

May 5, 1982

Mr. R. L. Stamets

"Technical Support Chief

New Mexico Oil Consevation Division

P. O. Box 2088

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Subject;

Mesa Petroleum Co. Helen Fed Com #2 2310' FNL & 968' FEL Section 1, T7S, R25E Chaves County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Stamets:

please find attached , Inc., the statement by the phic plat, Exhibit III the

In response to your letter of April 20, 1982, please find attached Exhibit I the archaeological report from NMAS, Inc., the statement by the BLM archaeologist, and Exhibit II the topographic plat, Exhibit III the C102 showing mineral ownership of the proration unit proposed for this well, and Exhibit IV the land map showing offset operators and mineral owners notified by certified letter of this request.

It is hoped that this information wil be sufficient for issuance of the appropriate administrative order for an unorthodox location due to archaeology per Rule 104F.

Expeditious handling of this request is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Mesa Petroleum Co.

R. E. Mathis

Regulatory Coordinator Permian Basin Division

XC: GETTY OIL CO., YATES PETROLEUM CORP., STEVENS OIL CO.

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Normall District Office S. O. Box 1391 Roswell, MM 58201

AVEL 13, 1982

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Several trips were made by SLM personnel to find a location for Mass Perroleon's Melan Federal Com. \$2. The Senatty of Artheological sites within the NEG, Section 1. 7. 7 5., 2. 25 E., is very high. It is so ough that we could not find a location for both the pad and specifical site.

The oresently oroposed Logation consists of a previously bladed ford and and. The construction of this ariginal and and road impacted another prohoping and ane. Nowever, this location would have impact on the archeology of the area.

We have committed with the State Wistoric Provervation Officer and he agrees that fills is the location which deads have sinimal immedia on the armseclatical since of the arms.

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Archaeological Clearance Report

For

MESA PETROLEUM CO.

Addendum to Report Dated 26 February 1982 Helen Federal Com. Well No. 2

Prepared

Ву

Dr. J. Loring Haskell

and

John C. Haight Senior Research Assistant

Submitted

Ву

Dr. J. Loring Haskell Principal Investigator New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc. Carlsbad, New Mexico

15 April 1982

Permit No. 81-NM-306



EXHIBIT I

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FOR
PROPOSED HELEN FEDERAL COM #2

DRAWE V:

Abstract

New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc., representing MESA
PETROLEUM CO., Midland, undertook an additional archaeological reconnaissance of Bureau of Land Management lands for the purpose of recording additional archaeological data on the route to be taken by the proposed access road to the Helen Federal Well No. 2. The investigated areas are situated in Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves
County, New Mexico. Three additional isolated cultural resources
(CR) and one instance of burned cobbles (BC)were recorded during the reconnaissance. Additionally, one previously recorded site, NMAS
5271, was further expanded to the north and west during this reconnaissance. Clearance is not suggested for the road.

Introduction

On 30 March 1981, New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc., (NMAS), Carlsbad, undertook for MESA PETROLEUM CO., Midland, an additional archaeological reconnaissance of federal lands for the purpose of recording new archaeological data on/and near the vicinity of the Helen Federal Well No. 2's access road. This project was advanced by Mr. Lloyd Reed, Regulatory Agent, MESA PETROLEUM CO., Roswell, and administered by Dr. J. Loring Haskell, Principal Investigator, NMAS, Inc. This reconnaissance was undertaken by Dr. Haskell and Mr. John C. Haight, Senior Research Assistant and Field Coordinator, NMAS.

Survey Technique

For this investigation, the access road was walked in two 25 ft wide transects. Methodologically, this procedure served to promote optimal conditions for the visual examination of areas to be impacted by construction-related activities.

Access Road (Helen Federal Well No. 2)

Location

The proposed access road will measure 20 x 3250 ft. on federal lands and will be situated in the:

NW\(\)\(NE\(\)\(\)\(Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves County, NM SW\(\)\(NE\(\)\(Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves County, NM SE\(\)\(NW\(\)\(Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves County, NM SW\(\)\(NW\(\)\(Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves County, NM SW\(\)\(NW\(\)\(Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves County, NM SW\(\)\(NW\(\)\(NMPM, Chaves County, NM SW(\)\(NMPM, Chaves County, NM SW(\)\) \)

Map Reference: USGS EIGHTMILE DRAW QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1962.

<u>Cultural Resources</u>

One previously recorded archaeological site, NMAS 5271, three

isolated cultural resources (CR) and one instance of burned limestone cobbles (BC) were encountered during the course of this reconnaissance.

CR1 consists of one quartzite primary decortication flake at a point approximately 500 ft. east of the beginning point of the access road. It is situated in the:

NE½NW½SW½NW½, Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves Co., NM UTM: Zone 13, N3,733,360; E559,200

Map Reference: USGS EIGHTMILE DRAW QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1962.

CR2 consists of one quartzite core at a point approximately 850 ft east of the beginning point of the access road. It is situated in the:

NW\(\frac{1}{2}\)NW\(\frac{1}{2}\)NW\(\frac{1}{2}\), Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves Co., NM UTM: Zone 13, N3,733,350; E559,300

Map Reference: USGS EIGHTMILE DRAW QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1962.

CR3 consists of one chert primary decortication flake at a point approximately 950 ft east of the beginning point of the access road. It is situated in the:

NW\{\text{NE}\{\text{SW}\{\text{NW}\{\text{N}}\}, Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves Co., NM UTM: Zone 13, N3,733,350; E559,330

Map Reference: USGS EIGHTMILE DRAW QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1962.

