

April 3, 1984



ji wi 了 i

State of New Mexico Energy and Minerals Department Oil Conservation Division P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, NM 87501

Attention: Mr. Michael E. Stogner Examiner

Case 8183

Dear Examiner Stogner:

July 8, 1983 Subject: Request for Further Determination State Com. AI #33

As you know, on July 8, 1983 Mesa Petroleum Co. filed a letter requesting a further determination under 18 CFR Section 271.806 that the increase in production from the State Com. AI #33 well is the result of a Recognized Enhanced Recovery Technique as defined by 18 CFR Section 271.803(a). By letter dated July 22, 1983 Northwest Pipeline Corporation, the purchaser of gas production from that well, protested Mesa's request.

The basis for Mesa's request is detailed in the attachments to Mesa's letter. I will not repeat it here. I will only state that Northwest's letter sets up a very weak protest. They seem to want you to ignore the actual fact that the method of alternately producing and shutting in the well does indeed increase the rate of production of gas from the well. Rather, Northwest asserts that since Mesa did not discover this technique voluntarily (i.e., without forced shut-ins) then Mesa cannot now qualify it as a recognized enhanced recovery technique.

While Mesa takes no credit for being forced by the market to discover that this process of intermittent production would enhance the recovery of gas from this well, it is a fact that this process does achieve that effect. Even if market conditions improve in the future, Mesa intends to continue alternately producing and shutting in this well in order to increase its rate of production. This is precisely

Page Two

April 3, 1984

the sort of technique addressed by 18 CFR Section 271.803(a) and Mesa would, therefore, request approval by the Oil Conservation Division of Mesa's July 8, 1983 Application for Continued Stripper Classification of the State Com. AI #33 well.

Very truly yours,

Steven C. James

bt

c.c. Northwest Pipeline Corporation Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Working Interest Partners NORTHWEST ENERGY COMPANY

P O BOX 1526 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84110-1526 801-583-8800

July 22, 1983



State of New Mexico Energy & Minerals Dept. Oil Conservation Division P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Case 8183

## RE: Request for Further Determination of Eligibility for Section 108 Pricing, State Com AI No. 33 Well

Gentlemen:

This letter shall serve to provide the Oil Conservation Commission ("Commission") with formal notice of the protest of Northwest Pipeline Corporation ("Northwest") with respect to the above-referenced Request filed with the Commission on July 8, 1983, by Mesa Petroleum Co. ("Mesa").

In its Request, Mesa took the position that the increase in production recorded for the ninety (90) day period ending December 1982 on the State Com AI No. 33 well is attributable to a "recognized enhanced recovery technique" as defined in 18 C.F.R. §271.803(a). Mesa is seeking review by the Commission of its application for §108 pricing pursuant to 18 C.F.R. §271.806(a). It is Northwest's position that the increase in production evidenced during the ninety (90) day period ending December 8, 1982, was due to temporary pressure buildup and not to the utilization of any recognized enhanced recovery technique on this well. The Regulations are clear that a "recognized enhanced recovery technique" refers to a process or the utilization of equipment which, when performed or installed by the producer, increases the rate of production of gas from a well. The producer, in this case, Mesa, did not control and in no way initiated the shut-in of the State Com AI No. 33 well. The well was shut-in by Northwest due to a decrease in the demand for gas on Northwest's system which caused widespread shut-ins, affecting this well and others. Neither Northwest or Mesa have truly engaged in attempts to enhance recovery from this well.

It is Northwest's position that to claim that enhanced recovery techniques have been applied to this well, Mesa would have to prove that the increase in the rate of production did not result from the fact that the well was shut-in due to a lack of demand. Mesa would further have to prove that it had initiated some process or had installed some equipment on the well which had served to increase production rates. Mesa's application supports neither of these points. Northwest urges the Commission to reject Mesa's application for §108 pricing on this well due to enhanced recovery. If necessary, Northwest will participate in any hearing scheduled on this matter and will provide technical testimony indicative of the fact that production rate increases demonstrated by this well are related to and caused by the shut-in of pipeline connected to the well and are not the result of any enhanced recovery technique.

Thank you for consideration of this protest. Any questions may be addressed to the undersigned at Northwest Pipeline Corporation, P.O. Box 1526, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-1526, (801) 584-7051

Very truly yours,

NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION

torney

xc: Mesa Petroleum Company Bob Glenn Bob Guttery Brent Hale Jan Wayman

MD/src

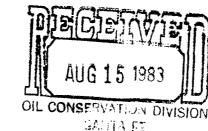
STATE OF UTAH ) :ss. COUNTY OF SALT LAKE )

MARY DUFFIN, being first duly sworn, on oath, says that she is an attorney for Northwest Pipeline Corporation; that she has read the foregoing protest of Northwest Pipeline Corporation and that, as such attorney, she has executed the same for and on behalf of said Corporation with full power and authority to do so; and that the matters set forth therein are true to the best of her knowledge, information and belief. She further swears that on this 22nd day of July, 1983 a true and correct copy of the foregoing Protest was served upon Mesa Petroleum Co. by placing a copy of said Protest in the United States Mail, First Class--Postage Prepaid, and addressed as follows:

> Mesa Petroleum Co. P.O. Box 2009 Amarilla, Texas 79189 Attention: Legal Dept.

Mary Duffin Northwest Ripeline Corporation 295 Chipeta Way Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-1526





P. O. BOX 1492 EL PASO, TEXAS 79978 PHONE: 915-541-2600

August 9, 1983

State of New Mexico Energy and Minerals Department Oil Conservation Division Post Office Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Natural Gas Company

Re: Mesa Petroleum Company; State Com AI No. 33, San Juan County, N.M.; Request for Determination of Recognized Enhanced Recovery Technique

Gentlemen:

By letter dated July 8, 1983, Mesa Petroleum Company ("Mesa") requested that the Oil Conservation Division ("OCD") determine that the increase in production from the referenced well above 60 Mcf per day for the 90-day production period ending December, 1982, was the result of a "recognized enhanced recovery technique," as defined in 18 CFR § 271.803(a), employed by Mesa. Specifically, Mesa alleged that it has "mechanically stimulate[d]" the reservoir in which the referenced well is completed by shutting such well in for a number of days each month. This letter shall serve as El Paso Natural Gas Company's ("El Paso") notice of its objection and formal protest to the request of Mesa.

El Paso owns a leasehold interest in the referenced well and is connected thereto by means of its gathering system. Pursuant to an exchange arrangement, El Paso receives for its own system supply the gas attributable to Mesa's interest in the well which Mesa sells to Northwest Pipeline Corporation ("Northwest"). During the current conditions of low market demand, in order to apportion its market among all gas sources (including purchased gas, company-owned production and gas received in exchange arrangements), in accordance with valid legal and contractual requirements, El Paso must maintain a production schedule which requires periodic shutting-in of wells.

The activity which Mesa has alleged constitutes a "recognized enhanced recovery technique" is really nothing more than the shutting-in of wells by Mesa upon El Paso's instructions under its production scheduling system. As is revealed in the "Notice of Increased Production," dated March 29, 1983, filed by Northwest, and El Paso's "Notice of Increased Production," dated March 8, 1983, the referenced well was shut-in on 47 days during the 90-day production period ending December, 1982. The attached corrected production record for the referenced well for the period ending December, 1982, shows that the reason for the shutting-in of the referenced well was lack of market demand for each of the 47 days. None of the 47 shut-in days involved the voluntary action of Mesa to mechanically stimulate the reservoir.

