

14. a. Records Search:

Location: BLM and ARMS

Date: 10-22-1998

Conducted by: David Wilcox

List by LA# All sites within .25 miles of the project:

(Those sites within 500' are to be shown on the project map)

According to these records, there are five previously recorded sites that lie within a ¼ mile radius of the proposed project LA 117337, LA 117345, LA 122306, LA 117349 and LA 117350). Only LA 117349 was encountered by this project due to its perimeter being located within a 500' radius of the project, and the proposed well pad's southeastern corner being place within this site's boundary.

b. Description of undertaking:

Class III pedestrian survey of Enron Oil and Gas Company's proposed STW "25" Federal Com. Well No. 1 and associated access road in Sections 25 and 26, T18S, R29E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM. This proposed access road connects to an existing well pad to the southwest of the proposed pad's location.

c. Environmental Setting (NRCS soil designation; vegetative community; etc.)

Vegetation - Sage, mesquite, snake-weed, littleleaf horsebrush, shin oak and assorted grasses.

Topography - This project's proposed access road crosses an existing buried Agave pipeline corridor. Approximately ½ of the proposed access road follows an existing two-track which was surveyed. The area in question is situated in an undulating dunal terrain of moderate relief with associated deflation basins of shallow depths. The area is affected by much water erosion as seen in some shallow ephemeral drainages which have cut the eastern perimeter of the proposed staked well pad. The well pad lies on the western slope of a dunal ridge, which has some indurated caliche, exposed on the surface. The western perimeter of this pad is down in a micro-valley that shows much evidence of water run-off.

Soils - Simona-Pajarito association: Sandy, deep soils and soils that are shallow to caliche; from wind-worked deposits.

d. Field Methods:

Transect Intervals: straight and zigzag transects, spaced not greater than 15 meters apart

Crew Size: 1

Time in Field: 3½ hours total

Collections: no

15. Cultural Resource Findings: One isolated manifestation (I.M.) and LA 117349 (a previously recorded site) were encountered and recorded during the field survey.

16. Management Summary (Recommendations):

Archaeological clearance for Enron Oil and Gas Company's proposed STW "25" Federal Com. Well No. 1 and associated access road in Sections 25 and 26, T18S, R29E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM is recommended provided that the following stipulations be followed: a temporary fence is erected prior to the well pad's construction and an archaeological monitor be present to insure that this fence is placed just outside of the site's perimeter and that no subsurface information be lost to the archaeological record.

I maintain that the information provided above is correct and accurate and meets all appreciable BLM standards.

Responsible Archaeologist

Signature

Date

10-26-1998

Figure 1. Topographic map of USGS 7.5' Series Illinois Camp NE, NM (Provisional Edition 1985) showing the project area in Sections 25 and 26, T18S, R29E.