

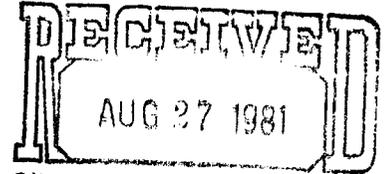
3E COMPANY, INC.

Engineering • Energy • Exploration

P. O. Box 190 -- 505/327-4020

FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO 87401

August 25, 1981



OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
SANTA FE

*NSL-1436
Rule 104 F
OK
Waiting
Over*

State of New Mexico
Energy and Minerals Department
Oil Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 2088
Santa Fe, NM 87501

RE: Unorthodox location

Dear Sirs:

Mesa Petroleum Co., 1660 Lincoln, 2800 Lincoln Center, Suite 2800,
Denver, Colorado 80264, request permission to drill the South Blanco
Federal 31 #3 at 570'/N & 200'/E 31-24N-7W, Rio Arriba Co., N.M.
This unorthodox location is needed because of topography and
artifacts found at any possible legal site.

*Lybrook -
Gallup Oil
Pool*

A new C-102 and offset operator plat are attached.

All offset operators have been notified by certified mail.

Sincerely,

John Alexander
Agent for
MESA PETROLEUM CO.

JA:p1

attachments

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

P. O. BOX 7088

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

Form C-107
Revised 10-1-

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

All distances must be from the center line of the Section.

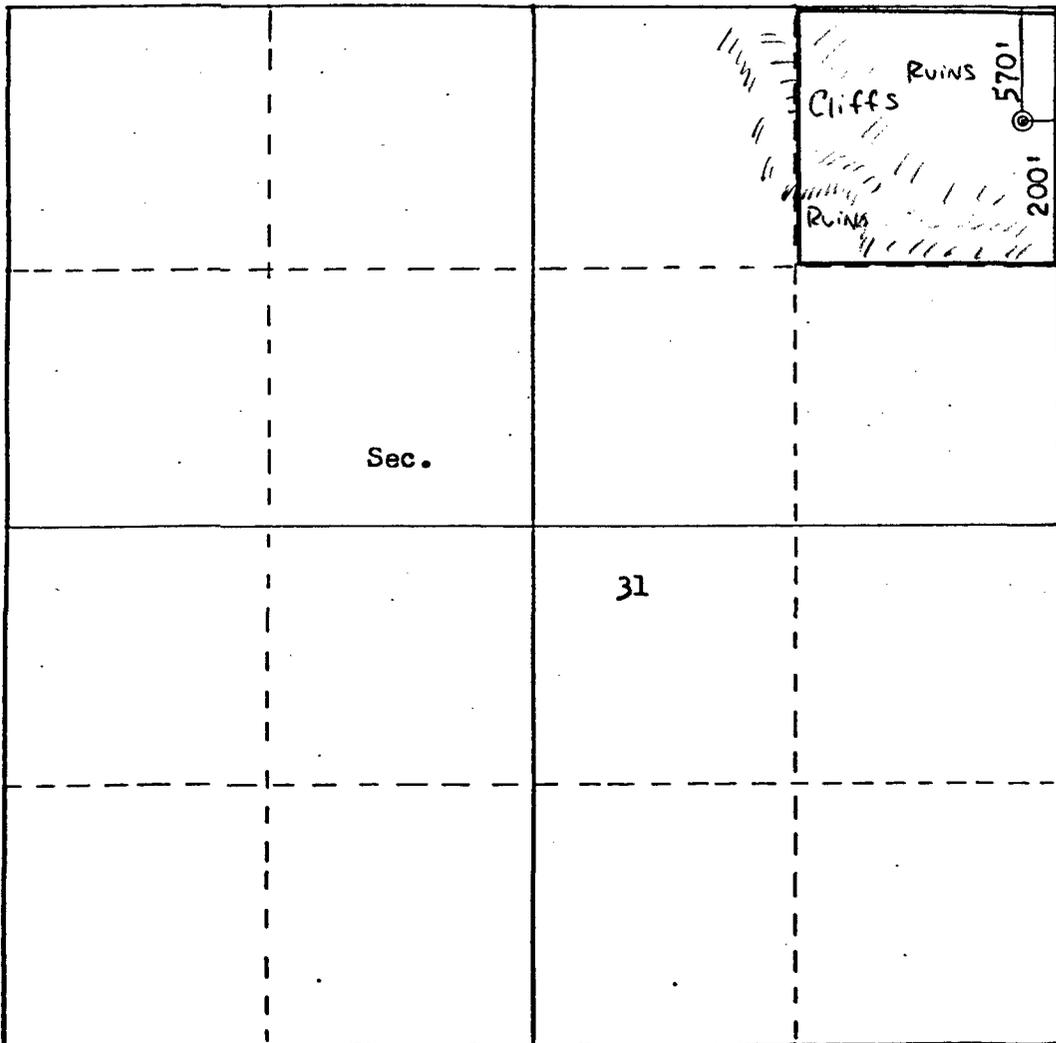
Operator MESA PETROLEUM COMPANY		Lease SOUTH BLANCO FEDERAL 31			Well No. 3
Unit Letter A	Section 31	Township 24N	Range 7W	County Rio Arriba	
Actual Footage Location of Well: 570 feet from the North line and 200 feet from the East line					
Ground Level Elev: 7374	Producing Formation Gallup		Pool Lybrook Gallup Ext.		Dedicated Acreage: 40 Acres

