MERIDIAN OIL

April 8, 1988

Mr. William J. Lemay New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Post Office Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

RE: Cedar Hill SWD #1
830'FNL & 1775'FEL
Section 29, T32N-R10W
San Juan County, New Mexico
Application For Authorization To Inject

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Dear Mr. LeMay,

As per our meeting with Mr. David Catanach on April 5, 1988, it was requested that Meridian Oil Inc. provide additional information pertaining to the Cl08 form. Specifically, the additional items requested are as follows:

- A representative analysis of the water to be injected, obtained from a producing Fruitland Coal well in the area.
- 2) A listing of permitted fresh water wells within a one-mile radius of the proposed injection well, including respective water analysis if available.
- Proof of notice to surface owners and leasehold operators within the revised one-half mile radius indicating the actual location footages. (The original footages as indicated on the ClO8 form were tentative).
- 4) Proof of publication consisting of legal advertisement within San Juan County as this application is being considered for administrative approval.

Attached are items #1 and #2. Items #3 and #4 are being provided by Kellahin, Kellahin, and Aubrey, Attorneys at Law, on Meridian Oil's behalf.

Thank You For Your Cooperation,

Richard E. Fraley

MSM/1m Attachments

Water Sample Analysis:

Well Name: Scott #102

Field: Cedar Hill Fruitland Basal Coal

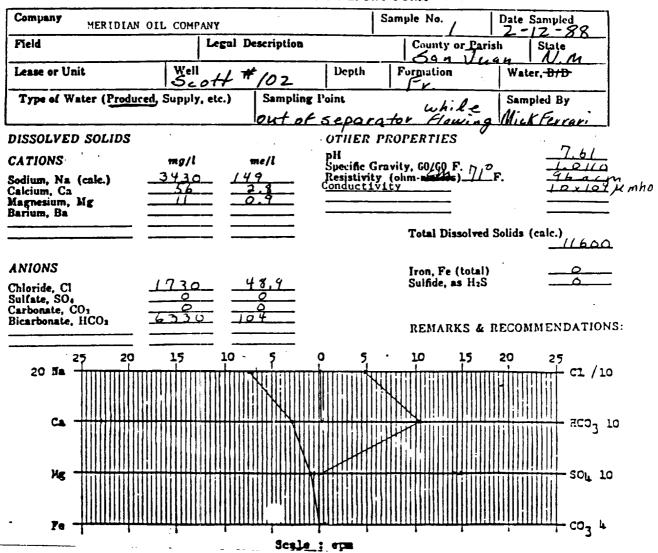
Location: 940'FNL, 1585'FEL

Section 34, T32N-R10W

San Juan County, New Mexico



API WATER ANALYSIS REPORT FORM



ATTACHMENT #2

Fresh water wells within a one-mile radius of the proposed Injection well.

Location	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Depth</u>	Conductivity <u>uMHOS</u>	Date <u>Sampled</u>
NE/SW Sec. 21, T32N-R10W	Agee	104'	1120	9-6-75
SW/SE Sec. 21, T32N-R10W	Lewis	Permitted	only -	-
SE/SE Sec. 21, T32N-R10W	Clark	Permitted	only -	-
SE/SE Sec. 21, T32N-R10W	Winters	65'	-	-
SW/NE Sec. 21, T32N-R10W	Howell	77'	-	-
SW/SE Sec. 21, T32N-R10W	Wagoner	70'	-	-
SE/SE Sec. 21, T32N-R10W	Winters	65 '	-	-
SW/SW Sec. 21, T32N-R10W	Leeper	63'	_	_
NE/SE Sec. 28, T32N-R10W	Orbenson	23'	-	
NE/SE Sec. 28, T32N-R10W	Knowlton	35'	1000	9-24-74

nearly 200 ft higher than in the Morrison Formation (Mobil Oil Corporation, 1978, table 2). Although water levels in the Morrison have declined in recent years as a result of uranium-mine dewatering and pumping for Crownpoint's water supply, hydraulic-head differences probably existed prior to development. Because recharge areas for the Dakota and Morrison are at similar altitudes, the head differences probably reflect better lateral flow in the Morrison Formation toward discharge points because of higher transmissivities, better continuity of the sandstones, or both. The fact that hydraulic-head differences persist is an indication that a relatively low vertical permeability exists in the confining layer between the two units.

Very few aquifer tests have been performed on the Dakota Sandstone alone because most wells also produce from other sandstones above or below the Dakota. Dames and Moore (1977) reported transmissivities of 44 and 85 ft²/d for two tests (19.11.31.131) northeast of Crownpoint (table 5). Results of specific-capacity tests indicate that transmissivity values are generally less than 50 ft²/d (table 5).

Berg (1979, p. 899) gave reservoir characteristics for the Dakota Sandstone in the Lone Pine oil and gas field near Hospah. Here, fluvial sandstones within the Dakota have the highest hydraulic conductivity, ranging from approximately 0.7 to 1.5 ft/d. A net sandstone thickness of about 70 ft given for the Lone Pine field would give transmissivities of 49 to 105 ft ²/d.

Much lower values of transmissivity can be expected in oil- and gas-producing horizons in deeper parts of the basin. The hydraulic conductivity averages approximately 0.03 ft/d in oil-producing horizons (based on permeability data of Reneau and Harris, 1957, p. 43) and 4×10^{-4} ft/d in gas reservoirs (Deischl, 1973, p. 168).

WATER QUALITY AND USE—Specific conductance increases from less than 2,000 μmhos near recharge areas to more than 10,000 μmhos in deeper parts of the basin (fig. 67, sheet 7, pocket). In those areas where data are available, the specific conductance of water from the Dakota is generally higher than that of water from the underlying Morrison Formation. Scattered stock and domestic wells produce water from the Dakota Sandstone. Many of the wells that produce from the Dakota, however, are also completed in overlying or underlying rocks or both.

Morrison Formation (Late Jurassic)

The Morrison Formation is the uppermost Jurassic unit present in the basin and is a major source of both uranium and water in the Grants uranium region. This unit lies at depths of 1,500-3,000 ft on the marginal platforms but dips to depths of nearly 9,000 ft in the basin center (figs. 68 and 69, sheet 7, pocket).

GEOLOGIC CHARACTERISTICS—This sequence of nonmarine sandstone, mudstone, and minor limestone was defined by Eldridge (Emmons and others, 1896) for exposures at the town of Morrison, Jefferson County, Colorado. The Morrison consists of four members (in ascending order): the Salt Wash Sandstone Member, the Recapture Shale Member, the Westwater Canyon Sandstone Member, and the Brushy Basin Shale Member.

