



May 3, 1998

State of New Mexico
Oil Conservation Division
2040 South Pacheco
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

ATTN: MS. LORI WROTENBERY

DIRECTOR

RE: REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL

OF UNORTHORODOX WELL LOCATION

SAN JUAN 32-7 UNIT #242 WELL SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

PHILLIPS G. F. 5464

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

Phillips Petroleum Company (Phillips), as Operator of the captioned well, respectfully requests administrative approval of an unorthodox well location for the San Juan 32-7 Unit #242 (Fruitland Coal) well.

Phillips proposes to drill this well at a location of 1683' FNL and 1749' FWL of Section 33-32N-7W, San Juan County, New Mexico. The proposed well will be located in the Basin Fruitland Coal Pool and would have the N/2 of Section 33 designated as the drillblock. This unorthodox location was selected based on primarily geologic conditions which make drilling at an orthodox location unfavorable. For your benefit in reviewing this request, we have included the following:

- 1. Ownership Plat
- 2. Unit Plat of San Juan 32-7 Unit
- 3. Topographical Plat
- 4. Aggregate Net Coal Isolith Plat
- 5. Rate Data Plat
- 6. Copy of log for San Juan 32-7 #207 Well

Phillips is the Operator of the San Juan 32-7 Unit. All offsetting drillblocks, with the exception of the S/2 of Section 33 are located within the Unit boundaries. As to the S/2 of Section 33, the leasehold rights in the SW/4 and W/2 SE/4 are owned in full by Coleman Oil & Gas, Inc. Phillips and Williams Production Company own the leasehold rights in the E/2 SE/4. The portion of the S/2 owned by Coleman Oil & Gas, Inc. is not committed to the San Juan 32-7 Unit. (See Ownership Plat).

The Aggregate Net Coal Plat demonstrates little difference in the average Coal thickness between an orthodox location in the NE/4 and the requested location in the NW/4, and rightly so as this is not the issue. The compelling reason for this request is based on the permeability of the Coal formation in Section 33.

Request for Administrative Approval of Unorthodox Well Location San Juan 32-7 Unit #242 Well May 3, 1998 Page 2

As is clearly evidenced on the Rate Data Plat, wells to the North, South and East, (white area of plat) which directly offset an orthodox location in the NE/4 of Section 33, produce at substantially lower rates than wells to the West (green, yellow & orange areas). While gas production in the colored areas has gradually increased with the dewatering of the cleat system, it has remained relatively constant in the white area of the map. These wells were drilled between 1991-1993. Moreover, the magnitude of the initial water production in the white area is relatively lower than it is in the colored area. These things are indicative of a poorly developed cleat system (ie low permeability). In order to drill a well which meets economic guidelines, based on current costs and parameters, it is necessary to move the location West to encounter Coal deposits with cleat development that is adequate to provide the necessary permeability to produce the well at economic rates.

To reiterate, this N/2 drillblock is totally located within the confines of the San Juan 32-7 Unit boundaries and is surrounded (with the exception of the SW/4 & W/2 SE/4 of Section 33) on all sides by said unit. In order to promote full development of the Unit and prevent economic waste, we ask that you approve this request.

We have contacted the affected offset operator on this matter and they have been furnished a copy of this request by certified mail.

We thank you for your considerate time and attention to this matter and should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

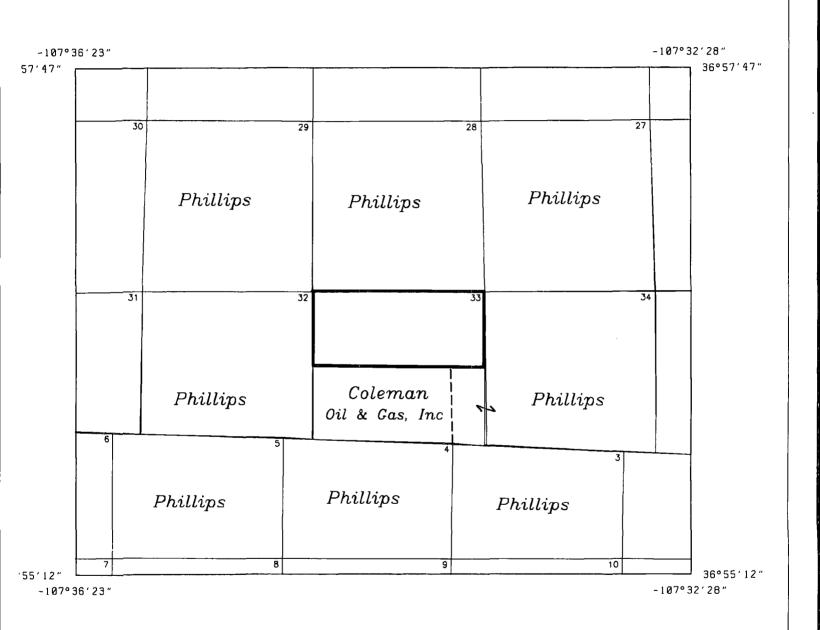
Very truly yours,

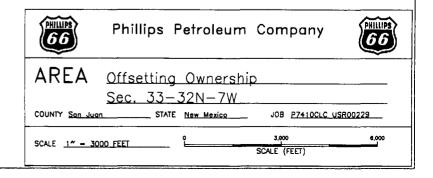
S. Scott Prather, CPL Senior Landman San Juan Basin

