

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
ARTESIA DISTRICT OFFICE

GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

JENNIFER SALISBURY
CABINET SECRETARY

12-12-97

Mr. Clarence Forister
P.O. Box 1567
Hope, NM. 88250- 1567

Re; Properly Abandoned Wells; Clarence Forister Elk # 1
Sec. 32-18-30 Ut. L

Dear Sir,

The state of New Mexico is in the process at this time of reviewing leases to determin the number of abandoned and shut in wells.

Rule 201 A. states " The operator of any well drilled for oil, gas or injection, for seismic, core or other exploration, or for a service well, whether cased or uncased, shall be responsible for the plugging thereof."

Rule 201 B. A well shall be either properly plugged and abandoned or temporarily abandoned in accordance with these rules within (90} days after {1} a 60 day period following supension of drilling.{2} A determination that the well is no longer beneficial purposes.{3} A period of 1 year in which a well has been continuously inactive.

House Bill 65 has been passed by the legislature and provides some tax incentives for wells put back in production. However, if there are no plans to put a well or wells back in service then plugging or proper temporary abandonment will be required.

Please forward to the Oil Conservation Division office in Artesia by January 15,1998 a plan to bring the above captioned well into compliance with rule 201.

Yours truly,


Tim Gum