The Salt Wash Sandstone Member, named by Lupton

(1914) for exposures 30 mi southeast of the town of Green River, Grand County, Utah, is restricted to the extreme northwest part of the San Juan Basin. The Salt Wash consists of sandstone and mudstone with lenses of conglomerate. The sandstone is a fine-grained, mature subarkose (tables 8 and 9). This member is approximately 200 ft thick near the Four Corners, but thins southward, pinching out completely just north of Toadlena. In the subsurface, east and southeast of the Four Corners, the Salt Wash intertongues with and grades laterally into the upper part of the Bluff Sandstone (Sears and others, 1974).

The Recapture Shale Member was named by Gregory (1938) for exposures near the town of Bluff, San Juan County, Utah, and redefined by Stokes (1944). This member is present more or less throughout the San Juan Basin and consists mainly of interbedded, red shale and white sandstone. Thickness is approximately 125-150 ft in the north, 125-300 ft in the east and southeast (Sears and others, 1974). Like the Salt Wash, the Recapture also thins southward and southeastward, pinching out south of Gallup and southeast of Grants (Granger, 1968).

The Westwater Canyon Sandstone Member was named by Gregory (1938) and redefined by Harshbarger and others (1957) for exposures south of Blanding, Utah. This sequence of sandstone, conglomeratic sandstone, and mudstone is both the major ore horizon and principal aquifer in the Grants uranium region (fig. 70). The Westwater Canyon consists mainly of fine-to medium-grained, immature to submature, arkose to lithic arkose (tables 8 and 9). The member thins southward and eastward and has an average thickness of 250 ft (Sears and others, 1974; Kelly, 1977).

The Brushy Basin Shale Member, also named by Gregory (1938) for exposures near Blanding, Utah, is an interval of mudstone, sandstone, conglomeratic sandstone, and limestone. The sandstone is generally fine, mature to supermature arkose to subarkose (tables 8 and 9). The major ore-bearing sandstone in the Brushy Basin has been named the Jackpile ore-bearing bed for exposures in the Jackpile mine near Laguna, New Mexico (Freeman and Hilpert, 1956). Flesch (1974) described what he believed to be a correlative sandstone near San Ysidro to the north. Sandstones from the



Figure 70—Westwater Canyon Member of Morrison Formation exposed on northwest side of NM-53, approximately 1.5 MI southwest of intersection with NM-509. View to northwest in SW 4 sec. 21, T. 13 N., R. 9 W.

Brushy Basin are fine- to medium-grained, submature to supermature arkose to subarkose. Average thickness of the Brushy Basin Shale Member is 185 ft; this member is not present in the southwest part of the basin (Sears and others, 1974).

The Morrison Formation generally intertongues with the underlying Cow Springs Sandstone or Bluff Sandstone. Total thickness of the Morrison ranges from 330 to 915 ft (fig. 71, sheet 7, pocket).

HYDROLOGIC PROPERTIES—The potentiometric surface of ground water in the Westwater Canyon Sandstone Member is shown in fig. 72 (sheet 7, pocket). In 1978, a combined discharge of about 16,000 gpm was produced from uranium mines in the Morrison Formation (J. G. Dudley, geohydrologist, New Mexico Environmental Improvement Division, personal communication, 1979). These and other withdrawals have caused water-level declines as shown in fig. 73.

Transmissivity of the Morrison Formation does not exceed 500 ft ²/d (table 5, fig. 74). The highest values occur in the southern part of the basin northeast of Gallup and southeast of Ambrosia Lake. Values of transmissivity have been previously reported by Kelly (1977) and Jobin (1962). Because the grain size and percentage of sand in the Westwater Canyon Member decreases toward the northeast (Ridgely and others, 1978, p. 37; Sears and others, 1974, plate XXIII), transmissivity can be expected to decrease in that direction. Transmissivity data shown in fig. 74 (sheet 7, pocket), although not conclusive, tend to confirm this trend.

WATER QUALITY AND USE-Some of the lowest specific conductances for ground water in the San Juan

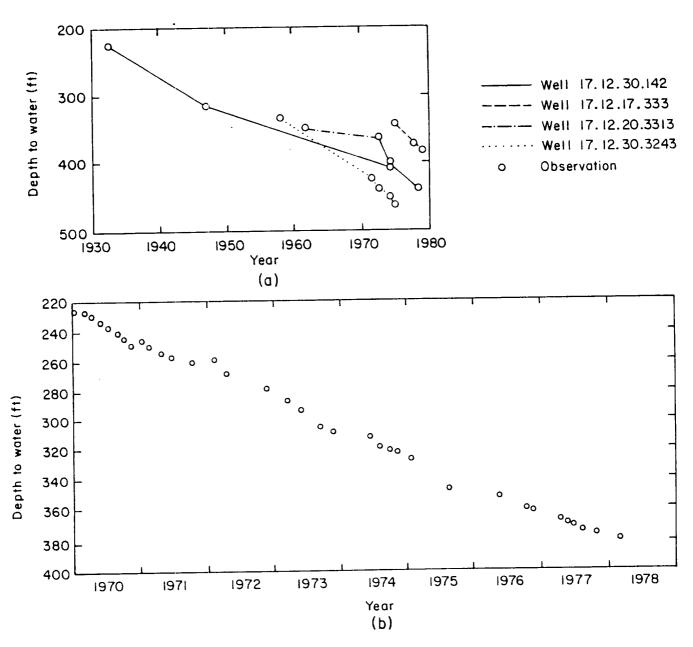


Figure 73—Water-level declines in Dakota Sandstone and Morrison Formation.

a) Morrison Formation near Crownpoint

b) Dakota and Morrison at abandoned mine shaft (16.16.17.2141); water level in 1968 before dewatering of Church Rock mines reported at 114 ft below land surface (Hiss, 1977, p. 53).

Basin are associated with the Morrison Formation. Values of less than 1,000 µmhos occur in the Crown-point-Church Rock area and near the Chuska Mountains between Tohatchi and Shiprock (fig. 75, sheet 7, pocket).

The specific conductance of Morrison water may exceed $10,000~\mu$ mhos in the northeast part of the study area and near outflow points. A sharp transition is apparent in the northwest part of the basin where water flowing toward the San Juan River from the northeast merges with flow from the Chuska Mountains. A relatively high conductance might be expected near the Rio Puerco as a result of flow from the northwest and possibly from vertical leakage from deeper units.

