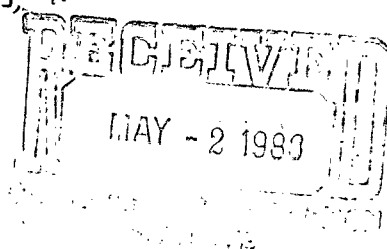


Release Date May 23, 1988

By [signature]

MERIDIAN OIL



April 29, 1988

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

NSL- 2525
RULE-104 F(E)
Undesignated Blanco Fruitland
Pool 160 Acres decd
NE 1/4 Sec 7

Dear Mr. LeMay:

This is a request for administrative approval for an unorthodox gas well location in the Undesignated Fruitland Coal Pool.

It is intended to locate the Meridian Oil Inc.'s Howell C Com #300 at 2335' from the North line and 460' from the East line of Section 7, T-30-N, R-8-W, San Juan County, New Mexico.

Archaeological problems makes it impossible to build an orthodox location in the northeast quarter of this section.

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.

Plats showing the proposed well location and the terrain in Section 7, along with an ownership plat, are attached.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature of Peggy Doak]

Peggy Doak

Check for
archaeological
reports

encl.

WAIVER

_____ hereby waives objection to Meridian Oil Inc.'s application for an unorthodox location for their Howell C Com #300 as proposed above.

By: _____

Date: _____

cc: Tenneco Oil

**NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT**

Form C-100
Supersedes C-120
Effective 1-1-66

All distances must be from the outer boundaries of the Section.

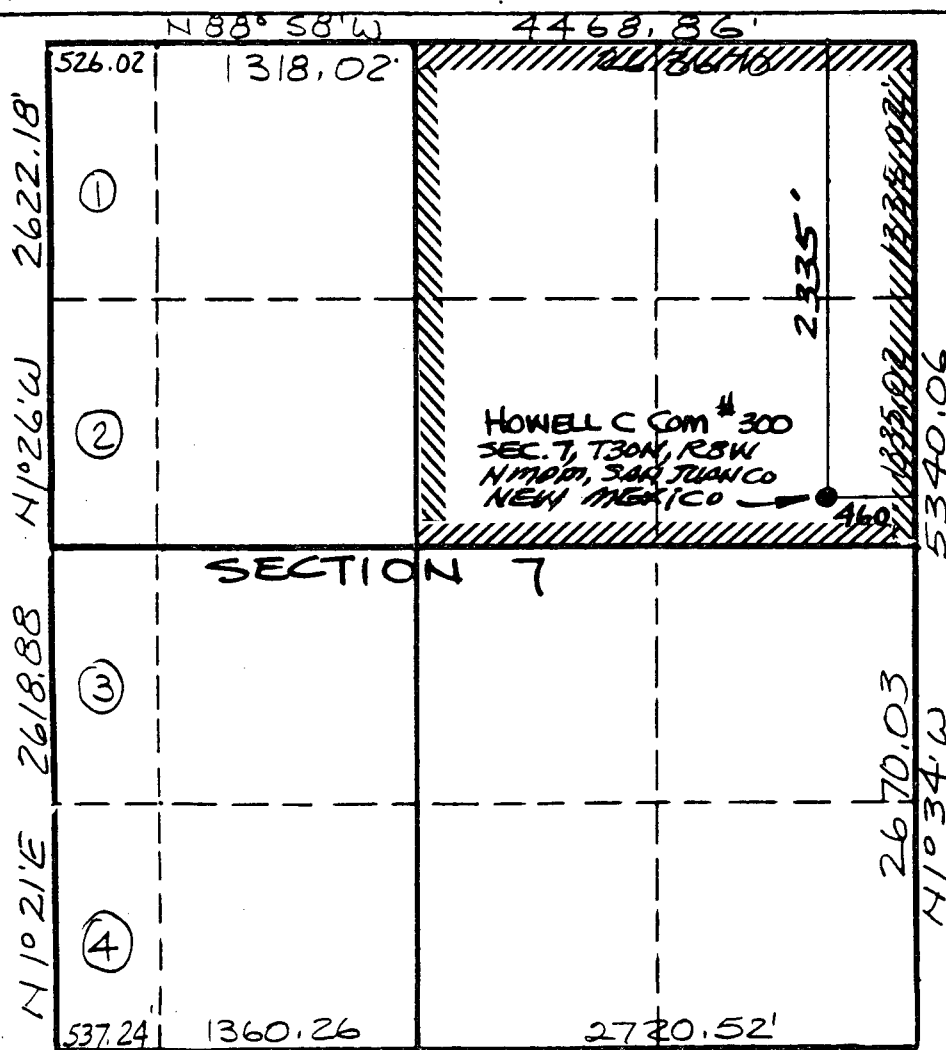
Operator MERIDIAN OIL INC.			Lease HOWELL C COM (SF 078580)		Well No. 300
Unit Letter H	Section 7	Township 30 NORTH	Range 8 WEST	County SAN JUAN	
Actual Footage Location of Wells <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> 2335 feet from the NORTH line and 460 feet from the EAST line </div>					
Ground Level Elev. 6348	Producing Formation Fruitland Coal	Pool Undesignated		Dedicated Acreage 160 Acres	

