# H25-14

#### **General evacuation plan**

- 1. When the company approved supervisor (Drill Site Manager, consultant, rig pusher, or driller) determines the H2S gas cannot be limited to the well location and the public will be involved, he will activate the evacuation plan.
- 2. Drill Site Manager or designee will notify local government agency that a hazardous condition exists and evacuation needs to be implemented.
- 3. Company or contractor safety personnel that have been trained in the use of H2S detection equipment and self-contained breathing equipment will monitor H2S concentrations, wind directions, and area of exposure. They will delineate the outer perimeter of the hazardous gas area. Extension to the evacuation area will be determined from information gathered.
- 4. Law enforcement personnel (state police, police dept., fire dept., and sheriff's dept.) Will be called to aid in setting up and maintaining road blocks. Also, they will aid in evacuation of the public if necessary.
- 5. After the discharge of gas has been controlled, company safety personnel will determine when the area is safe for re-entry.

<u>Important:</u> Law enforcement personnel will not be asked to come into a contaminated area. Their assistance will be limited to uncontaminated areas. Constant radio contact will be maintained with them.

# **Emergency actions**

HaS-15

## Well blowout - if emergency

- 1. Evacuate all personnel to "Safe Briefing / Muster Areas" or off location if needed.
- 2. If sour gas evacuate rig personnel.
- 3. If sour gas evacuate public within 3000 ft radius of exposure.
- 4. Don SCBA and shut well in if possible using the buddy system.
- 5. Notify Drilling Superintendent and call 911 for emergency help (fire dept and ambulance) if needed.
- 6. Implement the Blowout Contingency Plan, and Drilling Emergency Action Plan.
- 6. Give first aid as needed.

## Person down location/facility

- 1. If immediately possible, contact 911. Give location and wait for confirmation.
- 2. Don SCBA and perform rescue operation using buddy system.

#### Toxic effects of hydrogen sulfide

Hydrogen sulfide is extremely toxic. The acceptable ceiling concentration for eight-hour exposure is 10 ppm, which is .001% by volume. Hydrogen sulfide is heavier than air (specific gravity -1.192) and colorless. It forms an explosive mixture with air between 4.3 and 46.0 percent by volume. Hydrogen sulfide is almost as toxic as hydrogen cyanide and is between five and six times more toxic than carbon monoxide. Toxicity data for hydrogen sulfide and various other gases are compared in table i. Physical effects at various hydrogen sulfide exposure levels are shown in table ii.

# Table i

| Common<br>name      | Chemical<br>formula | Specific<br>gravity<br>(sc=1) | Threshold<br>limit<br>(1) | Hazardous<br>limit<br>(2) | Lethal concentration (3) |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Hydrogen<br>Cyanide | Hcn                 | 0.94                          | 10 ppm                    | 150 ppm/hr                | 300 ppm                  |
| Hydrogen<br>Sulfide | H2S                 | 1.18                          | 10 ppm                    | 250 ppm/hr                | 600 ppm                  |
| Sulfur<br>Dioxide   | So2                 | 2.21                          | 5 ppm                     | -                         | 1000 ppm                 |
| Chlorine            | C12                 | 2.45                          | 1 ppm                     | 4 ppm/hr                  | 1000 ppm                 |
| Carbon<br>Monoxide  | Co                  | 0.97                          | 50 ppm                    | 400 ppm/hr                | 1000 ppm                 |
| Carbon<br>Dioxide   | Co2                 | 1.52                          | 5000 ppm                  | 5%                        | 10%                      |
| Methane             | Ch4                 | 0.55                          | 90,000 ppm                | Combustibl                | e above 5% in air        |

#### Toxicity of various gases

1) threshold limit – concentration at which it is believed that all workers may be repeatedly exposed day after day without adverse effects.

- 2) hazardous limit concentration that will cause death with short-term exposure.
- 3) lethal concentration concentration that will cause death with short-term exposure.