It is El Paso's position that an activity such as the shuttingin of a well to limit production is not a "recognized enhanced recovery technique" within the contemplation of Congress in enacting section 108 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 or of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission") in promulgating 18 CFR § 271.803(a). The shutting-in of the well by Mesa was done pursuant to El Paso's instructions under prudent purchasing and pipeline operating practices, not pursuant to any plan devised by Mesa with the intent to stimulate the reservoir. Moreover, nowhere in the Commission's definition of "recognized enhanced recovery techniques" or in any of the decisions thereunder does there appear any contemplation that routine production and pipeline operating activities, such as the shutting-in of a well to limit production because of low market demand, should be classified as an enhanced recovery technique.

For the foregoing reasons, El Paso respectfully requests that the OCD decline Mesa's request to issue a determination that the shuttingin of wells for reasons of low market demand or for other "force majeure" events constitutes a "recognized enhanced recovery technique." Furthermore, El Paso requests a hearing for the purposes of opposing Mesa's application.

Respectfully submitted,

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY

Donald L. Anderson Manager, NGPA Compliance Gas Control and Administration Department

Donald J. MacIver, Jr. Vice President and General Counsel Thomas S. Jensen Attorneys for El Paso Natural Gas Company Post Office Box 1492 El Paso, Texas 79978 (915) 541-2600

## Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon each of the persons listed below by placing such document in the United States mail, postage prepaid.

Dated at El Paso, Texas this 10th day of August, 1983.

Service List:

Mesa Petroleum Company One Mesa Square Post Office Box 2009 Amarillo, Texas 79189 Attention: C. Taylor Yoakum

Northwest Pipeline Corporation Post Office Box 1526 Salt Lake City, Utah 84110 Attention: J. S. Wayman

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 825 North Capitol Street, N.E. Washington, D. C. 20426 Attention: Kenneth Plumb Secretary RUN DATE: 83/07/20 API NO: 30-045-06118-0000 WELL NAME: STATE COM AI #33 SITE WELL: 75053 01 LOCATION: UL N SECTION 32 TSP 27N RGE 9W STATE: NEW MEXICO COUNTY: SAN JUAN FIELD/RESERVOIR: BASIN DAKOTA OPERATOR: MESA PETROLEUM CO

		VOLUME 15.025 PB	OIL BBLS	GAS MCF @	VOLUME 14.73 PB	OIL BBLS	
	MONTH	PRODUCING RATE/DAY	MONTH	MONTH	PRODUCING RATE/DAY	MONTH	PRO- DUC <sup>I</sup> G DAYS
JAN 82	1602	52		1634	53		31.0
FEB 82	1437	51		1466	52		28.0
MAR 82	876	28		894	29		31.0
APR 82	1315	44		1341	45		30.0
MAY 82	1449	50		1478	51		29.0
JUN 82	1404	47		1432	48		30.0
JUL 82	1441	46		1470	47		31.0
AUG 82	1402	45		1430	46		31.0
SEP 82	1381	46		1409	47		30.0
OCT 82	1026	43		1047	44		24.0
NOV 82	11	11		11	11		1.0
DEC 82	1824	91		1860	93		20.0

PRODUCING RATE-MCF/DAY @ 14.73 PB: LATEST 3 MO AVG= 65, LATEST 12 MO AVG= 49

NO CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION

- 1.INCLUDED AS PRODUCTION DAYS UNDER THE COLUMN "PRODUC'G DAYS" ABOVE ARE THOSE DAYS DURING WHICH THERE WAS MEASURABLE PRODUCTION OF NATURAL GAS FROM THE WELL AND THOSE DAYS ON WHICH THE WELL WAS OPEN TO THE LINE BUT WAS UNABLE TO PRODUCE MEASURABLE QUANTITIES OF GAS.
- 2.ALSO INCLUDED AS PRODUCTION DAYS UNDER THE COLUMN "PRODUC'G DAYS" ABOVE ARE THOSE DAYS DURING WHICH NATURAL GAS WAS NOT PRODUCED WHEN PRODUCTION DURING SUCH DAYS WAS PROHIBITED BY A REQUIREMENT OF STATE LAW OR A RECOGNIZED OR APPROVED CONSERVATION PRACTICE. THOSE DAYS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

OCT	82	DAYS=	NONE
NOV	82	DAYS=	NONE
DEC	82	DAYS=	NONE

3.NOT INCLUDED AS PRODUCTION DAYS UNDER THE COLUMN "PRODUC'G DAYS" ABOVE ARE NON PRODUCTION DAYS (SHUT-IN DAYS). THOSE DAYS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

OCT 82 DAYS= 7.0 SHUT-IN - MARKET REQUIREMENTS NOV 82 DAYS=29.0 SHUT-IN - MARKET REQUIREMENTS DEC 82 DAYS=11.0 SHUT-IN - MARKET REQUIREMENTS



July 8, 1983

State of New Mexico Energy and Minerals Department Oil Conservation Division P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe NM 87501

Gentlemen:

Notice of Increased Production and Request for Further Determination State Com AI #33

On December 8, 1981, Mesa Petroleum Co. ("Mesa") submitted a Section 108 application for the subject well located in San Juan County, New Mexico. The application was approved on January 12 and became final on March 29, 1981.

The purchaser, Northwest Pipeline Company, has notified Mesa that production has exceeded 60 Mcfd for the 90-day period ending December 1982. This letter then shall serve as Mesa's request for a further determination under 18 CFR Section 271.806 that the increase in production is the result of a Recognized Enhanced Recovery Technique as defined by 18 CFR Section 271.803(a).

Very truly yours,

Taylor/Yoakam

HKW/dh

enclosures	PLEORE EL STANAERS
Copies to Northwest Pipeline Company Federal Energy Regulatory Comm	ission Memerican Division
	CASE NO. 8183 Submitted by Mike Houston Hearing Date 6-6-84

# NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION

P 0 BOX 1525 SALT LAKE CITY UT4- 64110 1526 BO1 583 8600

Received

APR 0 4 1983

March 29, 1983

Regulatory REM

New Mexico Oil & Gas Conservation Commission Department of Energy & Minerals Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Road State Land Building Room 206 P. O. Box 7088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

> Re: Well No. State Com AI #33 Docket No. N/A

Gentlemen:

....

Northwest Pipeline Corporation (Northwest) submits herewith for filing its Notice of Increased Production for the referenced well in accordance with Section 271.805(a) of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Regulations implementing the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

Please accept this notice for filing and acknowledge its receipt by stamping the attached additional copy and returning it to the undersigned. Any questions may be addressed to the undersigned at Northwest Pipeline Corporation, Certificates-10466, P. O. Box 1526, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-1526, (801) 584-7111.

