# STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 12698

Ç.)

# **OPPONENTS' PRE-HEARING STATEMENT**

This Prehearing Statement is submitted by Holland & Hart LLP and Campbell & Carr, attorneys for HARVEY E. YATES COMPANY and JALAPENO CORPORATION.

#### APPEARANCES OF PARTIES

**APPLICANT** 

**ATTORNEY** 

Mewbourne Oil Company

James Bruce, Esq. Post Office Box 1056 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-2043

(505) 988-4421

**OPPONENTS** 

**OPPONENTS' ATTORNEY** 

Harvey E. Yates Company Jalapeno Corporation

Michael H. Feldewert, Esq. Holland & Hart LLP and Campbell & Carr Post Office Box 2208 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2208

# OPPONENTS' STATEMENT OF ITS CASE

Harvey E. Yates Company and Jalapeno Corporation ("Opponents") oppose

Mewbourne's application to the extent that it seeks to pool mineral interests from the base of the

Yates formation to the base of the Wolfcamp formation in Section 15, Township 21 South, Range

27 East, NMPM. Opponents do not oppose that portion of Mewbourne's application which

seeks to pool from the base of the Wolfcamp formation to the base of the Morrow formation.

Mewbourne's application proposes to drill its Esperanza "15" State Com Well No. 1 at an unorthodox location in Section 15 to produce gas from the Morrow formation (Burton Flat-Morrow Gas Pool). The Division's administrative approval of the unorthodox gas well location is limited to the Burton Flat-Morrow Gas Pool. *See* Attachment 1 (Division file for Administrative Order NSL-4606). Despite Mewbourne's proposal to produce gas from the Morrow formation, and despite the Division's limited approval of Mewbourne's unorthodox well location,

Mewbourne seeks by its application to pool and dedicate to its well all formations from the base of the Yates formation to the base of the Morrow formation in the NW/4 SE/4, the SE/4 and the E/2 of Section 15.

Opponents are interest owners in the SE/4 of Section 15 who desire to drill a well at a standard location in the SE/4 to produce oil and/or gas from the following shallower pools:

- The Undesignated La Huerta-Delaware Pool, the Undesignated East Avalone-Bone Spring Pool and the Undesignated East Carlsbad-Bone Spring Pool, all developed under 40-acre oil spacing and proration units;
- The Undesignated East Avalone-Bone Spring Gas Pool, which is developed under

statewide 160-acre gas spacing units; and

 The Undesignated East Carlsbad-Wolfcamp Gas Pool, which is developed under statewide 320-acre gas spacing units.

Mewbourne's application - if granted as requested - will prevent Opponents from developing these formations and thereby impair their correlative rights.

The pooling of interests is in essence a regulatory taking of property rights and therefore must be narrowly construed. Opponents do not object to Mewbourne's request to pool sufficient acreage to allow it to produce the Morrow, Atoka, Strawn, Canyon, Cisco and other potential producing zones in the Pennsylvanian formation, the target of its proposed unorthodox well. *See* Attachment 2 "Generalized Sections, Southeastern New Mexico." However, the regulatory pooling authority granted by Section 70-2-17 should not be used as a means of indefinitely "tying up" multiple zones of potentially producing acreage that lies outside of the target of a proposed well. It should be narrowly tailored to fit the circumstances of a particular case. Mewbourne's application, if granted, will prevent the Opponents from developing oil and gas reserves located in the shallower Permian formation under the SE/4 of Section 15, thereby resulting in waste and impairing Opponents correlative rights.

# OPPONENTS' PROPOSED EVIDENCE

TOOM ONLY AT

TOTAL TETRATOR

(Name and expertise)	EST. TIME	EXHIBITS
Raymon Reyes, Geologist	15 Minutes	Approximately 3
Melissa Randle, Landman	5 Minutes	None

13 ITEM IDOOMO

# PROCEDURAL MATTERS

None.

HOLLAND & HART and CAMPBELL & CARR

Michael H. Feldewert

Post Office Box 2208

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2208

(505) 988-4421

Attorney for Harvey E. Yates Company and Jalapeno Corporation

# Certificate of Service

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true copy of the foregoing was faxed to James Bruce, Esq., Fax No. (505) 982-2151, on October 10, 2001.

Michael H. Feldewer

Mewbourne 011 Company NSL-4606
Esperanza 15 State Com No. 1
J-15-21S-27E Eddy County



# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

GARY E. JOHNSON
Governor
Jennifer A. Salisbury
Cabinet Secretary

July 10, 2001

Lori Wrotenbery
Director
Oil Conservation Division

Mewbourne Oil Company c/o James Bruce P. O. Box 1056 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 Telefax No. (505) 982-2151

Administrative Order NSL-4606

Dear Mr. Bruce:

Reference is made to the following: (i) your application dated June 26, 2001 on behalf of the operator Mewbourne Oil Company ("Mewbourne"); and (ii) the records of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division ("Division") in Santa Fe: all concerning Mewbourne's request for an unorthodox Morrow gas well location for the proposed Esperanza "15" State Com. Well No. 1 to be drilled 2232 feet from the South line and 1980 feet from the East line (Unit J) of Section 15, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, NMPM, Burton Flat-Morrow Gas Pool, Eddy County, New Mexico.

The E/2 of Section 15 is to be dedicated to this well in order to form a standard 320-acre stand-up gas spacing and proration unit for the Burton Flat-Morrow Gas Pool.

The geologic interpretation submitted with this application indicates that a well drilled at the proposed unorthodox gas well location will be at a more favorable geologic position within the Morrow formation than a well drilled at a location considered to be standard.

The subject application has been duly filed under the applicable provisions of the rules governing this pool and the provisions of Division Rule 104.F, revised by Division Order No. R-11231, issued by the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission in Case No. 12119 on August 12, 1999.

By the authority granted me under the provisions of Division Order No. R-8170-E-1, issued in Case 9872 and dated October 28, 1991, and Division Rule 104.F (2), the above-described unorthodox gas well location is hereby approved.

Sincerely.

Lori Wrotenbery

Director

LW/MES/kv

cc: New Mexico Oil Conservation Division - Artesia

New Mexico State Land Office - Santa Fe

NSL-GAS. N87)

162: 6-26-2001 Susp: 7-16-2001 Released: 7-10-2001

July 10, 2001

Mewbourne Oil Company c/o James Bruce P. O. Box 1056 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 Telefax No. (505) 982-2151

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Lori Wrotenbery Director

LW/MES/kv

cc: New Mexico Oil Conservation Division - Artesia
New Mexico State Land Office - Santa Fe

