

MERIDIAN OIL

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
RECEIVED

'93 JUN 7 AM 9 09

JUNE 29, 1993

MR. MICHEAL STOGNER, ENGINEER
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY, MINERAL, AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPT.
NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
P.O. BOX 2088
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504

RE: FORMAL REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL
UNORTHODOX LOCATION
RHODES A NO. 3
SEC. 22, T-26-S, R-37-E
1140' FNL & 660' FEL
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
LEASE NO: LC 030174-A

MR. STOGNER:

MERIDIAN OIL INC. RESPECTFULLY REQUEST ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL FOR AN UNORTHODOX LOCATION FOR THE ABOVE REFERENCED WELL. UNDER STATE RULE 104, A WELL IN THE RHODES YATES SEVEN RIVERS GAS FIELD CANNOT BE CLOSER THAN 330' FROM THE QUARTER/QUARTER SECTION. THE INTENDED LOCATION IS 180' FROM THE QUARTER/QUARTER SECTION, THEREFORE; WE REQUEST AN UNORTHODOX LOCATION. DUE TO THE DISCOVERY OF AN ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE LOCATED IN THIS VICINITY, WE ARE UNABLE TO MOVE THIS WELL TO A REGULAR LOCATION.

THE OFFSET OPERATORS LISTED BELOW WERE NOTIFIED OF THIS APPLICATION BY CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT MAIL ON JUNE 30, 1993.

ORYX ENERGY COMPANY
ATTN: REGULATORY DEPT.
P.O. BOX 2880
DALLAS, TX 75221-2880
214-715-4750

TEXACO, INC.
ATTN: R.S. LANE
P.O. BOX 3109
MIDLAND, TX 79701
915-688-4100

UNITED GAS SEARCH, INC.
ATTN: RODNEY RATHEAL
1550 WYNN JOYCE
GARLAND, TX 75043
214-271-6464

MR. MICHEAL STOGNER
PAGE TWO

IF YOU SHOULD NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO
CONTACT ME AT 915-688-6943.

SINCERELY,



DONNA J. WILLIAMS
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

XC: WELL FILE
TOM O'DONNELL - RESERVOIR ENGR.
LAND DEPT.
JOINT INTEREST
PRODUCTION ENGR.
GEOLOGIST
KERMIT FIELD OFFICE
OCD - HOBBS
REGULATORY FILE
1. MARIA PEREZ
2. CONNIE MALIK
3. MARIANNE MARTIN
4. STELLA ALVARADO
5. RICHARD ATCHLEY
6. CARLA YOUNG
7. DONNA WILLIAMS

Submit to Appropriate District Office
 State Lease - 4 copies
 Fee Lease - 3 copies

State of New Mexico
 Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Form C-102
 Revised 1-1-89

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

P.O. Box 2088
 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088

DISTRICT I
 P.O. Box 1980, Hobbs, NM 88240

DISTRICT II
 P.O. Drawer DD, Artesia, NM 88210

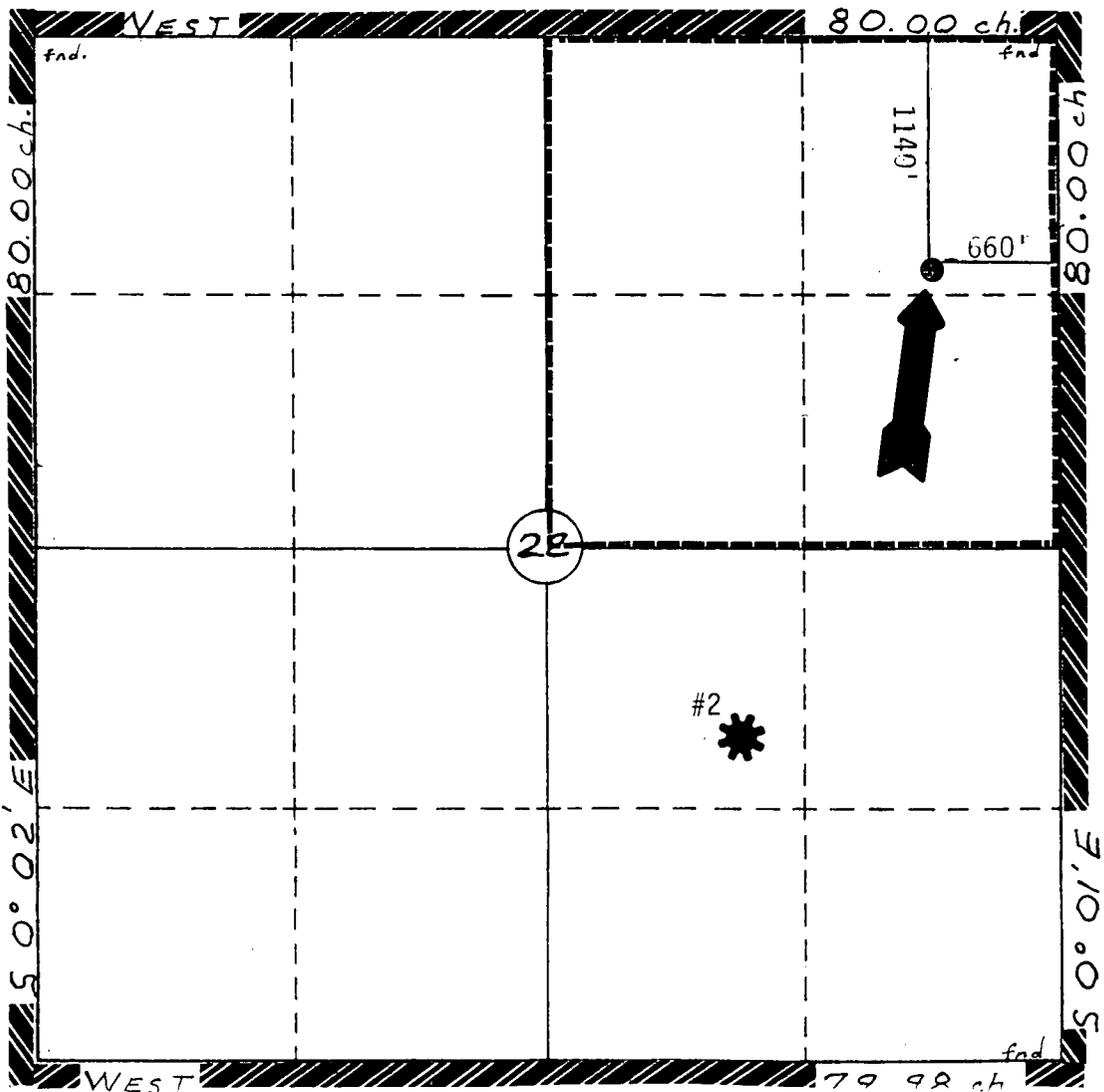
DISTRICT III
 1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410

WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT

All Distances must be from the outer boundaries of the section

Operator MERIDIAN OIL INC.			Lease RHODES "A"		Well No. 3
Unit Letter A	Section 22	Township 26 SOUTH	Range 37 EAST	County LEA	
Actual Footage Location of Well: 1140 feet from the NORTH line and 660 feet from the EAST line					
Ground level Elev. 2996	Producing Formation YATES-SEVEN RIVERS		Pool RHODES YATES SEVEN RIVERS GAS	Dedicated Acreage: 160 Acres	

- Outline the acreage dedicated to the subject well by colored pencil or hachure marks on the plat below.
- If more than one lease is dedicated to the well, outline each and identify the ownership thereof (both as to working interest and royalty).
- If more than one lease of different ownership is dedicated to the well, have the interest of all owners been consolidated by communitization, unitization, force-pooling, etc?
 Yes No If answer is "yes" type of consolidation _____
 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 interest, has been approved by the Division.

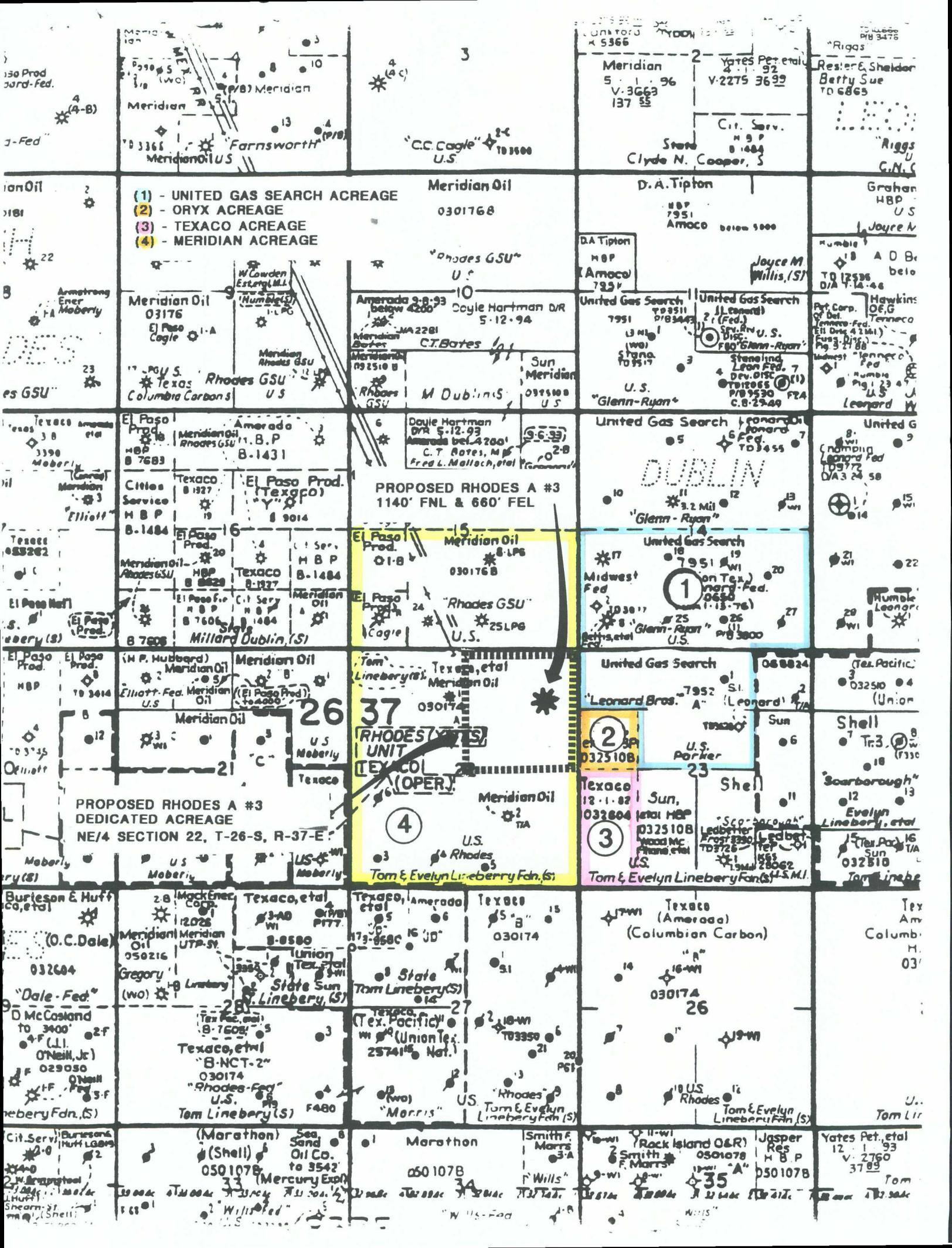


OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

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

Signature DONNA WILLIAMS
Printed Name
Position PRODUCTION ASST.
Company MERIDIAN OIL INC.
Date 6/29/93

no other wells in unit



- (1) - UNITED GAS SEARCH ACREAGE
- (2) - ORYX ACREAGE
- (3) - TEXACO ACREAGE
- (4) - MERIDIAN ACREAGE

Meridian Oil
0301768

D.A. Tipton
HBP 7951
Amoco below 5000

Meridian Oil
03176
El Paso Cagle

Amerada 9-8-93
below 4200
Meridian
Rhodes GSU

United Gas Search
7951
U.S.
"Glenn-Ryan"

El Paso Prod.
Meridian Oil
Rhodes GSU
B-1431

DOYLE HARTMAN D/R
5-12-94
C.T. BATES
M. DUBLIN'S

United Gas Search
Leonard Oil
7951
DUBLIN
"Glenn-Ryan"

El Paso Prod.
Meridian Oil
Rhodes GSU
B-1484

PROPOSED RHODES A #3
1140' FNL & 660' FEL
El Paso Prod.
Meridian Oil
Rhodes GSU
U.S.

