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April 25, 2003

Honorable James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
State of Louisiana
Post Office Box 44275
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4275

Re: APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

Hosston Formation, Reservoir A; and Cotton Valley Formation, Reservoir A; BETHANY-LONGSTREET FIELD, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

EL PASO PRODUCTION COMPANY ("Applicant") hereby respectfully applies for a public hearing to consider evidence relative to the issuance of Orders pertaining to the following matters relating to the Hosston Formation, Reservoir A, and to the Cotton Valley Formation, Reservoir A, in the Bethany-Longstreet Field, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana:

1. To authorize Applicant to drill, designate and utilize an additional alternate unit well for CV RA SUDD at the location shown on an attached plat, in lieu of the location for such well approved by Office of Conservation Order No. 289-J-18, effective December 17, 2002.

2. To authorize Applicant to drill, designate and utilize three (3) additional alternate unit wells for CV RA SULL at the locations shown on an attached plat.

3. To authorize Applicant to drill, designate and utilize four (4) additional alternate unit wells for CV RA SUMM at the locations shown on an attached plat.

4. To authorize Applicant to drill, designate and utilize an additional alternate unit well for HOSS RA SU15 at the location shown on an attached plat, in lieu of the location for such well approved by Office of Conservation Order No. 289-A-52, effective May 21, 2000.

7. To approve exceptions to the well location provisions of Office of Conservation Order No. 289-J, effective March 1, 1974 (applicable to the Cotton Valley Formation, Reservoir A), and Office of Conservation Order No. 289-A-g-3, effective October 7, 1977 (applicable to the Hosston Formation, Reservoir A), for the locations of any of the proposed wells, as shown on the attached plats, which do not comply with the well location provisions contained in such Orders.

8. To find that each of the proposed alternate unit wells is necessary to efficiently and economically drain a portion of the hydrocarbons underlying the unit on which it is proposed to be drilled which cannot be efficiently and economically drained by any existing well on such unit.

9. To permit the Operator of the units on which these alternate unit wells are proposed to be drilled to produce the allowables assigned to such units from either the unit well, any alternate unit well, or from any combination of such wells, at the option of the Operator.

10. To consider such other matters as may be appropriate and justified by the evidence presented at the hearing.

The Hosston Formation, Reservoir A, in the Bethany-Longstreet Field, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, was initially defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 289, effective October 1, 1954, and was further defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 289-A-g-2, effective April 14, 1977. The Cotton Valley Formation, Reservoir A, in the Bethany-Longstreet Field, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, was initially defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 289-J, effective March 1, 1974, and was further defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 289-J-1, effective April 14, 1977.

Pertinent data concerning this application is available for inspection at the offices of Louis Gilbert & Associates, Inc., 3636 North Causeway Boulevard, Suite 204, Metairie, Louisiana 70002-7216. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Louis Gilbert at (504) 834-8112 during normal business hours in order to arrange a date and time for such inspection. A copy of any such pertinent data which is not otherwise available from the Office of Conservation can be obtained from Applicant at the expense of the requesting party.

As provided by the Revised Rules of Procedure, the subject matter of this application does not require the issuance of a pre-application notice; therefore, no such notice has been issued.

Applicant will provide for posting of a copy of the Legal Notice of this hearing, and the enclosed plats, at a prominent place in the area affected and will cause publication of the Legal Notice in a newspaper published in the general area of Bethany-Longstreet Field, all in accordance with the Revised Rules of Procedure. Furthermore, Applicant will mail a copy of the Legal Notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties promptly upon receipt of the Legal Notice from the Commissioner.

Finally, enclosed herewith is our check payable to the Office of Conservation covering the application fee.