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR DIVISION USE ONLY

#### NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

- Engineering Bureau -

# ADMINISTRATIVE APPLICATION COVERSHEET

THIS COVERSHEET IS MANDATORY FOR ALL ADMINISTRATIVE APPLICATIONS FOR EXCEPTIONS TO DIVISION RULES AND REGULATIONS Application Acronyms: [NSP-Non-Standard Proration Unit] [NSL-Non-Standard Location] [DD-Directional Drilling] [SD-Simultaneous Dedication] [DHC-Downhole Commingling] [CTB-Lease Commingling] [PLC-Pool/Lease Commingling] [PC-Pool Commingling] [OLS - Off-Lease Storage] [OLM-Off-Lease Measurement] [WFX-Waterflood Expansion] [PMX-Pressure Maintenance Expansion] [SWD-Salt Water Disposal] [IPI-Injection Pressure Increase] [EOR-Qualified Enhanced Oil Recovery Certification] [PPR-Positive Production Response] TYPE OF APPLICATION - Check Those Which Apply for [A] [1] Location - Spacing Unit - Directional Drilling ☐ NSP D NSL  $\Box$  SD HICERVATION DIV Check One Only for [B] or [C] Commingling - Storage - Measurement [B] ☐ DHC  $\Box$  CTB ☐ PLC ☐ PC U OLS Injection - Disposal - Pressure Increase - Enhanced Oil Recovery □ WFX  $\square$  PMX □ SWD ☐ IPI ☐ EOR ☐ PPR NOTIFICATION REQUIRED TO: - Check Those Which Apply, or Does Not Apply [2] Working, Royalty or Overriding Royalty Interest Owners [A] [B] Offset Operators, Leaseholders or Surface Owner Application is One Which Requires Published Legal Notice ☐ Notification and/or Concurrent Approval by BLM or SLO U.S. Bureau of Land Management - Commissioner of Public Lands, State Land Office ☐ For all of the above, Proof of Notification or Publication is Attached, and/or, [E] [F] ☐ Waivers are Attached INFORMATION / DATA SUBMITTED IS COMPLETE - Statement of Understanding [3] I hereby certify that I, or personnel under my supervision, have read and complied with all applicable Rules and Regulations of the Oil Conservation Division. Further, I assert that the attached application for administrative approval is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and where applicable, verify that all interest (WI, RI, ORRI) is common. I further verify that all applicable API Numbers are included. I understand that any omission of data, information or notification is cause to have the application package returned with no action taken. JAMES BRUCE P.O. BOX 1056 SANTA FE, NM 87504 Print or Type Name Signature

# JAMES BRUCE

ATTORNEY AT LAW

POST OFFICE BOX 1056 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504

3304 CAMINO LISA HYDE PARK ESTATES SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

(505) 982-2043 (505) 982-2151 (FAX)

June 26, 2001

#### Hand Delivered

Michael E. Stogner Oil Conservation Division 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Dear Mr. Stogner:

Pursuant to Division Rule 104.F.(2), Mewbourne Oil Company ("Mewbourne") applies for administrative approval of an unorthodox gas well location for the following well:

Well: Esperanza "15" State Com. Well No. 1

Location: 2232 feet FSL & 1980 feet FEL

Unit: E% of Section 15, Township 21 South, Range 27 East,

N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New Mexico

The well will be drilled to test the Morrow formation (Burton Flat-Morrow Gas Pool, which is developed on statewide rules. An APD for the well, with a Form C-102, is attached as Exhibit A.

The application is based on geologic, topographic, and archaeological reasons. Attached as Exhibit B is a geological summary, with appropriate structure and isopach maps attached. There is an inactive Morow well in the SW¼NE¾ of Section 15, and thus Mewbourne does not wish to locate the well in the NE¾ of the section. The two primary zones, the Middle Morrow Blue and the Lower Morrow Orange, are thickest in the northern part of the SE¾ of Section 15, which is the reason for moving the well to the north of an orthodox location.

Attached as Exhibit C is a topographic map, which shows that several pipelines in the area limit locations in the N½SE¼ of Section 15. In addition, the proposed location has received an archaeological clearance, as shown on Exhibit D. (The minerals in the E½ of Section 15 are owned by the State, but the surface estate is owned by the United States. Thus, the need for the archaeological clearance.)

Attached as Exhibits E and F are land plats of the well unit. Because the unorthodox location is interior to the well unit, offset operators were not notified of this application. Also, as you can see from Exhibit F, royalty and working interest ownership is common in the drillsite tract and in the offsetting acreage (the W½NE¼ and SE¼NE¼ of Section 15). There is one overriding royalty owner in State Leases OG-6027 and OG-2426-1 (Exxon Mobil Corporation), and the amount of the override is the same in each tract. Therefore, no one in the NE¼ of Section 15 has been notified of this application.

Please call me if you need any further information on this matter.

Very truly yours,

dames Bruce

Attorney for Mewbourne Oil Company

District IV

Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department

Revised October 18, 1994 Instructions on back Submit to Appropriate District Office State Lease - 6 Copies Fee Lease - 5 Copies

District III 1600 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410 OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 2040 South Pacheco 2040 South Pacheco, Santa Fe, NM 87505 Santa Fe, NM 87505

AMENDED REPORT

APPLICA	TION F	FOR	PERMIT	TO DRI	LL, RE-E	NTER, DE	EPE	N, PLUGE	BACK,	OR A	DD A ZONE
Mewbourne C	Operator Name and Address ₂OGRID Number  Mewbourne Oil Company 14744										
P.O. Box 5270 Hobbs, NM 88241 (505)393-5905 30 - 0								Pl Number			
₄Property	Code		Esperanza	"15" State	•	erty Name					•Well No. #1
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UL or lot no.	Section	Town	ship Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South	line	Feet from the	East	West Line	County
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Burton Flat M	lorrow			·	<del></del>	<u> </u>					
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7-	7/8"		5-1/2"	<u> </u>	17#	118	B <b>00</b>		1200	Tie bac	k Intermediate
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Describe the blow	wout prever	ition pr	ogram, if any. Us	e additional :	sheets if necess	sary.			-		ew productive zone.
BOP Program : 2K Hydril (See Exhibit #2) from surface casing to intermediate TD. Schaffer LWS or equivalent (Double-Ram Hydraulic) 900 series with Hydril 900 series (See Exhibit #2A) from intermediate casing to total depth. Rotating Head, PVT, Flow Monitors, and mud gas Seperator from the											
Wolfcamp to TD.											
Mud Program: 0 to 400' Fresh Water, spud mud, lime for PH, and LCM as needed for seepage. 400 to 2600' 10# Brine, Caustic Soda for PH, and LCM as needed for seepage. 2600 to TD 9.3 to 10# Brine, Caustic for PH, Starch for WL Control, and LCM as needed for seepage.											
	23 hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the										
best of my knowle Signature:	edge and be	ief.	0,			Approved By:		CNOCKY	1101	DIVIO	IOIN
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Title	The Paris Date   Paris Date										
Urilling F	oreman						<del></del>				



Instruction on back Submit to Appropriate District Office

GENERAL BURYLYING COMPANY

Pool Name

State Lease - 4 Copies Foe Lease - 3 Copies

#### )ISTRICT II 11 South First, Ariests, NM 88210 DISTRICT III 000 Rio Brazos Rd., Artec, NN 87410

)ISTRICT IV :040 South Pacheco, Santa Fc, NM 87505

API Number

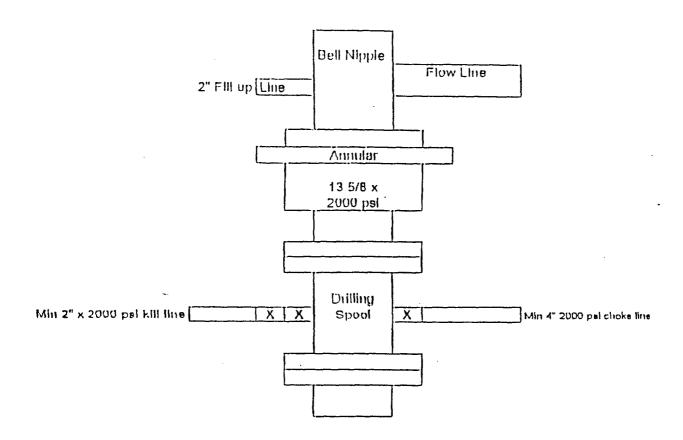
# OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION P.O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088