United Gas Search
7951
Midwest Fed
"Glenn-Ryan"

El Paso Prod.
Meridian Oil
Rhodes GSU
B-1484

PROPOSED RHODES A #3
DEDICATED ACREAGE
NE 1/4 SECTION 22, T-26-S, R-37-E
RHODES UNIT
(OPER.)

United Gas Search
7952
"Leonard Bros." A
U.S. Parker

El Paso Prod.
Meridian Oil
Rhodes GSU
B-1484

Meridian Oil
Rhodes GSU
U.S.
Tom & Evelyn Lineberry Fdn. (S)

Texaco
12-1-82
Sun
0325108
Shell
Tom & Evelyn Lineberry Fdn. (S)

El Paso Prod.
Meridian Oil
Rhodes GSU
B-1484

Texaco, et al
030174
Rhodes
U.S.
Tom & Evelyn Lineberry Fdn. (S)

Texaco
(Amerada)
(Columbian Carbon)
030174
26
Tom & Evelyn Lineberry Fdn. (S)

El Paso Prod.
Meridian Oil
Rhodes GSU
B-1484

Marathon
050107B
Smith & Morris
Wills

Yates Pet., et al
12-1-93
V-2760
3789
Tom

El Paso Prod.
Meridian Oil
Rhodes GSU
B-1484

Marathon
050107B
Smith & Morris
Wills

Yates Pet., et al
12-1-93
V-2760
3789
Tom

MERIDIAN OIL

JULY 8, 1993

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
RECEIVED

'93 JUL 12 AM 8 54

MR. MICHAEL E. STOGNER, ENGINEER
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY, MINERAL, AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPT.
NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
P.O. BOX 2088
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504

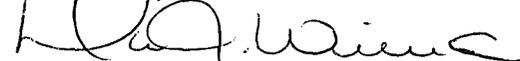
RE: FORMAL REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL
 UNORTHODOX LOCATION
 RHODES A NO. 3
 SEC. 22, T-26-S, R-37-E
 1140' FNL & 660' FEL
 LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
 LEASE NO: LC 030174-A

MR. STOGNER:

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED THE ORIGINAL REGISTERED RETURN RECEIPTS AS PROOF OF
OFFSET OPERATOR NOTIFICATION AS STATED PREVIOUSLY IN OUR REQUEST SUBMITTED
ON JUNE 29, 1993.

IF YOU SHOULD HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, OR NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE
DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT ME AT 915-688-6943.

SINCERELY,



DONNA J. WILLIAMS
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

XC: WELL FILE
TOM O'DONNELL - RESERVOIR ENGR.
LAND DEPT.
JOINT INTEREST
PRODUCTION ENGR.
GEOSCIENCE
KERMIT FIELD OFFICE
OCD - HOBBS
REGULATORY FILE
1. MARIA PEREZ
2. CONNIE MALIK
3. MARIANNNE MARTIN
4. STELLA ALVARADO
5. RICHARD ATCHLEY
6. CARLA YOUNG
7. DONNA WILLIAMS

Is your RETURN ADDRESS completed on the reverse side?

SENDER:

- Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services.
- Complete items 3, and 4a & b.
- Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so that we can return this card to you.
- Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back if space does not permit.
- Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the article number.
- The Return Receipt will show to whom the article was delivered and the date delivered.

3. Article Addressed to:
 Texaco, Inc.
 ATTN: R.S. Lane
 P.O. Box 3109
 Midland, TX 79701

4a. Article Number
 P 322 575 745

4b. Service Type
 Registered Insured
 Certified COD
 Express Mail Return Receipt for Merchandise

7. Date of Delivery
 JUL 2 1993

8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid)

6. Signature (Agent)
 [Signature]

5. Signature (Addressee)

PS Form 3811, December 1991 ☆ U.S.G.P.O. : 1992-307-530

DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT

Thank you for using Return Receipt Service.

Is your RETURN ADDRESS completed on the reverse side?

SENDER:

- Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services.
- Complete items 3, and 4a & b.
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3. Article Addressed to:
 Oryx Energy Co.
 Attn: Regulatory Dept.
 P.O. Box 2880
 Dallas, TX 75221-2880

4a. Article Number
 P 322 757 743

4b. Service Type
 Registered Insured
 Certified COD
 Express Mail Return Receipt for Merchandise

7. Date of Delivery
 JUL 05 1993

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6. Signature (Agent)
 [Signature]

5. Signature (Addressee)

PS Form 3811, December 1991 ☆ U.S.G.P.O. : 1992-307-530

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3. Article Addressed to:
 United Gas Search, Inc.
 Attn: Rodney Ratheal-agent
 1550 Wynn Joyce
 Garland, TX 75043

4a. Article Number
 P 322 575 739

4b. Service Type
 Registered Insured
 Certified COD
 Express Mail Return Receipt for Merchandise

7. Date of Delivery
 7-2-93

8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid)

5. Signature (Addressee)
 [Signature]

6. Signature (Agent)
 [Signature]

PS Form 3811, December 1991 ☆ U.S.G.P.O. : 1992-307-530

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 7/2/93 JUL - 2 1993

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6. Signature (Agent)
 [Signature]

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 Return Receipt for Merchandise

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 JUL 06 1993

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 [Signature]

