



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Santa Fe National Forest

Cuba Ranger District
P.O. Box 130
Cuba, New Mexico 87013
505-289-3264

File Code: 2820-2

Date: April 26, 2002

Mike Dimond
Benson-Montin-Greer Drilling Corp., Inc.
4900 College Blvd.
Farmington, NM 87402

Dear Mr. Dimond:

Last fall Benson-Montin-Greer Drilling Corp. submitted a schedule showing when the wells on the Santa Fe National Forest would be cleaned up and maintained. Larry Gore, the Forest Geologist has been inspecting the wells this spring, and we are pleased with the progress being made.

Two of the wells scheduled for maintenance in 2001 were not completed, as of the April inspections. The wellhead/christmas tree and a pipeline drip on the pad west of the wellhead on the Canada Ojitas Unit #4 (P-11) still need to be painted. The rest of the facilities at the site were painted and maintained and the site looks good. No work has been done on the Canada Ojitas Unit #18 (C-5). This is an injection well which is leaking gas from a gauge, and it needs to be painted.

During the inspections, it was found the tailpipe for the EPCMU # 29 (F-9) pumpjack was laying on the ground, and had burned the vegetation around its outlet. The pump was running, so Larry Gore cleared the vegetation from around the tailpipe to reduce the fire hazard, but the tailpipe must be replaced and properly mounted.

Another problem noted is trash, such as empty oil containers, antifreeze jugs, and rags, are starting to appear on the sites again. Once the sites are brought up to standard, they must be kept clean.

Fire prevention is required by the lease terms on all the leases, so due to the high fire danger, please implement the following.

Inspect all motors (stationary, portable, heavy equipment, and vehicles) and make sure they have Forest Service approved spark arrestors.

Make sure your field personnel are aware smoking is restricted to inside their vehicles, or areas cleared of all vegetation.

Make sure your field personnel, contractors, and heavy equipment have fire extinguishers and shovels available.

Be extra cautious when doing any welding or cutting work.

Make sure your personnel are aware that shooting on the Forest is restricted to authorized hunting activities while we are in fire restrictions.



If any of your people see situations which they feel may pose a fire or safety hazard, please have them contact the Cuba Ranger District at (505) 289-3264. To report a fire, they should immediately call:

Forest Dispatch (anytime) 438-7800 or

Cuba Ranger District (8 AM to 4:30 PM, weekdays) 289-3264 or

Richard Montoya (nights and weekends) 289-3811

If you have any questions, please give myself or Larry Gore a call here at the Cuba Ranger District at 289-3264.

Sincerely,

Larry Gore
STEVE R. ROMERO
Assitant District Ranger