



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ed Guynn, District Engineer
FROM: Mark H. Christensen
DATE: December 11, 1979
SUBJECT: Unidentified Well Near Ute Tribal 34-1; Sec. 34, T. 3S, R. 5W;
Lease No. 14-20-462-614

RECEIVED

MAR 27 1980

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

The above referenced well was brought to the attention of the Vernal office by Terry Larson, Park Ranger at Starvation Reservoir.

Periodic inspections were made of the well. Each time the well was inspected, water was flowing into drainage that eventually reached the Strawberry River. The water coming from the well has killed everything in its path, from the well head to and in the drainage.

At the time of each inspection I would shut the valve on the well. When I would return on a later date, the well would be open and flowing water again.

As instructed by the Salt Lake office, a seal was put on the well to assure it would not be opened again until further action could be taken or more information obtained about the well.

On December 6, 1979, Dee Dearth accompanied me on another inspection of the referenced well. At the time of this inspection the seal was removed and the valve on the well opened. A considerable amount of gas blew from the well before fluid hit the surface. Along with the water flowing from the well was a considerable amount of thick, black, tar-like oil.

The well was allowed to flow for several minutes for observation before being shut in and a seal put back on the well.

The well, when left to flow, will flow a 2" stream of water with a pressure, in my estimation of approximately 20 to 50 psi.

A water sample was taken to the Ute Research Lab for analysis. Attached is a copy of the test results and pictures of the well discussed in this letter, showing the well flowing, shut in, and the path of water that is being produced from the well.

Mark H. Christensen
Petroleum Engineering Technician
Vernal, Utah

sh

Attachments

P.O. BOX 264
FORT DUCHESNE, UTAH 84026
PHONE 722-2254

WATER SAMPLE FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSIS
(Fill out top portion of page; all blanks must be filled in.)

SAMPLE COLLECTED FROM: (check one)

Stream _____ Spring _____
City or Town water distribution system _____
Other (Describe) _____ W-8581

14-20-462-614
UN-IDENTIFIED
Well
Approx. 2100' FWH 2000' FWH
SEC. 34-35-5W
SE 1/4 NW 1/4

EXACT DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLING POINT: _____

STATE ENGINEER'S APPLICATION OR CLAIM NO. Submitted by: Mark Christenson

SUPPLY OWNED BY: U. S. G. S.

PRESENT USE OF SUPPLY: _____

PROPOSED USE OF SUPPLY: _____

SAMPLE COLLECTED BY: Dale Griffin Submitted By: M. Christensen DATE: 11-29-79

REPORT RESULTS TO United States Geological Survey
Address: Vernal, Utah 84078

DO NOT WRITE BELOW DOUBLE LINE

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Turbidity 22.0 NH's | Turbidity Units |
| Conductivity 8,800.0 | Micromhos/cm |
| pH | 9.46 |
| Total Dissolved Solids | 7,120.0 mg/l |
| Alkalinity (total) as CaCO ₃ | 4,250.00 mg/l |
| Aluminum as Al | 0.15 mg/l |
| Arsenic as As | 0.000 mg/l |
| Barium as Ba | 0.0 mg/l |
| Bicarbonate as CaCO ₃ | 2,900.00 mg/l |
| Cadmium as Cd | 0.000 mg/l |
| Calcium as Ca | 0.46 mg/l |
| Carbonate as CaCO ₃ | 1,350.00 mg/l |
| Chloride as Cl | 1,624.0 mg/l |
| Chromium (hexavalent) as Cr | 0.000 mg/l |
| Copper as Cu | 0.019 mg/l |
| Fluoride as F | 26.7 mg/l |
| Hardness (total) as CaCO ₃ | 2.0 mg/l |
| Hydroxide as OH | 0.0 mg/l |