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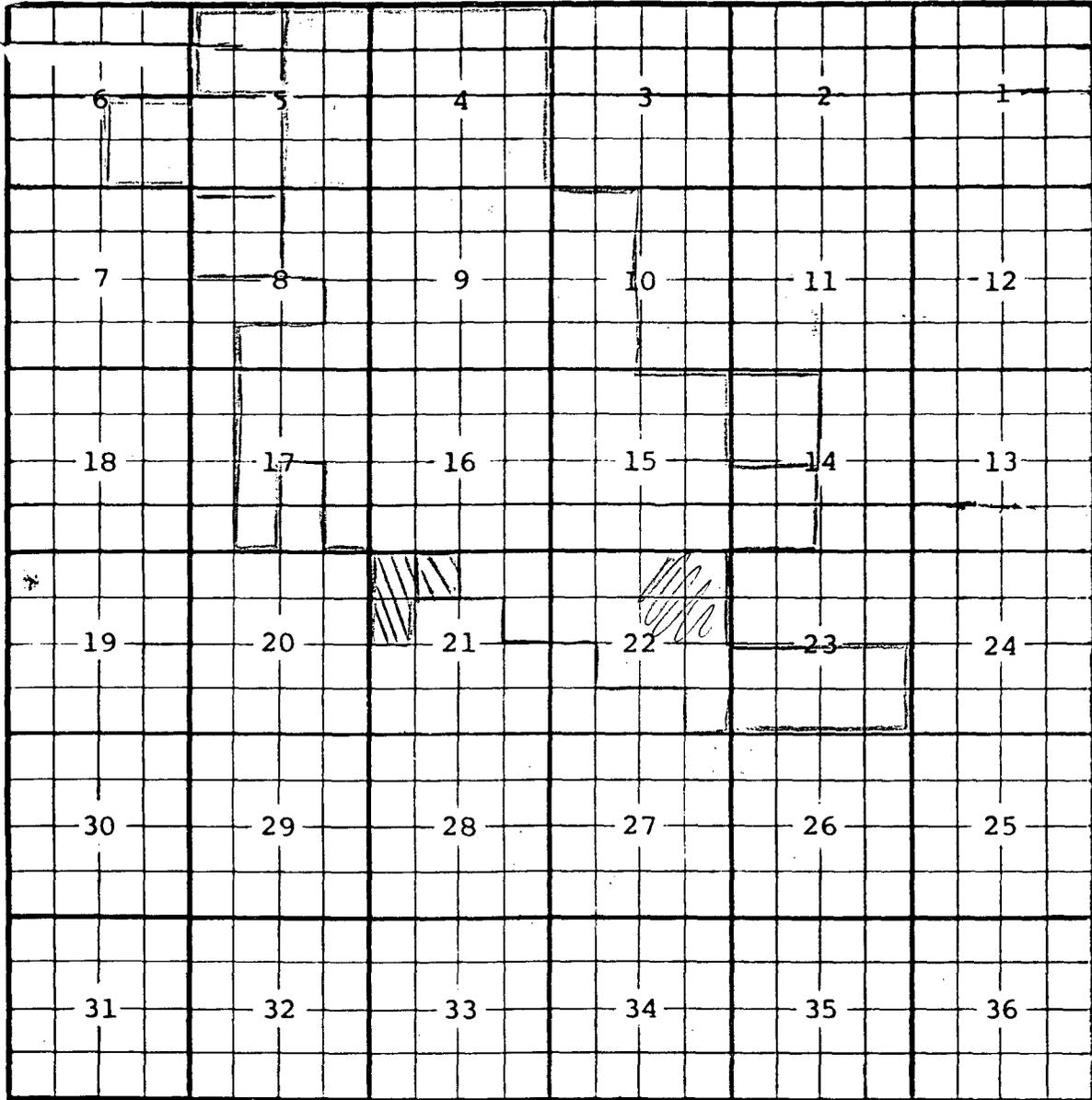
DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT

DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT

DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT

County Lea Pool Rhodes-Yates-Seven Rivers Gas

TOWNSHIP 26 South Range 37 East NMPM



Desc: All sec 4, E/2 sec 5, NE/4, E/2 SE/4, SW/4 SE/4, & SE/4 SW/4 sec 8,
 All sec 9, W/2 sec 10, SW/4 sec 14, All sec 15, 16, NE/4, E/2 W/2, &
 E/2 SE/4 sec 17, N/2 N/2, SE/4 NE/4, & SW/4 NW/4 sec 21, N/2,
 N/2 SE/4, SE/4 SE/4, & NE/4 SW/4 sec 22, S/2 sec 23, (R-6891,
 2-1-82)

Contract vertical limits from top of Yates formation to a point
 in Seven Rivers formation which is 100 feet above the top of the
 Queen formation in E/2 sec. 5 (R-7322, 10-20-83)

Delete NE/4 NW/4 Sec. 21 (R-7554, 6-14-84) Delete W/2 NW/4 Sec. 21 (R-7858, 3-28-85)

Ext: NW/4 Sec. 14 (R-9585, 9-30-91) Ext: NW/4 Sec. 5 (R-9615, 12-3-91)

Ext: NW/4 Sec. 8 (R-9646, 3-11-92) Ext: SW/4 Sec. 5, SE/4 Sec. 6 (R-9723, 9-25-92)



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



BRUCE KING
GOVERNOR

ANITA LOCKWOOD
CABINET SECRETARY

July 20, 1993

POST OFFICE BOX 2088
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504
(505) 827-5800

Meridian Oil, Inc.
P.O. Box 51810
Midland, TX 79701-1810

Attention: Donna J. Williams

***RE: Unorthodox Gas Well Location; Rhodes "A" Well No. 3,
1140' FNL - 660' FEL (Unit A). Section 22, Township 26 South,
Range 37 East, NMPM, Rhodes-Yates-Seven Rivers Gas Pool, Lea
County, New Mexico.***

Dear Ms. Williams:

Additional supporting information will be required for the subject application. Please submit detailed plats and other supporting documentation pursuant to Parts V.(D), and VI, and if applicable, VII of Division Memorandum 1-90 (see copy attached).

