



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

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May 30, 1980

Bennett Petroleum Corporation
1776 Lincoln Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

Subject: Abandoned Wells
Phelps Dodge #2, #3, #3-Y,
and #5, Colfax County,
New Mexico

Gentlemen:

Inspections of the subject locations have been made periodically, most recently on 2/6/80, 3/19/80, and 5/27/80. It should be noted that Well Nos. 3 and 3-Y reached their present depths more than one and one-half years ago. Both of these locations were proposed for plugging (by Forms C-103) more than four months ago. It is apparent that this plugging for abandonment has not been done. Furthermore, the No. 3 well has been leaking gas from the annulus of the 10 3/4" casing and the 6 1/4" casing for at least six months and notices of this condition have been called (via telephone) to your office several times-- most recently on 3/21/80.

Well No. 5 appears to have been abandoned since 1/8/80, and Well No. 2 since 2/9/80. Apparently some plugging was done on the No. 2, although the plugging for abandonment has not been completed. Both of these locations are in bad condition, particularly at Well No. 2 where caving poses a hazard as do the open oily pits. If the pits at these locations are not covered in the immediate future, then the sites should be fenced. This is standard procedure and is cheap insurance against lawsuits.

Presumably you are aware that a well in this state must be properly plugged for abandonment within sixty days after drilling ceases. It is obvious that all of the foregoing wells are overdue for plugging. Please give this matter your immediate consideration.

Yours truly,

CARL ULVOG
District IV Supervisor

CU/og
encl.