

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY CONSULTANTS

Exhibit D

CULTURAL RESOURCES EXAMINATION

on lands administered by the  
Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Roswell District, New Mexico

ASC PERMIT NO.: 18-2920-92-F  
ASC Job No.: 92-222; Merit Energy Company Sundance Federal Well No. 3 and Access Road R/W

1. **ABSTRACT:** intensive archaeological survey of the Merit Energy Company Sundance Federal Well No. 3 (400 ft. sq., 3.67 acres), and access road R/W (460 ft. long X 100 ft. wide, with a 150 ft. sq. delta, 1.23 acres). A total federal land surface of 4.90 acres was inspected for cultural remains.

Archaeological survey revealed the occurrence of 1 Isolated Find, which does not appear significant past the level of field recording. Therefore, archaeological **CLEARANCE** for the Merit Energy Company Sundance Federal Well No. 3 and access road R/W is **RECOMMENDED**.

2. **LEGAL LOCATION:** T24S, R31E, Section 5, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  [660 FNL, 660 FEL]. **ACCESS ROAD R/W LOCATION:** T24S, R31E, Section 5: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ . Eddy County, N.M.

**Map Reference:** U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute series, LOS MEDAÑOS, NEW MEXICO, 1985.  
**Land Status:** BLM, Roswell District, Carlsbad Resource Area, New Mexico.

3. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** well pad (400 ft. sq., 3.67 acres), and access road R/W (460 ft. long X 100 ft. wide, with a 150 ft. sq. delta, 1.23 acres). A total federal land surface of 4.90 acres was inspected for cultural remains.

**TOPOGRAPHY:** situated ca. 12.0 miles E of Salt Lake, & 7.0 miles east of Nash Draw, in an area of relatively level to gently rolling aeolian topography, which slopes to the NNE. The project area is SW of a drainageway. A localized dune rise occurs SE of the well pad, with low rise in the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of the well pad. A swale occurs in the NE & NW quadrants of the well pad. The terrain is undulating along the access road. Deflation basins are primarily restricted to the dune rises, with shallower deflation basins elsewhere, particularly on the north side of the well pad. **Soils:** Berino complex sands. **Permanent Water:** Pecos River, ca. 11.0 miles W/SW. **Potential Water:** sunken basin, ca. 0.75 miles N/NW. **Elevation:** 3387 ft. to 3394 ft. **Slope:** 0.62° to 0.99°. **Aspect:** N/NE. **Lithic Resources:** not available in the immediate vicinity. **Vegetation:** Grassland Formation, Scrub-grass scrub disclimax community.

4. **EXAMINATION PROCEDURE:** straight and zig-zag transects, spaced no greater than 15 metres apart. **Work Hrs. on Ground** 1.5. **Project Delineation:** staked by client. **Visibility:** ground, ca. 65% generally, with 100% in deflation areas. **Weather:** sunny.

5. **FINDINGS:** BLM records (Kyte, 11/30/1992) do not indicate prior recording of archaeological sites within Section 5 (T24S, R31E).

Archaeological survey revealed the occurrence of 1 Isolated Find, which does not appear significant past the level of field recording.

**I.F. # 1:** UTM Zone 13; 613,660 m. E; 3,568,765 m.N. T24S, R31E, Section 5, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Eddy County, N.M. **Elevation:** 3392 ft. Situated in an elongate, 30 m. EW x 6 m. NS x 1.0 m. deep deflation basin on the NW slope of a rise, in an area of oakbrush, yucca, sagebrush, mesquite, 3-awn, grama, etc. **Artifacts:** 1 white chert, prepared platform, turtle-back interior flake, with steep retouch on the distal end and left lateral edge (4.0 x 4.0 x 1.2 cms. thick).

6. **RECOMMENDATIONS:** archaeological **CLEARANCE** of the Merit Energy Company Sundance Federal Well No. 3 and access road R/W is **RECOMMENDED**.

**Date of Examination:** December 2, 1992

**Project Archaeologist:** 

**Principal Investigator:** J. M. Griffiths.