

H. W. ETZ, JR.

2228222
ROSWELL, N. M.

511 H. Lea.

RECEIVED
Sept 25/61.

SEP 27 1961

Mr. R. S. Norris
Special Assistant
Attorney General

Re: Rice Etz & Powell
H. C. Whit C, Tap 14
Artesia, Rge 25 E. Sec 14.
Chaves Co. N.M.

Dear Mr. Morris;

In reply to your letter of Aug. 24th. 1961 in regard to the above captioned well, I take exception to your requirement that the well be redrilled and plugged under Mr. Armstrong supervision, it would cost at least \$750.00, and possibly more, when affidavits by men who did the plugging will verify the well is properly plugged, the pipe was set thru the Artesian water zone 150 sacks of cement were circulated to the surface and the hole below the pipe was filled up into the pipe with cement upon completion as a dry hole. The well was completed at night, Mr. Armstrong's office was closed, Mr. Peters of Peters Drilling Co. had to move on another location the following morning to save an expiring lease, and the mud was left in the hole to the surface.

The final plugging report with the sample log was sent to the Oil & Gas Conservation Office in Artesia July 10th. 1961, Mr. Armstrong maintains that it was not received, yet it had my return address, not hearing from Mr. Armstrong I presumed the matter closed.

Your letter of the 24th. of Aug. forty five days latter, came as a surprise though Mr. Armstrong had talked to Mr. Peters and Jim Wright of the Artesian Water Board in regard to the plugging of the well, he never called or notified me, which in my opinion is evidence of the fact that the report of the final plugging report and the log of the well was received in his office. Though I am in error of one regulation, that of not notifying his office in advance, in other instances in the past where they have been called, they have never put in an appearance, after telling you how they wanted it plugged.

I know that this well is properly plugged, I've been in the oil business in N.M. since 1925 and have plugged many wells and have complied with the law and regulations, therefore, I ask in all due respect to you and your office that this order be rescinded or a hearing be granted so that the actual facts may be presented for your consideration. Again let me state that the oil zone and the shallow and Artesian water zones are fully protected and no intent to break any of the regulations were ever intentionally or willfully intended.

Respectfully,

CC. Robert V. Ely
Hinkle Bldg
Roswell N.M.
G. B. Armstrong
Draw DD
Artesia N.M.

H. W. Etz Jr.