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September 13, 1973

O. C. C.
ARTESIA, OFFICE

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission
P. O. Drawer DD
Artesia, New Mexico 88210

In Re: Subsequent Report Well Blowout (NMOCC Rule 116)
Hanagan Petroleum Corporation No. 9 Catclaw Draw Unit Well-
Section 35, T-21-S, R-25-E, Eddy County, New Mexico.

Gentlemen:

Hanagan Petroleum Corporation is the operator of the No. 9 Catclaw Draw Unit well which blewout on June 19, 1973 and was completed as a Morrow gas well, in the Catclaw Draw Morrow Pool, on August 20, 1973. The drilling contractor was Moranco, Rig No. 8. The subject well is located approximately six miles west of Carlsbad, New Mexico, Unit F (1650 FNL & 1980 FWL) of Section 35, Township 21 South, Range 25 East, Eddy County, New Mexico.

The incident occurred while conducting a drillstem test in the Upper Morrow sand zone (10397-10440) at a total depth of 10440 feet. On the drillstem test, the Morrow zone had flowed gas at the rate of 4,900 MCFGPD, and the contractor was in the process of pulling out the drillpipe and test tools from the hole. With all the drillpipe out of the hole, but with 18 drillcollars and the test tool still in the hole, the well blewout. The drillcollars and test tools were blown straight up and through the crown, damaging the derrick. No fire and no injuries resulted from this blowout. At the actual time of the blowout, the hydril was closed around the drillcollars and was working. The blowout preventors could not be closed around the drillcollars. Within a few minutes after the hole was emptied of the collars and test tool, the choke lines were opened and the blind rams closed on the blowout preventor, at which time began bleeding off pressure through choke lines. Within a few hours, began pumping 10.2# brine water into well, unable to kill well due to the breaking down of a shallow zone at 2750' in the Delaware. Well kept under control by periodically pumping in brine water, shutting well in and bleeding off pressure. During this time, the rig was being repaired, especially the derrick, so that drillpipe could be run in the hole. On June 23, rig up Otis and began snubbing drillpipe in hole under pressure. Snubbed and stripped in drillpipe to 9808' with bit and two floats. Attempted pump through drillpipe, unable to do so (later find out float plugged). On June 25, hired Loyd Reddig a professional in this type work and put him in charge. Rigged up additional equipment, ran drillpipe and