☐ AMENDED REPORT

# WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT

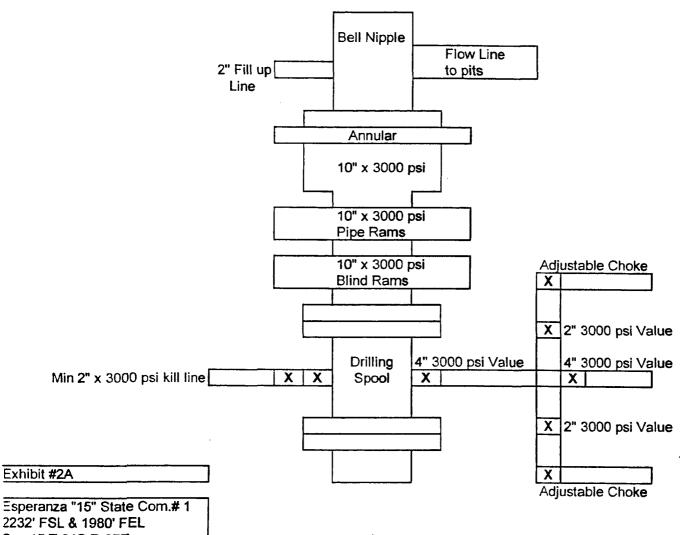
Pool Code

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					Surface Lo				
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L or lot No.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/Vest line	County
Dedicated Acres	Joint o	or Infill (	Consolidation	Code Or	der No.		<u>.</u>		
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Mewbourne Oil Company

Exhibit #2
Schematic of BOP for Intermediate Hole



Esperanza "15" State Com.# 1 2232' FSL & 1980' FEL Sec.15 T-21S R-27E Eddy, County New Mexico

#### GEOLOGICAL RECOMMENDATION

Mewbourne Oil Company #1 Esparanza "15" State Com. Sec. 15 – T21S – R27E Eddy Co., New Mexico

The Proposed Location is located 2232' FSL & 1980' FEL of the section. This location, as compared to the Standard Location, will allow for greater sand thickness in the primary Morrow producing zones, as well as an optimum structural position.

The two primary Morrow producing zones in the vicinity of the Proposed Location are the Middle Morrow Blue and Lower Morrow Orange sands. Both of these zones produce alone, as well as commingled with other Morrow sands in a number of offsetting wells. Production from offsetting wells range from 5.0 - .5 BCFEG, with the higher production volumes relating to greater sand thickness as well as higher structural positioning.

In the Lower Morrow Orange zone, the Proposed Location will encounter a greater gross and net sand thickness than the Standard Location. Additionally the Proposed Location will have a structural position high or flat to the Standard Location, which is significantly important in this area due to nearby down dip water production from the Lower Morrow Orange zone.

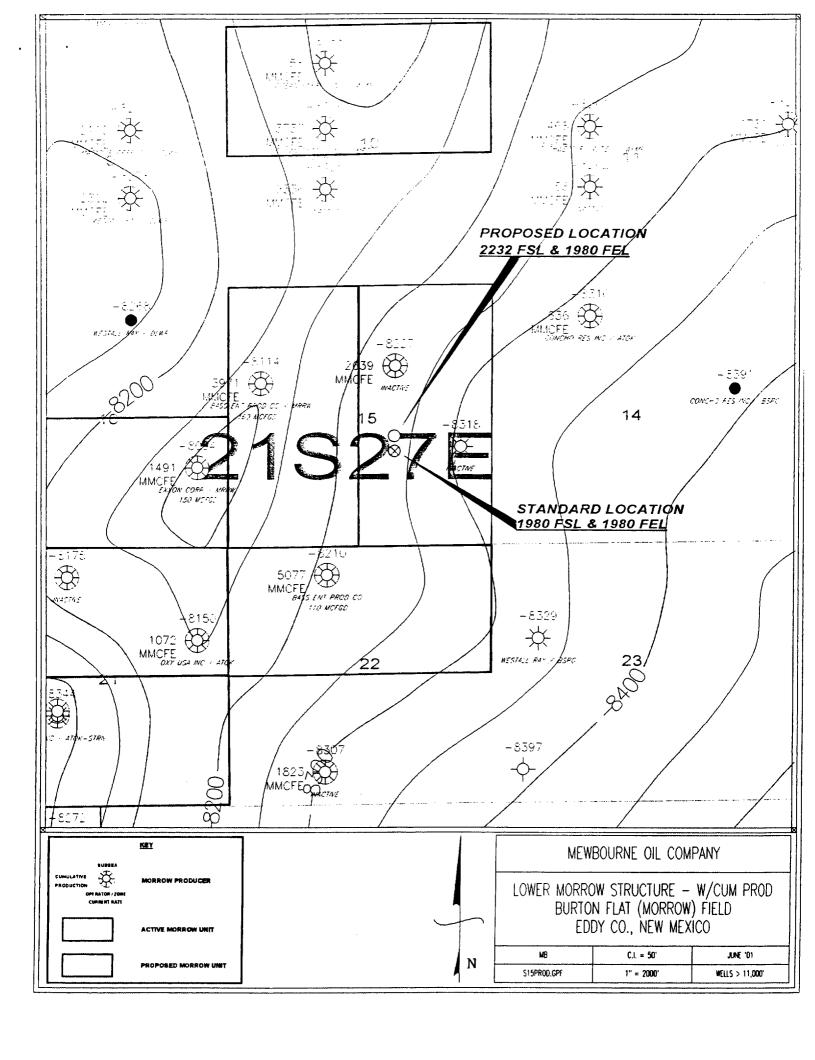
In the Middle Morrow Blue zone, the Proposed Location will encounter the same gross and net sand thick nesses as the Standard Location. This location will have a structural position high or flat to the Standard Location.

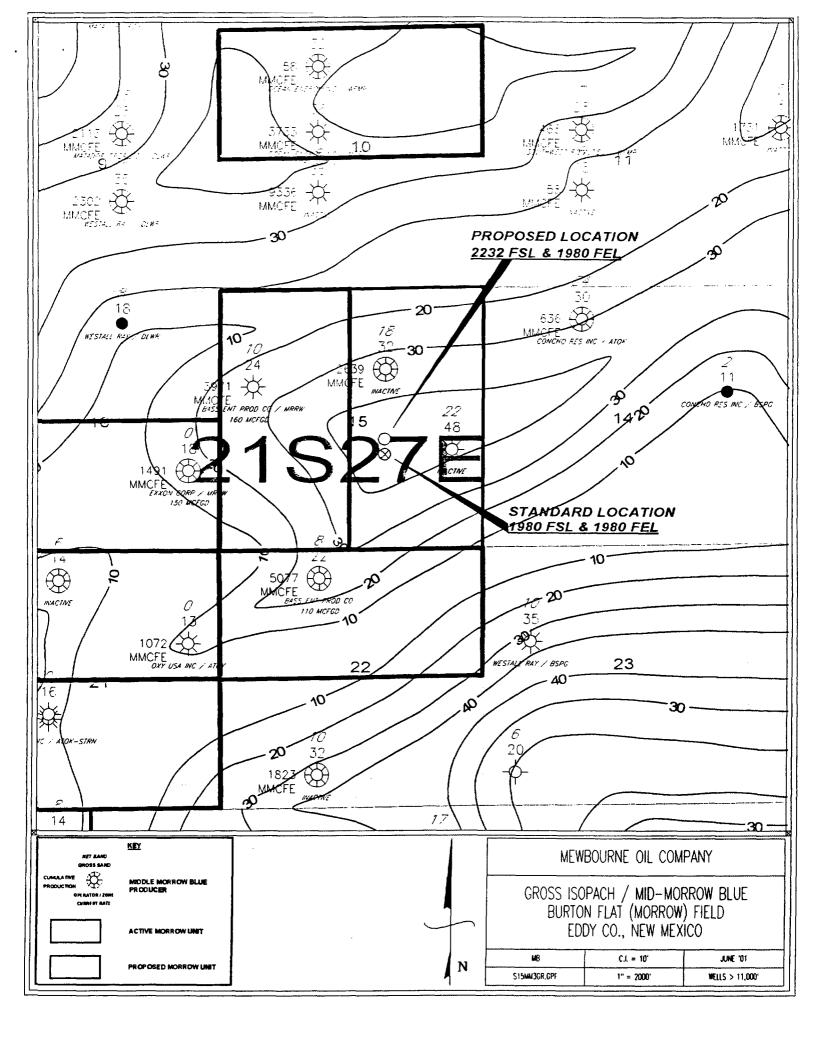
It is also my observation that the Proposed Location is geologically preferable to any other possible locations to the south and east within Section 15, as these will encounter the Morrow at a lower structural position.