The Morrison Formation is the source of the public water supply for the village of Crownpoint. The city of Gallup also has numerous wells that are completed in both the Gallup Sandstone and the Morrison Formation (West, 1957, table 4). Several wells south of Crownpoint also produce water from the Morrison for domestic use. Numerous flowing wells, some of which are converted uranium-test holes, produce water for stock and domestic use along the western edge of the basin between Crownpoint and Shiprock.

Cow Springs-Bluff Sandstone (Late Jurassic)

These two formations are treated together because they are closely related stratigraphically and probably behave as a single unit hydraulically.

Springs Sandstone' is generally credited to Harshbarger and others (1951). The type area is the north face of Black Mesa near Cow Springs Trading Post, Coconino County, Arizona. This unit intertongues with the Summerville Formation and the lower part of the Morrison Formation. Although not analyzed separately in this study, the Cow Springs is generally a fine-grained, arkosic sandstone (fig. 76). It is 240 ft thick at Lupton, Arizona, just across the state line, southwest of Gallup (Harshbarger and others, 1951).

The Bluff Sandstone was named by Baker and others (1936) for exposures along the San Juan River at the town of Bluff, San Juan County, Utah. Harshbarger and others (1957, p. 3) believed the Bluff to be "a tongue of the Cow Springs but because of its homogeneous and mappable character and its areal extent, it [was] considered a separate formation and assigned to the San Rafael Group." The Bluff is a medium-grained, mature arkose (tables 8 and 9). Thickness reportedly ranges from a few feet to approximately 300 ft (Harshbarger and others, 1957). In our study, thickness was not determined separately for the Bluff unit. Observed thickness of the Cow Springs-Bluff Sandstone and Summerville Formation combined (fig. 77, sheet 6, pocket) ranges from 60 to 200 ft.

The Cow Springs and Bluff generally display an intertonguing relationship with both the underlying Summerville Formation and the overlying Recapture Shale Member of the Morrison Formation.

HYDROLOGIC PROPERTIES—The water in the Cow Springs-Bluff has an origin and flow pattern similar to the water in the overlying Morrison Formation, but sig-



Figure 76—Cow Springs Sandstone, northwest of Church Rock Mine Road, 1.5 MI North of Church Rock. View to northwest in SE14 sec. 1, T. 15 N., R. 17 W.

nificant hydraulic-head differences exist between the two units in some areas. For example, Mercer and Cooper (1970, p. 78) reported that in the Munoz 1 test hole north of Gallup (16.18.17.122) the water level in the Cow Springs Sandstone was nearly 200 ft higher than the water level in the overlying Morrison Formation.

Although the Cow Springs-Bluff is a fairly thick and continuous sequence consisting predominantly of sandstone, the transmissivity is relatively low. Jobin (1962, p. 55) reported transmissivities of about 50 ft²/d for this aquifer in most of the San Juan Basin, increasing to as much as 300 ft²/d near the Four Corners. These values appear high when compared with a value of 3 ft²/d (Cooley and others, 1969, p. 46) for one aquifer test at an unspecified location and a yield of less than 2 gpm reported by Mercer and Cooper (1970, p. 471) in the Munoz 1 test hole.

water Quality and use—The specific conductance of water from the Cow Springs-Bluff probably is less than 2,000 µmhos in or near outcrops on the southern and western margins of the basin. No data are available for greater depths except in the Gallup area where Mercer and Cooper (1970, p. 78) reported a value of 4,300 µmhos. No wells are known to derive their water exclusively from this aquifer and those wells tapping this unit are also completed in the underlying Entrada or overlying Morrison.

Entrada Sandstone (Late Jurassic)

The Entrada Sandstone forms the distinctive red cliffs at Red Rock State Park east of Gallup and along the southern basin margin north of 1-40. Depth to the top of the Entrada ranges from generally less than 4,000 ft on the marginal platforms to 9,310 ft in the basin center (figs. 78 and 79, sheet 6, pocket).

by Gilluly and Reeside (1926) for exposures in the northern part of the San Rafael Swell, in southeast Utah. Nomenclature of the Entrada in New Mexico has had a problematical history. Strata now included in the Entrada at Fort Wingate, on the southern margin of the basin, were originally named the Wingate Sandstone by

Dutton (1885). After intermediate revisions by various workers, Baker and others (1947) finally replaced the Wingate there with the Entrada; the Wingate is no longer recognized in the San Juan Basin (Green and Pierson, 1977; O'Sullivan, 1977). In the San Juan Basin, the Entrada consists of three members: a lower sandstone member (named the Iyanbito Member by Green, 1974), a middle siltstone member, and an upper sandstone member (Harshbarger and others, 1957). The Iyanbito Member is present only in the southern part of the basin. The middle and upper members are generally present throughout the basin. The upper member is generally a fine-grained, mature to supermature, subarkose to lithic arkose (tables 8 and 9). Thickness of the upper member is approximately 167 ft along the Church Rock mine road (fig. 80), 135 ft north of Prewitt, and 133 ft at Haystack Mountain; at San Ysidro the combined thickness of upper and middle Entrada is 115 ft (Stone, 1979a). The thickness of the Entrada based on subsurface data is mapped in fig. 81 (sheet 6, pocket). The Entrada conformably to unconformably overlies the Chinle Formation.

HYDROLOGIC PROPERTIES—Transmissivity, as indicated by a few specific-capacity tests, is less than 50 ft²/d along the southern edge of the basin but more than 100 ft²/d near the basin center (J. W. Shomaker, consulting geologist, personal communication, 1974). Values of hydraulic conductivity ranging from 0.5 to 5 ft/d in oil wells (Fassett and others, 1977, p. 24), would substantiate transmissivities of 100 ft²/d or more. Jobin (1962, p. 42) reported a similar range of from 130 to 350 ft²/d for the Entrada in the study area.

water QUALITY AND USE—In many places in or near recharge areas, water in the Entrada has a specific conductance less than 1,500 μ mhos (fig. 82, sheet 6, pocket). Specific conductance increases to more than 10,000 μ mhos in deeper parts of the basin.

In an elongate area between Bisti and San Ysidro, the Entrada produces oil from several fields (Fassett and others, 1977, p. 23). Large quantities of saline water that has a specific conductance of between 10,000 and 20,000 μ mhos are produced with the oil. Test wells in this area produce water similar in quality to that of water produced from oil wells.