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael E. Stogner".

Michael E. Stogner
Chief Hearing Officer/Engineer

MES/amg

cc: Oil Conservation Division - Hobbs
US Bureau of Land Management - Carlsbad



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

GARREY CARRUTHERS
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE BOX 2088
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504
(505) 827-5800

No. 1-90

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Operators

FROM: William J. LeMay, Director *WJL*

SUBJECT: Administrative Applications for Unorthodox Locations

DATE: March 21, 1990

Division Memorandum No. 3-89, dated March 24, 1989, advised the industry that the OCD would no longer automatically approve unopposed unorthodox location applications. Unorthodox locations can be approved administratively in accordance with the Rules and Regulations or applicable special pool rules if surface conditions truly prevent the use of a legal location and if directional drilling to a legal location is not feasible.

Topographic conditions which will be considered to justify an unorthodox location include such traditional factors as terrain features (steep slopes, arroyos, etc.) which make drilling impractical. In addition, approval may be given to avoid archeological sites which may not be disturbed without substantial mitigation, incompatible surface uses such as buildings, recreation areas, etc. Applications should fully document the reason an unorthodox location is required.

The attached guidelines state the minimum information which should be submitted with applications for administrative approval of unorthodox locations. Failure to provide the necessary information will probably result in processing delays.

If the surface of the proration unit or proposed drill site is controlled by a Federal Surface Management Agency, a copy of the application must be sent to the appropriate agency office.

If there are legal locations within the proration unit which are drillable, but the operator chooses not to drill those locations for geological reasons the application cannot be approved administratively and a hearing will be required.

NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

SUBMITTAL GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL
OF NON-STANDARD LOCATION APPLICATIONS

- I. If the well is located on Federal or Indian Lands, the Federal Surface Management Agency must be notified and an on-site inspection conducted prior to filing the application. If an Application for Permit to drill or a Notice of Staking has been prepared, a copy must be submitted.
- II. Completed C-102 showing the well location, proration unit, leases within the unit and other required information.
- III. Land plat showing offset operators and working interest owners and any offsetting wells producing from the same pool or formation.
 - A. This information may be shown on the topo map if it does not impair the readability of the map.
 - B. The operator should certify that the information is current and correct.
- IV. Original or clear copy of topographic map, preferably 7.5 minute quad, showing contours and other mapped features impacting the location, with the following information marked thereon (In order to be able to adequately show all of the necessary surface conditions it may be necessary to enlarge the relevant portion of the topo map to provide room for detail):
 - A. The proposed well location and proration unit;
 - B. An outline of the orthodox drilling windows as provided in the applicable rules for the subject application;
 - C. The location of any wells to any formation within the area of the proration unit and a statement as to whether an existing pad can be used to drill the proposed well;
- V. An enlargement of the topo map showing the subject area with the applicable additional information:
 - A. Terrain features not shown on the map which make an orthodox location unusable;
 - B. Proposed access roads and pipelines if they affect the location selection;
 - C. The location of any surface uses which prevent use of a legal location;

- D. The location of any archeological sites identified in the archeological survey;
 - E. The location and nature of any other surface conditions which prevent the use of an orthodox location.
- VI. If archeological sites are a reason for the unorthodox location request, a copy of the archeological survey, or a summary, identifying sites which cannot be disturbed or which must have any disturbance mitigated. In addition, the location of such areas should be marked on the enlarged topo so they can be clearly identified.
- VII. A narrative report of any on-site inspection of the potential locations. If such on-site has resulted in elimination of legal locations due to surface conditions, such information should also be noted on the enlarged topo.
- VIII. A statement of why directional drilling to reach a legal bottom-hole location is not feasible.
- IX. An affidavit that notice has been sent to all parties entitled thereto, under the Divisions Rules and Regulations with return receipt cards showing date of receipt of notice.



STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT DIVISION

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

RECEIVED

93 JUL 24 AM 10 32



RECEIVED

BRUCE KING
GOVERNOR

JUL 23 1993

ANITA LOCKWOOD
CABINET SECRETARY

PROD. SERV.

July 20, 1993

POST OFFICE BOX 2088
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504
(505) 827-5800

Meridian Oil, Inc.
P.O. Box 51810
Midland, TX 79701-1810

Attention: Donna J. Williams

**RE: Unorthodox Gas Well Location; Rhodes "A" Well No. 3,
1140' FNL - 660' FEL (Unit A). Section 22, Township 26 South,
Range 37 East, NMPM, Rhodes-Yates-Seven Rivers Gas Pool, Lea
County, New Mexico.**

Dear Ms. Williams:

Additional supporting information will be required for the subject application. Please submit detailed plats and other supporting documentation pursuant to Parts V.(D), and VI, and if applicable, VII of Division Memorandum 1-90 (see copy attached).

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

TO → Michael E. Stogner
Chief Hearing Officer/Engineer

MES/amg

cc: Oil Conservation Division - Hobbs
US Bureau of Land Management - Carlsbad

7-23-93
Attached is the
archaeological report done
on this well

Cultural Resource Management Report

RHODES "A" NO. 3
CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Written By:

John Montgomery, Ph.D.,
Agency for Conservation Archaeology
Eastern New Mexico University

Prepared For:

MERIDIAN OIL, INC.
P.O. Box 51810
Midland, Texas 79710

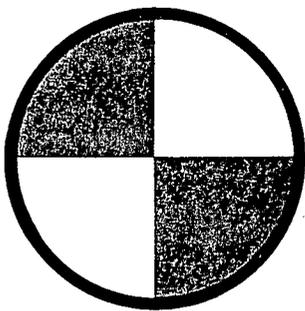
Date:

June 21, 1993

POWERS ELEVATION CO., INC.

