

MAIN OFFICE OCC

LAW OFFICES

GILBERTO ESPINOSA

ROOMS 202 - 203 SUNSHINE BLDG.

CENTRAL AT SECOND SW

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

OFFICE PHONE 2-5641

RES. PHONE 2-5477

1957 AUG 19 AM 8:51

August 19, 1957

Mr. Daniel S. Nutter
Petroleum Engineer
New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Nutter:

Reference is had to drilling operation had on the lands of the Tome Land Grant by the Ringle Development Corporation and/or Cecil S. Ringle and particularly to the letter of April 12, 1957 directed to Paul Torres, acting secretary, Tome Land and Improvement Co., Tome, New Mexico.

Over a period of something like seven years, the Tome Land Grant has been litigating with Mr. Ringle and his corporation over leases which he had on this Grant. In 1951 the Supreme Court affirmed the decision of the District Court of Bernalillo County concerning the lease rights of the Ringle Corporation. This did not put an end to the litigation with Ringle, as Mr. Torres wrote you; as your answer of April 12, 1957 will reflect Mr. Ringle has failed to plug two open holes on the Grant which are a danger and a menace to cattle and persons crossing the Grant lands. Mr. Ringle also has one well which is "capped" and upon which there was a showing of gas which the District Court and the Supreme Court determined was not production so as to perpetuate the lease of Mr. Ringle.

I enclose for your information a copy of Decree entered in the last case and I particularly call your attention to Findings of Fact No. 4, where in the Court holds that the plugging of the wells is a matter between the Grant, the Ringle Corporation, and the Oil Conservation Commission under the Bond which Mr. Ringle has given to the State to insure the proper plugging of said holes, and which it was testified at the District Court, where it is still in affect.

As to the removal of the several tons of broken pipe and machinery, we accept that this is a problem as between the Tome Grant and the lessee. As we consider that under the law and under the Bond given by Mr. Ringle it is the responsibility of your office to see that these wells are properly filled and plugged and we respectfully request that your office take the proper steps to require Mr. Ringle to fill these holes including the proper plugging of the gas well which is "capped" under the responsibility of his Bond.