# Toxic effects of hydrogen sulfide

# Table ii Physical effects of hydrogen sulfide

|                 |     | Concentration | Physical effects             |
|-----------------|-----|---------------|------------------------------|
| <br>Percent (%) | Ppm | Grains        |                              |
|                 |     | 100 std. Ft3* |                              |
| 0.001           | <10 | 00.65         | Obvious and unpleasant odor. |

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| 0.002 | 10   | 01.30 | Safe for 8 hours of exposure.  |  |
|-------|------|-------|--|--|
| 0.010 | 100  | 06.48 | Kill smell in $3 - 15$ minutes. May sting eyes and throat.                         |  |
| 0.020 | 200  | 12.96 | Kills smell shortly; stings eyes and throat.                                       |  |
| 0.050 | 500  | 32.96 | Dizziness; breathing ceases in a few minutes; needs prompt artificial respiration. |  |
| 0.070 | 700  | 45.36 | Unconscious quickly; death will result if not rescued promptly.                    |  |
| 0.100 | 1000 | 64.30 | Unconscious at once; followed by death within minutes.                             |  |

\*at 15.00 psia and 60'f.

#### Use of self-contained breathing equipment (SCBA)

- 1. Written procedures shall be prepared covering safe use of SCBA's in dangerous atmosphere, which might be encountered in normal operations or in emergencies. Personnel shall be familiar with these procedures and the available SCBA.
- 2 SCBA's shall be inspected frequently at random to insure that they are properly used, cleaned, and maintained.
- 3. Anyone who may use the SCBA's shall be trained in how to insure proper facepiece to face seal. They shall wear SCBA's in normal air and then wear them in a test atmosphere. (note: such items as facial hair {beard or sideburns} and eyeglasses will not allow proper seal.) Anyone that may be reasonably expected to wear SCBA's should have these items removed before entering a toxic atmosphere. A special mask must be obtained for anyone who must wear eyeglasses or contact lenses.
- 4. Maintenance and care of SCBA's:
  - a. A program for maintenance and care of SCBA's shall include the following:
    - 1. Inspection for defects, including leak checks.
    - 2. Cleaning and disinfecting.
    - 3. Repair.
    - 4. Storage.
  - b. Inspection, self-contained breathing apparatus for emergency use shall be inspected monthly.
    - 1. Fully charged cylinders.
    - 2. Regulator and warning device operation.
    - 3. Condition of face piece and connections.
    - 4. Rubber parts shall be maintained to keep them pliable and prevent deterioration.
  - c. Routinely used SCBA's shall be collected, cleaned and disinfected as frequently as necessary to insure proper protection is provided.
- 5. Persons assigned tasks that requires use of self-contained breathing equipment shall be certified physically fit (medically cleared) for breathing equipment usage at least annually.
- 6. SCBA's should be worn when:
  - A. Any employee works near the top or on top of any tank unless test reveals less than 10 ppm of H2S.

- B. When breaking out any line where H2S can reasonably be expected.
- C. When sampling air in areas to determine if toxic concentrations of H2S exists.
- D. When working in areas where over 10 ppm H2S has been detected.
- E. At any time there is a doubt as to the H2S level in the area to be entered.