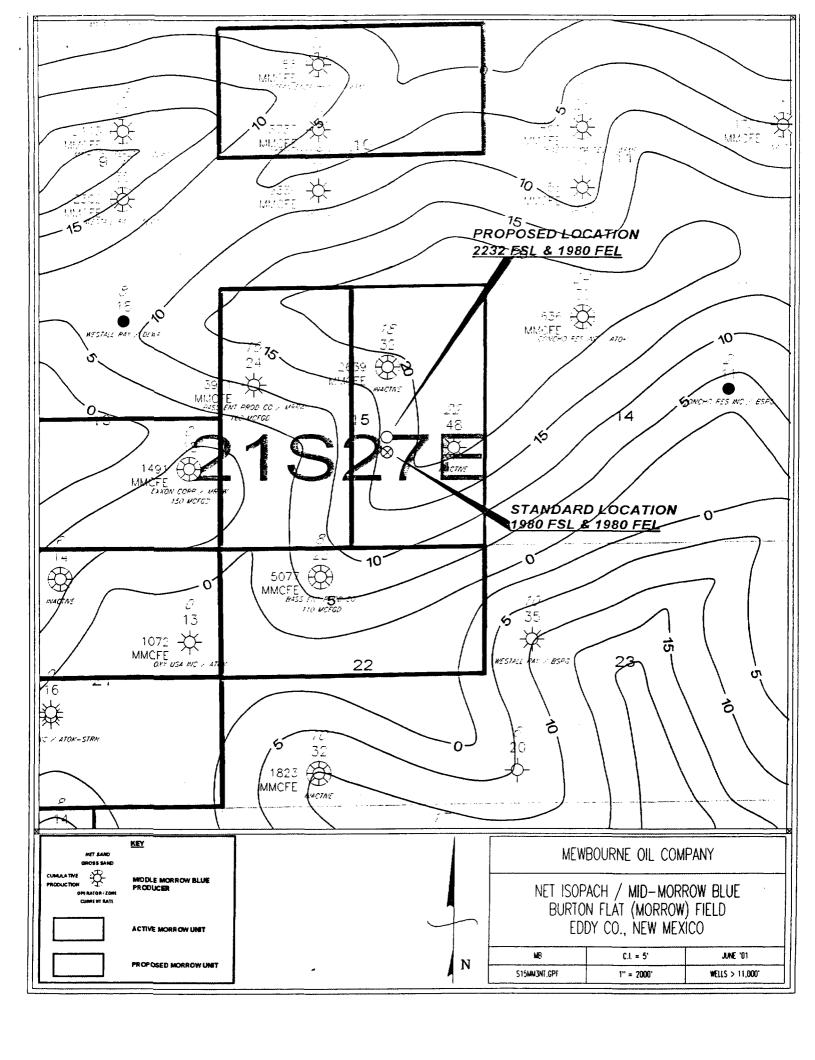
Mike Burke

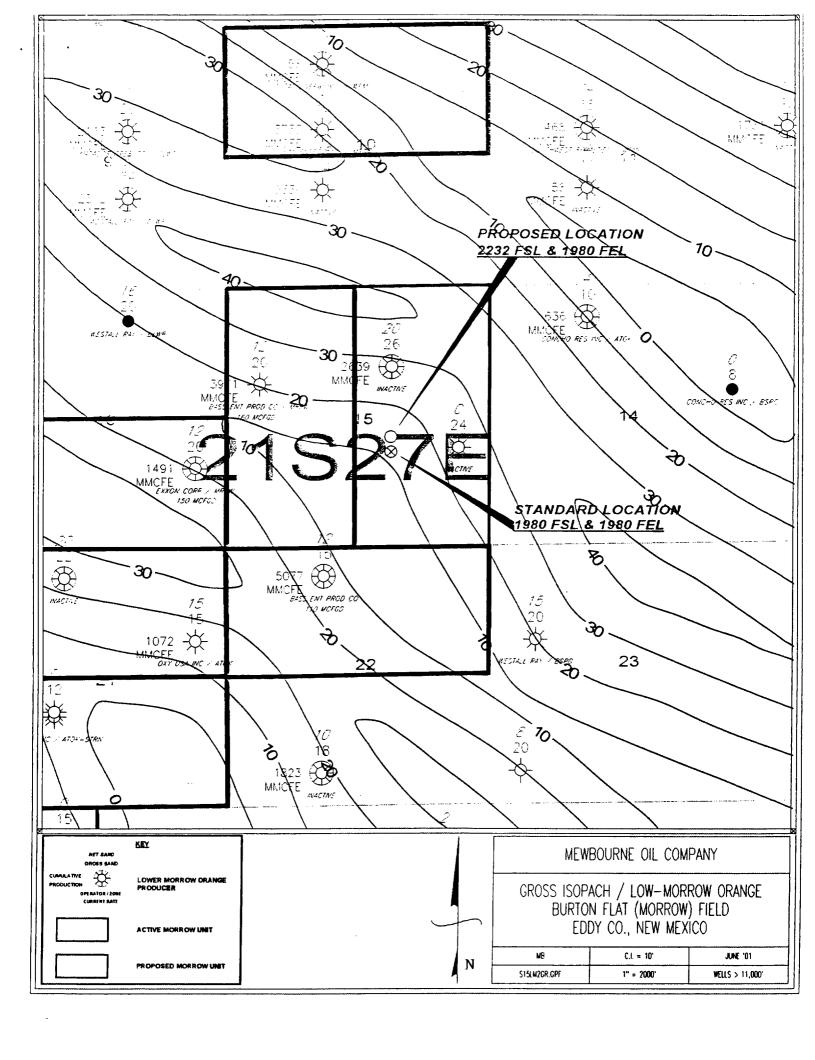
Petroleum Geologist Mewbourne Oil Company

