DELTA DRILLING COMPANY

Box 2012 Telephone 214 595-1911

TYLER, TEXAS 75710

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ADDRESS REPLY TO

May 3, 1979

R. D. Keadle
Delta Drilling Company
Midland, Texas 79702

Solution

Midland, Texas 79702

Market Mar

Director New Mexico Oil Conservation Division P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

MAY - 71979 DOIL CONSERVATION DIVISION SANTA FE

Re: Application for Unorthodox Gas Well Location South Culebra Bluff Unit Well #4 South Culebra Bluff Unit Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Sir:

Delta Drilling Company, as operator of the captioned unit, hereby makes application for approval of an unorthodox gas well location and states:

1) Applicant plans to drill the <u>South Culebra Bluff Unit Well #4, a</u> projected 13,200 foot <u>Morrow test</u> at a location <u>1980' FSL and 1190' FWL of Section 13</u>, Township 23 South, Range 28 East.

2) The 1980' FSL & 660' FWL orthodox location was not acceptable for topographical reasons in that the location would have been located in a river bed. A move to 1980' FSL & 990' FWL would have kept the location at an orthodox location and such location was acceptable to applicant from a topographical standpoint.

3) As a result of an archaeological survey and report dated March 15, 1979, the U.S.G.S./BLM required that the location be moved farther east to a point 1980' FSL and 1190' FWL of said Section 13.

4) Subject to approval of the State of New Mexico and the U.S.G.S., the W_2 Section 13 will be designated as the participating area for this well.

5) Approval of the unorthodox location will be in the interest of conservation, prevention of waste and protection of correlative rights.

Inasmuch as the move of this location was brought about as a result of restrictions placed upon applicant by the U. S. Government, we respectfully request administrative approval of the unorthodox location outlined in (1) above.

May 3, 1979 Director

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division

Re: Application for Unorthodox G/W location

South Culebra Bluff Unit

Page Two

Enclosed in support of this application are the following:

- A) Waivers from the offsetting operators, Gulf and Amoco
- B) Information copy of our Application for Permit to Drill, Deepen, or Plug Back
- C) Well Location and Acreage Dedication Plat
- D) Plat depicting proposed access road to the proposed location
- E) Archaeological Clearance Report from New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc. dated March 15, 1979
- F) Land plat depicting offsetting operators

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

R. D. Keadle

RDK:gk

cc: Amoco



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Reconnaissance
Excavation
Analysis
Explanation
Curation

NMAS

New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc.

P. O. Box 1341

Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 (505) 887-7646

14 March 1979

Mr. John Coon Delta Drilling Company P.O. Box 3467 Midland, Texas 79701

Dear Mr. Coon:

Enclosed blease find NMAS! archaeological clearance renort for Delta Drilling Company's proposed South Culebra Bluff Well No.4, the Alternate Location, their access road, and the Modifications to the Existing Ranch Road. As you know, NMAS recorded one archaeological site during this project, viz., NMAS 5016. We have suggested that the location be shifted 200 ft to the east in order to avoid the site. Although there are two very light scatters of cultural material near the extreme northeastern corner and the east-central portion of the mad. these remains lack sufficient concentration to warrant site disignation and hence are termed isolated manifestations. As for the Alternate Location, it is free of cultural resources. Lastly, several quartzite secondary decortication flakes were observed on the access road at a point approximately 600 ft portheast of the Alternate. No cultural resources were noted on or near the existing road bed. MMAS is suggesting clearance for all work areas provided men and materiel are kent out of the area embracing NMAS 5016.

If you have any questions, please call my office. Thank you for asking MMAS to do this reconnaissance.

Cours spacerely,

Dr. J. Loring Haskell Principal Investigator

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Ann Ramage, BLM, Roswell

whell

Mr. James Mnauf, USGS, Artesia
Mr. Stewart L. Peckham, Laboratory of Anthropology,
Santa Fe
Mr. Thomas W. Merlan, SHPO, Santa Fe

8.8

Archaeclogical Clearance Report

for

Delta Drilling Company

South Culebra Bluff Well No.4 Alternate South Culebra Bluff Well No.4 Modifications to Existing Ranch Road

Prepared

By

Dr. J. Loring Haskell

Submitted

Ву

Dr. J. Loring Maskell
Principal Investigator
New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc.
Carlsbad, Hew Mexico