## <u>Rescue</u> First aid for H2S poisoning

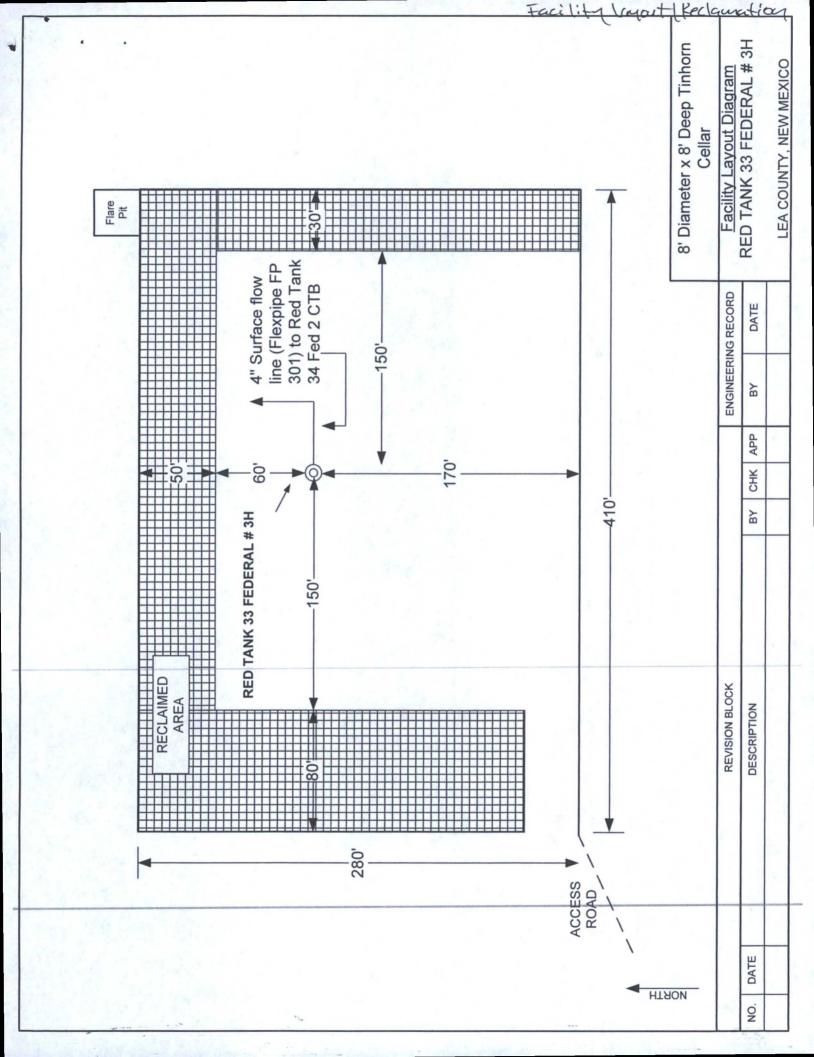
Do not panic!

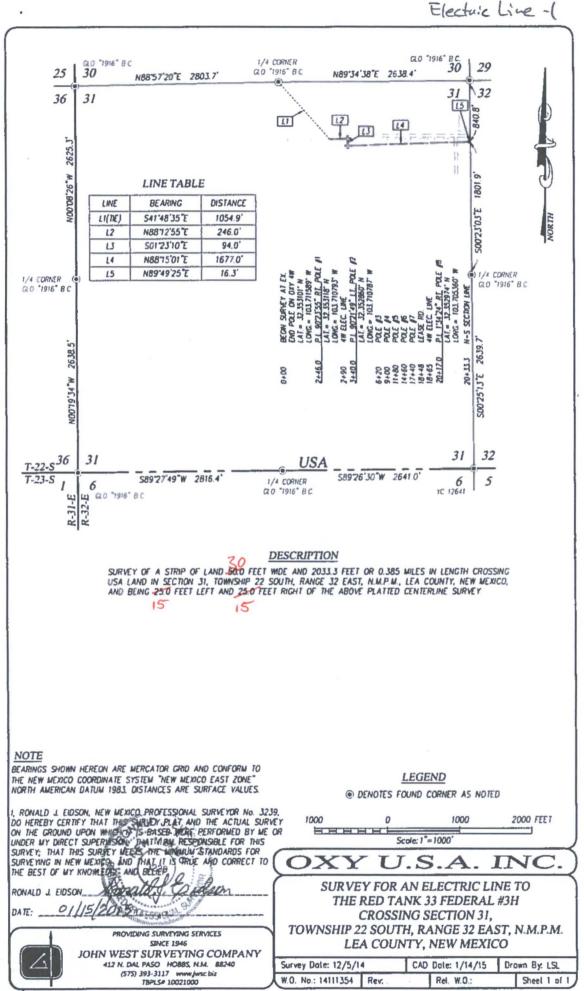
Remain calm - think!

- 1. Don SCBA breathing equipment.
- 2. Remove victim(s) utilizing buddy system to fresh air as quickly as possible. (go up-wind from source or at right angle to the wind. Not down wind.)
- 3. Briefly apply chest pressure arm lift method of artificial respiration to clean the victim's lungs and to avoid inhaling any toxic gas directly from the victim's lungs.
- 4. Provide for prompt transportation to the hospital, and continue giving artificial respiration if needed.
- 5. Hospital(s) or medical facilities need to be informed, before-hand, of the possibility of H2S gas poisoning no matter how remote the possibility is.
- 6. Notify emergency room personnel that the victim(s) has been exposed to H2S gas.