1. Outline the acreage dedicated to the subject well by colored pencil or hatchure marks on the plat below.
2. If more than one lease is dedicated to the well, outline each and identify the ownership thereof (both as to working interest and royalty).
3. If more than one lease of different ownership is dedicated to the well, have the interests of all owners been consolidated by communitization, unitization, force-pooling, etc?

☒ Yes ☐ No If answer is "yes," type of consolidation communitization

If answer is "no," list the owners and tract descriptions which have actually been consolidated. (Use reverse side of this form if necessary.) _____

No allowable will be assigned to the well until all interests have been consolidated (by communitization, unitization, forced-pooling, or otherwise) or until a non-standard unit, eliminating such interests, has been approved by the Commission.



CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name _____
 Position Drilling Clerk
 Company Meridian Oil Inc.
 Date _____

I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was obtained from field notes of a licensed surveyor, or by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date Surveyed APRIL 22, 1988
 Registered Professional Engineer and/or Land Surveyor

NEALE C. EDWARDS

Certificate No.
6857

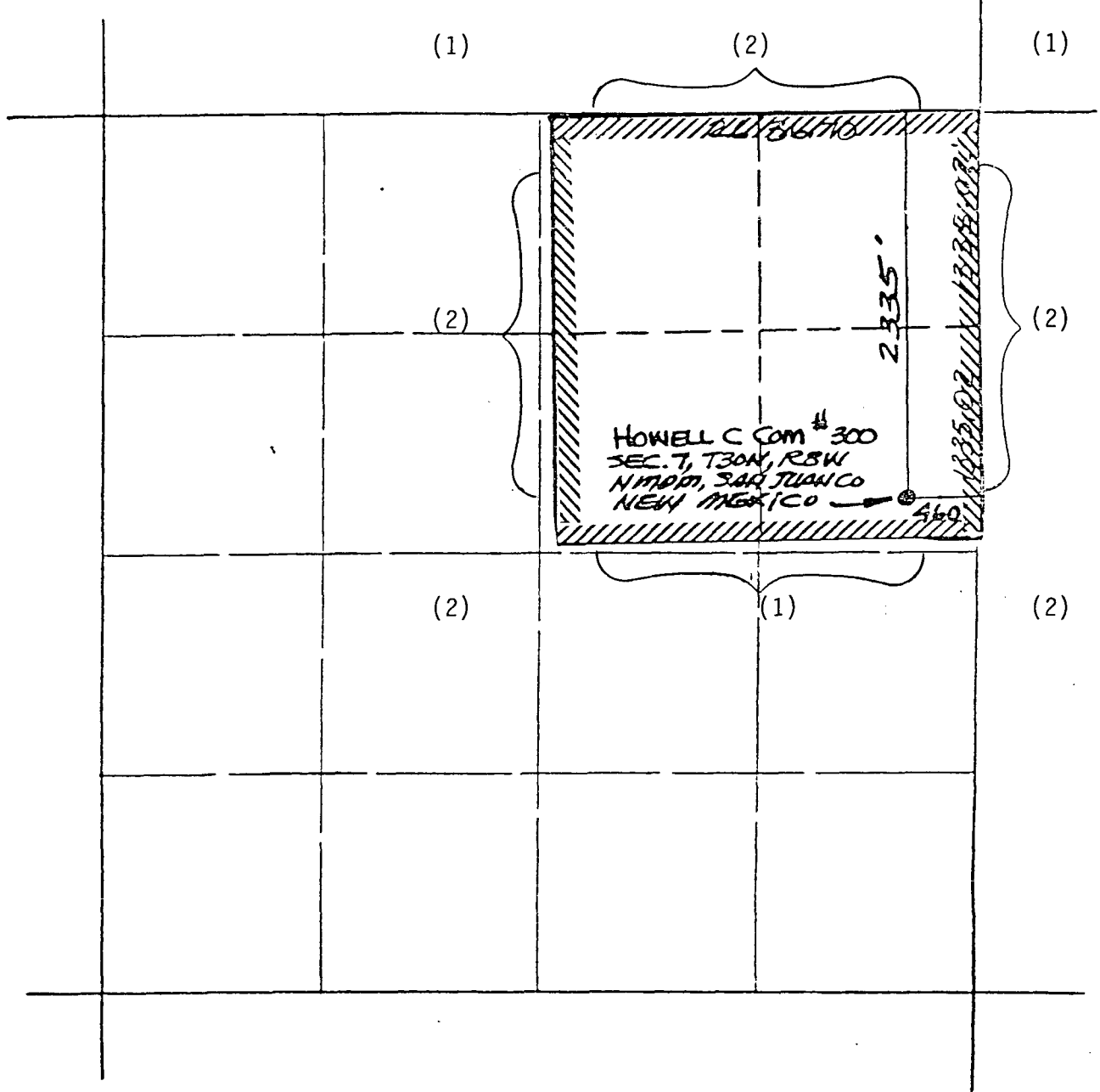
MERIDIAN OIL INC.