15 March 1979

Permit No. 78-NM-120

Introducation

On the March 1979, New Mexico Archaeological Services,
Inc., (NMAS), Carlsbad, undertook for Delta Drilling Commany,
Midland, an archaeological reconnaissance of lands administered
by the Bureau of Land Management in Eddy County, New Mexico.
Reconnoitered areas will be impacted by the construction of a
drill location, an associated access road, and modifications
to an existing ranch road. This project was advanced by Mr.
Fon Brown, Delta Drilling Company, and Dr. J. Loring Haskell,
NMAS. Delta Drilling Company was represented in the field by
Mr. Coon, Division Production Foreman. Dr. Haskell conducted
the reconnaissance under generally excellent field conditions.
Survey Technique

For this project, the staked and alternate locations were examined for evidence of man's past activities by reconnoitering

them in a series of east-west, west-east, 20 ft wide, close interval (15° or less), zigzag transects. In addition, an added zone embracing 20 ft on each side of the staked and unstaked locations, and hence lying outside the proposed 400 X 400 ft work areas, was investigated by a similar means. The proposed access road was walked in a 40 ft wide, close interval, nattorn. As for the existing ranch road, it was scrutinized by a comparable technique in order to permit the construction of turnoffs where needed. Combined these procedures served to maximize the visual examination of areas to be impacted by construction-related activities.

South Culebra Bluff Well Wo.4

Location

Delta Drilling Company's proposed location, as staked, will measure 400 X 400 ft on federal lands and will be situated 1980 ft from the south line and 990 ft from the west line of:

Section 13, T23S, R28S, NMPM, Eddy County, NM

Thus it will be situated in the:

MWWSWE, Section 13, T23S, R28E, NMPH, Eddy County, EM

Its associated access road will measure 12 X 1800 ft and will be situated in the:

NW SW , Section 13, T23S, R28E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM SW NW , Section 13, T23S, R28E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM SE NW , Section 13, T23S, R28E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM

Map Reference: USGS Carlsbad Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series, 1939.

Terrain

The investigated location is situated on a terrace of the Pecos River so theast of Culebra Bluff. In general, the immediate area is overlain by Quaterary-aged acolian and alluvial deposits of which the former material is more apparent. This phenomenon is due undoubtedly to relatively recent activity albeit hummocks of considerable are occur in the general vicinity. Soil individuals summer from the river include recent Tunic Torrinsemments and much older Tunic Calciorthids which have been encroached upon since the Pecos was channelized locally. The floodnlain itself and the contribution tributory to the north are distinguished by an interplay of Westic Torrifluvents and Pachic Canbustolls. Mater-vorm river cobbles occur specadically along the terrace and frequently in association

with archaeological sites.

Floristics

Prosopis juliflora dominates the local floral assemblage and is closely associated with grasses such as Setaria macrostachya and Stipa sp. Presently, Fumex sp. is the most visually prominent forb in the immediate vicinity, This is nexticularly true on the flood plain. Elsewhere, there is a close bond between Prosopis and Atriplex canescens and hence maints out the extreme adaptability of the former. Associated plants in this niche include Yucca glauca, Sutierrozia sarothroc Groton sp., Lepidium sp., Salsola kali, Proboscidea sp., Eumborbia sp., Eumex sp., and Setaria sp., Aristida sp., Bouteloua sp., and Munroa squarrosa. Several specimen of Koeberlinia spinosa (variant) and Artemisia filifolia occur in the general vicinity.

Cultural Resources

During the reconnaissance, one archaeological site, NIMS 5016, and several isolated manifestations were recorded.

NMAS 5016

Location: Mulsul, Section 13, T23S, E28E, MMPM, Eddy County,

UTM: 7 one 13, M3,575,350 M589,700

Mar Reference: USGS Carlsbad Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series, 1030.

Ownership: Bureau of Land Management Administration

Size of Site: 30 X 200 m

Type of Site: Special Activity Zone

Temporality: Jornada Mogollon (A.D. 900-1350) and more probably A.D. 1050-1350.