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------|------|
| Iron (total) as Fe | 0.05 | mg/l |
| Iron in filtered sample | - | mg/l |
| Lead as Pb | 0.08 | mg/l |
| Magnesium as Mg | 0.13 | mg/l |
| Manganese as Mn | 0.01 | mg/l |
| Nitrate as NO ₃ | | mg/l |
| Phosphate as PO ₄ | 2.22 | mg/l |
| Potassium as K | 9.0 | mg/l |
| Silica as SiO ₂ | 1.0 | mg/l |
| Silver as Ag | 0.000 | mg/l |
| Sodium as Na | 2780.0 | mg/l |
| Sulfate as SO ₄ | 42.0 | mg/l |
| Zinc as Zn | 0.005 | mg/l |

Sample received on 11-29-79

at Ft. Duchesne

Cash received with sample \$ 00.00

Conservation Division
2000 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

December 12, 1979

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Brinkerhoff Company
3410 Anaconda Tower
Denver, Colorado 80202

Re: Unidentified Well
Approx. 2100' FHL & 2000' FHL
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34, T. 3S., R. 5W. USM
Duchesne County, Utah
Terminated Lease #14-20-102-614

Gentlemen:

Recently a technician with the USGS reported locating an unplugged well at the referenced location. This well is approximately 200 yards South of Well # 34-1, SE NW, Sec. 34, T. 3S., R. 5W. which you drilled in 1971 and Gulf Oil Corporation was the Lessee.

It appears (2) wells were drilled in Section 34, since Brinkerhoff has been the only operator to drill in this immediate area we would appreciate your assistance in checking your files to see why this well has not been plugged and abandoned.

Please advise us on your findings and any suggestions that you might have in getting this well plugged and abandoned.

Sincerely yours,

(ORIG. SGD.) W. P. MARTENS

W. P. Martens
Acting District Engineer

cc: Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested
Gulf Oil Corp., P.O. Box 2619, Casper, WY 86202

Mr. Ray Springwater, Bureau of Indian Affairs (Minerals)
Utah-ouray-Indian Agency, Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026 Leas

Mr. Oral J. Wilkinson (Surface Owner)
333 Clark Street, Murray, Utah 84107
Telephone #268-2266

bcc: USGS, Vernal (Mark
Well File
Lease File
Tickler File ✓
DSD/tm

THE BRINKERHOFF COMPANY

December 18, 1979

United States Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
Conservation Division
2000 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

Re: Unidentified well
Approx. 2100' FNL & 2000' FWL
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34, T.3S., R.5W USM
Duchesne County, Utah
Terminated Lease, #14-20-H62-614

Gentlemen:

Replying to your letter of December 12, Brinkerhoff Drilling Company, Inc. drilled a well 1650' FNL and 1977' FWL of Sec. 34, T3S, R5W, Duchesne County, Utah, which was plugged and abandoned, March, 1973.

The lease was owned by Brinkerhoff Drilling Company, Inc. from 1970-1973 and only the one well was drilled during that period; any other well would have been drilled prior or subsequent to that time when Brinkerhoff Drilling Company, Inc. did not have ownership.

We are sorry we cannot be of further assistance but have no suggestion to offer at this time.

Very truly yours,

THE BRINKERHOFF COMPANY


J. L. Jackson
Secretary-Treasurer

JLJ:lm

cc: Gulf Oil Corp., P. O. Box 2619, Casper, WY 82602

Mr. Ray Springwater, Bureau of Indian Affairs (Minerals)
Uintah-Ouray-Indian Agency, Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

Mr. Oral J. Wilkinson (Surface Owner)
333 Clark Street, Murray, Utah 84107
Telephone #268-2266

Conservation Division
2000 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

December 27, 1979

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Gulf Oil Corporation
P.O. Box 2619
Casper, Wyoming 86202

The Brinkerhoff Company
3410 Anaconda Tower
555 17th Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Re: Unidentified Well
Approx. 2100' FNL & 2000' FNL
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34, T. 3S., R. 5W., USM
Duchesne County, Utah
Terminated Lease #14-20-462-614

Gentlemen:

Attached are two letters concerning the referenced well (i.e. 1-ltr. dated 12-12-79 to the Brinkerhoff Company from USGS & their reply ltr. dated 12-18-79).