The BC, consisting of one burned limestone cobble is situated at a point approximately 450 ft east of the beginning point of the access road.

NMAS 5271

Location: W\(\frac{1}{2}\)NW\(\frac{1}{2}\)NW\(\frac{1}{2}\), Section 1, T7S, R25E, NMPM, Chaves County, NM

UTM: Zone 13, N3,733,420; E559,680

Map Reference: USGS EIGHTMILE DRAW QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1962.

Ownership: Bureau of Land Management

Dimension of Resources: 366 X 519 m

Typological Designation: Occupation Zone

Temporality: Unknown

Nature of Cultural Resources: NMAS 5271, a large occupation zone, is situated on a gently sloping landform on the edge of a prominent escarpment overlooking Fivemile Draw to the north and Observed resources consist of an extensive scatter of chert and quartzite cores and exhausted cores, quartzite hammerstones, chert and quartzite bifaces, a vesicular basalt chopper, chert, quartzite, and chalcedony primary-secondarytertiary decortication flakes, and an occasional burned-and fire-cracked limestone cobble and gravel. Although several minor concentrations were observed, the overall density of material is not uniform, thus the term occupation zone has been applied. Very little debris occurs at the base of the escarpment on the Fivemile Draw floodplain. The types of artifacts encountered at this site indicate that quarrying knappable material for lithic tool fabrication was the primary activity. No diagnostic artifacts were observed, hence authorship and temporality cannot be established.

Owing to the size of NMAS 5271, occupation by social groups at any one time was probably measurable in terms of a day or two or less. However, the site was probably reoccupied on numerous occasions during the Late Archaic

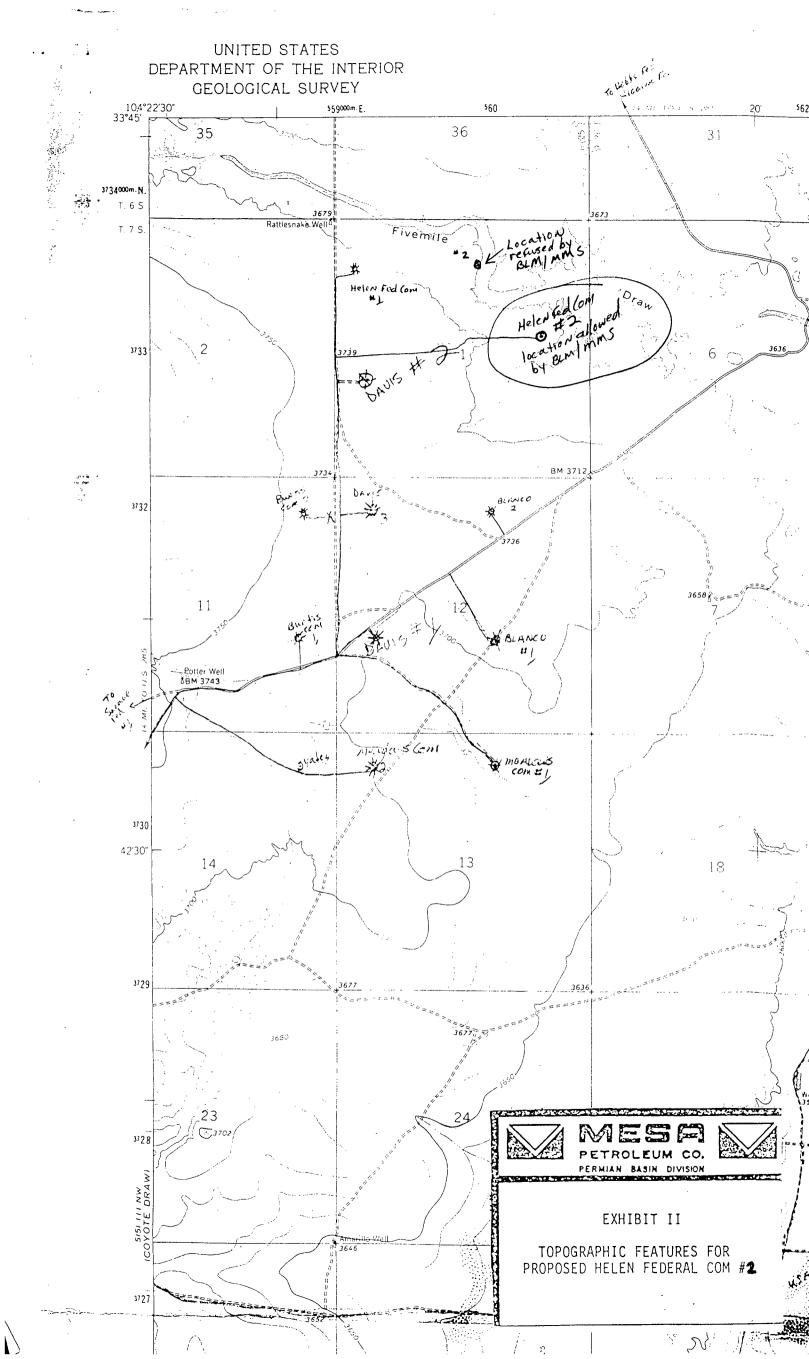
(A.D. 750-950) and Jornada Mogollon (A.D. 950-arica 1350) times.

Further investigation of this site should shed light on the nature of lithic tool technologies. Excavation should yield functionally specific areas, i.e. knapping stations, furthering our understanding of occupation zones west of the Pecos River. Temporality and authorship may be established as well.

Recommendations

NMAS does not recommend clearance for the proposed road.

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