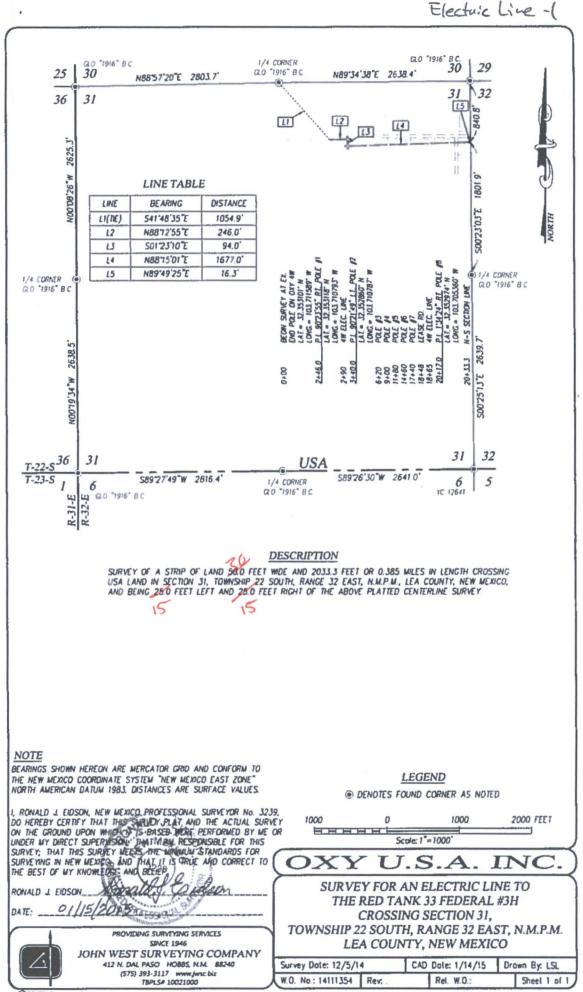
Besides basic first aid, everyone on location should have a good working knowledge of artificial respiration.

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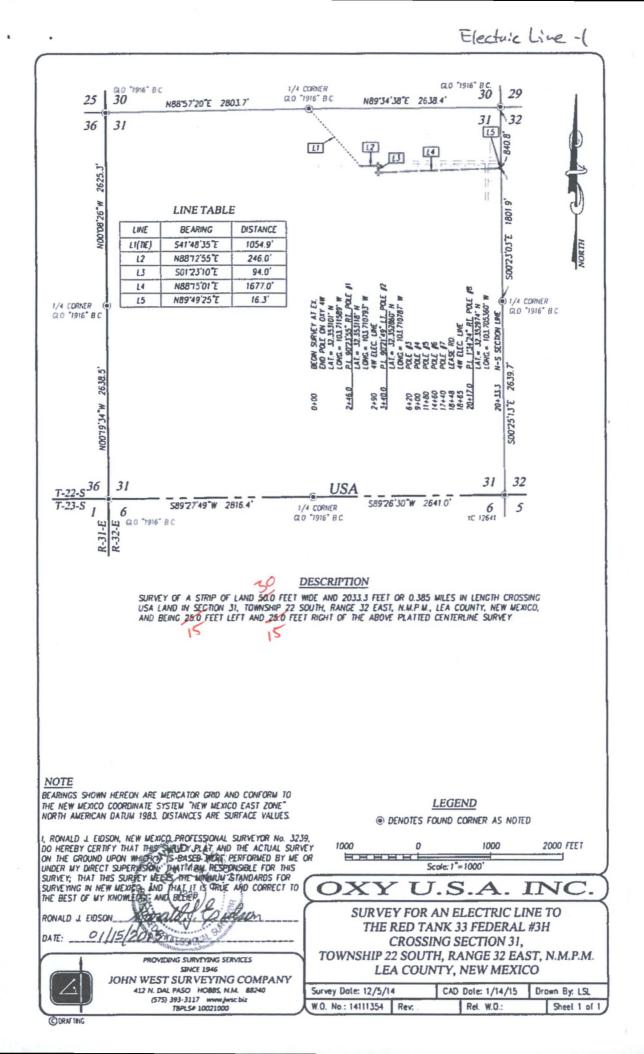


