Agency for Conservation Archaeology

January 28, 1980

Mr. Danny E. Hagins Enserch Exploration, Inc. 7701 N. Stemmons Freeway Suite 800 Dallas, TX 75247

Dear Mr. Hagins:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Agency for Conservation Archaeology's clearance report on Kenna Federal "30" No. 1 for Enserch Exploration, Inc. in Chaves County, New Mexico. No archaeological sites were recorded during the course of this reconnaissance. Two isolated manifestations were recorded; however, clearance is recommended.

If I may be of further service to you, do not hesitate to call me at (505) 562-3332 or -2254.

Sincerely,

Scott C. Scherme

Scott C. Schermer Acting Director

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Enclosure

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CLEARANCE REPORT

for

ENSERCH EXPLORATION, INC.

Kenna Federal "30" No. 1

80-181



Miles Linnabery

Edited and Submitted by

Scott C. Schermer Acting Director AGENCY FOR CONSERVATION ARCHAEOLOGY

Llano Estacado Center for Advanced Professional Studies and Research

Eastern New Mexico University Portales, New Mexico 88130

January 28, 1980

INTRODUCTION

An archaeological reconnaissance was recently completed by the Agency for Conservation Archaeology, Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, New Mexico, for Enserch Exploration, Inc. in Chaves County, New Mexico. The reconnoitered area will be impacted by the construction of a well pad and associated access right-of-way. The project was administered by Mr. Danny E. Hagins of Enserch Exploration, Inc. and Rollin Burney of Globe Construction Company, Inc. as well as Scott C. Schermer, Acting Director, Agency for Conservation Archaeology. This report was prepared by the Portales Office of ACA.

The field work was conducted on January 28, 1980 by Miles Linnabery. Good field and weather conditions prevailed throughout the course of this reconnaissance. This survey was completed under Federal Antiquities Permit No. 79-NM-049. A search of the National Register has been made and properties within this area are not listed on the Register.

SURVEY TECHNIQUES

Visual inspection of the well pad was accomplished by walking a series of parallel transects. Each transect was covered in a tightly spaced zigzag pattern. The distance between transects was 15 feet. The access road was examined as an individual transect with a tightly spaced zigzag pattern covering the length and breadth. These methods maximized the opportunity of observing any cultural resources either within or near the proposed area of impact.

Kenna Federal "30" No. 1

Location

The proposed well pad and access road are located 11 miles west of Littlefield, New Mexico, on the Mescalero Ridge. The pad measures 400 X 400 feet and the access corridor measures 15 X 3400 feet. They are situated as follows:

Pad

SE¹₄NE¹₄, Section 30, T4S, R29E, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico (BLM)

Road

SE¹₄NE¹₄, Section 30, T4S, R29E, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico (BLM) NE¹₄SE¹₄, Section 30, T4S, R29E, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico (BLM) SE¹₄SE¹₄, Section 30, T4S, R29E, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico (BLM) NE¹₄NE¹₄, Section 31, T4S, R29E, NMPM, Chaves County, New Mexico (BLM)

Map Reference: USGS San Juan Mesa West Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series, 1978 (see Figures 1 & 2).

Terrain

The proposed well pad and access corridor are located west of the Mescalero

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Figure 1



Terrain (Cont.)

Ridge, 1 mile south of Hernandez Draw. It is situated on a terrace of the Pecos, which has been dissected by and overlooks the draw. The elevation in the area varies from 4360 to 4400 feet.

The soils encountered in the area are predominantly tan sands. Lithic inclusions within this soil consists of caliche fragments and gravels, as well as quartzite, chert and basalt. Taxonomically, this soil can be classified as a member of the Haplargid-Faleargid association.

Floristics

ACA encountered a moderate floral assemblage in this vicinity. The density of the vegetation in the area is approximately 50 percent, consisting primarily of shrubs. Among the species present are: mesquite (Prosopis juliflora), ocotillo (Fourquiera splendens), plains yucca (Yucca campestris), purple pricklypear (Opuntia macrocentra), blue grama (Bouteloua gracilis), western wheatgrass (Agropyron smithii), broom snakeweed (Gutierrezia sarothrae), and juniper (Juniperus monosperma).

Cultural Resources

During this reconnaissance, ACA did not encounter any archaeological sites. However, two isolated manifestations were recorded:

- IM-1: is a small flake and was found at west 200 feet from center of pad on side sloping down to the draw. It is 1½ X 1 X ½ inch full cortex on dorsal surface of purple quartzite (see Figure 3).
- IM-2: is a purple quartzite biface blank and was found at center of existing roadway approximately 250 feet northeast of fence corner where the road makes a turn to the northeast. It is 15 flakes taken off 3 inches long by 2.5 inches wide by 1 inch thick snapped in manufacture. (see Figure 3).

A review of ACA's site files and the National Register did not find any properties listed for this location.

Recommendations

The Agency for Conservation Archaeology recommends clearance for the proposed well pad and associated access right-of-way and suggests that construction be allowed to proceed as currently planned.



Isolated Manifestation 1

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Isolated Manifestation 2

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Figure 3 (scale 1:1)