Well Name Howell C Com #300, Undesignated Fruitland

Footage----- 2335' FNL, 460' FEL

APPLICATION FOR NON-STANDARD LOCATION

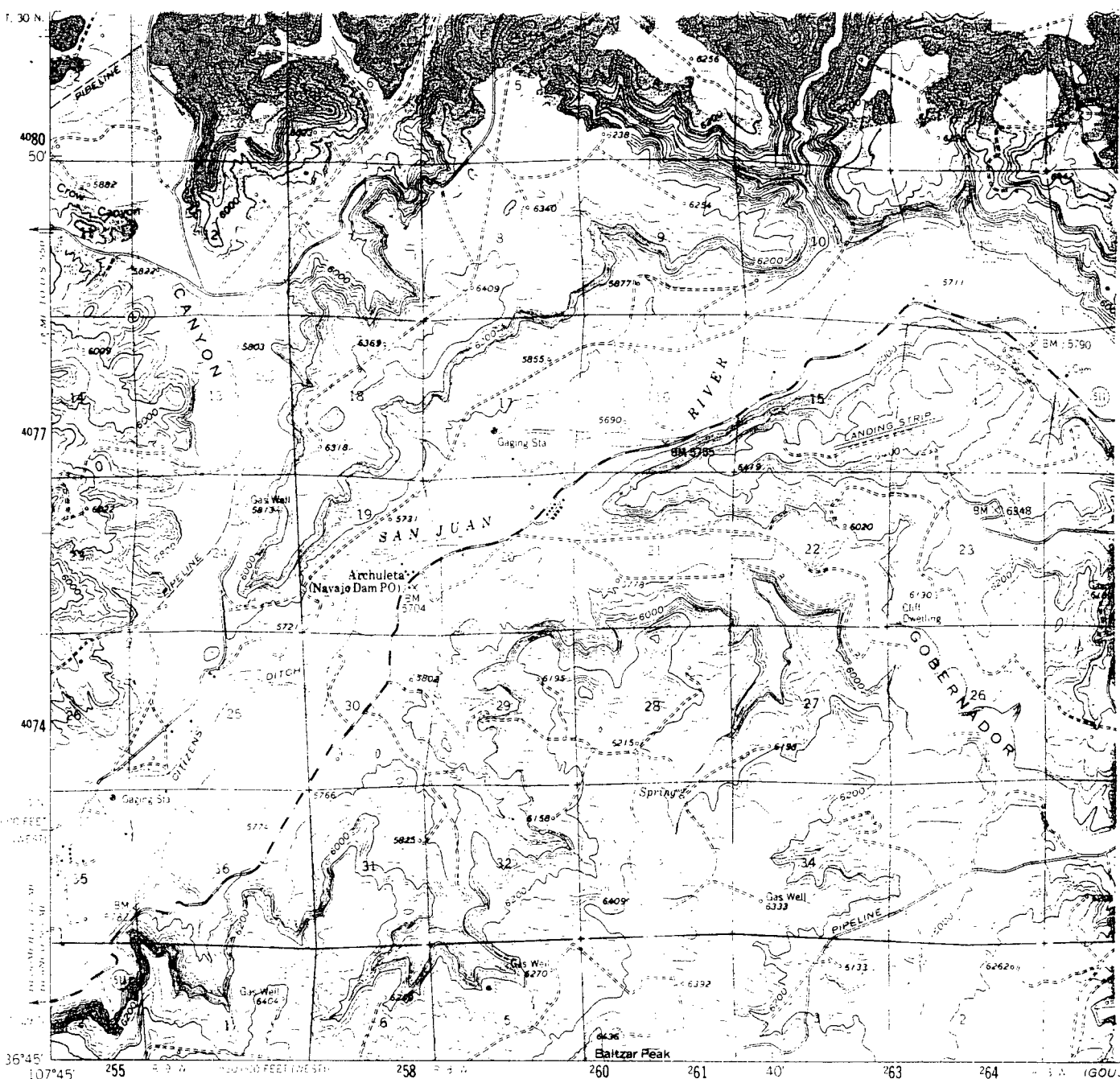
County San Juan State New Mexico Section 7 Township 30N Range 8W