Very truly yours,

NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION

S. Wayma-

J. S. Wayman Certificates Coordinator

JSW:kyn Enclosures

cc: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Mesa Petroleum Company

XC: Gas Cont (FERC), And Reds (FILE), AROD

A SUBSIDIARY OF NORTHWEST ENERGY COMPANY

# NOTICE OF INCREASED PRODUCTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 271.805 OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION'S REGULATIONS

Form 121 Dated: 12-08-81	Meter No.: 75053
Date Received by Jurisdictional Agency: 12	-14-81 Docket No.: *
Date Approved by Jurisdictional Agency: 1	-12-82
Date Received by Commission: N/A	Docket No.:
Well Name: State Com AI #33	API Number: 30-045-06118
Location: Sec 32 T27N R9W	Field/Reservoir: Basin DK
County: San Juan	State: NM
Operator: Mesa Petroleum Company	Purchaser: Northwest Pipeline Corp.
Address: P.O. Box 2009 Amarillo, TX 79189	Address: P.O. Box 1526 Salt Lake City, UT 84110

## 90-Day Production

Month	Year	Days Flow	Vol. @ 14.73 psia in Mcf	Oil Production
OCT	1982	24	1047	
NOV	1982	1	11	
DEC	1982	20	1860	
	TOTAL	45	<u>2918</u>	

Average Production for the 90-day period: 65 Mcf/day

Total producing days in production period: 45

Total volume: 2918 Mcf

#### Downtime

## \* State of New Mexico

Oct 7 Days shut-in No Demand Nov 29 Days shut-in No Demand Dec 11 Days shut-in Plant Repairs or shutdowns "Force Majeure" STATE OF UTAH

:55.

GITY AND COUNTY OF SALT LAKE

I, R. E. GUTTERY, having first been duly sworn, states that I am a responsible official of Northwest Pipeline Corporation ("Northwest") and further states:

> i) that the production summary included with this notice accurately reflects the production volume for the well and the number of producing days as defined in Section 271.803(d) of the Regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

ii) that all the information contained in this notice is true to the best of my information, knowledge and belief; and

iii) that Northwest has served a copy of this notice on the interested jurisdictional agencies, the designated operators, and other purchasers.

Dated	thic	29th	day of	March	. 1983.	
Dated	LUIS	2361		na ch	. 1983.	

R. E. Guttery

Director, Certificates Northwest Pipeline Corporation P. O. Box 1526 Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-1526

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and County aforesaid, on this <u>29th</u> day of <u>March</u>, 1983.

man

My Commission Expires:

6-9-86

PRICE CETLING CATEGO		
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~		.5. State Oll 6 Gas Lease tio.
OR DIVISION USE ONLY:	/	E-1010-1
ATE COMPLETE APPLICATION FILED 14/7/8		
ATE DETERMINATION MADE ///2/82	RECEIVED CTY	7. Uni: Agreement Name
AS APPLICATION CONTESTED? YÉSNO		
IME(S) OF INTERVENOR(S), IF ANY:	JAN 1 8 1982	8. Farm or Lease Name
		State Com AI
me ol Operalar		9. Well No.
sa Petroleum Co.		33
O. Box 2009, Amarillo, Texas 79189		Basin Dakota
Intion of Well UNIT LETTER N LOCATED 1190	FEET FROM THE South Line	12. County
1650 PEET PROM THE WEST LINE OF SEC. 32	тир. <u>27 рас.</u> 9 ныры	San Juan
Hame and Actress of Purchaser(s) thwest Pipeline Corporation, 315 Eas	+ 200 South Salt Take	City, Utah 84111
·		CICY, OCAN SAILI
WELL CATEGOR	Y INFORMATION	
Check appropriate box for category sought a	nd information submitted.	
1. Category(ies) Sought (By NGPA Section N	0.1 108	
2. All Applications must contain:		
a. C-101 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRI	IL DEEDEN OD DIVIG BACY	
E b. C-105 WELL COMPLETION OR RECOMPLETION		
C. DIRECTIONAL ORILLING SURVEY, IF REQU	OIRED UNDER ROLE III	
X 4. AFFIDAVITS OF MAILING OR DELIVERY		
3. In addition to the above, all application applicable rule of the Division's "Spect Price Ceiling Category Determinations" and the second	ial Rules for Applications For Wel	d by the lhead
A. NEW NATURAL GAS UNDER SEC. 102(c)(1	)(B) (using 2.5 Mile or 1000 Feet	Deeper Test)
All items required by Rule 14(1	) and/or Rule 14(2)	- m
<b>B.</b> NEW NATURAL GAS UNDER SEC. 102(c)(1	)(C) (new onshore reservoir)	Jan - Carrier
All items required by Rule 15		
C. THEY OMSHORE PRODUCTION WELL	DEC 1	1 100
. All items required by Rule 16A	or Rule 16B CI- COme	
D. DEEP, HIGH-COST NATURAL GAS and TIG	UNOCITYA,	UN DIVINI
All items required by Rule 17(1	) or Rule 17(2)	FE
E. STRIPPER WELL NATURAL GAS		
All items required by Rule 18	·	
REBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED	FOR DIVISION	USE ONLY
EIN IS TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY ALEDGE AND BELIEF.	[] Approved	
Sa Batroloum Co	Disapproved	
AME OF APPLICANT (Type or Print)		ad banata tastu t
And Machena	The information contained of the information requ	ired to be filed by the
SIGUATURE OF APPLICANT	applicant under Subpart FFRC regulations.	B of Part 274 of the
e Manager Gas Sales & Contracts	A A A	
12-8-81	The stan	Dy
	EXAMINER	