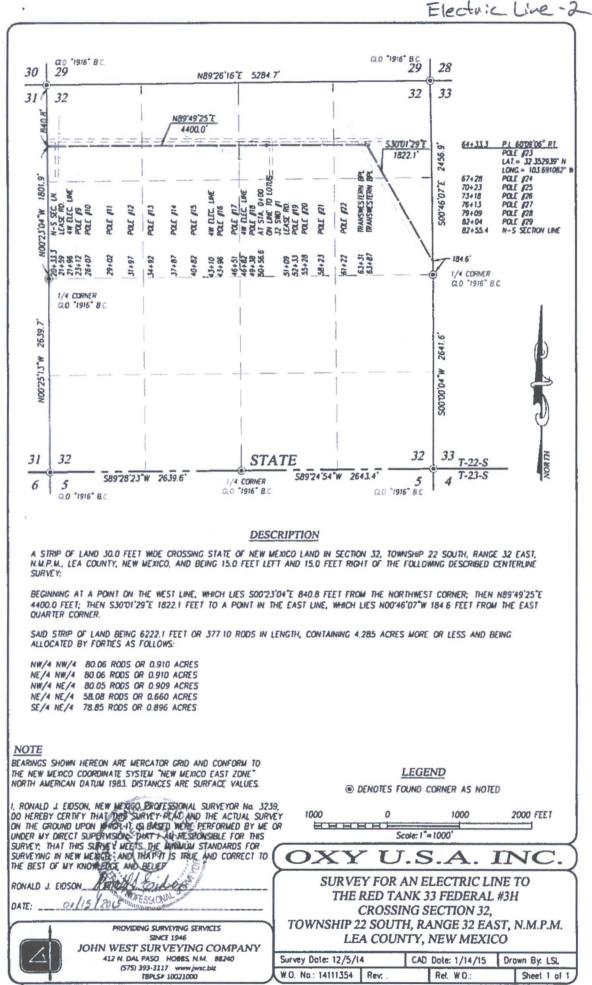


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