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NMAS



New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc.

P. O. Box 1341 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 (505) 887-7646

Reconnaissance Excavation Analysis Explanation Curation Mr. B

Curation Mr. Bill Cozart District Operations Superintendent HAMON OPERATING COMPANY P.O. Box 5025 Midland, Texas 79704-5025

Dear Mr. Cozart:

Enclosed please find NMAS' Archaeological Clearance Report for HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's proposed Davis Federal Well No. 3 flow line and power line in Section 13, T17S, R38E, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico. No cultural resources were recorded during these surveys; therefore, NMAS is <u>sug</u>gesting clearance for these surveys.

If you have any questions pertaining to this report, please call my office. Thank you for asking NMAS to do these surveys.

Nours sincerely, laskell doring

Dr. J. Loring Haskell Principal Investigator

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Mark Calamia, BLM, Carlsbad Mr. Thomas W. Merlan, SHPO, Santa Fe

as

Archaeological Clearance Report

for

HAMON OPERATING COMPANY

Flow Line Power Line (Davis Federal Well No. 3)

Prepared

Ву

Dr. J. Loring Haskell

Submitted

Ву

Dr. J. Loring Haskell Principal Investigator New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc. Carlsbad, New Mexico

27 February 1987

Permit No. 14-2920-87-F

Report Number: NMAS-1987-11-F

ABSTRACT

New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc., representing HAMON OPERATING COMPANY, Midland, undertook a Class III survey of Bureau of Land Management lands scheduled to be impacted by the construction of a flow line and power line. Field work was conducted under fog and low clouds with moderate winds during early afternoon. The proposed flow line will measure 100 X 2068.5 ft (actual area surveyed 4.74 acres). The power line will measure 100 X 699.3 ft (acreage included with flow line). Total acreage 4.75 acres. They will be situated in Section 13, T17S, R38E, NMPM, Lea County, New mexico. No cultural properties were recorded during these surveys; therefore, NMAS is <u>suggesting</u> clearance for HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's proposed work.

Introduction

On 25 February 1987, New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc., (NMAS), Carlsbad, undertook for HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's Midland, an archaeological survey of federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in Lea County, New Mexico. The reconnoitered easement will be impacted by the construction of flow line and power line. This project was advanced by Mr. Bill Cozart, District Operations Superintendent, HAMON OPERATING COMPANY, and administered by Dr. J. Loring Haskell, Principal Investigator, NMAS, Inc. These surveys were undertaken by Dr. Haskell. Field work was conducted under fog and low clouds with moderate winds during early afternoon. Ground visibility ranges up to 90%. Field time one hour.

Survey Technique

For this investigation, HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's proposed flow line and power line were investigated for evidence of man's past activities by walking them in two, 35 ft wide, close interval (15° or less), zigzag transects. Methodologically, these procedures served to promote optimal conditions for the visual examination of the area to be impacted by construction-related activities.

Davis Federal Well No. 3 Flow Line

Location

As proposed, HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's easement will measure 100 X 2068.5 ft (actual area surveyed 4.75 acres) on federal lands and will be situated in the: NE¹/₂SE¹/₄, Section 13, T17S, R38E, NMPM, Lea County, NM SE¹/₄NE¹/₄, Section 13, T17S, R38E, NMPM, Lea County, NM NE¹/₄NE¹/₄, Section 13, T17S, R38E, NMPM, Lea County, NM UTM: Beginning Zone 13, N3,634,220; E678,295 Ending Zone 13, N3,634,800; E678,420 Map Reference: USGS HUMBLE CITY SE QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute

Series, 1969.

The proposed easement has been impacted on the south by a cultivated field.

Terrain

HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's proposed easement will traverse a gently undulating landform which in its broader context is coextensive with the Llano Estacado. Locally, the coeval surface is characterized by regular occurrences of subsidence structures which act as receptacles for areal drainage. Soil individuals are composed of clay loams and sandy clay loams. Light caliche screes occur near rim areas of areal basins. <u>Croute calcaire</u> underlies the surface at variable depths. Taxonomically, soil individuals fall within the Petrocalcic Calciustoll and Aridic Calciustoll subgroups/Kimbrough- Portales series. Elevated areas are subject to sheetwash with runoff being tributary to areal depressions. Water is universally scarce owing to the Karst nature of the landform; nevertheless, runoff does collect in subsidence structures following locally heavy rainfall. Elevation ranges between 3675 and 3685 ft.