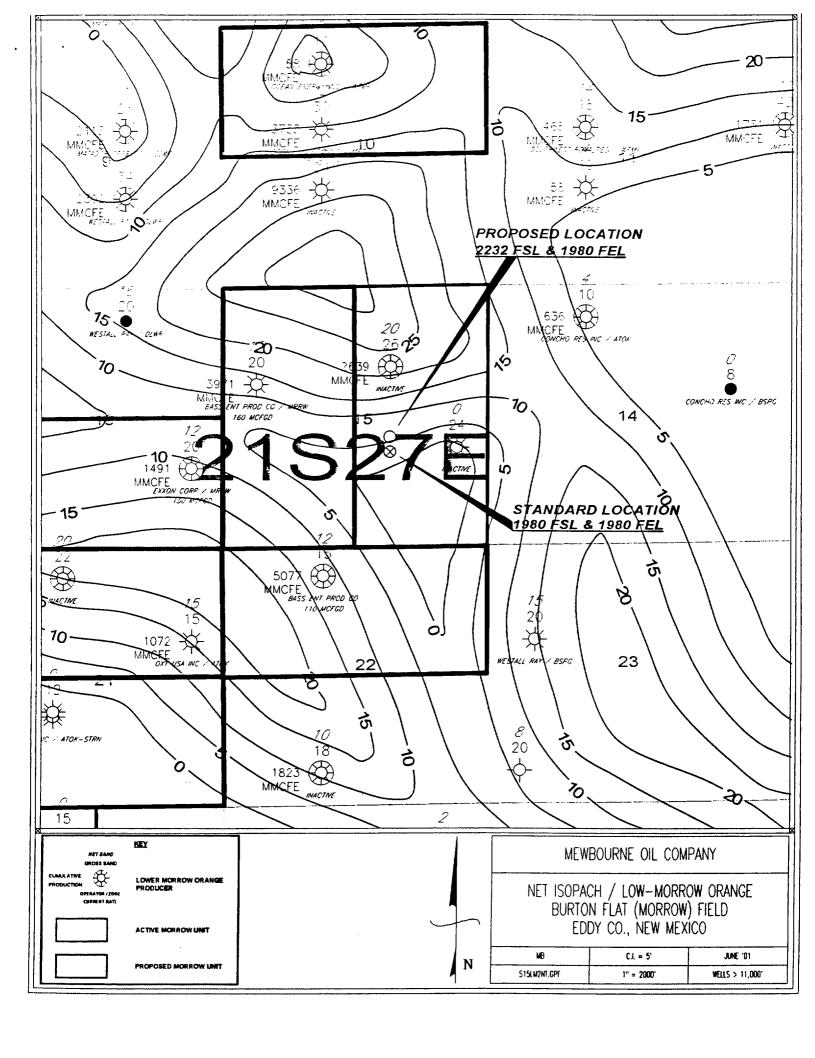




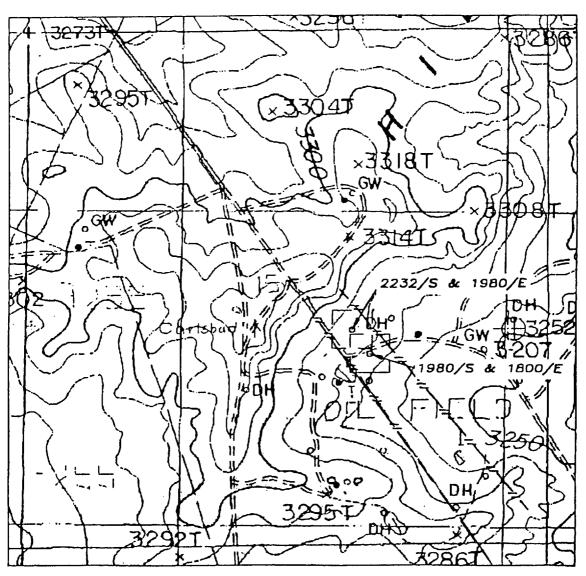






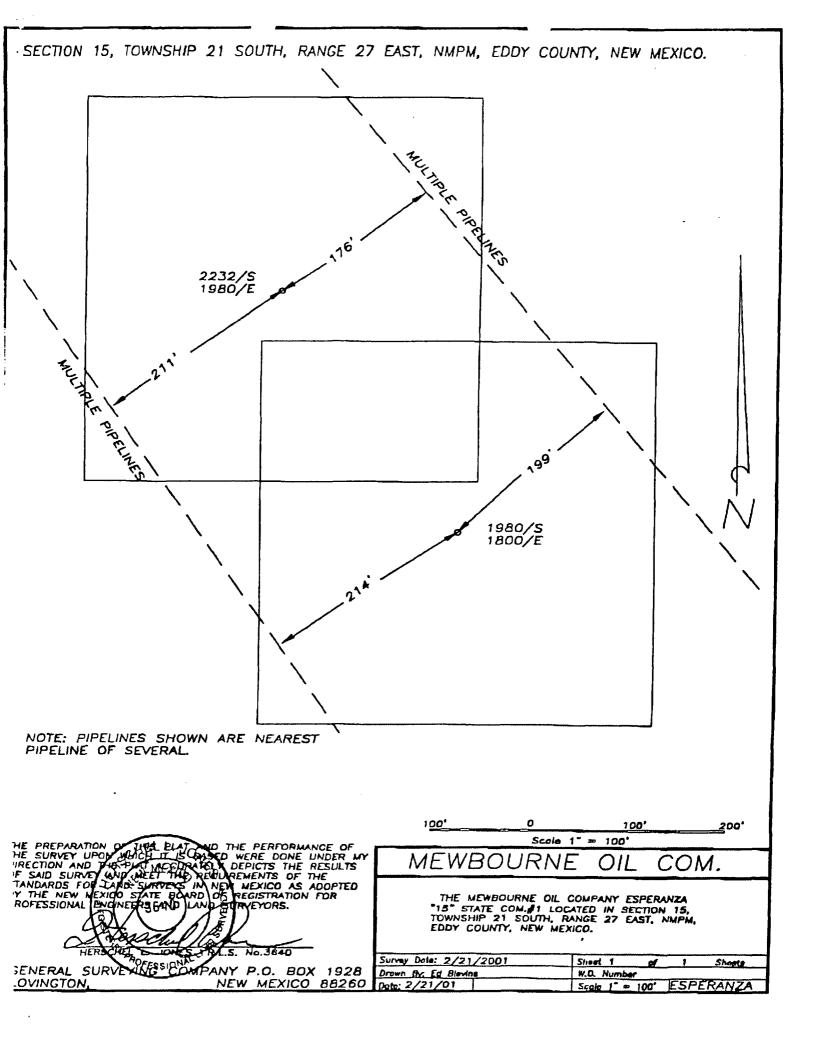


SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 21 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST, NMPM, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.





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# **PECOS**

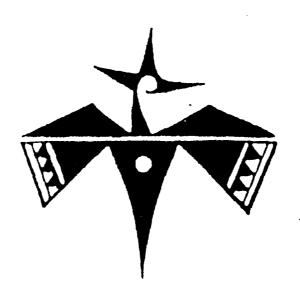
ARCHEOLOGICAL

CONSULTANTS

P.O. BOX 1771

CARLSBAD, NM 88221

Esp. 15



Archeological Clearance Report
for Mewbourne Oli Company, Inc.'s
Proposed Esperanza "15" State Com No. 1
Situated on State of K.M. Lands (BLM minerals) in Eddy County, N.M.
PAC Report No. 01008
NMCRIS No. 73810



# TITLE PAGE/ABSTRACT/ NEGATIVE SITE REPORT ROSWELL DISTRICT

#### BLM/ RDO 1/95

- 1. BLM Report No.
- 2. (ACCEPTED) (REJECTED)
- 3. NMCRIS No. 73813
- 4. Title of Report (Project Title): Mewbourne Oil Company's Proposed Esperanza "15" State Com No. 1
- 5. Project Date(s): 02MAR01-08MAR01
- 6. Report Date: 8 March, 2001
- 7. Consultant Name & Address: Pecos Archeological Consultants, P.O. Box 1771, Carlsbad, N.M.