Nature of Site: NMAS 5016, a large site, parrallels the edge of the old Pecos River flood plain for a distance of at least 200 m. The site, bowever, may be more extensive to the northwest and southeast. Lack of time precluded the establishment of its exact parameters outside the project pres. It is situated for the most part within a series of deflation basins of which some are of considerable are. More recent dune sand has encrouched unon these Seatures; consequently, cultural resources are presently being covered and uncovered on a regular basis by seclien processes. Associated cultural resources include several fire hearths, a scatter of burned- and firecracked caliche, chert and quartzite primary and secondary decortication flakes, utilized flakes, hammerstone, ground stone fragments, mano and metate fragments, and potsherds. Although sherds are scarce, their lack in number is undoubtedly due to the activities of vandals and local collectors. Chunadero Black-on-White (A.D. 1050-1600) was observed. Owing to the desise of the Jornada Togollon cultures about A.D. 1350, it seems likely that actual occonstion of this site occurred between A.D. 1050 and 1350. River coblies, often used as tammer stones, occur with considerable frequency in cultural bearing contexts. Owinto the diverse armam of associated cultural resources. MMAS 5016 has been termed a special activity zone. Represented tasks include plant processing, tool manufacturing, hunting- and hunting-related activities. Owing to its close proximity to the Pecos River, this site satisfied man's daily needs for water as well as lithic materials for flaked-tool manufacture. Sandstone is available nearby as the Santa Rosa Formation outcreps on a sporadic basis locally. Occupation of this open site undoubtedly occurred on several occasions but was restricted, in all probablity, to the periodfrom mid-summer to early fall, i.e., timed to coincide with the ripening of locally available, wild vegetal resources. Extended family units occupied the site and thence solit into social units of a task specific nature. As might be imagined, composition of social units was by no means rigid, e.g., men might assist women in some of the wore ardyous tasks associated with milling onerations.

To the east and northerst, two isolated manifestations were noted. This material consists of debitage associated with burned- and fire-cracked caliche. In addition, several quartzite secondary decortication flakes, as well as burned caliche occurred on the route of the proposed access road at a point about 800 ft from the edge of the location.

Pecommendations

NMAS recommends that Delta Drilling Company's proposed location be shifted 200 ft to the east in order to avoid rrimary and secondary impact to MMAS 5016. Delta is a republe to the shift in the site of their location. MMAS thus suggests

that work-related activities proceed in accordance with revised plans provided men and material are restricted to the now-proposed boundaries of the work area in order to ensure the continued integrity of NMAS 5016. (A 220 ft area to the east of the originally staked location was reconnected and found to be largely free of cultural resources excepting isolated manifestations in the extreme northeast and east-central portions of the row-proposed work area.)

Alternate Culebra Bluff Well Wo. 4

Location

As proposed in the field, the unstaked alternate will measure 400 X 400 ft on federal land and will be situated 2380 ft from the south line and 1100 ft from the west line of:

Section 13, T235, B28E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM

It will be situated in the:

Talsa, Section 13, T23S, R2ST, MMTH, Tddy County, MH

Its associated access will measure approximately 12 K 1600 ft and will be situated in the:

NWLSW's, Section 13, T23S, R28E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM SWinwin, Section 13, T23S, R28E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM SELENI, Section 13, T23S, R28E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM

Man Reference: USGS Carlabad Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series, 1939.

Terrain

Areal terrain is marked by a well developed system of coppice-type dunes. To the north and northeast, there is a well-defined draw which is oriented toward the Tecos. Drain-age is into this system. Local soil individuals are character-

ized by deer, coarse-grained, sandy loams and loamy sands often mentled by a scree of caliche gravels and chert and quartzite coblles.

Ploristics

The essociated floral community is warked by an overstory consisting exclusively by Prosonis juliflora and Artemisia filifolia. Attendant representatives of the Gramineae include Sporobolus flexuosus, Sporobolus cryptandrus, Muhlenbergia porteri, Seteria medrostachus, Munros squarrosa, and Tridens pulchellus. Gutierrezia sarothrae tends to be restricted to interdunal areas. Forbs are represented by an abundance of an unidentified Compositae, probably Helianthus sp., as well as Euphorbia sp., Salsola kali, and Rumex sp.

Cultural Resources

No archaeological resources were recorded during this reconnaissance. Locally, archaeological sites tend to occur along the Pecos River and in particular on its bluffs. At localities such as these, resources such as those encountered at NMAS 5016 occur in addition to the usual hedrock motars. Sites of this type span not only the duration of the Jornada Mogollon but the late Archaic as well and possibly earlier.

Pecommendations

NMAS recommends clearance for this tract of land in the event Delta Drilling Company decides to use it rather than the re-oriented location to the south. It should be stressed, however, that suggestions advanced for it are applicable to this location as well, i.e., men and materiel must be confined

strictly to the agreed-upon work area.

