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RECOGNIZED SPECIALIST IN THE AREA OF NATURAL RESOURCES-OIL AND GAS LAW

\*NEW MEXICO BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

W THOMAS KELLAHIN\*

October 17, 1994

#### **HAND DELIVERED**

Mr. Michael E. Stogner Chief Hearing Examiner Oil Conservation Division P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Re: McClure Well No. 1, O-03-29N-11W Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for downhole commingling and an unorthodox coal-gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Stogner:

On behalf of Meridian Oil Inc., please find enclosed our referenced application which we request be set for hearing on the next available Examiner's docket now scheduled for November 10, 1994.

By copy of this letter and application, sent certified mail, we are notifying all interested parties of their right to appear at the hearing and participate in this case, including the right to present evidence either in support of or in opposition to the application and that failure to appear at the hearing may preclude them from any involvement in this case at a later date.

Oil Conservation Division October 17, 1994 Page Two

Pursuant to the Division's Memorandum 2-90, all parties are hereby informed that if they appear in this case, then they are requested to file a Pre-Hearing Statement with the Division not later than 4:00 PM on Friday, November 4, 1994, with a copy delivered to the undersigned.

Also enclosed is our proposed advertisement of this case for the NMOCD docket.

Very truly yours

W. Thomas/Kellahin

WTK/wtk Enclosure

cc: Meridian Oil Inc. and

By Certified Mail - Return Receipt

All Interested Parties

#### PROPOSED ADVERTISEMENT

Case 11142. Application of Meridian Oil Inc. for downhole commingling and an unorthodox coal-gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval to downhole commingle Aztec-Pictured Cliffs Gas Pool (SE/4 dedication) with the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool production (E/2 dedication) within the wellbore of its McClure Well No. 1 located 990 feet from the South line and 1650 feet from the East line (Unit O) of Section 3, T29N, R11W, NMPM, at an unorthodox "off-pattern" coal-gas well location. Said well is located approximately 2 miles north of Bloomfield, New Mexico.

## STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL INC. FOR DOWNHOLE COMMINGLING AND AN UNORTHODOX COAL-GAS WELL LOCATION, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO. CASE: /1/45

#### APPLICATION

Comes now MERIDIAN OIL INC., ("Meridian") by and through its attorneys, Kellahin and Kellahin, and applies to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for approval to downhole commingle Aztec-Pictured Cliffs Gas Pool (SE/4 dedication) with the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool production (E/2 dedication) within the wellbore of its McClure Well No. 1 located 990 feet from the South line and 1650 feet from the East line (Unit O) of Section 3, T29N, R11W, NMPM and for an unorthodox coal gas "off-pattern" well location.

In support of its application, Meridian states:

- (1) Meridian is the operator of the McClure Well No. 1 in Section 3, T29N, R11W, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico which currently is a single completion well in the Aztec-Pictured Cliffs Gas Pool. See Exhibit "A" attached.
- (2) The well is to be recompleted so that production from the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool and the Pictured Cliffs formation can be downhole commingled in the wellbore.

- (3) In addition, Meridian has selected to recomplete its McClure Well No. 1 at an unorthodox "off pattern" coal gas well location in order to downhole commingle that production with the Pictured Cliffs production in order to recover marginal Pictured Cliffs gas reserves located in the SE/4 of Section 3.
- (4) The ownership is not common for the well and its respective spacing and proration units in both pools.
- (5) In accordance with Division Rule 303-C-l.(b), the Applicant states and will demonstrate at hearing:
- 1. the downhole commingling in this wellbore is necessary because evidence indicates that the Pictured Cliffs formation in this area of the San Juan Basin should be marginally productive and that due to the marginal production expected, it is uneconomic to drill a stand alone Pictured Cliffs Well. In addition, it is not economic to attempt to dually complete those formations in this well;
- 2. there will be no crossflow between the two zones commingled;
- 3. neither commingled zones exposes the other to damage by produced liquids;
  - 4. the fluids from each zone are compatible with the other;
- 5. it is expected that the bottom hole pressure of the lower pressure zone is not less than 50 percent of the bottom hole pressure of the higher pressure zone adjusted to a common datum.
- 6. the value of the commingled production will not be less than the sum of the values of the individual production.

- (6) The proposed downhole commingling is necessary in order for the applicant to economically recover Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas and Pictured Cliffs Gas Pool reserves underlying each respective proration unit.
- (7) Due to the nature of the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas production, straight allocation of gas volumes from both zones is not appropriate. Meridian therefore seeks the adoption of a monthly allocation formula to be presented at the time of the hearing.
- (8) Applicant requests that this matter be docketed for hearing on the Division's Examiner docket now scheduled for November 10, 1994.
- (9) A copy of this application is being sent to all owners of production within the respective spacing unit for the well who may be affected by downhole commingling.
- (10) Copy of this application has been sent to all offsetting operators to the two spacing units for the well.

WHEREFORE Applicant requests that this matter be set for hearing on November 10, 1994 before a duly appointed Examiner of the Oil Conservation Division and that after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter its order granting this application.

