CA NO

#### MERIDIAN OIL

January 25, 1993

Bureau of Land Management 435 Montano Road NE Albuquerque, NM 87107

Attn: Shirley Mondy

Well File

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OIL COM. DE

RE: Lindrith Unit NP # 68
Sec 07, T24N, R02W
Bradenhead Gas Flow

Attached are the sundry notices, correspondence, & cased hole logs filed concerning the above well's bradenhead gas flow. Meridian Oil has spoken with Charlie Gholson of the Aztec NMOCD office & Duane Spencer of the Farmington BLM office concerning this well. Due to the responsibility change of this lease to the Rio Puerco BLM office, I am notifying you of Meridian's intent to vent the bradenhead gas to atmosphere. I hope that you will concur with this course of action on the Lindrith Unit NP # 68. Gas volume to be vented will not exceed 5 MCFD. I have summarized the actions & correspondence to date below:

Charlie Gholson contacted MOI in early November 1992 concerning possible gas communication from the Meridian operated Lindrith Unit NP # 68 to a nearby livestock water well owned by Mr. Durham. On Wednesday November 4, 1992 the NMOCD represented by Charlie Gholson & Dianna Fairhurst witnessed the bradenhead tests conducted by Meridian Operations personnel on three (3) Lindrith Unit Pictured Cliffs producers: Lindrith Unit NP # 68, Lindrith Unit # 49, Lindrith Unit # 94. (Attached Test Reports).

The NMOCD concluded that the production casing was <u>NOT</u> in communication with the bradenhead or surrounding formations for each well tested. Due to the location of the Lindrith Unit NP # 68 in relation to the above mentioned water well, Meridian suggested that the casing be tested and cased hole logs run to determine the gas flow source. The two objectives of the operation were to determine if the Pictured Cliffs formation was flowing gas behind the 5-1/2" casing & cement to surface, and second to verify the production casing integrity.

The Lindrith Unit NP # 68 production casing was successfully pressure tested to 700 psi from a depth of 3345' to surface on November 20, 1992. On November 21, 1992 a GR-CBL-CCL was run from 3300' to surface. The log indicated 100% cement bond from 3300' to 2930' with the top of cement (TOC) apparent at 2886'. Additionally 100% cement bond was indicated from 2152' to 2030'. TOC was apparent at 2028'

An Audio log was also run from 3300' to surface to identify the source of gas flow. No gas flow was apparent behind the 5-1/2" casing & cement from the Pictured Cliffs formation. The Audio log does indicate the gas flow source to be between 252' and 222', with major gas movement at 232'. This gas source is a shallow sand that is not economically productive. The bradenhead valve was then closed and the Audio log rerun in order to identify potential gas cross-flow above the TOC @ 2028'. No crossflow was observed.

Meridian has returned this well to production. A seven (7) day shut-in casing pressure of four-hundred-sixty-eight (468) psi was measured on December 31, 1992. Current gas production is averaging 17 MCFD. Current shut-in bradenhead pressure is twenty-two (22) psi.

Page 2 Lindrith Unit NP # 68 01/25/93

Meridian proposes to vent the bradenhead gas to atmosphere in the hope of draining the surface sand of gas and thereby eliminating future gas production from this interval in surrounding bradenheads. The alternatives to this action were also evaluated. Placing a cement plug to cover this surface gas sand would be imprudent & uneconomical from Meridian Oil's view. First, the gas pressure will not be relieved from this sand and gas may continue to migrate to other nearby wellbores presenting a future bradenhead flow liability. Second, Meridian estimates the cost of placing this cement plug to be \$28,000. At current prices & forecasted gas production rates this alternative is not economically feasible. If the BLM does not concur with the Meridian Oil & the NMOCD, there is no other economic alternative than the plugging and abandonment of this well. The result of a plugging decision would be the abandonment of this and many future wells when bradenhead flow is encountered.

I would like to stress that Meridian is continuing to act in a proactive nature on the remediation of all potential liabilities. Meridian's venting to atmosphere of shallow sand gas out the Lindrith Unit NP # 68's bradenhead would set a precedent that may be followed in other areas that pose minimal threat to the environment. Meridian Oil will aggressively pursue all potential liabilities and act in the most prudent & ethical manner.