1. Outline the acreage dedicated to the subject well by colored pencil or hachure marks on the plat below.
2. If more than one lease is dedicated to the well, outline each and identify the ownership thereof (both as to working interest and royalty).
3. If more than one lease of different ownership is dedicated to the well, have the interests of all owners been consolidated by communitization, unitization, force-pooling, etc?

Yes No If answer is "yes," type of consolidation _____

If answer is "no," list the owners and tract descriptions which have actually been consolidated. (Use reverse side of this form if necessary.) _____

No allowable will be assigned to the well until all interests have been consolidated (by communitization, unitization, forced-pooling, or otherwise) or until a non-standard unit, eliminating such interests, has been approved by the Commission.



Scale: 1"=1000'

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

John Alexander
Name

John Alexander

Position

Agent

Company

MESA PETROLEUM CO.

Date

8/24/81

I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date Surveyed

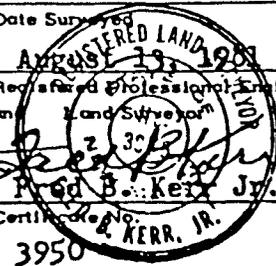
August 19, 1981

Registered Professional Engineer and Land Surveyor

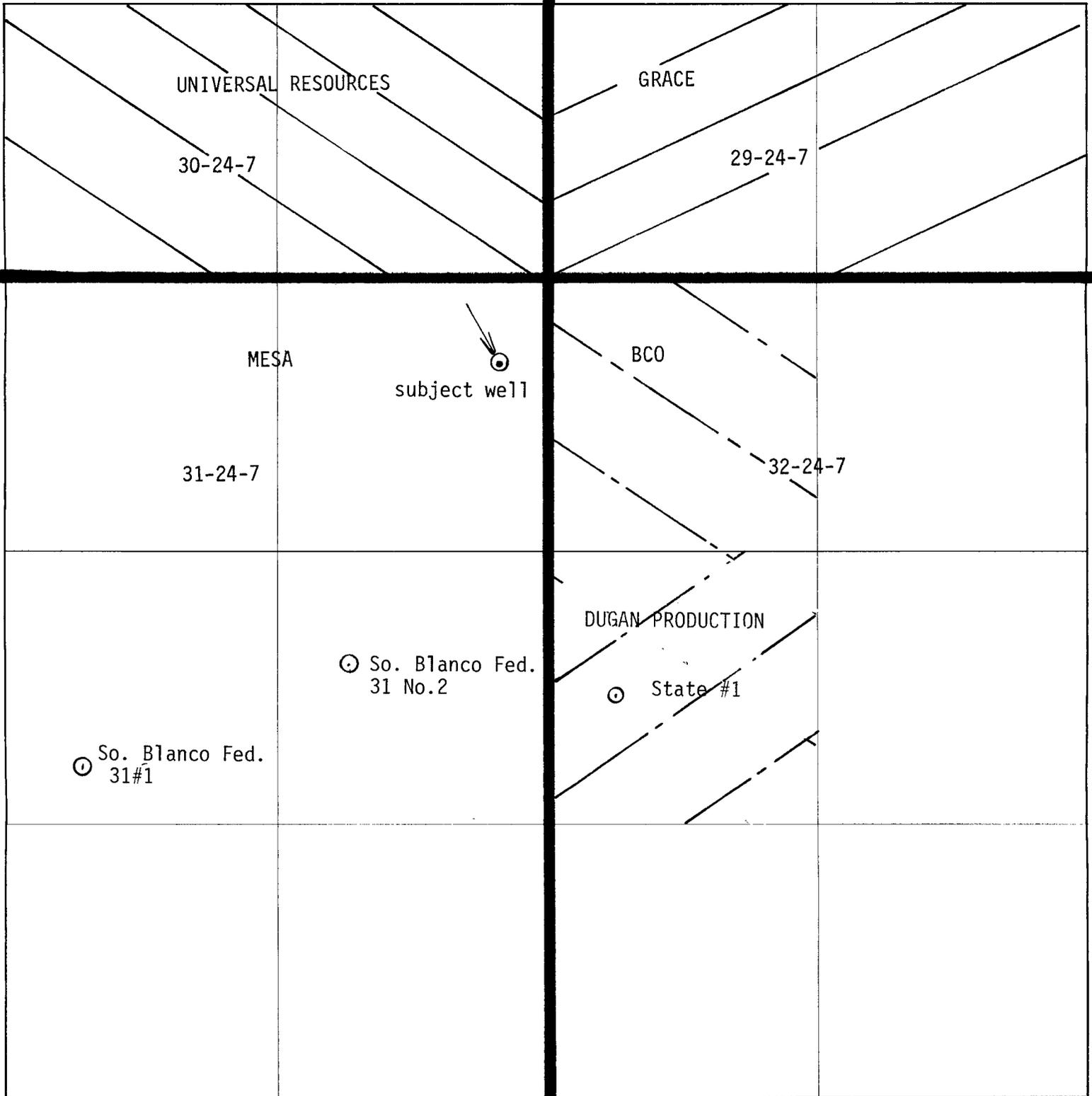
Fred B. Kerr Jr.

Certification No.

3950



SECTION 31 TOWNSHIP 24N RANGE 7W COUNTY Rio Arriba STATE N.M



Mesa Petroleum Co.
South Blanco Federal 31 No. 3
570°N & 200°E 31-24-7
unorthodox location

3E COMPANY, INC.

Engineering • Energy • Exploration

P. O. Box 190 -- 505/327-4020

FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO 87401

October 2, 1981

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 1088
Santa Fe, NM 87501

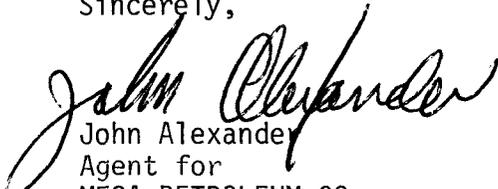
Attention: Mr. Bill Staments

RE: Non-standard location, Mesa Petroleum Co.
South Blanco Fed. 31#3

Dear Mr. Staments:

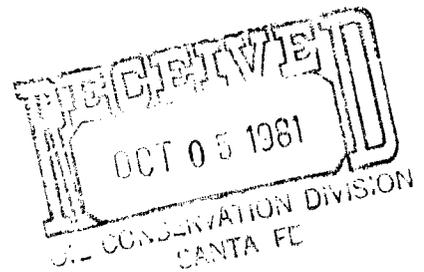
Forwarded by this cover is an archaeological report for the original location of the subject well at: 570'/N & 340'/E 31-24-7. This report supports our unorthodox location request for a location at 570'/N & 200'/E 31-24-7.