Direct Charge: ROBERT J. MARTIN

Name: PAC, CARLSBAD, NM

Address: P.O. Box 1771, Carlsbad, NM 88220 Authors Name: ROBERT J. MARTIN field personnel names: Robert J. Martin

Phone (505-887-7029)

- 8. Permit No.: BLM Survey Permit No. 6-2920-01
- 9. Consultant Report No.: 01008

10. Sponsor Name and Address: Indiv. Responsible: Mr. F.C. Lathan Name: Mewbourne Oil Company Address: P.O. Box 5270

Hobbs, NM 88241 Phone 393-5905

- 11. For BLM Use only.
- 12. ACREAGE:

Total No. of acres surveyed: 11.01

# SURFACE OWNERSHIP

State\_11.01\_\_\_\_, Private, \_\_\_\_ Federal , \_\_\_ ACRES NOTE: 11.01 acres Federal Minerals

13. Location: (Maps Attached if negative survey):

First Staking: SW1/4 SE1/4, Section 15, T21S, R27E, NMPM, Eddy County, N.M. Second Staking: NW1/4 SE1/4, Section 15, T21S, R27E, NMPM, Eddy County, N.M. Third Staking: NW1/4 SE1//4, Section 15, T21S, R27E, NMPM, Eddy County, N.M.

- a. State: NM b. County, Eddy
- c. District: Roswell, Carlsbad Field Office D. nearest city or Town: Carlsbad, NM

e.

Area, Linear: N/A

Actual Area Surveyed: N/A

Area, Block: 4 ea. 400' X 400'

Actual Area Surveyed: 4 ea. 400' X 400'

f. Footages: 1st Staking: 660' FSL, 1800' FEL

2nd Staking: 1980' FSL, 1800' FEL 3rd Staking: 2232' FSL, 1980' FEL

- g. Quad. name and Code: USGS Carlsbad East Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series, 1985, 32104-D2
- 14. a. Literature Search: Location: BLM

Date: 2 March, 2001

Comments: NONE within 1/4 mile of project area

- b. Description of Undertaking: Three stakings of 1 drill location. The first encountered a site, and two alternatives were chosen. See enclosed plats.
  - c. Environmental Setting (NRCS soil designation; vegetative community; etc.: See report text

d. Field Methods: Transect Intervals: 15 M Crew Size: 1 (archeologist) Time in Field: 3 hrs. Collections: None

- 15. Cultural Resource Findings: One new archeological site, LA 132048, and 1 isolated manifestation were recorded as a result of the survey; see formal report text
  - a. Identification and Description: See text of formal report

16. Management Summary: See "RECOMMENDATIONS" portion of formal text of the report I certify that the information provided above is correct and accurate and meets all appreciable BLM standards.

Responsible Archaeologist: signature

# INTRODUCTION

On February 22, 2001, Pecos Archeological Consultants was requested by Mr. F.C. Lathan, representing Mewbourne Oil Company, to perform the archeological survey for a drill location and two alternate drill locations situated on State of New Mexico lands (BLM minerals) Eddy County, New Mexico. This project is administered by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Carlsbad, N.M.Field Office, and requirements are that an intensive archeological inventory be performed to identify what cultural resources might be affected by construction activities prior to granting clearance for the development. Therefore, Pecos Archeological Consultants undertook this survey on 2 and 3 March, 2001. Fieldwork for this project was performed by Robert J. Martin. The following is a report of the field activities and findings resulting from the survey.

# SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Pecos Archeological Consultants conducted this survey by physically examining the entire 400ft X 400ft impact zones which will result from the planned construction. Pedestrian inspection along parallel and zig-zag transects were accomplished across the three staked drill locations. These transects were spaced 15 meters apart; however, established transects were departed from to examine nearby areas of high site probability. All prominent deflations, subsidence structures, and denuded areas were given special attention. This project was conducted on one overcast and one sunny day. Surface visibility in the region, which, due to floral cover, ranged between 35-75% of the ground under dry soil conditions, made this the most practical methodology for effectively sampling the impact zones which will result from this project as planned.

#### THAN TAYANIATINA

The project area is situated three miles Northeast of Carlsbad, N.M., and North of Carlsbad's Loop-Bypass. The terrain is typically undulating to rolling and characterized with alluvial hills and drainages attendant to these. Lower areas at the base of these hills are subject to rapid runoff and flooding. The immediate project areas are situated on a hilltop and bottom. Soils are composed of those of the Reagan-Upton soil association, or loamy, deep soils that are derived from old alluvia. Screes, exposures, and inclusions of Ogallalan gravels can be seen on the lower, slopewashed area of the project area, but most of the material, because of size and texture, is not suitable for lithic tool manufacture.

Plants growing there include an overstory of hackberry, juniper, acacia, and Crown of thorns. Understory includes cacti and winter-dessicated grasses. The upper project area is characterized by dunes, which appear to be of recent origin (microrelief, 0.25-0.50). Elevation in the project area is approximately 3260-3290 ft above sea level.

#### LOCATIONAL DATA

- 1. Mewbourne Oil Company's proposed drill location, designated as the Esperanza "15" State Com No. 1, will measure 400 ft X 400 ft, or an area of 3.67 acres. The bore hole will will be situated 660 ft from the South Line and 1800 ft from the East Line, or in the: SW1/4 SE1/4, Section 15, T21S, R27E, NMPM, Eddy Co., N.M.
- 2. As an archeological site, LA 132048, was located on the previously-mentioned staking, two alternates were staked:

The second staking, also designated as the Esperanza "15" State Com No. 1, will measure 400 ft X 400 ft, or an area of 3.67 acres. The second staking will be situated 1980 ft from the South Line and 1800 ft from the East Line, or in the:

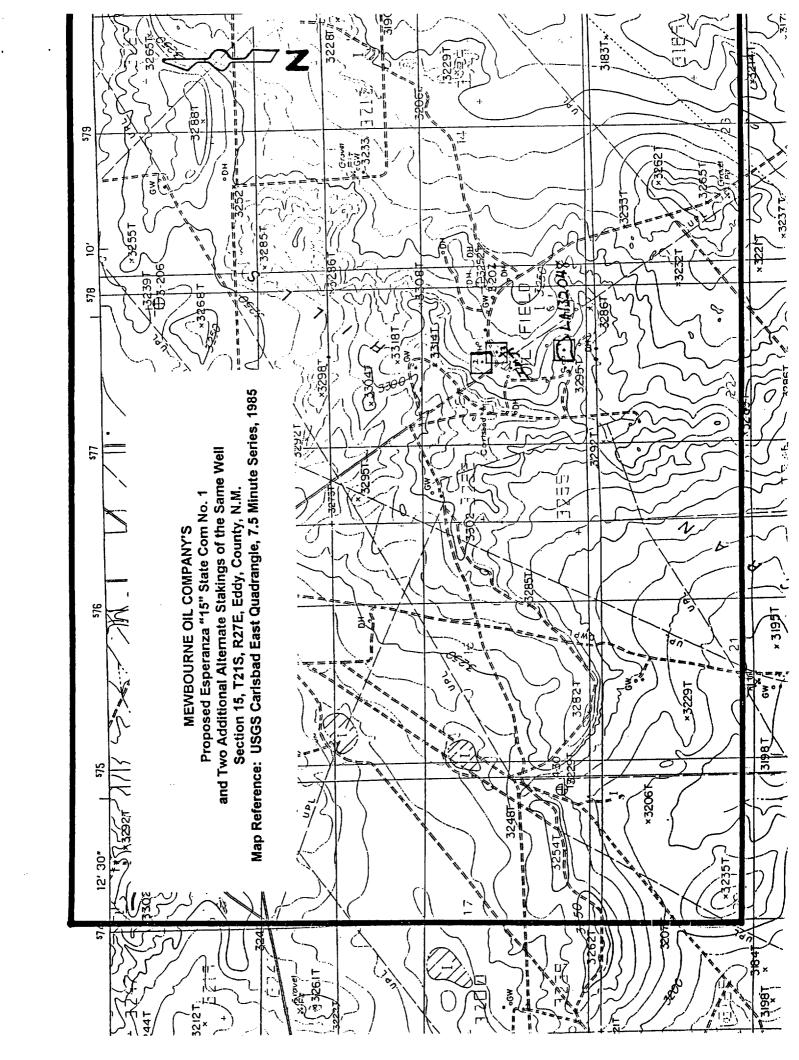
NW1/4 SE1/4, Section 15, T21S, R27E, NMPM, Eddy Co., N.M.