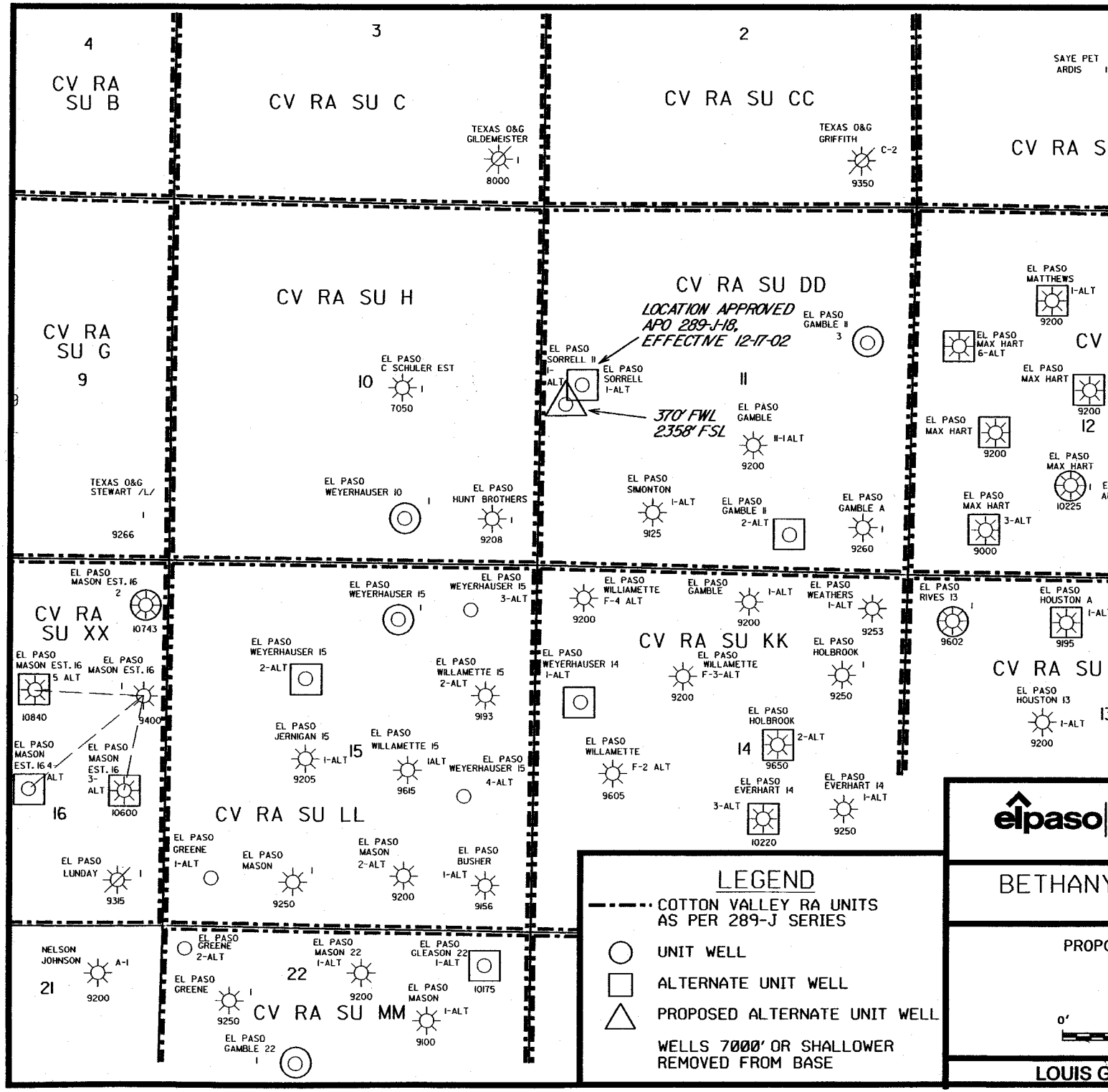
Yours very truly,

David L. Smelley

-- Attorney for El Paso Production Company

DLS:dp
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jim