Sincerely,


John Alexander
Agent for
MESA PETROLEUM CO.

JA:p1

attachment



SAN JUAN CAMPUS

4601 College Boulevard
Farmington, New Mexico 87401 -4699
Telephone (505) ~~326-7888~~ 326-3311



September 25, 1981

Mr. John Alexander
3E Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 190
Farmington, NM 87401

RE: Mesa Petroleum South Blanco Federal 31 #3

Dear Mr. Alexander:

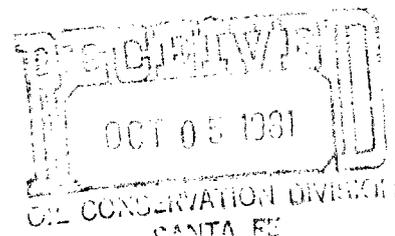
This letter is in reply to your request for more information concerning Site SJC-728, which was found while inspecting the proposed well location "South Blanco Federal 31 #3" and which was originally staked 570 feet from the north line, 340 feet from the east line, Section 31, Township 24 North, Range 7 West, N.M.P.M., Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. The report for this location is 81-SJC-120, dated May 5, 1981 from our office.

In this report we stated that, due to the presence of Archaeological Site SJC-728, archaeological clearance could not be recommended. The Bureau of Land Management concurred and denied clearance for that location (copy enclosed).

Let me explain the significance of this site. Archaic Period (5000 B.C. - 300 A.D.) sites are typified by hearths and lithics. As the Archaic people were preceramic, pottery is absent. As they inhabited the area up to 7000 years ago, any structures they built would have disintegrated long ago. All that remains are worked stone materials and hearth stains.

When we undertake a survey, we do so in order that the contractors (yourself) will be in compliance with legislation designed to protect archaeological remains. The principal Federal Laws are the Antiquities Act of 1906 (PL 52-209), the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (PL 89-665), the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-952), Executive Order #11593 of 1971, the Archaeological and Historical Conservation Act of 1974 (PL 93-291) and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (PL 96-95).

Site SJC-728 meets criteria for protection under 36 CFR 800, in that it is "likely to yield information important in prehistory ..." (800.10). This information may exist either in the form of a recoverable Radiocarbon-14 date, analysis of lithic material to determine quarry sites and infer exchange ties, or provide information about subsistence or settlement patterns



September 25, 1981

among the Archaic people. The site may also involve a role in a larger, regional context as well. The site is comparable to SJC-196, which is 4 miles east and contains many of the same elements (five hearths, lithic and ground stone scatter).

Many other sites have been recorded in the area. The Crow Canyon Archaeological District, 3 miles northwest of SJC-728, contains over 18 sites, five of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. There is evidence that human occupation has been nearly continuous in this area for at least 7000 years. To destroy a site which is evidence of this would not only be unthinkable but would also be against the law. For these reasons, the BLM concurred with our recommendation and denied clearance.

The solution is to relocate the proposed well location. Moving the location 150 feet, or so, would avoid the site. That is our recommendation.

I hope that this will clarify matters. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our office at 505/326-3311, Extension 344.

