



Union Texas Petroleum

1330 Post Oak Blvd
P.O. Box 2120
Houston, Texas 77252-2120
713-623-6544

August 30, 1989

Frank Chavez
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
1000 Rio Brazos Rd.
Aztec, New Mexico 87410

Re: Unorthodox Location
Oxnard 3-B
Sec. 8-31N-8W
450' FNL & 665' FEL
Payne 3-M
Sec. 20-32N-10W
2155' FNL & 355' FEL

COPY RECEIVED
SEP 26 1989
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Gentlemen:

We request exception to location of the above listed wells. The wells could not be staked on a legal location due to archaeological interference. The locations were staked and determined to meet the BLM requirements and meet archaeological clearance.

Attached are offset operators for both wells.

Any questions, please call me at 713/968-4004.

Best regards,

Ken E. White
Regulatory Permit Coordinator

*Verbal confirmation
w/ E. Bosch
11/16/89*

KEW:0444

OFFSET OPERATORS

OXNARD 3-B

El Paso Natural Gas Co.
P.O. Box 4990
Farmington, NM 87401

Northwest Pipeline Corp.
295 Chipeta Way
Saltlake City, UT 84108

Arco Oil and Gas Co.
P.O. Box 1610
Midland, TX 79702

Phillips Petroleum Company
8055 E. Tufts Ave.
Denver, CO 80237

PAYNE 3-M

El Paso Natural Gas Co.
P.O. Box 4990
Farmington, NM 87401

Mesa Ltd. Partnership
P.O. Box 2009
Amarillo, TX 79189

Amoco Production Co.
2325 E. 30th Street
Farmington, NM 87401

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF
UNION TEXAS PETROLEUM'S
PAYNE 3M WELL PAD
SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

LAC REPORT 8934

By
Steven L. Fuller

LA PLATA ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS
P.O. Box 783
Dolores, Colorado 81323

(303) 882-4933

New Mexico Cultural Resource Use Permit No. 19-2920-89-F

August 4, 1989

Prepared for:
Union Texas Petroleum
P.O. Box 2120
Houston, Texas 77252-2120

I/ysp BLM

INTRODUCTION

The archaeological survey of Union Texas Petroleum's Payne 3M wellpad was conducted by personnel of La Plata Archaeological Consultants on May 9 and 18 and August 2, 1989. The field work was conducted by Steven L. Fuller, who also acted as administrator for the project. The wellpad had been staked by Cecil Tullis of High Country Surveys, who accompanied Fuller during the archaeological survey. The project was conducted at the request of Mr. Mark Smith of Trigon Engineering, who was acting as a permit agent for Union Texas Petroleum.

The project is located on lands administered by the Farmington Resource Area of the Bureau of Land Management's Albuquerque District and is within San Juan County, New Mexico (Figure 1). All work was conducted under the authority of Cultural Resource Use Permit No. 19-2920-89-F issued to La Plata Archaeological Consultants.

The area was surveyed for a proposed wellpad that was proposed by Union Texas Petroleum. No access road will be required as the proposed wellpad is centered on a developed oilfield access road. A total of 500 by 500 feet were inspected during this survey, covering a total of 5.7 acres. No archaeological sites were encountered during the survey, although two isolated occurrences were located and recorded within the survey area. Archaeological clearance is recommended for the project.

PREFIELD RECORDS SEARCH

On April 27, 1989, the records located in the Farmington Resource Area Office were reviewed. Little survey work has been conducted in the vicinity of the project area. Between 1977 and 1988, approximately ten well pads, with associated access roads or pipelines, were surveyed within one mile from the Payne 3M location. During these surveys, only one site was recorded within a one mile radius from the Payne 3M proposed location (Figure 1a). This site was located during a survey for an abandoned location for the Payne 3M location surveyed by San Juan College in 1988. That site is situated approximately 700 feet west of the new Payne 3M location and consisted of a Navajo Gobernador phase habitation with two possible hogans.