W. Thomas Kellahin

KELLAHIN and KELLAHIN

P. O. Box 2265

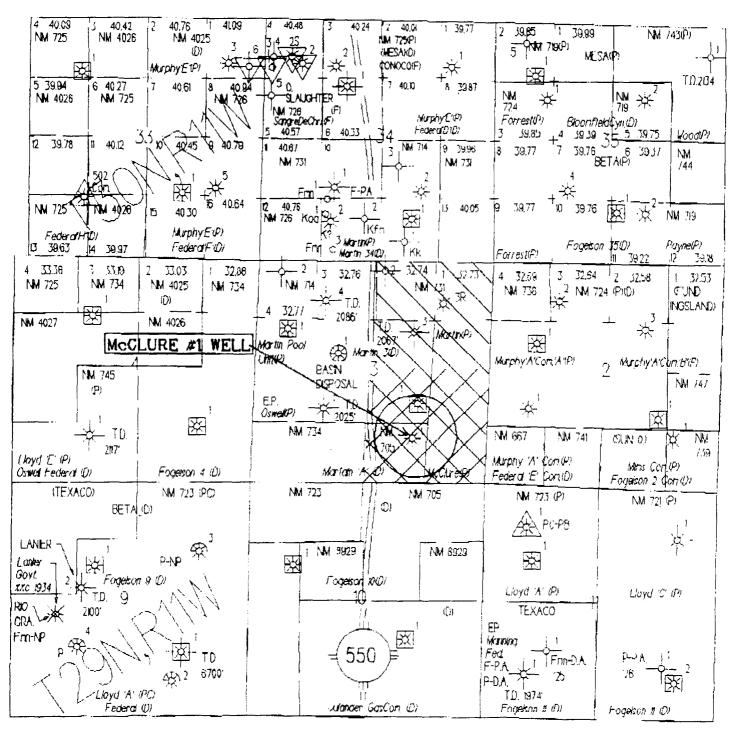
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

(505) 982-4285

Attorneys for Applicant

PAGE

# McCLURE #1 WELL UNIT O, SECTION 3, T29N, R11W SAN JUAN CO, NEW MEXICO



FRUITLAND SAND WELL
FRUITLAND COAL WELL
HELT

∰ MESAVERDE WELL 図 DAKOTA WELL

⇔ GALLUP WELL



FRUITLAND COAL
SPACING UNIT

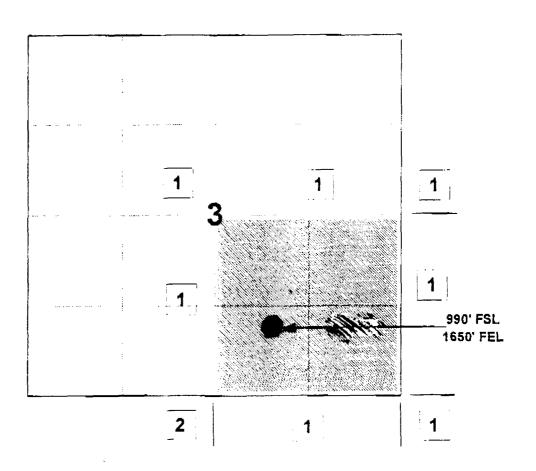
## **MERIDIAN OIL INC**

## McCLURE #1

### OFFSET OPERATOR \ OWNER PLAT

Fruitland Coal / Pictured Cliffs Commingle Well

Township 29 North, Range 11 West



1) Meridian Oil Inc	
2) Meridian Oil Inc &	
Amoco Production Company	PO Box 800, Denver, CO 80201

Pictured Cliffs Formation

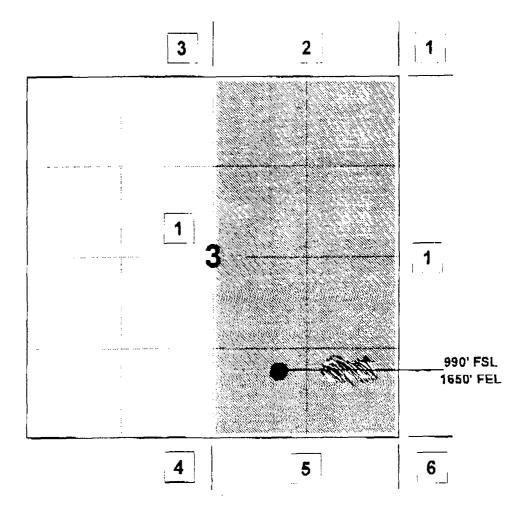
## **MERIDIAN OIL INC**

## McCLURE #1

## **OFFSET OPERATOR \ OWNER PLAT**

Fruitland Coal / Pictured Cliffs Commingle Well

Township 29 North, Range 11 West



1) Meridian Oil Inc		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
2) Meridian Oil Inc	<u> </u>	
Conoco, Inc.		10 Desta Drive, Suite 100W, Midland, TX 79705
3) Meridian Oil inc	&	
Orville Slaughter		710 E. 20th, Farmington, NM 87401
4) Meridian Oil Inc	&	
Amoco Production	Company	PO Box 800, Denver, CO 80201
Dugan Production C	orporation	PO Box 420, Farmington, NM 87401
6) Meridian Oil Inc.,	Dugan Production Corporation	<u> </u>
Mobil Producina Te	xas & New Mexico	PO Box 633, Midland, TX 79702
6) Meridian Oil Inc	&	
Texaco Exploration	& Production, inc.	PO Box 2100, Denver, CO 80201

**Fruitland Coal Formation**