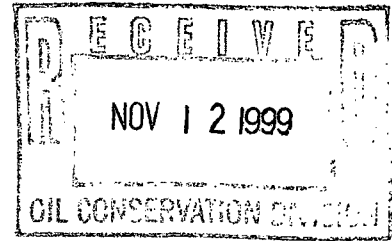


1 P1-125 N/R

Sonat Raton, L.L.C.
P.O.Box 190
Raton, New Mexico 87740

November 9, 1999

Roy Johnson
Supt. Dist. 4
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
2040 S. Pacheco
Santa Fe, NM 87505



Re: VPR'A'-7 WDW: Step Rate Test

Dear Roy:

We appreciate your participation in witnessing the step-rate injection test at the VPR'A'-7 disposal well yesterday. It was helpful to have you on-site to be sure that we gathered the information necessary to make a case for a higher maximum injection pressure during water disposal operations.

Sonat Raton obtained the authority to inject produced water into the VPR'A'-7 under Administrative Order SWD-755. The maximum injection pressure was assigned as 1240 psi. At this injection pressure we are only capable of injecting approximately 2400 barrels of water per day.

As you know, on November 8, 1999, we conducted a "step-rate test" to establish that the actual formation fracture pressure is higher than 1240 psi. Please review the attached results of the step-rate test. We believe the fracture pressure was not reached at final pumping rate of 14 barrels per minute at 3400 psi.

Please consider this correspondence as a request to elevate the maximum allowable surface injection pressure to 2000 psi.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Don Lankford".

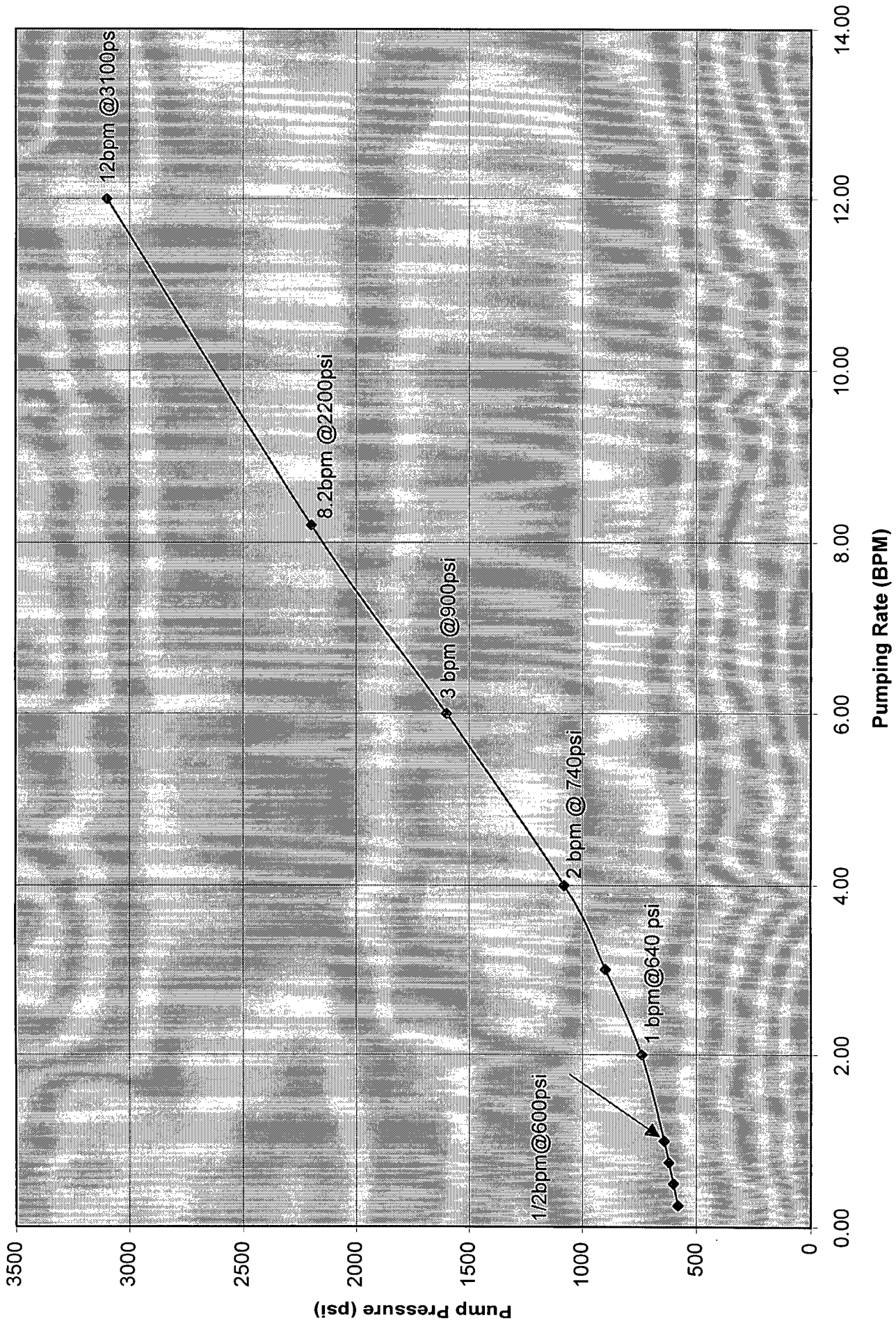
Don Lankford
Petroleum Engineer

505-445-4621

Valve's don't
match orbit
re-submit

VPR'A'-7: Step Rate Test

November 8, 1999

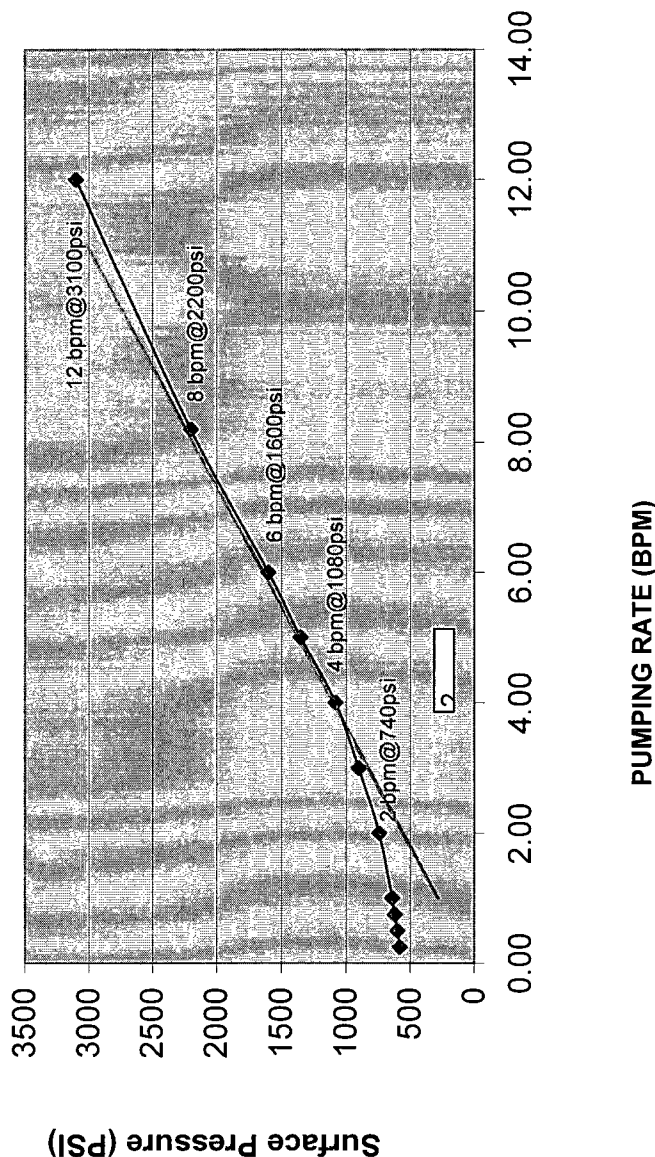


VPR'A'-7 WDW Step Rate Test

November 8, 1999

Pumping Rate (BPM)	Surface Pressure(psi.)
0.25	580
0.50	600
0.75	620
1.00	640
2.00	740
3.00	900
4.00	1080
5.00	1350
6.00	1600
8.20	2200
12.00	3100

VPR'A'-7: Step Rate Test



Mark -
 there was a break during this test. The Dakota may be fractured in this area thus giving us these types of results. I think they are planning on additional sub well in this area @ the first of the year.

VPR'A'-7 WDW Step Rate Test

November 8, 1999