

## NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

GARY E. JOHNSON

Governor
Jennifer A. Salisbury
Cabinet Secretary

July 21, 2000

Lori Wrotenbery
Director
Oil Conservation Division

f

Richardson Operating Company 1700 Lincoln - Suite 1700 Denver, Colorado 80203

Attention:

Cathleen Colby

Re: Administrative application dated July 11, 2000 for an unorthodox Friting Sand/Pictured Cliffs gas well location for the existing W. F. Federal "3" Well No. 2 (API No. 30-045-30168) recently drilled 2495 feet from the South line and 1290 feet from the West line (Unit L) of Section 3, Township 29 North, Range 14 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico, whereby the SW/4 of Section 3 is to be dedicated to this well in order to form a standard 160-acre gas spacing and proration unit for the Undesignated Twin Mounds-Fruitland Sand-Pictured Cliffs Pool..

Dear Ms. Colby:

In reviewing the subject application and the records of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division ("Division") concerning this well I found the following:

- (1) according to the "Application for Permit to Drill" for this well dated March 5, 2000 Richardson Operating Company planned to penetrate the Pictured Cliffs formation even though the Fruitland coal interval was the intended zone of interest;
- in instances where a single wellbore is to be utilized in more then one producing horizon, the operator is expected to drill that well at a location considered to be standard for all intended zones and not just one of the intended formations with the expectation that this is reason enough for approval;
- (3) the reason for this location based on the historical evolution of Rule 104 does not qualify for administrative approval; and
- it is not clear if your notification is sufficient to meet all requirements of Rule 1207.A (2) (a).

This application is therefore denied, however, under Division Rule 104.F (5), this matter will be set for hearing before a duly appointed Examiner scheduled for August 24, 2000.

Sincerely

Michael E. Stogner

Chief Hearing Officer/Engineer

cc:

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division - Aztec U. S. Bureau of Land Management - Farmington Kathy Valdes, NMOCD - Santa Fe



## RICHARDSON OPERATING COMPANY

1700 Lincoln, Suite 1700 Denver, Colorado 80203 (303) 830-8000 FAX (303) 830-8009

July 11, 2000

Ms. Lori Wrotenbery New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 2040 South Pacheco Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Re: Application for Administrative Approval Unorthodox Well Location WF Federal 3-2 Well NW/4SW/4-Section 3-T29N-R14W San Juan County, New Mexico

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

Richardson Operating Company hereby requests administrative approval for an unorthodox location for the referenced well. Attached for your reference are the following exhibits:

- 1. Exhibit "A" Plat showing spacing unit, proposed unorthodox well location and adjoining spacing units and wells
- 2. Exhibit "B" Topographic map
- 3. Exhibit "C" Well location and acreage dedication plat (Fruitland Coal formation)

The WF Federal 3-2 well was drilled 2495' FSL and 1290' FWL of Section 3, which is a standard location for a Fruitland Coal well, but 145' off the northern outer boundary rather than 660' permitted for a Pictured Cliffs well. With approval, we are interested in completing the well as a downhole commingled Fruitland Coal and Pictured Cliffs well.

The WF Federal 3-2 well will be tied into an existing gathering system in Section 34, T30N-R14W. The requested Pictured Cliffs exception location allows the well to be north of El Paso's high pressure gas lines and north of County Road 6480. Pipeline connection will not require boring under a major county road and interfering with existing pipeline rights-of-way.

The requested exception location will not affect future orderly development of the Pictured Cliffs formation in offsetting spacing units. Currently there is one other Pictured Cliffs well in Section 3. The WF Federal 3-1 well is located 1265' FNL and 1095' FWL, with a distance of 1540' between wells.

Ms. Lori Wrotenbery New Mexico Oil Conservation Division July 11, 2000 Page 2

Notice of this application has given by certified mail to the offsetting operator and mineral lessee, copies of which are attached.

Please advise if you need anything further in this regard.

