

C  
O  
P  
Y

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

State Engineer Office  
Santa Fe

May 25, 1956

Mr. A. L. Porter, Jr.  
Acting Secretary-Director  
Oil Conservation Commission  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Porter:

The farmers using artesian water in the area on the west side of the river, southeast of Artesia, have contacted this office and appear to be alarmed over the quality of the work involved in cementing casing in oil wells drilled in that area recently.

We have been requested to have one of our hydrologists inspect the work being done there and will do so. However, it is my thought that we might be infringing on the prerogatives and duties of your office. Therefore, we are doing this principally as a courtesy to the water users and the basic purpose of this letter to you is to call to your attention the concern of the farmers in that area, in order that your staff may see that adequate cement is pumped into each well, thereby insuring permanent separation of oil and artesian water.

The farmers have also stated that there is salt water in the area which they do not wish contaminating their artesian waters.

If the cooperation of this office in this matter will be of any assistance to you, please feel free to call on us.

One particular well on which they think a poor job of cementing was done is known locally as the Kissinger well.

Yours truly,

S. E. Reynolds  
State Engineer

s/ By: Frank E. Irby  
Chief  
Water Rights Division

FEI/ma