A well at Sanostee produced fresh water from the En-



Figure 80—ENTRADA SANDSTONE NORTHWEST OF CHURCH ROCK MINE ROAD, 0.5 MI NORTH OF CHURCH ROCK. View to north in NE 4 SE 4 sec. 11, T. 15 N., R. 17 W.

trada, but the water was unusable because of associated oil and gas (Halpenny and Harshbarger, 1950, p. 19). Domestic and stock wells in the area between Smith Lake and Mariano Lake produce much of their water from the Entrada Sandstone. Generally, however, water from the Entrada is not suitable for drinking, especially in deeper parts of the basin.

Deeper deposits (pre-Jurassic)

Although there has been extensive drilling for petroleum in the San Juan Basin, most of these wells bottom in the Cretaceous section, and thus little is known of the deeper deposits of the area. The pre-Jurassic rocks are generally too deep to play a significant part in the energy-resource development or to be used extensively for water supply. The following general statements are included merely for completeness.

CHINLE FORMATION (TRIASSIC)—The Chinle Formation crops out in a considerable area at the southern margin of the basin, forming a broad valley between the northern flank of the Zuni Mountains and the red cliffs of the Entrada Sandstone. The Chinle Formation was first described by Gregory (1917). Subdivisions proposed by Stewart (1957) for southeast Utah are generally applied in New Mexico, but not all members are present (fig. 83). Other members have been recognized on the east side of the basin by Wood and Northrop (1946). The Chinle consists of mudstone, sandstone (often pebbly), and limestone. Total thickness of the formation is reportedly 700–1,500 ft (Molenaar, 1977a). The Chinle disconformably overlies the San Andres Limestone.

Aquifer tests of the Sonsela Sandstone Bed of the Petrified Forest Member of the Chinle northeast of Prewitt (well 13.10.18.212) gave a transmissivity of >100 ft 2 /d. Specific conductances of water from the Sonsela and the shallower Correo Sandstone Bed of the Petrified Forest Member at this well exceed 10,000 μ mhos. Generally, water quality deteriorates rapidly with depth, making the water unacceptable for stock or domestic use, except in or very near outcrop areas.

GLORIETA SANDSTONE-SAN ANDRES LIMESTONE (PER-MIAN)—These formations are grouped because they intertongue and behave as a single unit hydraulically. The Glorieta Sandstone and overlying San Andres Limestone form the northern flank of the Zuni uplift. The Glorieta Sandstone, named by Keyes (1915) for exposures on Glorieta Mesa, San Miguel County, New Mexico, consists of fine- to medium-grained, quartzose sandstone. Baars and Stevenson (1977, fig. 4) gave a thickness map for the Glorieta that shows that it thins northward and northeastward, pinching out at approximately the latitude of Lybrook and Nageezi. The San Andres Limestone was named by Lee (Lee and Girty, 1909) for exposures in Rhodes Canyon, San Andres Mountains, Socorro County, New Mexico. The San Andres Limestone consists of thin-bedded dolostone, massive, micritic limestone (often fossiliferous), and fine-grained clastic rocks (Baars and Stevenson, 1977). The San Andres also thins northward and pinches out in the southern part of the San Juan Basin (Baars, 1962). The Glorieta Sandstone conformably overlies the Yeso Formation.

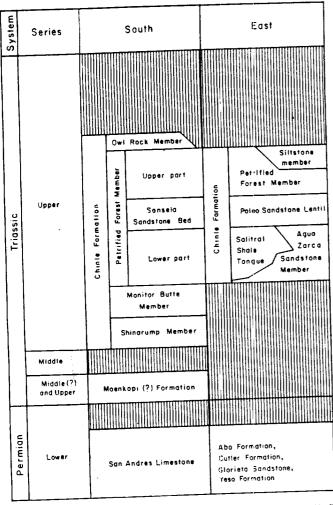


Figure 83—STRATIGRAPHIC NOMENCLATURE AND CORRELATION OF TRIASSIC AND ADJACENT DEPOSITS IN SAN JUAN BASIN (modified from O'Sullivan, 1977).

In the Grants-Bluewater area, dissolution of carbonate rocks has caused relatively high transmissivities. Gordon (1961, table 8) reported values ranging from 60,000 to 450,000 ft ²/d. Near Fort Wingate, the transmissivity is considerably lower, ranging from 5 to 3,700 ft ²/d (Shomaker, 1971, p. 36). A transmissivity of 90 ft ²/d for a well at Smith Lake may be typical for areas away from outcrops and not subjected to dissolution of carbonates. The Glorieta-San Andres yielded less than 1 gpm to a test hole drilled by Sohio north of Laguna (L. Jacobson, geologist, Sohio, personal communication, 1975), indicating a very low transmissivity for this aquifer in the southeast part of the study area.

The specific conductance of water from this aquifer ranges from 500 to 3,300 µmhos in the Grants-Bluewater area (Gordon, 1961, table 10) and from 800 to 3,500 µmhos near Fort Wingate (Shomaker, 1971, p. 46). The Smith Lake well yielded water with a specific conductance of 960 µmhos. Iron and manganese concentrations in this well are relatively high, making the water unsuitable as a domestic supply unless it is treated (Robert Mayers, engineer, U.S. Public Health Service, personal communication, 1976). The Glorieta-San Andres aquifer is the principal source of water along 1-40 between Grants and Gallup. The city of Grants derives its water from this aquifer.

YESO FORMATION (PERMIAN)—Lee (Lee and Girty, 1909) named the Yeso Formation for exposures of sandstone, red beds, and gypsum on Mesa del Yeso, Socorro County, New Mexico. According to Baars and Stevenson (1977), the marine evaporites of the Yeso thicken south from a line roughly connecting Gallup and Albuquerque but are missing north of this line. The Yeso of the San Juan Basin is, therefore, almost exclusively an interval of red beds. The Yeso conformably overlies the De Chelly Sandstone.

The Yeso Formation is largely untested. A test of a well near Grants, which was drilled to determine the feasibility of injecting wastes from a uranium-processing mill, gave a transmissivity of 850 ft²/d for the Yeso Formation (West, 1972, p. 16). Water from the well had dissolved-solids concentrations of between 3,000 and 4,000 mg/L (West, 1972, p. 13).

DE CHELLY SANDSTONE (PERMIAN)—The De Chelly Sandstone was named by Gregory (1915) for exposures in the Canyon de Chelly, Apache County, Arizona. The boundaries and correlation of this unit have been the subject of a lengthy debate. Recent drilling in the San Juan Basin has generally confirmed what Baars (1962) had advocated nearly 20 years ago: that the sandstone known as the Meseta Blanca Member of the Yeso Formation in the Albuquerque region and the De Chelly Sandstone of the Four Corners region are one and the same (Baars and Stevenson, 1977). The De Chelly consists of highly crossbedded, clean, eolian sandstone. Its thickness ranges from 800 ft in the southwest corner of San Juan County to less than 100 ft northeast of a line roughly connecting La Plata and Cuba (Baars and Stevenson, 1977, fig. 2). The De Chelly conformably overlies the lower Cutler and Abo Formations.