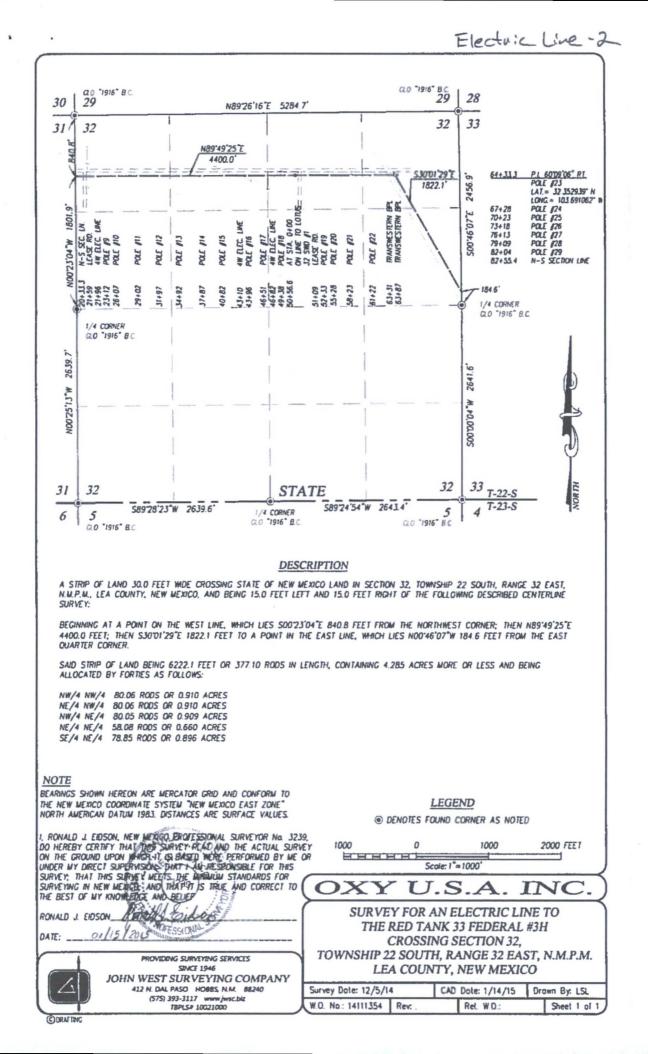
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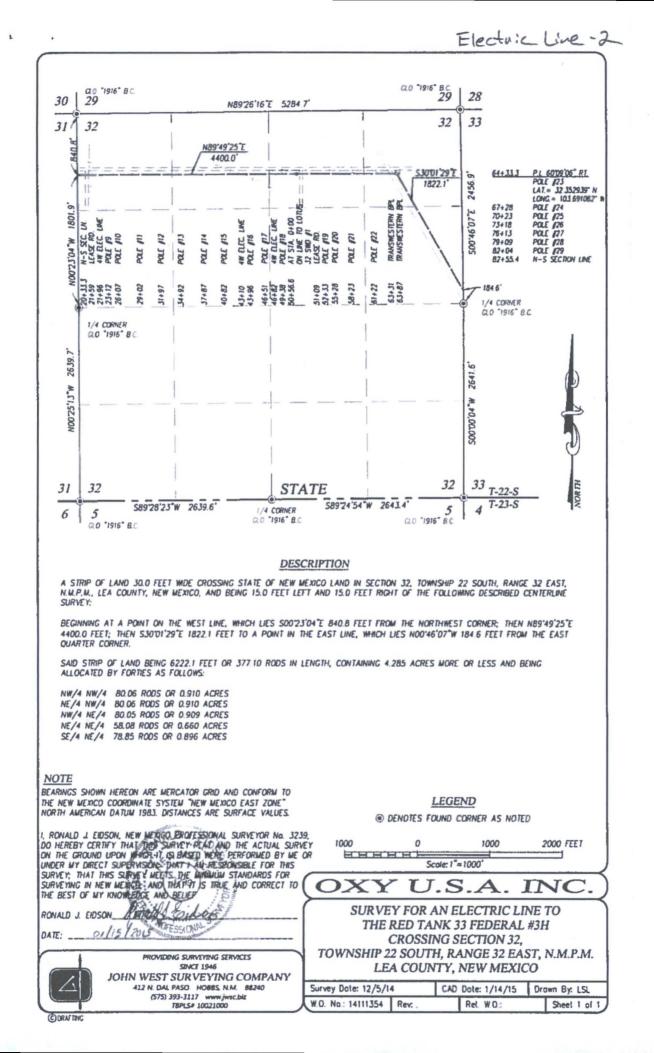