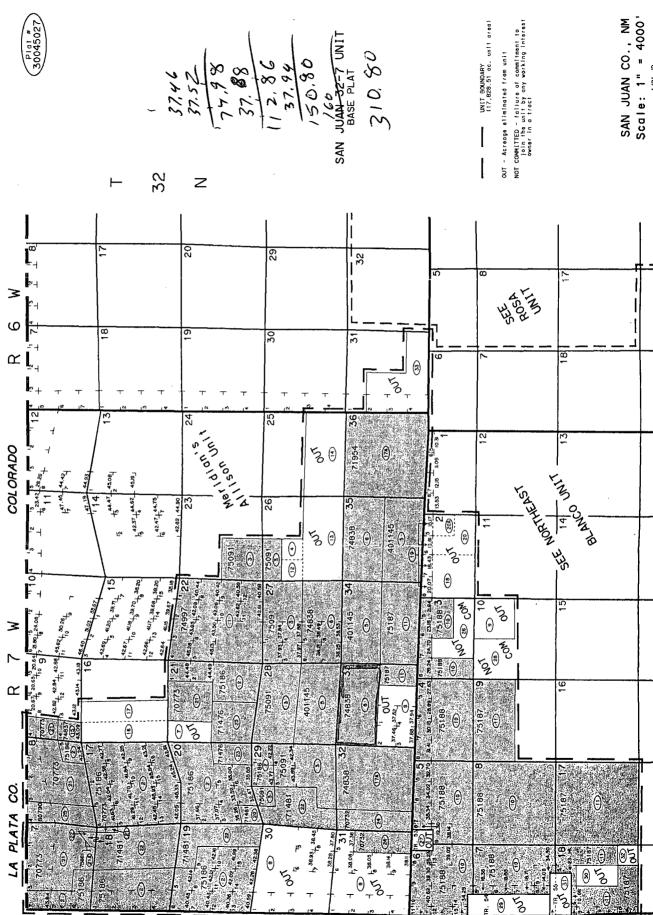
(505) 599-3410

cc: J. L. Mathis (r) 5464 Ernie Busch – OCD, Aztec Coleman Oil & Gas, Inc.

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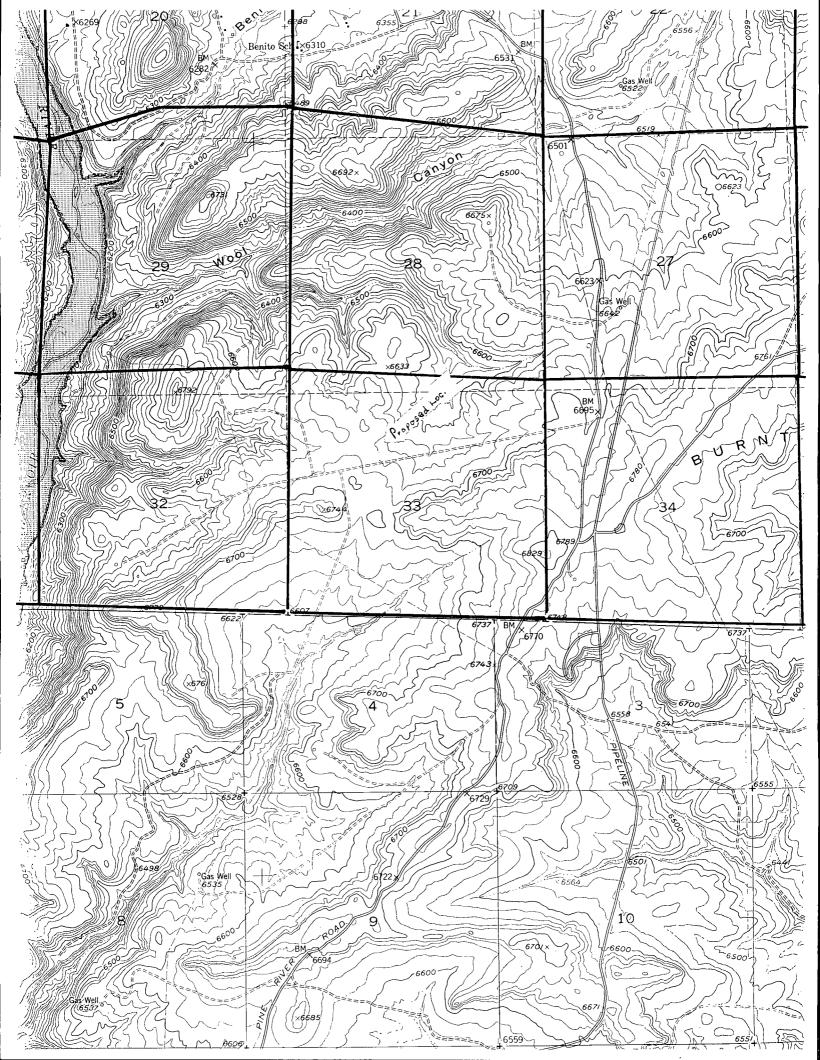