Cooley and others (1969, p. 47) reported transmissivities for this aquifer ranging from 40 to 100 ft ²/d. Water from the De Chelly, in places, has dissolved-solids concentrations of less than 500 mg/L (Harshbarger and Repenning, 1954, p. 15). Springs yielding as much as 80 gpm near Toadlena (Harshbarger and Repenning, 1954, p. 12) supply stock and domestic water to local users.

LOWER CUTLER/ABO FORMATION (PERMIAN)—A sequence of arkosic red beds overlies the Pennsylvanian strata throughout the San Juan Basin. In the northern part of the basin, these red beds are termed the lower Cutler Formation, and in the south they are termed the Abo Formation. The Abo was named by Lee (Lee and Girty, 1909) for exposures in Abo Canyon at the south end of the Manzano Mountains, Valencia and Torrance Counties, New Mexico. The Cutler was named by Cross and Howe (Cross and others, 1905) for exposures along Cutler Creek, near Ouray, Ouray County, Colorado. Thickness of the lower Cutler/Abo Formation ranges from 1,800 ft, where differentiated in the northeast part of the basin, to 200 ft, southeast of Gallup (Baars and Stevenson, 1977, fig. 1). The lower Cutler/Abo disconformably overlies various Pennsylvanian strata.

The lower Cutler/Abo Formation is largely untested as a source of water. West (1972, p. 13) reported a hydraulic conductivity of approximately 4×10^{-2} ft/d and a dissolved-solids concentration of 9,000 mg/L for water from the Abo near Grants. Water from the Abo near Fort Wingate has a dissolved-solids concentration of about 4,600 mg/L (Shomaker, 1971, table 5). Ander-

nolm (1979) reported on two springs issuing from sandstones in the Abo in the Cuba quadrangle; one of these, developed by the U.S. Forest Service, is a major source of drinking water for residents of Cuba.

PENNSYLVANIAN STRATA—The stratigraphy of the Pennsylvanian deposits in the San Juan Basin is complex and the nomenclature applied to them differs from area to area (fig. 84). These deposits consist mainly of marine carbonate rocks and associated, very fine to medium, clastic terrigenous rocks. Although they crop out in most of the uplifts surrounding the basin, little is known of them in the basin subsurface, except where local structure has prompted petroleum exploration (such as at Tocito dome, northwest San Juan County). Thickness generally ranges from 2,500 ft in the northwest to <1,000 in the southeast and <500 in the east (Jentgen, 1977, fig. 2). The Pennsylvanian strata disconformably overlie deeper units.

West (1972, p. 13) reported an average hydraulic conductivity for Pennsylvanian rocks near Grants of approximately 6×10^{-4} ft/d. In the central part of the basin, these rocks are relatively tight and have not readily yielded water to drill stem tests (David Versteeg, geologist, Amoco Production Co., personal communication, 1979).

Water produced with oil from the Pennsylvanian units in several fields near the Four Corners is highly mineralized; total-dissolved-solids concentrations range from 35,000 to 150,000 mg/L (David Versteeg, personal communication, 1979). On or near outcrop areas in Colorado, dissolved-solids concentrations are commonly less than 500 mg/L (Brogden and Giles, 1976). An oil well north of San Ysidro, known as Warm Spring, formerly flowed warm water from the Magdalena Group. A specific conductance of 15,700 µmhos obtained for this water (Trainer, 1978, p. 79), may reflect general water quality in Pennsylvanian units in the basin.

OLDER PALEOZOIC ROCKS—Cambrian, Devonian, and Mississippian deposits are present in the extreme

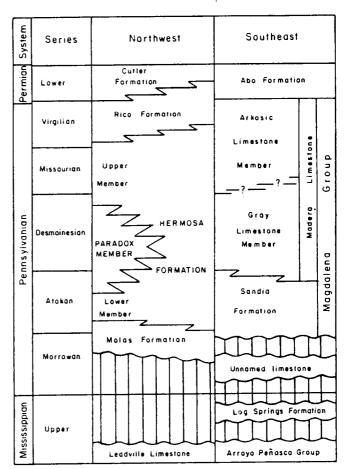


Figure 84—Stratigraphic nomenclature and correlation of Pennsylvanian and adjacent deposits in San Juan Basin (after Jentgen, 1977).

north and northwest parts of the San Juan Basin (Stevenson and Baars, 1977; Armstrong and Mamet, 1977). These strata are the least well known in the area, but because of their great depth, they are of little interest as potential aquifers.

Hydrogeology

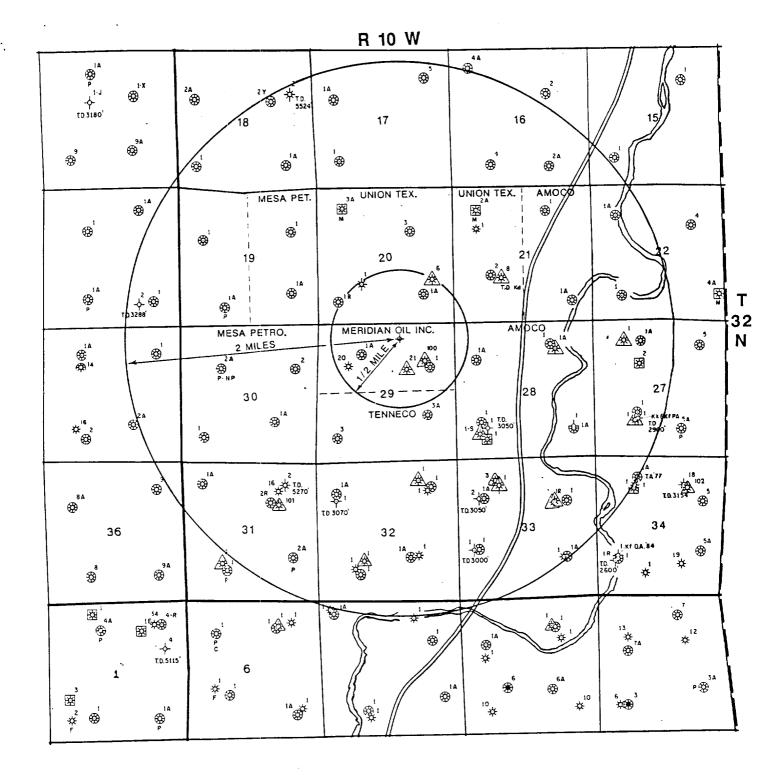
Hydrogeology may be defined as the science that uses geologic principles to interpret hydrologic phenomena (May, 1976); as such, the term "hydrogeology" is not synonomous with ground-water hydrology. Assessing the hydrogeology of an area or aquifer involves delineating the geologic controls of the occurrence, movement, and quality of its ground water.