P.O. Box 440889
Aurora, CO 80044
(303) 321-2217

Project #93-NM-20



Archaeology Department

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

On June 8, 1993, the Agency for Conservation Archaeology conducted a cultural resources survey for Meridian Oil, Inc., on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The area surveyed for the proposed well pad, Rhodes "A" No. 3, its access road, and its power line totals 6.43 acres. The proposed projects are in Section 22, T-26-S, R-37-E, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico. One prehistoric cultural resource site, LA 100720 was found and recorded within the proposed well pad and within the power line ROW. LA 100720 is considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. It is recommended that the proposed Rhodes "A" No. 3 and its associated power line not be cleared for construction as currently planned.

Introduction

A cultural resources survey was completed recently by the Agency for Conservation Archaeology (ACA) at Eastern New Mexico University for Meridian Oil, Inc. on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in Lea County, New Mexico. The reconnoitered area will be disturbed by the construction of the proposed Rhodes "A" No. 3 well and its associated access road and power line. This project was administered by Dr. Gordy Tucker, Jr. for Powers Elevation Co., Inc. and Dr. John Montgomery for ACA.

The fieldwork was conducted June 8, 1993 by John Montgomery. Excellent weather prevailed throughout the course of this reconnaissance. The survey was done between 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. under clear skies with temperatures in the low 90s (F). Despite a westerly wind in excess of 20 mph, visibility was excellent.

This survey was conducted under Federal Antiquities Permit number 11-2920-93-N. A search of the National Register of Historic Places has been made and no properties within this area are listed. Examination of the site files at the Cultural Resources Information System, Historic Preservation Division showed no cultural properties within the same section as the proposed well pad, access road, and power line. The closest previously recorded cultural resource site is in Section 15, about .5 mi (1 km) north. This site is LA 54275, a lithic scatter found within a dunal deflation basin in an active dune field (see Martin 1986 for more details).

Survey Techniques

Visual inspection of the proposed project area was accomplished by walking it in a series of parallel transects. Each transect was covered in a evenly spaced zigzag pattern. The distance between transects was approximately 25 ft (8 m). The surface was carefully observed for any cultural materials. Dirt from insect and rodent burrows was also examined for cultural materials that may have been brought up from below the surface. These methods maximized the opportunity of observing any cultural resources on the surface.

Rhodes "A" No. 3, Access Road, and Power Line

Location

The proposed well pad, access road, and power line are about 6 mi (10 km) south-southeast of Jal, New Mexico. To get to the location one travels south 6

ACA F93-131

mi (10 km) from Jal on NM 218. Then turn east on an oil lease caliche road and continue about .3 mi (.5 km) to the beginning point of the proposed access road.

The proposed well pad covers 3.67 acres and measures 400 x 400 ft (122 x 122 m). The proposed access road right-of-way (ROW) to the well covers 0.92 acres and measures 100 x 400 ft (30 x 120 m). The proposed power line ROW covers 1.84 acres and measures 100 x 800 ft (30 x 240 m). All are located as follows:

Rhodes "A" No. 3: 990' FNL, 660' FEL:

SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Sec 22, T-26-S, R-37-E, NMPM, Lea County, NM (BLM)
SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Sec 22, T-26-S, R-37-E, NMPM, Lea County, NM (BLM)

Access Road:

SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Sec 22, T-26-S, R-37-E, NMPM, Lea County, NM (BLM)
NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Sec 22, T-26-S, R-37-E, NMPM, Lea County, NM (BLM)

Power Line:

SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Sec 22, T-26-S, R-37-E, NMPM, Lea County, NM (BLM)
NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Sec 22, T-26-S, R-37-E, NMPM, Lea County, NM (BLM)

Plat: Figure 1

Map Reference: USGS Jal, N. Mex-Tex Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series, 1969,
Photorevised 1979 (Figure 2)

Topographic Situation

The proposed flowline is in Toboso Flats, just off the southern extension of the Llano Estacado. Most of the area is covered by active sand dunes that are at least 20 ft (6 m) high. Overall, the area is an extensive dune field that is the northern extension of the Monahans Dunes to the southeast. Estimated elevation ranges from 2980 to 2996 ft (908-913 m) above mean sea level (amsl).

Water Resources

Few sources of seasonal potable water exist in this area of New Mexico. The closest is Monument Draw, some 4 mi (6 km) to the east. The closest source of permanent water is the Pecos River, approximately 70 mi (113 km) to the west.

Submit to Appropriate District Office
State Lease - 4 copies
Fee Lease - 3 copies

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Form C-102
Revised 1-1-89

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
P.O. Box 2088
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088

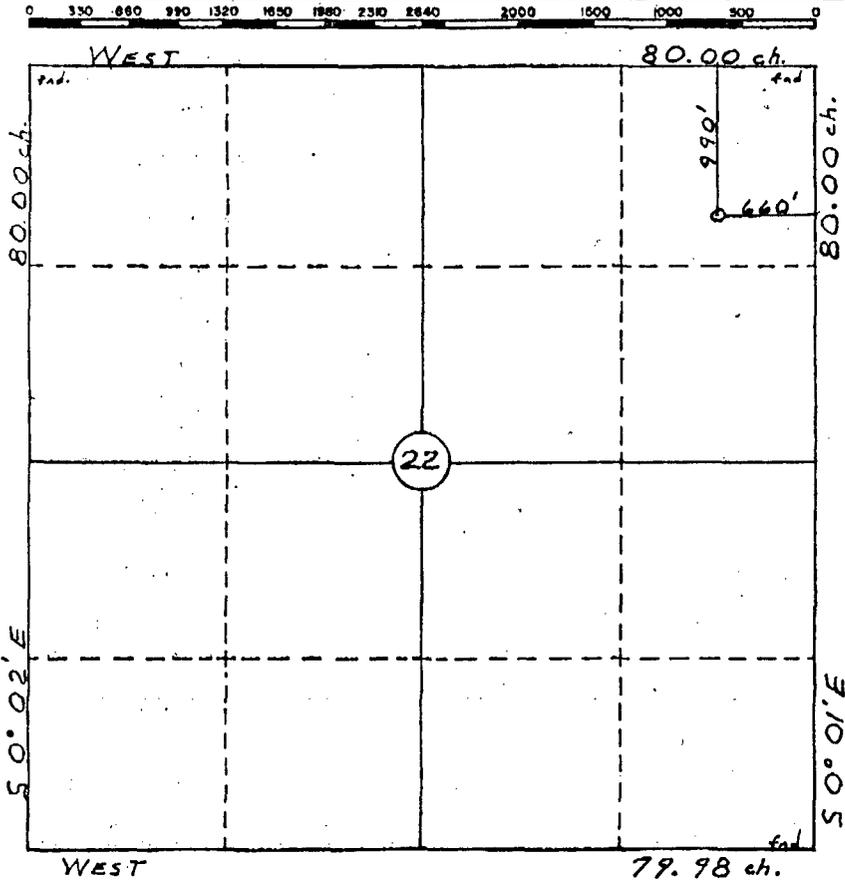
DISTRICT I
P.O. Box 1980, Hobbs, NM 88240