The NMOCD is in agreement that relieving the pressure from the bradenhead of the Lindrith Unit NP # 68 may reduce/eliminate gas production in the adjacent livestock water well. Meridian estimates the bradenhead flow to the atmosphere at a rate less than 5 MCFD. The attached sundry awaits your approval. If I can provide additional information concerning this proposal, please call at (505) 326-9792. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Arden L. Walker

Regional Production Engineer

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TEM:tem
attachments
cc: (without Well Logs)
Charlie Gholson -Aztec NMOCD
Peggy Bradfield
DBV
KFR
Well File



# STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

### OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION AZTEC DISTRICT OFFICE

10:00 RIO BRAZOS ROAD AZTEC, NEW MEXICO 87410 ISOSI 304-6178

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STATE OF NEVY MICHIGO



#### ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

#### OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION AZTEC DISTRICT OFFICE

1070 RIO BRAZOS ROAO AZTEC, NEW MEXICO B<sup>1</sup>/410 ISUSI 304-6178

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JAADENHEAD TEST REPORT

(Submit 2 copies to above address)

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# ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

#### OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION AZIEC DISTRICT OFFICE

1000 DIO BRAZOS ROAD AZTEC, NEW MEXICO 87410 ISUSI 334-6178

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(Submit 2 copies to above address)

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### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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1. Type of Well		Lease Number SF-078908 If Indian, All. or	
GAS	7.	Tribe Name Unit Agreement Name	
2. Name of Operator			
Meridian Oil Inc.  3. Address & Phone No. of Operator	8.	Lindrith Unit Well Name & Number	
PO Box 4289, Farmington, NM 87499 (505) 326-9700	9.	Lindrith Unit NP #68 API Well No.	
4. Location of Well, Footage, Sec., T, R, M 1650'FNL, 1650'FEL Sec.7, T-24-N, R-2-W, NMPM		Field and Pool S.Blanco PC County and State Rio Arriba Co, NM	
12. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX TO INDICATE NATURE OF NOTICE	ישמ	DODM OMITTED DAMA	
Type of Submission Type of Act		PORT, OTHER DATA	
Notice of Intent Abandonment Recompletion Plugging Back Casing Repair	_ Cha _ New _ Now _ Was	ange of Plans  W Construction  n-Routine Fracturing  ter Shut off  nversion to Injection	
13. Describe Proposed or Completed Operations	<del></del> .		
11-20-92 MOL&RU. Blow down. NU BOP. LD 1" tbg. Ra 3380'. Set RBP @ 3345'. Load hole w/wtr. 11-21-92 Ran GR-CBL-CCL 3300-surface'. Ran Audio w/retrieving head to 3300'. Unload w/N2. 11-22-92 TOOH w/tbg & RBP. TIH w/1" tbg landed @ Released rig.	PT ( log : SDF)	csg & BP to 700#. 3330-surface. TIH N. '. ND BOP. NU WH.	
DEC 1992 PROD. ENGINEERING		EECEIVED BLN 92 NOV 23 F:1 2: 33	
14. I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and c	OTTE		
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OPERATOR

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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	11. County and State Rio Arriba Co, NM
12. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX TO INDICATE NATURE OF NOTICE,	, REPORT, OTHER DATA
Type of Submission  _x_ Notice of Intent  _ Recompletion  _ Subsequent Report  _ Casing Repair  Type of Act  Abandonment  _ Recompletion  _ Casing Repair	i <b>on</b> _ Change of Plans
13. Describe Proposed or Completed Operations	
The tubing will be pulled from this well, a cement will be run from PBTD to surface. The tubefore and the well returned to production	bing will be landed as
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14. I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and co	arrect
Signed Age: Malfie ( TEM) Title Regulatory Aff	· ·
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	DEC 1 D 1992

submitted in lieu of Form 3160-5

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

7. Unit Agreement Name  Name of Operator Meridian Oil Inc.  8. Well Name & Number Lindrith Unit NP #68 PO Box 4289, Farmington, NM 87499 (505) 326-9700  7. Unit Agreement Name Andrews & Phone No. of Operator PO Box 4289, Farmington, NM 87499 (505) 326-9700  9. API Well No.	Sundry Notices and Reports on We	lls
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