Sincerely,

RICHARDSON OPERATING COMPANY

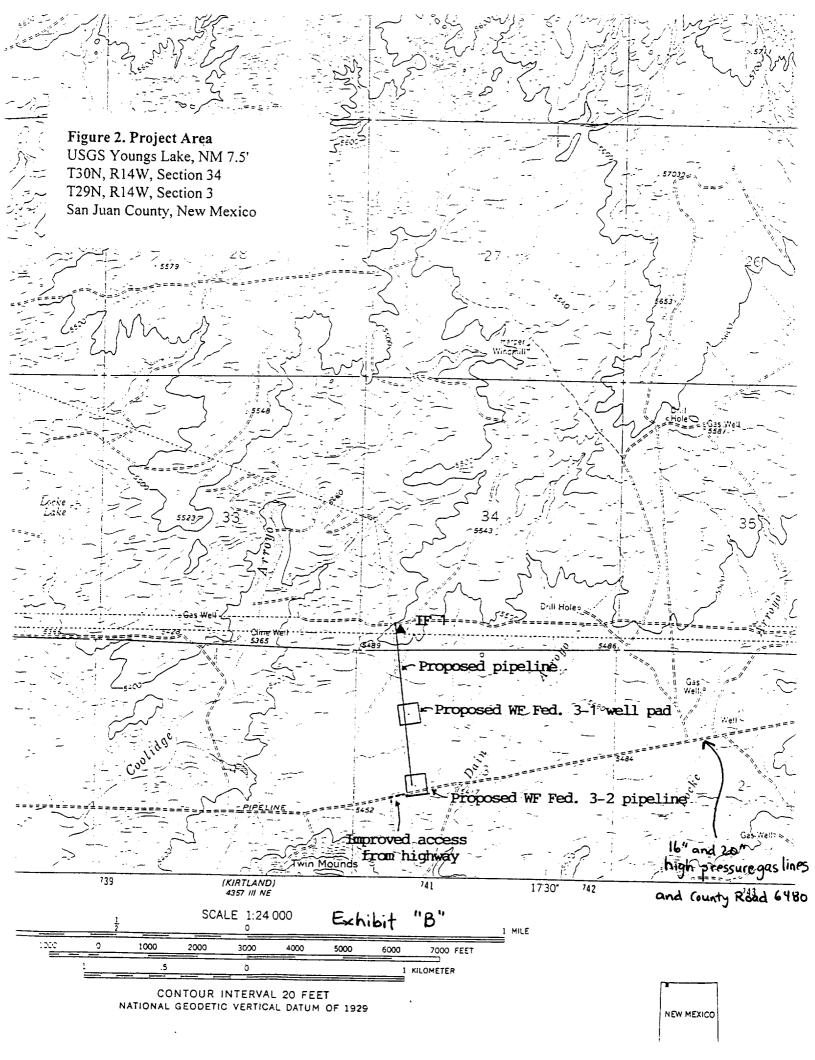
Cathleen Colly
Cathleen Colby

Land Manager

	Richardson • WF Federal 3-1-	
	Richardson Operating Company	3
	Richards on WF Federal 3-2 Proposed FCPC	
	V Dugan	Production Corp
		Energen Resources  * Locke #2 Dakota

Exhibit "A"

FORM 45



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20 Drawer DD, Artesia, NM 88211-0719 Disciel III

1000 Rio Britton Rd., Aztec, NM 87410 District IV

PO Bux 2008, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2008

## OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION PO Box 2088 Santa Fe, NM 87504-2088

Instructions on back

Submit to Appropriate District Office

State Lease - 4 Copies

Fee Lease - 3 Copies

	AMENDED R	REPORT
WELL LOCATION AND	ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT	
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1700 Lincoln, Suite 1700 Denver, Colorado 80203 (303) 830-8000 FAX (303) 830-8009

July 11, 2000

Mr. Kurt H. Fagrelius Dugan Production Corp. P.O. Box 420 Farmington, NM 87499-0420

Re: Application for Administrative Approval

Unorthodox Well Location

WF Federal 3-2 Well 2495' FSL and 1290' FWL

NW/4SW/4-Section 3-T29N-R14W

San Juan County, NM

Certified Mail Return Receipt 7000 0520 0023 4373 1311

Dear Mr. Fagrelius:

Richardson Operating Company is making application to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for an unorthodox well location due to surface use considerations. A copy of the application is enclosed for your review.

You are being notified as an offset operator that we are moving toward. If you have no objections to the unorthodox well location, please so indicate by signing below and returning one copy of this letter to us by fax and mail (envelope enclosed). In the event you wish to object, you must notify the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission at 2040 South Pacheco Street, Santa Fe, NM 87505 within 20 days of receiving this notice.

Sincerely,

RICHARDSON OPERATING COMPANY

Cathleen Colly

Cathleen Colby Land Manager

Dugan Production Corp. waives objection to the unorthodox well location described above this \_\_\_\_\_\_day of July, 2000.