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINEPALS DEPARTMENT	P 0.80	ATION DIVISION x 2088 v MEXICO 87501	Form C-132-A Revised 5-10-81
		FOR CONTINUED ASSIFICATION	SA. Indicate Type of Lease BYAYE X PEC
FOR DIVISION USE ONLY:			5. State Oll 6 Gas Lease No. E-1010-1
DATE COMPLETE APPLICATION F	ILED		
DATE DETERMINATION MADE			
WAS APPLICATION CONTESTED?	YESNO		7. Unit Agreement Name
NAME(S) OF INTERVENOR(S). I	F'ANY:		8. Farm or Lease Name
			State Com AI
Name of Operator			9. Well No. 33
Mesa Petroleum Co.			10. Field and Pool, or Wildzat
P. O. Box 2009, Amarillo	, Texas 79189		Basin Dakota
Location of Well UNIT LETTER N	LOCATED 1190	PEET FROM THE South	LINE 12. County
1650 FEET FROM THE WEST	LINE OF SEC. 32	<b>***•</b> . 27 •ce, 9	San Jaun
- Rame and Address of Purchaser(s)			
submitted.	e box for categor	ry sought and informa	ition
<ol> <li>All applications applicable rule Applications For as follows:</li> <li>A. Increased pr recovery tec</li> <li>X. All item</li> <li>B. Well is seas</li> <li>All item</li> <li>C. Increased pr</li> </ol>	must contain the of the Division's Wellhead Price ( oduction resultin hniques s required by Rul onally affected s required by Rul oduction resultin	e items required by to s "Special Rules For Ceiling Category Dete ng from recognized en le 19 e 20 og from temporary pres	he rminations" hanced
<ol> <li>All applications applicable rule Applications For as follows:</li> <li>A. Increased pr recovery tec</li> <li>X. All item</li> <li>B. Well is seas</li> <li>All item</li> <li>C. Increased pr</li> </ol>	must contain the of the Division's Wellhead Price ( oduction resultin hniques s required by Rul onally affected s required by Rul	e items required by to S "Special Rules For Ceiling Category Dete ng from recognized en le 19 de 20 og from temporary pres e 21	ssure buildup
<ol> <li>All applications applicable rule Applications For as follows:</li> <li>A. Increased pr recovery tec</li> <li>X. All item</li> <li>B. Well is seas</li> <li>All item</li> <li>C. Increased pr</li> </ol>	must contain the of the Division's Wellhead Price ( oduction resultin hniques s required by Rul onally affected s required by Rul oduction resultin s required by Rul	e items required by to S "Special Rules For Ceiling Category Dete ng from recognized en le 19 de 20 og from temporary pres e 21	he rminations" hanced
<ul> <li>2. All applications applicable rule Applications For as follows:</li> <li>A. Increased precovery tec X All item</li> <li>B. Well is seas</li> <li>All item</li> <li>C. Increased pr</li> <li>All item</li> <li>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMEREIN IS TRUE AND COMPLETE TO KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.</li> <li>C. Taylor Yoakam</li> </ul>	must contain the of the Division's Wellhead Price ( oduction resultin hniques s required by Rul onally affected s required by Rul oduction resultin s required by Rul RMATION CONTAINED THE BEST OF MY	e items required by to s "Special Rules For Ceiling Category Dete ng from recognized en le 19 de 20 ng from temporary pres e 21 FOR DI	ssure buildup
<ul> <li>2. All applications applicable rule Applications For as follows:</li> <li>A. Increased pr recovery tec X All item</li> <li>B. Well is seas All item</li> <li>C. Increased pr All item</li> <li>Increased pr All item</li> </ul>	must contain the of the Division's Wellhead Price ( oduction resultin hniques s required by Rul onally affected s required by Rul oduction resultin s required by Rul RMATION CONTAINED THE BEST OF MY or Print)	e items required by to s "Special Rules For Ceiling Category Deter ng from recognized en le 19 le 20 ng from temporary pres e 21 FOR DI Disapproved The information co of the information co	ssure buildup

## STATE COM AI #33

The State Com AI #33 well was completed in the Basin Dakota formation in October, 1964, and has produced from that formation since that date. Beginning with 1980, the production rate had declined to a rate averaging less than 60 MCFD for several 90-day periods.

During 1979 and 1980, production steadily declined to rates at or below 60 MCFD. The number of producing days remained at or close to the maximum for both years.

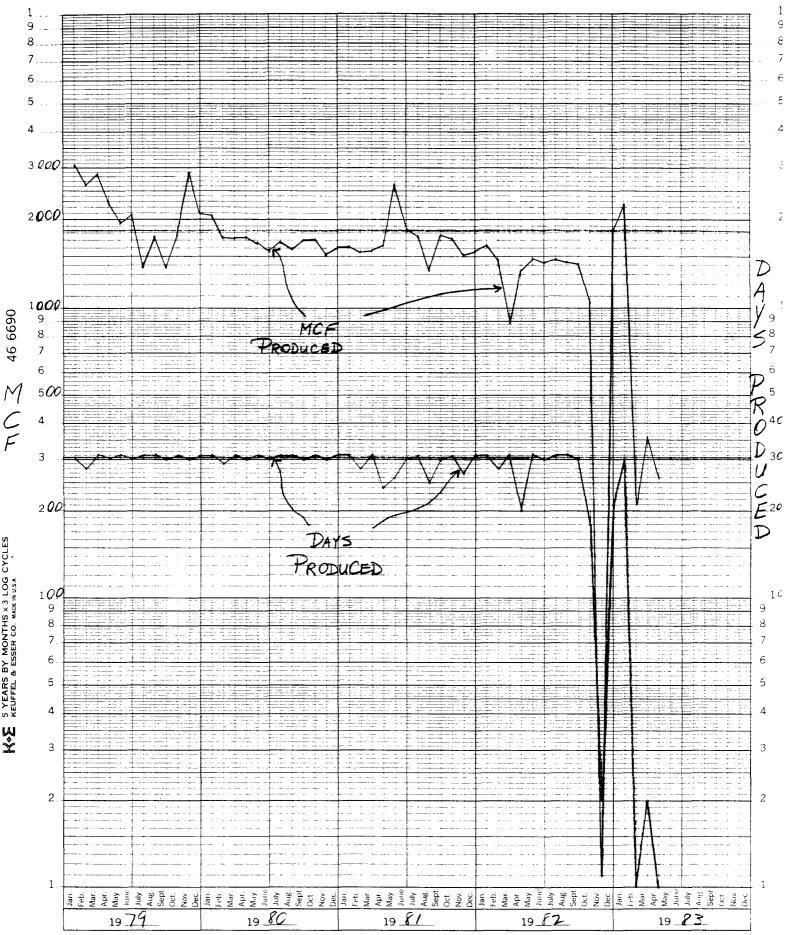
On December 8, 1981, Mesa filed for and received a stripper well category determination for the well based on production for the 90-day period ending October 31, 1981. The well continued to produce below the 60 MCFD average through 1981 and 1982 until December of 1982.

Beginning in December of 1982, the State Com AI #33 was shut-in for a various number of days each month. This shut-in time mechanically stimulates the reservoir by allowing a greater than normal reservoir pressure to build, and when the well is brought back on-line allows it to produce at rates in excess of 60 MCFD. For the last four to five months, this technique has successfully increased the total monthly production volumes above the stripper rate by as much as 100 MCFD and 800 MCFD per month. This increase is solely due to the above described method of alternately producing and shutting-in the well as described.