Basic principles

A major control on the characteristics of a ground-water-flow system is topography; it determines the location of recharge and discharge areas, the direction of ground-water flow, and the hydraulic gradient. Topography is the result of structural and geomorphic processes acting on the local stratigraphic column. Structure provides the elevation and general configura-

tion of the recharge area: cuesta, fault block, or plateau, for example. Geomorphic processes acting through time determine the extent to which these structural features have been modified by erosion or deposition. The local stratigraphic sequence is of utmost importance; the topographic expression of a block of crystalline rock is markedly different from that of a sequence of alternating marine sandstones and shales.

In the case of sandstone aquifers, like those that prevail in the San Juan Basin, minor controls may also be exerted by the texture, geometry, and orientation of the aquifers, or permeability zones within them. Texture includes both grain size and sorting. These parameters affect the size and degree of interconnection of pores, which in turn influence hydraulic conductivity. Geometry includes the dimensions of the aquifer (thickness, width, and length) and their interrelationships. Geometry primarily depends on the depositional origin of



MERIDIAN OIL INC.
Cedar Hill SWD #1
NW NE 29-32N-10W
San Juan County, New Mexico

MERIDIAN OIL



March 21, 1988

Mr. William LeMay New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Post Office Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Mr. LeMay:

This is a request for a salt water disposal well located in the Morrison/Entrada Formation.

It is intended to locate the Meridian Oil Inc.'s Cedar Hill SWD #1 at 600' from the North line and 2100' from the East line of Section 29, T-32-N, R-10-W, San Juan County, New Mexico.

A copy of this application is being submitted to all offset operators by certified mail with a request that they furnish your Santa Fe office with a Waiver of Objection, and return one copy to this office.

Attached is the C-108, with accompanying support data for this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

R. E. Fraley

encl.

WAIVER

	<pre>_ hereby waives</pre>	objection to	Meridian	Oil	Inc.'s
Cedar Hill SWD #1 By:	as proposed abo	ve. Dat	e:		

CC: Union Texas Petroleum
Amoco Production Company
Tenneco Oil Company
Mesa Petroleum

KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN AND AUBREY

Attorneys at Law
El Patio - 117 North Guadalupe
Post Office Box 2265
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2265

Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

W. Thomas Kellahin Karen Aubrey

Jason Kellahin
Of Counsel

April 6, 1988

Farmington Daily Times
P. O. Box 450
Farmington, New Mexico 87401

Re: Legal Notice

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed please find a Legal Notice for publication one time. Please send <u>two</u> proofs of publication with our statement.

Thank you.

very trany yours

W. Thomas Kellahin

WTK:ca Enc.

cc: Richard Fraley (Meridian)
David Catanach (OCD)

KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN AND AUBREY

Attorneys at Law

El Patio - 117 North Guadalupe
Post Office Box 2265
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2265

April 21, 1988

Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

RECEIVED

APR 21 1989

Mr. David R. Catanach Oil Conservation Division P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

CHL CONSERVATION DIVISION
"Hand Delivered"

Re: Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for Administrative Approval of its Cedar Hills SWD #1 Well, Section 29, T32N, R10W, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Catanach:

W. Thomas Kellahin

Karen Aubrey

Jason Kellahin Of Counsel

On April 6, 1988, on behalf of Meridian Oil Inc., we sent notices to all affected parties for the above referenced case. The fifteen day notice period expires today. I have enclosed copies of the four return receipt cards and a copy of the April 6, 1988 letter.

In addition, I have enclosed a certificate of publication of the newspaper notice which was first published on April 11, 1988.

We believe that this administrative application is now ready for your approval. If there is anything else we need to do, please call me.

Very truly yours,

Thomas Kallahin

WTK:ca Enc.

cc: Richard E. Fraley Meridian Oil Inc. P. O. Box 4289

Farmington, New Mexico 87499

MERIDIAN OIL

March 21, 1988

Mr. William LeMay New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Post Office Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Mr. LeMay:

This is a request for a salt water disposal well located in the Morrison/Entrada Formation.

It is intended to locate the Meridian Oil Inc.'s Cedar Hill SWD #1 at 600' from the North line and 2100' from the East line of Section 29, T-32-N, R-10-W, San Juan County, New Mexico.

A copy of this application is being submitted to all offset operators by certified mail with a request that they furnish your Santa Fe office with a Waiver of Objection, and return one copy to this office.

Attached is the C-108, with accompanying support data for this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

R. E. Fraley

encl.

WAIVER

mouse hereby waives objection to Meridian Oil Inc.'s SWD/#1 as proposed above. Cedar Hill

cc: Union Texas Petroleum Amoco Production Company Tenneco Oil Company Mesa Petroleum

1.	Purpose: Decondary Recovery Pressure Maintenance Disposal Storage Application qualifies for administrative approval? Dyes Doo
II.	Operator: MERIDIAN OIL INC.
•	Address: PO Box 4289, Farmington, NM 87499
	Contact party: R. E. Fraley Phone: (505) 326-9712
III.	Well data: Complete the data required on the reverse side of this form for each well proposed for injection. Additional sheets may be attached if necessary. ATTA
IV.	Is this an expansion of an existing project?
٧.	Attach a map that identifies all wells and leases within two miles of any proposed injection well with a one-half mile radius circle drawn around each proposed injection well. This circle identifies the well's area of review. ATTACHED
VI.	Attach a tabulation of data on all wells of public record within the area of review which penetrate the proposed injection zone. Such data shall include a description of each well's type, construction, date drilled, location, depth, record of completion, and a schematic of any plugged well illustrating all plugging detail. NONE
VII.	Attach data on the proposed operation, including: ATTACHED
	 Proposed average and maximum daily rate and volume of fluids to be injected; Whether the system is open or closed; Proposed average and maximum injection pressure; Sources and an appropriate analysis of injection fluid and compatibility with the receiving formation if other than reinjected produced water; and If injection is for disposal purposes into a zone not productive of oil or gas at or within one mile of the proposed well, attach a chemical analysis of the disposal zone formation water (may be measured or inferred from existing literature, studies, nearby wells, etc.).
VIII.	Attach appropriate geological data on the injection zone including appropriate lithologic detail, geological name, thickness, and depth. Give the geologic name, and depth to bottom of all underground sources of drinking water (aquifers containing waters with total dissolved solids concentrations of 10,000 mg/l or less) overlying the proposed injection zone as well as any such source known to be immediately underlying the injection interval. ATTACHED
IX.	Describe the proposed stimulation program, if any. ATTACHED.
х.	Attach appropriate logging and test data on the well. (If well logs have been filed with the Division they need not be resubmitted.) Currently not available
ХІ.	Attach a chemical analysis of fresh water from two or more fresh water wells (if available and producing) within one mile of any injection or disposal well showing location of wells and dates samples were taken. Currently not available
XII.	Applicants for disposal wells must make an affirmative statement that they have examined available geologic and engineering data and find no evidence of open faults or any other hydrologic connection between the disposal zone and any underground source of drinking water. ATTACHED
XIII.	Applicants must complete the "Proof of Notice" section on the reverse side of this form.
XIV.	Certification
	I hereby certify that the information submitted with this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
	Name: R. E. Fraley Signature: Date: Regional Production Engine March 21, 1988
	Signature: Date: March 21, 1988