1930' NE 815' EEL

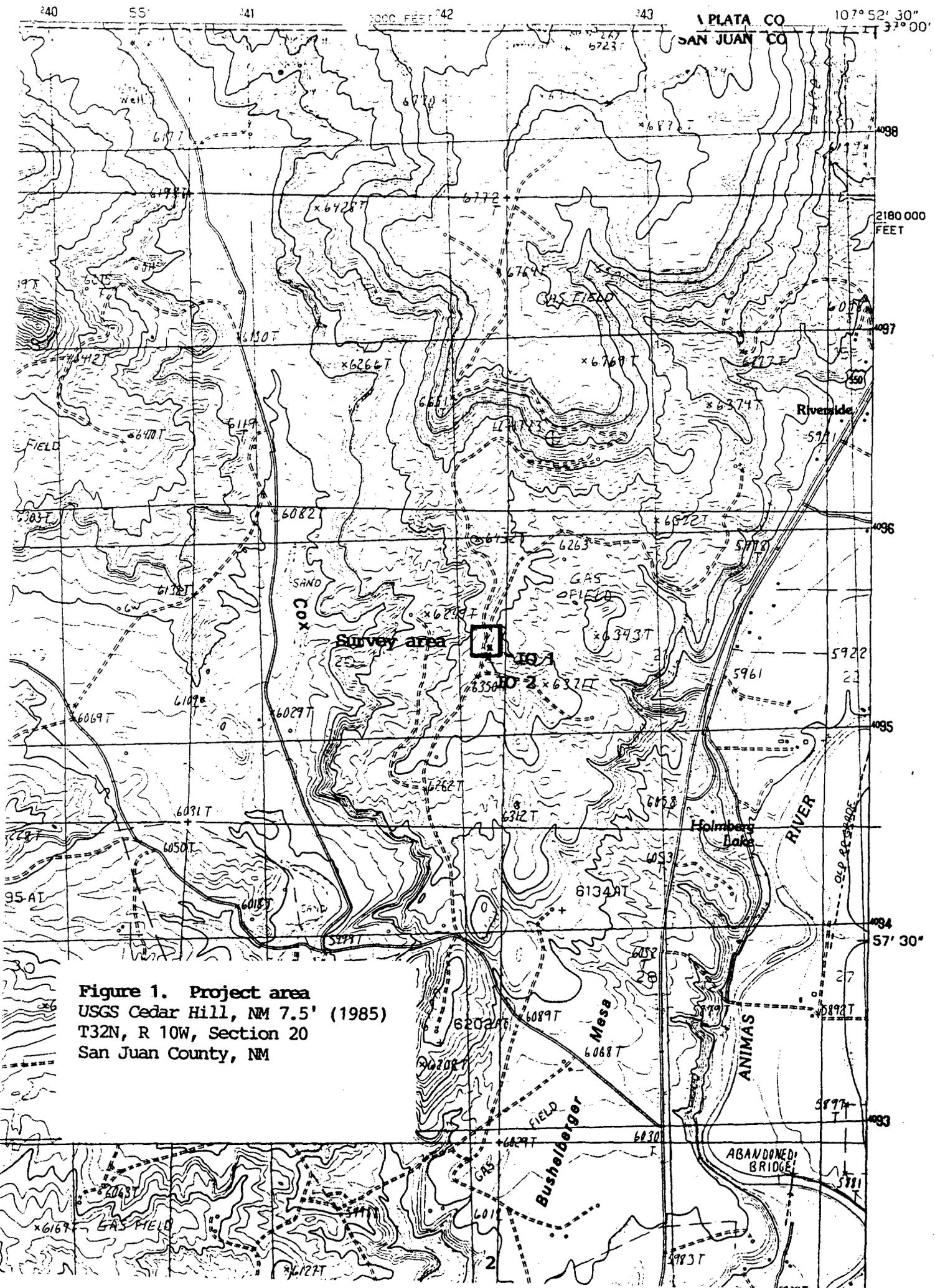


Figure 1. Project area
 USGS Cedar Hill, NM 7.5' (1985)
 T32N, R 10W, Section 20
 San Juan County, NM

