, so if he put it on manual at 6:30, and it hadn't ran, or at 7:00 in the morning, and it hadn't ran yet, then it's going to show zero gas for that day, if it doesn't turn back on.
Q. I'm sorry, what day do you -- and you don't know for sure, but it's zero that day, and what day?
A. I don't know for sure. On the 4th. So, to me, he would have put it in on the 3rd, I'm sorry, on the 4th. I don't know, honestly, I don't know.
BY MR. AJIBOYE:
Q. No, skip it. Okay, let's keep going down, just moving down, go ahead.
A. Maybe tried to run it again, here.
Q. On the 6th?
A. Automatically.
Q. State the date, please.
A. On the 6th, sorry. Maybe tried to run it again, here, enabled it, it said the pressures are climbing, once again, I don't know, okay? Yeah, they were climbing. Tried to run it again, no big deal. Shut it, put it in manual again, and --
Q. On what day, what day did he put it in manual again?
A. Sorry, put it in manual again, he would have tried to run it on the 6th, put it in manual on the 6th. Because, then there's nothing again until the 12th.
Q. So, then what happened on the 12th?
A. It looks like it may have made a run.

Q. On the 12th?
A. On the -- If I'm looking at 10,000-foot overview, this looks to me like it would have tried to have ran.
Q. Then what happened on the 13th?
A. On the, on the, and once again, on the date, it would have ran on the 11th or 12th.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 11th or 12th.
Q. Then after 12th, what will have happened again, just you looking at this, keep going.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: After the 12th.
A. If it, to me it's just, it's just not running. Either it was in manual mode, shut in, it could have been anything, because my pressures are building.
Q. So, are you -- who is required to look at this daily run?
A. This is your operator would look at it in the system.
Q. This is what they look at in their system, every day before?
A. Correct.
Q. That's what triggers, this thing means something right? And if you are field coordinator, and your operator comes to you, are you required to check this daily run report?
A. No, if they come to me, am I going to look at it? I'm going to look at the history. If he, if he comes to me with a specific reason, then I'd look at the history.
Q. Say just in like, this case, he said, I think there's a freeze, a froze in this line.

A. That wouldn't --
Q. So, with this kind of data, would that have triggered him to think there's a freeze somewhere?
A. No. I mean, possibly here. But I am looking at it like he put it in manual. It depends on what the operator tells me, or I'll go in and look at the notes, or I'll go and investigate.
Q. So, whatever the situation that would require you to leave your office to physically go close to the well for like 30 seconds, wouldn't that trigger you as a coordinator, to look at this daily run? I'm just curious, like would that not be something that would come to your mind, like, hey I need to check this from this well, before I eventually will get close to it?
A. Not all the time.
Q. Okay, now, another thing, you said, you made a statement, you said you had the land issue, and say, assuming nothing has happened. You say you would have revisited this well to deal with the land issue, right?
A. I'm sorry, one more time?
Q. So, you said when you got there, there was an access problem to the well?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Access.
A. Access problem, okay, yes, sorry.
Q. And that's something you'll have taken care of, it should have been on your priority list to solve the problem, right?
A. It would have been, and yes, I should have taken care of

that.
Q. What kind of timeline would you have taken care of it?
A. With everything that's on the plate, I would have had to have taken -- I should have taken care of that in the next day or two.
Q. So, we can say it's an oversight that you didn't go back to?
A. It could have been 100 different things on my plate the rest of the day.
Q. Okay, I am just trying to -- and that's --
A. This would have been something that could have triggered in my head the next morning, talked to land.
MR. LEONARD: I've just got one last question. If that, if that well was isolated, how did it run on the 11th or 12th?
MR. OLEY: And I can't tell you that. I don't know.
MR. LEONARD: You don't know?
MR. OLEY: I'm just going off the 10,000-foot overview.
MR. LEONARD: Yeah, I get it.
MR. PRUNK: One last follow-up. Sorry, that's Prunk, and I think I'm almost at the end of my green helmet, so I want some credit for that, but I just want to be done with this whole process. Anyway, just on the automation, I understand the difference between manual and automatic, I've been versed in that a little bit, but can you, when you really physically go back to manual, does manual still mean that it has to be done from a computer, or can it be done at a well site in the box, at all?
MR. OLEY: It could be done in the RTU as well, on some

systems.

MR. PRUNK: RTU?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's the box.

MR. OLEY: That's at the separator.

MR. PRUNK: With the battery, everything in that kind of --

MR. OLEY: Yes, but on some systems, if it's an older system, they don't have that manual option.

MR. LEONARD: And this is Mike Leonard, but on this one, someone could go open that thumb valve --

MR. OLEY: And run the well.

MR. LEONARD: And run the well, correct?

MR. OLEY: Correct.

MR. LEONARD: Because there is the manual, there is a manual in the automated system, and then there's a manual physical override.

MR. PRUNK: A manual lock down. A mechanical.

MR. LEONARD: Mechanical.

MR. OLEY: Correct, and that will supply gas to open the manual thumb valves.