REMARKS: OFFSET OPERATORS

(1) Meridian Oil Inc

(2) Tenneco Oil Company



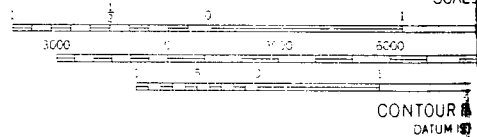
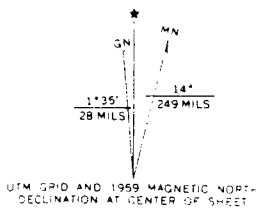
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

East half compiled in 1959 from 1:24,000 scale maps dated 1954. West half topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1955. Field checked 1959.

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum. 10,000-foot grid based on New Mexico coordinate system, west and central zones. 1000 meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 13, shown in blue.

Blue hatching indicates area to be submerged by Navajo Reservoir at elevation 5900 feet. Area covered by dashed light blue pattern is subject to controlled inundation to 5500 feet.



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACT
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS



DIVISION OF CONSERVATION ARCHAEOLOGY

San Juan County
Museum Association

May 13, 1988

Mr. Charles Werner
Meridian Oil Co.
P.O. Box 4289
Farmington, New Mexico 87499

Dear Mr. Werner:

Our report on the archaeological survey of four well locations near the Navajo Reservoir and on Pump Mesa is enclosed. One isolate was found. It consisted of three Anasazi plain grayware sherds located on the San Juan 30-6 #463 well pad.

We have recommended clearance for all well locations.

The BLM will review this report and make the final decision on archaeological clearance for your project.

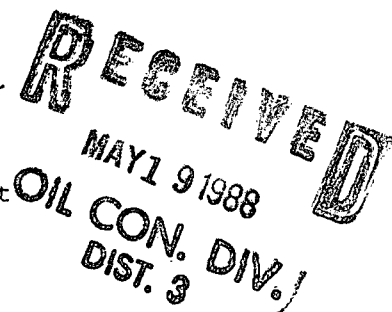
Also enclosed is an invoice for our services. We have enjoyed working with you and hope we can be of service again. If you have any questions, please call us. We will be happy to help you.