Modifications to Existing Ranch Road

Location

Delta Drilling Commany proposes to ungrade approximately 750 ft of the existing road which will measure 12 ft in breadth. This road bed is situated in the:

SEMWWW, Section 13, T23S, R28E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM (BLM)

Man Reference: USGS Carlsbad Quadrangle, 15 Winute Series,
1930.

Terrain

Tonographically, the reconneitered right-of-way consists of an extensive zone of hummocks, or coppice dunes, averaging 1 m in height. Soils are uniformly dominated by the sand seperate. Surficial deposits are largely of Holocene age and are stable. Caliche, chert, and quartzite gravels, as well as some cobbles, occur as inclusions in reds.

Floristics

As elsewhere in this portion of the Pecos Velley, <u>Brosopis</u>
<u>juliflore and Atriplex canescens predominate</u>. This association often includes <u>Aristida sp.</u>, <u>Bouteloua sp.</u>, <u>Stipa</u>
<u>peopexicana</u>. <u>Funnos scuerrosa</u>, and <u>Setaria macrostachya</u>.

<u>Gutierrezia sarothrae</u> is particularly common in disturbed areas.

<u>Gultural Resources</u>

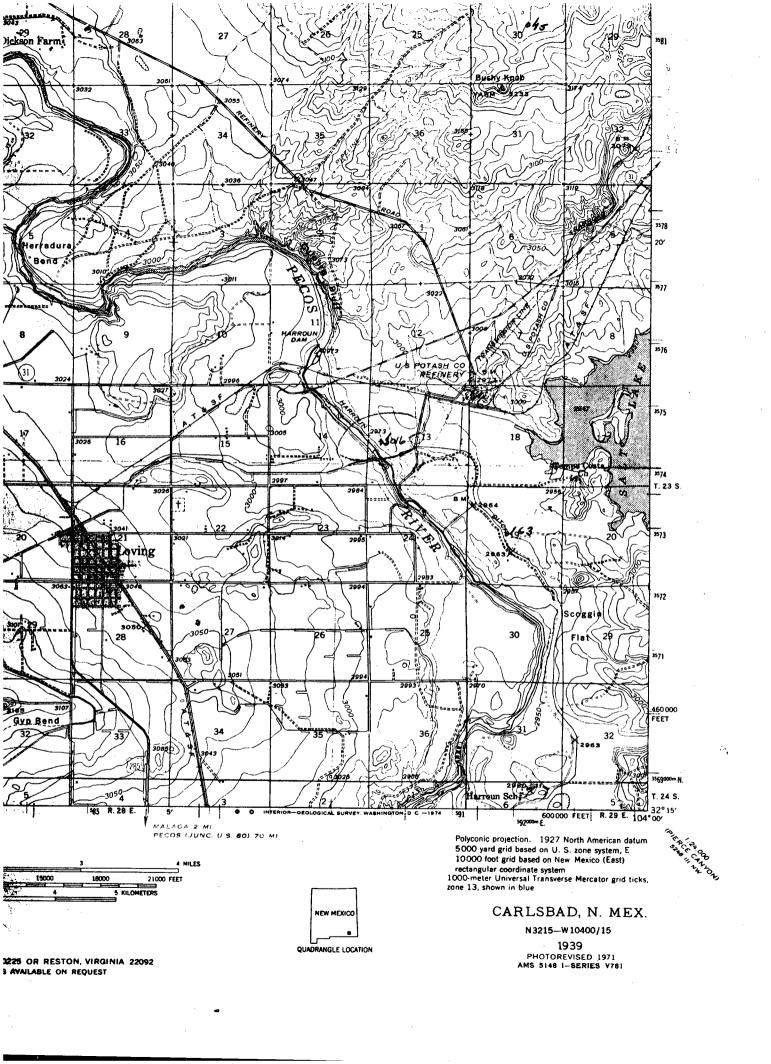
Exception the usual array of contemporary detritus, beverage containers of two or enother, no cultural resources were recorded during this reconnaissance. The lack of prehistoric cultural remains can be explained by the fact that the local