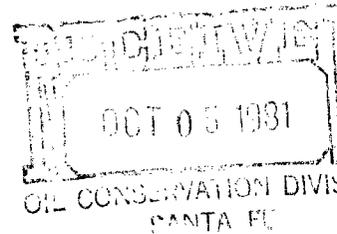
Sincerely,



Randy Moorehead, Archaeologist
Cultural Resources Management Program
New Mexico State University
San Juan Campus

/cap

Enclosures



Site name SJC-728 Field number _____

NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Sec. 31, T. 24 N., R. 7 W., County Rio Arriba State NM

Map source USGS 15 Min Quad "Nageezi" Elevation 7350'

Drainage: primary Blanco Wash secondary _____

Location on Mesa top (edge of Crow Mesa), overlooking Blanco Wash, 3 miles NW of Lybrook

Nearest town Lybrook Nearest highway 44 Accessibility: foot sedan _____ 4-wh. dr. _____ backhoe _____

Ownership Bureau of Land Management

Informant Found while inspecting well location "South Blanco Federal 31 # 3"

Stake location _____

SITUATION (check): Valley bottom _____ Bench _____ Slope _____ Ridge _____ Mesa top Cliff edge _____ Overhang _____ Cave _____ Dune _____
Other _____ Area of site 150 x 150

FEATURES (Indicate number): Pit houses _____ Kivas _____ Surface rooms: Slab _____ Masonry _____ Adobe _____ Other _____

Refuse area (direction) _____ Hearths 2 Burials _____ Sherd/Chipping area 4 Grids/Dams/Terraces _____ Pictographs/Petroglyphs _____
Trails/Steps _____ Other Possible Lookout? - earth embankment

PLAN: 1-room _____ Linear _____ Arc _____ L-shaped _____ C-shaped _____ F-shaped _____ E-shaped _____ ()-shaped _____ Enclosed plaza: by a wall _____
by rooms _____ Scattered _____ Indeterminate _____ Other _____

Single-tier _____ Double-tier _____ -tiers _____ Part double-tier _____ Part _____ tier _____ Orientation _____ Exposure _____

Nature & depth of fill Aeolian; less than 1 meter, to 1 m. Est. Wall height _____ Stratified? _____

Condition: Undisturbed _____ Eroded Pot-hunted _____ Pottery/Artifact abundance: 10's, 100's, 1000's, _____ Modern structures _____

Surface: Level _____ Uneven Slopes to (direction) SW Surface deposits: Alluvium Colluvium _____ Aeolian _____ Talus _____

Residual _____ Soil: Rocky _____ Gravelly _____ Sandy Clayey _____ Other _____

Local rock outcrops: Sandstone Limestone _____ Shale _____ Caliche _____ Basalt _____ Tuff _____ Other _____

Arable land (type, distance & direction) canyon floor

Water (distance & direction): River _____ Arroyo " Confluence _____ Spring _____ Seeps _____

Bedrock pool _____ Permanent? _____ Local vegetation patterns Pinon, juniper, sagebrush, rabbitbrush, ephedra, bitterbrush, snakeweed, broadleaf and narrowleaf yucca, prickly pear cactus, grama, galleta
Photo: B/W _____ Color _____

Other resources _____

Field remarks see attached narrative

References 81-580-120

Excavation requirements: Labor _____ Time _____ Equipment _____

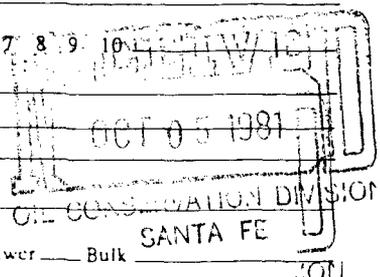
CULTURE Archaic / 5000 BC - 300 AD Phase/Date _____ / _____

Zone _____ Locality _____ Lab. class 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Lab. remarks U.T.M.: 13-265-820 mE; 4017-550 mN

Field recorder R. Moorehead Date 4-02-81 Collections storage _____ Catalogue Nos. _____

Lab. recorder _____ Date _____ Sherd Cabinet _____ Drawer _____ Bulk _____



SITE SJC-728

Site SJC-728 was found and recorded by Randy Moorehead, from the Cultural Resource Management Program, New Mexico State University, San Juan Campus, while conducting a Survey for proposed well location "South Blanco Federal 31 #3 for Mesa Petroleum. The site is located on top of Crow Mesa, 3 miles northwest of Lybrook, New Mexico.

