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Carlsbad, New Mexico  
April 16, 1934

Dr. E. L. Wells,  
State Geologist,  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Dr. Wells:

In reply to your letter of the 11th regarding the condition of the Scott-Kaiser well. I am at loss to know where Mr. McClure gets the information that this well is flowing between the two strings of pipe and has formed a crater.

I have visited the well several times since completion and it is always the same. The artesian water is confined between the eight and ten inch pipe with a braden-head and a two inch line leading away to a stand to load a truck with; the two inch has two valves on it and are always closed. All of the water that is taken is hauled to a drilling well, which couldn't be very much.

As to the crater: when they started to drill this well they dug a small cellar about six feet deep by four feet across for pipe clamps and connections and when they moved the machine away they filled this hole with loose earth. Due to a trickle of water leaking around the braden-head this has settled about two feet. I would estimate there is a loss of about fifty gallons of water a day from this leak; which seems rather insignificant for an artesian well.

I don't doubt but what there is water on the oil-pay; if present, but I don't believe it is any worse than other wells around there. I would like to see the well plugged; but frankly I doubt if we could prove damages. Since they state in their letter this is a plugging bond and the well hasn't been plugged, I would suggest that you ask the bonding company to clean the well out and plug off the bottom water and repair this surface leak. This would keep them from giving notice of cancellation and they might get after Scott and get the well cleaned up.

I imagine Mr. McClure is getting his information from the Messrs Kaiser's since they have been into see me several times about this well and have practically admitted that they would like for us to make Scott plug this well and in that way they would be rid of him since he has failed to live up to his agreement with them. I told them that if Scott had failed to live up to his contract with them, that it was not our responsibility.

If there is anything I can do please let me know.

Yours truly,  
J. D. Hunter.