It is the opinion of this office that since Gulf Oil Corporation and The Brinkerhoff Company shared the ownership of Lease #14-20-462-614, they are the responsible parties for the plugging and abandonment of this well.

A new lease has not been issued on this property since your lease terminated. Therefore, any oil and gas operations remaining on these properties appear to have been left over from your operations and must be corrected by your companies.

It is suggested that an on-site inspection be made at your company's convenience but no later than February 1, 1980 to determine what actions will be taken to correct this problem.

01-11-80 - ON SITE INSPECTION (SEE ATTACHED STR.)

Please advise us when this inspection can be conducted and we will notify all other interested parties.

Sincerely yours,

(ORIG. SGD.) E. W. GUYNN

E. W. Guynn
District Engineer

Attachments

cc: Mr. Ray Springwater
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Uintah-Ouray-Indian Agency
Ft. Duchesne, Utah 84026

Mr. Oral J. Wilkinson
333 Clark Street
Murray, Utah 84107

bcc: USGS, Vernal
Lease File
Tickler File ✓

DSD/tm



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ed Guynn, District Engineer

FROM: Roman Geissel

DATE: January 14, 1980

SUBJECT: Unidentified Well Approximately 2100' FNL & 2000' FWL;
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34, T. 3S, R. 5W, USBM; Duchesne County, Utah;
Terminated Lease No. 14-20-H62-614

On the morning of January 11, 1980, I met with Bob Arnold of Gulf Oil, Dale Hanburg of B.I.A., and Raymond Springwater of the B.I.A. to inspect and discuss the above referenced well.

After viewing the well, we went to the County Records office in Duchesne. We found the land owner to be Mr. Oral J. Wilkinson. We also found that until 1959 the land had been leased to Carter Oil Company, from 1959 to 1969 it was leased to Continental Oil Company, and from 1969 to 1973 it was leased to Gulf Oil Company.

Mr. Arnold stated that Gulf Oil Company did not drill the well, but they would take appropriate steps to plug the well should they be held liable for it.

Mr. Hanburg felt that the well was probably drilled by Carter Oil. Mr. Springwater stated that he did not feel that Gulf Oil should be held solely liable for a well they did not drill.

Please advise me as to your decision or as to whether I can be of any assistance in reaching a suitable conclusion to this problem.

Roman Geissel
Petroleum Engineering Technician
Vernal, Utah

sh

Conservation Division
2000 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

February 29, 1980

Mr. Ray Springwater
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Uintah-Ouray-Indian Agency
Ft. Duchesne, Utah 84026

Re: Unidentified Well
Approx. 2100' FNL & 2000' FHL
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34, T.3S., R.5W., USM
Duchesne County, Utah
Terminated Lease #14-20-462-614

Dear Mr. Springwater:

This letter is in regards to the unplugged well at the referenced location which was inspected by you and Mr. Hamburg w/B.I.A., Mr. Bob Arnold w/Gulf Oil Corp., and Mr. Roman Geissel w/U.S.G.S.

Our records show that only one well was approved to be drilled in this section. It was well #34-1, 1650' from the North Line & 1997' from the West Line of Section 34. Well #34-1 was drilled by Brinkerhoff Drilling Co. between the dates of September 23, & November 21, 1971, and was plugged and abandoned on May 30, 1973 by them. This lease was issued to Continental Oil Company on November 17, 1961. Continental Oil Company assigned 50% of their right to Gulf Oil Corp. on April 21, 1967. On October 20, 1969, Continental Oil Co. assigned all of their rights to Gulf Oil Corp.. On September 9, 1971, Gulf Oil Corp. made Brinkerhoff Drilling Co., Inc. their designated operator.

It is our opinion that this unplugged well must be plugged, however, prior to demanding that Gulf Oil Company do this work. We would like your opinion on this matter regarding any information you may have concerning this well and your suggestion on what action you feel we should take to resolve this problem.

If your have any question, please contact this office.