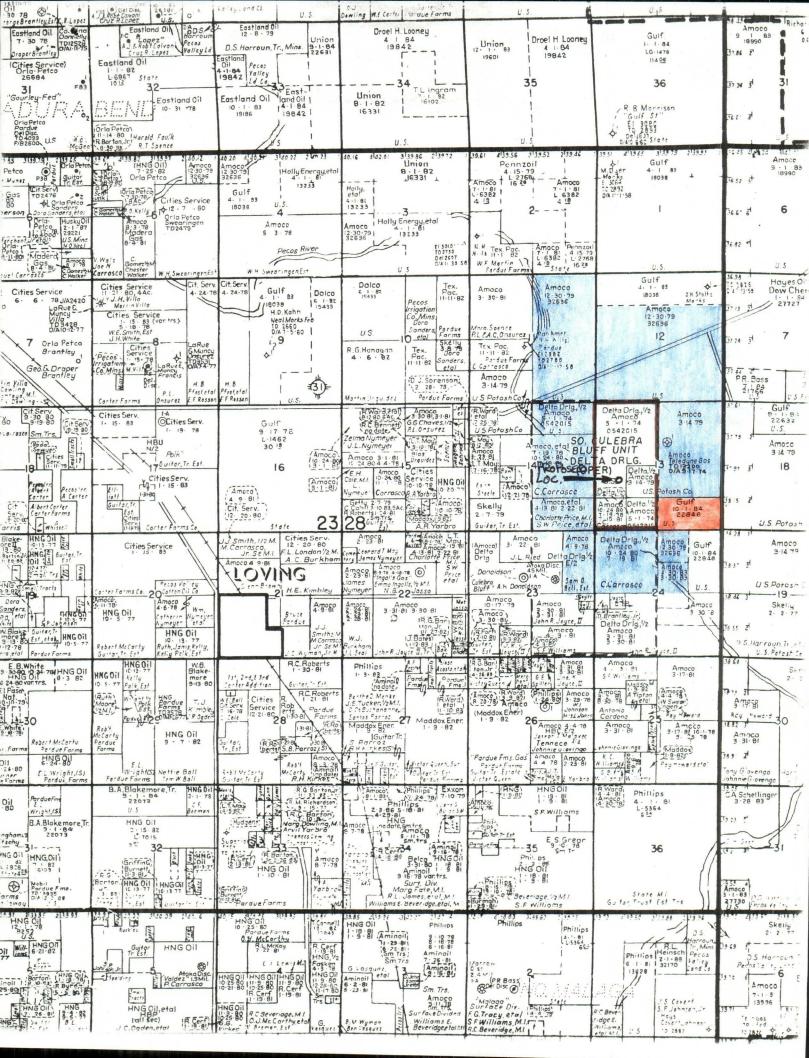
9

landform is relatively flat, lacks significant amounts of lithic material suited for tool manufacture, and more immortantly is situated away from the river which is still within easy reach. Predictoric usage undoubtedly was ephemeral and consisted of en massant activities focusing on hunting- and collection-type activities.

Recommendations

NMAS recommends clearance for Delta Drilling Company's proposed road improvements and suggests that work-related activities proceed in accordance with existing plans.





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APR 1 6 1979

DELTA DRILLING GOMPANY

Box 2012 Telephone 214 595-1911

TYLER, TEXAS 75710 March 23, 1979 RECEIVED

Land Section Midland, Texas



ADDRESS REPLY TO

R. D. Keadle P. O. Box 3467 Midland, Texas 79702

GULF ENERGY & MINERALS CO., U.S. P. O. Box 1150 Midland, Texas 79702

Re: Request for Waiver of Objection to Unorthodox Location #4 South Culebra Bluff Unit NW\2SW\4 Section 13-23S-28E Eddy County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Delta Drilling Company as operator of the South Culebra Bluff Federal Unit plans to drill the #4 South Culebra Bluff Unit well in the \mathbb{W}_2^1 Section 13-23S-28E, a projected 13,200 foot Morrow test.

Our preferred location for the well was 1980' FSL and 660' FWL of Section 13. However, due to topographical reasons and archealogical restrictions placed upon us by the Federal government we are being required to move the location 530 feet east of our preferred location to 1980' FSL and 1190' FWL. This location does not crowd a lease line but does spot the location outside of the 330' tolerance allowed by the NMOCD to constitute an orthodox location. Therefore, it is necessary that we file an application for approval of an unorthodox gas well location.