Distribution. Original and one conv to Santa Fe with one conv to the appropriate Division

III. A. Proposed Disposal Well Data

(1) Lease Name - Cedar Hill SWD Well Number - 1

735 FAL 8/775

Location - tentative footage - 600'FNL, 2100'FEL Section 29, T-32-N, R-10-W San Juan County, New Mexico

(2) Well Bore Casing Configuration:

Casing	Hole Size	<u>Csg.Size</u>	Depth Set	Cement Vol	Proposed Top/Cement
Surf.Cond. Interm.	26" 17 1/2"	20" 13 3/8"	250' 3100'	640 sx 1695 sx	surface 1st st-1500' 2nd st-surf.
Drilling Liner	12 1/4"	9 5/8"	2950-5700'	880 sx.	Circ.liner top @ 2950'
Long String	8 3/4"	7"	8600'	375 sx	5550'

(3) <u>Injection Tubing</u>:

Tubing size - 4 1/2" O.D., 10.5#/ft. K-55 non-coated Setting depth - 7550'

(4) <u>Isolation Packer</u>:

Packer - Size - 7"

Type - Baker

Model - "FA-1"

Seal Assembly - Type - Baker

Model- "K"

- B. Proposed Well Data
 - (1) Formation Name: Morrison and Entrada
 - (2) Injection Intervals:

 Morrison 7550-8385' perforated
 Entrada 8400-8550' perforated
 - (3) The original purpose for drilling this well is to dispose of produced water.
 - (4) There are to be no additional perforated intervals in the proposed well.
 - (5) There is no lower producing zones, and the next higher producing interval is the Dakota at 7260-7540'.

- VI. There are no wells penetrating the proposed depth interval within the area of review.
- VII. 1) The proposed average injection rate is estimated at 3500 bbls/day. The estimated maximum is 20,000 bbls/day.
 - 2) The system will be closed.
 - 3) The estimated maximum surface injection pressure is 1710 psi.
 - 4) The source of injected fluid will be produced water from the Fruitland Coal formation.
 - 5) Injection is for disposal purposes into a zone productive of oil and gas. The distance to the nearest well penetrating the proposed zones is greater than 5 miles. Chemical analysis of the zone formation water will be supplied when available.
- VIII. The proposed injection zones are the Morrison and Entrada, both zones are sandstone. The Morrison interval is estimated @ 7540-8385' from G.L. (6060') having a thickness of 845'. The Entrada interval is estimated @ 8400-8550' from G.L. (6060') having a thickness of 150'.

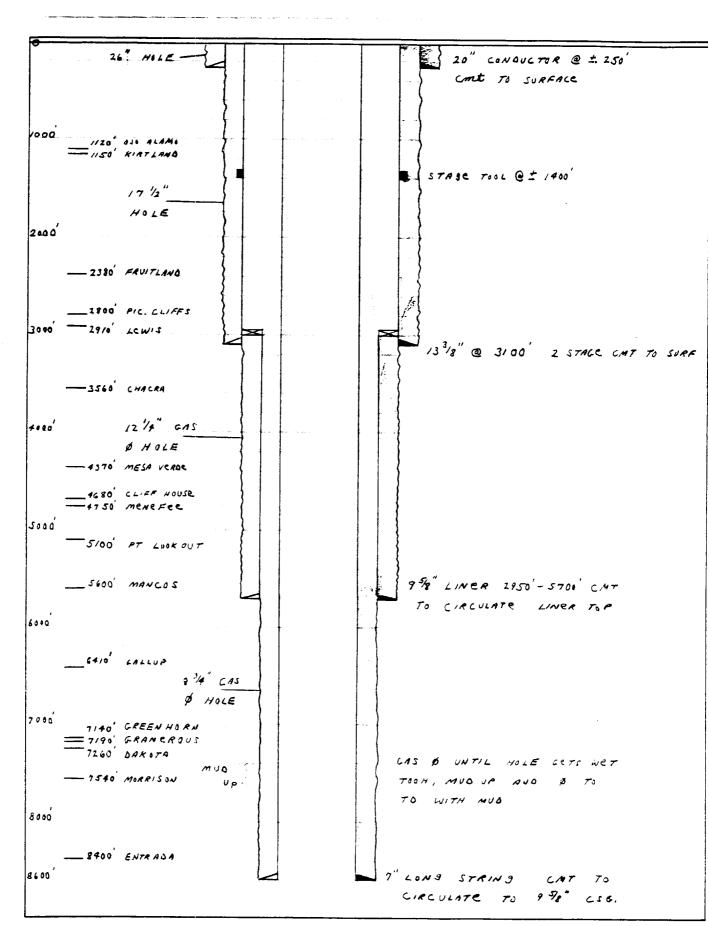
The only overlying fresh water aquifer is the Ojo Alamo having an estimated base depth of 1150' from G.L. There is no fresh water known below the injection zone.

- The proposed stimulation program will consist of sand water fracturing of each interval using 1000 pounds of 20/40 sand per net foot of formation interval. Proppant concentration will be from 1/2 to 2 lbs./gal. The fracturing fluid will be a 40 lb./gal linear gel.
- X. No logs or test data available at present.
- XI. Currently there are no available analyses on water wells in this area.
- XII. An examination of geologic and engineering data indicates no evidence of open faults or any other hydrologic connection between the disposal zone and any source of drinking water. This conclusion is based on proof of isolation between upper gas and oil bearing zones within the area of review.