Broussard (w/encls.)
Mr. Deborah Null (w/encls.)
Ms. Shirley Galik (w/encls.)
Mr. Louis Gilbert (w/encls.)
Interested Owners, Represented Parties
and Interested Parties (w/copy of plats only)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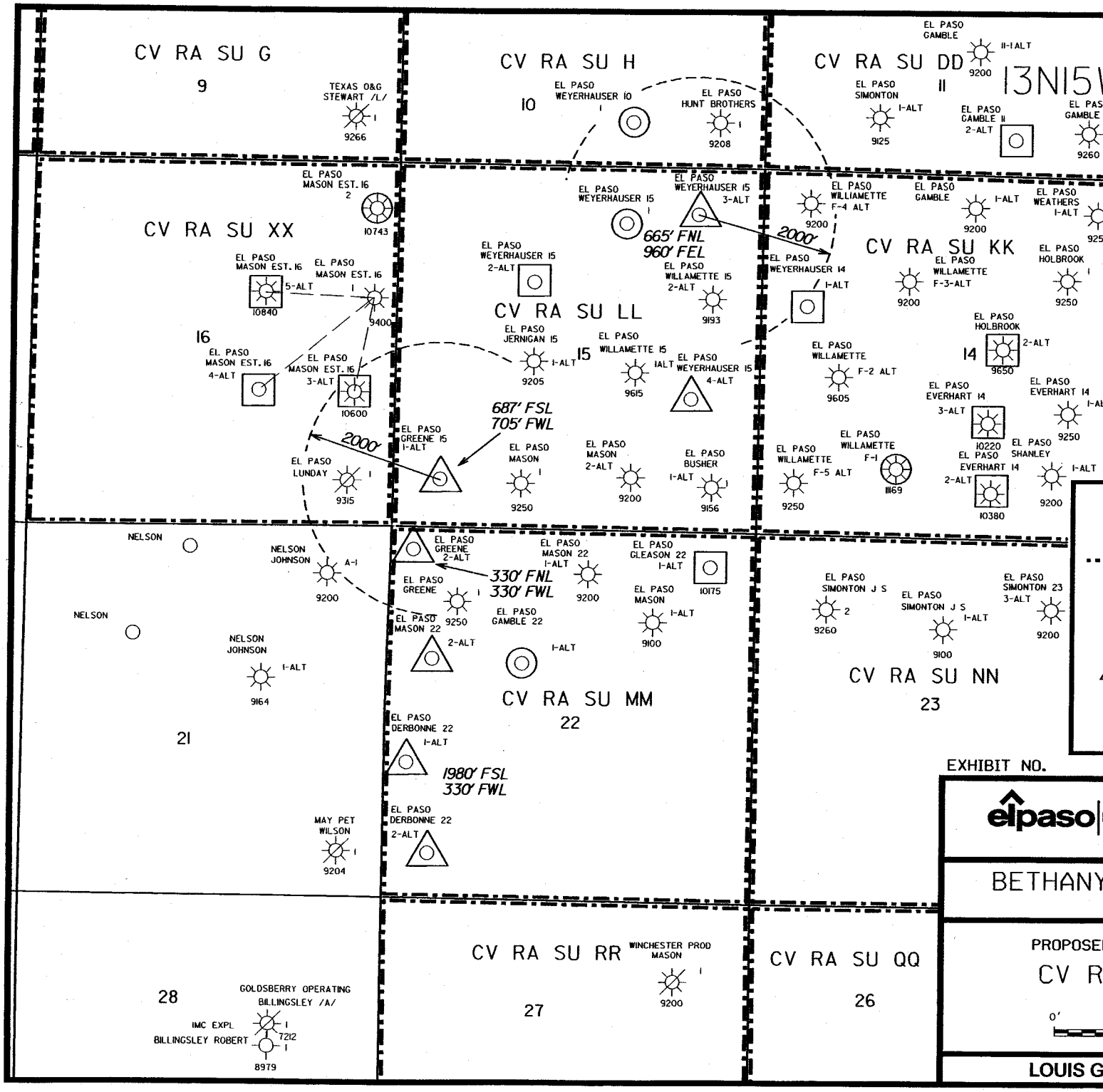
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