FIELD METHODS

The proposed well location was staked at the four corners, the center, and at center points along each edge prior to La Plata's survey. The well pad will measure approximately 300 by 300 feet and an additional 100 foot wide buffer was surveyed around the four sides, resulting in a 500 by 500 foot block being delineated, centered on the well center stake. The one person crew then walked pedestrian transects across the 5.7 acre block, with transect spacing set at 15 m or approximately 50 feet. No access route is required as the proposed location is centered on an existing oilfield access road.

When artifacts or cracked cobbles were encountered, they were pin flagged and the area around them was intensively searched for further materials. Sites would have been recorded on Laboratory of Anthropology site survey forms, mapped, and photographed.

ENVIRONMENT

The project area is on a high narrow ridge that separates the Animas River Valley on the east from Cox Canyon on the west. This narrow ridge drops off sharply to the west and east.

The soil on the proposed location is a very shallow to nonexistent and is formed on decomposing sandstone and shale deposits. Friable sandstone is exposed on the slopes along the east and west edges of the proposed well pad location.

The vegetation on the proposed location consists mainly of pinyon and juniper with bitterbrush, cliffrose, oak and mountain mahogany present.

The present land use pattern consists of cattle and sheep grazing and oil and gas development. The nearest known water source is probably in Cox Canyon, although the Animas River is only 1.2 miles east of the project area.

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Project Name: Payne 3M wellpad

Legal Description: T32N, R10W, Section 20, NE 1/4, NMPM
San Juan County, New Mexico

Elevation: 6340 feet

Map Reference: USGS Cedar Hill, New Mexico 7.5' (Provisional 1985)

Land Jurisdiction: Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Resource Area

Project Area: Wellpad will measure 300 by 300 feet.

Surveyed Area: A 500 by 500 foot block was surveyed. Total survey area includes 5.7 acres.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No archaeological sites were encountered within the 5.7 acre survey area. However, two isolated occurrences were encountered within the area proposed for wellpad construction and are described as follows:

ISOLATED OCCURRENCE 1

Description: IO 1 was located approximately 200 feet south of the center stake and 30 feet east of the existing road and consists of a cobble metate fragment. This artifact is unshaped and has a pecked use surface on one side of this large, flat river cobble. There is no indication that features or buried deposits are associated with this metate fragment.

ISOLATED OCCURRENCE 2

Description: Approximately 230 feet southeast of the well center stake is a historic hearth which consists of a ring of oxidized river cobbles with charcoal remaining in the hearth fill. Associated with the hearth is one lard can, an evaporated milk can, and a single sardine can. The trash appears to represent a 1950s use of this area, probably for a very short-term camping event. The IO is not likely to contain any further data.

