

July 11, 1949

Mr. W. H. Collins  
Sheriff, Curry County  
Clovis, New Mexico

Dear Sir:

I am writing you with reference to a letter addressed to you from the State of New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission on July 5, 1949, which is signed by Mr. R. R. Spurrier, Secretary and Director.

As set out in the second paragraph of Mr. Spurrier's letter, Mr. Roy Yarbrough ordered us to cease drilling operations in the afternoon of June 9, 1949 because I had not complied with all of their rules and regulations. Immediately upon being notified of orders to cease operations, I contacted Mr. R. R. Spurrier by telephone at his residence in Santa Fe, New Mexico and he advised me that as much as he would like to permit me to resume operations that it would be impossible to rescind the orders of the office of Mr. Yarbrough at Hobbs, New Mexico but that if I could make it satisfactory with the Hobbs office that it would be okay with him. I then called Mr. Yarbrough at Hobbs and since he did not have a telephone I talked with a representative of the Commission office named Mr. Sweeney and he said it would be okay to resume operations provided I would give him an "Oklahoma Guarantee" that I would have a representative in his office on the morning of June 10th to comply with the rules and regulations required by the Conservation Commission. In compliance with my promise to Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Paul D. Beaird, 1323 South Montreal, Dallas, Texas, who works with me, was present and filed all of the forms as requested by Mr. Yarbrough. With this permission and having given my assurance that we would comply with the rules and regulations required by the Conservation Commission, I attempted to contact Mr. H. F. Smith, Superintendent of Drilling for the Western Drilling Company at Melrose, New Mexico to tell him that I had secured permission to resume operations. Not being able to contact him by telephone I called Mr. Ray DeGraffenreid, Deputy Sheriff at Melrose and explained to him that I was unable to contact Mr. Smith and that it would be a great favor to me if he would go out and locate Mr. Smith and convey the message to him that I wanted him to resume operations.

As you know, Mr. DeGraffenreid has a substantial interest in this well not only because it is in his territory but he and his family have more than 1300 acres of land which would be affected by the outcome of this well and because of my acquaintance with him and his interest