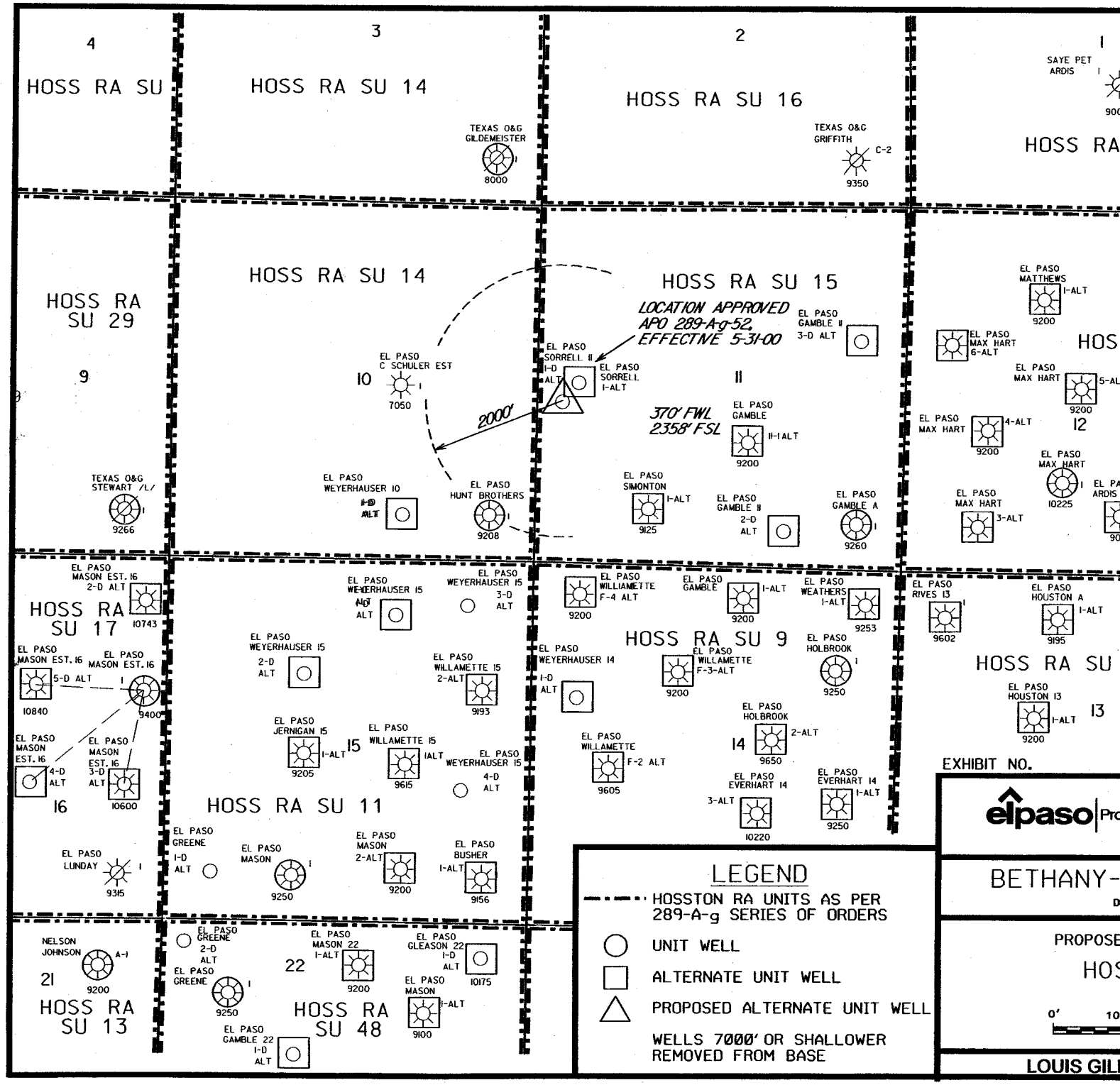
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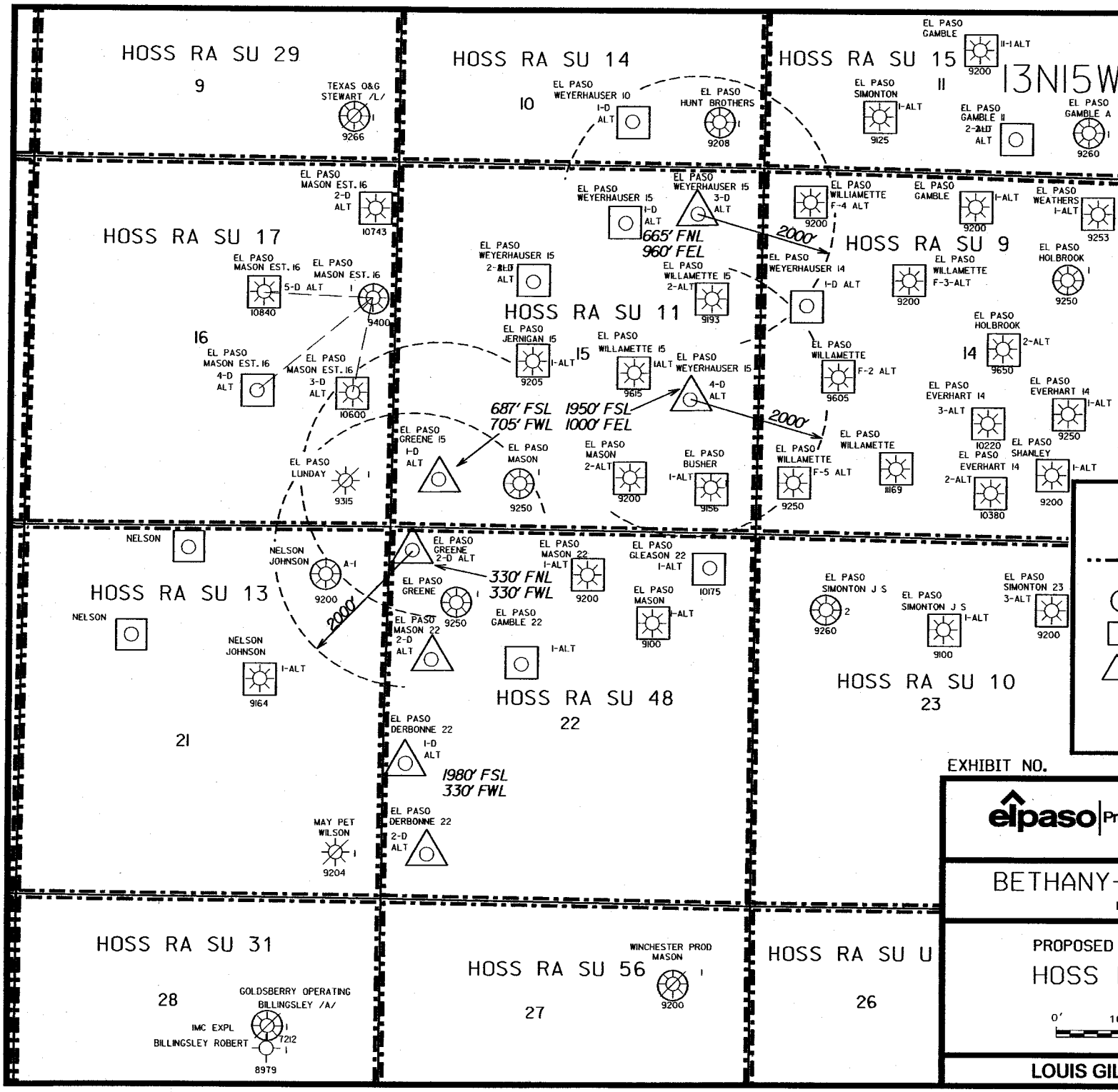
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