

New Mexico
Oil Conservation Commisison
AZTEC, NEW MEXICO

August 5, 1953

Mr. W. B. Macey, Chief Engineer
Oil Conservation Commission
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: Paul B. Palmer &
Associates #1 Hutton
SWSE Sec. 17-29N-13W

Dear Bill:

I discussed the above well with Dick when he was here yesterday and he advised me to write you a letter setting out the facts.

This well was originally started in 1950, and due to the fact that no C-101 was filed and the operator had no bond, the operation was shut down by Mr. Greer at T.D. of 1005' on May 23rd, 1950. The operator then decided to ask for a hearing in order to attempt to complete the well in the Pictured Cliffs sandstone. It came up for hearing in February, 1951, as Case #259 and the Commission granted the unorthodox location in Order #R-61. In March, 1951, the operator drilled the well to T.D. of 1086' and cemented 5½" casing at 1010'. The Pictured Cliffs sandstone, which was topped at 1010', was found to be non-productive and contain water. The well was then temporarily abandoned with the pipe left in the hole. On December 22, 1952 we received a Form C-102 stating their intention to pull the pipe and plug the well. However, nothing has been done and the well's present condition is as it was.

Various offset landowners have recently complained and stated that they wish to have the well plugged. My efforts to have it plugged have met with no success, as everyone connected with the operation passes the buck to someone else.

I believe the time has come for the Commission to initiate a hearing and have the Bonding Company show cause why they should not plug the well properly.

We also have no Form C-105 on the well or any Miscellaneous Notices, outside of a Notice of Intention to Plug. I approved the Notice of Intention to Plug in December, 1952 because I was acquainted with the section drilled and it seemed impossible to secure a log. We have on file a notice from the State Office on their bond approval, but the Bonding Company is not given. You no doubt have it on file.

I would certainly like to get this operation out of my hair once and for all, and believe the Commission should take legal action to force the plugging. If you need further information, let me know.

Yours very truly,

Emery C. Arnold
Oil & Gas Inspector, Dist. #3

ECA:kw