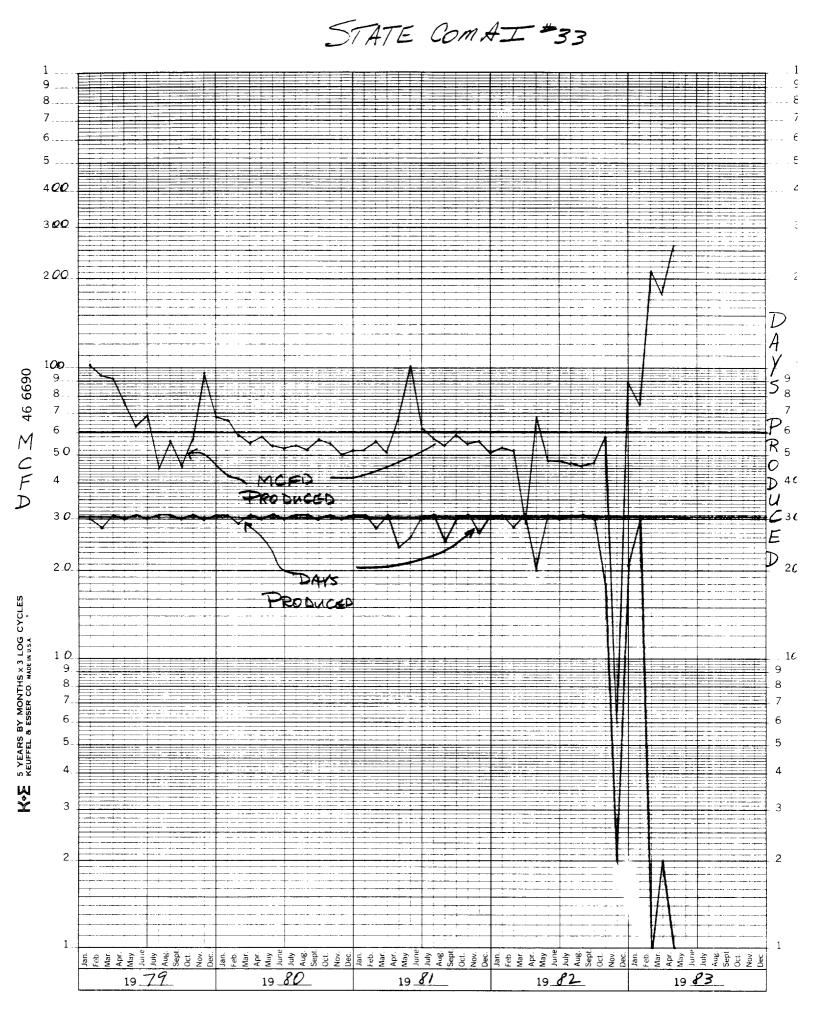
To the best of our knowledge had we not employed this production method, the monthly production rate would not have increased and the well would have remained a stripper well based on the 60 MCFD rate definition. We estimate that by continuing to mechanically stimulate the reservoir in the manner described, we can continue to increase production from the well by 400-600 MCF per month.

Please note the attached graphs which illustrate the above mentioned points.

STATE COM HI #33



K\*E 5 YEARS BY MONTHS × 3 LOG CYCLES K\*EUFFEL & ESSER CO. MADE IN U.S.A.



00000 **OVING** 100 CO HERES: 226 17 000 04 00 00 000 04 00 00 000 04 44 00 of of of of the the test of te GROSS Beer 64 -menome HESA Bucs MESA PETROLEUM CO-SAN JUAN **بہ رہ**ر . ELM CO. 527-0001-001-0 Ress MCF 11000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 14000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 100000 100000 100000 100000 100000 10000000 1000000 100000 5,168 186 BASIN DAKOTA Dakota FSL 6 1690 1 2-274-94 GROSS ISOL C 2-27 ALOLE PE 399 1-00-1 800 S DECEMBER 1982 L H 3 # 1 VAQ 01440011001171 211420011001171 ET BI 4040000 0040000 **M**M 

TEST 4/19,42 MCF/D. SICP-717, SITP-712.

DTEST-3 DAYS SUPPLY BALANCING. CING.

PPLY PPLY LIVEN

00000000

00000000

S X S

FUNCTION. R Equip Malfunction-Stop Clock. Ped.

PACE **∢**1 0.

19375

GAS AND CONDENSATE PRODUCTION STATISTICS

A 9	REG COMP DATE: 10-09- IST PROD DATE: 10-09- PERF INTERVAL: 69586- ORIG N(ADF) : 79260 GAS GRAVITY : 5366 BTU GRAVITY : 19214	-TEST SITP					
TISTICS	E 73-05 E 73-05 23-055	BLS	20000000000000000000000000000000000000	ЩЦЦЦЦЦЦЦЦЦЦ ФФФФФФФФФФФФ Ал и 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 Ал и 6 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 Ал и 6 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 Ал и 6 0 Ал и	000	9969	
PRODUCTION STA	IAN (TEXACU) 87500 EFFECTIV 87500 EFFECTIV 000000 EFFECTIV 1NG UCING	6R0SS 98LS	000480000 000480000	07040-040 NULUNOF N		16	
AND CONDENSATE	GATHERER INT DILER INT DILER TOTER INT DILER TOTER ING GAS ING GAS ING CAS ING CAS INO	MESA BBLS			4 20 4 	4 760*	-712.
N GAS	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	POSE CUN			40    		NCING. ICP-717, SITP
EUM CO-SAN JUA	1-001-0 FWL	GROSS GR	448888000 0000000 0000000 0000000 00000000	20004000000000000000000000000000000000	29199 2019 2019 2019 2019 2019 2019 2019	<b>C</b> C	YS SUPPLY BALA 19,42 #CF/D. S
83 MESA PETROL	RESAFECOM AI 33 01-06-NM-0827-000 0800 SAN JUAN 0000 BASIN DAKOTA 00000 BASIN DAKOTA 1190 FSL 51650 -	MCF	QQQQQQQQQQ QQQQQQQQQ QQQQQQQQQQQ QQQQQQ	040877570400 540870500 6 66408708888 664088888 664088888 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 66408 6640000000000	4 68 7 5 7 7 8 7		Y BALANCING Y BALANCING F BALANCING F BALANCING F BALANCING Y BALANCING Y BALANCING Y BALANCING
APRIL 198	$\begin{array}{c} 1\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\$	DATE DAY	10011001100110011001001000100000000000	20000000000000000000000000000000000000	8888 1100 1110 1110 1110 1110 1110 110 1	ר ס ר	827-104 827-104 827-104 827-10 827-10 827-110 827-110 827-110 827-110 827-110 827-110 827-110 820 910 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 833-00 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-10 832-1

.

100

c

		1	ĩ			4		
,	*****	ł	. [	• •	i	ź	1	
· ·		;	i	1	1	i	1	
	!		ļ	ļ	!	I	•	
!	:	!	1	!	į	;	:	;
	į	į	1	i	!	I	ì	i
[		j o	1				Ì	
;	i	İ	i	1	1	i	1	

SERVICE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Para C. LOS)

# WELL RECORD

Mail to Dismin Office, Off Conservation Commutation, to which Form C-101 was sent not later than twenty days after completion of well. Follow instructions in Rules and Regulations of the Commission, Substit in QUINTUPLICATE. If State Land subsit 6 Copies

AREA MO ACRES

Pubco	Petroleum	Corporatio	70.			State 33		
	(C	ampany or Operator	•)			(Lets)		
W-11 No	33	in SE	4 al;	14, of 3	<u>з</u> , т	273	R 94	, NMPM.
Basin	Dakota				Sen Juan			
Well is		leet from	Bouth	line and	1650		Yest	line
of Section	32	If State	Land the Oil an	id Gas Lesse No.	isE-1010	0-1		
Drilling Com	menced	كنثو	·,,	19 64 Drillin	g was Completed	10-1		. 19 <b>6</b>
Name of Dri	lling Contracto	<u>Circle</u>	"A" D-111	ing Company	, 			
Address	240 Denver	r Milton Ba	dlading,	Denver, Col	orado 8020	2		
				<u> </u>				

Elevation above sea level at Top of Tubing Head 6715 GR1 6724 DF The information given is to be kept confidential until

OIL SANDS OR ZONES

No. 1, from 2308	2326	(Ges)	No. 4, (2000
No. 2, from. 6686	6730	(Ges)	No. 5, from
	6812	(Ges)	No. 6, írom

## DEPORTANT WATER SANDS

Include data on rate of water inflow and elevation to which water rose in hole.