Sincerely yours,

(ORIG. SGD.) E. W. GUYNN

E. W. Guynn
District Engineer

bcc: U.S.G.S., Vernal
Lease File ✓
Tickler File

DSD/kr



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
UINTAH AND OURAY AGENCY

Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026
801 722-2406 Ext. 220

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Real Property Management

March 5, 1980

Mr. Ed Guynn
District Engineer
Conservation Division
2000 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

Dear Mr. Guynn:

This letter is in answer to your letter dated February 29, 1980 concerning the unplugged well in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 34, T. 3 S., R. 5 W., USM. The surface of Sec. 34 is owned by non-Indians. On one-half of the section oil and mineral rights are owned by the Ute Indian Tribe.

Our concern with the well is that it is producing high concentrations of salt water which may contaminate existing fresh water aquifers or surface water supplies. Therefore, it is our opinion that the well should be plugged.

Sincerely,

R. D. Callahan
Superintendent

3-25-80

TELECON w/MAX SPENGLER
w/EXXON IN DENVER.
#303-778-3411, THEY HAVE
NO RECORD OF A WEHL BEING
DELETED IN SEC. 34. 35-5W
EXCEPT THE BEINSBERG #34-1

R. M. Search

3-25-80

TELECON w/ MARGARET
DELGADO w/ CONTINENTAL
OIL IN DENVER #303-575-6107

BILL CLARK w/ CONTINENTAL
DID A STUDY OF THIS ~~SEC~~ ^{AREA}
IN 1966 HIS REPORT DID NOT
SHOW ANY WELLS IN SEC. 34-
35-SW. HE DID ANOTHER
STUDY IN 1972 & ONLY
SHOWED THE BEINKERLOFF #34-1
WELL IN SEC. 34.

W. H. Clark

Conservation Division
2000 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

*P&A by Gulf after logging
with*
March 25, 1980 *M.*

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Gulf Oil Corporation
P. O. Box 2619
Casper, Wyoming 86202

The Brinkerhoff Company
3410 Anaconda Tower
555 17th Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

RECEIVED

MAR 27 1980

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Re: Unidentified Well
Approx. 2100' FNL & 2000' FNL
SE $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 34, T.3S., R.5W.,
USM, Duchesne County, Utah
Terminated Lease #14-20-H62-614

Gentlemen:

Attached for quick reference is prior correspondence concerning the referenced well, and a recent letter from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

This office has not been successful in locating any records or information concerning when this well was drilled or who drilled it.

Since your companies shared in the ownership of this Lease, and a new lease has not been issued since your lease terminated, we have no other choice than to request that you plug and abandon this well. Our agency does not have any funds appropriated for the plugging and abandoning of wells.

You may wish to contact the State of Utah to see if they have any funds to assist in the plugging of this well. We have discussed this unidentified well and the fresh water contamination problems that could exist with Mr. Cleon B. Feight, Utah State Oil, Gas, & Mining Division. He said that in the event we were unable to locate the company that drilled the well, the State might possibly be able to furnish some funds to help plug the well.

We are requesting that this well be plugged by July 1, 1980. You are to submit your proposed plugging program for approval prior to plugging the well.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely yours,

(ORIG. SGD.) E. W. GYNN

E. W. Gynn
District Engineer

Attachments:

cc: Mr. Cleon B. Feight, State of Utah, Dept. of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining, 1538 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Ut.
84116 w/attach

Mr. Ray Springwater, Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Uintah-Ouray-Indian Agency, Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026 w/attach

Mr. Oral J. Wilkingson (surface owner)
333 Clark Street, Murray, Utah 84107

Mr. Bob Arnold, 360 So. 200 E., Roosevelt, Utah 84006 w/attach

STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING

SUBMIT TRIPPLICATE*
(Other instructions on
reverse side)

6

5. LEASE DESIGNATION AND SERIAL NO.

Terminated #14-20-#62-614

6. IF INDIAN, ALLOTTEE OR TRIBE NAME

SUNDRY NOTICES AND REPORTS ON WELLS

(Do not use this form for proposals to drill or to deepen or plug back to a different reservoir.
Use "APPLICATION FOR PERMIT—" for such proposals.)