DISTRICT II
P.O. Drawer DD, Artesia, NM 88210

DISTRICT III
1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410

WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT
All Distances must be from the outer boundaries of the section

Operator MERIDIAN OIL INC.		Lease RHODES "A"		Well No. 3	
Unit Letter A	Section 22	Township 26 SOUTH	Range 37 EAST	County LEA	
Actual Footage Location of Well: 990 feet from the NORTH line and 660 feet from the EAST line.					
Ground level Elev. 2996	Producing Formation			Pool	Dedicated Acreage: Acres
<p>1. Outline the acreage dedicated to the subject well by colored pencil or hatchure marks on the plat below.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>3. If more than one lease of different ownership is dedicated to the well, have the interest of all owners been consolidated by communitization, unitization, force-pooling, etc.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If answer is "yes" type of consolidation</p> <p>If answer is "no" list the owners and tract descriptions which have actually been consolidated. (Use reverse side of this form if necessary.)</p> <p>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 interest, has been approved by the Division.</p>					



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

Signature _____
Printed Name _____
Position _____
Company _____
Date _____

SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION
I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. 6-7-93

Date Surveyed
WILLIAM E. MAHNKE II

Signature of **WILLIAM E. MAHNKE II**
Professional Surveyor
New Mexico
#8469
Certified No. 8/10/88
Professional

Figure 1. Plat of the Proposed Rhodes "A" No. 3 Well.

Land Resources

The proposed well pad, access road, and power line are in an area where sediments consist of very deep reddish-brown very sandy loam and sand. Taxonomically they are classified as part of the Haplargids-Torripsamments association. Sediments of this association are found extensively in southeast New Mexico in dunal areas on sloping plains and rolling uplands topography (Maker et al. 1974:36). These soils are developing in aeolian sediments. Lithic inclusions include very infrequent small pebbles of quartzite, chert and/or chalcedony as well as tiny sub angular pebbles of caliche. Except for the caliche, which is buff colored, most of the pebbles are dark purple to brown in color, but lighter colors were occasionally observed.

Biotic Resources

Density and composition of the flora assemblage varied within the proposed project area. Vegetation coverage ranged from 25-75% along the access road ROW to practically 0% on the well pad and the power line ROW. The active dune areas are generally devoid of vegetation, except for an occasional mesquite. Plants observed include shin oak, mesquite, broom snakeweed, prickly pear cactus, yucca, wild buckwheat, grama grasses, sunflower, and several unidentified clump grasses and forbs.

Previous Disturbances

The project area has been disturbed previously by rodent activity, some ranching activities, and oil field construction and maintenance actions. Recent aluminum cans, rusting metal, glass fragments, and plastic trash were observed throughout the area, but were most concentrated in dunal deflation basins and their edges.

Cultural Resources

The ACA archaeologist found one prehistoric cultural resource site, LA 100720, within the northern portion of the proposed well and within the proposed power line ROW. A total of 2.5 person-hours was spent examining these locations for cultural resources. A description of LA 100720 follows.

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LA 100720: (Figure 2 and Figure 3)

Location: NW 1/4, NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Section 22, T-26-S, R-37-E
NE 1/4, NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Section 22, T-26-S, R-37-E
SW 1/4, NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Section 22, T-26-S, R-37-E
SE 1/4, NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Section 22, T-26-S, R-37-E

UTM: Zone 13; 675250 E, 3545520 N (Center)

Ownership: Bureau of Land Management

Map Reference: USGS Jal, N. Mex-Tex Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series, 1969,
Photorevised 1979

Site Type: Lithic Scatter

Site Size: 600 x 300 ft (180 x 90 m); 16200 m²; 4.1 acres

Elevation: 3990 ft amsl

LA 100720 is a large, diffuse lithic scatter within a series of high, active dunes. The site consists of several deflation basins scattered among higher dunes and dunal ridges. The deflation basins contain artifacts that have lagged to the deflation surface. Chipped stone debitage, thermally-altered rock, and ground stone were found within the deflation basins and scattered between the basins. Overall, artifact density is low (much less than 1 artifact/m²), given the large size of the site. Chipped stone debitage is largely interior flakes and flake fragments, most of which measure less than 3 cm in the longest dimension. Exact counts were not made, but many of these artifacts exhibit attributes found in bi-face thinning flakes. Lithic materials range in all colors, but most were a buff to tan color. Almost all were chert, with a few chalcedony specimens noted. Thermally-altered rock is a dark reddish brown sandstone and limestone (caliche?). Most specimens were less than 10 cm in the longest dimension. One light tan metate fragment was recorded. This fragment is too small to determine if it came from a basin or slab metate. It is estimated that hundreds of artifacts are on the surface of LA 100720.