No.	1,	from		feet	
No.	2,	(rom	۵	_iect.	********
No.	3,	from	۱۵	feet.	
No.	<del>4</del> ,	from	. 10	leet	****
		i			

				EING BECO	BD		
_\$122E	WEIGHT FEE FOOT	NEW OR CEED	AMOUTT	Eind of Luce	CUT AND PULLED FROM	PERFORATIONS	PURPORE
8-5/8*	24	Jer	237.88	Bakar			Surface
11/2	10.5	Sev	6920.38	Barer		6686-6710	Production
	1				1	6724-5730	Production
<u></u>			1		1	6780-6812	Production

SIZE OF	STEE OF CASENG	WHELLE SET	NO. BACKE OF CERENT	WETBOD UKED	MUD Geavity	AMOUNT OF MUD USED
2-1/4	8-5/8	303.14 13	200 ax	Circulated		<u> </u>
7-7/8	4-1/2	672.13 IS	924 EX	Stage		
				1		······································
	; 1	1	}	-		

\_\_\_\_

BECORD OF PRODUCTION AND STIMULATION

(Record the Process used, No. of Qts. or Gala. used, interval created or shot.)

Stags fl: Perforated Dakota formation v/4 jets per foot from 6783-6812 & fracd v/60,000

gals treated water & 40,000 mend spearheaded v/250 gals BCL; Dropped 90 sealer balls. Stage #2: Perforated v/4 jets per foot from 6666-6710 & 6724-6730 & frace v/60,000 gals

treated water & 40,000# sand spearbeadod v/250 gals HCL.

Result of Production Stimulation Completion gauge (both somes) 5797 MCF 3/4" ck, 7260 MCF, CACF.

• • •	If dollars or other of				
	· · · · · ·	pocial term or deviation surveys wer	re made, submit report o	a xeparat	e-sheet and attach herens
			USED		
	- male war used from St	the feet to 6042			leet to
			TCTION		
	Partition on a	connection 19			
			-		
OIL W	(ELL: The production durin	g the first 24 hours was	barre	is of liqu	id of which
	was oil;	was emulsion;		and	
	Gravity	·····			
Cie u	(FII). The perduction during	a the first 24 hours und 57	T MCE alu	7	binon barrels
(3/13) 11				A	Darreis
	liquid Hydrocarbon. S	ihue in Pressure. 2015 Ibe			
Lengt	of Time Shut in 7.4				
			-		
PL			FORMANCE WITH	GEOGE	APHICAL SECTION OF STATE
_		heastern New Maxico		_	Northwestern New Merico
	1.				Ojo Alamo Kirtland-Fruitland1500
	<u>lt</u>				Famington
		,			Pictured Cliffs 2308
					Menefee
					Point Lookout4620
T. Gr	-ayburg			_ T.	Mancos4905
T. Sa	a Andrea	T. Granite			Dakota 6783
T. Gl	lorieta			<u> </u>	Монтионб920
T. Dr	rinkard				? <del>сая</del>
	ubb <b></b>				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
			•	T.	
T. Al		-		-	
T. Al T. Pe	88				
T. Al T. Pe		Ţ		T. T.	
T. Al T. Pe	88	Ţ	ON RECORD		

11000	10	in Feet			10	in Feet	rormation
8urface 1500 2308 2316 3828 4905	1500 2308 2316 3828 3905 6612	1500 808 8 1512 1077 1707	Nesereris-undifferentiated				
6512 6660 67133 6920	6783 6783 6920 ED	NIK	Greenhorn Graneros Dakota Morrison				
				م <del>المسارك و و المرابع المسارك الم</del>			

# ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED

I hereby rwear or affirm that the information given herewith is a complete and correct record of the well and all work done on it so far as can be determined from available records.

Comean	Y 200 Derator.	Pubeo	Petroleum	Corporation
Name	Mand		The	

•

Townber 4, 1964

Address. R. Q. 202 1319

Pauton or Tide Arts Collector

# ENHANCED RECOVERY STRIPPER WELL

STATE OF TEXAS I I ss: COUNTY OF POTTER I

C. TAYLOR YOAKAM, being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says:

That he has made or has caused to be made, pursuant to his instructions, a diligent search, where necessary, of all records which are reasonably available and contain information relevant to the determination of eligibility; that he reviewed or caused to be reviewed where available all company production records as to the well; that on the basis of the information obtained from this search, examination, and review he has concluded that to the best of his information, knowledge and belief, the well qualifies as a stripper well; that production substantially increased as a sole result of an enhanced recovery method which was implemented more than two years after the initial completion date; that he has no knowledge of any other information not described in the application which is inconsistent with his conclusions. He further states that he has caused notification of this request to be mailed to the purchaser(s), co-lessees, the Commission and the applicable Jurisdictional Agency.

ankam

Attorney-in-Fact

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this <u>\$th</u> day of

My Commission/Appointment Expires:

1983.

eptember 3, 1984

## BEFORE THE

#### OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MESA PETROLEUM CO. FOR NGPA DETERMINATION, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

Case 8183

RECEIVED RECEIVED JUN - 1 1984 JUN - 1 1984 OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Comes now, CAMPBELL, BYRD & BLACK, P.A., and hereby enters

its appearance in the above-referenced cause for Mesa Petroleum Company.

Respectfully submitted,

CAMPBELL, BYRD & BLACK, P.A.

By V 11

William F. Carr Post Office Box 2208 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 (505) 988-4421

ATTORNEYS FOR MESA PETROLEUM COMPANY



P. O. BOX 1492 EL PASO, TEXAS 79978 PHONE: 915-541-2600

June 20, 1984

Mr. Richard L. Stamets State of New Mexico Energy and Mineral Department Oil Conservation Division P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, NM 87501

Re: Case Nos. 8182 and 8183

Dear Mr. Stamets:

Enclosed is El Paso Natural Gas Company's Brief in the referenced cases, which I have caused to be mailed to Mesa Petroleum Company, the applicant in such cases, and to Northwest Pipeline Corporation. Attached to the Brief are proposed orders of the Division in each of the two cases, which proposed orders are submitted at your request.

Very truly yours, thanas

Thomas S. Jensen Attorney

TSJ:ibc

Enclosure

## STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION OF THE ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

)

) ))

MESA PETROLEUM COMPANY

Case Nos. 8182 and 8183

## BRIEF OF EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY

To: Richard L. Stamets, Examiner

COMES NOW, El Paso Natural Gas Company ("El Paso") and respectfully submits this brief pursuant to the request of the Hon. Richard L. Stamets, Examiner, in the above-referenced Cases.

#### Background

The instant Cases involve two wells in San Juan County, New Mexico, operated by Mesa Petroleum Company ("Mesa"), the applicant herein, which the Oil Conservation Division ("the Division") had previously determined were "stripper wells" under § 108(b) of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 ("NGPA"), but which were disqualified in late 1982 by Notices of Increased Production under § 271.805(d) of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's ("FERC") Regulations, filed in early 1983 by Northwest Pipeline Company ("Northwest"), the purchaser of Mesa's gas production from such wells. By letters dated March 24, 1983 and July 8, 1983, Mesa requested a further determination by the Division under § 271.806 of the FERC's Regulations that the increased production from the subject wells was the result of the application by Mesa of a recognized enhanced recovery technique, as defined in § 271.803(a) of the FERC's Regulations. Northwest filed protests as to both wells. El Paso protested Mesa's application as to the State Com. AI No. 33 well.