Floristics

Local soils are supportive of a grassland- type, vegetative, floral community. Major grasses are <u>Bouteloua</u> sp., <u>Hilaria</u> <u>mutica</u> and <u>Buchloe dactyloides</u>. Forbs, while still mostly browned



and desiccated, include <u>Gutierrezia sarothrae</u>, locally omnipresent, <u>Erodium cicutarium</u>, <u>Oenothera</u> sp., <u>Solanum elaeagni-</u> <u>folium</u>, <u>Salsola kali</u> and unidentified members of the Compositae. The overstory is limited to <u>Yucca glauca</u> and invasive <u>Ulmus</u> sp. Cultural Resources

Prefield 25 February 1987, Arita K. Slate, no archaeological sites.

No cultural properties were recorded during the course of this survey. Reasons cited for their absence include dearths of siliceous lithic sources, the openness of the landform itself, and the paucity of potable water. Land usage throughout prehistory should have centered on hunting- and hunting-related activities. Temporally, actual utilization by the native peoples dates back to at least Paleoindian times, circa 12,000 B.P. Recommendations

NMAS recommends clearance for HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's Davis Federal Well No. 3 flow line and <u>suggests</u> that work-related activities proceed in accordance with company plans (Fig. 1). Clearance, of course, is granted by the Bureau of Land Management. If cultural resources are encountered during construction, the BLM and NMAS should be notified immediately. Duned settings are notorious for covering and uncovering cultural properties.

> Davis Federal Well No. 3 Power Line

Location

As proposed, HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's easement will measure 100 X 699.3 ft (acreage included with flow line) on federal lands and will be situated in the:





NE¹/₄SE¹/₄, Section 13, T17S, R38E, NMPM, Lea County, NM
UTM: Beginning Zone 13, N3,634,220; E678,295 Ending Zone 13, N3,634,390; E678,350
Map Reference: USGS HUMBLE CITY SE QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1969.

The proposed easement has been impacted by a cultivated field. Terrain

HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's proposed easement will cross the south-facing slope of an extensive collapse structure. Subject to sheetwash, drainage is toward the south. Surficial deposits are composed of heavy, non-calcareous, clay loams which generally lack lithic inclusions. <u>Croute calcaire</u>, while underlying surficial deposits, occurs well below the coeval surface. Soil individuals fall within the Petrocalcic Calciustoll subgroup/Kimbrough series. Water is locally scarce and limited to runoff in areal subsidence structure. Elevation is approximately 3675 ft.

Floristics

Grasses predominate locally and include <u>Bouteloua</u> spp., <u>Hilaria mutica</u> and <u>Buchloe dactyloides</u>. Forbs, limited to those occurred on disturbed surfaces, include <u>Salsola kali</u>, <u>Solanum</u> <u>elaeagnifolium</u>, <u>Erodium circutarium</u>, <u>Oenothera</u> sp. and unidentified members of the Compositae. Associated soils have been recently cultivated.

Cultural Resources

Prefield 25 February 1987, Arita K. Slate, no archaeological sites. No cultural properties were recorded during the course of this survey. Reasons cited for their absence include dearths of siliceous lithic material, the extreme openness of the landform itself, and a scanty supply of water. Combined these deficiencies limited land usage to ephemeral pursuits such as hunting. Principal mammalian forms taken in the past included <u>Lepus, Sylvilagus, Antilocapra, Odocoileus</u> and <u>Bison</u>. Recommendations

NMAS recommends clearance for HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's Davis Federal Well No. 3 power line and <u>suggests</u> that work-related activities proceed in accordance with company plans (Fig. 2). Clearance, of course, is granted by the Bureau of Land Management. If cultural resources are encountered during construction, the BLM and NMAS should be notified immediately.



Fig. 2. USGS HUMBLE CITY SE QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1;24,000, 1969, showing HAMON OPERATING COMPANY's proposed Davis Federal Well No. 3/power line crossing federal land in Section 13, T17S, R38E, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico.