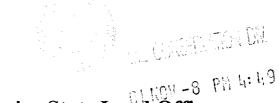
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE Phone (505) 827-5760 Fax (505) 827-5766

ADMINISTRATION Phone (505) 827-5700 Fax (505) 827-5853

GENERAL COUNSEL Phone (505) 827-5713 Fax (505) 827-4262

PUBLIC AFFAIRS Phone (505) 827-1245 Fax (505) 827-5766



New Mexico State Land Office Commissioner of P Commissioner of Public Lands Ray Powell, M.S., D.V.M.

November 6, 2001

Attn:

W. Thomas Kellahin

Re:

Non-Standard Location Proposal Cameron 31 Federal Well No. 2

2449' FNL & 408' FEL

Unit H, Section 31, Township 20 South, Range 25 East

Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Kellahin:

Kellahin and Kellahin Attorneys at Law 117 North Guadalupe

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

We are in receipt of your letter, and accompanying data, quantifying your client's proposal for the above mentioned non-standard location.

We are aware of the cumulative Morrow production to date from the Fasken Oil and Ranch, Ltd. operated wells in the west half of Section 32, Township 20 South, Range 25 East. However, we are also aware of the production to date from Section 31.

You referenced the fact that approximately 3.6 bcf have currently been produced from the Morrow formation in Section 32. Therefore, we concur that the west half Section 32 has been adequately developed and protected with respect to the Morrow formation. However, you did not reference the fact that approximately 4.4 bcf have been produced to date from the Morrow formation by the Cameron 31 Federal Com Well No. 1, in the southeast quarter of Section 31, at a standard location.

Our interpretation of the structure data you submitted agrees with your client's regarding the spot location for this proposed well. We also believe the Morrow is discontinuous, and therefore the possibility of obtaining commercial Morrow reserves from this proposed well does exist. The possibility of commercial reserves being present that have not been drained by any offsetting well also exists.

Regardless, our initial objection to this proposal was based on factors other than a non-standard Morrow well. Our concern is based on the fact that re-completion of this proposed Morrow well to an alternative non-standard zone, such as Indian Basin Strawn, would be logical in the future. We believe the continuous nature of the Strawn is grounds for concern regarding a future correlative rights issue. Therefore, our objection to this proposed Morrow well in the northeast quarter of Section 31 is not the primary concern in this objection filed on behalf of the Commissioner of Public Lands.

COMMERCIAL RESOURCES

Phone (505) 827-5724 Fax (505) 827-6157

MINERAL RESOURCES Phone (505) 827-5744

Fax (505) 827-4739 ROYALTY MANAGEMENT

Phone (505) 827-5772 Fax (505) 827-4739

SURFACE RESOURCES Phone (505) 827-5793 Fax (505) 827-5711

Pase 12777

In order to expedite your client's application for the proposal as mentioned, we will recommend to the Commissioner of Public Lands that he waive objection to this proposed non-standard Morrow well. However, please be informed that this waiver of objection is specific to the proposed non-standard location for the subject well and specifically for the Morrow formation in the Cemetary Morrow Gas pool. A recommendation for a waiver of objection will not be made for alternative zone(s), regarding the use of this specific wellbore, where they are determined to be non-standard by NMOCD pool rules and regulations, and that are believed to pose a correlative rights issue.

If you care to discuss this further, please contact Jeff Albers at (505) 827-5759.

Sincerely.

JAMI BAILEY, Director Oil, Gas & Minerals Division

(505) 827-5744

JB/ja

Xc: New Mexico Oil Conservation Division

1220 South St. Francis Dr.
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
Attn: Mr. Michael Stogner