The site is located on the Mesa top near the mesa edge. The soil is aeolian, dune, with several blowout areas. The edge of the mesa has many sandstone outcrops. Nearer to the well stake (see map), the soil is more of a loam, vegetation includes piñon, juniper, bitterbush, snakeweed, broad and narrowleaf yucca, prickly pear cactus, ephedra, grama, and galleta.

The site is from the Archaic period. It contains two hearth areas; each is three feet in diameter, and at least 1½ feet deep. There are four major concentrations of lithic material. The entire area is covered with a scatter of lithic material.

A small sample of lithics were collected for analysis. Present in the sample were: 3 flakes, no retouch; average size 2 cm x 2 cm x ½ cm;
2 were chert, 1 was petrified wood.

3 scrapers; average size 3½ cm x 2½ cm x 1 cm;
2 were chert, 1 was petrified wood.

2 worked flakes, with retouch; average size 3 cm x 2 cm x ½ cm; both were petrified wood.

No immediate evidence of manos, metates, or projectile points was seen.

At the western edge of the site, at the Mesa edge, there is a small earthen embankment. The embankment was not naturally formed. Together with the sandstone outcrops at the Mesa edge, this could serve as some type of "lookout" over the canyon below. This may be a recent feature, but no diagnostic material was found. This feature may or may not be associated with the site.

SUMMARY

Site SJC-728 appears to be an Archaic (5000 B.C. to A.D. 300) site, and meets several criteria for this:

- a) Dwellings and features will be few or non-existent.
- b) Sites will have an extremely low artifact density.
- c) Sites will invariably be small in size.

(From Wait 1977 : 3)

In Archaic sites in Northern New Mexico, it is not uncommon for artifact assemblages to be found in dunes, "blow-out" situations (Wait 1977 : 44) as that at SJC-728. Since most artifacts are usually found within 10 cm (4 inches) of the surface (Wait 1977 : 52) , site integrity - and minimal soil disturbance is very important.