MERIDIAN OIL CO. ENGINEERING CALCULATION

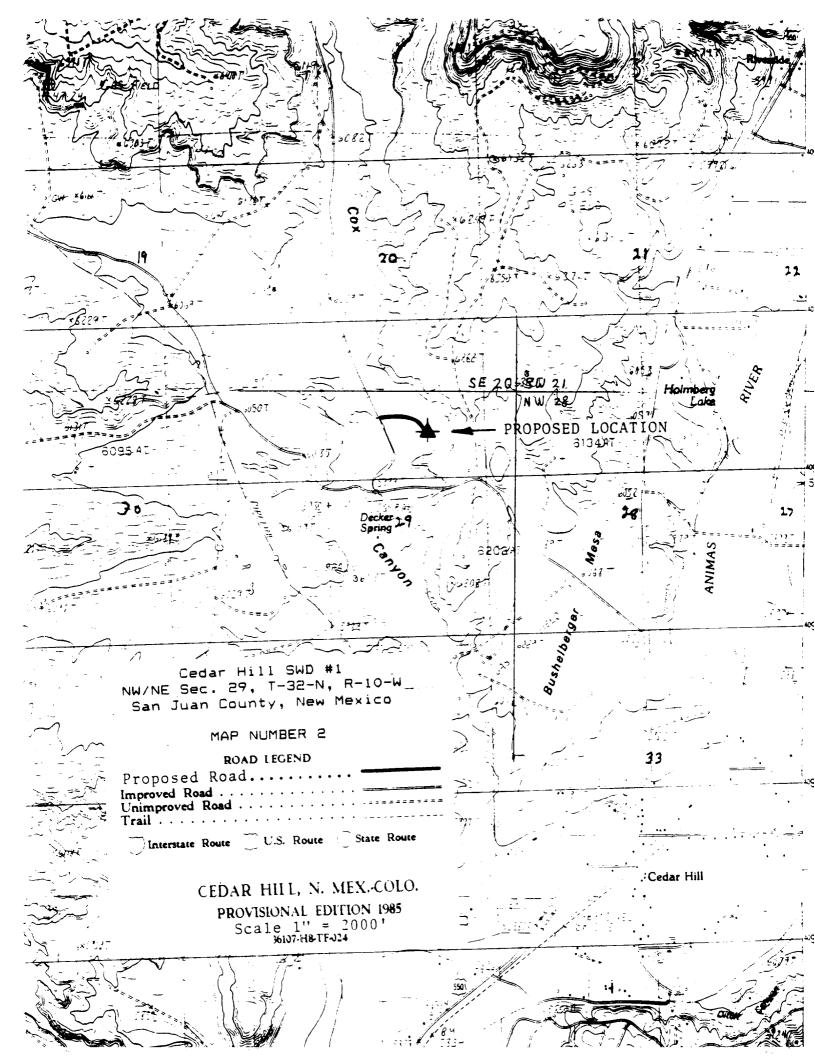
CEDAR HILL SWD WE WELLBORE DIAGRAM

WELL #1



LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that Meridian Oil Inc., P. O. Box 4289, Farmington, New Mexico 87499, has applied for administrative approval to drill its Cedar Hills Salt Water Disposal Well No. 1, at a location 830 feet FNL and 1775 feet FEL of Section 29, T32N, R10W, San Juan County, New Mexico, as a produced water disposal The operator intends to inject formation water well. produced from the Fruitland Coal formation into the Entrada formations at depth of a and Morrison approximately 7750 to 8385 feet and 8400 to 8550 feet at a maximum rate of 20,000 bbls/day with a injection surface pressure of 1710 psi. Interested parties must file objections or request for hearing with the Oil Conservation Division, P. O. Box 2088, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504, within fifteen days of the date of publication.



KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN AND AUBREY

Attorneys at Law
El Pario - 117 North Guadalupe

Post Office Box 2265
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2265

Jason Kellahin
Of Counsel

W. Thomas Kellahin

April 6, 1988

"Certified Mail"

Union Texas Petroleum 375 US Highway 64 Farmington, New Mexico 87401

Tenneco Oil company P. O. Box 3249 Englewood, Colorado 80155

Mesa Petroleum Inc. P. O. Box 2009 Amarillo, Texas 79189

Amoco Production Company 2325 East 30th Farmington, New Mexico 87401

Re: Application of Meridian Oil Inc. to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for Administrative Approval of its Cedar Hill SWD #1 Well as a salt water disposal well, Section 29, T32N, R10W, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Our firm is representing Meridian Oil Inc. in the referenced application. By letter dated March 21, 1988 Meridian Oil Inc. filed the referenced application with the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division and furnished each of you with a copy by certified mail.

That application showed a tentative footage location for the well as 600 feet FNL and 2100 feet FEL of Section 29, T32N, R10W, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico.

Subsequently, the well has been staked and the actual footage location is 830 feet FNL and 1775 feet FEL, Section 29, T32, R10W, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico.

Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN & AUBREY

Union Texas Petroleum Tenneco Oil Company Mesa Petroleum Amoco Production Company April 6, 1988 Page 2

Should you have any objection to this application or desire to file a request for a hearing of this matter, you must do so by filing a written request to be received by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, P. O. Box 2088, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504, not later than fifteen days from April 6, 1988.

Very truly yours,

. Thomas Kellahir

WTK:ca

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

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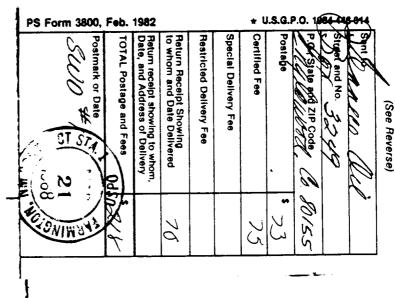
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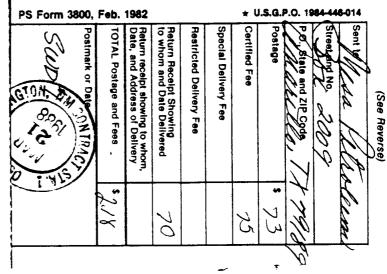
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PS Form 3800, Feb. 1982

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RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL

NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

* U.S.G.P.O. 1984-446-014

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5. Signature – Addressee	8. Addressee's Address (ONLY if requested and fee paid)	5. Signature – Addressee
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Union Texas Pet	4. Article Number P-484 057 428	3. Article Addressed to: Mesa Petroleum Inc.
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