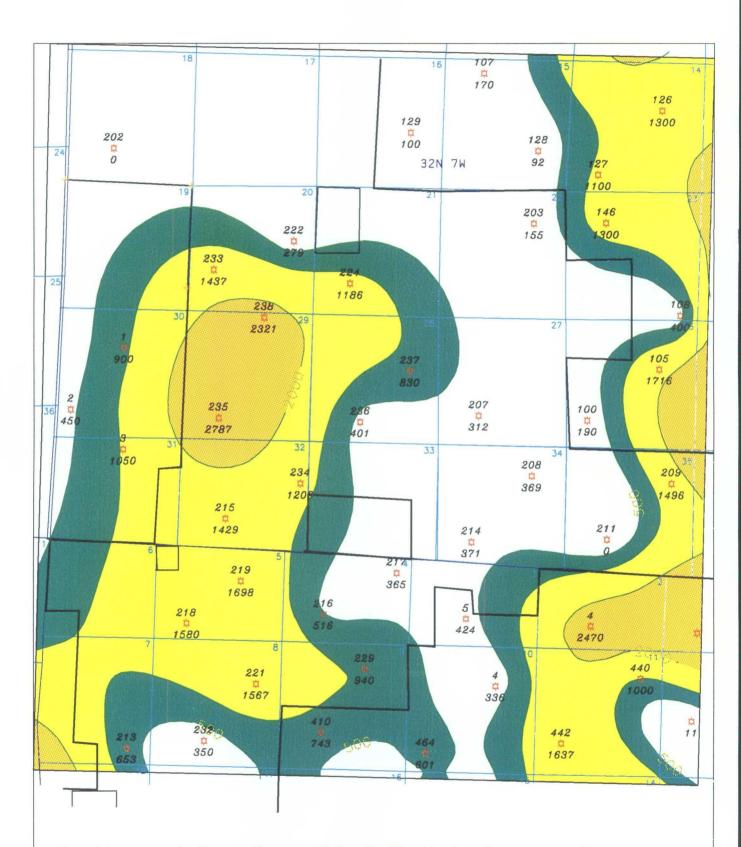


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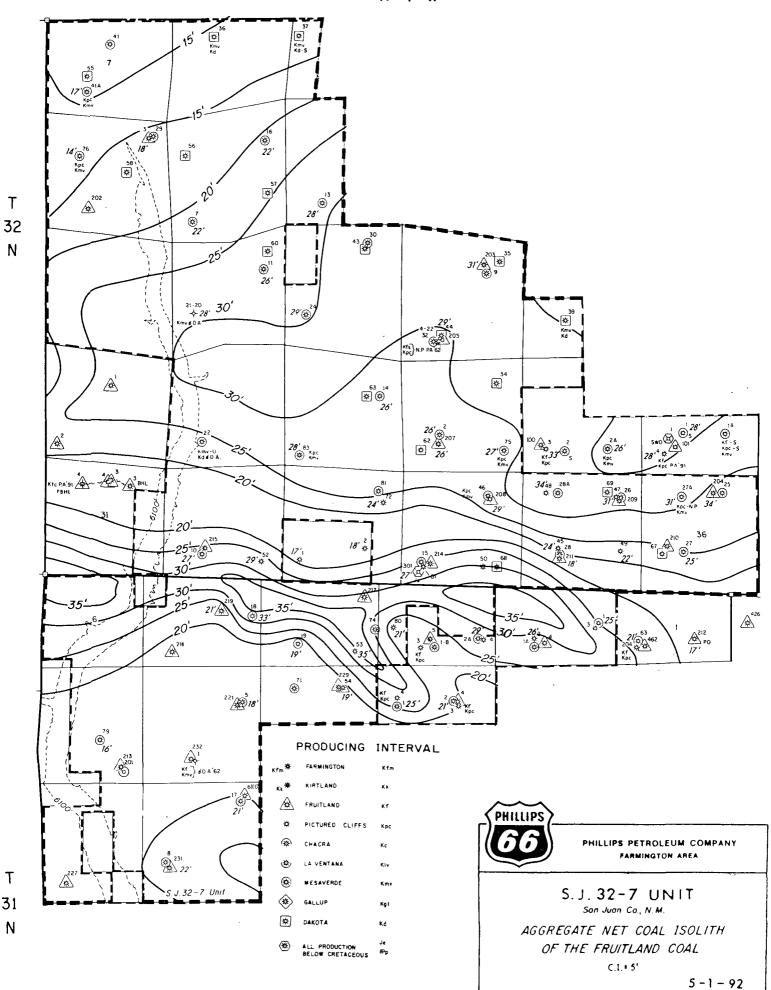
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Portions of San Juan 32-7 Unit & Surrounding Areas
1st Quarter 1997 Rate Data (MCFD)



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