Sincerely,

Bradley J. Dilli

Bradley J. Dilli
Staff Archaeologist

cc: BLM, Resource Area Manager, Farmington (3)
Leonard Lord, EPNG



Project No. 53-88-C

Cultural Resource Use Permit
7-2920-87-D (NM BLM)

An Archaeological Survey of
Four Wells in the Navajo Reservoir District
of San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties, Northwest
New Mexico

for

Meridian Oil Co.

Howell C Com #300

Atlantic C #201

Hale #353

San Juan 30-6 Unit #463

by

Bradley J. Dilli
Staff Archaeologist

Submitted by

Margaret A. Powers
Principal Investigator

DIVISION OF CONSERVATION ARCHAEOLOGY

Technical Report No. 1315
San Juan County Archaeological Research Center and Library

May 13, 1988

ABSTRACT

On May 4 and 5, 1988, the Division of Conservation Archaeology of the San Juan County Museum Association completed an archaeological survey of four wells (Howell C Com #300, Atlantic C #201, Hale #353, San Juan 30-6 Unit #463) and two access roads for Meridian Oil. The survey areas are located near the Navajo Reservoir in Rio Arriba County and on and near Pump Mesa in San Juan County, new Mexico. Three of the wells are on land solely under the jurisdiction of BLM. The Atlantic C #201 well is on privately owned land\ with minerals under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management. Approximately 27.9 acres were intensively inventoried.

A portion of one previously recorded site (LA10727) is in the buffer zone of the proposed Atlantic C #201 well location. It consists of only one remaining post of an historic corral. One isolated locus of Anasazi plain gray ceramics was located on the San Juan Unit #463 well pad.

The documentation of the isolate in the field has exhausted its research potential. Archaeological clearance is recommended for all four proposed well locations.

INTRODUCTION

On May 4 and 5, the Division of Conservation Archaeology (DCA) of the San Juan County Museum Association conducted an archaeological survey for Meridian Oil Co. of Farmington, New Mexico. Charles Werner of Meridian Oil requested the survey on May 3, 1988 and Charles Werner administered the project for Meridian Oil. Margaret A. Powers administered the project for DCA.

In recognition of the limited, nonrenewable nature of archaeological remains, the federal government has enacted legislation that is designed to conserve and protect these resources. The principal legislation includes the Antiquities Act of 1906 (PL 52-209), the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (PL 89-665) and, as amended (PL 96-515), the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-852), the 1971 Executive Order No. 11593, the Archaeological and Historical Conservation Act of 1974 (PL 93-291), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (PL 96-95). In addition, the Navajo Nation and the states of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado have enacted laws to ensure compliance with federal legislation and to protect archaeological resources within their jurisdiction. Work undertaken in the course of this project is intended to comply with these statutes and is governed by the stipulations of Cultural Resource Use Permit #7-2920-87-D (NM BLM).

Bradley J. Dilli, DCA archaeologist, surveyed the project area for cultural remains. Odell Farley of Meridian Oil Co. accompanied the archaeologist during the fieldwork.

METHODS

The area was surveyed by walking a series of linear transects approximately 15m apart back and forth across the proposed pad locations. The transects were walked in a zigzag fashion to ensure coverage of the intervening areas. A buffer zone 100ft (31m) wide was surveyed around each of the pad locations. The archaeologist recorded all cultural remains. Those whose information potential exceeded what could be extracted during the survey phase were assigned site status. Other cultural remains were documented as isolated loci (IL). Pertinent environmental data were also recorded.

In addition to field inspection, the archaeologist conducted a search of the records at DCA and the Farmington Resource Area, BLM on May 3, 1988 to determine if any sites had been recorded in the project area. Site and project records required by the BLM and NMHPD were completed.

PREVIOUSLY RECORDED SITES

The record search revealed the presence of 18 sites within a one mile radius of the four project areas. A portion of the UNM #10727 site is within the buffer zone of the proposed Atlantic C #201 well pad.

None of the sites should be adversely effected by any of the project areas.

Previously recorded sites are summarized in Table 1 and are shown in Attachment-1 which is provided only to the BLM.

