OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
1000 RIO BRAZOS ROAD
AZTEC, NEW MEXICO

April 25, 1961

Mr. Ed Oberly
El Paso Natural Gas Company
Farmington, New Mexico

Dear Sir:

This office recently received complaints of gas escaping in the river adjacent to your #1 Heiser Pool Unit, located in the NE¼ Section 15-32N-10W.

On April 13, 1961 El Paso personnel accompanied by Mr. A. R. Kendrick of the Commission office conducted a bradenhead survey to determine if a casing leak existed. The test did not indicate a casing leak, although the bradenhead did register 266 PSIG shut-in pressure and when opened flowed water and gas for 40 minutes, with water diminishing toward the end of the test. The well was then shut in for one week and the bradenhead pressure was measured again and found to be 245 PSIA. A gas sample was also taken at this time and analysis of the gas indicated that it was not gas from the Mesaverde formation. The analysis indicated that the gas compared very closely with gas from the Fruitland formation in the area.

The above facts seem to indicate that Fruitland gas is present in appreciable quantities in the annulus behind the production casing in the well. Well records on file indicate that 7" casing was cemented at 4240 feet with 500 sacks of cement with the cement top shown by temperature survey at 2548'. The top of the Fruitland formation is shown at 2350 feet. Records indicate that surface casing was set at 300 feet with cement circulated. If gas is escaping at the surface it would appear that Fruitland gas must have channeled past the surface casing and entered a near surface sand.

The Commission is, therefore, directing that remedial work be instituted on this well in such a manner that Fruitland formation gas is confined to the Fruitland formation and not allowed to move up the well bore.

Form C-102 indicating workover plans must be filed for approval before remedial work is started.

Yours very truly

Emery C. Arnold
Supervisor, District #3

ECArks
cc: Mr. L.D. Galloway
EPNG, Farmington, N.M.

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