SW1/4 SE1/4, Section 2, T17S, R31E, NMPM, Eddy Co., N.M.

3. The third staking, also designated as the Esperanza "15" State Com No. 1, will measure 400 ft X 400 ft, or an area of 3.67 acres. The location will be situated 2232 ft from the South Line and 1980 ft from the East Line, or in the:

NW1/4 SE1/4, Section 15, T21S, R27E, NMPM, Eddy County, N.M.

Map Reference: USGS Carlsbad East Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series, 1985



# ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

On 2 March, 2001, Pecos Archeological Consultants performed a literature search to determine if any archeological sites had already been recorded in the vicinity of the project area. Current ARMS files and the National Register of Historic Places were consulted in this endeavor. It was determined that no previously-recorded sites are located near the project area:

Observed Archeological Manifestations:

One new archeological site, LA 132048, was recorded on the first Esperanza staking. One isolated manifestation was recorded on the second staking:

# LA Site No. LA 132048

Location: NE1/4 SW1/4 SE1/4, SE1/4 SW1/4 SE1/4, section 15, T21S, R27E, NMPM, Eddy Co., N.M.

UTM Coordinates: Zone 13, N 3,594,150; E 577,600

Dimensions: 100 X 150 m

Temporality: Querecho and/or Maljamar Phases of the Jornada Mogollon, A.D. 650 - A.D. 1400

Elevation: 3290 ft above sea level

BLM Category: 2

Map Reference: USGS Carlsbad E Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series, 1985.

# Observations:

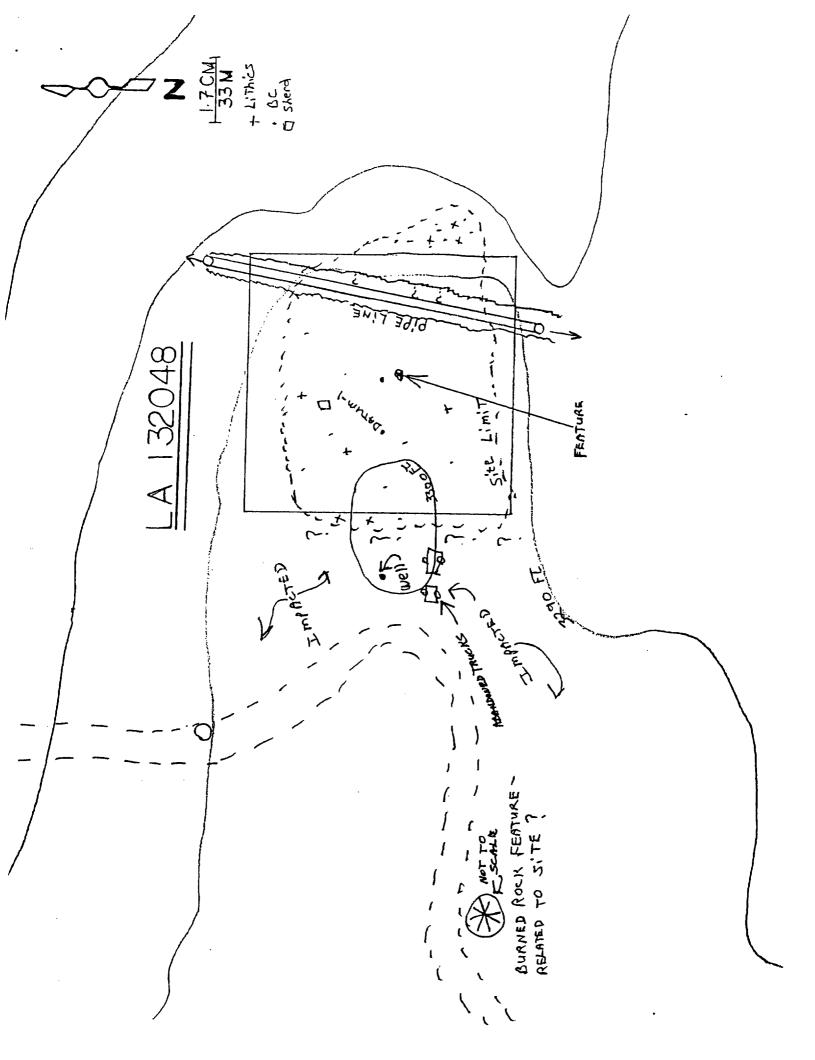
LA 132048 is located in the Alacran Hills, three mile Northeast of Carlsbad, N.M. The site area is set on an alluvial hill top, two miles East of Lone Tree Draw. The site is impacted to the East by a N/NW to S/SE pipeline and to the West (possibly) by established drill locations and an access road. Site aspect and orientation are problematic. Soils on the site are composed of deep, sandy loams in a dunal setting. These dunes may be of recent origin. Small Ogallalan pebbles and caliche are included in the soils, almost none of which is suitable for lithic tool manufacture; workable materials are available, however, on nearby slopes and in arroyos at the hill's pediment.

Flora on the site consists of Hackberry, juniper, acacia, crown of thorns, and desiccated grasses.

The cultural assemblage of LA 132048 consists of burned caliche, a surface lithic scatter, including a tool, features, and pottery. The lithic assemblage is represented by a very light scatter (20-30 pieces) of exclusively Ogallalan materials, except for one piece of Edwards' Plateau chert angular debris, which is known to be associated with Paleo cultural manifestations in the Trans-Pecos region; this material originates in Texas. As no other evidence of a Paleo occupation was seen on the site, there is a good possibility that the site's occupants brought the material in and re-utilized it. The remainder of the lithic assemblage consists of flakes of all reduction categories and two cores. A core chopper was also recorded on the site.

Features, were also recorded; these include a 0.5m X 0.5m located 25m SE of the center of the drill location (see site map), and an eroded hearth was also seen within 20m of the SE corner of the staked drill location. The burned rock is lightly scattered throughout the site and includes no more than 50 pieces.