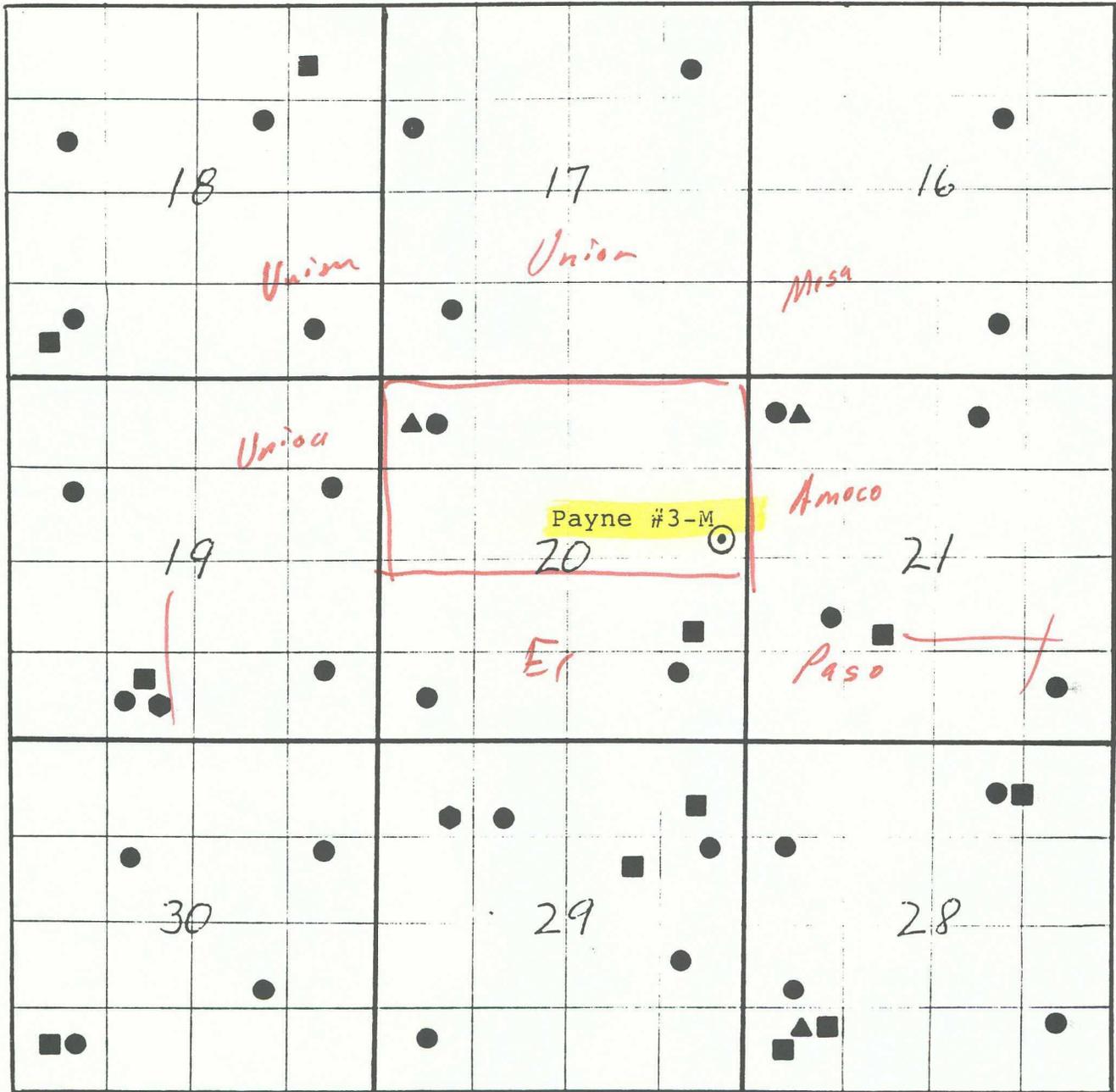
RECOMMENDATIONS

No archaeological sites have been recorded during the survey for the Payne 3M well pad; however two isolated occurrences were encountered within the proposed construction zone. Both IO's have been fully recorded in the field and no further data recovery or protective action is recommended. The single previously recorded site within one mile of the proposed project area will not be affected by this action. Archaeological clearance is recommended for Union Texas' Payne 3M well pad.

PAYNE #3-M

R 10 W

T
32
N



- MESA VERDE
- PICTURED CLIFFS
- FRUITLAND
- ▲ DAKOTA



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
FARMINGTON RESOURCE AREA
1235 LA PLATA HIGHWAY
FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO 87401



IN REPLY REFER TO:

SF-078510 et al. (PD)
3162.3-1.0 (019)

RECEIVED

AUG 28 1989

LAND OPERATIONS-

Union Texas Petroleum Corporation
P. O. Box 2120
Houston, TX 77252-2120

AUG 23 1989

Gentlemen:

The checklist regarding the present status of the referenced APDs is as follows:

Lease No. SF-080517

Well No. 3-M Payne
sec. 20, T. 32 N., R. 10 W.