Our records indicate that Gulf Oil Corporation is the owner of the lease-hold interest in the $S_2^1SE_3^1$ Section 13 and as such is considered an offset operator. Consequently, to allow us to obtain administrative approval on our application, we request that you waive any objections to the unorthodox location outlined in the preceeding paragraph. You may signify your waiver of objection by signing in the space below and returning this letter to our Midland office at 200 Wall Towers South. The attached copy of this letter is for your retention.

March 23, 1979
Gulf Energy & Minerals Co., U.S.
Re: Request for Waiver of Objection
to Unorthodox location
#4 South Culebra Bluff Unit
Page Two

Inasmuch as we wish to move on this location as soon as possible, we request your cooperation in signing and returning as promptly as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

R. D. Keadle

RDK:gk

We hereby waive any objections to the unorthodox location specified herein.

GULF OIL CORPORATION

B. J. PANKRATZ

Manager - Engineering



S. J. Okerson Division Operations Superintendent

Amoco Production Company

Houston Region 500 Jefferson Building Post Office Box 3092 Houston, Texas 77001 West Texas-Eastern

New Mexico Division

MAR 2 8 1979

REC. W. TEX. EXPLOR.

March 22, 1979

File: HHR-236-WF

Re: Location Change

South Culebra Bluff Federal Unit Well No. 4

Teledyne Area

Eddy County, New Mexico

Delta Drilling Company Box 2113 Midland, Texas 79702

Attn: Mr. R. D. Keadle

Gentlemen:

Amoco Production Company as a working interest owner in the referenced well, hereby acknowledges that the location has been moved to an unorthodox location being 1190' FWL and 1980' FSL of Section 13, T-23-S, R-28-E, Eddy County, New Mexico. Additionally, as an offset operator, we have no objections to drilling the well at the new location.

S. J. Okerson

HK:as 304/R

APPROVAL DATE

APPROVAL DATE

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, IF ANY:

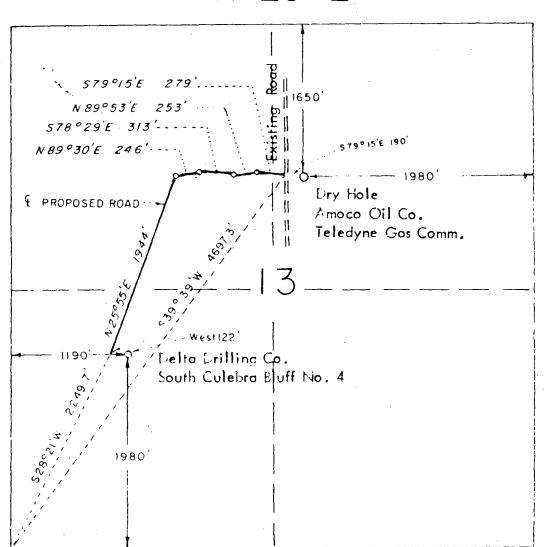
NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMI ON WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT

Form C -10. Superseden C-128 Effective 1-1-65

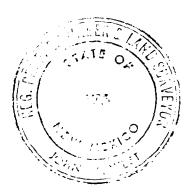
Operator South Culebra Bluff Delta Drilling Co. Section 28 East Eddy 23 South Clockage Location of Well: 1190 West 1980 South feet from the Producing Formation Ground Level Flev 2976.3 1. Outline the acreage dedicated to the subject well by colored pencil or hachure marks on the plat below 2. If more than one lease is dedicated to the well, outline each and identify the ownership thereof (both as to working interest and rovalty). 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? ! Ne If answer is "ves," type of consolidation ____ [] Yes If answer is "no," list the owners and tract descriptions which have actually been consolidated. (I se reverse side of 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 Joint mil I hernby certify that the well location SANTA FE March 29, 1979 676

800

R-28-E



T-23-S



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAT WAS MADE FROM NOTES TAKEN IN THE FIELD IN A BONA FIDE SURVEY MADE UNDER MY SUPER-VISION, AND THAT THE SAME IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF

> LS NO 676 TEXAS NO. 1138

3239 RONALD J EIDSON, N M NO

DELTA DRIELING COMPANY

Proposed Access Road to the South Culehra Hi. "4 location, located 1190 feet from the Viest line and 1980 feet from the South line of Section 13, Township 23 South, R-28-E, MAPAN, Iddy Co. N.M.

JOHN W WEST ENGINEERING COMPANY

HOBRS, NEW WEXICO CONSULTING ENGINEERS 1 = 1,5, Drawn by Romero Scale April I, Date

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