LA 100720 is found within a series of U-shaped dunes that open to the west. The eastern edges of the dunes are the highest, generally about 20 ft above the deflation basins. The site was initially viewed as a series of small (less than 50 ft, 15 m long) deflation basins that open to the west and southwest. Artifacts were concentrated in the eastern ends of the basins, and are found with recent

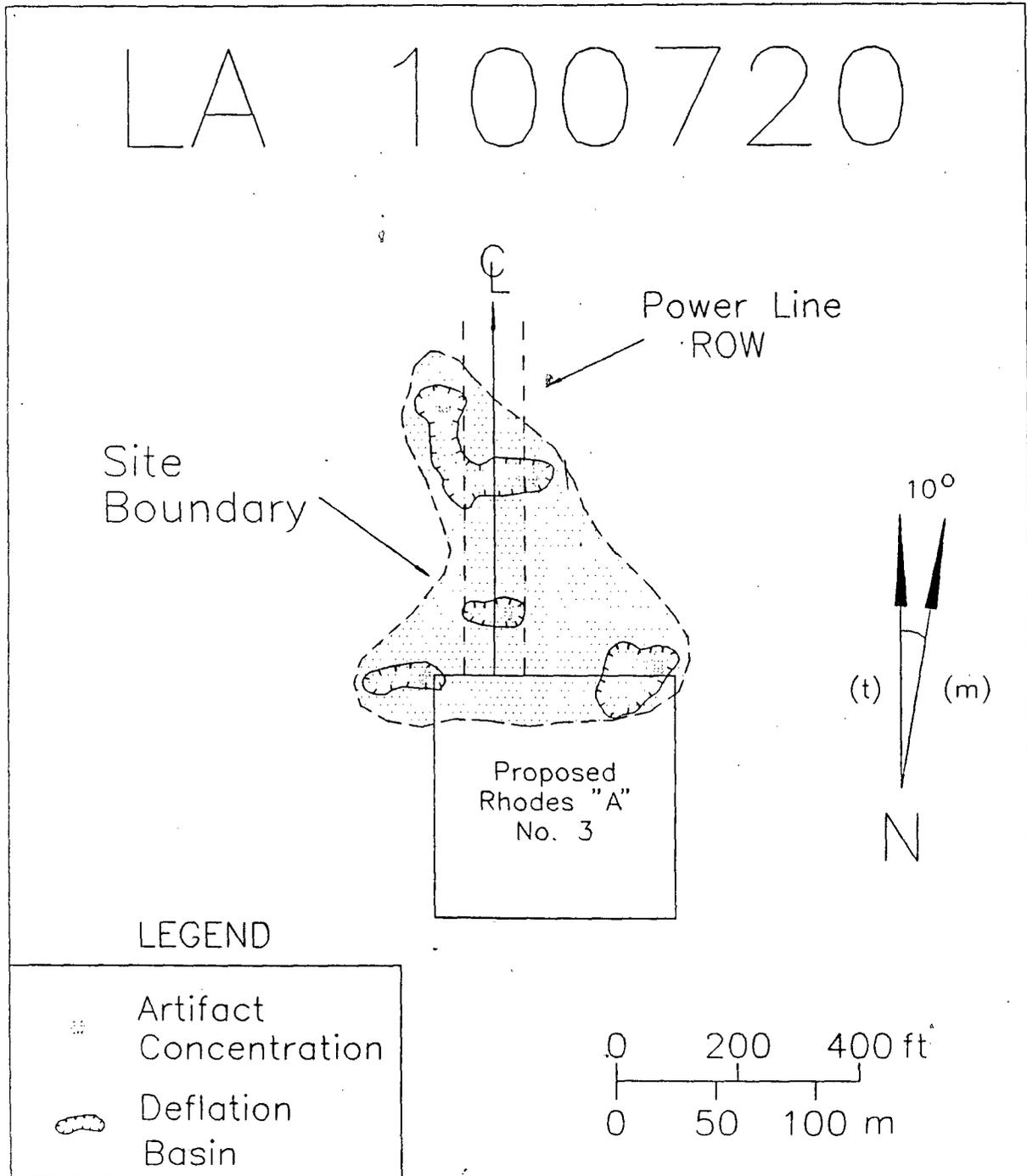


Figure 3. Sketch map of LA 100720.

artifacts such as 22 caliber bullets, aluminum cans, and glass fragments. The concentration of artifacts in the eastern portion of the basins indicated that eolian erosion is a constant and major force. Between the deflation basins is a sparse but continuous scatter of smaller chipped stone debitage, indicating that the dunes may be shallow and overlie portions of the site not yet been exposed. Most of the deflation basins have a surface that is a bright to dark red paleosol, but one basin is a lighter brown color. This suggests that there could be several cultural surfaces beneath the active dunes.

While LA 100720 cannot be dated on the basis of surface artifacts, it holds the potential for dating because thermally-altered rock is present, and hearths or processing areas may exist beneath the sand. The large size of the site could indicate that LA 100720 is a place occupied frequently or for long periods, or both. Food processing is implied from the presence of ground stone, and stone tool use and maintenance from the chipped stone debitage.

Recommendations

LA 100720 is a large lithic scatter composed of chipped stone debitage, thermally-altered rock, and ground stone. Portions of the site are exposed in dunal deflation basins and eolian erosion is exposing more of the site. Potential exists for undisturbed cultural deposits beneath the active dunes. It is possible that chronometric dating can be done on the undisturbed portions of the site. A diversity of activities occurred here and potential exists for uncovering data concerning these activities. Given this information, LA 100720 is considered to be eligible for nomination on the National Register of Historic Places. Given this, clearance cannot be allowed for the proposed Rhodes "A" No. 3 well pad and power line. The proposed access road does not fall within the boundaries of LA 100720.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

In the event that cultural materials are uncovered during construction, the Bureau of Land Management Carlsbad Resource Area archaeologist should be consulted immediately.

This report contains professional opinions about cultural resources in the project area. It should not be considered permission to proceed with construction, but should be submitted to the proper review agencies for comments before any land-altering activities begin.

References Cited

- Maker, H.J., H.E. Dregne, V.G. Link, and J.U. Anderson
1974 *Soils of New Mexico*. Research Report No. 285. Agricultural Experiment Station, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces.
- Martin, Joseph P.
1986 *Archaeological Clearance Report for Geo-Search Corporation: Rhodes Deep Recon NM4645-1, Rhodes Deep Recon NM4645-4*. Agency for Conservation Archaeology Report F86-192. Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, New Mexico.