Lessee - Unicon Production Company
Operator - Union Texas Petroleum Corporation
Date APD Received - August 18, 1989

Lease No. SF-078510

Well No. 3-B Oxnard
sec. 8, T. 31 N., R. 8 W.

Lessee - John C. Dawson
Operator - Union Texas Petroleum Corporation
Date APD Received - August 17, 1989

The APDs are deficient in the following areas:

1. NMOCD approval of the unorthodox location.

Your APDs are processed; final action pending receipt of further information as noted above.

Sincerely,



Ron Fellows
Area Manager

Note: A retained but deficient APD must be brought to a technically and administratively acceptable level of completion within 45 days of the date of this notice or the application will be returned unapproved.

5/12/89

400' FNL x 620' FEL

Recommended.

Will require letter for exception due to loc. being outside window. MRL spoke w/ M Smith - Meyer.

6/29/89

BLM/Choice
slope remains

Payne 3-M

2155 FNL 355' FEL

SEC 20 32-10

Ornard 3-B

slope remains

BLM Choice

450 FNL

655 FEL

8-31-8

Jim White

Mountain Air Drilling Service Co.
184 Sunlight Drive Area Code 303
Grand Junction, Co. 81503 Phone 243-5295

Ornard 3B 4/6/88

- Arch photo where staked
- called Loran / he is to pass info on to Brad & they will decide when to go-onsite needed.

Expertise for all air drilling applications



7/5/89

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION REPORTING FORM

FILE NUMBER
TELEPHONE NUMBER
TELEPHONE NUMBER
DATE OF CALL
TIME <input type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input type="checkbox"/> P.M.

RECORDED BY MIKE REISZ

CALL TO NAME CECIL TULLIUS (SURVEYOR)

FROM KEN WHITE

COMPANY

ADDRESS

CONFERENCE CALL NO YES (If YES, list conferees, conferees company, etc. in notes.)

SUBJECT FINAL STAKED FOOTAGES

- PAYNE # 3M, San Juan Co., NM
- Ornard # 3B, " "

CONVERSATION NOTES:

It now appears that we have staked locations that

- the BLM
- Archeologist
- UTP ENGR.

can agree upon:

Payne # 3M: 2155' FNL + 355' FEL, SEC. 20-32N-10W

- Will need application for non-standard location
- Also need letter from Cecil or Mark or both giving brief details of how this location was selected + any other options if appropriate.

Ornard # 3B: 450' FNU + 655' FEL, Sec. 8-31N-8W

- Will need location exception application. Moving toward ARCO or Meridian or NWPL.
- Will also need letter from surveyor or field represen indicating that these are the only acceptable locations based upon

HIGH COUNTRY SURVEYS

101 West 32nd
Farmington, NM 87401

Phone 326-2959

STATEMENT

DATE	June 19, 1989
NUMBER	200-88.3

FED ID 85-0343465

RECEIVED

Union Texas Petroleum
375 Hwy 64
Farmington, NM 87401

[Handwritten Signature]

JUL 5 1989

TERMS:

62-199-82-433109

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN WITH YOUR REMITTANCE

\$ _____

DATE	CHARGES AND CREDITS	BALANCE	
	BALANCE FORWARD		
5/31/89	PAYNE 3-M SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 20 T32N R10W N.M.P.M. San Juan Co., NM		
	Staked location and pad calculate, draft plat	500	00
	Tax	26	25
	Made 2 different trips to determine a location that would meet your requirements, BLM requirements and Ark clearance		
	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	526	25

HIGH COUNTRY SURVEYS

Thank You

PAY LAST AMOUNT
IN THIS COLUMN