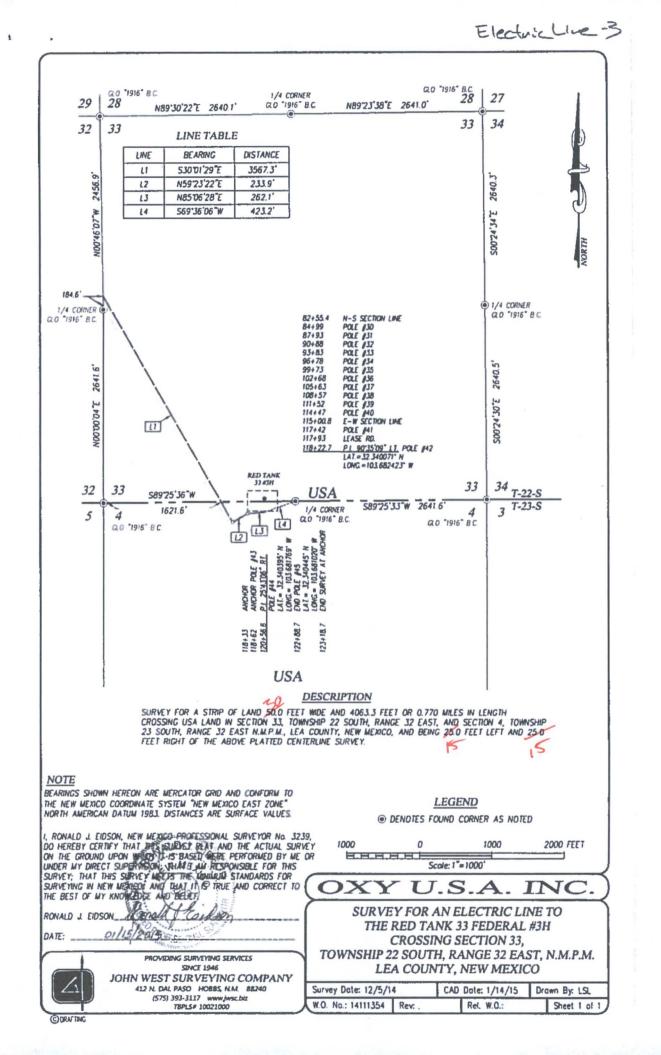


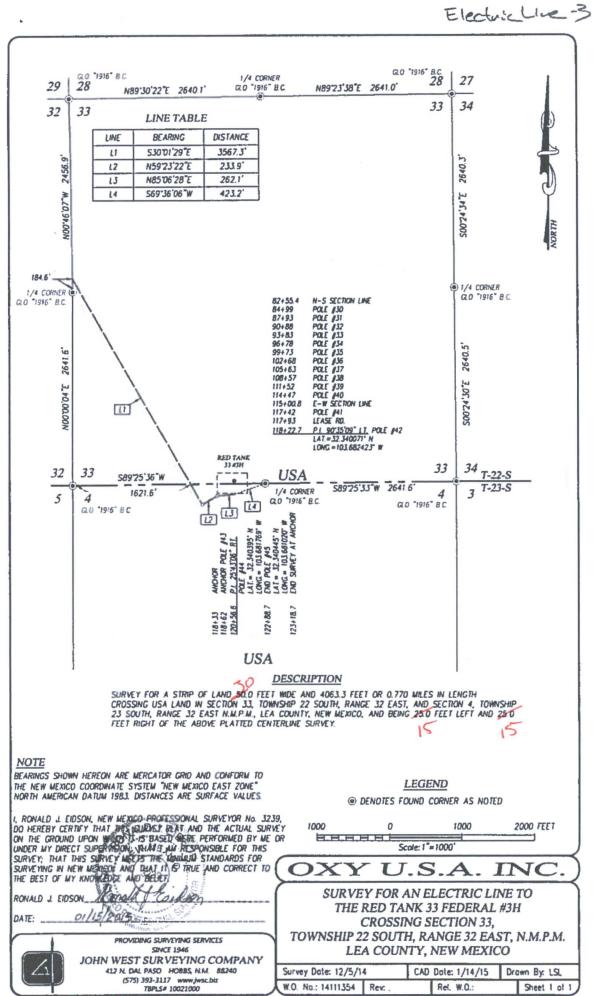
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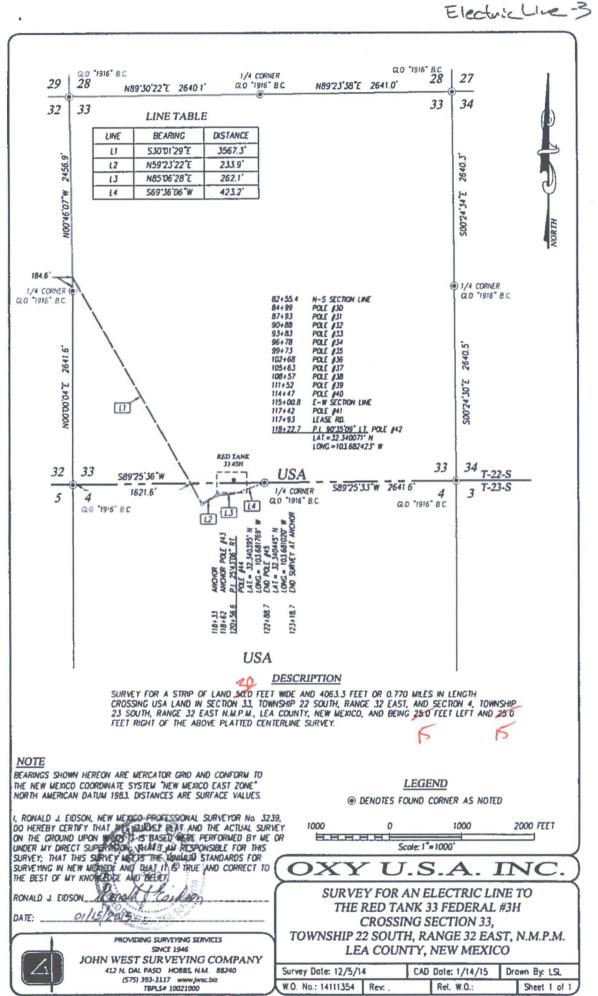






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