



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

P. O. Drawer U
Artesia, New Mexico 88210

June 22, 1973

NOTICE

DRILLING WELL CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR DEEP WELLS DRIILLED ON FEDERAL OIL AND GAS LEASES IN THE ARTESIA DISTRICT

The following requirements are established in accordance with 30 CFR 221.24, 221.36, and 221.37. Blowout preventer equipment, choke equipment, drilling fluid characteristics, drilling fluid analysis, and the conduct of drilling procedures shall be such as are necessary to prevent the blowout of any well. In addition to all other applicable rules, regulations, and accepted good operating practices, drilling shall be in accordance with the following safety requirements:

1. After setting the 8-5/8 inch casing string and before drilling into the Wolfcamp formation, the blowout preventer and related control equipment shall be pressure tested to casing casing pressures by an independent service company. The equipment failing to test satisfactorily shall be repaired or replaced. This testing should be certified in sufficient detail for a representative to witness the tests and will be furnished a copy of the pressure test report. In addition, the pipe rams and full pipe preventer shall be actuated at least once each 24 hours while drilling runs each time the drill pipe is out of the hole.
2. Accumulators shall maintain a pressure capacity reserve at all times to provide for repeated operation of hydraulic preventers.
3. A drill string safety valve in the open position shall be maintained on the rig floor at all times while drilling operations are being conducted.
4. Blowout prevention drills shall be conducted as necessary to insure that each drilling crew is properly trained to carry out emergency drills.
5. Mud system monitoring equipment, with derrick floor indicators and visual and audio alarms, shall be installed and operating before