#### El Paso's Interest

El Paso is physically connected, by means of its pipeline gathering system, to both of the subject wells and owns a working interest in the State Com. AI No. 33 well. Though El Paso purchases no gas from either of the subject wells (other than its own working interest gas), it is a major purchaser of natural gas in New Mexico. Furthermore, many hundreds of wells from which it purchases natural gas are or could be classified as stripper wells under § 108 of the NGPA. A decision by the Division in Mesa's favor in these Cases, because of the potential precedential effect, could have considerable impact upon El Paso and its cost of gas. Therefore, El Paso asserts that it has a substantial interest in both Case No. 8182 and Case No. 8183, which interest cannot be adequately represented by any other party.

## El Paso's Position

El Paso strongly believes that the application of Mesa in the instant Cases should be denied, and, in support thereof, offers the following reasons:

# (1) No Action Taken "By the Producer"

The actions which Mesa alleges constitute a "recognized enhanced recovery technique" were not "performed . . . by the producer" (i.e., Mesa) within the contemplation of Congress in enacting § 108(b)(2)of the NGPA, or of the FERC in promulgating § 271.803(a) of its Regulations, because such actions were undertaken solely at the request of El Paso. Testimony to this effect was given both by Mr. H. L. Kendrick of El Paso and Mr. Mike Houston of Mesa. In a sense, Mesa was simply acting as El Paso's agent in controlling production into its line so as to meet its fluctuating market demand.

## (2) <u>The Intermittent Production Was</u> Not Undertaken to Enhance Recovery

Testimony was given by El Paso's witness, Mr. H. L. Kendrick, that the periodic shutting in and turning on of the subject wells by Mesa was done upon El Paso's request and was undertaken to control production so as to meet El Paso's fluctuating market demand. Mr. Kendrick testified that, in determining whether or not Mesa's wells should be flowing or not, El Paso gave no consideration to any factors affecting the enhancement of production from such wells. While the FERC's Regulations do not explicitly impose a requirement that "recognized enhanced recovery techniques" be undertaken with an intent to enhance recovery, such requirement is clearly implied. In any event, the FERC has left it to the jurisdictional agencies to determine, in the first instance, whether an activity constitutes a recognized enhanced recovery technique. In this regard, testimony was heard from Mr. Houston of Mesa that the subject activity is not, in his opinion, an enhanced recovery technique. Such testimony was corroborated by testimony of Northwest's witness, Mr. Brent Hale, and testimony of Mr. Kendrick of El Paso.

In any event, as the testimony of Mr. Houston of Mesa showed, Mesa had installed intermitters on both wells some time prior to the occurrence of the increased production in question. Such equipment has been previously recognized as an enhanced recovery technique. The lack of intent to enhance recovery becomes more clear by the fact that these intermitters have been unused since El Paso began occasionally requesting Mesa to shut its wells in.

By letter to the Division dated April 3, 1984, Mesa stated that "[e]ven if market conditions improve in the future, Mesa intends to continue alternately producing and shutting in [the wells] in order to increase [their] rate of production." This intent is belied, however, by the evidence reflected in pages NWP-E and NWP-F of Northwest's Exhibit No. 1, showing that there have been extended periods of consecutive flowing days for both wells in the past eighteen (18) months and that, in most instances, such extended periods correlate neatly with extended periods in which El Paso did not request the wells to be shut in. In other words, when El Paso did not order the wells to be shut in, Mesa almost always left them on and did not alternately produce and shut them in so as to increase production, as its April 3rd letter asserted.

## (3) The Actions Did Not Enhance Recovery

Extensive testimony by Mr. Hale of Northwest demonstrated that the alternate production and shut-in of the subject wells resulted only in an increased rate of flow, also known as "flush production," and not in an increased rate of production. The FERC has specifically provided an exception to its disqualification requirements for instances in which increased production is the result of a temporary pressure buildup. In these Cases, Mesa has ignored the clearly applicable regulations and sought to bring its wells within the scope of the recognized enhanced recovery technique exception which, though nonapplicable, would give Mesa relief from the necessity to monitor the well's production.

## Conclusion

El Paso believes that both the law and the evidence clearly shows that the "recognized enhanced recovery technique" allegedly undertaken by Mesa should not receive an affirmative determination by the Division. Accordingly, El Paso respectfully requests that the Division deny Mesa's application in the instant Cases. At the request of the Examiner, El Paso has attached hereto as Exhibit A a proposed order for the Examiner's consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY

Donald J. MacIver, Jr. Vice President and General Counsel Thomas S. Jensen El Paso Natural Gas Company P.O. Box 1492 El Paso, Texas 79978 (915)541-2600

Dated: June 20, 1984

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Brief of El Paso Natural Gas Company was mailed, postage prepaid, this 20th day of June, 1984, to the following persons and parties:

> Mesa Petroleum Company P.O. Box 2009 Amarillo, Texas 79189 Attention: Mr. Steven James, Esq.

Northwest Pipeline Corporation 295 Chipeta Way Salt Lake City, Utah 84110 Attention: Ms. Mary Duffin, Esq.

thanas Puter

Thomas S. Jensen ( El Paso Natural Gas Company P. O. Box 1492 El Paso, Texas 79978

#### NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION ONE OF THE WILLIAMS COMPANIES

p.o. box 1526 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84110-1526 801-583-8800 June 15, 1984

CALL CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Richard Stametz Hearing Examiner Oil Conservation Division New Mexico Energy & Minerals Dept. 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

## RE: Request for Legal Briefs, Case Nos. 8182, 8183

Dear Mr. Stametz:

This letter will confirm our telephone conversation of yesterday in which you granted an extension of time in which Northwest Pipeline Corporation ("Northwest") may file its legal brief in the above-referenced cases. In the hearing held relative to these cases on June 6, 1984, you asked for legal briefs within two (2) weeks of the hearing date. You have now been kind enough to grant me an extension for the filing of my brief on behalf of Northwest until June 29, 1984. I understand that this same courtesy is being extended by your office to El Paso Natural Gas Company, assuming they can use the additional time period.

I am providing a copy of this confirmatory letter to counsel for both Mesa Petroleum and El Paso Natural Gas. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Best Regards,

xc: Mr. Steven C. James, Atty Mesa Petroleum Company P.O. Box 2009 Amarillo, Texas 79189-2009

> Thomas S. Jensen, Atty El Paso Natural Gas Company P.O. Box 1492 El Paso, Texas 79978

B.E. Potts Brent Hale Jan Wayman

BEFORE EXAMINER STAMETS
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
NWP_EXHIBIT NO.
CASE NO. 6192, 8183
Submitted by M. Duffin, NWP
Hearing Date 17/12/54
<u> </u>

## EXHIBITS

· .