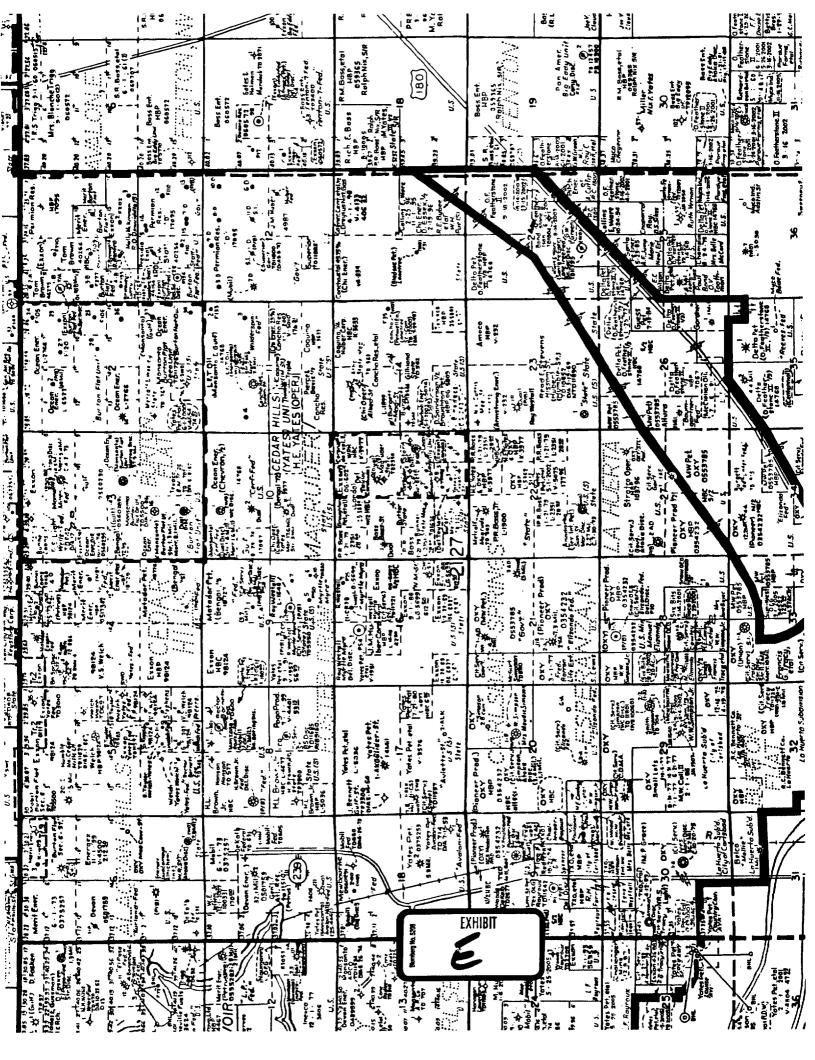
LA 132048 is a hunter-gatherer site on which locally available lithics were reduced for tool making and food was prepared for consumption. As the presence of subsurface archeological remains can not be ruled out without more extensive field work, neither can possible - but improbable - nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. According to the prehistoric site typology developed for the Roswell BLM District, this site would be termed a Type 2-A Temporary Camp Locale. Consulting archeologist recommended and client accepted that drill location should be moved.



#### KECUMIMENDATIONS

Due to the significant nature of cultural resources in the project area, Pecos Archeological Consultants is recommending clearance for this project, ONLY if the archeological site, LA 132048, is avoided. This can be accomplished by moving the well pad. In fact, two alternative stakings have been located, as a result of consultation with the archeological contractor, to at least 950 ft North.

Approval for these recommendations is subject to Bureau of Land Management determinations.



# North Esperanza "15" Prospect E/2 Section 15, T21S, R27E Eddy County, New Mexico

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Heyco, et al	50.0% 37.5% 12.5%
Below base of Yates to base of Morrow.	nrough
<del>¥</del> OG-2426-1	OG-5809-1 MOC 50.0% Heyco, et al 37.5% Tenison 12.5%
MOC 50.0% Heyco, et al 37.5%	Below Yates
Tenison 12.5%  Below base of Yates through base of Morrow.	V-5074 Marbob 100% WI 83.3% NRI All depths Exp. 5-1-02



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JAMES BRUCE ATTORNEY AT LAW

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POST OFFICE BOX 1056 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504

3304 CAMINO LISA HYDE PARK ESTATES SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

(505) 982-2043 (505) 982-2151 (FAX)

October 5, 2001

# Hand Delivered

Lori Wrotenbery Oil Conservation Commission 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

> Re: Case No. 12698 de novo; application of Mewbourne Oil Company ("Mewbourne") for compulsory pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico

To be heard de novo at the request of Harvey E. Yates Company and Jalapeno Corporation

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

Enclosed are (1) five copies of Mewbourne's pre-hearing statement, and (2) five sets of Mewbourne's exhibits.

Very truly yours,

lames Bruce

Attorney for Mewbourne Oil Company

cc: Michael H. Feldewert Stephen C. Ross

# STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION () | OCT -5 PH 2:53

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

APPLICATION OF MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

Case No. 12,698 (de novo)

#### PRE-HEARING STATEMENT

This pre-hearing statement is submitted by Mewbourne Oil Company as required by the Oil Conservation Commission.

#### APPEARANCES

APPLICANT Mewbourne Oil Company Suite 1020 500 West Texas Midland, Texas 79701

Attention: D. Paul haden (505) 682-3715

OPPONENT Harvey E. Yates Company and Jalapeno Corporation

APPLICANT'S ATTORNEY James Bruce Post Office Box 1056 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 (505) 982-2043

OPPONENT'S ATTORNEY Michael H. Feldewert

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

#### APPLICANT

Mewbourne Oil Company seeks an order pooling all mineral interests from the base of the Yates formation to the base of the Morrow formation underlying the following described acreage in Section 15, Township 21 South, Range 27 East, NMPM:

- the E½ of Section 15 to form a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 320-acre spacing;
- the SE% of Section 15 to form a standard 160-acre gas spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 160-acre spacing; and
- (c) the NW\SE\% of Section 15 to form a standard 40-acre oil spacing and proration unit for any and all formations and/or pools developed on 40-acre spacing.

The units are to be dedicated to Mewbourne's Esperanza "15" St. Com. Well No. 1, to be drilled at an unorthodox gas well location 2232 feet from the south line and 1980 feet from the east line of Section 15.

Upon information and belief, Harvey E. Yates Company and Jalapeno Corporation (collectively, "HEYCO") do not contest the well location and Mewbourne as operator.

There appear to three issues raised by HEYCO:

- (1) <u>Depths being pooled</u>: Mewbourne has requested that all depths from the base of the Yates formation to the base of the Morrow formation. HEYCO apparently contends that only the primary zone, or depths below the base of the Wolfcamp formation, should be pooled. Mewbourne's request is based on well economics. In addition, Division and Commission policy has been to pool all zones rather than selected zones. Mewbourne submits that granting HEYCO's request will result in unnecessary delay and expense when force pooled wells are completed in an uphole zone at a later date.
- (2) <u>Good faith negotiations</u>: Mewbourne has conducted ongoing negotiations with the interest owners, even after entry of the Division's order, and has negotiated in good faith.
- (3) Risk Penalty: At the Examiner hearing, HEYCO questioned the 200% risk penalty. Mewbourne will present evidence that the maximum risk penalty should apply in this case.

In addition, the election period under the Division's order has expired, and no additional election period should be granted to the non-consenting interest owners.

#### OPPONENT

#### PROPOSED EVIDENCE

#### APPLICANT

<u>WITNESSES</u> D. Paul Haden (landman)	EST. TIME 20 min.	EXHIBITS seven
Mike Burke (geologist)	20 min.	eight
Bryan Montgomery (engineer)	20 min.	one

WITNESSES

EST. TIME

EXHIBITS

#### PROCEDURAL MATTERS

-None-

Respectfully submitted,

James Brude

**P**ost Office Box 1056

🛱 anta Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-2043

Attorney for Mewbourne Oil Company

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Pre-Hearing Statement was served upon the following counsel this 50 day of October, 2001 in the manner noted below:

By U.S. Mail
Michael H. Feldewert
Holland & Hart LLP and Campbell & Carr
Post Office Box 2208
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

By Hand Delivery

Stephen C. Ross

Oil Conservation Commission 120 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

James Bruce