7. UNIT AGREEMENT NAME

8. FARM OR LEASE NAME

9. WELL NO.

UNIDENTIFIED

10. FIELD AND POOL, OR WILDCAT

11. SEC., T., R., M., OR BLK. AND SURVEY OR AREA

SE NW 34-3S-5W

12. COUNTY OR PARISH

Duchesne

13. STATE

Utah

1. OIL WELL GAS WELL OTHER Unidentified Well

2. NAME OF OPERATOR
Gulf Oil Corporation

3. ADDRESS OF OPERATOR
P.O. Box 2619, Casper, Wyoming 82602

4. LOCATION OF WELL (Report location clearly and in accordance with any State requirements.*
See also space 17 below.)
At surface

2100' FNL & 2000' FWL

14. PERMIT NO.

15. ELEVATIONS (Show whether DF, RT, OR, etc.)

16. Check Appropriate Box To Indicate Nature of Notice, Report, or Other Data

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO:

TEST WATER SHUT-OFF

FRACTURE TREAT

SHOOT OR ACIDIZE

REPAIR WELL

(Other)

PULL OR ALTER CASING

MULTIPLE COMPLETE

ABANDON*

CHANGE PLANS

SUBSEQUENT REPORT OF:

WATER SHUT-OFF

FRACTURE TREATMENT

SHOOTING OR ACIDIZING

(Other)

REPAIRING WELL

ALTERING CASING

ABANDONMENT*

(NOTE: Report results of multiple completion on Well Completion or Recompletion Report and Log form.)

17. DESCRIBE PROPOSED OR COMPLETED OPERATIONS (Clearly state all pertinent details, and give pertinent dates, including estimated date of starting any proposed work. If well is directionally drilled, give subsurface locations and measured and true vertical depths for all markers and zones pertinent to this work.)*

See attached listing.

APPROVED BY THE DIVISION
OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING

DATE: 11-19-80

BY: *W.S. Miner*

P 1/2 A

RECEIVED

*920407 API # 43-013-31355 assigned NOV 13 1980

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

18. I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct

SIGNED

John J. Shaida

TITLE Petroleum Engineer

DATE November 5, 1980

(This space for Federal or State office use)

APPROVED BY

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, IF ANY:

TITLE

DATE

Make reports complete, such as description of casing . . . Show, as soon as known, name of contractor, type of rig, and kind of fuel . . .
In guide margin show casing (as, 7"), "Contractor," "Shot," "Acidized," etc.

| GUIDE MARGIN | DATE | YEAR | A. F. E. | LEASE AND WELL |
|--------------|------|------|----------|----------------|
|--------------|------|------|----------|----------------|

Unidentified Well
34-35-5W, Duchesne Co., UT
.5000
AFE #82969
\$26,000
\$21,713

- 9-23-80 Plug and abandon. MIRU. Colorado well Service. RIH w/ tapered mill to smooth 3 7/8" tbg @ 156'. POH w/ mill and tbg. RIH w/ 3 1/2" Baker Model R pkr. and set @ 168'. RU GO Int' / and perf 4 holes @ 2846'. RU dewax truck and est. pump rate @ #BPM @ 200#. SDFN.
- 9-24-80 No Report.
- 9-25-80 RU Howco. Spot 25sx CG @ 2846. RU GO Int' / & perf w/ 4holes @ 1000' GL. RU Howco & pump 400sx CG in perfs @ 1000. Pump 250sx CG dn surf.pipe. RD GO, Howco and rig. Well P&A'd. Minor surf restroration required when loc. dries out. Drop.

RECEIVED

NOV 13 1980

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

November 19, 1980-

According to Gulf Oil Corporation, this 'UNIDENTIFIED WELL' is not a Gulf well. *They were asked to plug this location because they are the lease owners on this land. *Asked by USGS or State

According to our records, no company ever applied to drill on this location---