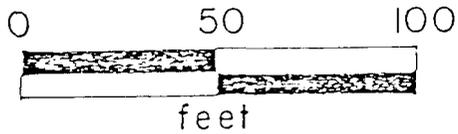
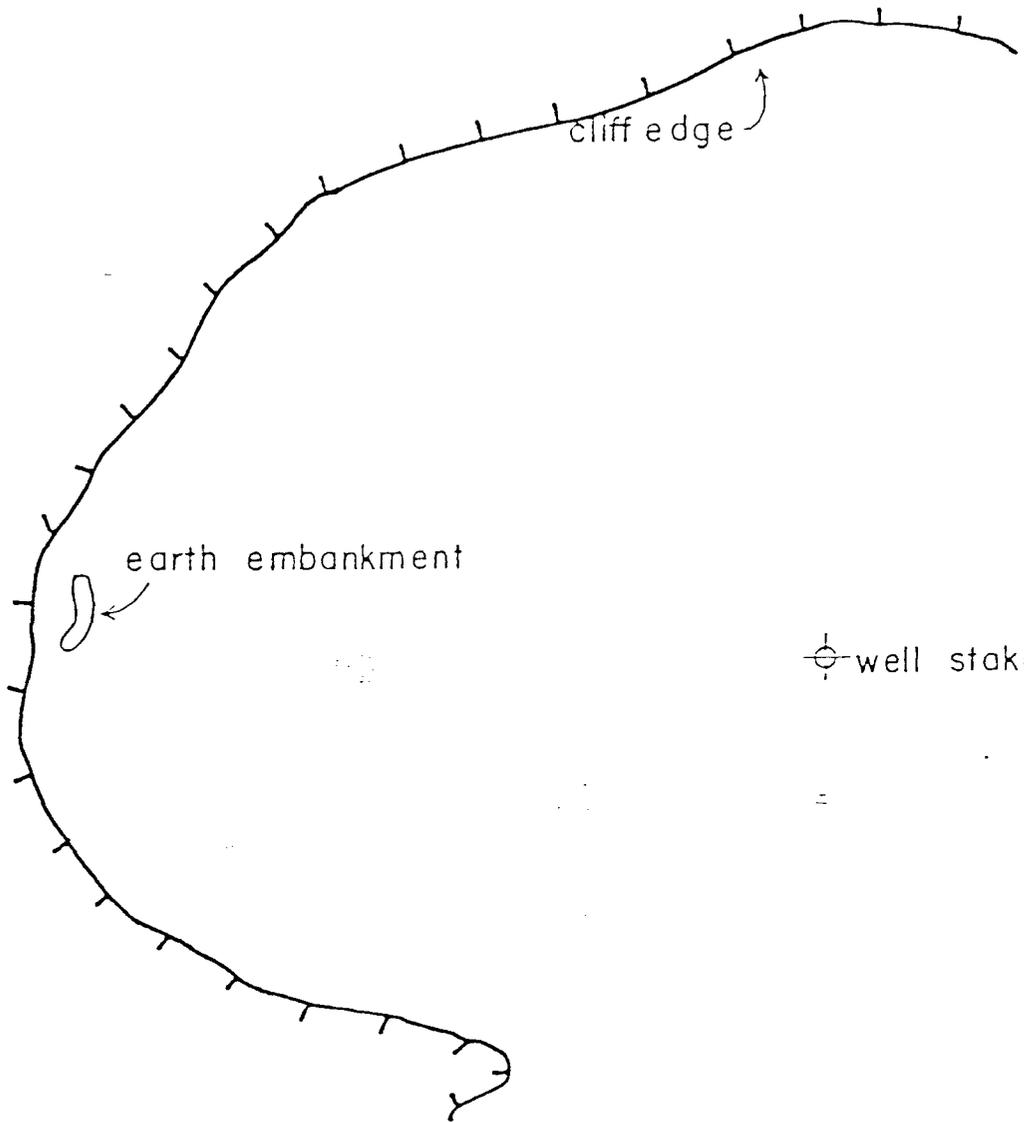
As it is now located, the proposed well location (SOUTH BLANCO FEDERAL 31 #3) would adversely impact (ie. totally destroy) site SJC-728. As such, the proposed well location cannot be recommended for clearance, and should be relocated.

REFERENCES CITED:

Wait, W. K.

1977

Identification and Analysis of the "Non-Sedentary"
Archaeological Site in Northwestern New Mexico.
Ph. D. Dissertation, Department of Anthropology,
State University of New York at Binghamton.



 lithics
 hearths



SJC-728

NE'4-NE'4-NE'4

SECTION 31

T 24 N, R 7 W

RIO ARRIBA COUNTY

NEW MEXICO

Memorandum

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

IN REPLY REFER TO:
8143

Sequence Number

81(III)48F

F
R
T

To : Area Manager

Date: 6/16/81

FROM : Area Archeologist

SUBJECT: Cultural Resource Clearance

Partial

Clearance has been granted to (Applicant) Mesa Petroleum
on the basis of report (Title) 4 wells & access (Suter #7, South Blanco Fed 31 #3)
submitted (Date) 5/5/81 by (Organization) NMSU-SJC 81-SJC-120.

36 CFR 800 Consultation Procedures completed (Date)	<u>5/27/81</u>
Properties Eligible (Number)	<u>N/A</u>
Adverse Effect (Yes-No)	<u>N/A</u>
Avoidance (Yes-No)	<u>N/A</u>
Mitigation (Yes-No)	<u>N/A</u>

Advisory Council Comment Requested (Date) _____
Comment Received (Date) _____

Mitigation Plan Received and Accepted (Date-Date) _____
SHPO Comment Received (Date) _____

Final Report Received (Date-Date) _____

Area Archeologist Comments: Clearance is granted only for Suter #7 and South Blanco Federal 25 #5. A site was located on the well pad for South Blanco Federal 31 #3 which could not be avoided; thus clearance is denied for this location.



