



OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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August 30, 1976

Mr. Clyde Berlier
Wagon Mound, New Mexico 88752

Dear Mr. Berlier:

You may recall that I visited with you several times concerning an old gas well on your ranch, located about 9 miles south-southeast of Wagon Mound, in Section 14, Township 19 North, Range 21 East. On a number of occasions when I have been in the area you have been absent or too busy to be bothered with the matter. Therefore it seemed best to contact you with a letter so that you could consider the problem and proposal at your convenience.

Attached hereto is a copy of the most recent correspondence in our files relative to the well of interest. As you will note, this indicates that the well was never properly plugged. We have been unable to locate anyone who could testify otherwise and the bond is still in effect. Naturally, the bond company would like to have the bond cancelled but we cannot permit this until making certain that the well is plugged. That is one reason why a representative of the Oil Conservation Commission must investigate the condition of the well.

Another reason for settling this matter is that there has recently been considerable interest shown in the mineral potential of the general area of your ranch. Obviously you are aware of this, at least to some extent, since the gas discovered on your ranch is now being produced and sold. As a result, the Commission's files for wells in this locality are being examined quite frequently and very thoroughly. You perhaps know that State laws require non-productive wells to be plugged in order to protect fresh waters and prevent waste, so you can visualize the Commission's situation when it appears that such laws are not being enforced.

When discussing this well with you last year, I explained that the Commission prefers to have permission from the

landowner to send a representative onto his land. It is even better if the owner will accompany such a representative on an inspection. I understood you to say that you would go along to investigate the condition of the well in question if a convenient time could be arranged. If this is correct, it would be appreciated if you could advise a date when such an investigation can be made. On the other hand, if you elect not to go on such a trip, but will give your permission for an agent of the Commission to inspect the well, please advise a most desirable time for that to be done.

We are aware that you are very busy operating your ranch and regret that you must be bothered with what probably seems to you to be such an insignificant matter. However, it is hoped that you will understand and help the Commission to bring this long overdue matter to a close in the near future. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

CARL ULVOG
District IV Supervisor

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Attachment