OF NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION

## BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO ENERGY

AND MINERALS

# DEPARTMENT,

## OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

June 6, 1984

Case Nos. 8182, 8183

# NORTHWEST ENERGY COMPANY

P.O. BOX 1526 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84110-1526 801-583-8800

July 22, 1983

State of New Mexico Energy & Minerals Dept. Oil Conservation Division P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

# RE: Request for Further Determination of Eligibility for Section 108 Pricing, State Com AI No. 33 Well

Gentlemen:

This letter shall serve to provide the Oil Conservation Commission ("Commission") with formal notice of the protest of Northwest Pipeline Corporation ("Northwest") with respect to the above-referenced Request filed with the Commission on July 8, 1983, by Mesa Petroleum Co. ("Mesa").

In its Request, Mesa took the position that the increase in production recorded for the ninety (90) day period ending December 1982 on the State Com AI No. 33 well is attributable to a "recognized enhanced recovery technique" as defined in 18 C.F.R. §271.803(a). Mesa is seeking review by the Commission of its application for §108 pricing pursuant to 18 C.F.R. §271.806(a). It is Northwest's position that the increase in production evidenced during the ninety (90) day period ending December 8, 1982, was due to temporary pressure buildup and not to the utilization of any recognized enhanced recovery technique on this well. The Regulations are clear that a "recognized enhanced recovery technique" refers to a process or the utilization of equipment which, when performed or installed by the producer, increases the rate of production of gas from a well. The producer, in this case, Mesa, did not control and in no way initiated the shut-in of the State Com AI No. 33 well. The well was shut-in by Northwest due to a decrease in the demand for gas on Northwest's "Stem which caused widespread shut-ins, affecting this well and others. Neither Northwest or Mesa have truly engaged in attempts to enhance recovery from this well.

It is Northwest's position that to claim that enhanced recovery techniques have been applied to this well, Mesa would have to prove that the increase in the rate of production did not result from the fact that the well was shut-indue to a lack of demand. Mesa would further have to prove that it had initiated some process or had installed some equipment on the well which had served to increase production rates. Mesa's application supports neither of these points. Northwest urges the Commission to reject Mesa's application for §108 pricing on this well due to enhanced recovery. If necessary, Northwest will participate in any hearing scheduled on this matter and will provide technical testimony indicative of the fact that production rate increases demonstrated by this well are related to and caused by the shut-in of pipeline connected to the well and are not the result of any enhanced recovery technique.

Thank you for consideration of this protest. Any questions may be addressed to the undersigned at Northwest Pipeline Corporation, P.O. Box 1526, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-1526, (801) 584-7051

Very truly yours,

NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION

ttorney in, /

xc: Mesa Petroleum Company Bob Glenn Bob Guttery Brent Hale Jan Wayman

MD/src

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

STATE OF UTAH ) :ss. COUNTY OF SALT LAKE )

MARY DUFFIN, being first duly sworn, on oath, says that she is an attorney for Northwest Pipeline Corporation; that she has read the foregoing protest of Northwest Pipeline Corporation and that, as such attorney, she has executed the same for and on behalf of said Corporation with full power and authority to do so; and that the matters set forth therein are true to the best of her knowledge, information and belief. She further swears that on this 22nd day of July, 1983 a true and correct copy of the foregoing Protest was served upon Mesa Petroleum Co. by placing a copy of said Protest in the United States Mail, First Class--Postage Prepaid, and addressed as follows:

> Mesa Petroleum Co. P.O. Box 2009 Amarilla, Texas 79189 Attention: Legal Dept.

Northwest Pipeline Corporation 295 Chipeta Way Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-1526

## NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION

P O BOX 1526 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84110 1526 801 583 8800

August 8, 1983

State of New Mexico Energy & Minerals Dept. Oil Conservation Division P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

## RE: Request for Further Determination of Eligibility for Section 108 Pricing, State Com AJ No. 34 Well

Gentlemen:

This letter shall serve to provide the Oil Conservation Commission ("Commission") with formal notice of the protest of Northwest Pipeline Corporation ("Northwest") with respect to the above-referenced Request filed with the Commission on March 24, 1983, by Mesa Petroleum Co. ("Mesa").

In its Request, Mesa took the position that the increase in production recorded for the ninety (90) day period ending November 1982 on the State Com AJ No. 34 well is attributable to a "recognized enhanced recovery technique" as defined in 18 C.F.R. §271.803(a). Mesa is seeking review by the Commission of its application for §108 pricing pursuant to 18 C.F.R. §271.806(a . It is Northwest's position that the increase in production evidenced during the ninety (90) day period ending in November, 1982, was due to temporary pressure buildup and not to the utilization of any recognized enhanced recovery technique on this well.

The Regulations are clear that a "recognized enhanced recovery technique" refers to a process or the utilization of equipment which, when performed or installed by the producer, increases the rate of production of gas from a well. The producer, in this case, Mesa, did not control and in no way initiated the shut-in of the State Com AJ No. 34 well. The well was shut-in by Northwest due to a decrease in the demand for gas on Northwest's system which caused widespread shut-ins, affecting this well and others. Neither Northwest or Mesa have truly engaged in attempts to enhance recovery from this well.

It is Northwest's position that to claim that enhanced recovery techniques have been applied to this well, Mesa would have to prove that the increase in the rate of production did not result from the fact that the well was shut-in due to a lack of demand. Mesa would further have to prove that it had initiated some process or had installed some equipment on the well which had served to increase production rates. Mesa's application supports neither of these points. New Mexico ^il Conservation Division Energy & Minerals Department August 8, 1983 page two

Northwest urges the Commission to reject Mesa's application for \$108 pricing on this well due to enhanced recovery. If necessary, Northwest will participate in any bearing scheduled on this matter and will provide technical testimony indicative of the fact that production rate increases demonstrated by this well are related to and caused by the shut-in of pipeline connected to the well and are not the result of any enhanced recovery technique.

Thank you for consideration of this protest. Any questions may be addressed to the undersigned at Northwest Pipeline Corporation, P.O. Box 1526, Salt Lake City, Utab 84110-1526, (801) 584-7051.

Very truly yours,

NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION

Attorney

xc: Mesa Petroleum Company Bob Glenn Bob Guttery Brent Hale Jan Wayman

MD/src

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

STATE OF UTAH ) ): COUNTY OF SALT LAKE

MARY DUFFIN, being first duly sworn, on oath, says that she is an attorney for Northwest Pipeline Corporation; that she has read the foregoing Protest of Northwest Pipeline Corporation and that, as such attorney, she has executed the same for and on behalf of said Corporation with full power and authority to do so; and that the matters set forth therein are true to the best of her knowledge, information and belief. She further swears that on this 8th day of August, 1983, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Protest was served upon Mesa Petroleum Co. by placing a copy of said Protest in the United States Mail, first class postage prepaid, and addressed as follows:

> Mesa Petroleum Co. P.O. Box 2009 Amarillo, Texas 79189 Attention: Legal Department

Mary Duffin Northwest Pipeline Corporation 295 Chipeta Way Salt Lake City, Utab 84110-1526

STATE OF UTAH ) : ss. COUNTY OF SALT LAKE )

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, on this  $\underline{\chi t / }$  day of  $\underline{\chi t / }$ , 1983, personally appeared MARY DUFFIN, to me known to be the identical person described in and who executed the within and foregoing instrument of writing and acknowledged to me that she duly executed the same as her free and voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year last above written.

Residing at: 51.C. Ut

My Commission Expires:

111-19-82