Area Archeologist



Initial
Area Manager

cc: District Archeologist
Contractor



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

September 3, 1981

BRUCE KING
GOVERNOR
LARRY KEHOE
SECRETARY

POST OFFICE BOX 2088
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
(505) 827-2434

3E Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 190
Farmington, New Mexico 87401

Re: Application for Non-Standard
Location: Mesa Petroleum S. Blanco
Federal 31 Well No. 3
31-T24N-R7W, Rio Arriba County

We may not process the subject application for non-standard location until the required information or plats checked below (is)(are) submitted.

- A plat must be submitted clearly showing the ownership of the offsetting leases.
- A statement must be submitted that offset owners have been notified of the application by certified mail.
- A plat must be submitted fully identifying the topography necessitating the non-standard location.
- Other: The supplemental information (archeological report) is not sufficiently detailed to permit administrative approval. Either more detailed information must be submitted or this matter will have to be set for hearing.

Very truly yours,

R. L. STAMETS
Technical Support Chief

RLS/dr



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
AZTEC DISTRICT OFFICE

1000 RIO BRAZOS ROAD
AZTEC, NEW MEXICO 87412
(505) 334-6178

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
BOX 2088
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

DATE Sept 15, 1981

1436

RE: Proposed MC _____
Proposed DHC _____
Proposed NSL _____ ✓
Proposed SWD _____
Proposed WFX _____
Proposed PMX _____

Gentlemen:

I have examined the application dated Sept 8, 1981
for the 3 E Company Inc. S. Blanco Fed. 31#3 A - 31-24N-7W
Operator Lease and Well No. Unit, S-T-R

and my recommendations are as follows:

Approve

Yours truly,

Jeff A. Elmster
JE

SEP 29 1981
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
SANTA FE



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

August 28, 1981

BRUCE KING
GOVERNOR
LARRY KEHOE
SECRETARY

POST OFFICE BOX 2088
STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
(505) 827-2434

3E Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 190
Farmington, New Mexico 87401

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- A plat must be submitted clearly showing the ownership of the offsetting leases.
- A statement must be submitted that offset owners have been notified of the application by certified mail.
- A plat must be submitted fully identifying the topography necessitating the non-standard location.
- Other: A copy of the archeological report showing the necessity for variation from the standard location must be submitted.

Very truly yours,

R. L. STAMETS
Technical Support Chief

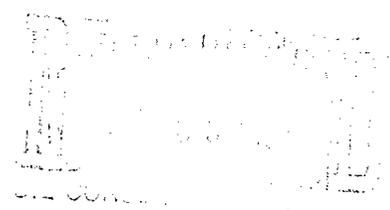
RLS/dr

Report 81-500-120
Permit 81-NM-083
79-NM-123
with Navajo Tribal Consent to
Issuance #52

An Archaeological Clearance Survey of
Four Proposed Well Locations & Access
Roads Conducted for Mesa Petroleum

Randy Moorehead
Cultural Resource Management
San Juan Campus
New Mexico State University

5 May 1981



Proposed Well: SOUTH BLANCO FEDERAL 31 #3

Land Status: Bureau of land Management.

Location: The proposed well location is in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 31, Township 24 North, Range 7 West, N.M.P.M., Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. The well will be 570 feet from the north line and 340 feet from the east line. (figure 2)

U.T.M.: Center - 13; 2,65,825 mE; 40,17,550 mN.

Access: 20 feet wide and 500 feet long to the southeast

Area Surveyed: 2.30 acres.

Terrain: Mesa top with southerly drainage, alluvial and aeolian surface deposits, and sandstone outcrops.

Soil: Sand, sandy loam

Vegetation: Piñon, juniper, sagebrush, rabbitbrush, ephedra, bitterbush, snakeweed, broad and narrowleaf yucca, prickly pear cactus, grama, galleta.

Cultural Resources: Site SJC-728.

Recommendations: Move well location. Clearance NOT recommended.