

NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

BILL RICHARDSON

Governor

Joanna Prukop

Cabinet Secretary

Lori Wrotenbery

Director

Oil Conservation Division

06-Mar-03

YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION

105 S 4TH ST

ARTESIA NM 88210

Dear Operator:

A review of our records and recent inspection(s) indicate that the subject well(s) has been shut-in for an extended period of time. Rule 201 of the Rules and Regulation of the Oil Conservation Division provides that a well may be shut-in no longer than sixty days after suspension of drilling operations, upon determining that the well is no longer usable (e.g., a dry hole), or one year after last production. To comply with guidelines as established in the Rules and Regulations, corrective actions must be taken immediately and the well(s) brought into compliance.

The detail section below indicates preliminary findings and/or probable nature of the violation.

The following options are available:

1. Immediately restore the well(s) to production, injection or disposal as applicable.
2. Request 'Temporary Abandoned' status pursuant to Rule 203, which requires that you set a plug and conduct a mechanical integrity test.
3. Submit a proposal to 'Plug and Abandon' the well(s) pursuant to Rule 202, proceed with plugging procedures on a timely basis after the proposal has been evaluated, amended and/or approved.

To avoid further action, we request that you exercise one of the above options no later than the "Corrective Action" due date indicated below.

Please be advised that this Notice of Violation may be followed by an application for an order to Show Cause why the bond should not be forfeited, the well plugged and civil penalties assessed. Please notify this office at least 24 hours prior to any repair and/or plugging, subsequent mechanical integrity test, or to request TA status for the well(s).

IDLE WELL INSPECTION DETAIL SECTION

PATHFINDER AFT STATE 007 F-21-10S-27E 30-005-62775-00-0 Inspection No. iGEG0302133662

Inspection Date: 3/6/2003 11:53:24 AM

Corrective Action Due by: 6/9/03

Type Inspection

Inspector

Violation?

***Significant Non-Compliance?**

MIT Witnessed -

Gerry Guye

Yes

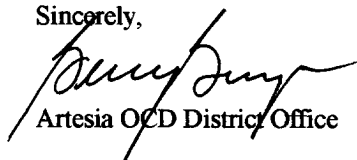
No

Comments on Inspection:

Violation of Rule 201 (Idle well). Last reported injection June 2001. Authority to inject is withdrawn pending re-application.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter and your efforts in helping to protect our environment and the infra-structure of the oil and gas industry.

Sincerely,



Artesia OCD District Office

* Significant Non-Compliance events are reported directly to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VI, Dallas, Texas.