MR. PRUNK: And any one of those, Doug Prunk again, any one of those would be traceable through the automation system, to the CygNet, right? Is that what you guys called that? Or what's your automation --

MR. OLEY: No.

MR. PRUNK: So, if somebody used a mechanical thumb valve, as

we just said, would it show up in the computer as a run, could it, would it track it?

MR. OLEY: It will go through, it will go through the sales meter, which is what I'm believing this is counting, okay, this is what I'm seeing. But it's not going to show it to the well in CygNet, because it wasn't turned on in automation. So, in order for it to count the gas in that, it has to show that it was on. So, if there, if the well is in manual, and it's thumb valved, you can see it in the meter, but you won't see it in CygNet. That's how we do it.

MR. PRUNK: (Indiscernible). Okay, no that's -- thank you, I appreciate that.

BY MR. AJIBOYE:

Q. This is Gbenga, one last -- I promise, this is my last one.

MR. CHHATRE: Just, why do you say last, just ask the question.

Q. So, as a field coordinator, do you guys have asset audits for your wells? Do you guys do audits on your wells? You know, you have about 500, 850 wells, right? Is that from the field operator going in there, as in the office, do you guys at a point say, Okay, in order to take accountability for all the wells we have, somebody has to go physically see that those wells are still there., aside from your field operators?

A. Not aside from the field operators. They have well tests that they do. And a well test is to measure how much gas and oil

it makes, and that does not actually require going to the well. But other than that --

Q. Okay now, if the rover is training a field operator, which is new, right? And the rover comes across, say, for example, this 1-inch line. There's a 1-inch line, just supply line here. Is that not an issue, should that not be part of the training, for the rover to tell the new operator that, If you go to the separator, you should be seeing a 1-inch line.

A. Yes.

Q. And do you think that was done, in the case of when this operator was then trained? Do you think that would have been something that will have come up in the course of the training?

A. I would, I would hope so.

Q. Because I think now we know that there's no one is --

A. I do it when I train.

Q. Okay, so and it should have been the rover's responsibility, or whoever is training the operator, to say that, There's a 1-inch riser here, oh, that's the one, that riser, there. Oh, maybe I need to explain something else do you, don't I?

A. In our training, we would ask them, we would say, What is this, and where does it go?

Q. Okay.

A. And then, when we go to the separator, we would say, What is this, and where does it come from?

Q. Okay.

A. And that's how we would train them.
Q. And who trained, do you know who trained the operator on this particular well?
A. I do not.
Q. I thought you mentioned --
A. Who trained the operator?
Q. Of this, for this time. On this time, as of April, whoever the operator, that is responsible for this well. You are the field coordinator, right?
A. Correct.
Q. And you know the operator that is responsible for this well, right?
A. So, Stephen Heideman is the operator for the well.
Q. Do you -- all right, do you know who trained Stephen?
A. I, when I, when I came on it was January 23, I do believe that he was training with Curtis Harvey.
Q. Curtis Harvey.
A. Curtis Harvey.
Q. All right, that's --
A. And he is a -- he was an APC employee.
Q. Okay, an Anadarko employee, that's what I meant.
A. Correct.
Q. Okay, okay, that's it.
MR. CHHATRE: Anybody has any questions?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

BY MR. CHHATRE:

Q. Okay, I'm just going to ask you -- I don't believe nobody asked.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You tell him.

MR. AJIBOYE: You need to talk to him. (indiscernible) No.

BY MR. CHHATRE:

Q. I guess you have one employee, and other subcontracted employees, in terms of inspectors?

A. Contractors in my area?

Q. Yeah.

A. I have one employee, yes, one Anadarko employee.

Q. And everybody else, everybody else is contractor?

A. And the rest of them are contractors.

Q. Do you have any requirements of the outfit that's providing you contractors, that the contractors should have this educational background, this experience, or something like that?

A. That is all done through a separate foreman.

Q. Sure, but I mean, are you aware of what is -- somebody is coming to you, do you know what your requirements are? That these men are going to be working for you, that's, you see where --

A. No, my foreman says, You're getting a new person. And I say, Okay, and then I send my rover out to him, and say, Go find out what he knows, and report to me

Q. Okay, okay.

MR. CHHATRE: Fair enough, that's all for me, and before

anybody has any more questions, I will, I will say thank you for coming, and appreciate you spending Saturday with us.

Off the record.

(Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)

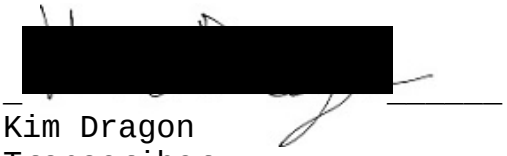
CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:	HOUSE EXPLOSION IN FIRESTONE, COLORADO, APRIL 17, 2017 Interview of Scott Oley
ACCIDENT NO.:	DCA17FP005
PLACE:	Longmont, Colorado
DATE:	May 13, 2017

was held according to the record, and that this is the original, complete, true and accurate transcript which has been transcribed to the best of my skill and ability.



Kim Dragon
Transcriber