Table 1. Previously Recorded Sites

LA Site #	Institution #	Description
LA3419	UNM 10727	Unknown, ceramic/lithic scatter, groundstone Anasazi, Rosa Phase, possible jacal structure, depression, lithic/ceramic scatter
LA16478	SJC-214	Navajo, Gobernador Phase, 5 hogans, 2 sweat- lodges, ceramic scatter
LA16817		Navajo, Gobernador Phase, possible bin/cist, fire-cracked rock, lithic/ceramic scatter
LA20895	SJC-503	Navajo, Gobernador Phase, lithic/ceramic scatter
LA36600		Anasazi, Rosa Phase, lithic/ceramic scatter
LA36601		Anasazi, Rosa Phase, lithic/ceramic scatter
LA36606		Anasazi, Rosa Phase, lithic/ceramic scatter
LA36607		Anasazi, Rosa Phase, lithic/ceramic scatter
LA38067		Navajo, Gobernador Phase, hearth, lithic/ ceramic scatter
LA45742		Anasazi, Rosa Phase possible jacal structure, ceramic/lithic scatter
LA45758		Navajo, Historic, ceramic scatter
LA47052		Navajo, ceramic scatter
LA49773		Historic, 1846-1912, dugout, possible hearth, historic trash
LA53636	DCA-85-204	Navajo, Gobernador Phase, possible bin/cist, groundstone, lithic/ceramic scatter
LA54333	SJC-1339	Unknown ceramic/lithic scatter, groundstone
	DCA-87-17	Unknown hearth, mano
	DCA-88-81	Navajo, Dinetah/Gobernador Phase, possible brush structure, hearth, lithic/ceramic scatter

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Howell C Com #300 (Well Pad and Access Road)

Legal Description: T30N, R8W, Section 7, SE 1/4 SE 1/4 NE 1/4 (well pad and
(irregular section) access road)
N.M.P.M., San Juan County, New Mexico
2335' FNL, 460' FEL

Map Source: U.S.G.S. 7.5' Archuleta, New Mexico (1985, provisional edition)
(Figure 1)

Land Jurisdiction: BLM

Elevation: 6300'

Project Area: 300' x 300' (well pad)
20' x 308' (access road)

Surveyed Area: 500' x 500' (well pad with buffer)
75' x 308' (access road with buffer)
6.3 Acres (pad and access road with buffer)

Description: The proposed well pad is in sage flats on pump Mesa above La Managa Canyon. The pad will be over 500ft east of an unnamed drainage to La Managa Canyon and approximately 1 1/2 miles northwest of the San Juan River. Soils in the areas are of the Travessilla-Weska-Rock outcrop complex (Keetch, 1980). These shallow light brown sandy loams are typically formed in residuum derived mainly from sandstone or shale.

A sparse overstory of pinyon (Pinus edulis)/juniper (Juniperus sp.) is present on the north and west edges of the pad. A fairly dense understory is estimated at 75% coverage dominated by sage (Artemisia tridentata) and composites, with scattered occurrences of Mormon tea (Ephedra sp.), prickly pear cactus (Opuntia sp.) and broadleaf yucca (Yucca baccata), was estimated at 75% coverage.

Access to the proposed well pad will be by constructing an access road from the existing maintained well road. The proposed access road will trend to the north/northwest from the existing road to tie into the southeast section of the proposed well pad approximately 94m (308ft) away.

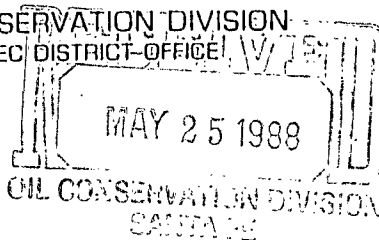
Cultural Resources: No cultural resources were found.

Recommendations: Archaeological clearance is recommended for the proposed Howell C Com #300 well pad and access road.



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
AZTEC DISTRICT OFFICE



2525
1000 RIO BRAZOS ROAD
AZTEC, NEW MEXICO 87410
(505) 334-6178

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
BOX 2088
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

DATE 5-20-88

RE: Proposed MC _____
Proposed DHC _____
Proposed NSL X _____
Proposed SWD _____
Proposed WFX _____
Proposed PMX _____

Gentlemen:

I have examined the application dated 5-2-88
for the Montana Oil, Inc. Howell Glen #300 14-7-30N-8W
Operator Lease and Well No. Unit, S-T-R

and my recommendations are as follows:

[Signature]

Yours truly,

[Signature]